

IMPACT REPORT

Garden Needs CIC

Jan 2015 to December 2015



Garden Needs is your community Garden Centre set in the heart of the Salford community.

As well as being a local sustainable Garden Centre for the entire community providing excellent plants, we also deliver the 'Amazing' programme of training, volunteering opportunities, a rolling programme of seasonal activities, and opportunities to develop micro enterprises.

Our Vision is to . . . be the pioneer in connecting people with nature and inspiring them to lead healthier and happier lives.

Trading since 2013, **Garden Needs** supports people dealing with mental health recovery, general wellbeing and learning disabilities to engage with our regular service activity of horticulture, volunteering opportunities, a rolling programme of seasonal activities and training and garden maintenance services.

Here are 10 things you need to know about Garden Needs CIC:

1: Garden Needs works out of a tranquil hidden Garden Centre in Higher Broughton, bordering Kersal Dale woodland. Every day we hear birdsong and the wind in the branches and leaves.

2: Our closest partners are Social adVentures and Mind in Salford who we work with very closely in both our social responsibilities and in our care for our volunteers.

3: Over **300** people from families to corporate volunteers have engaged with activities at Garden Needs over the last year. Activities have included:

- Gruffalo walks
- Halloween
- Music in mind dementia workshops
- Summer celebrations
- Over 65's group
- Business in the Community days
- Christmas wreath making

4: Our volunteers say that Garden Needs is: **Companionship; Happiness; Tolerance; a place of friendship; where I can be myself; where I can learn.**

5: Garden Needs through its outreach activities has engaged with **4** schools **72** children and **22** families helping them grow fresh vegetables and learn how to cook them.

6: Garden Needs' mental health programme aims to help **50%** of those we engage to progress with their sense of mental health recovery.

7: We have supported **41** referred individuals from Salford to feel better about their mental health through peer supported recovery - **116%** of target set.

9: **12** of our volunteers have re-entered the workplace either back into their previous line of work or new career roles

10: Our past volunteers say:
"I wouldn't be here today if it wasn't for Garden Needs"
"Garden Needs is a place for everyone and where everyone has a place"
"Best little corner in Salford"

Garden Needs is looking for additional investment to significantly expand and deliver the 'Amazing' programme across Greater Manchester during 2016-17.

Garden Needs is a community interest company that has been trading since 2013. The business was originally established out of a successful Mind in Salford 'ecominds' project.

For more information, please contact:

T: 01617925448

E: simon@gardenneeds.org.uk

W: <http://www.gardenneeds.org.uk>