

COMMUNITY CONNECTOR REPORT – APRIL 2021

This year, like everyone else, the Early Help Hub and Community Connectors have reacted to an extraordinary situation, a global pandemic, that none of us could have predicted.

During the first lockdown the Early Help Hub was getting hundreds of calls a day and there has always been someone at the end of the phone making sure no call went unanswered and vulnerable residents received the food and medicine they needed.

As your Community Connector I have continued to deliver social prescribing within the Costessey community. I have supported those who were shielding or self-isolating as well as those who have been impacted by the pandemic in other ways; whether this has been to support residents to access their community by connecting them to social networks, helping them improve their wellbeing, accessing grant funding, combatting loneliness, carers support and more:

“Thank you. I felt in a terrible muddle before I spoke to you. You listened to me, made me laugh, which I haven’t felt like doing for ages, and made me feel like I can cope”.”

One of the most positive outcomes arising from the pandemic is the emergence of local MAG (mutual aid) groups and their tireless volunteers and I look forward to the challenges of the coming year in the knowledge that the community itself has proved incredibly resilient.

For more information or support please contact Barbara Howard, Community Connector bhoward@s-norfolk.gov.uk 07890599514