

Yorkshire More

Yorkshire More a social enterprise producing speciality locally sourced, kosher, jams and chutneys.

It is a new organisation, established in January 2015 as a company limited by guarantee. The company has grown out of a Leeds Jewish Welfare Board project, Mitzvahs and Marrows, which received a Kick Start grant from ItCL in 2015 and an ItCL Start up grant in 2015. There has been ItCL business support from SEE Ahead, and also Yorkshire Venture Philanthropy.



Yorkshire More still has strong links to LJWB, as they operate from the same address, the board includes a representative of LJWB, LJWB is providing significant financial support in the start-up period and any surplus profit will be distributed to LJWB's mental health arm.



'Mitzvahs and Marrows' used fruit and vegetables, grown by service users in local allotments, to make a range of jams and chutneys. This project has run for the past five years in which a total of 3000 jars were made. All were sold at local community sale events. The Kick start funded market research which gathered feedback from customers and established that there is definitely a local demand. Further research indicates a demand for speciality locally sourced products as well as an increased demand for spreads and jams.

Yorkshire More offers employment and volunteering opportunities to people in the local community with mental health and learning difficulties working with 'Neshama Works' (lottery funded employment project) who feed volunteers and employees with mental health problems into the enterprise. 'Neshama Works' is in search of mindful employers who understand the issues/ stigma for people with mental health problems when trying to seek employment. A Yorkshire More volunteer was shortlisted for the 2015 Tenfold Volunteer of the year awards.

All profits are ploughed back into the enterprise, in support of people with mental health needs. Having the opportunity to work or volunteer has been recognised by ['Yorkshire More'](#) as proven to be very therapeutic, empowering and often a first step back into work.

The current mouthwatering range was launched in April 2015 and includes hot chilli jam, piccalilli, strawberry jam and 3 onion chutney. The enterprise relies on its volunteers, service users & non service users and is currently advertising on for people to learn a new skill, meet new people and be part of an initiative which is passionate about improving mental health.

