

Narrowing Inequalities through Health and Care Careers

Stakeholder Update: Work Experience Events

The Leeds Health and Care Careers programme aims to engage with, recruit and develop a diverse workforce from disadvantaged or under-represented communities in Leeds, improving access to long-term career opportunities, work experience, volunteering, education and training. This programme sees the city work in partnership to remove traditional barriers to employment, and provide practical support to help people succeed.

The programme is currently delivering its second campaign which is focused on two wards; Seacroft & Killingbeck and Burmantofts & Richmond Hill, following the successful first campaign which engaged with 468 people in Armley and New Wortley.

As part of this second campaign, on Thursday 9th, Friday 10th and Saturday 11th June, the Leeds Health and Care Careers programme held three work experience events at Shine, Harehills Road. The purpose of these events was to inspire and attract our future workforce; engaging with them through the use of interactive activities, inspiring them to “get in, get on and go further”. The activity was supported by the [Healthier Working Futures](#) programme*, which aims to engage and encourage unemployed / economically inactive people aged 16-25, who are living in Leeds, to consider a career in health and care.

During the events, attendees rotated around different activity stations and took part in interactive learning experiences to provide them with varied experience in a range of roles. Activities included:

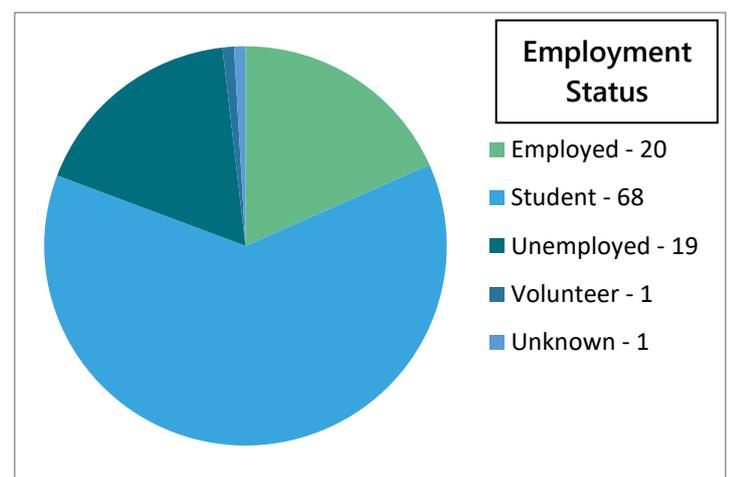
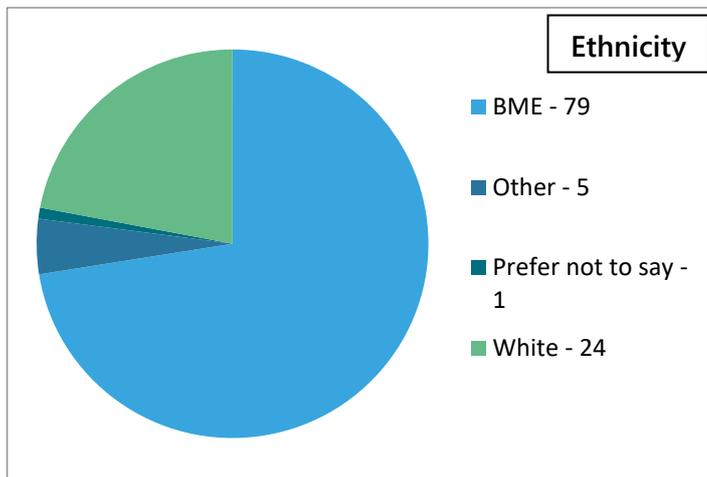
- Pharmacy: sorting medications into dosette boxes and completing simple drug calculations.
- Nursing: air way management, venepuncture and catheterisation.
- Resuscitation: demonstration of effective compressions using group races.
- Social care: talk from a service user to provide insight into services from their perspective, and attendees wore a dementia suit and goggles to experience mobility problems / visual impairment.
- Facilities: moving and handling different objects, using a light box to demonstrate effective hand washing technique.
- Occupational Therapy/Physiotherapy: use of interactive activities and equipment.

For those people interested in exploring next steps post-event, information regarding current employment opportunities, apprenticeships, work experience and volunteering was available for candidates on the day.

Attendee data:

- **203** people registered via the Eventbrite sign up page.
- **109** people attended the event.
- **72%** of attendees were BME.
- **62%** of attendees were students.
- The age range of attendees was **16-59**.

*Healthier Working Futures is funded by the UK Government through the UK Community Renewal Fund. Further information on the UK Community Renewal Fund can be found [here](#).



"I think the health care experience day was really fun and exciting as I learnt a lot about different professions within the healthcare centre such as the occupational therapy and the radiography department. Everyone was really respectful and welcoming". - *Sidra, event attendee*

"On Saturday I attended the health care experience day it was very fun and I enjoyed it as I learnt more about different health care sectors, and left with more information as they went into depth about each profession. If I got the opportunity to do it again I would! Overall I loved the experience." - *Alberta, event attendee*



"I found the event as a whole very enjoyable, informative and helpful. I liked how interactive most of the session was (for example when speaking to the nurses we had the opportunity to take blood out of a fake arm, and another session we were able to wear a mobility suit to understand how the elderly may feel)... The lunch provided was really good too and all the speakers were fantastic. Overall, I had a great experience". - *Mardiah, event attendee*

We would like to say a big thank you to all colleagues and partners that supported this event, it was fantastic to be able to engage people within our communities with hands-on experience, giving them an insight into what it's like to work in the sector, and providing them with the information needed to take the first steps in their health and care careers.

Next steps for the programme:

- Complete the evaluation for campaigns 1 and 2, and all activities that have taken place to-date.
- Compile the 'lessons learned' and 'even better ifs' to inform the strategy for phase 3.
- Use the lessons learned and evaluation to help guide and shape the next phase of the project in terms of location and engagement opportunities.

