

24th March 2021

To the members of Manchester Country Bridge Association,

On behalf of everyone at Mustard Tree, I would like to offer my most heartfelt thank you for your recent donation of **£600.00** for our causes.

This money will have a direct impact on the lives of those experiencing the struggle of homelessness and poverty in Greater Manchester. You enable us to support those who are facing multiple barriers in life, so they don't face them alone. Your money will be used where it's needed most, to enable those we work with to create their own avenues for change.

Much like yourselves, we have had to greatly change our model, offer and priorities over the past 12 months, as we constantly try to adapt to the barriers Covid-19 throws at us. Like your tournaments, we migrated our courses and classes online, which we initially found a struggle due to people's issues around lack of access to hardware/software and digital illiteracy.

However, we feel that we've turned a corner with this now, with more people than ever taking part in our online activities – and we've decided that we'll keep them running alongside our on-site programmes once lockdown is lifted.

I find it commendable that you have not only been able to adapt to the restrictions, but have also turned it into an opportunity to raise funds for organisations such as ourselves. Thank you for thinking of others when times are so difficult for all. I'm currently working on a new 'virtual fundraising guide' for the charity and would love to include MCBA as a shining example of how communities can still support us through creativeness and innovation – if any of the members would like to provide a testimonial, I'd be more than happy to include.

We are here because chronic poverty, extreme inequality and severe disadvantage still exists in our society. Mustard Tree is a place of hope and welcome, where people create opportunity and gain the skills and self-confidence they need to turn their life around. Thank you for entrusting us to use your money most effectively, and helping us in our mission of combatting poverty and preventing homelessness.

Thanks again and best wishes to you all.

Jack Barton

Communications Manager

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Recipient of The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service in recognition of the work providing essential services to meet the needs of people from across Greater Manchester who are homeless, marginalised and vulnerable.



Registered with Fundraising Regulator, demonstrating our commitment to good fundraising practice.



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