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| **Name** | **Oak Tree Rural Project** |
| **Learner Group** | Adults with long term learning disabilities. |
| **Website** | www.oaktreefarm.uk.net |
| **Place** | Oak Tree Farm, Hilderstone. Stone. Staffordshire UK |
| **What does it do?** | Long-term placements for learning disabilities, down syndrome. Horticulture, small animals, craft activities and café. |
| **Duration of learning programme** | On going. |
| **How often do they attend?** | Varies with individuals- 2- 3 days per week. |
| **How are people referred?** | Social services |
| **Aims** | The Project provides opportunity, support and encouragement for people to learn new skills and to improve their existing ones, paving the way into sheltered employment for those people for whom this is appropriate, whilst giving purposeful occupation to others. |
| **How is success measured?** | * Movement into voluntary work * Being a team member * Production of saleable items * Group discussion and evaluation |
| **Evaluation techniques used** | Group discussion, learner feedback forms, focus groups of learners, volunteers and referral agencies. |
| **Name of organisation** | Oak Tree Farm Project Ltd |
| **Governance and Management** | Charity Status with a board of trustees |
| **Learning pathways/progression routes** | Participants can progress to being a volunteer.  Participants go on to further learning. |
| **How is it funded?** | Social Services |
| **What is the cost per learner per day?** | £50 day. |
| **Typical activities** | Gardening, cooking, growing plants, countryside management, animal care, keeping chickens, preparing and serving food in the cafe |
| **Challenges** | * Being a charity and reporting requirements * Charity not thinking like a business * Gaining sufficient resources to continue to operate * Balance of public access |
| **What problems are tackled and how?** | * Gain funding through annual plant sales. * Constantly having to raise money. |
| **Social Impact** | * Oak Tree Farm provides a rural working environment where people with learning disabilities gain the skills, independence and confidence to take them towards an active role in society’. |
| **Links to National Strategies** | * Five Ways to Wellbeing * Five a Day |