

## Aspiring Social Enterprise Leaders of Tomorrow



**The Aspiring Leaders Programme (ALP) in Cumbria is a three year course that combines formal academic teaching with experiential learning and personal development. Students are assigned leadership mentors and placements, gain work experience and run leadership projects, all whilst achieving a Degree in Social Enterprise Leadership.**

The Programme was created in 2011 to develop leadership potential within local communities and social and charity organisations in Cumbria.

Jack Todd was one of those young people who had the passion and ambition to help others, but wasn't entirely sure how to transfer his skills into doing something productive. "I have always had a passion for working with young people and those who are not able to get involved in the same opportunities as myself", says Todd.

Todd, who lives in Millom, admits he was never interested in the idea of University until he saw the opportunities presented to him by the ALP course.

"I was never interested in going to University. The idea of sitting in lectures every day and coming out the other side with over £30,000 worth of debt did not interest me. But with the support of the Francis C Scott Charitable Trust, University of Cumbria, Brathay Trust and everyone else involved, my life has thoroughly been changed". Todd had been fortunate

enough to gain experience and share his own skills worldwide before starting the course, working in camps in New York and Delhi, India. It was there where the ALP Programme was brought to his attention.

"In 2012 I worked at Camp Hayden Marks, a summer camp for disadvantaged children from New York City. I worked as a Drama Specialist and got to teach over 1200 students across the summer. I also applied for International Citizen Service, and got a placement to work for Swechha, based in Delhi. It was in India, my attention was brought to the ALP Programme and I did not hesitate to apply".

Although the students who participate in the ALP programme are full-time, it was the independent nature and links to various organisations which attracted Todd to the course.

"Of course we are full-time students, with university days delivered by the University of Cumbria, but ALP goes much further than that. It allows us to meet some amazing organisations and individuals

through Common Purpose and being pushed out of our comfort zones".

With Todd coming towards the end of his final year of his course, he has already turned his attention towards potential future projects, setting his ambitions high.

"I have always wanted to be my own boss and run my own organisation for young people from disadvantaged backgrounds. ALP has shown me how to make this a reality. And Jack isn't the only one to

heap praise on the Aspiring Young Leaders Programme. Hein van der Westhuizen from Workington believes it's an ideal starting point for young people wanting to make a difference.

"The ALP is about giving passionate young people in Cumbria the chance to make a real difference in their communities in a sustainable way", said van der Westhuizen. "It's a great programme to learn about yourself and to meet others who are as passionate about positive change".

### Aspiring Leaders Programme

#### ALP3 recruitment has started!

The Aspiring Leaders Programme (ALP) will begin in September 2017 and will run for 3 years until June 2020. A once in a lifetime chance for future community leaders to get the training and support you need to excel. You'll end up with a degree in Social Enterprise Leadership – and it's all paid for with generous funding from the Francis C Scott Charitable Trust (FCSCCT), Rathbones, Langdale Leisure and the Sir John Fisher Foundation.

#### So if you are:

- around 20-32 years old
- resident in Cumbria or North Lancashire
- working / volunteering for a local charity or social enterprise
- with an ambition to become a community leader

... then visit [www.fcscct.org.uk/leadership-programme/](http://www.fcscct.org.uk/leadership-programme/) for further details.

Each participant on the programme has to be nominated by the charity or social enterprise that you are working or volunteering for. The application form is available on the website above and will need to be completed prior to an initial chat with Chris Batten at FCSCCT. The closing date for applications is May 1st 2017 but places are limited so the sooner the better.

Don't hesitate to call Chris on 01539 742608 if you have any questions.

FCSCCT

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