



Supporting the Unsung Hero

UALL Annual Conference 2015
Making the Lifelong Learning University a Reality
Theme 3: Universities and Community Learning

Dr Alison Felce
Head of Work-based Learning

Presentation outline

- The “Unsung Heroes”
- Key delivery partners
- Innovative and creative features
- Impact on students and families
- Success stories
- Conclusions

The “Unsung Heroes”

- Dependants of Armed Forces personnel, Veterans and Reservists
- Recognised as ‘disadvantaged’
- Geographically dispersed
- Frequent relocation
- Education-engagement programme
- A safe “trigger” for individuals
- Predominately: Army spouses



Key delivery partners



Innovative and creative features ~ 1

Workshops:
four-day
programme

Individual
mentoring

Group
mentoring

Peer support

Social media

Inter / Intra
cohort
interaction

Innovative and creative features ~ 2

- Accessible
 - British Forces Garrisons UK & Europe
 - University premises
- Social media
 - Closed spaces
 - Open spaces
- Mentoring
 - Sustaining engagement at critical stages

Impact on students and families

- Phase 1 (2014)
 - 180 students
 - 96 new business start-ups
 - 2 times expected rate
- Phases 2 - 4 (2015 - 2020)
 - Corporate sponsorship
 - Partnership with UK Services' Charity
 - 540 potential student places

Success stories ~ 1

- 88% state the programme has changed perceptions about their future
 - Increased confidence
 - Can carry on with career wherever posted
 - Opened up opportunities and aspirations
 - Helped me get where I am today
- Army Families Federation Community Award Winner 2014

Success stories ~ some of the business ideas

PR &
Marketing

Book keeping

Consultancy

Graphic
Design

Bespoke Tuck
Boxes

Bespoke
Handmade
Gifts

Weathervanes

Soaps &
candles

Jewellery

Teaching
languages

Dog grooming/
Dog leads

Laser hair
removal

Floristry

Hair & beauty

Copywriter

Golfsmith

Interior
Design

Homeopathy

Photography

Virtual
assistant

Conclusions

- Identified under represented adult community
- Provided learning programme directed at specific needs
- Impact on individuals and their families
- Built confidence in future career and learning paths
- Raised University profile and opened many new opportunities



Any questions?





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Dr Alison Felce
Head of Work-based Learning

a.e.felce@wlv.ac.uk