

Maternity Buddy - a case study

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Maternity Buddy (Lincoln) has achieved national recognition through the Grassroots Grants scheme. This is a summary of the government's January 2009 press release.

Maternity Buddy was set up by Lincoln University student Leanne Moreland to help support pregnant women with anything from learning English to accessing public services or simply making friends. It proved so successful that in just a year, 21 volunteers have helped over 150 families. Leanne applied to Lincolnshire Community Foundation for a Grassroots Grant to offer an even wider range of services to more families in Lincoln. The group were successful and delighted with their cash boost.

Since Grassroots Grants launched in September, the Foundation has awarded 71 grants, making a real and immediate difference to a wide range of local community groups.

Maternity Buddy founder Leanne Moreland www.maternitybuddy.org

Two thousand pounds might not seem like a lot of money to some voluntary groups, but for a small project like ours it will make a massive difference. It is grants like these that give individuals the chance to help their community. Volunteering is an essential tool for everyone, for gaining experience and learning about life.

Minister for the Third Sector Keith Brennan

It's vital, especially during the current economic climate, that we continue to support services like Maternity Buddy reaching out to these small, often unnoticed community based groups and enabling them to continue their invaluable work.

Lincoln MP Gillian Merron

I was impressed to hear about the work undertaken by Maternity Buddy volunteers when I met Leanne who has been a real driving force for mums to be who need a bit of extra help and special support.

Lincolnshire Community Foundation

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