



Scottish
Children's LOTTERY Trust
2023 IMPACT REPORT
MAKING A DIFFERENCE TO CHILDREN IN SCOTLAND







FOREWORD FROM THE CHAIR

Dear Friends and Supporters. It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to the 2023 Impact Report for the Scottish Children's Lottery Trust.

As we reflect on the past year, marked by challenges and triumphs, I am delighted to share with you the significant strides we have taken in transforming lives and fostering positive change for the children and young people of Scotland. We have now raised and distributed over £8m to good causes since 2016 which has supported almost 200,000 children and young people.

The year 2023 has been a testament to our commitment to turning impact into inspiration, and I am proud to report on three key milestones where your support, through the Scottish Children's Lottery, has made a profound difference.

In the first quarter of the year, our Cost-of-Living funding initiative continued where it left off at the end of 2022 and provided a lifeline to charities across Scotland, channelling funding towards alleviating the challenges faced by children, young people and their families grappling with the increasing cost of essentials. This initiative aimed to ensure that we helped as many children and young people as possible to minimise the impact of them having to compromise on their well-being due to the economic pressures of our time. The Cost-of-Living Fund managed to support over 22,000 children and young people.

During the summer months, our Funding Window saw an unprecedented response with over 250 applications, reflecting the remarkable dedication of charities across Scotland. In a landscape where almost all applications were fundable, the demand for support was inspiring, yet presented a unique challenge. With requests totalling over £3.5 million, the trustees faced the daunting task of making impactful decisions in the face of such overwhelming need.

The initial response was to support 51 charities, injecting £300,000 into projects that promote education, health, skills, and social development. This funding not only empowered these organisations to continue their vital work but also created a ripple effect of positive change within communities.

As winter approached, our final funding distribution of the year reinforced our dedication to supporting those on the



front lines of addressing the pressing needs of children and young people, with a further £290,000 distributed to 45 charities.

In addition to these impactful funding initiatives, we proudly supported The Sunday Mail Young Scot Awards, championing the Community Award. This recognition highlights the outstanding contributions of young people in their communities, emphasising the positive impact that individuals can make when given the support and recognition they deserve.

As we draw the curtains on another impactful year for the Scottish Children's Lottery Trust, I am filled with gratitude and admiration as over £8 million has now been raised since inception, a testament to the unwavering commitment of our players to the well-being and development of Scotland's children and young people.

This significant milestone is not just a number; it represents countless lives touched, dreams realised, and futures brightened. It is a reflection of the power of collective action and the generosity of those who believe in the potential of every child and young person in Scotland.

Behind this achievement are the remarkable charities that day in and day out, deliver transformative work on the ground. To you, the dedicated individuals and organisations tirelessly working to improve the lives of

children and young people across Scotland, I extend my deepest thanks. Your passion, resilience, and unwavering commitment are the driving force behind the positive impact we continue to make together.

I would also like to express my gratitude to the Board of Trustees at the Scottish Children's Lottery Trust as it is through your collective efforts that we navigate challenges, make impactful decisions, and ensure that the trust remains a beacon of hope for those in need.

To those who play the Scottish Children's Lottery, your support is the heartbeat of our mission. Without you, there would be no funding, no transformative projects,

and no positive change for the children and young people of Scotland. Your commitment to making a difference is the catalyst for the stories of success and inspiration that fill these pages. Thank you for being the cornerstone of our shared vision for a brighter future.

Let us carry the spirit of collaboration, compassion, and hope into the future as together, we will continue to turn impact into inspiration and building a legacy of positive change for generations to come.

Thank you for your continued support.

Ken Barclay

Chair of Scottish Children's Lottery Trust



**Over
£650k**
distributed in
grant funding
awards

116
charities
supported with
a grant funding
award

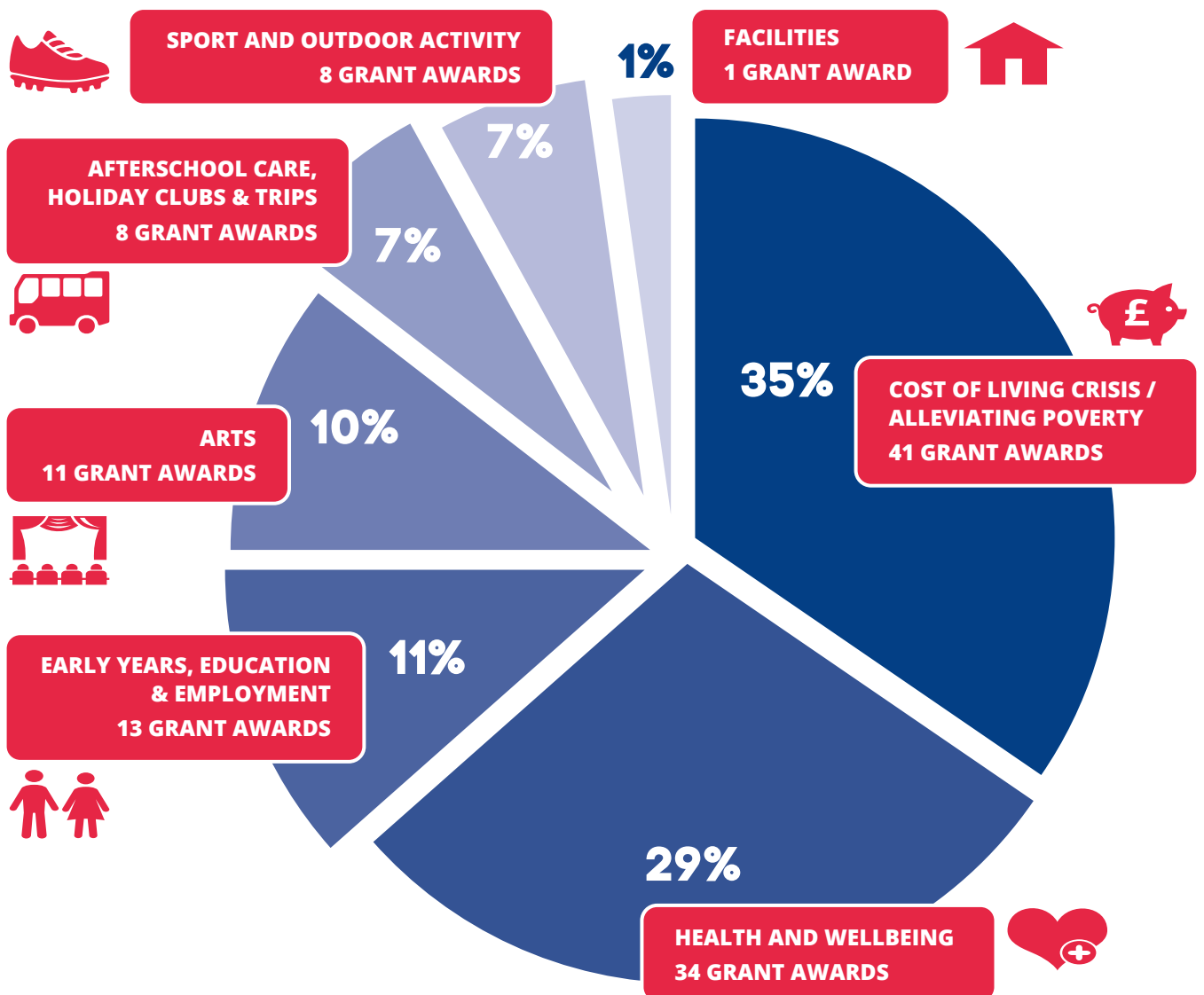
50k
children and
young people
supported
through the
grant funding

Over £8m
distributed
since
2016

**Awarded over
800**
grants to
charities
since 2016

200k
children and
young people
supported
since 2016

BREAKDOWN OF ACTIVITIES FUNDED



MAKING A DIFFERENCE

A MESSAGE FROM OUR HEAD OF CHARITY OPERATIONS

In the heart of the impactful initiatives undertaken by the Scottish Children's Lottery Trust in 2023, I find myself compelled to share a personal perspective on the incredible journey we've embarked upon. This year's Impact Report encapsulates the spirit of transformation, and at its core is the profound work carried out by the charities that have been in receipt of funding over the past twelve months.

Building Bridges, Fostering Relationships

At the heart of our mission lies the commitment to building lasting relationships with charities and the communities they serve. This year, I had the privilege of immersing myself in the vibrant landscape of Scotland's charitable sector, witnessing first hand the dedication of those working tirelessly to make a difference.

From being invited to attend the opening ceremony of the newly created Fort William Bike Park, who received a grant award of £20,000 from the Scottish Children's Lottery which was used to support the construction of the all user bike area designed for adaptive bikes to spending time with Sistema's Big Noise Govanhill ensembles and finding out how our funding is supporting children and young people not only learn a musical instrument but also make new friends and increase confidence.

Managing the funding applications is always a profound journey, one that transcends the confines of paperwork and enters a realm of intricate and mixed emotions. The process offers a chance to empower and uplift while navigating many complexities along the way. Letting a charity know their application has been approved is a fantastic feeling—it's like this shared triumphant moment, where you can feel the impact of their work echoing through our collective dedication to ensure children and young people in Scotland can achieve their full potential.

Witnessing the impact that the funding provided by the Scottish Children's Lottery has on charities and the lives they touch, is a source of immeasurable joy. Those moments where we see the impact of the charities we support—they're the real heroes, and we're just here cheering them on in their big mission. The stories of positive change, the smiles on the faces of those benefiting from our support—these are the moments that fuel our commitment.

Yet, this journey is not without its heartaches. Regrettably, part of the role involves delivering the news to a charity that their application has been unsuccessful. Each such instance is met with a heavy heart, knowing the dedication and passion embedded in each proposal. More often than not, the regret is not tied to the quality or the cause of the application but the harsh reality of the popular demand on our grant giving meaning more often than not we are over-subscribed.

The funding decision process becomes a delicate balance between joy and regret, triumph and empathy.

Experiencing Impact Onsite

The feeling of informing a charity that their application for funding has been successful is only beat by having the opportunity to leave the office behind and get out and visit projects and activities in action. In 2023 a total of 45 charity visits were completed, from The Honey Pot Children's Charity in Dalkeith in South Ayrshire to Avenue Confidential in Aberdeen. These visits were immersive experiences, seeing activities in action, meeting those that are benefiting from the charities work and listening to the challenges that the organisations we support are facing. Each visit reinforced the power of our collective efforts to create meaningful change.

Sharing Stories, Inspiring Change

In a world driven by digital connectivity, we embrace the power of storytelling to amplify impact. Through our carefully curated social media channels, evocative videos,





and compelling narratives, we've shared the inspirational stories of Scotland's children and young people's charities with a broader audience. It's about more than statistics; it's about creating connections and fostering empathy.

Orchestrating Impact and Inspiration

Looking through the 2023 Impact Report from the Scottish Children's Lottery Trust, I can't help but feel a sense of pride. It's heartening to see our relationships evolving and the support from the Scottish Children's Lottery making its way to communities all over the country. Most importantly,

it means the kids out there are getting the chance to reach their full potential. We're working together to create a future where every child's dream isn't just acknowledged but also given the care to blossom. This report isn't just a list of achievements; it's a reminder of the incredible impact we can have when we come together with compassion and a shared commitment to change lives.

Scott Millar

Head of Charity Operations – Scottish Children's Lottery

FROM HIGHLANDS TO LOWLANDS

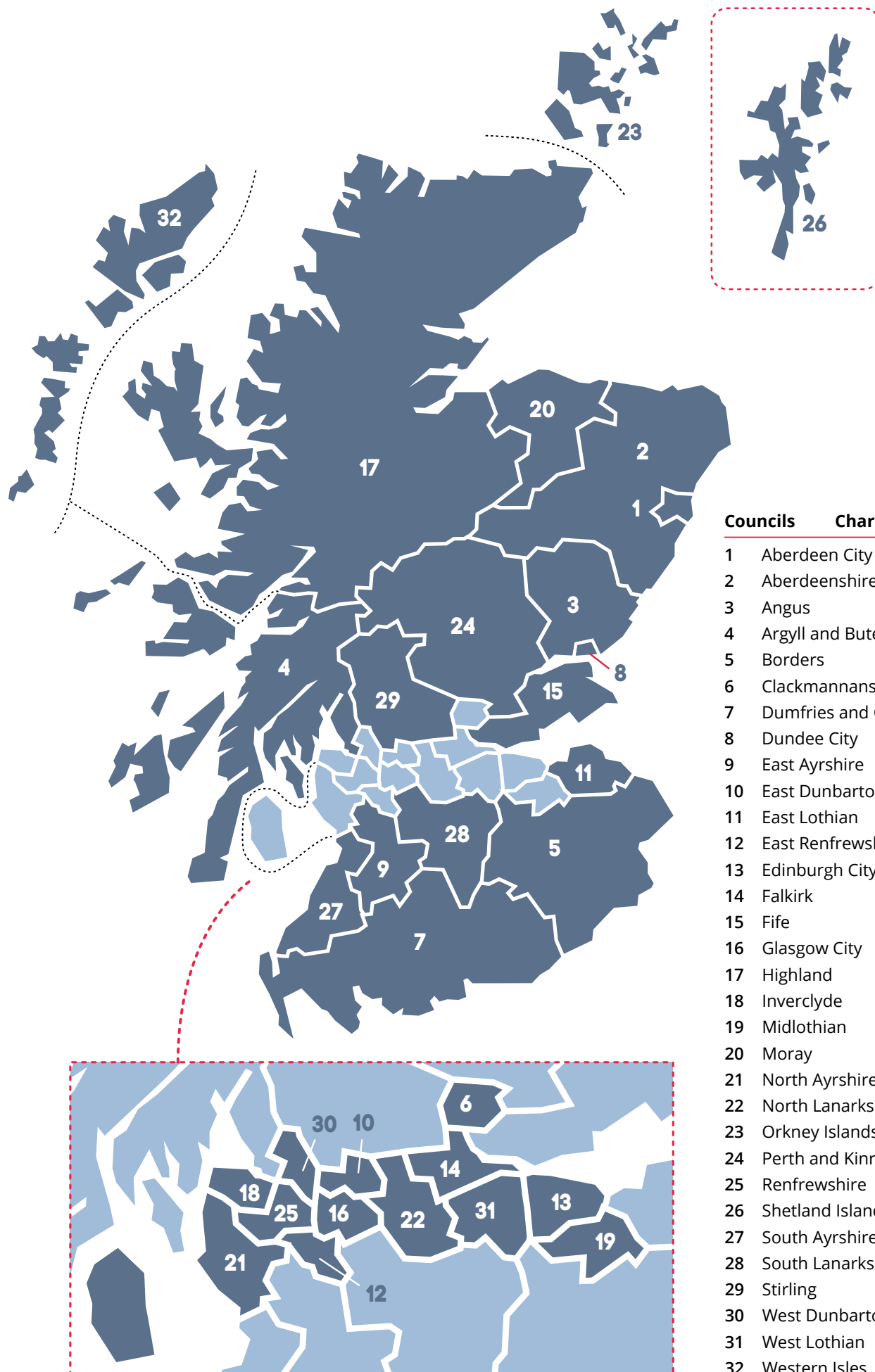
MAPPING OUR SUPPORT ACROSS SCOTLAND

In 2023 the Scottish Children's Lottery has contributed a funding award surpassing £651,000, benefitting a total of 116 charities and offering support to nearly 50,000 children and young people.

The impact of these funds resonated across the entire expanse of Scotland. This map illustrates the dispersion of these charities, showcasing their widespread reach and influence.

It's important to acknowledge that some charities received multiple funding awards or undertook projects spanning various regions, explaining the disparity between the total grant awards and the number of activities conducted throughout the country. Eight grant awards went to charities that were completing activities that were classed as Scotland wide.





FROM STRESSES TO SMILES

HONEYPOT DALLEAGLES' SCOTTISH ADVENTURE

Honeypot Children's Charity supports children aged 5-12 who are undertaking a surrogate adult role caring for a loved one, providing a programme of early intervention services and support that address the challenges commonly faced by young carers, including stress and anxiety, poor confidence and low self-esteem, social isolation, and educational underperformance.

In 2023 Honeypot fulfilled a long-held goal to bring Honeypot's services to young carers in Scotland with the opening of Honeypot Dalleagles, their first Respite House in Scotland, set in an idyllic countryside location just outside of New Cumnock in East Ayrshire.

Honeypot were thrilled to receive a grant of £10,000 from the Scottish Children's Lottery Trust in July 2023, to fund the first ever two respite breaks at Honeypot Dalleagles. The funding allowed 24 young carers from Edinburgh and East Dunbartonshire to enjoy a fun filled weekend away from their stressful responsibilities at home.

The breaks included 'driving' the giant combine harvester and petting Wallabies and Llamas at Head's of Ayr Farm Park and negotiating the maze at Dumfries House, as well as Quiz and Movie Nights and the opportunity to showcase talents at the 'Dalleagles's Got Talent' event.

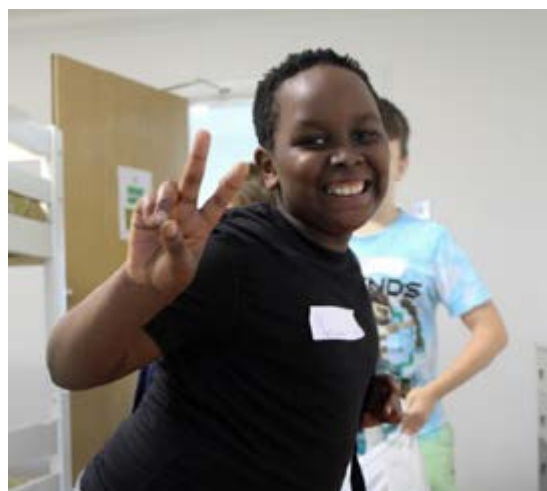
Eleven-year-old Charlotte, who attended the first break in September, helps care for her mum Carrie, who is undergoing Chemotherapy Treatment for Cancer. For two years, Charlotte has helped with everything from feeding and walking the dog, to doing the grocery shopping. Charlotte is unable to have sleepovers at home, so getting the opportunity to have a sleepover with five other girls all weekend was a real treat! Charlotte told staff 'I was proud because I stayed away from home for the first time' and was full of excitement sharing stories of her adventures with her mum on her return home. Carrie said she was thrilled that Charlotte and other young carers have a house specifically for them, the first of its kind!

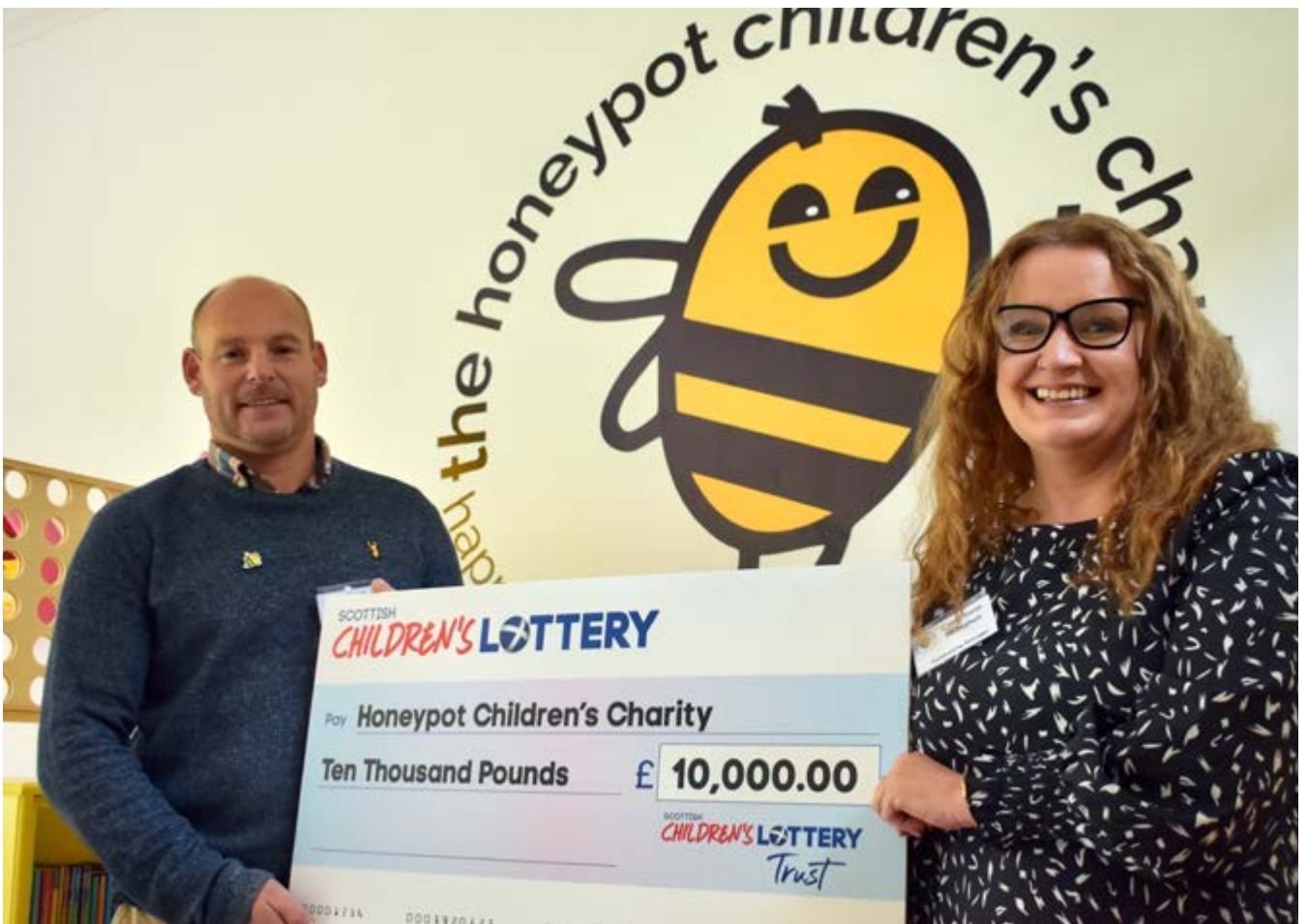
Hayley Morrison, a Young Carers Project Worker from Space Young Carers in Edinburgh, attended the first break and stated:

'Honeypot Dalleagles is an absolutely perfect environment for children. I particularly enjoyed the nurturing environment our young carers were able to experience. Each child had the most amazing experience on this residential and are already talking excitedly about returning next year!'

Bruce Ruthven, Dalleagles Operations Manager stated:

'The children loved the diverse range of activities provided and the fun of having a sleepover with other young carers and chilling out! We are so grateful to the Scottish Children's Lottery Trust for providing the funding to allow our first ever respite breaks in Scotland to take place.'





ROUTES TO RESILIENCE

EMPOWERING YOUTH THROUGH SCLT SUPPORT

At The Scottish Children's Lottery Trust, we take pride in championing impactful initiatives that make a tangible difference in the lives of young people. One such endeavour that we've had the privilege to support is the Routes programme, by Scottish Families Affected by Drugs and Alcohol.

With a grant award of £15,000 in late 2022, and activities delivered throughout 2023, Routes - the young person's service in East and West Dunbartonshire - has flourished into a beacon of hope for 12-26 year-olds grappling with the challenges of familial substance use. We are delighted to share the journey and accomplishments of this transformative program.

Connecting Hearts and Building Futures

Routes recognises the unique struggles young people face when dealing with family members' substance use. The program addresses issues of low self-esteem, stigma, and social isolation, providing a vital support system that fosters understanding and connection. Through our funding, Routes has not only expanded its reach but has also gained recognition and support from external entities.

Empowering Voices, Changing Lives

Our support culminated in the Routes young people being featured at the Cash for Kids Christmas Ball. Amy and Chloe eloquently spoke to an audience of 400, shedding light on how Routes has been instrumental in reshaping their lives. The ripple effect was immediate – businesses reached out, expressing a desire to contribute to this vital cause, significantly raising the program's profile.

Growing Opportunities, Changing Horizons

In January 2023, the Scottish Government announced a £3.87 million investment over the next four years for the "Grow Your Own Routes" initiative. This substantial backing will enable Routes to expand its footprint across five additional areas in Scotland, with a focus on collaboration and knowledge-sharing. Young people from Routes actively participate in this national development program, offering their insights and experiences.

Fostering Connections and Creating Memories

Routes has facilitated 363 group activities, empowering young people to choose activities that contribute to their personal growth. From a 6-week cooking course to football training and art classes, these experiences have not only built skills but also created lasting memories. Our funding has played a pivotal role in ensuring these activities cater to the unique needs and preferences of the young participants.



Scottish Families

Affected by Alcohol & Drugs

Education, Awareness, and Transformation

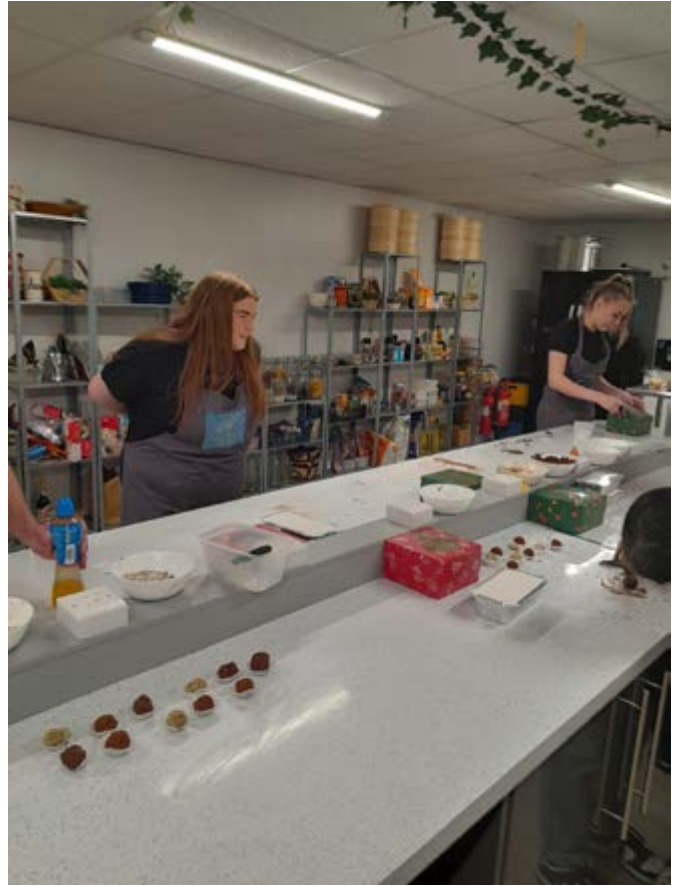
The pandemic heightened anxiety among young people, making reintegration into social activities challenging. Routes adapted, moving to smaller, more intimate groups focused on health and well-being. Through drug and alcohol awareness sessions, the program has equipped young people with the knowledge to make informed choices, combating peer pressure and building resilience.

Supporting Dreams, Building Futures

Currently, 54 young people on the Routes caseload receive ongoing support for education, training, and employment. Our funding has enabled Routes to support age 16+ participants into positive destinations, including college, training programs, and employment.

From empowering young voices to fostering connections and supporting education and employment goals, we are inspired by the resilience of young people and the positive change they can achieve when provided with the right resources and support. The Routes program exemplifies the transition "From Impact to Inspiration," showcasing the profound influence such initiatives can have on the lives of those they touch.





CHARITIES SUPPORTED IN 2023

AVENUE
a new direction

AYR ARTS GUILD
SC005562

Ayrshire Hospice
Making today matter



CAB
COMMUNITY ACTION
BLACKBURN



Edinburgh WOMEN'S AID
SUPPORTING SURVIVORS

CANONGATE YOUTH

DUNDEE REP SCOTTISH DANCE THEATRE

EDINBURGH SCIENCE



CUMBERNAULD KILSYTH CARE
SC047347
Cumbernauld & Kilsyth Care
Supporting children and young people with essential.



cashforkids
SUPER POWER



GOODTREES
Neighbourhood Centre



Hebridean Pursuits
Outdoor Learning



GLASGOW CHILDREN'S HOLIDAY SCHEME



PLEASANCE



CONNECT
Berwickshire Youth Project CLG



Meningitis NOW



Parkhead Youth Project
Supporting and Empowering Young People



REACH
Lanarkshire Autism



YCSA
Young Community Support Academy
Empowering Youth and Minority Ethnic Young People



nil by mouth
Challenging Sectarianism



THE GREEN TEAM
CONNECTING YOUNG PEOPLE WITH NATURE



Brent Centre for Young People
healthy minds, brighter futures.



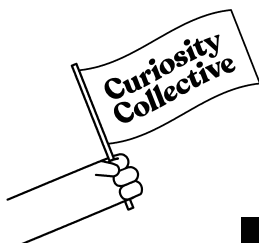
MAGGIE'S



Healthy n Happy
Community Development Trust



the croft



MELODIES OF HOPE

INSPIRING STORIES FROM BIG NOISE SCOTLAND

Sistema Scotland (est. 2008) is the charity that delivers the Big Noise social change and music education programmes, working with over 3,500 children and families to improve lives and strengthen communities across Scotland.

Its immersive and long-term Big Noise programmes use music and nurturing relationships to help children and young people fulfil their potential. The programmes are based in targeted communities of identified need; Big Noise Raploch and Fallin (Stirling), Big Noise Govanhill (Glasgow), Big Noise Torry (Aberdeen), Big Noise Douglas (Dundee) and Big Noise Wester Hailes (Edinburgh).

At Big Noise, the orchestra becomes a community which supports young people to gain an invaluable range of life skills. Independent evaluation shows that Big Noise supports children to improve their learning, wellbeing and confidence, bringing communities together and paving the way for positive futures. The programmes are delivered by inspirational staff musicians who act as role models and mentors and foster supportive long-term relationships.

Big Noise Govanhill was launched in Glasgow in 2013 and the programme currently engages around 1250 participants. This includes babies and toddlers in Baby Noise, and nursery and primary school-aged children at its partner primary schools, St Bride's, Holy Cross, Annette Street and Cuthbertson, as well as older pupils from Holyrood Secondary School and Shawlands Academy. Big Noise also runs a community orchestra enabling adults



within the community to learn an instrument and perform together and provides volunteering opportunities.

Big Noise Govanhill received a grant of £5,000 from the Scottish Children's Lottery Trust in June 2023 to support the delivery of the Big Noise Govanhill After-school club which is engaging over 200 children aged from 7 to 17 each week, during term time of the school year September 2023 - June 2024.

Participants attend the after-school programme for approx. 2 hours up to 4 times per week on a voluntary basis making friends across the community and developing teamwork, commitment, perseverance and confidence through both practice and performing together.



"MOST FAMILIES IN THE AREA ARE ON LOW INCOMES AND WE CAN'T AFFORD EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES FOR OUR CHILDREN, SO TO HAVE THIS PROGRAMME WHERE THEY LEARN MUSIC AND GET HEALTHY SNACKS IS JUST AMAZING."

Parent of Big Noise Govanhill participant



All participants are learning an orchestral instrument, playing together in their instrument sections and graded orchestras, as well as singing in choirs and learning through general musicianship sessions. They access lots of opportunities to develop experience and confidence by performing to audiences large and small, ably supported by the skilled, compassionate staff team. On Saturday 2 December 2023 Big Noise Govanhill participants performed side-by-side with the Royal Scottish National Orchestra at Glasgow Royal Concert Hall, an inspirational experience for all involved.

"BIG NOISE HAS IMPACTED MY LIFE BUT WITHOUT ME REALISING. IT'S DEFINITELY SENT ME IN A DIFFERENT DIRECTION THAN I WOULD'VE GONE IF I DIDN'T ATTEND, A BETTER DIRECTION, I THINK."

Big Noise Govanhill participant



BRIGHTER FUTURES, STRONGER COMMUNITIES

EMPOWERING YOUTH IN WESTER HAILES

Scottish Children's Lottery Trust supports Wester Hailes Youth Agency, providing a vital safe refuge to Young People in the Wester Hailes area

Life as a young person in the modern world can be difficult to navigate at the best of times, situations at home or elsewhere can leave many feeling alone and afraid to open up. Over the last year, the Scottish Children's Lottery have had the privilege of working closely with the Wester Hailes Youth Agency, a charity which supports young people from ages 8-25 living in the Wester Hailes area and its surrounding communities. They believe all young people deserve equal opportunities to learn and grow regardless of ability or background and have carried out magnificent work in the last 12 months to improve the lives of the local youth.

The Scottish Children's Lottery Trust was delighted to support the charity to allow it to continue its fine work with £7,500 donated in September 2022 towards their Junior Drop in Provision, an initiative that seeks to provide young people with a safe space to escape their problems for a little while and build new relationships with others. Young people also have the chance to take part in fun activities while learning valuable life skills along the way.

As a result of the current cost of living crisis the charity has seen a growing trend in the number of young people struggling to access basic essentials like food and toiletries. To combat the issue, the charity regularly provides food and drink to all who attend and have also began running cooking lessons within each session. With two drop-in sessions every week, they also supply a whole range of activities from team building exercises to arts and crafts, table tennis, pool and much more, while also carrying out important activities such as anti-bullying week.

Every young person is different and many who visit the drop-ins for the very first time can often be shy or apprehensive about the new social setting, youth workers at the agency recognise this and look to build trust with every individual. They discuss and offer support on issues that are weighing them down at home, school, or work, ensuring every young person who walks through the door knows they will be welcomed by staff who care and want to help is at the heart of what they do.

The result of this is that once they walk back out the door, they leave feeling vastly more confident in themselves and can go out socialise with new people, furthermore, they felt supported enough to ask for help from others whenever they need it. Most importantly however, the Wester Hailes Youth Agency have created an environment where young people feel they belong.





"WE RECEIVED A GRANT FOR £7,500 FROM THE SCOTTISH CHILDREN'S LOTTERY TOWARDS OUR JUNIOR DROP IN PROVISION FOR YOUNG PEOPLE AGED 8-11. THE GRANT ENABLED US TO DELIVER AN ENGAGING PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE AND REMAIN RESPONSIVE TO THEIR NEEDS. FOR EXAMPLE, WE SAW A GROWING TREND OF YOUNG PEOPLE STRUGGLING TO ACCESS BASIC ESSENTIALS SUCH AS FOOD AND TOILETRIES DUE TO THE COST OF LIVING CRISIS. WE WERE ABLE TO RESPOND AND PROVIDE FOOD AT EVERY DROP IN SESSION AND RUN COOKING SESSIONS WITH THE YOUNG PEOPLE. WE HAVE ALSO OFFERED HYGIENE PACKS THAT INCLUDE ESSENTIAL TOILETRIES ON A NO-REASON-NECESSARY BASIS.

IN EVALUATIONS YOUNG PEOPLE REPORTED 83% FELT THEY WERE MORE CONFIDENT, 91% HAD A BETTER, MORE POSITIVE, VIEW OF THEMSELVES, 87% MADE NEW FRIENDS AND TRUSTED OTHERS, 83% GOT ON BETTER WITH FRIENDS, 78% FELT SUPPORTED TO ASK FOR HELP FROM PEOPLE AROUND THEM, 96% FELT LIKE THEY BELONGED AT THE DROP IN."

*Clare Steen, Fundraising Officer
Wester Hailes Youth Agency*



MEET OUR TRUSTEES

The role of a Trustee within a charity is pivotal, representing the cornerstone of effective governance and responsible leadership. Trustees play a crucial part in shaping the organisation's strategic direction and safeguarding its mission.

Trustees with the Scottish Children's Lottery Trust oversee the distribution of funds generated through the Scottish Children's Lottery, and ensure the initiatives and projects who receive a grant award contribute to local initiatives addressing poverty, social exclusion, deprivation, disability, or illness.

OUR BOARD:



KEN BARCLAY

Ken worked for almost 40 years for Royal Bank of Scotland. He held a number of leadership roles in London, Hong Kong and New York before taking over as Scottish Chair in 2012. He retired in 2016 and since then has Chaired a number of organisations including, The Lens and Social Investment Scotland. He has been involved with the Scottish Children's lottery since its launch in 2016. He took over as Chair in 2019.



VICKI MILLER

Vicki is a strategic marketing professional with over 30 years' experience. Vicki is currently Director of Marketing & Digital for VisitScotland. Her role at VisitScotland is to generate a positive economic and social impact in communities & destinations across Scotland working collaboratively with local stakeholders; inspiring and influencing visitors to make responsible and sustainable choices; ensuring diversity and inclusion across all of VisitScotland's digital platforms; promoting the natural & cultural heritage of Scotland and the protection of it for future generations.

Other positions held include, an Advisory Board Member to The Marketing Society, Scotland and Board member of Traveltech for Scotland.



KEN MILROY

Ken spent the early part of his working life in youth and community development work in the voluntary sector and local government, in both Strathclyde and Grampian areas. From 1996 he spent the remainder of his career in the social enterprise sector as the founding Chief Executive at Aberdeen Foyer, a role he retired from in August 2018. As a charitable organisation and social enterprise, the Foyer works to prevent and alleviate youth homelessness and unemployment, working across the north east of Scotland.

Ken became involved in the Board of the former Aberdeen College in 2004 and was appointed Chair in 2009. In 2012, as part of the Scottish Government's reform of post-16 education, he led the regional planning and merger of the Colleges in Aberdeen and Aberdeenshire to create North East Scotland College. Ken was appointed as the Regional Chair for the new College Board and in this capacity was actively involved in the wider College sector at a national level, as Chair of Colleges Scotland and Chair of the sectors Good Governance Steering Group. Ken also served as a Board member of the Social Enterprise Academy and as a Governor of Robert Gordon University and is active in his own local community in Aberdeenshire as a member of Ballogie Community Association.



MICHELLE KINNAIRD

Michelle Kinnaird heads Investment Management at Scottish Enterprise, Scotland's economic development agency. SE manages funds in-house, including early-stage equity funds, the Scottish Loan Scheme (SLS), and significant economic investments.

Michelle pioneered unique funding mechanisms, such as partnerships with the European Investment Fund and COVID response hybrids. Passionate about strategic investments, she leads teams in key growth areas, equity transactions, debt management, financial readiness services, and investment finance. Michelle diversifies international investor interactions for Scottish SMEs and represents SE on various panels and boards. She joined SE in 2007 from Ernst & Young and is a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants Scotland.

IN 2023 WE WELCOMED TWO NEW TRUSTEES TO OUR BOARD:



GORDON MILLER

With over two decades of experience across public, charity, and private sectors, Gordon's professional journey has been driven by a passion for transformative success and impactful leadership. At PDSA, one of the UK's largest charities, Gordon has delivered substantial transformation, growing the organisations output and impact, exemplifying his commitment to excellence and innovation.

Gordon's attraction to the role of Trustee with the Scottish Children's Lottery Trust is rooted in his belief in strategic philanthropy's power for societal impact. His leadership experience, strategic planning acumen, and track record in operational efficiency and innovative thinking, uniquely position him to significantly contribute to the Trust. Gordon will be looking to leverage these skills to expand Scottish Children's Lottery Trusts impact, benefit more communities, and ensure the Trust's enduring success. Gordon's goal is to infuse a fresh perspective, drawing on his experience and strategic direction, to amplify the Trust's operations and reach.

Gordon commented – "Joining the Scottish Children's Lottery Trust as a Trustee represents a unique opportunity to align my professional expertise with my personal commitment to societal betterment. I am enthusiastic and excited about contributing to the Trust's growth and positively impacting children's lives through our collective efforts."



LIZ BYRNE

Liz has previously worked in the public sector in urban regeneration, equal opportunities and skills (Strathclyde Regional Council, Glasgow City Council, Skills Development Scotland), in the third sector as Deputy Director of The Prince's Trust (Scotland) and in the private sector in economic development/skills consultancy (Associate Director of Ekosgen and as Director of her own company - EMB Consulting Ltd).

Liz retired early from paid work in 2021 and since then has become a Panel Member and Chair for Children's Hearings Scotland.

On her appointment Liz highlighted – "I am delighted to have been appointed as a Trustee. Liz I have always promoted equality and the right for everyone to achieve their true potential. This fits so well with the Trust's aspiration to make the lives of Scotland's children better by helping to create a fairer more equal society. I am very much looking forward to using my skills and experience to help fulfil our ambition."

LIFELINE FOR GLASGOW FAMILIES

THRIVE PROJECT

In August 2019, The Halliday Foundation emerged as a beacon of hope in Glasgow City Centre, offering crucial support to rough sleepers. What began as a grassroots effort, fully financed by personal donations and fundraising, swiftly evolved into a registered charity dedicated to transforming lives. As the world grappled with the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, The Halliday Foundation adapted its approach, pivoting from street support to addressing the urgent needs of vulnerable households.

Recognising the shifting landscape, the charity implemented strategies to support the Scottish Governments Housing First Policy, successfully housing rough sleepers and redirecting their focus towards aiding households with essentials like food parcels, furniture, and household items. Through initiatives such as Pop-Up food banks, Kettle Packs, and the innovative 'Communitae' Cafe, The Halliday Foundation ensured that practical needs were met promptly.

However, their commitment extended beyond immediate relief. Understanding the systemic issues perpetuating poverty, The Halliday Foundation pioneered pathways out of hardship. Central to this mission was the Thrive Project, launched three years ago in response to the disproportionate impact of lockdown restrictions on children and families living below the poverty line.

With invaluable support from the Scottish Children's Lottery Trust, the Thrive Project flourished, offering high-quality children's activities and resources aimed at nurturing development and fostering well-being. From baby and toddler groups to parents' workshops, the project has touched the lives of over 100 families weekly, providing a lifeline for those in need.

Monica, a Child Development Officer with over 20 years' experience and the Thrive Project Co-ordinator, attests to its impact: "The Halliday Foundation Children's Thrive Project has been a godsend to some of our families... I have seen a big difference in the confidence of the children." Through home packs filled with resources and furniture to transform houses into homes, the project extends support far beyond the confines of its activities.

At its core, the Thrive Project embodies The Halliday Foundation's commitment to building strong, resilient communities. By creating warm, welcoming spaces where families can connect, learn, and grow together, the project



combats social isolation and fosters healthy relationships. Trauma-informed practices, guided by established guidelines, ensure inclusivity and provide a foundation for healing and growth.

Looking ahead, The Halliday Foundation remains steadfast in its mission to empower families and build futures. With aims ranging from providing wraparound support to battling food poverty through surplus stalls, the charity's holistic approach addresses the multifaceted challenges faced by vulnerable communities. By nurturing the potential within each family and investing in their well-being, The Halliday Foundation continues to redefine what it means to make a difference.

In every activity, workshop, and initiative, The Halliday Foundation exemplifies the power of compassion and community, inspiring hope and transforming lives one family at a time.





COMPASSIONATE CONNECTIONS

KINDRED'S IMPACT ON FAMILIES IN CRITICAL CARE

In the halls of the Royal Hospital for Children and Young People in Edinburgh, Kindred, buoyed by a £6,000 grant from the Scottish Children's Lottery Trust in 2022, embarked on a mission that transcended statistics, delving into the realms of compassion and support for families facing the profound challenges of caring for children with complex health needs.

With a commitment to support 200 families burdened with the highest level of care responsibilities, Kindred's Hospital Team collaborated seamlessly with NHS teams and stakeholders, creating a web of care that extended from the Critical Care Unit to the Simpsons Neonatal Unit. The promise was clear - providing emotional, practical, and financial support to guide families through the maze of services and benefits, especially amid the pressing challenges posed by the cost-of-living crisis.

The impact unfolded in numbers, revealing the reach and depth of Kindred's influence. Over the grant period, 283 families found solace and assistance. Among them, 55 had children with exceptional healthcare needs, 150 grappled with complex disabilities, 21 faced life-limiting conditions, 11 were in the throes of terminal illness, and 46 bore the weight of various other conditions.

Kindred's Hospital Team achieved remarkable milestones, including securing three Neonatal grants, processing 100 Family Fund applications, and raising an astounding £309,000 in income and benefits for families.

The past 12 months witnessed Kindred's Hospital Team forging connections with the Neonatal unit at Simpsons, providing early intervention for babies facing complex medical journeys. Weekly drop-ins at Critical Care became a cornerstone, offering vital support to families at the onset



of their challenging journeys. The Spotlight slot in the Hub, facilitated by Edinburgh Children's Hospital Charity, shone a light on Kindred's work, creating new connections and identifying long-term families previously unaware of their services.

Collaboration reached new heights with the filming of Quentin Blake's "Five of Us," a testament to the unity among charity partners, medical teams, and families.

However, Kindred's journey was not without challenges. Unexpected drop-ins tested their agility, prompting the creation of basic packs to ensure readiness. The team weathered emotional storms, leaning on each other for support.

Reflecting on the journey, Kindred acknowledged the learning curve. Feedback from their Critical Care project underscored the need to break down assumptions among staff, who sometimes underestimated the support families required. The team resolved to continue breaking barriers, fostering open communication with nurses, and ensuring parents felt heard and understood.

Kindred's story unfolds as a testament to the power of empathy and collaboration. From impactful statistics to heartfelt anecdotes, the narrative encapsulates a year of transformation, emphasising the enduring need for support and understanding on the challenging road faced by families with children in critical care.









INCLUSIVE ARTS, INCLUSIVE FUTURES

CUTTING EDGE THEATRE'S ROLE IN SCOTLAND

Cutting Edge Theatre is one of Scotland's leading small theatre companies based in Edinburgh and have won several Awards for their Inclusion work. With almost 30 years of history, they aim to make a difference in the lives of the people and communities they work with.

Their main objective is to strive for an equitable society and recognise that access to drama experience provides a springboard to positive change and improved wellbeing. They use one of the major strengths of Cutting Edge Theatre - our ability to harness the transformative power of theatre to promote awareness, provoke dialogue, and inspire action.

The Company believe that everyone should have equal access to the performing arts as audience members, participants, and professionals. In 2022 they received £7,500 from the Scottish Children's Lottery Trust towards the cost of their 3-year training Young Company for learning disabled young people aged 18 – 25 in Edinburgh. The Young Company meet weekly for training in acting, voice/singing, movement and acting for camera. They also can access theatre productions, workshops, talks and tours through their partnership with Capital Theatres.

The aim of the Young Company is to give learning disabled young people a taste of the performing arts and learn new skills both on and offstage. There are currently 14 young people who are now in Year 3 and who are working on their first full production which will be staged at the end of June 2024 at the Studio, Festival Theatre.



The company's core work uses drama skills to improve confidence, increase self-esteem and improve communication skills – all of which are incredibly useful in daily living. The Young Company has not only made an impact on the participants and their families but has inspired them to be part of other Arts organisations and projects. The company hope to develop their work in Edinburgh and beyond, enabling others to have the same opportunities. Funding permitting, there will be a second cohort of the Young Company starting in the Autumn of 2024.

"MY SON HAS FEW OPPORTUNITIES TO MEET LIKE-MINDED INDIVIDUALS WHO ENJOY DRAMA. WHEN HE WAS YOUNGER, HE TRIED TO JOIN A DRAMA GROUP, BUT WAS OFTEN EXCLUDED BECAUSE THE GROUP LEADERS DIDN'T KNOW HOW TO INCLUDE HIM, OR HE WAS MARGINALISED TO MINOR ROLES WITH VERY BRIEF STAGE APPEARANCES. CUTTING EDGE HAS PUT HIM AND HIS FRIENDS FRONT AND CENTRE"





"MY DAUGHTER HAS PERFORMED IN A PLAY FOR THE FIRST TIME, AND LEARNED ABOUT SOUND AND LIGHTING. I CAN'T THINK OF ANY OTHER WAY SHE WOULD HAVE HAD THESE OPPORTUNITIES. SHE ALSO USES WHAT'S SHE'S LEARNT TO 'ACT OUT' PROBLEM SOLVING OR TALK HERSELF INTO COPING WITH WORRIES WHEN SHE'S AT HOME. I'VE HEARD HER TELL HERSELF "YOU CAN DO IT !"



FROM ADVOCACY TO ACTION

WHO CARES? SCOTLAND'S EMPOWERING MISSION

The Scottish Children's Lottery Trust granted a funding award of £6,000 in 2022 to Who Cares? Scotland, the organisation championing the rights and well-being of Care Experienced individuals. For 45 years, they've stood independently, amplifying voices and ensuring a vision where each of their members grows up feeling loved, equal, and respected.

Through independent advocacy, they navigate the diverse landscapes of foster care, residential care, and kinship care, fostering a sense of belonging for those with experiences in the care system. The funding contributed to a series of vibrant events and projects that have truly made a difference to those that Who Cares? Scotland support.

From the spirited Love Rally in Glasgow to the fantastic Time to Shine celebration, Care Experienced individuals were given the opportunity to march, laugh, connect and celebrate their unique stories.

The Love Rally served as a passionate call for justice on behalf of Care Experienced individuals. On 23rd of October 2022, during Care Experience week, over 500 people joined a march in Glasgow city centre to put a spotlight on the Care Experienced community. The goal to achieve a lifetime of equality, respect and love for everyone, including those who grow up in care. The march ended in George Square, where those attending heard speeches from a range of Care Experienced campaigners including Carmel Jacob, Charlotte Armitage, Thomas Carlton, Jasmin Pilling and Eireann McAuley.

To mark the end of Care Experience week 2022, the Time to Shine event provided Care Experienced members the opportunity to get together with family and friends as well as Who Cares? Scotland staff and volunteers for a party! Over 300 guests came together to celebrate in a Space-themed event - there was a hover board simulator,



a bungee run to experience zero gravity, a star beads workshop to make space-themed jewellery, a chill-out pod where you could gaze at the stars, alien face painting, a lunar disco and much more! Local businesses supplied pizzas and burgers before a fancy dress costume prize giving competition.

The annual Care Family Christmas dinner brought warmth and joy to over 150 members, creating a festive space where everyone felt like family. The event is one of the most cherished activities in the charity's calendar and is an opportunity for their members to gather from across Scotland, during a holiday that is centred around family values, belonging and connection. For some people it's the only place they can come to enjoy a meal and receive gifts. Preparation is needed to ensure that the Care Family Christmas has every hallmark of any other family Christmas in organising gifts, transport & accommodation for guests, decorations, and Christmas dinner as well as games, crafts and Santa. The furthest Care Family Christmas guest came from Orkney, 320 miles away!

The return of the Carelidh during Care Day 2023 was a dance-filled celebration, uniting Care Experienced people from all corners of the country. On the evening, around 200 attendees packed the Dovecot Studios in Edinburgh to enjoy a live Ceilidh band, a food and drinks buffet, entertainment and fun, and to add the excitement, there was an appearance from the charity's very own Buddy the Bear! To mark the events theme, Challenging Stigma, a special award ceremony was held during the Carelidh honouring key Care Experienced people of note.





"IF I'M HONEST, I DIDN'T THINK I BELONGED ANYWHERE UNTIL I CAME TO WHO CARES? SCOTLAND. I WAS A WEE BIT LOST AND SUDDENLY I FOUND A GROUP OF PEOPLE WHO WERE EXACTLY LIKE ME AND WHO HAD A SIMILAR BACKGROUND AND I WAS LIKE 'OH MY GOD, WHERE HAVE THESE PEOPLE BEEN ALL MY LIFE?', AND I SUDDENLY HAD AN IDENTITY AND A PURPOSE."

Care Experienced member



GRANTS AWARDED IN 2023

In 2023, we distributed £651,066 through 116 grant awards to charities in Scotland.

All charity awards are highlighted here.

Articulate Cultural Trust	£4,000
Avenue Confidential	£2,240
Awards Plus (Edinburgh and the Lothians)	£7,500
Ayr Arts Guild	£2,300
Ayrshire Hospice	£8,000
BallsandBoots	£7,500
Berwickshire Swap SCIO	£3,000
Beyond Earlstoun	£7,500
Big Hearts Community Trust	£9,324
Bluevale Community Club	£8,000
Brent Centre for Young People	£5,000
Broke Not Broken	£7,500
Callander Youth Project Trust	£5,000
Calum's Cabin	£6,000
Canongate Youth	£7,500
Carers Forum Stirling Area	£6,700
Carers of West Lothian	£3,625
Castlemilk Youth Complex	£3,625
CentreStage Communities Ltd	£7,450
Ceres Kemback and Springfield Church	£3,625
Community Action Blackburn	£5,000
Community Food Initiatives North East	£3,000
Connect Berwickshire Youth Project	£3,500
Connect Community Trust	£5,000
Contact a Family	£3,000
Cumbernauld & Kilsyth Care	£3,000
Curiosity Collective	£7,250
Drylaw Telford Community Association	£3,625
Dundee Carers Centre	£7,250
Dundee International Womens Centre	£7,400
Dundee Rep and Scottish Dance Theatre Ltd	£10,000
Edinburgh Science Foundation Ltd.	£5,000

Edinburgh Women's Aid	£5,000
Equi-Power Central Scotland RDA	£5,000
Fallin Community Enterprises	£7,500
Forces Children Scotland	£5,000
Friends of Craigtoun	£5,000
Front Lounge	£8,000
Getting Better Together Ltd	£3,500
Glasgow Children's Holiday Scheme	£5,000
Glasgow East Arts Company	£7,500
Goodtrees Neighbourhood Centre	£5,000
Gorbals Youth Café	£3,000
Govan Community Project	£7,000
Govanhill Youth Club - Govanhill Baths Community Trust	£6,800
Growing2gether	£7,500
Healthy n Happy Community Trust	£4,950
Hebridean Pursuits Outdoor Learning	£5,000
Helm Training	£7,500
Hillhouse	£3,500
Home Link Family Support	£ 3,000
Home-Start Aberdeen	£7,500
Honeypot Children's Charity	£10,000
HopScotch Children's Charity	£7,400
Impact Arts (Projects) Ltd	£7,500
Include me 2 club	£5,000
Kings Croft Community Hall	£3,625
Langholm Playcare Ltd	£3,000
LIFT Low Income families Together (Muirhouse Millennium Centre Ltd)	£7,000
Machars Churches Basics Food Bank	£3,625
Maggies	£3,500
Meningitis Now	£5,000
Menstrie Community Action Group	£7,250
Methilhill Community Children's Initiative	£3,500
Move On	£6,200
Murton Trust for Education and the Environment	£7,500



musicALL	£7,500
New Start Oban	£1,000
Newtongrange Development Trust	£7,500
Nil by Mouth	£2,300
North East Sensory Services	£5,000
Oor Space Youthy	£6,052
Options in life	£3,625
Paragon Music	£7,250
Parent Action for Safe Play	£9,000
Parkhead Youth Project	£9,000
People Know How	£6,600
Perth Autism Support SCIO	£7,500
Play Therapy Base Limited	£5,000
Pleasance Theatre Trust Ltd	£5,000
PLUS (Forth Valley) Limited	£3,625
Possibilities For Each and Every Kid (PEEK)	£7,500
Radio Clyde Cash For Kids - Ayrshire	£5,000
REACH Lanarkshire Autism	£5,000
Reidvale Adventure Play Association Limited	£2,240
Scalpay Community Association	£7,500
Scotland Yard Adventure Centre (known as The Yard)	£4,000
SiMY Community Development	£5,000
Sistema Scotland	£5,000
Social Enterprise Academy	£8,000
South Ayrshire School Clothing Bank	£5,000

Space @ The Broomhouse Hub	£7,500
Spina Bifida Hydrocephalus Scotland	£7,250
Starcatchers Productions Ltd	£7,500
St Mirren FC Charitable Foundation	£7,250
St Paul's Youth Forum	£6,395
Tailor Ed Foundation	£4,000
Team Jak Foundation	£7,500
Teapot Trust SCIO	£6,600
The Croft	£3,000
The Green Team (Edinburgh and Lothians) Limited	£6,000
The Halliday Charitable Foundation	£8,000
The Urban Roots Initiative	£7,900
The Village Storytelling Centre	£7,500
The Volunteer Tutors Organisation Scotland	£3,000
Toonspeak Young People's Theatre	£7,000
Turf	£7,500
Under the Trees	£3,000
Watermill Foundation Limited	£7,500
Wester Hailes Youth Agency	£3,000
When You Wish Upon a Star	£5,000
Wigtown Festival Company	£5,000
Wild Things Environmental Education in Action	£7,715
Youth Community Support Agency	£5,000





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