

Our tenants: rapid response

Global Disability Innovation Hub

During the first lockdown, GDI Hub worked alongside our international partners and UCL to explore solutions for PPE and ventilation devices, focused around the challenges of a lack of affordable, quality products, trained personnel, manufacturing, production and global suppliers.

ELIEZ

ELIEZ co-created a series of virtual workshops for members with its partner network, digital agency Bravand and the Institute of Chartered Accountants (ICAEW). Sessions showcased inclusive ways of working, implementing best practice initiatives for online meetings.

Studio Wayne McGregor

The pandemic posed significant challenges for the creative industries, with the closure of theatres and studios, and the cancellation of tours. In response to this, Studio Wayne McGregor launched RESET – a professional development programme for dancers – in August 2020 with Here East providing a space for the programme as in-kind support.

LMA

Building and opening a brand-new state-of-the-art campus during the height of the pandemic was a challenge for LMA, but it successfully adapted in its teaching and engagement – pivoting some of the course content and how this was delivered.



Badu Sports

From the beginning of the pandemic, Badu Sports recognised that its community would be among the hardest hit, immediately getting to work providing food delivery support for the local area, from the Press Centre at Here East. This ended up stretching to Tower Hamlets, Islington and even Westminster. It also set up a range of services including a helpline for parents, as well as an online chat function for its young people. For those without access to a computer, a laptop loaning scheme was implemented to ensure anyone could contact Badu Sports when they needed to. Plexal also provided a quiet study space for those whose home environment was not conducive to remote learning.

FiiT

While many have struggled with the pressures and impact of lockdown, others have felt more productive from cutting out the stresses associated with going to work. This has led to 40% of people reporting that they exercised more in 2020 than they had previously. FiiT's home workouts enabled this for many. It also provided a 25% discounted membership to all NHS workers.

MOTHER

MOTHER provided good, nutritious food to people during the pandemic – offering juice, cakes and sausage rolls to the three local hospitals. The team there also ran initiatives with local community food kitchen Made in Hackney, providing plant-based meals to vulnerable members of our community.

Randy's Wing Bar

Having been based at Here East for nearly six years, Randy's Wing Bar felt a responsibility to support the community in Hackney Wick, providing free school meals during school holidays. The response to this will see Randy's extend its support for the long-term, continuing to work with charities to fund this kind of service moving forward.

One Family

Plexal member One Family has been working with hospitals, schools and care groups, who are on the frontline of providing support to those most vulnerable, to provide care packages, food and grants for doctors, nurses, teachers and families who have been directly affected by the pandemic.

MATCHESFASHION Studio

MATCHESFASHION Studio joined and assisted with logistics for the Emergency Designer Network, a volunteer-based network of design companies brought together to provide scrubs and personal protective equipment for key workers in hospitals.

Hobs 3D

3D printing studio Hobs 3D used its technology to produce perspex visors for the NHS distribution network.