Realife Trust – Our Story

Pre-history:

1985-1990 **Founder manager of 'Rowanwood',** a social firm and development agency for people with a learning disability.

1989-1991 **Founding Trustee of Prospects Trust** at Snakehall Farm, a 12 acre organic farm and a contract gardening venture for people with a learning disability.

1990-2001 **Partner: Realife Partnership**
Specialist social care sector consultants and trainers providing a range of services and courses locally, nationally and in Europe.

1992-2000 **Founding Chair** of the Association for Supported Employment (AfSE)

1993-1996 **Project Manager (Re-provision)**: London Borough of Havering.
Major day service re-provision exercise, setting up 9 new community based projects including four community businesses.

1994-95 **Consultants** to Cheshire County Council: County wide supported employment service design and implementation project.

1995-98 **Kings Fund/NDT 'Changing Days'** three year development programme design group member and advisor.

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History:

1996 on **Realife Trust** established by Tony Phillips and Ken Mulholland
Incorporated and registered as a charity in 2001

1996 on **Module author and external evaluator** for the 'Diploma in Supported Employment (Oxford University Delegacy of Local Examinations)

1996 on **Designers and lead facilitators** for the 'WAVE' consultation and strategic planning programme: large scale contracts with East Riding Social Services, Oxford Social Services, Wokingham Social Services and Luton Social Services and over 200 other agencies and groups.

1997-2007 **Practice teachers:** Realife Social Work Student Unit

1998-2000 **Consultants to Essex County Council:** County-wide supported employment service design and implementation project resulting in the 'Into Employment' agency - winner of a Community Care award for innovation (1999)

1998 on **Delivery Centre** for the 'Diploma in Supported Employment and 'Certificate in Supported Employment'.

1999 on	**Chair of the Local Action Group** (Learning Disabilities) for Uttlesford, West Essex and member of County Chair's Group for Essex County Council
1997-2000	P**roject Manager: 'Working Out'** National ESF Horizons project with NDT, SHS, Values into Action and the Mental Health Foundation on service user leadership for people with a learning disability with a £1.3m budget.
2000	**Consultants: Luton Borough Council** Project management of the Social Services Department's 'Best Value; review of services for people with a disability
2001 on	**National Trust** at Hatfield Forest (Greenstage Project)
2001 on	**Greenstage:** independent community prject
2001 on	**Project Managers:** Essex County Council and Partners Project management of the 'Welfare to Work Joint Investment Plan'
2001-2006	**Stortford Music Festival:** founding committee member with responsibility for events and Bar management for an annual three day festival
2001-2003	**Project manager and lead researcher** : QUIP (Quality in Practice) International project on stakeholder quality in supported employment with partners in Austria, Germany, Czech Republic, Norway and Hungary.
2001-2004	**Project Manager:** Essex Learning and Skills Council 'People Skills'
2002-2005	**Company secretary:** Workskills (Essex) Ltd by Guarantee
2002 on	**Lecturers (Havering College):** module design and delivery for a new Bsc course in Learning Disabilities and guest tutoring on the DiPSW programme
2003 on	F**ounder-Coordinator for the Essex People's Parliament,** an elected assembly of people who have a learning disability across Essex under contract with Essex County Council
2003 on	**Joint Promoter: Cluzion Music** – live music promotion through the monthly Cluzion Club and a range of related live music events
2003-2010	**Inclusion Partnership Ltd** Umbrella social enterprise in the social care and community development sector based at the Realife offices.
2004-2005	**Project Manager** – Essex Brokerage Pilot. One of six national development sites for self-directed services chosen by the 'Valuing People' Support Team
2004-2008	**Founding Board Member:** Frontline Partnership Ltd by Guarantee

2004-2012 **Eastern Region Co-ordinator NBN**
Regional co-ordinator for the National Brokerage Network based at the Realife offices

2004 -2010 **Essex Inclusive Sports Enterprise CIC**
Founder-Director of the Essex based sports social enterprise

2005-2009 **Founding chair** of the National Brokerage Network (NBN) supporting the national role out of individual budgets for the Department of Health.

2006- on **National Brokerage Network CIC**
Founder – Director of the national support brokerage agency

2007-2009 **Liberation Partnership CIC**
Founder-Director of the personal budgets advisory service

2011 on **College of Social Work**: accredited mentor

2012 -2026 **Reception Direct** at Orwell House for Cambridge City Council

2012-2014 **Founding Director**: Plough and Fleece Community Pub CIC

2012-2015 **Strummers Club** set up

2012 on **Funky Club** taken on board after the closure of Access Arts

2013 on **Inspiration Youth Call Ltd**: Development and Strategy Consultan

2014 **Cambridge City Council:** community pubs feasibility study

2014 **Founding Director**: Best Buddies UK CIC

2014 **'Winterbourne' Stakeholders Review** for Hertfordshire County Council

2014-15 **Creative services for people who challenge** – seminar series for Skills For Care

2015-2026 **Care and Treatment Reviews –** Inclusion East for NHS England

2016-2018 **Director:** UK Pie Party CIC

2018-2026 **Realife Wellbeing Hub** at Orwell House

2024 on **Noisy Women's Collective** set up

2024 on **Founder director:** Hearts of Oak CIC

2026 **Orwell House closes**