

SavvyChavvy: Breaking Barriers, Building Connections

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The **Gypsy Traveller** community faces **prejudice** worldwide. Barriers to accessing support lead to **negative health** and social outcomes. **High rates of mental illness** linked to **poverty, social exclusion, and stigma**.

Chavvy is an old Romany word for a **young person** the Gypsy Traveller Community

IJP created a website to bring together the Gypsy Traveller community and others, to help break down stigma and foster a sense of connection.

This included community boards, blogs, podcasts, videos, photoforums, a messaging service and a peer mentoring support network to help people access services and manage advice.

78%

feel proud to be part of the Savvy Chavvy community

67%

have more than 10 friends on Savvy Chavvy

Community boards:

Engage in discussions and share experiences.

Blogs:

Read and write about topics relevant to the community

Podcasts:

Listen to insightful conversations and stories

Videos:

Watch informative content and documentaries

Photoforums:


Share visual experiences and memories

Messaging service:

Connect with others privately

Peer mentoring support network:

Access services and advice

 **75** new members joining each week

64% feel less isolated since joining Savvy Chavvy



Rosina Hughes, 17, started a campaign to send a petition and letter of complaint to BBC based on a portrayal seen in a TV programme.

Buoyed by support from those on the website and the confidence this had fostered in her, she ended up giving a presentation on project to the PM Gordon Brown.

“*It's good that people get to see what we can do when we put our minds to it. It's certainly made me think about what I can do.*”

Rosina Hughes, 17

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