

Public benefits

The direct benefits which flow from the purpose of improving community development are increased participation in community development in an isolated rural area. We support all members of the community to become involved in the development of their local communities which gives them a sense of ownership and belonging. We give our members opportunities to be fully involved in self-help programmes which improves mental health outcomes. These activities ensure that the health and wellbeing needs of all our members are supported. We provide a listening ear and counselling service to our members. This has been very beneficial for both the men who have mental health and those who care for them. The purpose of providing increased access to education courses has increased the beneficiaries' skill levels. The direct benefits for the carers are that they get 2 days period of respite as we run a luncheon club for people with disabilities. The benefits of our purpose to provide local community services has reduced the levels of stress and anxiety for both our disabled members and their carers. Regarding the mental health benefits, our counsellors assess the beneficiaries' health and well-being and we record the benefits of participation in our community activities. We have been very successful with the development of our luncheon club which has increased the numbers of older men and women socialising with each other. There has also been an increase in the benefits of our work in the wider community. The members have supported local primary and nursery schools with environmental projects such as building community gardens, planting trees and shrubs and creating disabled accessible garden furniture for disabled children. We assess the benefits of all our activities using methods of community development evaluation such as monthly feedback sessions on all our projects. We undertake a yearly survey which feeds into our annual report. We also record the numbers of people participating on our courses, record qualifications achieved and the quality of the activities. There is no harm associated with our purposes. The charities beneficiaries include men (age 18 +) women carers, people with disabilities including those with physical, intellectual, sensory or mental health conditions. We also support men who suffer from addictions and offenders referred to us by the probation services. We are the only local men's shed whose purpose is to provide support/services to women as well as men. There is no private benefit flowing from any of the purposes.

What your organisation does

We carry out our charitable purpose by providing a safe, happy environment to pursue hobbies, pastimes and interests. We provide courses to learn new skills and to share existing skills. We also provide information workshops on health and wellbeing issues, a mentoring programme for younger men and a dedicated support network for men with disabilities and their carers.