

What is the Community Connectors Project?

This is an extremely important community project funded by the East Lancashire Clinical Commissioning Group. The Community Connectors Project aims to reduce pressures on doctors' surgeries and hospitals by creating reductions in referrals to GP's for those suffering from anxiety, depression, low confidence, low self-esteem and other social, emotional and practical needs.

The Community Connectors Project matches vulnerable and socially isolated people, who have been identified by GP's and other health and social care professionals, with a Community Connector to improve confidence, inclusion and independence.



GP surgeries, medical institutions and health and wellbeing initiatives can put the Community Connector poster up in their reception areas and common areas where patients who may benefit from the project can see it. Please download the poster and display it.

To provide your patient or client with more information download the Community Connector leaflet.

What does a Community Connector do?

The Community Connector role helps patients with emotional, social and practical needs access a range of local, non-medical and non-clinical services, often provided by the community and voluntary sector. Services include, but are not limited to, local community support groups, bereavement support, financial support, exercise groups, social groups and one-to-one peer mentoring.

BPRCVS's Community Connectors will assess your needs thoroughly and determine a plan of action to deliver a course of support that will help you feel better, improve your wellbeing and reduce your reliance on GP's and NHS services. The same Community Connector will stay with you throughout the duration of your involvement with the project.

All of BPRCVS's Community Connectors are managed by a Community Connector Coordinator. Our Coordinators support and train our Navigators to deliver the very best support and get you back on track by helping to introduce you to a wide range of activities and services.

What will the project do for me?

Community Connectors will spend time with you each week
Offer support and access to activities, events and community services
Improve your wellbeing through non-medical sources of support
Keep you informed of what's going on in your community
Get you involved and engaged in activities, events and services
Create a lasting positive impact on your wellbeing
Provide an alternative to visiting your GP
Reduce your reliance on health care, police and other professional services

Download the Community Connector leaflet for more information.

Our excellent Community Connectors have a wealth of knowledge and experience within your local community. This means we always know what is going on and when so we will be able to keep you informed and get you involved in local community activities, events and services.

Non-medical and non-clinical interventions combined with traditional medical routes have been shown to be massively important in creating a lasting positive impact on an individual's wellbeing.



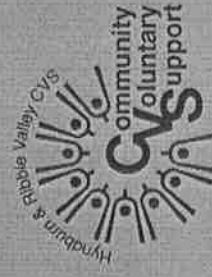
**BURNLEYPENDLE
& ROSSENDALE**
COUNCIL FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE

Registered Charity Number: 1062446 Company Limited by Guarantee: 3325219

Contact a Community Connector
Coordinator on **01282 433740** or
email **connectors@bprcvs.co.uk**

For more information about the
Community Connector project visit
www.bprcvs.co.uk

**Referral forms & more information
is available on the website**



East Lancashire
Clinical Commissioning Group

SUPPORT FROM YOUR COMMUNITY





IMPROVE HEALTH & WELLBEING BY CONNECTING WITH YOUR COMMUNITY



Are you visiting your GP, but feel that you would also benefit from social support?

We can help complement your medical care by supporting you to link with sources of support within your local community. This can include community activities, physical activity, social groups, education, self-help, counselling, complimentary therapies or where to access specialist advice.

How will Connectors support you?



Visit you in your home



Spend time with you & socialise



Accompany you to activities until you're confident to go alone

Offer information about local activities, interest groups & day centres



Arrange support for you to become involved in community groups

Signposting to local services, activities, debt advice, benefits advice & financial support



Help finding transport for appointments & activities

What are Community Connectors?



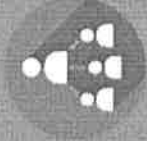
Community Connectors are volunteers from your community



Community Connectors are caring & compassionate people



Community Connectors will have a positive impact on your health & wellbeing



Community Connectors are managed by Coordinators at BPRCVS

Frequently asked questions

How can I access the service?

Health professionals & GPs can refer you. Family & friends can refer too. Individuals can also self-refer

How long can I expect to wait?

5 working days

How long can I receive support for?

No set time limits. The length of support is discussed & agreed

Is there a charge for the service?

It's 100% free

Do Connectors provide a counselling service?

No, although we can signpost you to a professional service

Are Community Connectors medically trained?

No, they can't support you with medication & personal care

01282 433740

Start Connecting

connectors@bprcvs.co.uk