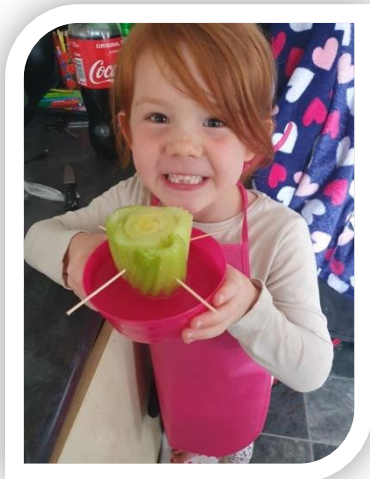
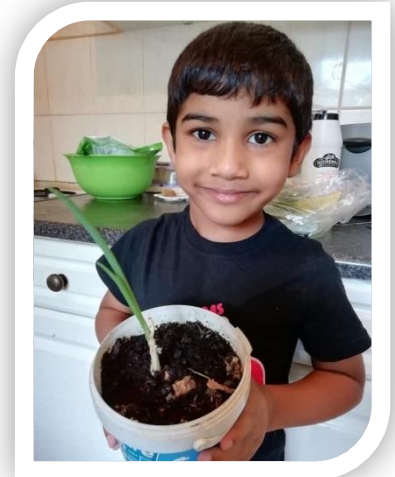


## Case Study

### Bradford for Everyone: Innovation Fund

#### Community, Create, Celebrate!

“Community, Create, Celebrate!” was an Innovation Fund project based at [The Gateway Centre](#) in Ravenscliffe, Bradford, which brought people from many backgrounds together using cooking and dancing from around the world. When Covid-19 prevented an end of project celebration from going ahead the Gateway Centre happily agreed to adapt and innovate so that the project could continue by reaching out to people in their homes and communities. Within a short space of time the funds that remained were re-purposed towards a project that would encourage growing (and re'-growing) plants and vegetables, home cooking with children, learning about other cultures through food, and sharing photos of everyone's progress, meals and vegetable growing in a bespoke Facebook group.



Project Lead Gloria Heilbron Buevas said: “We have a very good interaction between the members in the group. They share results and ideas with everyone and encourage each other. Some parents have written about their children wanting to try for the first time some cooking or baking despite all the parents' effort to teach them before.

Parents are thankful about learning as well. Some of them hadn't tried for example spring onions before. Other parents have said they wanted to try growing vegetables before but didn't have the confidence to do it or didn't know how to even begin. They find the instructions easy to follow. Most of the participants, parents and children, are trying re-growing vegetables for the first time and they're all full of expectations about what's going to happen next.”The project involved 20 families from very

different ethnic and economic backgrounds - including Filipino, Pakistanis, African, English and Caribbean. Gloria – who is originally from Colombia - personally delivered nearly all the bags of ingredients and supplies to the families alongside instructions about how to grow vegetables from off-cuts of existing vegetables, and recipes from around the world that could be made with the produce. Families came from a wide variety of areas in Bradford including BD10, BD5, BD2, BD7, BD4. “I can see very poor families, even a lovely refugee family, a single working mother with five children, a parent studying in the university, a parent with special needs, just to give you a few examples” said Gloria.

“It's very rewarding when you get to their homes and must of them are waiting for the bags with lots of excitement”.





In one case, the mother of a child in Ravenscliffe - who has had lots of behavioural problems - reported being very happy to discover that through this project her son was very willing to cook, and do all of it by himself. It was his first time ever cooking. "She proudly sent photos of him, even wearing the apron and hat we sent, and eating the Potato and Spring onion soup he had created! She couldn't believe it!"

This project has shown adults and children that they can grow and cook together, learn about foods from different cultures, and that trying new foods and activities can be fun and rewarding.

Gloria is "totally in love with this project" and is now planning to undertake an organic vegetables growing course so that she can help her fellow Bradfordians grow even more from their own homes and gardens.

This *Bradford for Everyone* funded project helped people from a wide variety of ethnic, faith and socio-economic backgrounds to learn about each other's cultures, share common goals and interests, develop skills, and encourage our more sustainable and environmentally friendly ways of living.



To find out more about Bradford for Everyone please visit [www.bradfordforeveryone.co.uk](http://www.bradfordforeveryone.co.uk) or email the team at [hello@bradfordforeveryone.co.uk](mailto:hello@bradfordforeveryone.co.uk)