



**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	██████████
Date grant awarded	23 rd May 2024
Amount awarded	£1,200

Please describe how your grant was used:

Your generous donation has made it possible for vulnerable and isolated children in Macclesfield to come to our accessible and inclusive autumn variety show held at Kings School, Alderley Edge Road, Macclesfield on the 7th September. During our 2024 autumn tour we visited 24 different towns from Macclesfield, Hereford, and Worcester, down to Bristol and Bath to South Wales and then working our way along the south coast to Canterbury. Moving to a new town every day, with average audiences of around 460 per town, we have provided over 11,000 children with free access to our spectacular circus themed variety show. We choose our indoor venues with great care so we can be as accessible as possible and over the tour we were able to make attending a live performance possible for 346 wheelchair users. We are the only UK Big Top and theatre circus to provide a mobile changing places toilet, sensory packs free of charge, and incorporate BSL signing at all our events.

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

Our two performances for children and families in Macclesfield took place on 7th September 2024 and were completed on the same day. Over the two performances on the day 672 children and families were able to enjoy live performance, connect with the community and make magical memories to treasure with their family.

What was the outcome of your grant?

Your grant covered the cost of 60 of the 672 children and families who came to the event. Your support allowed them to have fun and be entertained with families who have shared life experiences, to connect with their community and make magical memories to take through life. I have included some feedback received after the event for you to look at and some pictures of the tour in general.

What have you learned from this project?

Our indoor autumn tour takes place in theatres and civic/town halls in England and Wales. The troupe have all been amazing, as always, working so hard to bring a high quality taste of circus magic to our wonderful audience. The local business community have generously supported their community by paying for tickets or sponsoring the shows. For us, the main challenge is the huge increase in logistical costs – that's accommodation costs for the troupe, venue hire costs, mini bus hire, and fuel. All these have increased by at least 50% over the last couple of years.

So what plans do we have to remain sustainable, increase income and protect the future of our accessible and inclusive Big Top and theatre show? We are soon to become a registered charity. This will open grants & trusts funding streams that have previously been unavailable to us as a CIC. Charity status will also help us develop partnerships with larger businesses and give us credibility with small to medium businesses too. Gift aid will also generate income for us, and donating is now available through our website which helps widen our donating options.

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).



Simon Leah
Here's the show in 1m30s: 😊
<https://www.facebook.com/622081918/videos/525938300115092/>

[\(3\) Facebook](#)

I have also attached some more social media feedback for you to look at.

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@macclesfield-tc.gov.uk