



online



STREETDOCTORS

Impact Report

StreetDoctors teaches lifesaving skills to young people at risk of youth violence, like what to do if someone is bleeding or unconscious.

We do this through our movement of young healthcare volunteers (medics, nurses and paramedics) who train 11-25 year olds to understand the true medical consequences of violence and empower them to become lifesavers in their communities.

Our training sessions are delivered in partnership with criminal justice services, schools, pupil referral units, sports, youth and community groups.

Young people leave StreetDoctors sessions equipped with the knowledge to make more informed decisions about how to keep themselves and others safe.

“

It was really helpful to know how to help someone unconscious.”

“

Keep doing what you're doing. It helps my society a lot and has encouraged me to keep an eye out for danger.”

“

I found today very useful as it showed me how to act in a real life situation.”





Sophie Clissold-Lesser

Chair of Trustees

Youth violence is not a new phenomenon. However the violence we have witnessed on our streets in the last few years, fuelled by the increasing use of weapons, has had hugely traumatic effects not just on those who are victims and perpetrators but on families and friends too. It also traumatises the communities these tragic events take place in, which are left wounded and scarred by the long-lasting impact of violence. Our work is a vital piece in the jigsaw to prevent and reduce youth violence.

2019 was our most impactful year to date. I am beyond proud of our **550 epic healthcare volunteers** who in partnership with **319 delivery partners** empowered **5,205 young people** to become lifesavers in their communities. During 2019 I became Chair of StreetDoctors, and I am privileged to work with such a committed Board of Trustees and staff team driving StreetDoctors forward. Sadly the trajectory of violence continues to increase. We will continue to rise to the challenge: supporting young people to learn the skills to save lives and increasing their knowledge of the medical consequences of violence, thus helping them to make more informed choices.



Lucie Russell

CEO

I am absolutely thrilled to have become StreetDoctors CEO during 2019. Our aims are simple – to prevent youth violence and reduce its impact. All our teaching starts with the principle that young people have the ability to learn how to save lives; we see them as part of the solution to youth violence, rather than part of the problem.

I am so inspired by the passion and dedication of all our healthcare volunteers and our central staff team. I am proud of the hundreds of partnerships we have developed to help us deliver our training. I am also proud of our reputation; this year we were invited to meet Theresa May the then Prime Minister and also featured on a BBC Panorama programme on youth violence. Last, but definitely not least, the young people we work with are inspirational. They are excited to learn because they really want to help to tackle youth violence. **Every one of the young people we work with deserves our gratitude and respect.**

2019 Summary

We have **22 teams** in **17 cities** with a total of **550 volunteers**. In 2019 they taught an incredible **5,205 young people** lifesaving skills.

We are delighted to have received grants from Paul Hamlyn Foundation, the National Lottery Community Fund, John Ellerman Foundation, BCBN, The Fore, Newby Trust, BMA, Alex Roberts Miller Foundation, MOPAC, Home Office, Wates Family Enterprise Trust, The Tudor Trust, Garfield Weston Foundation and Hogan Lovells.

We have continued to develop exciting delivery partnerships, including with the West Midlands Police Violence Prevention Alliance, Northumbria Police Commissioners, London Borough of Havering, Caerphilly Borough Council and the Anti-Knife Crime Community Fund.

“

I think more young people should be aware of how to treat stabbings.”

“

I have learnt how to help someone who has been stabbed. My favourite part was the interactive way we were taught because we are more likely to remember.”



What do we do?

We deliver two training sessions to young people aged 11-25, taught by our young healthcare volunteers and facilitated by delivery partners across the UK. The two sessions are:

What to do if someone is bleeding

Young people learn how to call an ambulance and deliver emergency first aid to someone who is bleeding. We use visual props to explain the science behind blood loss and why it is important to apply pressure. The session involves practical scenarios to prepare young people to use these lifesaving skills in an emergency.

What to do when someone is unconscious

Young people learn why someone might become unconscious and how to assess if someone is. We cover biology of the heart, blood and lungs. Through practical demonstrations, role-play and using resus dolls, they learn how to put a person in the recovery position if they are breathing, or how to deliver chest compressions if they are not.



This session is useful because we've learned what we've never been taught before."



It was a very educational session and I was informed of the importance of first aid."



Why are we needed?

- Knife crime offences rose by **7%** to record high levels in the year ending December 2019.¹
- In 2019 there were **45,627** knife or sharp instrument offences.²
- The cost of this violence to the NHS in England and Wales is estimated to be **£2.9 billion** every year.³
- In the four years between 2014 and 2018 the NHS saw a **51% rise** in under 18-year-olds suffering injuries from a sharp object.⁴
- Young people involved in youth violence are not only more likely to be physically harmed, but **95% more likely** to have social, emotional and mental health issues, and **eight times more likely** to be misusing substances.⁵
- Young people exposed to violence within their family or community are more likely to perpetrate violence themselves. If a person has a sibling who has been charged with a violent crime they are **four times more likely** to commit a violent crime themselves.⁶

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1 BBC News, Knife crime in England and Wales reaches record high, ONS figures show, April 2020

2 Office for National Statistics, Crime in England and Wales: year ending December 2019, April 2020

3 Department of Health, A public health approach to violence prevention for England, November 2012

4 Local Government Association, Breaking the cycle of youth violence, January 2019

5 Tom Clarke, The characteristics of gang-associated children and young people, Children's Commissioner, February 2019

6 World Health Organisation, Preventing youth violence: an overview of the evidence, 2015



Why is our work important?

Many young people who attend our sessions have already been a victim, witness or perpetrator of youth violence. Often, they do not know the basics: how to call an ambulance, how to stop bleeding, or what to do when someone has collapsed. Many young people are reluctant to help, concerned that they will be implicated or cause more harm. They often have misconceptions about carrying a knife, with some believing that there are safe places on the body to stab someone.

As our volunteers explain the medical consequences of violence, young people learn the fragility of the human body. This helps them join the dots between carrying a knife and their chances of getting hurt, empowering them with knowledge to make their own informed decisions about knife carrying. We also teach them lifesaving skills by demonstrating how simple first-aid, such as calling an ambulance and applying pressure to a wound or putting someone in the recovery position, can be the difference between life and death.



This session was very useful, in the future someone might need to be treated and you're the only one around, and now you have the knowledge to attend and help them."



I learnt about the basics of the recovery position as well as compressions and I found that really helpful."



I really liked this because it taught me a lot of life skills. I also want to be a doctor when I'm older, so this helps me. I loved this."

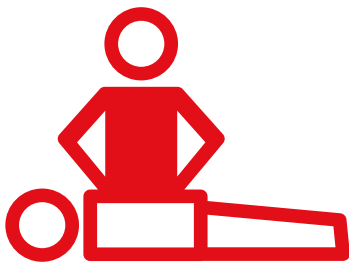


STREETDOCTORS

2019

in numbers

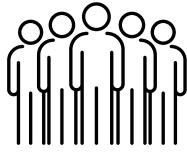
We taught a total of



5,205

young people lifesaving skills

empowering them to become lifesavers in their communities



We have

550

**healthcare
volunteers
in 22 teams
across 17 cities**



We worked with

319

**delivery
partners
to teach
932 sessions**

**Since 2013
we have taught over**



18,000

**young people emergency
first-aid skills**

Where do we work?

We have **22 teams** working in **17 cities** across England, Scotland and Wales.

In 2019 our existing teams expanded into new areas and we formed two new teams in Hull and Preston.

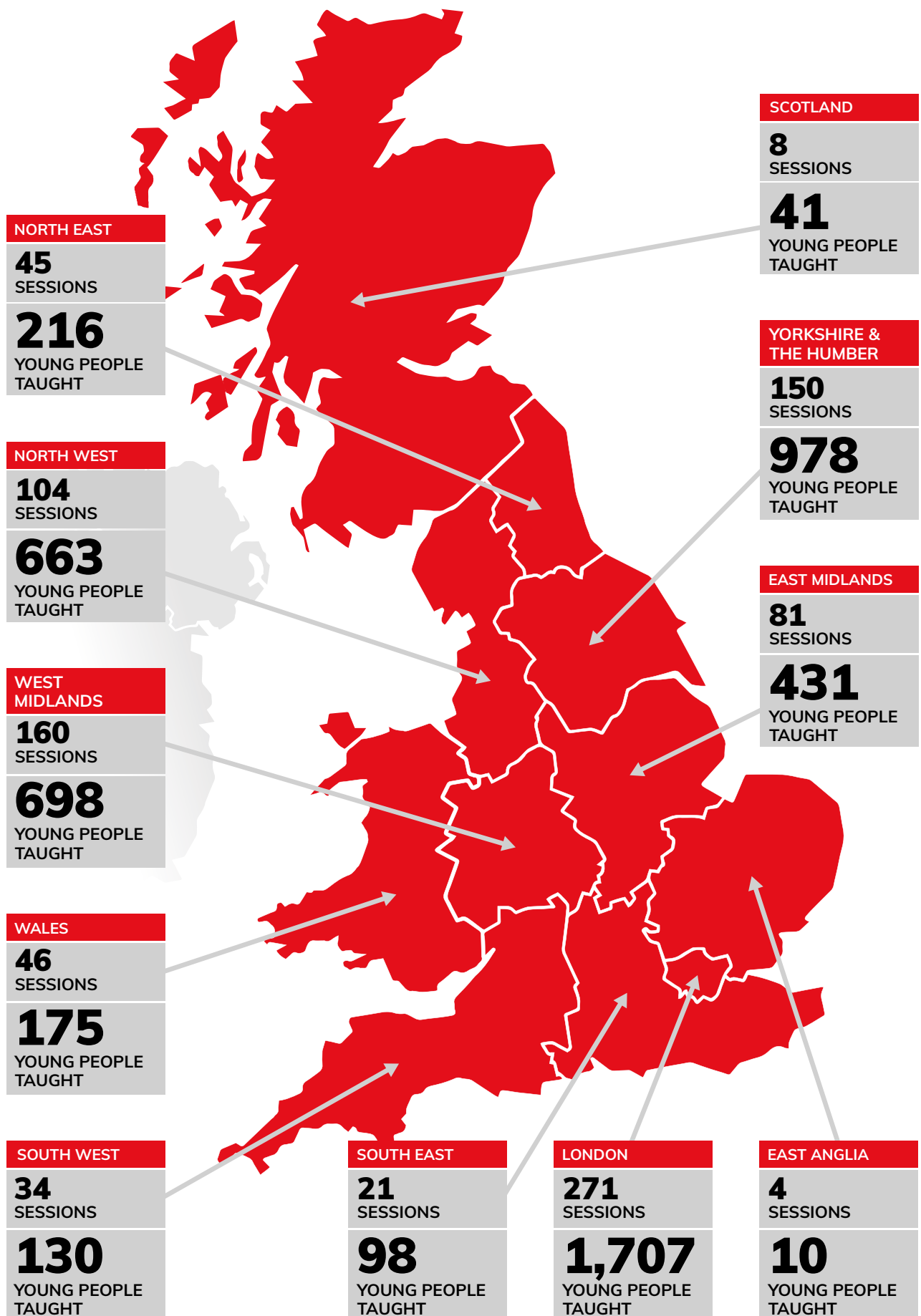
In England, our teams cover **23 of the 30 local authorities at highest risk** of increasing levels of youth violence ([read more about this in our Expansion Report 2020](#)).



“

I really learned something, and I think that whenever I will see danger around me, I will be able to protect myself thanks to this session.”





Our Impact

After a StreetDoctors session...

94%

of young people say they understand the consequences of violence

93%

of young people say they know what to do if someone is bleeding and/or unconscious

85%

of young people say they are willing and able to act in a first aid emergency

99% of young people who attended our sessions provided positive feedback, in particular around them learning new skills.



“

It was very beneficial, I feel more confident if I was to come across someone who has been stabbed.”



“

I learnt the dangers of carrying a knife and have learnt how to possibly save someone's life.”

Our evaluation data is quality marked by Nesta and Project Oracle Youth Evidence Hub.

What do our delivery partners say about us?



The students all reacted really well to the StreetDoctors session. The volunteers point out how devastating the injuries can be in a subtle way – while teaching first aid. The message was clearer than any police session we have been to.”

Louise Drosdzol, South Thames Colleges Group



I’m delighted with how the session went and I’ve had so many excited calls from the staff about the children’s responses.”

Becky Calnan, Southwark Peace Garden



My local teams have worked in partnership with StreetDoctors for three years. Not only have I found them a great charity to work with, the feedback from my teams about the volunteers and the way they engage young people has been fantastic, these views have equally been shared by teachers, social workers and other youth workers, all speaking positively of the work of StreetDoctors.”

Chief Superintendent Richard Fisher, West Midlands Police



StreetDoctors volunteers are doing a great job in relation to raising awareness and educating young people across Manchester about the dangers of knife crime, but just as importantly they are empowering and equipping young people with the skills and knowledge to potentially save a life.”

Natasha Walsh, Manchester City Council





How do we support our volunteers?

We develop the skills of our young volunteers by training them to become empathic and reflective StreetDoctors teachers. We also support them to develop their own self-care. This enables them to become better, more resilient healthcare professionals, improving the care they provide to patients. Evaluations with our volunteers show that being part of StreetDoctors improves their communication and facilitation skills and enables them to become more confident in their roles as healthcare students or when in clinical environments.



“

StreetDoctors has the most outstanding community of volunteers I have ever experienced. From local team meetings to national events, you always feel like you are part of a bigger movement where together we can make a real difference. I have become a more rounded person and feel altogether more ready to face working life equipped with so many new skills.”

“

It has been incredible, humbling and highly informative – I honestly think I will be a much better practitioner because of it.”

StepWise

StepWise is our peer education programme that runs over three months. It is part of our wider youth engagement strategy, embedding the experiences of young people in our work and our delivery. StepWise enables young people to learn, share and teach emergency lifesaving skills to other young people. Participants also gain a first aid accreditation and are introduced to pathways into healthcare careers.

In 2019 we ran **3 StepWise cycles**, one of which was in partnership with London's Air Ambulance, reaching more young people than ever before. We are pleased to have received further funding from MOPAC's Violence Reduction Unit in London to continue developing StepWise with young people in 2020.

In 2019:

- **57 young people** took part in StepWise
- **36 young people gained** an Emergency First Aid at Work accreditation
- StepWise graduates taught lifesaving skills to **114 young people!**



[This is] the first course I have ever completed in my life. There are a lot of things that we have done that we are not going to forget."



We all got around to thinking twice about why we are carrying knives. I do not want to go back to the old system it was just brutal. And now I would just rather not put myself in that situation. Well it makes you realise how quickly things happen. It takes one stab to just kill someone."



2020 and beyond

In 2020 we will continue to grow our movement of volunteers to teach more young people lifesaving skills, including recruiting more paramedic and nursing students. Guided by our 2018-22 Strategic Plan we will create more secure income generation methods whilst honouring our commitment to providing low cost or free sessions to grassroots organisations. We will also develop better support to volunteers to facilitate more effective teaching. We will increase the effectiveness of our safeguarding and become trauma informed in all our practice. We will develop more effective systems for data collection and operational logistics, and embed youth engagement across our work.

We are aware that the current Coronavirus pandemic may also impact our work and we will respond both sensitively and flexibly if necessary.

“

I had fun learning. Now I can save lives and teach or assist others to do the same.”

“

This was really fun and helped me learn about the consequences of knife crime.”

**For more information,
please get in touch:**

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