

Koala Community Hub | Sovereign #iwill Fund video transcript

00:00.2 – 00:03.0

My name is Tori Rest and I am founder of Koala Community Hub.

00:03.1 - 00:16.0

So a year ago, we moved to The Bridge, started with our teams groups and then we expanded quite rapidly. So within a year we've now got parents and then toddlers right through to adults.

00:16.1 - 00:34.1

Sovereign have been amazing, because I think they were our, actually, I think they were our first people to provide funding so that we could start the groups. And they've just been a brilliant throughout the whole process. They've always believed in us, they've always, even though we were a small new charity, they've always just always believed in what we're doing and our resource and always been really supportive.

00:34.2 - 00:44.7

What Sovereign are funding for us is a really exciting project, because our young people often don't have a chance to get involved in things like this. Social action it's a difficult thing to get your head around.

00:46.1 – 01:13.0

Stevie Chadwick, Community Development Officer - I reached out to Tori about a year ago. When I saw that they were fundraising to start up their teens and kids groups for neurodiverse individuals and their families. So what I did with that is, I offered them £1,000 funding to help get the group starting up, and then from there on I've had a relationship with Tori and the Koala Community Hub and helping them to receive some external funding to help the group grow.

01:13.5 – 01:32.0

I reached out to Tori back at the beginning of the year when #iwill was launched and to let them know about the opportunity to receive funding for a social action project. Tori took up this idea and luckily they were successful with the grant. And, as you can see, they are now operating a social action group.

01:32.2 – 01:40.0

They've already had some idea sessions with the young people around what they would like to do for their community and for the group, social action-wise.

01:40.4 – 01:52.8

For more information about the Sovereign #iwill Fund and to apply, please visit www.sovereign.org.uk/sovereign-iwill-fund.