

June 19th 2020

Thank-you for your continued support! We have had some lovely feedback from people using the service:

*'I'm really very so thankful for the service you have provided us'
'I left feeling lighter and more able to face the challenges that might come my way.'*

These are just a few bullet points about the work that we have been doing this week:

- 1) The NHS have been exploring specific roles for Project5 to support NHS staff who are best met by an independent service. More on this once agreed, but there is an emerging clarity about the value of this volunteer offering.
- 2) We have opened the service to [CLIC Sargent](#), who's care staff support the families of children with cancer. They have requested our support regularly and their Chief Exec was clear about the value of our support: *"As far as I know this is the only service that is offering this level of service to the care sector. We know it will make a positive difference to people's lives."* We are helping the care sector with a number of small pilots – to identify the level of need. Project5 values the accessibility of support to disadvantaged groups and hope that the support and learning will be of national significance.
- 3) Please visit the website of our charity partner – [the Laura Hyde Foundation](#). They are driving our comms and fundraising efforts. Their work and values dovetail with ours and we are very excited to be working together in this endeavour. **Please do keep posting on social media about the service using the hashtag #weareproject5**
- 4) The Laura Hyde Foundation have printed 25,000 posters advertising our service. You can print your own from [here](#), or let the charity know if any NHS services you know may benefit from receiving them.
- 5) We are developing our training into a video-based training course over the next month, with CPD points. This will include a range of themes, some new and some revision for you all. Keep watching this space 😊
- 6) We have opened up a Project5 delivery team volunteers page – as our delivery team is short of skilled people. If you are interested in offering your time in a different way, please see details at this link: <https://www.project5.org/p5teamapply>

Star Volunteer of the Week

[Lisa Kramer](#) – has been our volunteer Comms lead since Project5 started – and the co-star of our weekly update videos alongside Craig. She was new to us all and came with a bright energy and passion that enabled us to learn a lot about comms and engagement with media. She worked tirelessly for 3 months, but sadly has had to step down due to the need to return to paid work. She has been an amazing asset and team member and is already missed. Thanks Lisa, your paying clients are getting value for money for sure!

CEO's thoughts

I read the recent Public Health England report on BAME and the higher incident of COVID related deaths ([here](#)). It was sombre reading, particularly the observation that under-privilege and racism contributed so much to death. It worries me that there is another story yet to emerge - the impact on wellbeing from the pressures of working and the context of distress of recent days, and perhaps days to come. Particularly on those least resourced or who feel least deserving in society, due to how society expresses its value of them.

Project5 is committed to staying alive in this space, opening up to those who are least empowered – and working hard to create access and messages of how much we value our *whole* care sector. Creating a route to wellbeing support for a diverse population is going to take time, education and constant presence in this space. I am even more committed to being here and staying here – and working hard to open our doors wide and bringing those we value into a space where value is felt. I am privileged to be surrounded by a team of volunteers who feel the same and will help Project5 towards this aspiration.

Take care, Craig & the Project5 Team