



IMPACT

REPORT

2023

-24

OVERVIEW 2023-2024



Proud2Be is a grassroots queer-led social enterprise that supports and enables LGBTQIA+ people in Devon (and beyond) to thrive, be free, safe, and proud to be ourselves. We aim to combat rural social isolation by creating safe, welcoming spaces where LGBTQIA+ people (and allies) can connect with their community.

Proud2Be works to:

- 🦋 Provide safe spaces for LGBTQIA+ people to meet, gain mutual support and develop skills
- 🦋 Provide 121 emotional and practical support for young people and adults
- 🦋 Deliver awareness training for professionals in education and other settings to promote understanding in the wider community
- 🦋 Host awareness-raising campaigns and events to increase positive visibility of the LGBTQIA+ community
- 🦋 Provide volunteering opportunities to assist in the delivery of services and contribute to personal and professional development

PRIDE NOT PREJUDICE

While the year brought challenges, including the threat of rising anti-LGBTQIA+ hate, the Proud2Be team was unshakeable. In 2023/24, we ran 12 different types of activities and sessions (both online and face to face) to support a total of 378 adults and young people. We reached hundreds of attendees across the UK through our training, and thousands across the world via our awareness content on social media. With the help of our community we raised £2,720 in donations towards our mission. In November 2023, we were incredibly proud to open our second hub (in Paignton) to continue our work across Torbay!

Groups:

193

121 sessions:

271

Training sessions:

14

Proud2Be events:

5

Awareness posts:

41

Hours volunteered:

2206.5

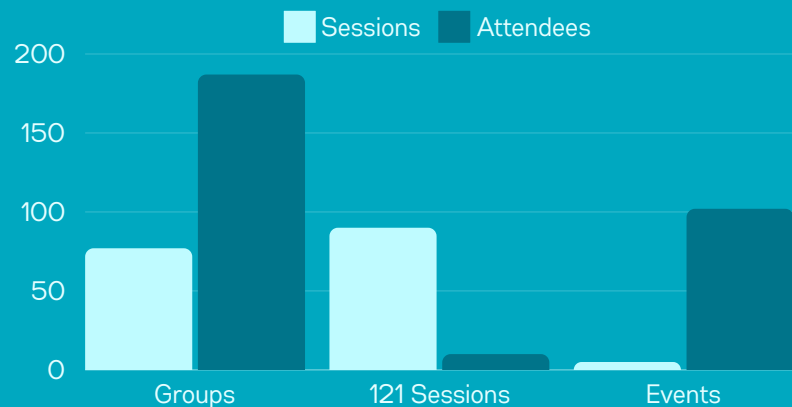
ADULT SUPPORT AND SERVICES



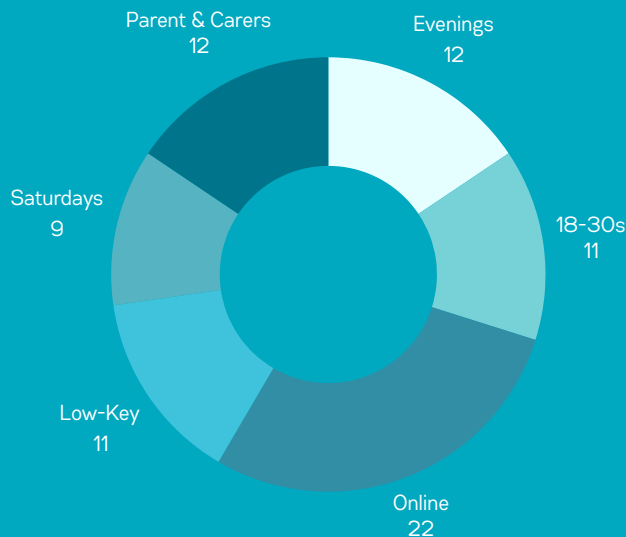
We supported 299 LGBTQIA+ adults in Devon

Number of adult sessions & attendees:

Group sessions:	77
Group attendees:	187
121 sessions:	90
Adults supported (121):	10
Event sessions:	5
Event attendees:	102



We ran 77 adult & family social group sessions



Adult & Family Groups:



We gave 853 hours supporting adults

197 hrs

Groups

90 hrs

121 sessions

15.5 hrs

Events

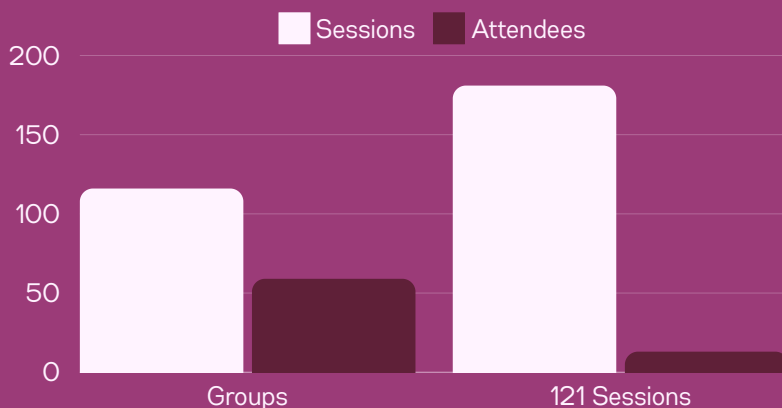
550.5 hrs

Volunteering



YOUTH SUPPORT AND SERVICES

We supported 79 LGBTQIA+ young people

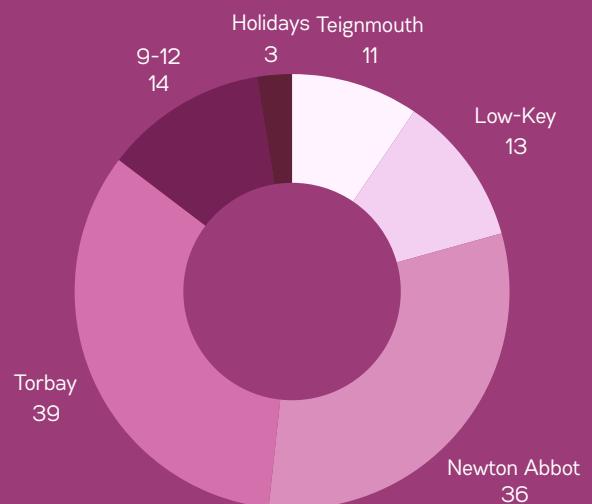


Number of youth sessions & attendees:

Group sessions:	116
Group attendees:	59
121 sessions:	181
Youths supported (121):	13

We ran 116 youth social group sessions

Youth Groups:



We gave 1900 hours supporting young people

219 hrs

Groups

181 hrs

121 sessions

1500 hrs

Volunteering

SERVICE USER SPOTLIGHT



"Being involved in Proud2Be has helped me deal with what happened in the past, and I am more able to cope with those feelings now. I feel like I am doing something important to me. It's something I did not have when I was younger and it would have made so much difference to me back then." – Proud2Be service user and volunteer

"I don't think I would have gotten through school if it wasn't for Proud2Be. I was involved in Totnes Pride and felt it was so empowering to be treated equally to everyone else regardless of age and experience. It also gave me responsibility and a sense of community. I felt that what I had to say really mattered. I felt empowered to be able to not only be heard but to hear others and make a change. Proud2Be has had such a huge impact on my life, it touches every part of my life, and nothing would be the same, and I wouldn't be the same." – Proud2Be service user and employee



"Just before I moved to South Devon I researched LGBTQIA+ groups in the area and found Proud2Be. When I saw the things Proud2Be were doing, I knew I wanted to be a part of it. Now I feel deeply part of Proud2Be and really enjoy being around people who have come through difficult times and support each other. I think the work Proud2Be does is innovative, inspiring and very important. Supporting other LGBTQIA+ people allows me to see many different perspectives and views which I find really interesting. I get a lot out of supporting people." – Proud2Be service user and volunteer

TRAINING AND AWARENESS



We delivered 1700 hours of awareness training to 390 attendees across the UK

"The training was Informative, fun, inspiring and engaging - and potentially life-changing for the students we can now better serve!" - Proud2Be Training Participant

"I thought it was the best training I've had. As someone who is trans, I can find this sort of training quite hard but you were both so open and great at answering questions." - Proud2Be Training Participant

"The training was excellent, sensitive, generous and enabled us to explore questions openly and in a supportive way." - Proud2Be Training Participant



- Plymouth
- Torbay
- Exeter
- North Somerset
- West Midlands

"The LGBTQIA+ inclusivity training provided by Max and Maya was informative and incredibly helpful. They both created a really warm and open atmosphere, so that our team could have honest conversations and ask any questions. We are a small organisation, with limited capacity, so it's never an easy task to get the majority of the team in the room for training, but Max and Maya were so patient and adaptable, making the team feel comfortable to take the training in a direction that worked for us. Since the training, our team has continued to have meaningful conversations about LGBTQIA+ inclusivity." - Proud2Be Training Participant

TRAINING AND AWARENESS



We created 41+ LGBTQIA+ awareness posts for social media

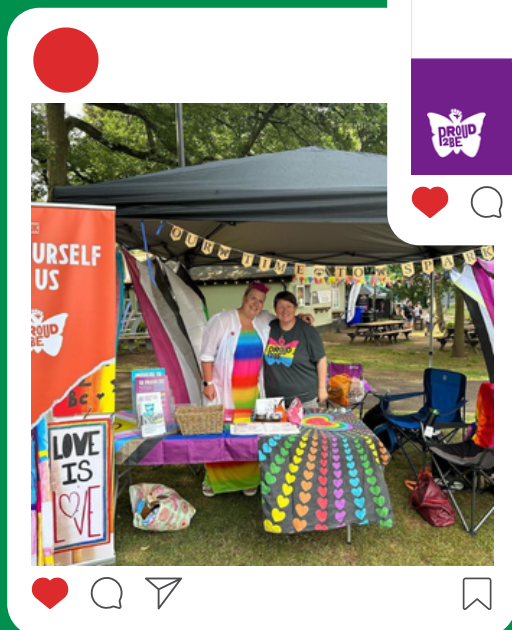
Graphics in celebration of awareness days, to increase positive visibility of the LGBTQIA+ community - and to spread LGBTQIA+ joy!



Infographics to combat myths with experience-based education



Content advertising our regular groups and events in Devon and online



Team photos to show our work within the community, to celebrate our team, and to spread awareness of our volunteer opportunities



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We would like to acknowledge the contributions of those who dedicated time or money to support Proud2Be in our projects this year.

Our gratitude goes out to:

Our incredible team of staff, volunteers, and directors

Our fantastic fellow organisations and individuals who have supported us:

Equally Ours
Herbert Smith Freehills LLP
Imagine This Partnership
LGBT Consortium
Libraries Unlimited (Paignton Library)
Lisa Money
Media Trust
Pride teams: Exeter Pride, Exmouth Pride, Teignmouth Pride, & Torbay Pride
The Queer Therapist
School for Social Entrepreneurs
Space Youth Services
VOYC Devon

Our wonderful funders:

Children in Need
Enterprise Development Fund
Henry Smith Charity
The National Lottery
Community Fund
Postcode Local Trust
Space Small Grant Fund
UK Youth

Our generous community of donors, supporters, and advocates



WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT OF OUR MISSION



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