

NATIONAL FINALIST, CONNECTING COMMUNITIES AWARD:

**HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE
AND REHABILITATION OF OFFENDERS (HACRO)**



NATIONAL FINALIST, CONNECTING COMMUNITIES AWARD:

HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE
AND REHABILITATION OF OFFENDERS (HACRO)

TENNIS CAN CHANGE LIVES

How a weekly tennis session is helping ex-offenders rehabilitate and engage with their community.

The LTA advocates that tennis can change lives, and its mission to open tennis up extends to all individuals. In October 2022, a community project brought together Bovingdon and Flaunden Tennis Club, Hertfordshire Association for the Care and Rehabilitation of Offenders (HACRO), Herts Police and Herts Tennis. HACRO was a national finalist in the LTA Connecting Communities Award, recognised for its innovation and inclusivity with a strong emphasis on those under-represented or under-served within the sport.



HACRO

For the Care and Resettlement of Offenders



This project was piloted to support ex-offenders emerging from challenging circumstances reintegrate into the community.

Bovingdon and Flaunden TC launched a weekly tennis session for a small group of around 12 18+ ex-offenders and those serving their sentences in the community, offering the physical and mental benefits of sport in safe and friendly setting. The project is still in its infancy but has already had a huge positive impact on everyone involved.

At least one participant is on track to complete their LTA Assistant (Level 1) Coaching Course, and more are expected to follow. Being an awards finalist has boosted the project's visibility and profile, and Herts Tennis is looking to help to expand the project by identifying and approaching potential venues and coaches around the county to run similar weekly tennis sessions. A pilot at a second location will be rolled out in December.



It's impossible not to be touched by the potential life changing experience of the tennis sessions at Bovingdon. There's no judgement, just friendliness, with all involved dedicated to making tennis safe, welcoming, accessible and inclusive. I genuinely believe the project could not only reduce crime in the vicinity, but dramatically transform the lives of more ex-offenders, setting them on the path to rehabilitation rather than reoffending."

Lee Evans / Jacqui Brabazon

HACRO was nominated by Lee Evans, President of Herts Tennis

INSPIRED TO REACH UNDER-REPRESENTED OR UNDER-SERVED COMMUNITY MEMBERS?

Driving deeper and broader engagement within the community includes reaching out to those who have been in custodial settings. The LTA seeks to partner with organisations who challenge the status quo and develop creative solutions to open tennis up and improve lives. This can only be achieved with the continued dedication of volunteers.

Contact Zoe Philbin on office@hacro.org.uk or at 01727 854727 to find out how to get involved.

FOLLOW US FOR MORE

LTA, The National Tennis Centre
100 Priory Lane, Roehampton
London SW15 5JQ

T: 020 8487 7000
E: info@lta.org.uk
www.lta.org.uk

 @the_LTA

 LTA

 @LTA

 LTA – Tennis for Britain