



SOCIAL IMPACT REPORT



APRIL 2025 - MARCH 2026

HELPING PEOPLE OF OLDHAM SHINE THEIR *brightest!*

Our Purpose

At Spark Oldham, we believe everyone deserves the chance to feel confident, connected, and supported. We're here to help people of all ages and stages grow, thrive, and discover what makes them shine. By bringing communities together and offering meaningful opportunities, we help people move forward with positivity and purpose.

Our Vision

We imagine a warm, supportive future where connected communities across Oldham help people of every age and life stage grow, thrive, and develop - to shine their brightest, reach their full potential, become their best selves, and live up to all they can be.

Our Mission

We transform lives by supporting people in ways that truly matter. We put wellbeing first, listen carefully, and create opportunities that help people not just get by - but genuinely flourish. We give people of all ages space to be heard, offer accessible volunteering opportunities, and build pathways into employment, all while keeping kindness and understanding at the heart of everything we do.

- ◆ **Inspiring through Volunteering**
- ◆ **Improving Health and Wellbeing**
- ◆ **Investing in our Young People, Children and Families**

Through these programmes we provide the tools, opportunities and encouragement for people to build confidence, strengthen relationships and live healthier, more fulfilling lives.



A MESSAGE FROM OUR FOUNDER



**Kim
Rogers**

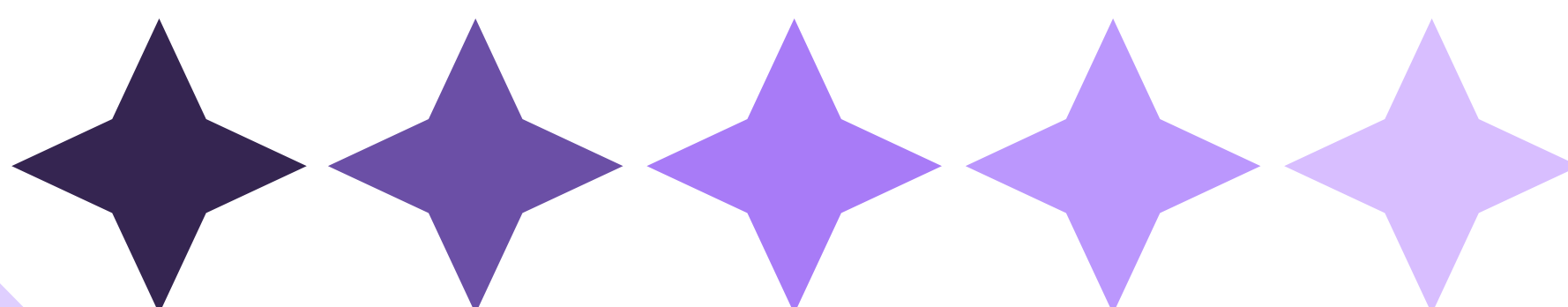


Spark Oldham was created in response to the needs we saw within our local community. Families were struggling, young people lacked safe spaces to grow and many individuals were experiencing loneliness and isolation.

Our aim was simple - to create a place where people could come together, support each other and access opportunities to improve their lives.

Over the past year we have seen first-hand how powerful community can be. From children taking their first steps in Baby Boogies to young leaders gaining employment and confidence, Spark has become a place where people feel valued and supported.

We are incredibly proud of the difference our volunteers, staff and partners are making every day. Together we are helping individuals and families build confidence, develop skills and feel connected to their community.



OUR JOURNEY

Spark Oldham was founded in 2023 by Kim Rogers after recognising the growing need for accessible community support.

Kim Rogers has dedicated over 20 years to the voluntary sector. Having faced her own challenges growing up, she understood from an early age the importance of self-worth and made it her mission to help others recognise theirs.

Kim founded Spark after identifying a growing need for community-led support that meets people where they are at. Spark is built on the belief that every person deserves the opportunity to rediscover their inner spark. Since launching, Spark has grown rapidly, expanding programmes and supporting hundreds of people across Oldham.



Key milestones in our journey include:

- Launching the Young Leaders Programme
- Delivering our first HAF (Holiday Activities and Food) programme providing over 1,000 hot meals
- Expanding to deliver multiple community wellbeing groups
- Establishing a new home at Tanhill
- Becoming finalists at the Oldham Business Awards

Spark has also been recognised as a Community Contributor of the Year by GMCC, reflecting the positive difference the organisation is making locally.



SPARK
OLDHAM

OUR IMPACT IN NUMBERS

Spark Oldham has continued to grow its reach and support more people across the community.

- 900 people attended community events
- 45 women supported through wellbeing groups
- Over 100 hours of walking groups delivered
- Over 8,000 volunteer hours contributed
- 12 volunteers recruited since January 2025
- 62 young leaders employed
- 7,344 paid youth leader hours delivered
- 101 early years sessions delivered
- 136 holiday activity sessions delivered



**OVER
6,000
TOYS TO
CHILDREN AT
CHRISTMAS**



**OVER
900
CHILDREN
SUPPORTED WITH
SCHOOL
UNIFORM**



**OVER 6,000
HOT MEALS
PROVIDED TO
CHILDREN**



**OVER
200
FOOD PARCELS
DISTRIBUTED
TO
FAMILIES**



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OLDHAM**

These achievements demonstrate the growing reach and impact of Spark Oldham across the local community.

OUR APPROACH

Spark Oldham believes that strong communities are built when people have opportunities to connect, develop confidence and contribute to the lives of others.



The organisation creates welcoming spaces where people can take part in activities, build relationships and develop new skills.

Through community groups, volunteering opportunities and youth programmes, Spark helps individuals move from needing support to becoming active contributors within their community.



This approach helps strengthen relationships, improve wellbeing and build more resilient communities.



IMPROVING HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Supporting the health and wellbeing of local people is at the heart of Spark Oldham's work is a priority to Spark Oldham.

Spark delivers a range of activities designed to improve physical and mental wellbeing, including:

- Women's wellbeing groups
- Walking groups
- Men's peer support groups
- Mental health workshops
- Weekly mindfulness sessions
- Weekly older people session
- 8 Short courses planned and delivered to support health and wellbeing
- Delivered 4 wreath making workshops over christmas, engaging with over 150 people



"I have got more from this group than any other therapies I have been to. I go out of here a very different version of myself."



3 women have been trained who were attendees to now running the women's group, this has improved their confidence.



Over 30 voluntary hours of men's support group delivered.

"Being part of the walking group has helped me to get out of the house and pushed me to chat to new people."



"My day feels lighter and happier when I have been to group."

"The highlight of my day has to be seeing women in this group able to turn to each other and openly say 'You made me comfortable and confident in speaking out'"



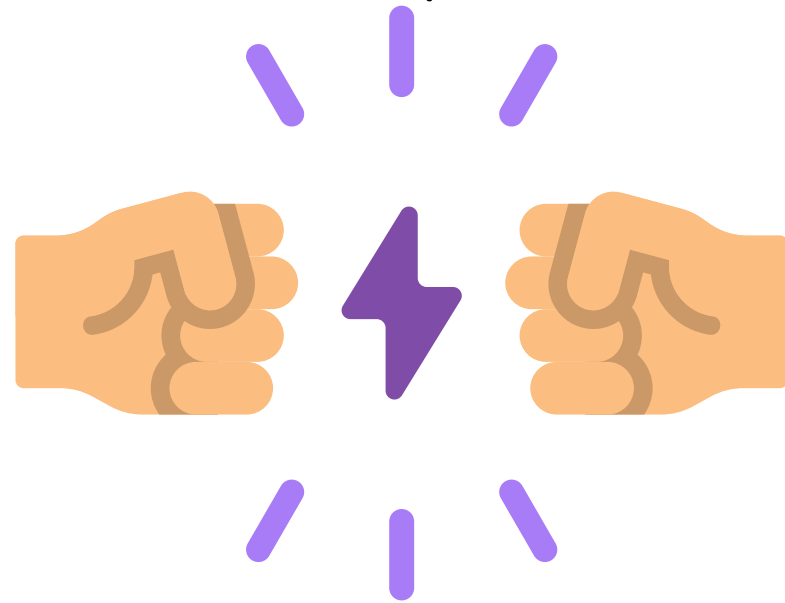
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INSPIRING THROUGH VOLUNTEERING

Volunteers play a vital role in the work of Spark Oldham and are central to the organisation's ability to deliver community programmes. Spark provides flexible volunteering opportunities that allow people to contribute their time and skills while also developing confidence and experience.

Volunteers support activities including:

- community groups
- youth programmes
- early years sessions
- community events
- fundraising initiatives



"Spark is like a family. People really care about me."

Since Spark began, volunteers have contributed over **8,000** hours supporting programmes across the community. Many volunteers begin their journey with Spark as participants before choosing to give back to the community.

"I used to find it hard to walk into the building on my own and now I stand at the front and deliver sessions."

"I attended a women's group after being referred by my GP surgery and found it made a massive difference to my wellbeing. When the group finished I wanted to carry on doing something and the group lead suggested I train to be a buddy. Now I support other women who are going through the programme."



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Through volunteering, individuals gain new skills, improve confidence and develop stronger connections within their community.

INVESTING IN OUR YOUNG PEOPLE, CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

THE NEXT GENERATION IS OUR FUTURE

Our 0-5 years groups provide the building blocks to becoming 'school ready' through language development, problem solving and activities which support social and emotional growth. Our youth groups offer a safe and supportive environment where young people can develop social skills, build resilience, explore creativity and engage in positive pro-social activities outside of school.



Employed 12 Young people to deliver youth initiatives to other young people

Over 15 hours of child and youth provision delivered weekly

Supported 4 young people with work experience placements

Supported 4 young people with work experience placements

2,598 hot meals served during school holidays



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VOLUNTEER STORIES

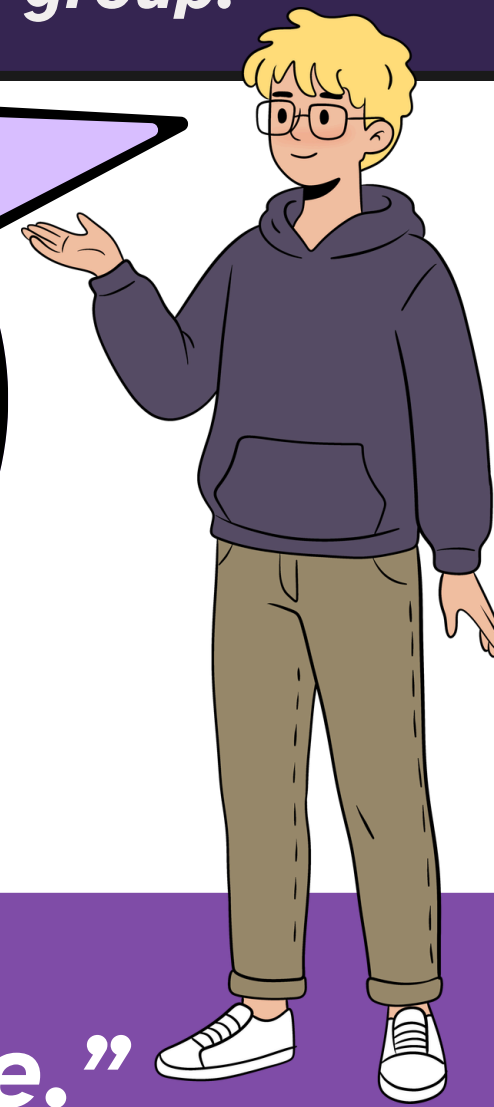
“When the group finished I wanted to carry on doing something and the group lead suggested I train to be a buddy. Now I support other women who are going through the programme.”



“I started coming to Baby Boogies with my child and then got asked if I wanted to support at the session. Now, after training and support, I help to run this group.”



“I’m very thankful for being part of the Spark family, everyone has made me feel so welcome!”



“Spark is like a family; people really care about me.”

“Standing up in front of people and speaking is something I’d never done before. Being here has really pushed me to believe in myself more.”



“I’m proud of how as a team we adapt to change and to meet the needs of the community, no two days are alike”

“I was really nervous but my mental health has got loads better. I’ve always put a mask on but now I’m smiling for real”



“I used to find it hard to walk into the building on my own but now I stand at the front and deliver sessions.”

“I attended a women’s group after being referred by my GP surgery and found it made a massive difference to my wellbeing.”



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THANK YOU

Spark Oldham's work is only possible thanks to the dedication of our staff, volunteers, partners and supporters.



WILLMOTT DIXON

Oldham College

DIODES
INCORPORATED

GO



ALBION HOUSE
WEALTH MANAGEMENT



PARK CAKES
ESTD 1937

ROWAN
ASHWORTH
LTD

LOGIC
UPVC



wagamama



SS
Sheridan Skips

ASDA

Get
Oldham
Working



ODEON



hollywood
bowl

OLDHAM SIXTH
OSFC
FORM COLLEGE



Bakersson.

TESCO



IMPROVING LIVES



Royal Mail

firstchoice
HOMES OLDHAM

M&Y
Maintenance
and Construction



The Ace
Free House

Seddon



action
together

cornerstone^{DM}

great
places
HOUSING GROUP



AVRO FC IN THE
Community

Vistry Group

Travis Perkins
Managed
Services

WEA
Adult Learning
Within Reach



ForHousing

Wates



"SPARK IS A MOVEMENT"



Together, we are helping people across Oldham
rediscover their confidence, build connections
and transform their lives.

