

Inclusive Evaluation Support

www.otbds.org/what-we-do/evaluation



Outside the Box Development Support began in 2004 to help people create positive solutions to shared challenges. With our experience working with diverse organisations across Scotland, our evaluations and evaluation support are tailored to each unique context.



The value of meaningful evaluation

Evaluations can be simple, meaningful, and empowering. They are a good way to show the difference your work is making and the impact for communities and people. We can do robust, inclusive evaluations for your programme, project or community group. Whether in person or online, we use creative methods to involve everyone and share the outcomes and learning.



We use our Magic Moments evaluation approach to organise information and highlight the positive impacts across several outcome themes. This approach enables us to understand what's important to people and what is making things work well for the people involved.

Too often we can rely only on quantitative data to learn from our work. But numbers can never tell the whole story, sometimes one short story can make a big difference.

Get in touch with us by emailing Christine@otbds.org or using our contact form (www.otbds.org/contact) if you'd like to discuss how a consultation could best benefit your work.

Our Outside the Box approach

Magic Moments is an evaluation tool we use to collect, organise and share key moments that reflect participants' views and experiences, and observations from evaluation activities. We use it to highlight small but significant changes in people's lives in a way that is easily recognised and understood by a range of audiences.

We explore ways of using stories to give the whole picture when it comes to evaluating projects and carrying out research – demonstrating how stories can be used front and centre, not just using anecdotes or case studies as after thoughts.



Examples

We have a successful track record of carrying out independent evaluations of community-based projects and services across Scotland. Examples of our work include:

Moments of Freedom

Moments of Freedom is an activity-based peer support group for Syrian refugee women in Clydebank. In 2022 we used the Magic Moments approach to assess the impact of the group on their lives, their families and wider impact in the community.

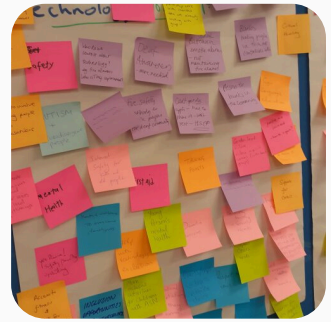
Lend a Hand service evaluation

Lend a Hand is a benefits and welfare advice service for people with learning disabilities in Fraserburgh. Lend a hand is part of People First Fraserburgh. In 2021 we carried out an evaluation of the impact of the service for people and their families.

Examples and Testimonials

Neighbourhood Networks

Neighbourhood Networks supports vulnerable adults, many with learning disabilities, physical disabilities and mental health issues, to live active, healthy, and independent lives and to be fully involved within their local communities. We have conducted independent evaluations of their peer support networks in North Lanarkshire, East Kilbride and Lanarkshire, Falkirk and North Ayrshire.



“The magic moments approach used by OTB offers a richness of experiences and stories from members in our peer support networks. OTB staff spend time with network members, making sure they are comfortable, taking part in activities and finding out gently about what is important for them in their lives. And this information allows us to tailor the development of each network and provide evidence of its continued impact for funders and commissioners” - Heather Calvo, Chief Executive Officer, Neighbourhood Networks.



Evaluating dementia-friendly outdoor projects

In 2020 we completed an evaluation of 6 projects from across Scotland and the Life Changes Trust funded Get Outdoors programme, focused on encouraging people with dementia and their unpaid carers to be active and spend time outside.

We got outdoors, had great conversations, played bowls, and got muddy taking part alongside people in the programme.

The projects involved people living with dementia, unpaid carers and health professionals, building accessible social spaces and enjoying the outdoors.

We used 'Magic Moments' to evaluate outdoor inclusion and connection, getting to the heart of what mattered to the people involved.

Get inclusive evaluation support

Costings

We understand the needs of different organisations - big and small - and we can help you get the most value and impact from a consultation. We offer bespoke independent evaluations developed to meet the scope of the work and your budget.

Flexibility

Flexibility is one of our strengths. As well as working in a way which suits you, we adapt our evaluation to fit with the busy realities of the community we're evaluating with. We can do light-touch, issue-specific and in-depth evaluations, online or offline, always with our friendly, flexible approach.

Get in touch with us

Get in touch with us by emailing Christine@otbds.org or using our contact form (www.otbds.org/contact) to talk about your ideas and what your organisation needs.



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