

# SupERkids

- \* SupERkids is run by the parents of beneficiaries, we are passionate about what we do, we make it work, we are all unpaid volunteers
- \* We aim to provide a wide range of supported after school and weekend activities to meet the needs of kids with ASN in our community
- \* Providing opportunities to remedy social isolation is a significant part of all our services
- \* We do this because no one else does

# Why are we different

- \* Our focus is our children and their peers - our beneficiaries
- \* We have never and will never turn a child away from an activity due to their support needs
- \* No negativity allowed, we don't blame others for not filling service gaps, we focus on filling those gaps when we see them
- \* We understand those we support because we all face the same challenges / frustrations
- \* All parents / carers are encouraged to participate / contribute

# Why did we need ACF funding

- \* Our kids cannot go anywhere without support for their care needs
- \* Our clubs and activities provide this support
- \* We hire sessional trained staff from Inclusive Support Team of East Renfrewshire Council
- \* We hire suppliers to put on activities which the kids want
- \* No mainstream organisations accept our kids without support...shame on them

# What did the ACF do for SupERkids

- \* Supported the most vulnerable kids in our society during the strangest of times
- \* Allowed us to provide clubs throughout lockdown within Scottish Government restrictions and ongoing
- \* Kept families together and allowed parents to work
- \* Transformed the lives of our SupERkids

# What difference did ACF make

- \* Kids were able to socialise and interact independent of family at an activity they wanted to do
- \* 7,832 hours of supported activities from Sept 2020 to March 2022
- \* Over 105 kids supported at after school clubs and at weekends
- \* All parents / carers / siblings received respite from their caring responsibilities for a short period
- \* *“X hates being at home. She shouts and screams at home so we are constantly out driving her or visiting relatives. It’s exhausting and there are no other clubs apart from SupERkids that we can send her to. X loves being at the clubs and it gives us a much-needed break”*

# What ACF has taught us

- \* Disability does not discriminate and affects every demographic of family in society
- \* All ASN families share the same lack of opportunities and face the same care costs challenge
- \* Because we are parents / carers we are creative and react quickly – because needs must – the need does not wait
- \* We benefitted from strong directional leadership within ACF and the peer network support group
- \* We now know that we are enough ..... Worthy of support
- \* Funding for ASN children's after school care delivers better outcomes for children and their families

# Conclusion

- \* The Access to Childcare Funding has helped many children with additional and multiple support needs and families in East Renfrewshire
- \* Our model could be replicated – but it needs committed parents / carers to ask “what can we do”
- \* Thank you to Alison Hay, Children in Scotland and the Scottish Government for their support of our SupERkids

Website

[www.superkids.org.uk](http://www.superkids.org.uk)

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# Our SupERkids at ACF funded clubs

