

Poplar HARCA

- Housing and Regeneration Community Association situated in East London
- Approved UK online centre for digital skills training since 2009
- Replication partner of Clarion Futures



Poplar HARCA: Challenges and Learning

Challenges:

- Recruitment of learners and champions during holidays
- Learners' language barriers
- Retaining Champions
- Continuity due to lack of resources
- Monitoring progression



Poplar HARCA: Challenges and Learning

Learning:

- Useful to have a volunteer service already in place in organisation
- Digital embedded with existing Employment Service
- DC role can boost CVs for jobseekers
- Light touch screening tool, very helpful
- Group skills training sessions, very useful
- Combining group with 1-2-1 support
- DCs with previous language teaching experience add more value



Outcomes of our partnership work

AS part of One Digital:

- 337 jobseekers screened
- 190 individuals each given 5 groups sessions and 4 one to one support sessions
- 21 Digital Champions engaged
- 4 DCs progressed into jobs within PH
- 2 DCs got FT jobs externally
- 2 DCs received DC of the Year Awards in different categories and 1 DC won the DC of the Year Award over-all

Most Recent achievement: Over 100k grant won from Power Up Fund to continue this very valuable work for another 18 mos from Nov 2019.

