



# Emerging evidence for community-led prevention models

Through our Trailblazer work, we recognised the barrier that some of our existing measurements and metrics can have on demonstrating the impact of community-led, connected networks of support. Leads asked themselves “how can we measure joy and hope for families”?

**Wigan’s children’s teams are reporting a reduction in CP numbers and a downward trend in CiN, attributed to continued investment in earliest EFH.**

We undertook an experiment to understand how we can hear family journeys as a way to identify how our transformed approach creates moments of joy & thriving, through accessing new collaborations and networks from the ‘doorstep out’.

We are interested in exploring how this preventative work impacts:

Families	Services	Systems	Communities
<i>How does it contribute to thriving &amp; protective factors through creating access to earlier support?</i>	<i>How are we increasing reach and appropriate offers to families, including underserved communities?</i>	<i>How does greater connectivity mean demand is better managed in the system?</i>	<i>Strengthened resilience in communities</i>
	<i>Increased job satisfaction</i>	<i>Reduced spend</i>	



# Family story - Rochdale

I have been able to connect that family to something in the community that helps them to thrive. I don't have to have all the answers, but my relationships and support in communities means that I have helped the family access more support than I could have alone. I feel satisfaction in my job.

- EFH services

We know that we have a lot of families seeking asylum in Rochdale and hear about the things they need, which is why we provided a cheap washing machine. It's great that statutory teams can share this with families, and that I know I can talk to them if I'm worried or if I need anything. We can work together to help and make sure we have what our families need.

- VCFSE/Community Orgs

Families seeking asylum are living in hotels across Rochdale. This makes access to simple support, like washing clothes, difficult & expensive.

Through Rochdale North's new community collaboration, people supporting these families noticed how costly and hard this was. They also noticed that the MAT offered a free washing machine.

Families are now able to access cheap places to wash clothes, building dignity and confidence to go out into the community, increasing access to more help.

Having people seeking asylum with us that feel happy and dignified means that we get to benefit from all of their skills and talents and that they don't go down harmful paths. We can share our assets with them to improve our community,

- Communities

The family feeling dignified and confident means they are more likely to engage with the community and services to get support available. It means they won't fall into even more desperate and damaging situations, which does not benefit anyone and cost more money. My staff feel satisfied and better connected with others to offer help and are not just fire-fighting.

- System of prevention



# Family story - Leigh

Understanding what our families enjoy doing, and hearing what will create joy and thriving for them, which can be as simple as having access to meet peers or run sewing classes, means we can connect & offer responsive support that isn't expensive or time consuming.

Getting to know what already exists helps me in my job, as I don't need to offer an assessment or referral.

- EFH services

Our support and services are valued & given the space to flourish. We are able to offer, and create support that we know is needed, much faster than our statutory colleagues

- VCFSE/Community Orgs

The Akinyemi family is from Nigerian heritage, seeking asylum in the UK. They would travel from Wigan to Rochdale so that they could get support from the Nigerian Community Association, who they describe as their closest support

Travelling this distance to find a trusted person, to feel connected and to do things that they enjoy, like baking and sewing, is time consuming and expensive. This means that the family, especially Mum, spends a lot of time at home, describing their other contact being school, who feel far away

When co-designing the Leigh Family Hub, time was spent focussing on how to create real, inclusive networks of support, with spaces set up by peers

Local services and support offers are given space to flourish and develop, creating more inclusive spaces that families want to go to in their local community. If more support is needed, then we know who to turn to to ask for it, as the Early Help teams are connecting services to us.

- Communities

The family are engaged in the local community, meaning they get support to thrive, but also that we can connect into them much earlier if they hit a bump in the road. This means there are less people in the system, and that we are focussing support and spend on people who really need it. My staff feel satisfied and better connected with others to offer help and are not just fire-fighting.

- System of prevention