



FEARLESS YOUTH ASSOCIATION

IMPACT
REPORT

2024-2025



CONTENTS

2 **MESSAGE FROM
OUR CHAIR**

3 **WHO WE ARE**

5 **THE TEAM**

6 **OUR IMPACT**

7 **OUR PROJECTS**

16 **OUR COURSES**

19 **MARKETING**

20 **PLACEMENT
STUDENTS**

21 **KEY PARTNERS**

22 **KEY FUNDERS**

23 **THE FUTURE**



It is a privilege to introduce this annual report reflecting on Fearless Youth Association's work during 2024–2025. This year marks an important development in our journey, as we expanded our reach to begin working directly with asylum-seeking young people, young refugees, and other displaced youth. Building on our strong foundation of youth support, we have broadened our services to assist vulnerable young people facing complex barriers to stability, wellbeing, and independence.

Throughout this period, we have remained committed to strengthening a shared sense of community around our work. Our impact is only possible because of the dedicated network of partners, trustees, and supporters who help us reach those most in need. We continue to evolve our original vision of youth-led, community-based support to respond to emerging challenges across Nottingham.

This has been one of our most impactful and successful years — driven by our commitment, our community, and our genuine love for the work we do.



Formed in 2016, by 12 young people who were out of education and work, now we have become an effective group in attracting and engaging young people who are seeking to turn their lives around.

Since then, 3 of the founding members have joined university, 4 have joined college and 2 have found employment.

We are proud that we have been able to expand this programme and listen to other young people who would not be comfortable to engage with mainstream services.

Listening to them, we have been able to provide counselling and a safe space, campaign against knife crime and youth violence, and develop training programmes that engage many more young people, giving them confidence that they can achieve much more than they were expecting.

We are also proud that we have been able to make partnerships with organisations such as the Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Commissioner, Nottingham Trent University, and Communities Inc, to be able to offer mentoring, and learn how to make sure young people are represented and feel confident to be actively engaged in countering youth violence, particularly in BME and new and emerging communities within Nottingham.

The aim of FYA is to provide mentoring for young people in the Nottingham area by creating a safe space where we recruit members, sustain our momentum and growth, train members and other young people about digital media, administrative skills, management, employability and confidence.

We believe we are making a difference in our community because we offer practical skills to young people in BME and new and emerging communities, and through this help them gain confidence to think about their futures.

We help to ensure that they can actively challenge stereotypes, gain skills and act as ambassadors against violence within their communities. We can influence large numbers of young people and ensure that they have a brighter future, and we work towards more cohesive communities.

OUR PRINCIPLES

Support
Possibility
Commitment
Responsibility

OUR MISSION

To work directly with the communities we are supporting in providing accessible and relevant services, products, and solutions that meet their needs

OUR VISION

To transform communities by empowering them to sourcing, accessing, and using information.

OUR VALUES

Integrity
Justice
Service
Transparency

THE TEAM

OPERATIONS DIRECTOR

Angela Wathoni

DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

Ann Waruga

SOUND AND MEDIA AGENT

Kamau Small

PROJECT MANAGER

Unity Bryant

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

Edrissa Touray

PROJECT ADMINISTRATOR

Danielle White



OUR IMPACT

During 2024–2025, the expansion of our programmes resulted in measurable and meaningful impact for the young people and newly arrived communities we supported. By widening our reach to include asylum-seeking youth and young refugees, we reduced barriers to access, ensuring that some of the most digitally and socially excluded individuals were able to connect with essential services, education, and support networks. This strengthened participants' ability to engage independently with housing services, healthcare providers, legal support, and employment platforms.

Through the distribution of SIM cards and digital devices, combined with our Clicks to Confidence workshops, participants not only gained access to technology but developed the practical skills and confidence to use it effectively. Many reported increased digital independence, improved communication with support agencies and family members, and greater readiness to pursue education and employment opportunities. By directly addressing digital poverty, we reduced isolation, improved wellbeing, and increased participants' capacity to navigate everyday systems safely and confidently.

Our deeper focus on media and technology has contributed to narrowing the digital divide within vulnerable communities. Participants demonstrated improved digital literacy, safer online engagement, and stronger problem-solving skills. As a result, they are better equipped to participate fully in modern society, with enhanced confidence, resilience, and long-term prospects for stability and inclusion.

OUR PROJECTS

During the 2024–2025 period, we introduced new projects and strengthened our existing programmes to better respond to emerging community needs. While our primary focus remains young people aged 16–24, we expanded our reach to include asylum seekers and refugees, recognising the additional barriers many face.

As part of this expansion, we distributed SIM cards and digital devices and launched a new initiative, Clicks to Confidence. Through this project, we not only provided essential technology but also delivered presentations and practical workshops to help participants build digital skills, learn how to use their devices effectively, and access key online services.

This year, we placed a strong emphasis on media and technology. Although this has always been central to our work, we deepened our commitment in response to the growing digital divide, which continues to disproportionately affect vulnerable communities.



Our one-day workshops, lasting approximately 2–3 hours, feature engaging group sessions on podcasting and how to monetize it effectively. Participants also take part in digital photography sessions, which include complimentary professional headshots to support future employment opportunities.

In addition, we offer videography training, with participant-created videos uploaded to YouTube, as well as interactive sessions on social media—focusing on how to use it as a powerful digital tool for inspiration, creativity, and growth rather than simply a passive hobby.

Participants increasingly anticipate these sessions and consistently report enjoying their interactive format. They value the cultural relevance of the content, particularly its focus on modern society and the role of social media, which is deeply embedded in their everyday lives.

TOPICS

PODCASTING
DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY
VIDEOGRAPHY
SOCIAL MEDIA

FEARLESS YOUTH ASSOCIATION
IMPACT REPORT 2024-2025



The Fearless Youth Rotational Podcast provides a platform for young people to discuss the issues that matter most to them. Through the process, they develop a wide range of valuable skills, including interviewing, scriptwriting, communication, and confidence-building. Episodes are recorded and published on YouTube and Spotify, giving participants real-world experience in digital content creation and broadcasting.

At FYA, we are committed to actively engaging young people and equipping them with the tools, opportunities, and support they need to make positive choices and steer clear of violence.

TOPICS

UNI LIFE
GIRL'S CHAT
HARMFUL STEREOTYPES
INFLUENCERS VS CELEBRITIES
MENTAL HEALTH TALKS



In recognition of World Mental Health Day on October 10th, FYA hosted a series of insightful conversations with mental health professionals as part of our ongoing project to increase mental health awareness and provide support to underserved communities.

The aim of this initiative was to encourage open dialogue around mental well-being, break down stigma, and share valuable coping strategies. One of the highlights from the project was our interview with Nathan Addai, founder of Mental Roots, an organisation focused on supporting minority groups. The discussion explored the specific mental health challenges young creatives face within the industry.

Additionally, we spoke with a nurse specialising in substance abuse treatment within the prison systems. These impactful conversations are available on our Fearless Youth Rotational Podcast, and we remain committed to advocating for mental health awareness across all our social media platforms.



As part of the Get Online Week campaign, we hosted a special digital inclusion event on the 15th and 24th of October, dedicated to equipping community members with essential digital skills for confidently navigating the online world. In collaboration with the Good Things Foundation, this annual campaign aims to raise awareness about the digital divide and foster greater access to technology and online resources. During the 'Clicks to Confidence' event, we provided free laptops, tablets, and phones to community members, refugees and asylum seekers, offering them the essential tools and resources to stay connected and empowered.

Alongside these resources, participants received information on our upcoming training courses in digital media and photography, knife crime and media literacy, with on-site sign-ups to encourage ongoing skill development. Our approach was carefully tailored to meet the financial needs and technological needs within our community, focusing on hands-on training and practical guidance. This ongoing project is a critical step in breaking down barriers, enhancing connectivity and facilitating digital inclusion through long term digital support and education.



In response to the recent UK riots that have affected communities nationwide, we launched a new project designed to educate and support our local communities. This initiative included interviews, articles, short videos and community outreach to gather insights from those directly impacted.

As part of our broader Vox Project we aimed to capture a diverse range of perspectives, with a particular focus on the effects of far-right protests on young people within the community.

Through these conversations, we addressed critical issues and explored potential solutions, fostering an open dialogue that encourages community engagement and inspires positive change. We also produced articles and videos, accessible to our community, to further share our insights and perspectives.



FYA has recently partnered with Nottinghamshire Victim Care, establishing ourselves as a primary Community Point dedicated to supporting individuals who have been victims of various circumstances and issues. This project allows us to broaden the range of support available to our service users through the referral scheme, promoting a holistic approach to recovery and empowerment.

The scheme emphasises partnership working and organisational learning, enabling us to continually enhance our services and expand our impact within the community.

Through the referral scheme, we offer comprehensive support through personalised activities and mentorship, in areas such as safety, coping with everyday life, health and wellbeing and helping individuals feel informed and empowered to take action.



Our ongoing partnership with the Good Things Foundation, allowed us to continue bridging the digital divide and providing essential connectivity to individuals in need.

Every Thursday, the team works together to distribute SIM cards and data packages to refugees and asylum seekers.

We aim to empower these individuals by providing them with the tools necessary for effective communication, access to vital information and integration into the community.



Youth Music is at the heart of what we do at FYA. We are deeply invested in the creative arts and in providing young people with meaningful opportunities to express themselves. In conversations with participants, many have shared that traditional schooling often follows a rigid, one-size-fits-all approach that doesn't account for individual personalities or the unique perspectives of young people.

Through our music programme, our Sound and Media Agent, Kamau, teaches participants essential skills in audio creation, beat making, and other areas of music production. Beyond developing technical expertise, these sessions introduce young people to potential career pathways, giving them knowledge and experiences that extend beyond the classroom.

The sessions are consistently reported as highly successful. Young people value the opportunity to be themselves, express their creativity freely, and build confidence in a supportive environment outside the strict confines of school.

OUR COURSES

Our six week courses offer young people the opportunity to actively engage in developing new skills, positive habits, and greater self-confidence. Delivered in small groups, sessions are designed to encourage open discussion, ensuring that participants' thoughts and opinions are heard, respected, and valued.

The supportive environment also creates space for building meaningful friendships and peer connections.

Our core programmes include knife crime awareness training, media literacy, youth music development, and, more recently, digital skills training tailored for asylum seekers, alongside other enrichment opportunities.



DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY

Our young people gained valuable creative skills that will support their personal and professional growth.

The course covered essential techniques, from mastering camera settings to post-processing images, and provided hands-on projects that allowed learners to apply their knowledge to real-world scenarios.

Feedback from participants has been overwhelmingly positive, with many reporting increased confidence in their photography abilities.



RECOGNISING AND SAFEGUARDING AGAINST KNIFE CRIME

Our CPD accredited course provided participants with valuable insights into the impact of prejudice and discrimination in society, also addressing the principles of knife crime and the devastating effects.

The course developed critical thinking and situational awareness, empowering participants with the knowledge and skills to contribute to a safer and more informed society.

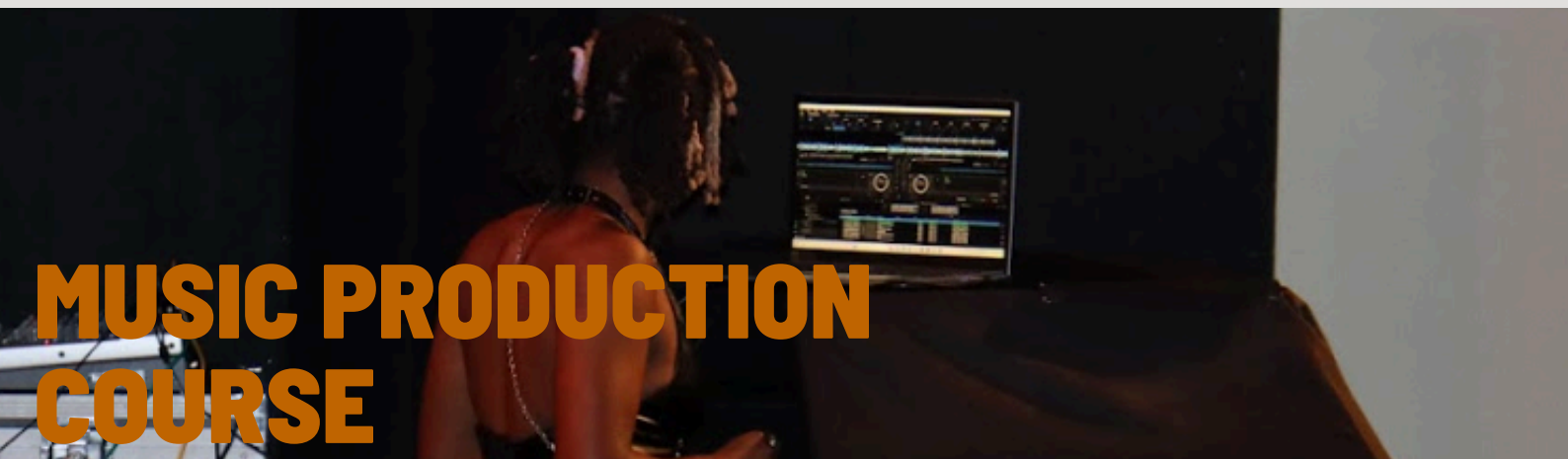
Feedback highlighted how the course encouraged open discussions about local challenges and reinforced the importance of community safety.



DIGITAL SKILLS AND EMPLOYMENT PATHWAYS

Participants gained essential skills to navigate today's complex media landscape. Through engaging discussions and hands-on activities, the course helped learners to develop a deeper understanding of the media's influence on society and individual perspectives.

Feedback indicates that participants feel more confident navigating the digital landscape for educational advancement. The course strengthened not only their media literacy skills but also their sense of active citizenship, contributing to a more informed and connected community.



MUSIC PRODUCTION COURSE

The Recharge Project is one of FYA's flagship initiatives, designed to equip young people with the skills and resources needed to launch successful careers in music, by combining training, production opportunities, and live performance experiences.

Over the course of a free, 10-week program, participants received hands-on training in every aspect of music creation - from crafting beats and melodies to perfecting flow and producing their own tracks.

MARKETING

We primarily use our social media, website, and quarterly newsletter to share updates and promote our work. The newsletter highlights our courses, projects, and upcoming activities, while our social media channels provide frequent updates on events, courses, and motivational content. Our website is regularly updated as the main hub for course applications, volunteer opportunities, blogs, and informative articles.

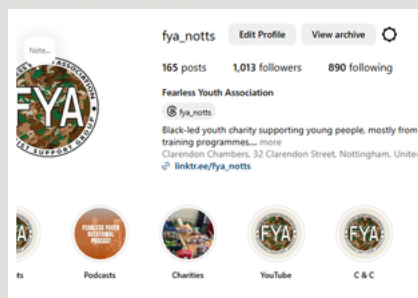
NEWSLETTER

862
SUBSCRIBERS



INSTAGRAM

1,013
SUBSCRIBERS



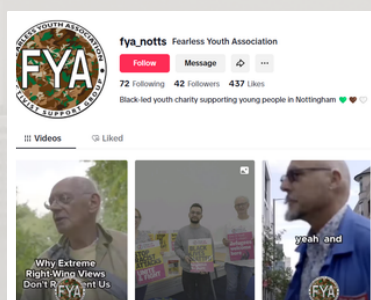
TWITTER

441
SUBSCRIBERS



TIKTOK - NEW!

42
SUBSCRIBERS



FACEBOOK

549
SUBSCRIBERS



PLACEMENT STUDENTS

3

AUTUMN TERM 2024

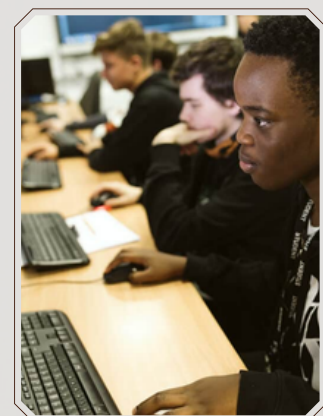
During the Autumn term of 2023 we were supported by four University placement students in the roles: **Content creator, Social media executive** and **Projects assistant**



4

SPRING TERM 2025

During the Spring term of 2024 we were supported by six University placement students in the roles: **Projects assistant, Social media executive, Podcast content creator** and **Events & Marketing executive**



2

SUMMER TERM 2025

During the Summer of 2024 we were supported by three University placement students in the roles: **Projects assistant** and **Community Journalist**



KEY PARTNERS



Nottingham Trent
University



The University of
Nottingham



FEARLESS YOUTH ASSOCIATION
IMPACT REPORT 2024-2025

KEY FUNDERS

**YOUTH
MUSIC**



**Nottingham
City Council**

**NEAR
NEIGHBOURS**
BRINGING PEOPLE TOGETHER



Department
for Culture
Media & Sport

 **Good Things
Foundation**



NOTTINGHAMSHIRE
COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION



THE FUTURE

This year has been one of our most impactful to date, with increased participation and stronger youth engagement across all of our programmes. We have seen young people commit consistently to their development, contribute thoughtfully in sessions, and take meaningful steps toward personal growth. The depth of involvement and the positive outcomes achieved have reinforced the value of our work.

Building on this momentum, we are determined not only to sustain our progress next year but to exceed it. We are proud of the collaborative work carried out with our partners and are excited about strengthening those relationships while forming new ones. In particular, we welcome the opportunity to expand our reach to more vulnerable groups we have not previously engaged extensively, including asylum seekers and refugees, ensuring our support is accessible to those who need it most.

As we continue to aim high, our goal remains clear: to provide a safe, inclusive space for all young people in Nottingham where they feel heard, supported, and empowered. By working together, we hope to create lasting positive change and improve the lives of the young people and communities we serve.



SCAN ME



fyaonline.co.uk



27-31 Carlton
Road, NG3 2DG



info@fyaonline.co.uk



07563 197748
01115 850 1710