

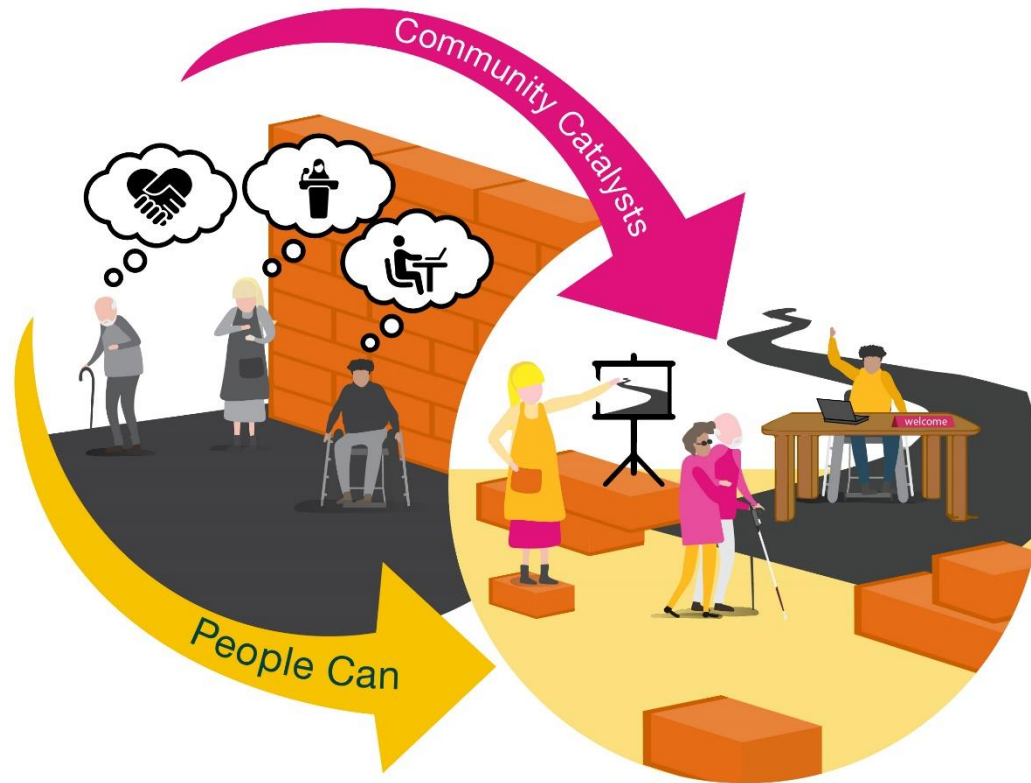
People doing it for
themselves...and their
community

Angela Catley

Community Catalysts

- A Social Enterprise and Community Interest Company established in 2010
- Works across the UK through local partners, using tested models and approaches
- Helps harness the imaginations of people and communities
- Builds on strengths and assets
- Aims to make sure that people have real choice of great services and supports that will help them live the life they want, connected and contributing

People Can



- People sometimes need support to live their lives
- The help they need can overshadow their skills
- This waste of talent hurts the person, their community and society
- We need to help people dream and make things happen

A close-up photograph of a white puzzle with one dark piece missing. The puzzle pieces are interlocking and have a slightly irregular, organic shape. The dark piece is a solid black silhouette of a person, positioned in the center-right of the frame. The background is a light gray, and the lighting is soft, creating subtle shadows between the puzzle pieces.

We spend so much time thinking
about what people need...we
forget to find out what they can
do...and give

Social Care Future

- National movement for change which partners people who need support with people who provide and purchase it – equal.
- Recent report trying to change how social care is ‘framed’ – how we all see and talk about it

We see people with gifts and potential to be nurtured. The dominant narrative sees people with needs. We regard social care as a springboard, while the dominant narrative presents it as a safety net



<https://socialcarefuture.blog/2019/10/31/talking-about-a-brighter-social-care-future/>

Camerados

*When we go through hard times we often forget the two most essential things: **Friends and Purpose**. You get both when you look out for someone - a connection and a real sense of purpose. And you get away from your own problems for a bit. Have 6 key principles one is:*

When we see someone struggling ask them to help YOU



Example one: People doing it for themselves

- Development project funded by the National Lottery Community Fund
- Knew that people who have care needs can shine as leaders
- Explored how to create the conditions for more people to lead their own business or group or community initiative
- Want to help change how people view themselves and how they are viewed by society



range of services include
**PEOPLE
DOING IT FOR
THEMSELVES**

What we did, what we learned
and what needs to happen next

communitycatalysts®
unlocking potential effecting change



*I am helping other people and
changing my world a little bit
at a time*

- We learned from older and disabled leaders who need care
- We also engaged with decision makers and commissioners in areas that support strength-based work
- We formed a coproduction group and together we developed a **pathway** which shows the steps people need to take to do it for themselves



19 stories of amazing people

I wanted to help people. I also wanted to feel that I was still useful. The opportunity came at just the right time

I saw a big gap in mental health services and support. You can train in mental health and if you've experienced it you can help people with it

I'd always wanted to go to Africa for ages and I thought...because of being blind I would be more trouble than I was worth, but now that I have found blind people that really need my help, and the effect of having me over there... I don't have to say anything, just by standing there, I'm proving that a blind person can do things, it gives them hope, it's quite dramatic



Example two MacIntyre's Great Communities

- Innovative provider charity MacIntyre and Community Catalysts decided to work together to **do something** to address the challenge of people falling through the gaps in services
- MacIntyre invested its own money to do this because it feels so passionately about the issue
- Decided to start the work in Warrington – an area with so many strengths where MacIntyre already has a strong presence

The approach

Find

- Find ways to identify and engage people with learning disabilities or on the autistic spectrum who are falling through the gap

Engage

- Engage local people, public sector bodies, businesses, organisations and groups and work with them to understand the issues

Partner

- Work in partnership to make the most of all the assets Warrington already has – people, spaces, places, resources, equipment etc

Create

- Bring all this together to enable people falling through the gap to live a good life, connected to and contributing to their local community

Improve

- Make Warrington a more inclusive place – a better place to live



Ciaran and his film club

- Ciaran loves film and wanted to share his passion
- Knew that autistic people can struggle to go to the cinema
- Helped to set up a new film club. He plans what films to show, introduces the show and leads people to comment and review
- Links made with a community centre looking to offer more and be more inclusive
- Links with the local coop – who donate snacks
- The club has over 20 members and is very successful
- Ciaran now supporting and inspiring others and sharing his experiences at national events

Ciaran





'In the cinema the sound can be very loud. When I was younger, I used to be really scared...I would put my fingers in my ears. I thought that people with autism need their own film club. A safe space where people can see each other and enjoy themselves. It has had a positive impact on everyone – including myself'

The numbers



20 months



54 people engaged



60 organisations and groups engaged



60 additional people connected to GC

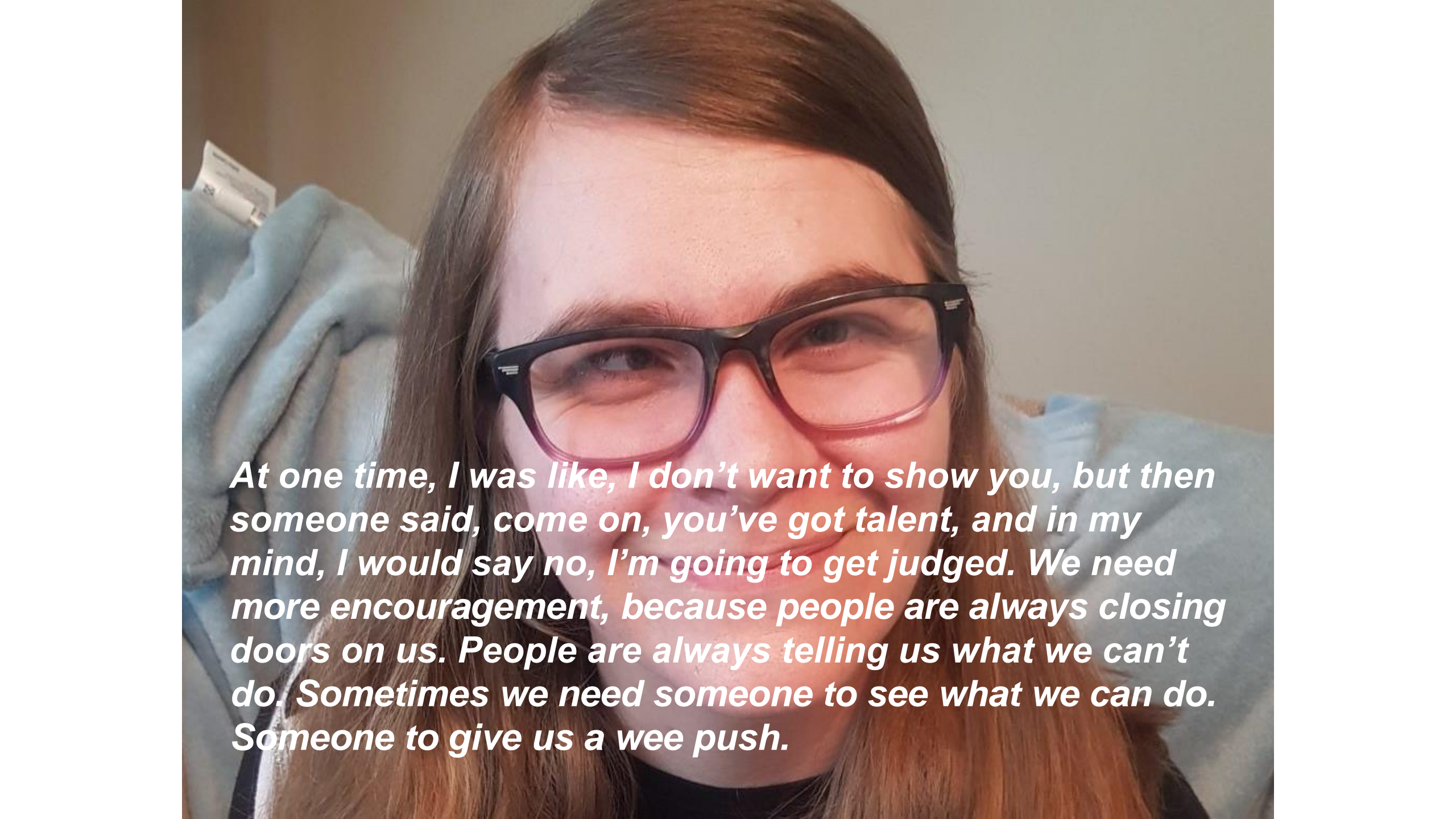
What we've learned

We need to lead from behind - ideas need to come from people and to link with their passions and skills

People don't want to be seen as passive recipients – they are open to helping each other and their community. They want to use their skills in some way

Organisations and groups are willing to help and be helped - this isn't about Great Communities helping people it's about Warrington helping people and organisations just need a hand with that





At one time, I was like, I don't want to show you, but then someone said, come on, you've got talent, and in my mind, I would say no, I'm going to get judged. We need more encouragement, because people are always closing doors on us. People are always telling us what we can't do. Sometimes we need someone to see what we can do. Someone to give us a wee push.

Contact



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