



**Macclesfield Town Council
Community grant feedback form
End of project report**

It is a condition of Macclesfield Town Council community grants that a report of how the grant was used is given to the council on request.

Therefore, when requested, you are asked to complete the below form and return to the Assistant Town Clerk. If you have not yet spent the entire grant, we are asking you to return this form with a progress report and an explanation of when the money will be spent.

The form will be shared with the Finance Committee, in committee papers and on our website.

Name of organisation	Starr in the Community CIC – T/A Circus Starr
Contact name	Judith Halle
Date grant awarded	06/04/2023
Amount awarded	£1,200.00

Please describe how your grant was used:

Your generous donation has made it possible for 60 vulnerable and isolated children in Macclesfield to come to our relaxed and inclusive Big Top circus show held at Macclesfield Rugby Club, Priory Lane, Macclesfield on the 14th June 2023. During our 2023 spring tour we visited 33 different towns from the midlands up to the north of England, moving the Big Top every other day to provide over 23,000 children free access to our spectacular circus show. Our Big Top is fully accessible and over the tour we have made live performance possible to over 570 wheelchair users. We are the only UK Big Top and theatre circus to provide a mobile changing places toilet, also incorporating BSL signed performances and touch tours at 13 of the towns we have visited.

How many people benefited from your project/activity or attended if it was an event?

The grant from Macclesfield Town Council helped us to bring together children and families who have a barrier to accessing live performance due to disability, illness, social isolation, or financial constraints and opened the magical world of live circus performance to them. A circus displays various beautiful art forms, as well as providing comical entertainment. We know how life changing the arts can be, and that is why we strive to make it available for everybody no matter what obstacles they may face. The tickets for our event were distributed between Park Royal Pre-School, Children's Ward, Cheshire Carers, Space 4 Autism, Be You Crew, East Cheshire Hospice, Heatherbrae, Park Lane School, East Cheshire Council – Children with Disabilities Team, and The Bridge End Centre, along with

many others. Over the two performances on the day, we were able to reach out to more than 670 children and families, with 30 wheelchair users able to access the event on the day, from the Macclesfield area.

What was the outcome of your grant?

The grant awarded from Macclesfield Town Council was used to cover the cost of 60 vulnerable and isolated children from the Macclesfield area coming to our two relaxed and inclusive Big Top performances. As mentioned above, over 670 children and families had the opportunity to experience all that live performance has to offer thanks to the local business community, The Russell Trust, and Macclesfield Town Council.

What have you learned from this project?

Macclesfield Rugby Club is a first-class venue for our Big Top. The field is easily accessible for our circus visitors, with plenty of onsite parking available. Both performances were well attended on the day, showing a good demand for our event – the good weather certainly helped. It was lovely to have the mayor in attendance for the first show, as well as some councillors too.

Please insert at least one photograph of your project/event here:



Please also attach evidence of the promotion you have carried out for this project (press articles/screenshots of social media posts etc).

As we are not a commercial circus and because our audience are pre-invited through a network of local support groups, schools, hospices, and social services, we do not promote our event to the general public. However, I have attached to this email the social media response to our event in Macclesfield, along with some general photos of the spring tour.

Please tick this box if you consent to the photographs, you have provided being shared with the Finance Committee, on publicly available finance committee documents and on the Macclesfield Town Council website ☒

Please return this form to helena.gowler@mac

[clesfield-tc.gov.uk](http://macclesfield-tc.gov.uk)