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[00:00:00] Just tell me a little bit about the project. What's your name of it and what you do? Okay, Stuart, should I say my name or just go straight like we are just straight. Cool. So we are the card FU [00:00:10] service Discord server. Basically an online youth club that exists on the social media app Discord. Amazing. And what do you do as part of that project then?[00:00:20]

So we run an online youth club where we run events day-to-day, just chatting all on this one page, uh, on the Discord server. Um, and there's about [00:00:30] 70 young people on it. I'm the admin, so I run things, but we've got youth MOS on there, so it's basically run by the young people as well. Everything on there is decided by them.

So Amazing. And **[00:00:40]** what sort of activities happen? And your day to day. So on the server, the activities are art sessions. We do Dungeons and Dragons, playing **[00:00:50]** Minecraft. Everything they wanna do, we'll try and make happen. We've even done like coding workshops, uh, and day-to-day, just lots of chatting as well.

And how, how are, how are you doing? And [00:01:00] you know, if you had a rubbish day today, if you had a good day today. Things like that, Lisa. And what sort of effect do you see have on the young. I think the effect on the young people has been [00:01:10] amazing. We've seen lots of like transformations socially. We've, with this server, we've been able to take youth work to young people.

Uh, so the young people that perhaps weren't leaving the [00:01:20] house, they wouldn't walk into a youth club. We've been able to go to them basically, and we've been able to bring socially isolated young people to have lots of [00:01:30] friends, give them a community and even met in person. You know, there's been. Meet tops where loads of people are turned up and they've hung out and it's just been amazing.

So, and I think, **[00:01:40]** to be honest, a lot of these young people have never engaged with youth work before and probably wouldn't have if it wasn't for the server. Amazing. So you kind of covered it, Dave, I just want to get why haven't a [00:01:50] digital program is important and a, and a way to engage with these young people outside of your stereotypical, um, youth work?

You [00:02:00] Sure. I think it would be a travesty not to have a Discord server for young people. That's where they're at at the moment. So in terms of youth work, it has to be there. It has to be [00:02:10] online. Cause that's where young people are. So it's not just important. I think it's vital that we're there and we've seen that is a need.

We identified a need with these young people. They told us they [00:02:20] wanted it, so we brought it to them. And it's not even just since lockdown. I think that young people, a lot of times now they're existing online more. and we wanna be able to give them a safe [00:02:30] space online. Amazing. So do you think a project of this is kind of forward thinking then in terms of, you know, the youth work of the future then?

I think this is super **[00:02:40]** forward thinking project for sure. I think it is a youth work of the future. It's where young people are. We're moving more and more towards uh, a digital world and we've been able to give them a safe space [00:02:50] within that world cuz the internet's crazy. There's all sorts of stuff going on out there for them, but we've been able to.

Well, would that help to be honest, build uh, an environment **[00:03:00]** that's a safe space online and that it just gives them friendship and, and community and youth work, you know? Amazing. And what's it mean to be **[00:03:10]** nominated for an award? It means so much to be nominated. Um, I don't even know if the young people really kind of like know that there's sometimes they're taking part in youth work.

[00:03:20] So when I told them that we got nominated for this award, they were just, they were so happy and, and really proud. So on behalf of them, I feel proud, uh, to recognize that we've been able to have an impact on their [00:03:30] lives. And I see it all the time. We've had so many like success stories and it's too many to even mention now, which makes me so happy.

Um, and this would just be a, a cherry on the. [00:03:40] Icing on the cake. Yeah. Bridge. Yeah, I can do that again if you want, if you don't mind. Yeah. Gone . [00:03:50] Yeah, that was, that was my colleague. I can do it again. Yeah. I was basically also, I did say cherry on the icing on the cake, so that, yeah. Um, so I say what it means to be nominated, [00:04:00] what does it mean to be nominated?

So it means so much to be nominated, I think, not so much of myself or the card of youth service. Should we do [00:04:10] it again? S Yeah. Okay. We'll do it one more time. Okay. All right. Uh, okay. It means so much to be nominated,

not just on behalf of the Kai Refuse Service Team, but just [00:04:20] basically because of the young people, um, that.

it shows that the work they've done and the work that they've helped us do is being recognized. And they are as [00:04:30] much nominated in my opinion than than Cardiff youth service are. They built the server. They built this group, and it wouldn't have happened without them. So, and I, like I said before, a lot of 'em had never [00:04:40] engaged with youth work before.

They didn't even know that they're engaging with youth work, which is perhaps the beauty of the project. To them it's gaming. It's fun. Friendship. So when we told them that [00:04:50] they, they'd been nominated for this, they were so happy and, uh, kind of, uh, yeah, I think surprised as well. But yeah, gonna [00:05:00] shut that door quickly.

No worries. I think we got through that one. Yeah. So that was crazy. There's like some, there's like somebody, this is an old haunted building,[00:05:10]

like a garage or something. And I think that was great. Pretty just at the end, but that's [00:05:20] fine. It's okay. Um, so this is just in case you call attention on the night or somebody can't go on the next, but what would it mean if you won? What would it mean if you won? If we won, it would be [00:05:30] amazing. Oh my goodness.

Um, I think we are hoping to bring like a few young people with us to the awards as well. That would just be amazing for them. I think it would be [00:05:40] a really cool recognition of, of what we've done and. Perhaps people would think that it's not something we should be doing this kind of thing. It's a lot of youth work still is kind of [00:05:50] archaic and in, in the past, I think.

But I think this will be an amazing acknowledgement and hopefully show other youth services what is possible and the impact you can have on young people's lives using [00:06:00] a digital service like Discord. Amazing. And then just want to get, you said something re nice in the last answer, um, about what is this group for young people?

[00:06:10] What. What, what is Z for that? What's it give them? Yeah, yeah.

So this [00:06:20] service, this cardew service is called Server, gives them community. This service, the Cardew service, discord Server, gives the young people community, uh, friendship, [00:06:30] someone to talk to you., it's open throughout the day. Some of them are not in school for whatever reason, so it

can be someone there, you know, it also gives them a safe space online somewhere they [00:06:40] can check in and go to.

A lot of these young people would never walk into a youth club. They're socially anxious or isolated, and we've been able to create an online youth club where they [00:06:50] feel. Safe and relaxed. And I think most importantly, like empowered is completely, uh, it's their zone. It's it's their place. And, um, yeah, [00:07:00] it's, it's a real privilege to be nominated.

I think it's a great reflection on the young people. Liz, I just wanna give a quick schedule this just to make sure I haven't miss anything. [00:07:10] Um, I think you've ticked every, everything. I think you, oh, it was really good. What was it? Um, [00:07:20] Thanks. That's fun. They said there's a mention of, um, the panel discuss the perception of it as something that is sometimes seen [00:07:30] as being less safe, but came to the consensus.

The project is really forward thinking that it's obviously usually kind of maybe online, maybe view to somewhere back. Could we just [00:07:40] have a bit light? Yeah, sure. You know, you've been able to build this community that isn't kind of what people maybe think it is. An invest of those young people that [00:07:50] spaced.

Yeah. So like it's got the kind of safe space I did. Yeah. Okay. Um, so I think online youth work is often seen as, uh, risky or not able to [00:08:00] be controlled. Um, we've been able to do this via, uh, keeping the age limit as 13 to 17. And we've also, uh, I meet every single person that [00:08:10] goes on it, so whether online or in person, um, I've met them and it's basically really, really, uh, made sure that it's a safe, it's a safe area.

I think [00:08:20] the perception that you've. online is too risky to, to do is, is insane, is crazy. Um, we have to be there. I think that's where the young people are. [00:08:30] Um, there's no good bringing, there's no good taking youth work, like forcing youth work upon young people. I think that with this, it's like, [00:08:40] let me rephrase that cause I want, what I wanna say is like the, basically like the.

bringing youth work to them. Yeah. You know what I mean? Instead of like forcing it upon them, this [00:08:50] is what they want. So, yeah. I should bring, I'll say it that way. Yeah. And this is the kind of youth work that a lot of these young people want. It also allows us to access another kind of young [00:09:00] person that doesn't wanna go into a youth club and is so comfortable in their spaces online.

So we're able to come to their space instead of dragging them into, uh, into hours, you [00:09:10] know? Um, That was awesome. That's exactly what I, yeah, that's, that's what I wanted to say. Yeah, that was very good. Is there anything else you wanna say? No, I think I wanted to say that. Yeah. Yeah. Cool. That's probably the [00:09:20] best thing about it.

I'm ready for mad here. Come next. Awesome.