

SDCP is an award-winning charity that has been promoting healthy active ageing, good mental health and wellbeing while successfully tackling loneliness and isolation for the past 12 years.

Our mission is to help people to regain their sense of worth, and to provide access to support, services and facilities that can empower people of all ages to retain as much independence as possible.

Our services are delivered from our community hubs in Corwen and Pengwern.

Our Aim is to improve the health and well-being of our communities. We provide support, services and facilities that can empower people of all ages to retain as much independence as possible and enable them to access services in their locality.

### SDCP Background

Once known as the Healthy Living Centre, the building, known today as Canolfan Ni, was run by a partnership that was formed in 2000, made up of members from Denbighshire Voluntary Services Council (DVSC), Denbighshire County Council, Denbighshire Local Health Board, National Public Health Service and local Voluntary/Community Groups. The Partnership were able to secure a grant from the Big Lottery Funding of just under £700,000 over 5 years, that would be used to establish the Corwen Healthy Living Centre. This centre was used as the “hub” for their activities that promote the reduction of health inequalities in Corwen and the surrounding villages.

The end of the Big Lottery funding in 2008 presented an ideal opportunity for the Partnership to broaden their scope. Building on this success, and to expand the scope of the work that had already been carried out, it was proposed that a new partnership be formed.

In March 2009, SDCP was formally launched, with the aim of benefiting the residents of South Denbighshire and surrounding areas, bringing together voluntary and community organisations with statutory services, to provide facilities locally, that promote social welfare and community health and wellbeing. In January 2010, SDCP was registered as a not-for-profit company, Limited by Guarantee and later became a Registered Charity on 20<sup>th</sup> June 2012.

In September 2011, SDCP were able to purchase a fully accessible 16-seater minibus with grant funding from Taith, Denbighshire County Council and Cadwyn Clwyd. The minibus is used by local community groups and organisations for social, recreational and educational purposes.

In May 2013 Welsh Government CFAP funding was then secured to fully-refurbish the building and on the 16<sup>th</sup> of September 2013, the building was officially re-opened, now named “Canolfan Ni”.

### **“Your Place our Ours” Project**

In September 2017 South Denbighshire Community Partnership (SDCP), working in partnership with Citizens Advice Denbighshire (CAD) was awarded a Rural Communities Grant of £349,847.

The “Your Place or Ours” project is designed to address hidden and identified rural poverty by widening access and participation to existing services, provide opportunity to deliver services within the home e.g. meals on wheels, benefits advice, befriending service, and work with the local Communities to identify and develop new services that will support independent living for people to be able to live in the communities of their choice for as long as possible and provide an enviable quality of life.

The heart of the project will be delivered from Canolfan Ni Community Centre, during the lifespan of the project this will be extended to 8 rural villages in the Edeyrnion area. During the 4-year lifetime of the project we will:

Work with Stakeholders to identify and engage with individuals who are deemed as socially isolated and supported by statutory services or have identified themselves as being isolated during consultation and delivery of pilot projects.

### **The National Lottery Community Fund 2 – ‘Your Place or Ours- Edeyrnion & Dee Valley’**

To compliment and expand the Organisation’s service delivery into neighbouring communities, the National Lottery approved a further £499,634 in April 2021, with the project starting in earnest, the following July. The funding allowed work to begin with residents and groups within the Llangollen and Dee Valley area, to expand the original and principal delivery model.

Both Lottery projects, alongside numerous complimentary funding approvals, fundamentally aim to address the following 5 outcomes:

1. To reduce isolation.
2. To improve access to advice services.
3. To provide flexible community transport.
4. To build self-reliance within communities.
5. To improve health and well-being.

### Covid-19 Response

As the pandemic took a hold on all our communities, it inevitably meant that even more challenges were placed on families and those most vulnerable in our communities. As a result, SDCP secured additional funding to ensure that increased isolation and access to service issues were addressed. Amongst many things, this included an expansion to our food preparation and distribution services and an increased priority being placed on 'keeping in touch' with the most vulnerable within our community.

### Castle Street, Llangollen

As a result of the National Lottery 2 implementation and the responsive activities required because of the pandemic, it was necessary for SDCP, alongside the Llangollen Food Share Project group, to take ownership of a property in Llangollen, namely 36c Castle Street. Whilst providing a suitable location to expand and deliver the Food share project, it also provided a 'base' for SDCP to carry out further activities within Llangollen as part of the National Lottery 2 programme. With additional, complimentary funding from Community Foundation Wales and the Moondance Foundation, the venue was suitably fitted out to meet ongoing needs. The Foodshare group formally moved into the property in February 2021 and, with support from SDCP are now a registered charity and took over sole priority of Castle Street in 2022.

### Pengwern Community Hub Llangollen

SDCP have a service level agreement in place with Denbighshire County Council to manage and develop community engagement provision for the community of Llangollen from the Pengwern Community Hub. This follows on from the £78,373 successful secured by Denbighshire Community Housing in 2021 from the National Lottery -Rural Futures fund by with support from SDCP to expand the centre and develop services.

DCC, SDCP and the Friends of Pengwern residents' group have a memorandum of understanding in place to oversee the developments and ensure they continue to meet the needs of the community.

### BCUHB- iCAN HUB – 'Together for mental health'

SDCP have been an iCAN Hub on behalf of BCUHB health board since 2021, providing access and support on various issues that may be worrying or affecting individuals' mental well-being. The service is delivered with partner organisation KIM Inspire a charity providing professional, high quality mental health support in the community.

National Lottery Community Fund, People & Places III- 'Your Place or Ours- South Denbighshire'

SDCP have secured £499,708 from the National Lottery Community Fund-People & Places III over four years with the project commencing in July 2024.

The project will enable SDCP to continue and further develop our community development provision alongside our other projects and working collaboratively with other organisations. The project will enable us to:

1. Expand established place-based wellbeing services and activities across the Lower Dee Valley that reduces isolation and improve access to services.
2. Expand targeted additional service that address wellbeing, employability and Welsh language and culture identified needs that reduces isolation and improve access to services.
3. Work in partnership with, and signpost to, multiple organisations to address targeted needs, improve access to, and widen participation for vulnerable and marginalised members of the community.