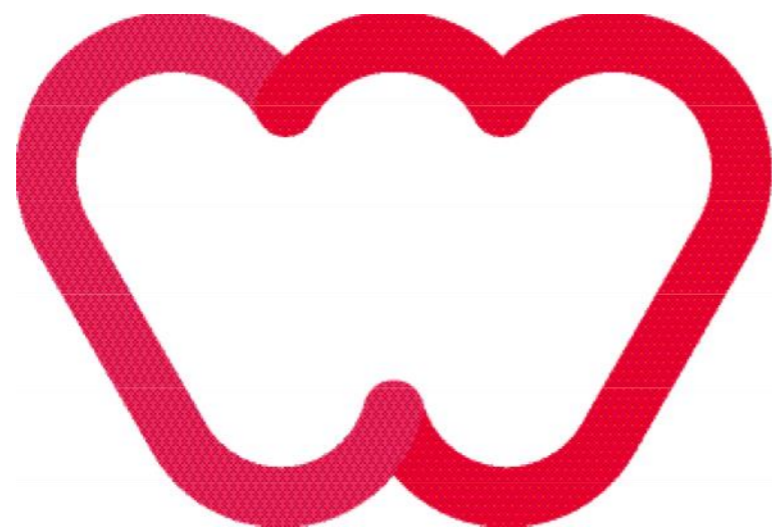


Digital inclusion: Connecting Lonely Adults with the Community



WaveLength

Fighting loneliness



Community

Community - is not just local, not just physical

- Shared interest, agenda, friendship group, living group (shared accommodation), neighborhood
- Whom, Where, or What you may identify with
- Usually peak at around 300 people
- Are we talking about companionship/company?

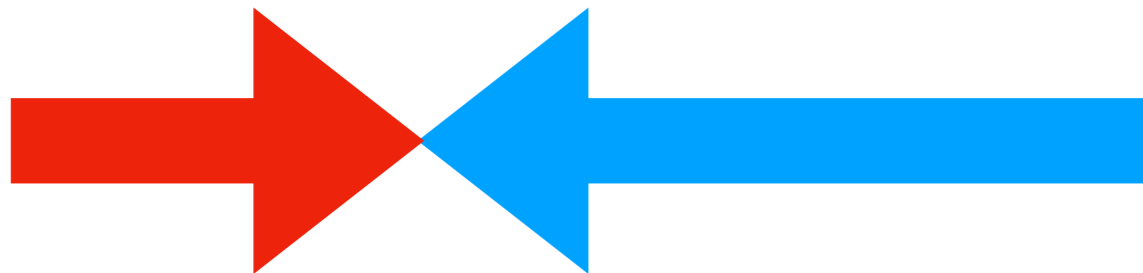


Connecting

Should we be reaching out to people we think are lonely?



Is it a two-way process? What does that look like?



Phone befriending often dwindles as it is often seen as pseudo or proxy



Digital Inclusion

The lead organisations / training providers mean

Definition of digital inclusion:

Digital skills

Being able to use digital devices (such as computers or smartphones and the internet.) This is important, but a lack of digital skills is not necessarily the only or the biggest, barrier people face.

Connectivity

Access to the internet through broadband, wi-fi and mobile. People need the right infrastructure but that is only the start.

Accessibility

Services need to be designed to meet all users' needs, including those dependent on assistive technology to access digital services.

What has been thrown at the problem ?

“Training ”

Has it worked ?

What is missing ?!

Equipment / window to the world
Data / connectivity
Support / mentoring / doing
Equity not equality

= Income inequalities

This does not equate to: end of life equipment, 6 months of data, or training programmes!

Minimum standard of free connectivity, every home needs to be connected, non-digital services need to be retained as roots to other services and to fixing / connecting to digital.

Hybrid Service

Wavelength Netflix Film Club

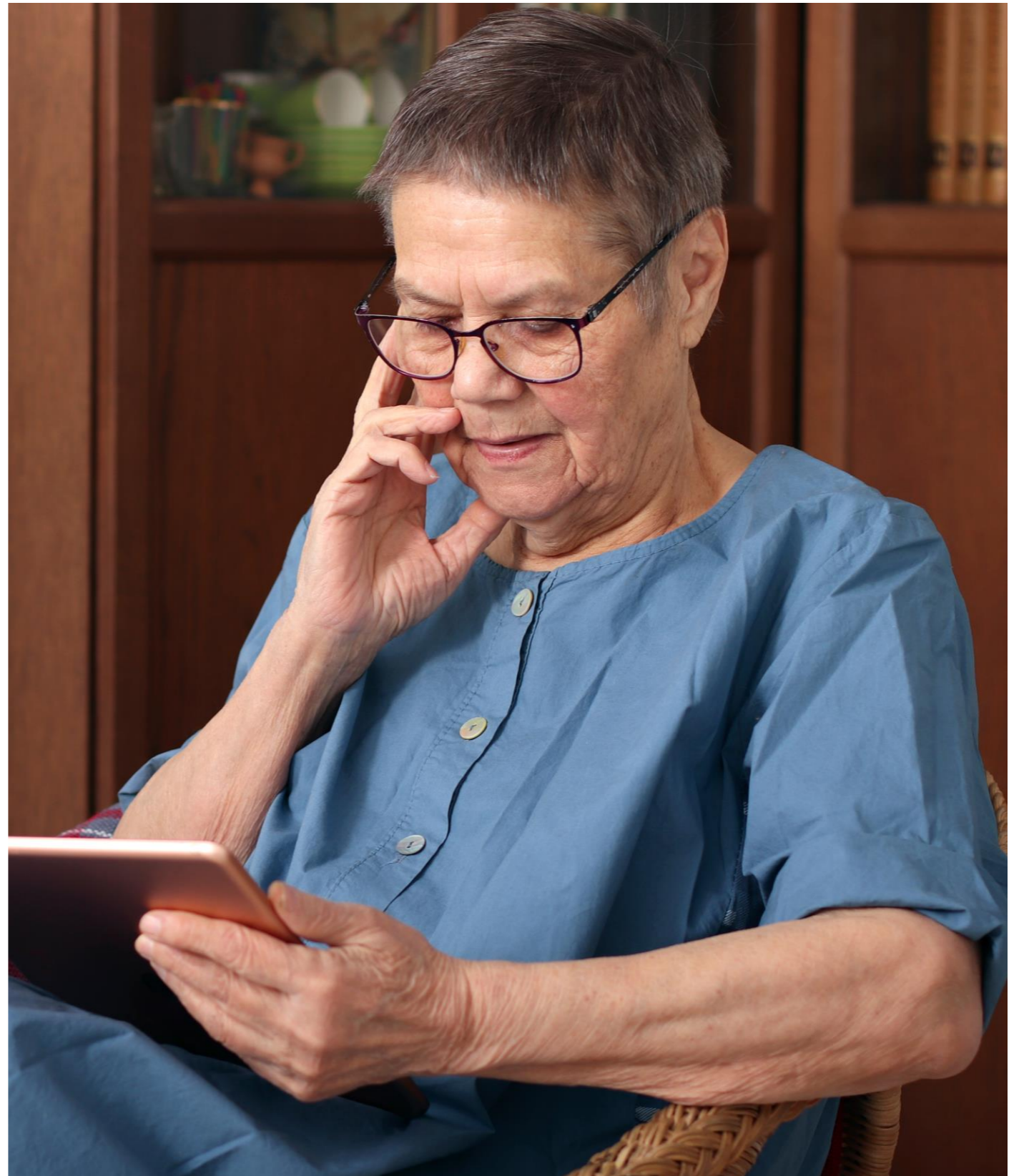
Equipment, data, professional lead and content

Open to Individuals and Groups - groups worked best due to a convener but strong individuals also stood out

Netflix has dubbing and subtitling in various languages opens up more content to more people

Brought people together and it helped them explore an interest and acted as a hub for contact and interaction.

Helped people feel less isolated and lonely during lockdown



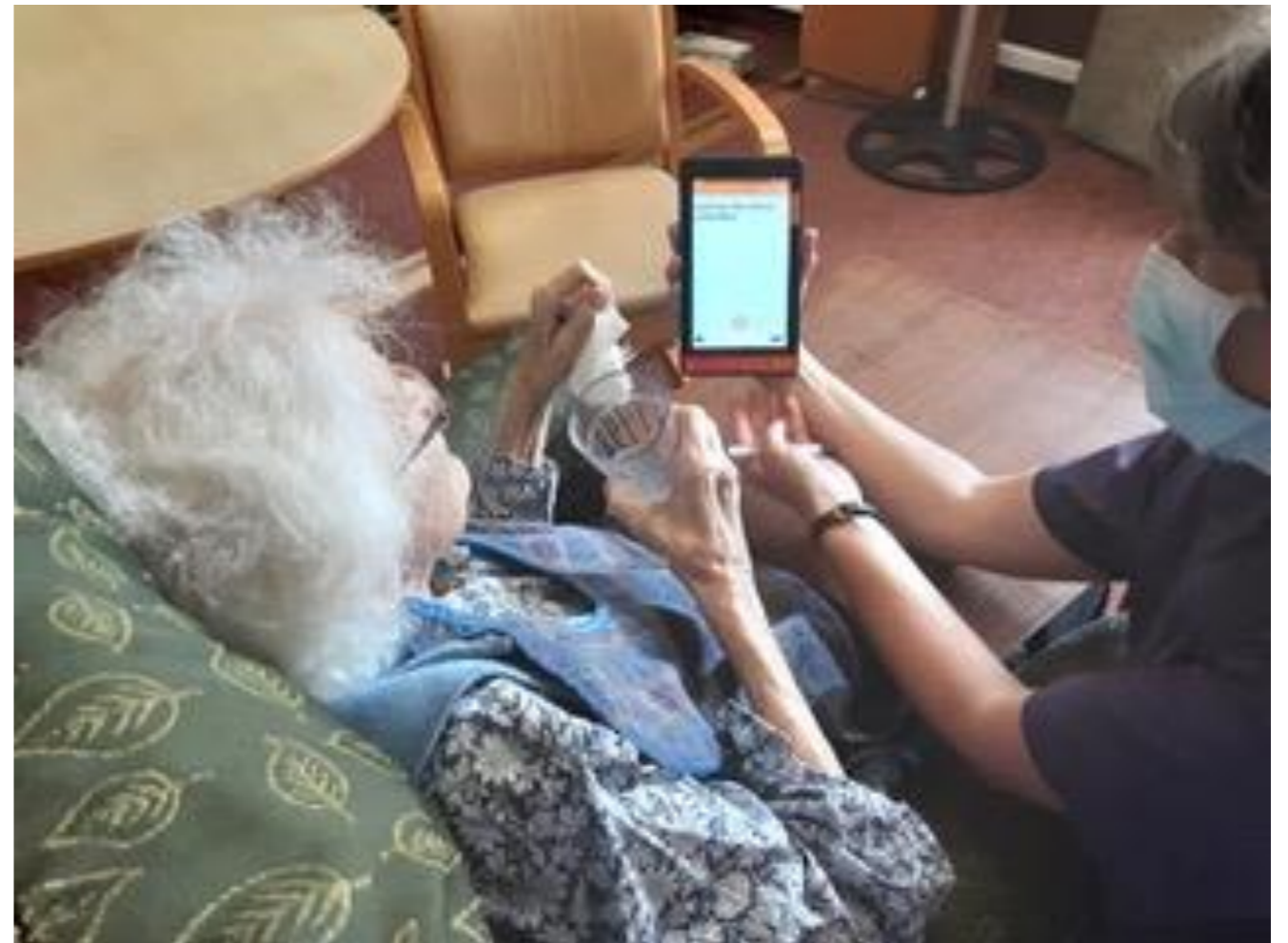
Care Homes

Tablets, Radios and CD players

Checked that staff could cope with the time and work commitment

Care Home had connections and people want to communicate with the residents

“Being able to supply care homes with equipment that can reduce loneliness and increase connections was incredible. COVID-19 has isolated care home residents more than ever and we are so grateful to Wavelength for linking up with us. Our aims are to reduce loneliness and promote kindness and collaborating with Wavelength helped us achieve this.”





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