

# TOGETHER NETWORK<sup>+</sup>

## 2019 Full Year Report

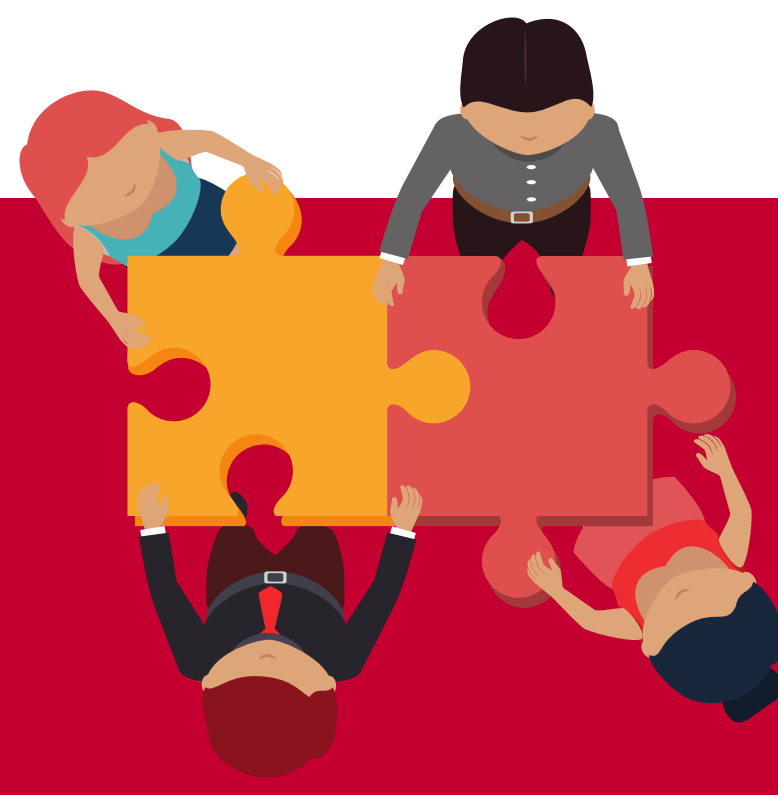
February 2020



**927**

Projects supported

75% involve a Church



**95**

Projects delivered

directly by JVs



**453**

Events contributed to

as organiser, speaker, trainer,  
facilitator or exhibitor



**1,145**

Churches supported

across 10+  
denominations



**101,669**

People reached

includes volunteers,  
participants and beneficiaries



**£986,508**

Funding secured

for other organisations





**1,145**

Total number of churches the Together Network supported directly with social action activities

**10+**

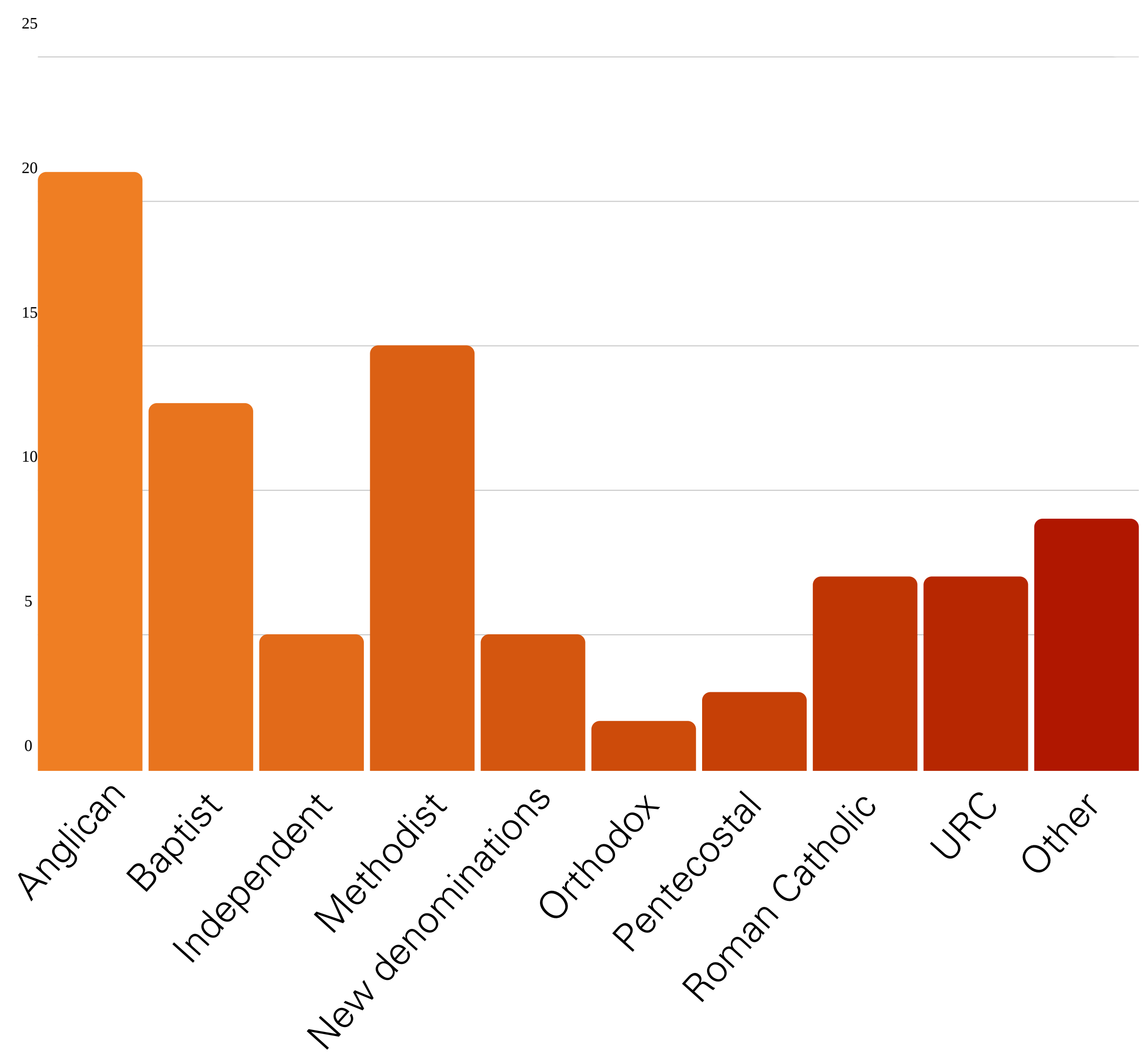
different denominations supported by JVs this quarter

## Churches tackling Period Poverty

Communities Together Durham (CTD) supported local churches who were interesting in tackling period poverty, but didn't know what would be appropriate action and lacked some of the necessary knowledge to put anything into practice. CTD organised a 'conversation' attended by church representatives, which gave some clearer ideas.

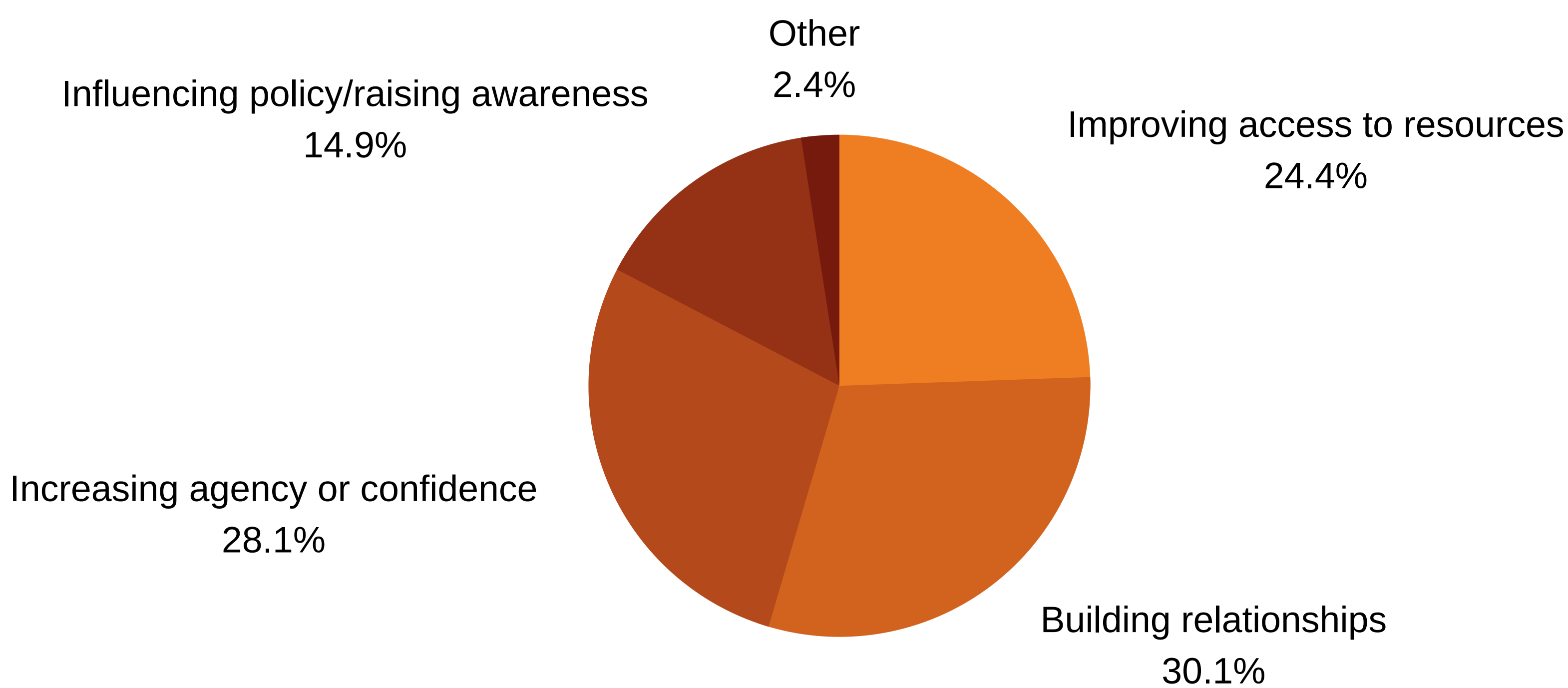
Further encouragement gave them the confidence to begin these projects, first by talking openly about the subject in their churches, then by beginning some small actions like putting out sanitary products in the church which is open on a daily basis. Attitudes have shifted, and some of the men in particular who had previously been very uncomfortable talking about period poverty have donated items and become involved in the projects.

Number of JVs supporting churches that are:



## Projects delivered

Purpose of Projects Delivered:



**95**

Projects delivered

51 of these are ongoing projects

**16,408**

Number of beneficiaries of projects delivered by the Together Network (estimate)



**927**

Projects supported

**692**

Number of projects involving a church - 76%

Total number of people expected to benefit from projects supported (estimate)

**75,094**

**10,167**

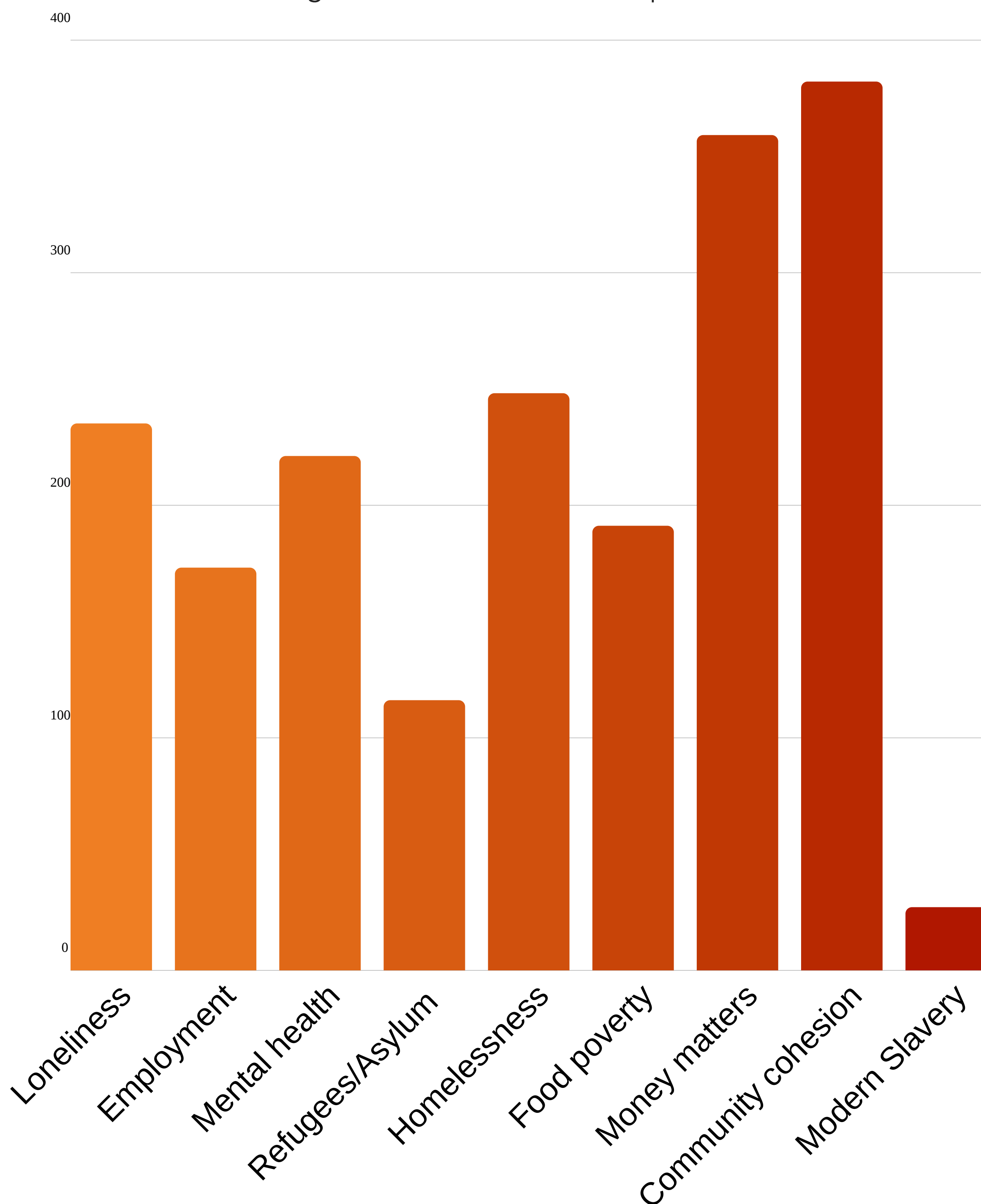
Total number of volunteers involved in projects supported (estimate)

## Getting to the Root

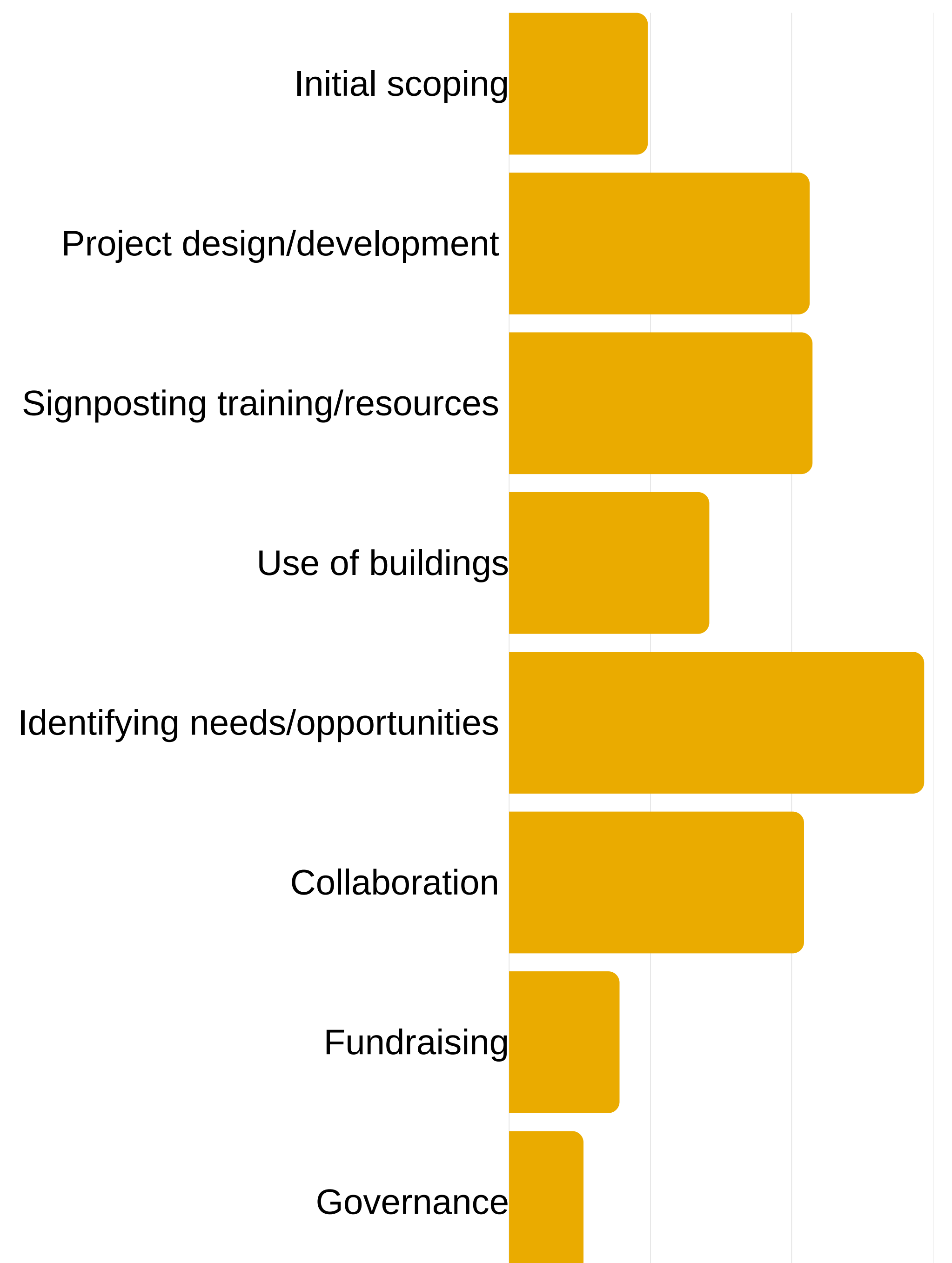
Imagine Together Norfolk (INT) came alongside a local church who had been running a thriving lunch drop-in and foodbank for people struggling with a range of issues including homelessness, mental health problems, unemployment, debt, and loneliness. It had been observed that the same people had been attending for years, and there seemed to be a dependence on the foodbank. Meals were provided without much positive change in their circumstances or ability to thrive

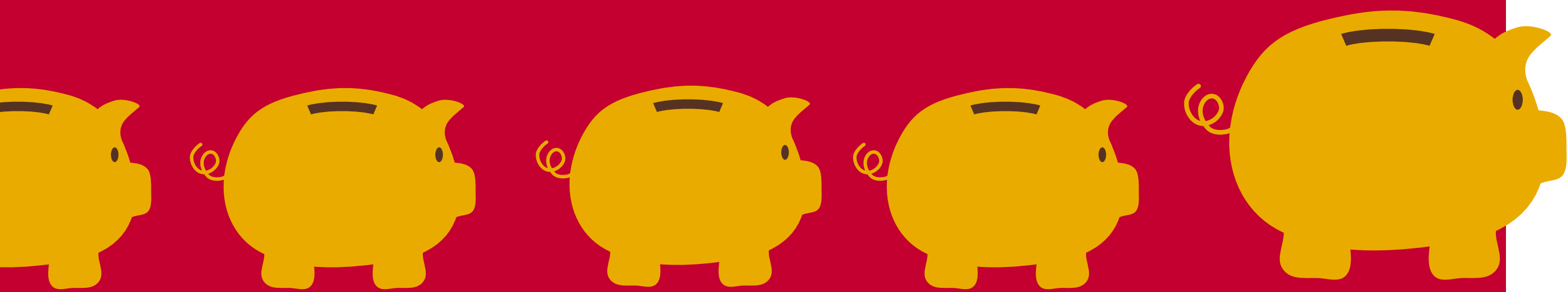
INT worked with the project lead, helping her to form a new vision for the drop-in, taking her to visit other projects for inspiration, created plans for a new approach, and accessing funding for it. The drop-in now offers a sit-down meal, which gives opportunities for developing relationships, and runs other activities as well as providing food. They are now committed to helping people deal with the roots of the issues they are dealing with rather than just the symptoms, providing one-to-one counselling sessions, and soon starting an addiction recovery programme.

Number of projects supported by the Together Network that respond to:



Projects that received the following kinds of support from the JV:





**£986,508**

Total funding JVs supported other organisations to secure for community or social action projects

Average amount secured (per successful application)

**£17,616**

**81%**

Success rate

## A New Church Building

Together for Change (TfC) came alongside a church in Coventry which was facing the prospect of closure, and also therefore ending their community activities. The Diocese of Coventry were determined to invest in this low-income community and set aside funding for a new church structure, along with appointment of a dedicated vicar. The challenge was to get a new and better building approved by the planners, and up and running before the existing portacabins were removed. TfC worked as project coordinator, working with the PCC and Diocesan Board of Finance, securing planning consent for the new church, overseeing construction, and securing an extension of temporary planning consent on the portacabins, to ensure the church could continue to operate throughout the construction period. TfC also secured funding for the fitting out of the new church and oversaw the building contract. One of the poorest communities in Coventry now has a permanent church building from which they can serve the community. The building has more space to accommodate a wider set of activities, which now includes not just the parish church, but two other BAME churches hiring the space each week for their services. During the project period the congregation has grown significantly, and weekday community attendance has grown.

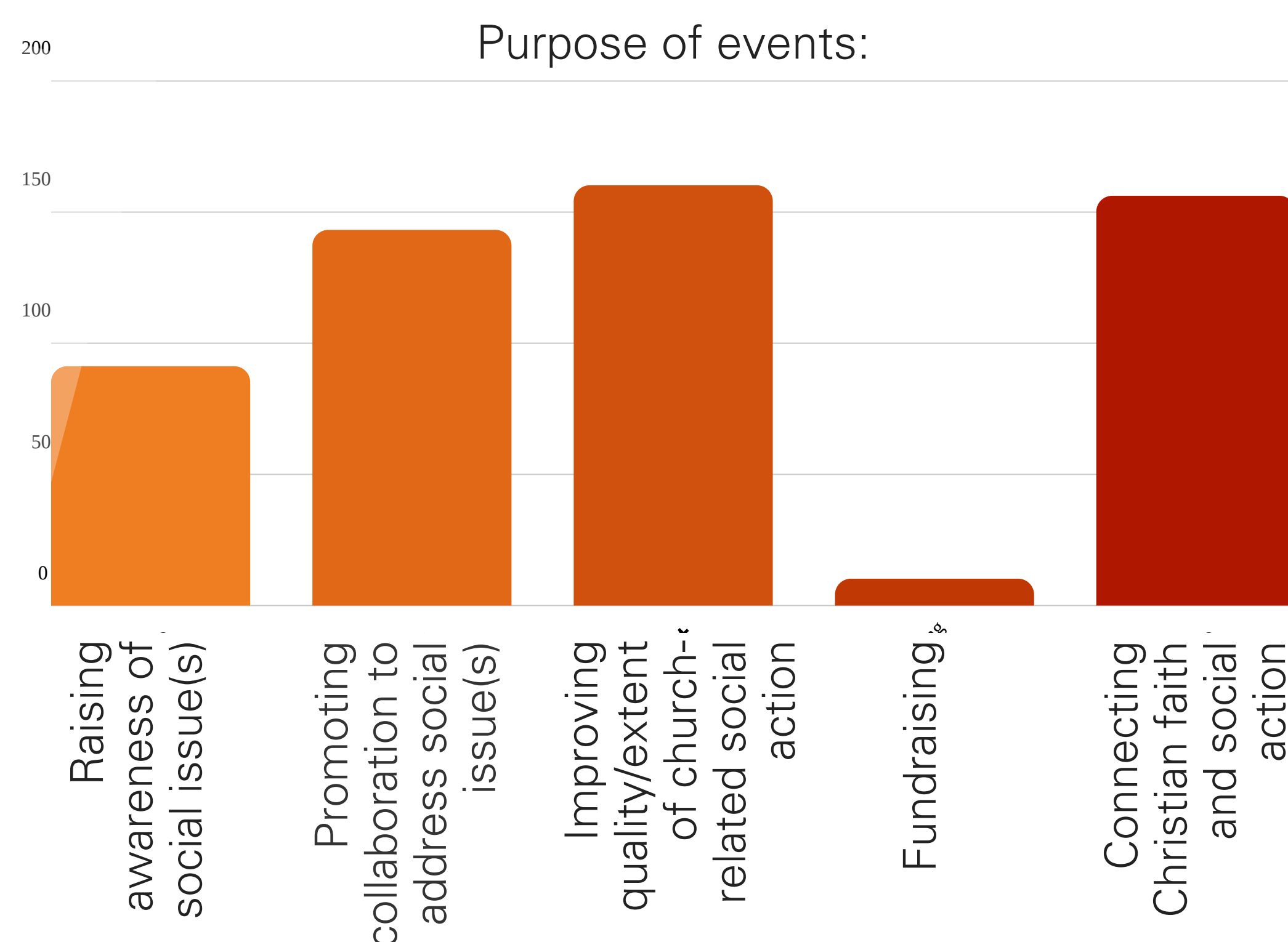


**453**

Events contributed to

Total participants in events

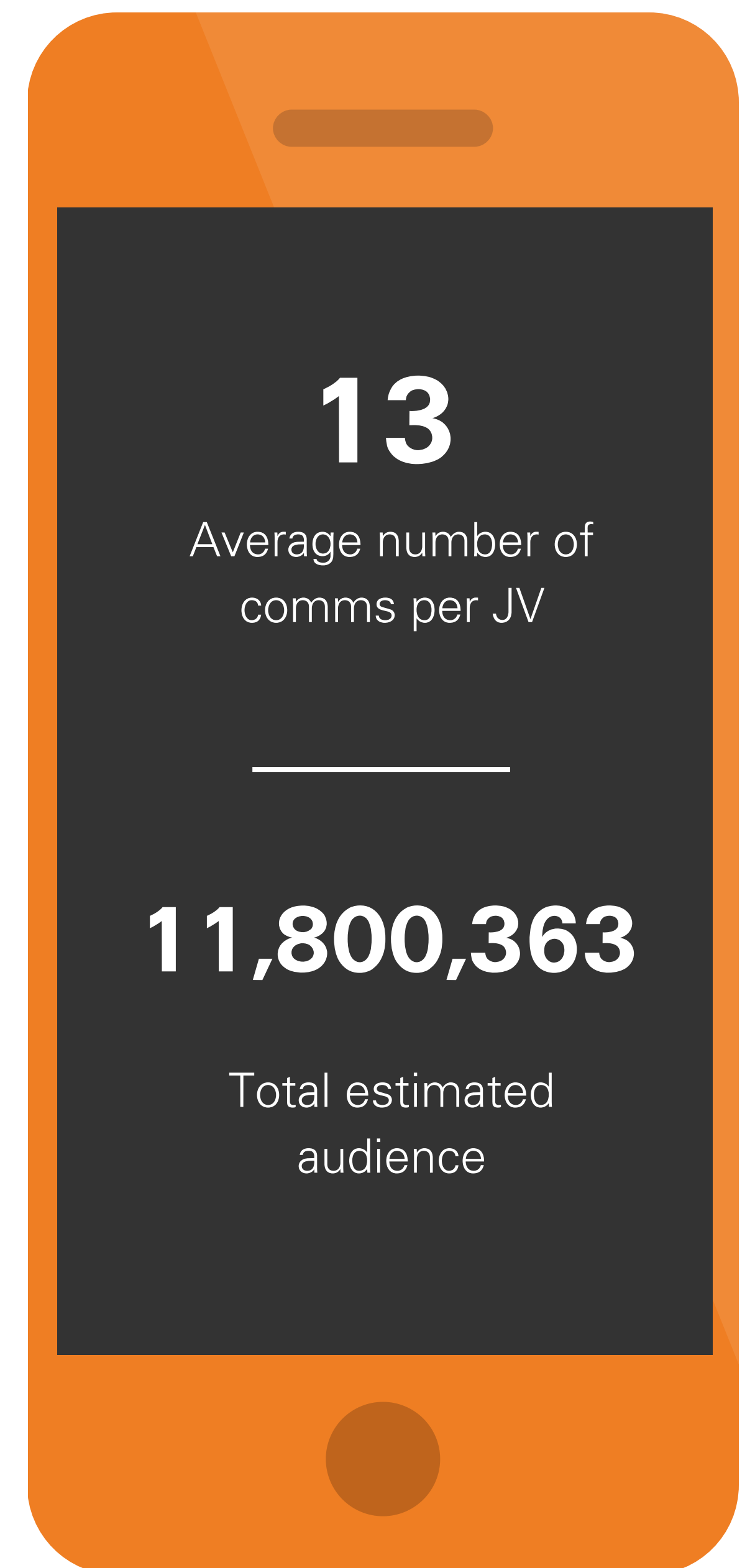
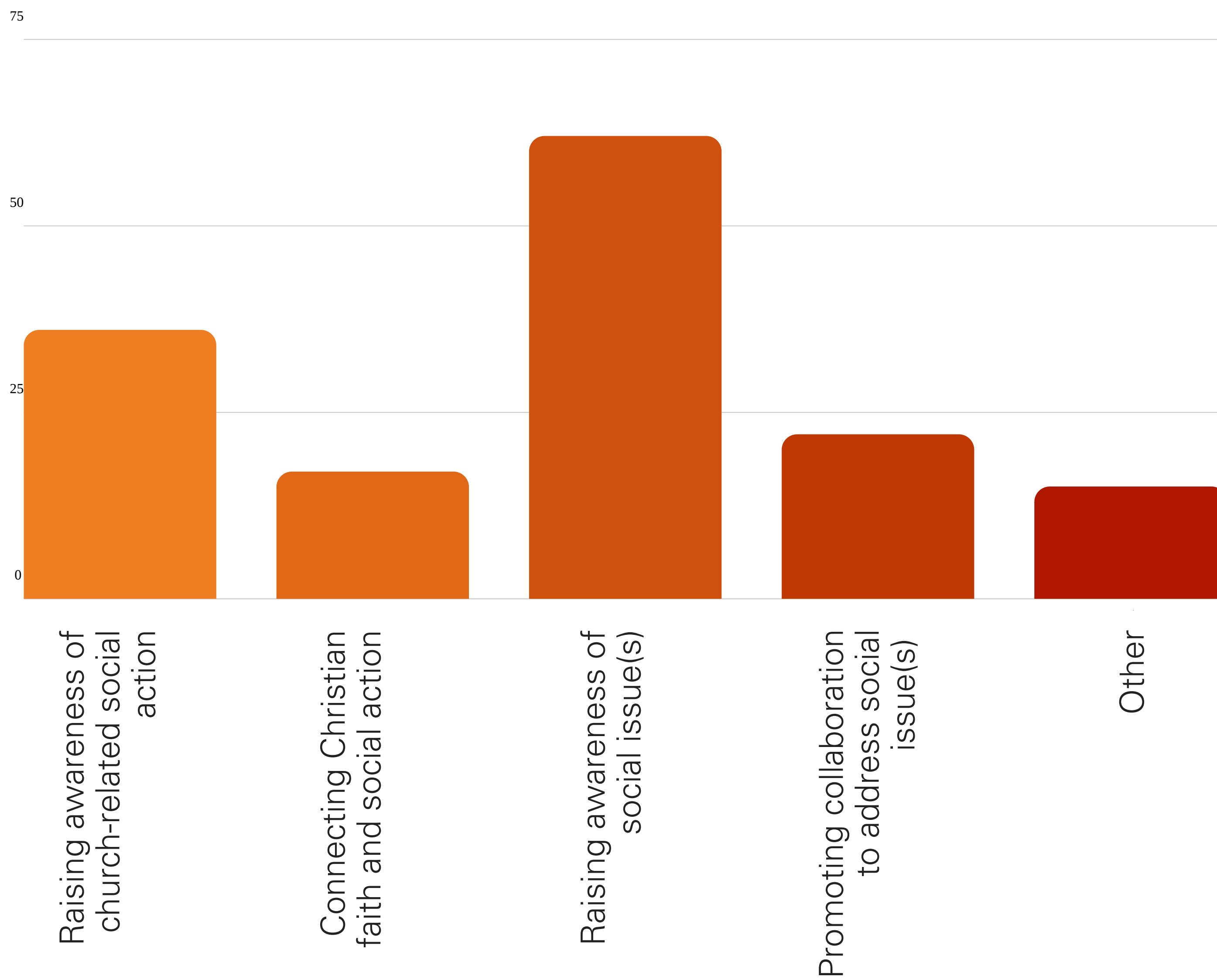
**29,018**



## A Day on Faith and Mental Health

Through the Mission Forum (an ecumenical partnership), Transformation Cornwall (TC) partnered with Truro Diocese and the Department of Spiritual and Pastoral Care at Cornwall Partnership NHS Foundation Trust to host 'A Day on Faith and Mental Health'. The day saw over 115 people come together to raise awareness and promote discussion among the faith and mental health communities in Cornwall and included an art exhibition by people with lived experience of mental ill health. The event was mapped by a comprehensive resources document designed to share learning from the day and provide contacts and inspiration to people wanting to develop further work.

Number of communication activities whose main purpose was:



**68**

Number of influencing activities reported

Number of JVs reporting influencing activities

**17**

## Hope for the Future

Damien\* had been sleeping rough on and off for a decade, was suffering complications from an old injury and had poor mental health awaiting grief counselling and was referred to the night shelter run by Greater Together Manchester (GTM) during a cold weather period. Damien did not fit the usual criteria but GTM were able to offer him a bed in their second night shelter, on the provision that they could move him to a higher needs shelter if we thought it was more appropriate. On his referral form Damien said that being clean was important to him. He was able to use the new shower facility at the shelter, was given clean clothes and was able to access laundry facilities. Through this support Damien was able to move onto more stable accommodation, feeling more positive and that there was hope in his future.

“I can’t believe what you have done for me. Without people like you we wouldn’t have a chance. I came in here ready to finish it all and I’m going to leave here today with a smile on my face. Onwards and upwards! You do more than your best. It’s clear you care and that means more than anything. I’m so appreciative of everything you’ve done and the hard graft that you’ve put in.”

*\*name changed*