

PARTNERSHIP



WE CAN HELP YOU THROUGH JOINT VENTURES & PARTNERSHIPS!

It is widely known that charities operating in the Deaf sector have experienced difficult economic conditions in the last 20 years. Change in contracts, reprioritisation of government funding and reduction in fundraising have presented operating challenges. Many organisations have struggled to operate with a breakeven budget and others have faced challenges with cash flow.

The downturn caused by the coronavirus pandemic is likely to expose further vulnerabilities in charities' finances; it is likely that many medium sized Deaf charities will require support to remain operational.

As charity Trustees consider the future of their organisations, they will be considering the interests of their beneficiaries. Trustees may have to make difficult decisions regarding which services to close, fully aware that for their service users and beneficiaries, these services have become critical after a prolonged period of austerity.

JOINT VENTURES – A SOLUTION TO DIFFICULT ECONOMIC TIMES

Action Deafness believes it is likely that we will see an increase in joint ventures and partnerships between organisations in the sector in order to continue delivering essential services to the Deaf community.

OUR EXPERIENCE

In the last five years, Action Deafness has instigated three programmes to collaborate with other organisations:

- **In 2017, Action Deafness launched the YOUchoose Consortium. This was a platform to share infrastructure and good practice to enable other organisations to start delivering community care services to the Deaf community in their locality.**
- **Over the last five years, AD has also supported Cambridgeshire Deaf Association and Cumbria Deaf Association through a joint venture mechanism to instigate and consolidate services.**
- **More recently, we provided operational and back office management support which led to Deaf Direct, Oxford Deaf & Hard of Hearing Centre and Walsall Deaf Community Services merging with Action Deafness.**

Currently Action Deafness is well equipped and able to offer positive leadership, management and financial structures to help other Deaf charities refocus services on the needs of Deaf people in the area.

Action Deafness is interested to work with any Deaf organisation who needs assistance to deal with immediate challenges or is looking to plan for future stability and sustainability.

If you are interested in exploring these options, please contact jointventures@actiondeafness.org.uk