



UBS Community Affairs

Europe, Middle East and Africa

The Bridge Academy

The Bridge Academy is a secondary school in Hackney, East London, cofounded in partnership with a Wealth Management client. The Academy opened in 2007 to address a shortage of school places and poor education outcomes. The Bridge has a higher than national average number of students from disadvantaged backgrounds, for whom English is an additional language and who have special educational needs. UBS is involved in all aspects of the school; six UBS Managing Directors are school governors and in 2016 alone, 683 employees volunteered over 6,000 hours to supporting Bridge activities. 85% of 2016 alumni went on to university; 67% were the first in their family to do so.

Hackney Connect

Since 2014, UBS has supported Hackney Connect, a program delivered in partnership with UnLtd, to support young people in the London Borough of Hackney, UK, to set up social enterprises. Hackney is one of the most deprived areas in the UK and a long-term focus area for UBS's Community Affairs program. Through Hackney Connect, 45 social entrepreneurs to date have benefited from grants of up to GBP 15,000 to set up initiatives to help tackle social and environmental issues affecting local communities. Over 100 UBS employees have volunteered to support the social entrepreneurs through 1-1 mentoring, group intensive workshops and events.

Social Business Women

In 2012, UBS began its partnership with Social Business Women, an organisation that enables socially disadvantaged women in Germany to found start-up companies. With the support of mentors and micro-credit the project takes women into economic independence, while address social problems through their newly created social enterprises.

To date 1,043 women have been supported through the program with 49% having established an enterprise or entered the labour market. In 2017, 750 women will participate in the program with support from UBS volunteer coaches.