

opportunity
employment
support

Orchardville



A society where
equal opportunities
are enjoyed by all.

Annual Impact Report

2024/25

Empowerment

we have the skills and attitude
to make change happen

Quality

we're always learning, improving
and striving for excellence

User

at the heart of everything we do, we always
put service users/participants first

Integrity

we always do what's right
even when it's difficult

Passion

we truly believe in what we do,
and it shows in our results

Welcome

from Chair & Chief Executive

We are pleased to present our Annual Impact Report providing an overview of the continued difference Orchardville services and support have made across 2024/25.

It has been a busy and exciting year with several important developments. In April 2024 we significantly expanded our North Down Services. This led to us moving to a new centre with excellent space and facilities to accommodate all our North Down projects. We also opened our own office in Derry/ Londonderry to enhance the opportunities available to participants in the North West and we hope to further grow the opportunities available there.

Over the last year we continued to support almost 600 people to develop new skills, grow in confidence and independence and secure paid employment.

We are thankful as always to our participants and their families for trusting in us and working with us to achieve their ambitions. To our funders for their continued support and investment and of course to the partners who work with us to deliver effective services and opportunities, thank you.

As ever, we remain indebted to our staff and volunteers for their continued commitment and dedication to each of their roles. We as an organisation remain steadfast in working toward our vision and look forward to celebrating further success in the times ahead.


Chair


Chief Executive



**A society where
equal opportunities
are enjoyed by all.**



**Supporting people
with learning disability
or autism to live, learn
and work.**

Employment Service

SkillSET

Support | Employment | Training

SkillSET was launched in April 2023 and is delivered through the SES partnership and funded by UKSPF.

The project provides specialist support to participants to prepare for employment, secure a job and sustain it. This includes employability training, job search sessions, interview practice and on the job support with employers. During the first two years of the project we recruited and supported 450 participants.



250

Participants

Delivered Services to
250 participants



54

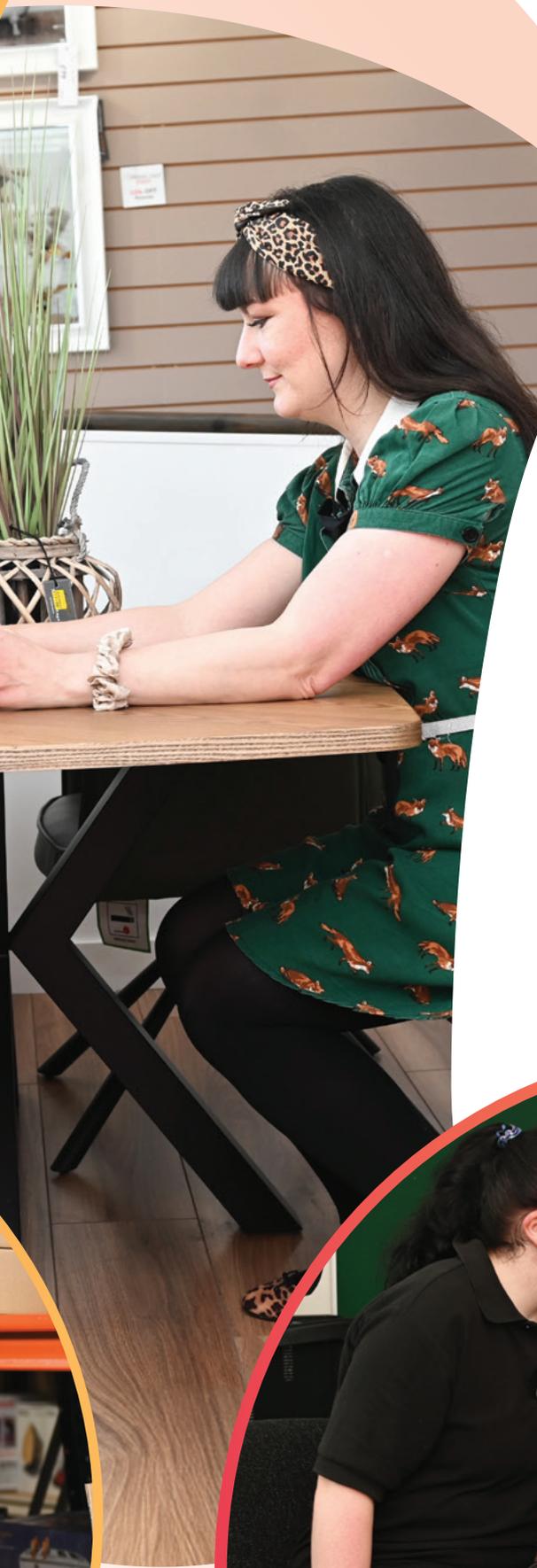
Jobs

Participants Secured
54 Jobs



158

Training Outcomes



Supported Employment Solutions (SES) **Workable NI**

Orchardville is one of seven disability organisations who form the SES consortium. Workable provides long term support to people with disabilities who are in employment and who require additional support to remain in work due to a range of barriers.

During the 24/25 period there was a significant increase in the demand for this project resulting in 50 participants receiving support in a diverse range of employment settings including admin, IT, retail, health & social care, hospitality and warehousing.



50
Participants

During 2024/25 we supported **50 people** through **Workable NI** tailoring support to participants and employers to meet their specific needs.



Day Opportunity Service

The community service offers day opportunities to young people and adults who live within the Belfast and South Eastern Trust areas.

Last year 10 projects were funded by the BHSCT, SET, The National Lottery and Motability Foundation. The projects provide structured and meaningful opportunities for participants to become more independent, develop new skills, live a healthier lifestyle and gain social confidence.

We welcome new referrals each year in particular from young people who have left special schools.



Total Participants attending Community Projects 2024/25

Total Participants attending Community Projects 2022/23



BHSCT:



SET:



WHSCCT:



In addition to the above attendances, Orchardville also offers participants with higher support needs or who need extended sessions the option to use a SDS Managed Budget, enabling them to access day opportunity services.



Travelling with **Confidence**

The Travelling with Confidence project funded by the Motability Foundation supported 150 participants during 24/25 to become more independent using public transport.

The project provides 1-1 training as well as training to small groups of participants who want to build their confidence using buses and trains. The training is available to all participants who attend Orchardville including young people preparing to leave school, those who are starting a job and need to learn a new bus route and participants who attend the day opportunity programmes in Belfast, North Down, Lisburn and Derry/Londonderry.

The Volunteer **Inclusion**

The Volunteer Inclusion Project (VIP), funded by The National Lottery Fund, supported 100 participants during 24/25 to volunteer in their local community.

There were many opportunities available including volunteering in charity shops, planting trees, fundraising activities and the very successful school uniform project which was organised by ROCNI. While volunteering participants gained confidence, new skills and achieved a sense of personal satisfaction at giving back to their community.

Social Groups **2023/24**



2000

Attendances
Delivered Services to
2000 attendances



90

Sessions

During the year 90 evening and weekend social opportunities were offered throughout the week in the Belfast, North Down and Lisburn premises. The groups provide opportunities for participants to meet up in a safe and supportive space with a variety of activities available. The groups also support parents/carers with respite at evenings/ weekends.

Social Enterprises



Orchardville Works is a Community Project using an element of enterprise to offer something different to our other day opportunity provision.

Offering 50 participants per week the opportunity to gain employability and life skills as well as opportunities for community inclusion. We are thankful to those organisations who partner with us and provide learning and development opportunities for our participants as they complete hand packing and embroidery orders.



Orchardville Cleans continued to develop in 2024/25 as a result of the ongoing partnership with Ryobi Aluminium Casting based in Carrickfergus.

In addition to offering employment to eight participants across the week a new academy was trialled, funded by Ryobi, for anyone interested in gaining warehousing skills. The academy resulted in 15 participants gaining OCN accredited awards and 50% were offered employment contracts.





Our Finances

Strong governance and financial controls ensured that our finances were used to meet our strategic objectives and to support our participants to live, learn and work.



Thank You!

Orchardville would like to thank all those organisations, businesses and individuals who supported us during the year and we look forward to your continued support in the years ahead.

Working to achieve an
inclusive society where
**equal opportunities are
enjoyed by all.**



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