**4Corners Project**

The 4Corners project works with children aged 8-16 and their families through one-to-one, group work and parent support. The project aims to promote vulnerable and disadvantaged BME children’s participation and engagement in the life of their school and community. The majority of the children are new migrants, refugees and asylum seekers, living across Edinburgh.

Group Work

The group work in primary schools includes both BME and White Scottish children and focuses on integration and social cohesion. We have two groups running in primary schools, one in the east of Edinburgh and one in the west, working closely with the schools to identify children to participate in the groups. These groups are open to children in P3-P5 who are struggling with confidence, social isolation, trauma or transition, and use creative crafts and activities along with football to offer a safe, nurturing space where children can grow and flourish. Each group has 10-15 members, depending on the needs presenting, and are supported by a sessional worker, a football coach and two social work students, alongside the Project Leader.

The group work aspect of the 4Corners project also seeks to act as a bridge between our more specialised, supported group, to larger community groups and sports teams. Where children are ready to move from the group, we support ‘enhanced’ transitions into sports clubs, youth groups and school-based provisions, seeking to effetively reduce barriers.

Individual Work

The 4Corners project offers needs-led individual support to BME children across Edinburgh as well as white scottish children in the Leith area. This support is offered at school, in the home or at MCFB, depending on the circumstances of the child. This individual provision supports presenting issues including trauma, social isolation, confidence, loss and emotional regulation, providing a safe space where the child can explore these issues and build resilience.

The individual intervention is designed around the needs and enagagement of each child, using various methods including free play, drawing, art & crafts, cooking and social stories as a therapeutic tool to aid the child’s communication. We also use specific board games and exercises that aim to facilitate turn taking and improved concentration and to identify strengths, leading to increased self-belief and participation in learning.

Parent Support

The parental support includes promoting communication with schools and helping education professionals to better understand the families’ needs and to work in a more culturally efficient and appropriate way. Families are supported attend meetings with education staff to support the wellbeing of their child, as well as being supported through advocacy in other areas of their lives, such as housing, health and benefits.

Often the work with parents takes the form of direct work around parenting issues, which can often stem from cultural differences, such as physical chastisement and school attendance.

T.E.A.M Project

The T.E.A.M Project (Together Equality Achieves More) is a partnership between the 4Corners Project and Big Hearts Community Trust. This partnership targets children in P6-S2 across the west of Edinburgh, offering group work and accessible football coaching for isolated, disadvantaged BME children, as well as opportunities to get involved with the life of Hearts Football Club (mascot places, match tickets, meeting players). Currently this project is going from strength to strength and looking to extend the provision to reach more children on a weekly basis, working with primary schools around the Tynecastle cluster to identify children who would benefit from support.