

About us

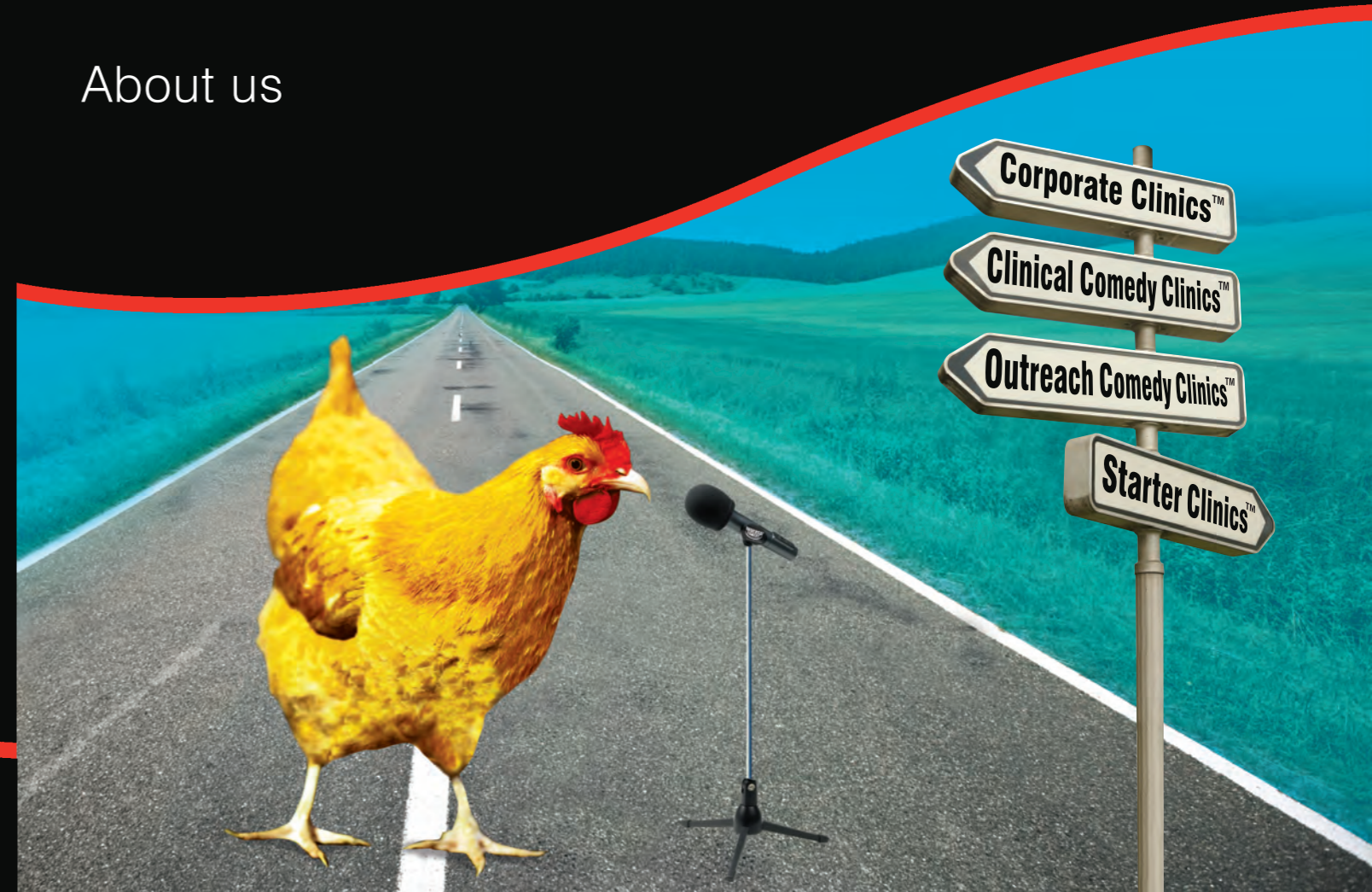


Everyone smiles in the same language.

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About Universal Comedy

Have you heard the one about Universal Comedy?

We see comedy as a serious business.

Established in 2004 by people with ill health, we are a charity and emerging social enterprise, offering comedy workshops 'clinics', courses and events.

We deliver four main services based around comedy:

Starter Comedy Clinics™

2-3 hour taster workshops delivered by one or two comedy tutors and a support worker.

Clinical Comedy Courses™

6-12 week developmental training courses.

Corporate Comedy Clinics™

A professional clinic tailored around your business and staff.

Outreach Comedy Clinics™

Universal Comedy take to the road! We can provide a wide range of comedy techniques at any event including conferences, launches, festivals and showcases.

Our projects support a wide variety of people, but especially those suffering from:

- ill health and recovering from ill health
- disabilities
- addictions
- mild to moderate mental health problems

And our workshops can help:

- unemployed – assisting clients to move along pathways into further education, learning and employment
- organisations and professionals
- anyone experiencing the downside of life

Universal Comedy has developed a unique learning method using comedy to enhance the personal development skills training process, assisting social cohesion, improving psychology and outlook and thereby **improving health and well being.**

Working across health, social care, employment and third sector organisations, our workshops and courses encourage creativity, resourcefulness and enhance employment prospects.

We won't make you into a comedian, but we'll show you how our workshops and courses can:

- Improve confidence and communication skills
- Create and develop ideas
- Produce and promote ideas
- Build trust and understanding between groups
- Build social enjoyment to increase a sense of belonging and purpose
- Encourage others in their efforts and receive encouragement in return
- Promote a positive outlook – looking for the comedy in everyday situations
- Improve self worth, self esteem, community integration and cohesion

Our support doesn't end when a workshop or course finishes.

We have established media partnerships and forums where participants can develop, produce, publish and perform their work. Participants can contribute to our quarterly newsletters, website, attend events,

showcases and industry workshops – ensuring friendship and support through Universal Comedy.

Outcomes

Taster Workshop

98% of workshop and 100% of short course participants found their workshop to be a positive experience.

Reduction of Isolation & Engagement

79% of course participants reported a 60% improvement in their feelings of social isolation.

Improvements in Confidence & Self Esteem

54% of short course participants reported an average uplift of 60% in their confidence and self esteem.

Improvements in Aspirations

Participants reported a 50% increase in their aspirations from the beginning to the end of their short course.

Pathways to Further Education & Employment

64% of short course participants went on to

pursue voluntary, further education or employment opportunities as a result of participating in the course.

Over one hundred people attended Universal Comedy's first Public Forum event (Glasgow Works Showcase).

Events

We are rapidly building our portfolio of public and participant events.

Universal Comedy debuted at Glasgow's International Comedy Festival with 'The Clinic'.

This unique event at Glasgow's Gilmorehill G12 showcased the extraordinary comedic talents of our previous participants and tutors. Over two hundred guests attended the fundraising evening and 'The Clinic' attracted media coverage across BBC Radio Scotland and the nightly news flagship programme, Reporting Scotland.

We continued our festival success with stunning participant performances at The Gilded Balloon, part of the Edinburgh Festival Comedy Fringe.

