



DUNDEE UNITED COMMUNITY TRUST PARA-FOOTBALL CLUB 2019-20 IMPACT REPORT

SCOTTISH FA

**GRASSROOTS
AWARDS 2019**

Best Professional Club in the Community

Dundee United Community Trust



@dundeeunitedpfc

20%

of Scotland's population define themselves as disabled.



Some of our Children's Physical Disability Football members took to the Tannadice pitch for small sided games during the Dundee Derby in Aug 2019.

DUNDEE UNITED COMMUNITY TRUST PARA-FOOTBALL CLUB AN INTRODUCTION

Dundee United Para-Football Club launched in February 2019 and is dedicated to providing opportunities for those living with a disability to engage in sport with their peers. This will be done via four main areas of delivery:

**LEARNING
DISABILITY**

**MENTAL
ILLNESS**

**PHYSICAL
DISABILITY**

**SENSORY
DISABILITY**

THE LAST YEAR IN NUMBERS



**HOURS OF
COACHING**



**WEEKLY
SESSIONS**



**PLAYERS AT A
MENTAL HEALTH &
WELLBEING FESTIVAL**



**UNIQUE WEEKLY
PARTICIPANTS**



**TOTAL
ATTENDANCES**



**HOURS OF FREE PARA-
FOOTBALL DELIVERED
IN LOCAL SCHOOLS**

1864

people in Tayside have
a learning disability.



One of our excellent Learning Disability Football members mid-session.

LEARNING DISABILITY FOOTBALL

8 - 17 YEAR OLDS

LEARNING
DISABILITY

MENTAL
ILLNESS

PHYSICAL
DISABILITY

SENSORY
DISABILITY

Learning Disability (LD) Football followed on from the success of CPD Football and provides children and youths living with a learning disability the opportunity to play football in a safe and fun environment. There are two LD Football sessions each week: one for 8 - 12 year olds and one for 13 - 17 year olds. One parent commented:

“

My son loves going to these sessions because not only does it give him an opportunity to meet his friends out with the school setting but also to socialise with them. He is also learning important life skills like following instructions and being part of a team. The sessions are tailored to his intellectual and physical capabilities and the coaches take extra care to keep him motivated and engaged. We're really happy that DUCT has thought carefully about every child's needs and potential and have created different groups for different kids. This inclusivity is rare.

”

1 in 4

people will be affected
by mental ill health.



Dundee United Mental Health & Wellbeing Football Club ahead of hosting the Scottish FA's Mental Health & Wellbeing Festival at Gussie Park in Feb 2020.

MENTAL HEALTH & WELLBEING FC

16+ YEAR OLDS

LEARNING
DISABILITY

MENTAL
ILLNESS

PHYSICAL
DISABILITY

SENSORY
DISABILITY

Our Mental Health & Wellbeing FC is delivered in partnership with NHS Tayside's Learning Disability & Mental Health Physiotherapy team to support those over the age of 16 living with and recovering from mental ill health. The group has evolved from playing 5-a-sides once per week in an indoor games hall to taking part in two training sessions per week at Gussie Park and representing Dundee United Para-Football Club in the Scottish FA's Mental Health & Wellbeing League. Gill McDonald, NHS Tayside's Learning Disability & Mental Health Physiotherapy lead said:

“

DUCT involve the players in decision making, provide them with training opportunities and offer each of them superb support. We are delighted to be a partner with Dundee United Community Trust as this highlights and recognises that through the beloved game of football many things can be overcome and people can shine again. Many of the lads are Dundee supporters or supporters of other teams but they are so proud to put on Dundee United's famous Tangerine and Black strips and walk out onto the pitch knowing they are supported and safe.

”

Approximately

1800

children are diagnosed with cerebral palsy every year.



One of our Children's Physical Disability Football members at Tannadice Park for the launch of Dundee United Para-Football Club in Feb 2019.

CHILDREN'S PHYSICAL DISABILITY FOOTBALL

4 - 14 YEAR OLDS

LEARNING
DISABILITY

MENTAL
ILLNESS

PHYSICAL
DISABILITY

SENSORY
DISABILITY

Children's Physical Disability (CPD) Football is a weekly, recreational football project that runs parallel to Junior Academy - Dundee United Community Trust's mainstream football project - and provides children aged 4-14 living with a physical disability the opportunity to play recreational football every week in a fun and encouraging environment. The session has local participants from Dundee attending as well as children travelling from Aberdeen and Perth to attend. One parent had this to say of CPD Football:

“

The sessions are a godsend to the kids and parents as they are still at an age where they dream of playing football, but if they didn't have this project and had to play football alongside able-bodied kids their interest would wane as they wouldn't be able to keep up with or do what the other kids do.

”

53%

of all disabilities in the UK are mobility-related.



The oldest Dundee United Dynamos member is 77 years old (pictured). The youngest Dundee United Dynamos member is 12 years old.

DUNDEE UNITED DYNAMOS

10+ YEAR OLDS

LEARNING
DISABILITY

MENTAL
ILLNESS

PHYSICAL
DISABILITY

SENSORY
DISABILITY

Dundee United Dynamos was created in partnership with Tayside Dynamos, one of the most successful Powerchair Football Clubs in Scotland. Finding players was proving difficult for Tayside Dynamos as new players were coming up against some of the best players in the country and their specialist equipment. Garry Johnstone, Tayside Dynamos Head Coach commented on the partnership:

“

The Dundee United Dynamos sessions have been a massive success. As Tayside Dynamos we have tried for several years to attract new players to the sport with little success. However, the introduction of Dundee United Dynamos sessions has seen 9 new players attracted to the game already and they have shown a huge appetite and enthusiasm for it. We'd like to thank Dundee United Community Trust for their innovation, enthusiasm and knowledge over the past year, without which a significant amount of powerchair users and their friends and family would not have had the chance to participate in an exciting and friendly sport.

”

185

pupils aged 5 - 18 with ASN
attend Kingspark School.



Three pupils from Kingspark School with their certificate of achievement for attending the Kingspark Soccer Centre.

KINGSPARK SCHOOL FOOTBALL CLUBS PRIMARY & SECONDARY

LEARNING
DISABILITY

MENTAL
ILLNESS

PHYSICAL
DISABILITY

SENSORY
DISABILITY

We are proud to be working with Kingspark School - the main additional support needs school for pupils in Tayside - to provide new opportunities for children to take part in extra-curricular activities after school. The logistics of this proved challenging for the school and we are pleased to be working closely with them to break down these barriers. Paul Dow, Head Teacher at Kingspark School commented:

“

Dundee United Community Trust first started to work with us in August 2019. During that time together we have established a secondary age football club during lunchtime and our first ever after school primary age football club. This has been a huge achievement for us as a school and a huge benefit for our families. Families with children who have severe complex additional support needs often feel marginalised and unable to access mainstream clubs and supports. Working with DUCT has enabled us to provide children with complex ASN an opportunity to be more active, socialise and provide much needed respite for families. Dundee United Community Trust have been a tremendous asset to Kingspark School and I look forward to continued partnership.

”

40%

of children with a disability
are living in poverty.



Some of the participants at the 2020 Scottish Disability Sport Tayside Para-Sport Festival at D&A College.

SCOTTISH DISABILITY SPORT PARA-SPORT FESTIVAL PRIMARY & SECONDARY

LEARNING
DISABILITY

MENTAL
ILLNESS

PHYSICAL
DISABILITY

SENSORY
DISABILITY

In addition to weekly projects, Dundee United Community Trust works closely with Scottish Disability Sport (SDS) to help deliver their annual Tayside Para-Sport Festival at D&A College. This year, 71 children benefitted from sessions delivered by Dundee United Community Trust staff. Graeme Doig, Tayside Regional Manager for Scottish Disability Sport commented:

“

We are delighted and proud to work in partnership with Dundee United Community Trust. Their weekly sessions are fun and meaningful and each one tailored to get the best out of the players whether they have a learning, sensory or physical disability. Dundee United Community Trust also support our Tayside Para-Sport Festival each year which aims to introduce pupils with physical, visual or hearing impairment into a variety of sports. Feedback from pupils and parents alike is always extremely positive and this always helps create introductory pathways for these young people to play weekly football in a trusted, safe and secure environment with their peers.

”

SCOTTISH FA PARA-FOOTBALL PLAYABILITY STRATEGY

LINKING TO OUTCOMES

SCOTTISH FA PARA-FOOTBALL PLAYABILITY STRATEGY - OUTCOMES:

PARTICIPATE IN
THE GAME

SUPPORTING
COACHES

OPPORTUNITIES
TO COMPETE

LEADING THE
GAME

SCOTTISH FA PARA-FOOTBALL PLAYABILITY STRATEGY - AIMS:

TO INCREASE THE OPPORTUNITY
FOR NEW PARTICIPANTS TO
ENTER THE GAME

SUPPORT COACHES AND
VOLUNTEERS TO OFFER
HIGH QUALITY OPPORTUNITIES
TO PARTICIPANTS

TO DEVELOP COMPETITION
STRUCTURES WHICH ALLOW
PLAYERS AND COACHES THE
OPPORTUNITY TO TEST
THEIR ABILITY

CREATE A MORE ATTRACTIVE
FOOTBALLING ENVIRONMENT
FOR ALL INVOLVED IN THE GAME

DUNDEE UNITED PARA- FOOTBALL CLUB - OUR IMPACT:

6 NEW SESSIONS WITH
43 NEW PARTICIPANTS

OVER 80 HOURS OF CONTINUAL
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
SPECIFIC TO PARA-SPORTS
AND ACTIVITIES

PATHWAY OPPORTUNITIES FOR
NATIONAL COMPETITION VIA
MENTAL HEALTH & WELLBEING
FC & DUNDEE UNITED DYNAMOS

WE LAUNCHED THE FIRST
DEDICATED MULTI-SPORT
PROGRAMME SPECIFIC FOR
PEOPLE WITH A VARIETY OF
DISABILITIES WHICH IS LINKED
TO A FOOTBALL CLUB TRUST

TO OUR PARTNERS & FUNDERS WE THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR SUPPORT



**ALEXANDER
MONCUR
TRUST**



**LENG
CHARITABLE
TRUST**



OUR PLANS FOR 2020 & BEYOND WHAT IS NEXT?

Dundee United Para-Football Club will continue to break down barriers and provide opportunities for those living with a disability to take part in sport.

We will continue to work with existing partners, building on the strong foundations we have already built, and also reach out to other strategically identified organisations and charities to create new partnerships.

In terms of projects, we hope to see our work with Kingspark School evolve to include educational support as well as our extra-curricular soccer centres. Dundee United Boccia Club, delivered in partnership with NHS Tayside, will launch in 2020. Dundee United Para-Football Club wants to provide opportunities for those with a visual impairment - this will likely see Goalball or adapted walking football introduced very soon.

You can keep up-to-date with the progress of both Dundee United Para-Football Club and Dundee United Community Trust by following us on our dedicated social media channels.



@dundeeunitedpfc



@dundeeunitedct



Dundee United FC player Ian Harkes and a Children's Physical Disability Football member at the launch of Dundee United Para-Football Club in Feb 2019.



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Dundee United Community Trust is a Scottish charity registered with OSCR: SC039922.