

Mental Health and Well-being Advocacy Resource: Template

NORTH	
Name of the initiative Give a brief descriptive name for the activity or initiative you were involved in organising related to mental health and well-being	Library 'Love' Notes – Valentine's activity
Target group Was it aimed at all students or staff or a particular group?	Library Staff
Description Give a short description of what was involved in organizing the activity or initiative.	We created an O365 Form where colleagues could submit names and explain why they 'love' working with these people. We then edited these into a fun PowerPoint complete with cheesy music.
Partners Was this solely run by the library or were other stakeholders involved, and if so how? Were students involved in planning the session, if so, how?	This was run solely by myself and a colleague.
Strategy How, if at all, was the activity linked into wider library or institutional strategy?	This happened during lockdown, and as it had been almost a year of WFH, we wanted to give colleagues the chance to share some appreciation with each other. However, this fed into the institution's new 'People Plan', which includes the strand: Wellbeing is at the heart of everything we do
Evaluation How, if at all, was the activity evaluated?	No evaluation, but we received some incredible feedback from library colleagues.
What worked Colleagues are looking for tips to help them run their events more effectively, what tips would you share to someone wanting to repeat what you have done? If applicable, please include how many people attended (if an event) or engaged (e.g. website clicks) or another appropriate measure for your initiative. Did this match expected engagement?	Encouraging colleagues to get involved really worked. Some people are always reluctant to get involved in 'silly' things, so we tried to stress that it wasn't related to 'love' in the strict sense, and people could remain completely anonymous in their submissions if they chose to. We only gave staff around a week's notice for this activity, and still received over 50 submissions. This far exceeded what we though.
What did not work What you would change if you were doing it again? Sharing what did not work can be as useful to help others as what did work.	We shared the initiative on Teams first, and didn't get much of a response. We found we were much more successful when sending out via email.
Photo Are there any photos you can share that give us a feel for the initiative?	Have included a photo of one of the slides and some feedback from the sharing of the video (below). Can provide the video if people would like to view.
Resources	N/A

Is there a URL related to the initiative?

Your name, institution and contact details. – Dean Brown, University of Salford, d.a.brown2@salford.ac.uk

Are you willing to share your contact details to other ALN staff so if they want to find out more they can contact you directly? YES



Dean Brown This is so lovely! I shared the idea with a few friends of mine who work in the NHS and are finding morale in their teams is pretty low. Reading all those messages made me think about what a great place I work in, with such kind, generous people - so important when everything else is feeling pretty difficult! Thanks so much for putting this together and sharing the love (and cheesy tunes)!

Thanks for doing this Dean - really gives us all a boost to have things like this!

Thank you for thinking of Library Love notes and enabling colleagues to share positive and inspiring messages about each other. The way you pulled this together, encouraged colleagues to join, and shared the messages was exceptional. And you are right, the video ending was perfect!