

Voices of North Yorkshire Campaign

Have you experienced loneliness either before or during Covid-19? Would you be willing to share your experience with others?

The Loneliness Campaign North Yorkshire project are looking for people of all ages who would be willing to share their stories of loneliness through interviews, vlogs, blogs or conversations. We want to encourage more honest conversations and dialogue around the realities of isolation and loneliness across North Yorkshire, so that we can challenge the stigma and embarrassment around it and inspire conversations to tackle it.

These stories will be held in an online archive so that others can have an understanding about loneliness and what could be done to combat it.

Who are we looking for?

We want to hear voices of all ages (although we will need parental consent if you are under 16) and from all backgrounds. The only requirement is that you live within the boundaries of North Yorkshire.

What will I need to do?

There are a number of ways that you can take part, so this is entirely up to you. It could take the form of an interview with one of our project workers. Questions will be sent to you beforehand so that you can prepare and the interviews will take place through Zoom. This will be recorded and you can choose whether it becomes a video or an audio only podcast.

Alternatively, you could send us a letter or an email and one of our staff members can voice your experience for you or it could form the basis of a guest blog on our website.

You could even encourage someone to do it with you and you could have a conversational interview with one of our project workers.

Or why not get creative and contact us if you would like to do it in another way.

Can I remain anonymous?

Absolutely. If you would rather not have your identity revealed that is up to you. We can anonymise your contribution and make sure that you are happy with what we use.

What about my information?

All recordings, letters or email will remain anonymous, unless you are happy for us to identify you, and personal details such as addresses will not be released. All recordings and data will be stored on a secure server by Community First Yorkshire.

By taking part, you are agreeing to allow us to use your submissions for a range of purposes that may include (but is not limited to) the following:

- Sharing sound and video clips on our website and through social media
- As anonymous written quotes in reports and marketing campaigns
- In written media relations work, including press releases
- To inform data analysis work we may undertake

We will not share any sound clips outside Community First Yorkshire unless we have your express permission or the sound clip has been recorded by a member of our team and does not contain any identifiable personal data

Still interested?

If you are interested in taking part or would like to find out more, you can email us on tlc@communityfirstyorkshire.org.uk or phone the office on 01904 704177 and leave us a message.

Or perhaps still worried about taking part...

Thinking about taking part but worried about how you might tell your story? We have an opportunity that might boost your confidence and give you additional skills in storytelling.

[6FootStories](#), a touring theatre company, are looking for participants interested in exploring storytelling to be involved in their new project, The Decameron Revisited. This is an ambitious online project inspired by the Italian medieval classic The Decameron, in which a group of people in their own lockdown during the Black Death pass the time by telling stories, 100 in all.

They want to collect their own 100 tales, not necessarily about loneliness, from people around the country. They will meet online over a series of 3 virtual workshops and explore different methods of story creation and collection, as well as some technical voice and performance work. Each week will end with a simple storytelling

homework, building up towards each participant creating their own story video, to be presented in a brand new digital archive online.

This project has been funded by Arts Council England and is part of their wider programme of work to provide a platform for participants to be creative and connected despite the strange times we are in. If you are interested, then you can contact them direct through their [website](#). They currently have workshops available at the end of September.

(There is no requirement for you to share your experiences with us at the end The Decameron Revisited project if you still do not wish to do so.)