

JANUARY 2022

APPLE Newsletter

Addressing Poverty with Lived Experience.



News from the APPLE Collective

Every thought is a seed...

WHO WE ARE:

We are the APPLE Collective.

A national collective of individuals and organisations who have experienced or are experiencing poverty.

Our aim is to create a sustainable, grassroots network across the UK to raise awareness of poverty, reduce stigma and work together with others to eradicate it.

We work collaboratively with allies to use our voice to affect change and we invite groups that have experience or are led by people who are experiencing poverty to join us and become part of the APPLE Collective.

I am delighted to write the foreword to this our first APPLE Newsletter. Alongside our monthly APPLE Meetings, blogs and tweets where sub-groups feedback on activities then this will be a fantastic way to share our work.

APPLE Collective has come a long way from small and strong beginnings in 2018 to a growing collective of over 13 groups; ATD Fourth World, Thrive, Expert Citizens, Dole Animators, Poverty Truth Community, Hartlepool Action Lab, LIFE, Starting Point, RAPAR, Salford Community Pride, All the Small Things, Single Parents Rights Campaign and Community Organisers.

In line with our commitment to equality and diversity, we actively seek to amplify the voice, challenge discrimination and take action against the oppression of people who hold protected characteristics under the 2010 Equality Act, including socio-economic disadvantage. We are excited to begin the next three years of our Action Plan which focuses on our five objectives;

APPLE Collective

Addressing Poverty
with Lived Experience



One.

To amplify the voices of people who live in poverty and build collective solidarity to end poverty.

Two.

APPLE Collective and members will evidence an enhanced ability to affect positive change through improved external APPLE relationships, ensuring the voice of lived experiences of poverty are heard, represented and acted upon.

Three.

Internal relationships within the APPLE Collective will be enhanced. Mutual support and unified voice will be evidenced

Four.

We will build the capacity and financial sustainability of the Collective.

Five.

Members of the APPLE Collective have increased knowledge and improved skills so they are better able to influence and amplify activity of the group.

Our Action Plan details how our four subgroups; Communications, Campaigns, Governance and Learning Together will action these objectives across the three year funding period.

Katy Goldstraw, APPLE Collective

Updates from our Campaigns Sub-group:

The digital divide continues to be our campaign focus and we are delighted to be working with national charity Good Things Foundation, to develop their Data Poverty Lab and ensure that people with lived experience are involved in designing and testing solutions.

Our Campaigns priorities are to develop relationships with key partners and to plan our activities for 2022, using our upcoming meeting in Stoke to progress with these. These relationships include a new partnership with the Ada Lovelace Institute, that will involve Peer Researchers within APLE gathering experiences around health inequalities and data-driven systems (e.g. the Covid-19 shielded patient list).

Updates from our Communications Sub-group:

The communications sub-group have been taking the time in January to revise our APLE Action plan and look at how best we can work alongside the campaigns sub-group to communicate our key messages and values.

- Some of our communications planning has also been around the creation of this brand new Newsletter.
- For our Face to Face Meeting Planned in Stoke, APLE Members Dylan and Camille will be co-facilitating a Communicating Poverty workshop, giving an overview of framing Poverty, how to bring in solutions and context and top tips for writing for social media!

Updates from our Learning Together Sub-group:

We, the learning together group, are currently working on three aspects from the main APLE action plan.

'Mentoring programme' - we plan to link members with the help of our new lived experience coordinator to facilitate lines of communication.

'Skills training' - we've identified four areas of agreed training from our previous doodle poll - talking poverty is the first, to be delivered at our upcoming Stoke face to face meeting, which is kindly being facilitated by Dylan and Camille.

'Library of wisdom' - creating a shared digital space where members can locate, share links and information on various topics - work in progress. More will be revealed in 2022 as we grow and learn together.

Updates from our Governance Sub-group:

Exciting times are ahead for the APLE governance group. After deciding to formalise our way of working, the APLE Collective will be embarking on the journey to become a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO). Together, we will develop our governing document, making sure that the APLE core values underpin the management of the Collective.

We will also be embarking upon a piece of work around the idea of the APLE Collective becoming the very first Lived Experience Think Tank.

These are uncharted waters for the Collective but is a testament to the commitment and drive of ensuring the voice of lived experiences of poverty are part of the debates that can influence positive change.

Other Updates

- APLE Collective members have been invited to raise awareness and participate in a **5K Fun Run for Trussell Trust**.

The Trussell Trust is coordinating a national 5km fun run and given that APLE Collective have been working with Trussell trust to help develop participatory co-produced approaches we thought it would be another great way to support them.

We know that APLE members have a variety of levels of running ability so we thought that we would run a 5km relay.

If you would like to find out more click here:

<https://www.trusselltrust.org/get-involved/fundraise/events/race-against-hunger/>

Growing our Collective with two new roles!



Meet Corrina! The new APLE Lived experience Co-ordinator!

The purpose of Coy's role is to build strong internal APLE relationships, identify volunteering opportunities and support APLE volunteers.



Meet Dylan! The new APLE Social Media and Communications Officer!

Dylan's role is to develop and lead on all APLE's social media campaigns and to lead on developing a communications strategy.

Quote

OF THE MONTH

"An apple tree is just like a person. In order to thrive, it needs companionship that's similar to it in some ways, but quite different than others."

- Jeffrey Stepakoff.



APLE are proud winners of the UK Parliament Digital Campaigners of the year 2021 Award!



APPLE SPOTLIGHT



<https://twitter.com/AtSTCiC>



<http://allthesmallthingscic.org/>

For our very first Newsletter, we'd like to spotlight **All The Small Things CIC!** They are:

- A Social Action Hub - listening, sharing and connecting communities in North Staffordshire.
- Supporting people to take action on local and national priorities including poverty, loneliness and safety.
- Working for a more socially equal, caring and cooperative society.



BLOG OF THE MONTH

The **APPLE Collective** share their expertise and insight with external partners.

"Living in poverty has never been a life choice. The harsh realities faced by people living in poverty are indefensible and with this in mind, the APPLE Collective's mission statement clearly articulates the need and value of creating a lived experience of poverty network across the UK to raise awareness of poverty, reduce stigma and work with others to affect positive change."

The APPLE Collective are visionary and forthright in the actions they take and fully appreciate the need to merge areas of expertise, develop external relationships, collaborating with others to ensure the voice of lived experiences of poverty are heard, represented and acted upon."

[Click here
to read
the full
blog.](#)



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WWW.APPLECollective.com

COMING UP

- **Tuesday 1st February 2022- First of Month. Sub-Group Action Feedback.**
- **Thursday 3rd and Thursday 4th February 2022- In person APPLE Collective gathering-**

Reviewing key priorities for APPLE 2022 Action Plan, workshops on APPLE Collective becoming a Lived Experience Think Tank, Communicating Poverty workshop, and more!

- **Tuesday 15th February APPLE Collective Networking.**