

HOME START

Clackmannanshire

2022-23 Annual Report



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Council



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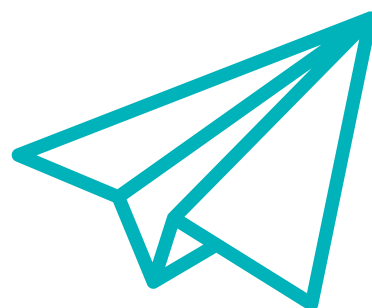
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Chair's Report

By Patrick Leavey

(August 2023)



I feel a bit of a fraud writing this Chair's report for the 2022/23 financial year. While the honour falls to me, all the hard work over that year was undertaken by others: particularly Shelley Bowman, our former CEO; our wonderful and hard-working staff; our dedicated, ever-cheerful volunteers, and my predecessor as Chair, Louise Orr.

This Annual Report provides a timely opportunity to look back at the transformative effect that Shelley had on Home-Start Clackmannanshire. She joined us as a General Manager back in the summer of 2017. We supported 62 families. We had an annual income that year of £107,00, 66% of which was provided by Clackmannanshire Council.

Over the subsequent 5 and a half years Shelley significantly increased the number of families we supported, both increased and diversified our funding, grew the staff team, kick-started our shop in the centre of Alloa, and managed our response to the Covid-19 pandemic. When she left us in April 2023 (dutiful as always: completing the financial year) we had supported 132 families in that year, and had an income of £314,156.63.

As we emerged from the crisis phase of the pandemic in June 2022 there was a glorious moment when we heard that the work of our staff and volunteers had been recognised in the Platinum Jubilee year with the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service. The award is given in recognition of "outstanding community service". We were one of only 22 organisations in Scotland, and one of only four Home-Starts across the whole of the UK who received it in 2022. Many thanks indeed to Clackmannanshire Third Sector Interface, for nominating us for the award, and to the Lord Lieutenant of Clackmannanshire for presenting it to us.

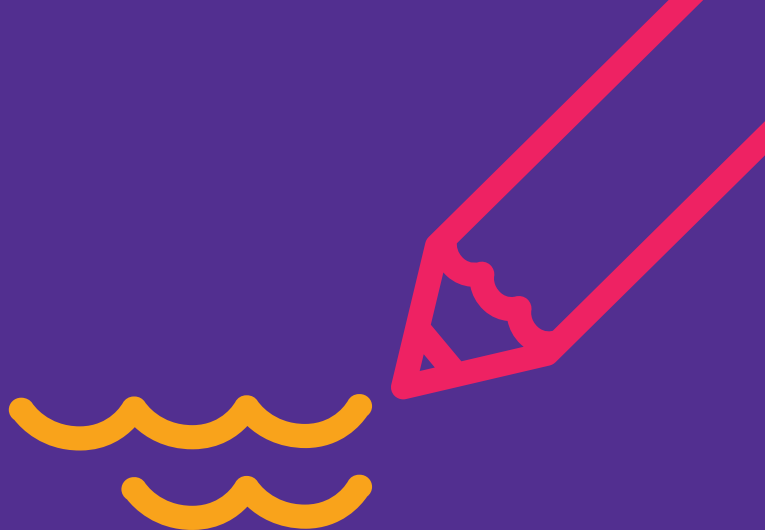
In addition to Shelley's departure, over the course of this year we have bid a sad farewell to Elaine Mulligan and Hazel Mulholland who left the Board of Trustees. Their contribution to discussions at the Board of Trustees have been invaluable.

So, Home-Start Clackmannanshire enters a new phase in its history in 2023. But we have solid foundations in the quality of our staff, the commitment of our volunteers, and our strong record of finding funding. We also have a 3-year strategic plan. And – finally - we have a spring in our step.

Treasurer's Report

by Douglas Moodie BA, FCCA, DipM

I would like to start by thanking all of our supporters over the last twelve months particularly as all of us at Home-Start can appreciate just how challenging the financial environment is right now. Without your continued support, either as a volunteer, a contributor, donor, or simply providing moral support for the tremendous work our team performs, we simply wouldn't be here with out you.



Just as I thought COVID-19 was behind us, we face the headwinds of the financial crisis, primarily driven by the sad events we are all witnessing our friends in Ukraine endure. This will undoubtedly mean that Home-Start are buffeted for the foreseeable future, and therefore your ongoing support is vital to ensuring our services for local families continue.

However, looking at the performance of the charity over the financial year I am pleased to again report that income is slightly up on last year, rising to £314,000 which is pretty much in line with inflation over the period. This is made up of grants and donations of £265,000 which is in line with last year, and a slightly higher income from the shop which you would expect when compared with a COVID impacted 2022 year-end. Notwithstanding, we do need your support to the shop to help increase takings and donations so that the shop can grow to become a key pillar of the local community as well as a much higher income generator for our other vital service provisions – please do help us as much as you can.

On the cost side, the team have scrutinised all costs and core overheads to try and ensure we live within our means, obtain value for money for every £ spent, and continue to focus on building a healthy balance sheet. The latter of which has been critical given the onset of the current financial crisis, with this decision, in hindsight, the correct strategy adopted by your board. The board will continue to exert prudence and focus on core activity as there is no guarantee that income levels can be maintained per current into the future, particularly as the funding landscape (where we receive roughly 85% of our income from such sources) is uncertain and facing very choppy waters for the foreseeable future.

In light of the above we made a small surplus in the year, larger than last year, which was a pleasing result, and this continues to strengthen our balance sheet to ensure we can weather the current storms, continue to be a long-term provider of excellent services to the local population, and be considered a safe haven for funders who look for longevity

of services and security with their donations. At some future point the board may revise their outlook and in line with other charities who have to try and operate a 'balanced book', then consider how best to utilise the reserves when the ocean in which we sail is much calmer.

This is also my last report as your Treasurer, having intimated to your board my need to stand down later in 2023 ahead of a family move to Ayrshire. The board have been reassured of my intentions to continue support Home-Start however, and wherever I can, and I depart knowing that the charity is in a sound financial place having weathered many storms during my tenure as your Treasurer. I look forward to handing the reigns over to your next Treasurer and hearing how the charity goes from strength to strength.



Strategic Plan Update

By Patrick Leavey

2021 marked the end of Home-Start Clackmannanshire's second, three-year strategic plan. Many thanks to those volunteers and staff members who contributed to our strategy discussion in the autumn of that year, which was so excellently and energetically facilitated by Becca Logan.



After a short hiatus, in February this year the Board of Trustees discussed and approved our next strategic plan, which will run from 2023 to 2026. Strategy documents can get pretty long and boring, but we hope ours is easy to read and understand. A glossy version is available in hard copy and on our website.

The plan sets out the wider context in which we operate, our vision and mission, the services we deliver, the resources we have at our disposal, and the risks that we face and how we plan to mitigate them.

The most important element, however, is a set of four objectives:

1. Ensuring that we have **increased awareness** of our services both amongst the residents of the five most deprived areas in Clackmannanshire, and amongst potential volunteers.
2. **Developing the support we provide** when a family member has mental health issues, has been the victim of domestic abuse, or other issues identified by our CharityLog data.
3. Doing more to assist the **school-age children** of the families we support.
4. Continuing to widen our sources of **unrestricted funds**.

These will be delivered by the CEO's operational plan, and the day-in, day-out work of our staff and volunteers.

The four objectives will also dominate many of the

discussions we will have with our partners, our funders and at the Board of Trustees over the next few years.

We are actively seeking Trustees with expertise in these areas, so please encourage people with relevant skillsets to get in touch if they would like to help us turn a plan into reality.

Thank you for all those who have contributed to our third strategic plan. I look forward to updating you on our progress in our next Annual Report.





Key messages and measuring our impact

Over 2022-2023, we received 94 new referrals, across 13 different referral sources. Health visitors remain our highest referrers (29), with a real spread across other referrers, including 16 from Social Workers, 16 from education, and 11 families completing self-referral.

With the support of Carole from Save the Children, we have continued to distribute grants to local families, totalling over £6,000 in 2022 – 2023. This supported 18 local families with a mix of supermarket vouchers, white goods/furniture and Argos vouchers.

We have supported 452 individuals over 2022-2023 (an increase from 377 last year). This has been through 132 families, made up of 184 adults and 268 children – 142 children aged 0-5, 90 children aged 6-12, and 38 children aged 13-18.

We celebrated 4 years since the launch of our social enterprise (charity shop). Since then we have moved to a bigger premises, survived a global pandemic, and have an incredible team of dedicated volunteers and staff.

We continue to engage with Clackmannanshire Council on future funding arrangements but are happy to report continued funding support for 2023-2024.

We have continued to diversify our funding streams to ensure we can continue to meet the local need for our services. A full list of funders is contained within, including The Robertson Trust, The National Lottery Community Fund, Henry Smith Charity. We are also lucky to have donations and in-kind donations from a variety of organisations and individuals locally, from an anonymous £500 towards our Christmas appeal, to ongoing support from our local Community Champions in the supermarkets.

Local partnerships remain key to our work, both in bringing our work into communities (through our group provision), and for our team to engage and align efforts with fellow providers/community supports. Action for Children, Barnardo's, Hawkhill Community Centre, Community House, Reachout with Arts in Mind and CERT are but a few of those our team work with, and we continue to grow our partnerships and joint working across the County.

We welcomed our first social work student, Louise, to the team during 2022-2023. Louise was a fantastic asset to us; we were impressed by her exceptional talent for connecting with families over a relatively short period of time. She possessed a natural ability to establish trust, compassionately addressing their needs and concerns.

We continue to support families beyond our core services where possible. For example, £1,500 of duvets/pillows/bedding sets were gifted to families thanks to a donation from Opening More Doors. 158 pairs of children's shoes were distributed through a donation from Russell and Bromley. Our Bairn Bank (through the shop) is also open to all local families, through a simple referral form.

We welcomed two new Family Support Workers to the team to grow our capacity in supporting families, both in their homes, and also to connect with wider services and their communities, particularly when complexities of need mean we wouldn't place a volunteer in the home.

80% of parents/carers who responded to our 2022-2023 feedback survey reported increased confidence due to the support provided by Home-Start.

72% of parents/carers who responded to our 2022-2023 feedback survey said they felt better able to manage their wellbeing/mental health due to Home-Start support.

80% of parents/carers who responded to our 2022-2023 feedback survey felt less isolated since engaging with Home-Start support.

83% of parents/carers who responded to our 2022-2023 feedback survey expressed they feel more able to make positive changes in their lifestyle after being supported by Home-Start.

CEO's Report

By Shelley Bowman



Shelley Bowman

I am very happy to report that the reigns have been handed over to the truly outstanding Louise Orr, who has taken up the position of CEO.

I know that Louise is in very good hands, with a dedicated team supporting her, and a progressive insightful Board of Directors to offer guidance and support, to lead the charity forward. Louise brings with her a wealth of experience and knowledge as a leader in the sector, and as a Mum herself, comes with compassion, understanding and empathy for the families we support.

It is not without a bit of sadness that I write my last report. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time at Home-Start Clackmannanshire; indeed, I have had the honour of working within the Home-Start bubble for the past 13 years! The staff team has evolved and is now a mixture of the original team who have experience, local knowledge, and wisdom to help steer our everyday activities but also the newer team members, joining us from other disciplines, who have brought a different perspective and narrative. I have no doubt that this amazing team will help Louise steer the charity to further heights of success. I am missing their dialogue!!!

It has been a mixed year. More and more families are accessing the service, and regular calls for help with everyday items, food and utilities has been the norm. Without the amazing support of our funders, such as Clackmannanshire Council, Henry Smith Charity, The Robertson Trust and many others, impossible to list them all, we would be struggling to provide the level of support we do. You have been truly amazing, and we appreciate your guidance and support. Our funders know how difficult the third sector landscape is for all – there is a fragility to it and at times a difficult environment to work within. Engaging in opportunities to upskill the staff team have been welcomed though. Thank you, all funders, supporters and friends.



Our families are truly inspirational: for many, mental health illness and historic trauma has been a stumbling block to moving on positively in life. I am astounded at their resilience, and how they do not let themselves be defined by the awful circumstances they have found themselves in, through no fault of their own. They are fighters, and they are fantastic parents – keep doing what you're doing! Your children will remember the fight and passion within you whilst you do your absolute best for your children.

I cannot leave without saying a huge thank you to all our wonderful inspirational volunteers, who provide a palette of colour to the Home-Start scenery and to our services, adding something quite special to the team, and without whom the service would look quite different.

From the bottom of my heart, thank you to everyone for a truly amazing experience, one which I will never forget, nae doot!

Family Support Services

Family Support Coordinators

Without our incredible volunteers, we would not be able to offer such an effective support service across Clackmannanshire and so we would like to begin by thanking all our volunteers for their support and commitment to families throughout the year.

We delivered three Volunteer Preparation Courses last year, recruiting 10 new volunteers to support our families through our groups and family support. This course is designed to prepare volunteers to understand and support the day-to-day challenges facing our families such as isolation, poor mental health, and lack of routine. Volunteers also gained knowledge on the cost of living crisis, and learned skills to support our families with budgeting, and healthy meal plans. The Preparation Course covers topics such as child protection, domestic abuse, mental health issues (in parents/carers and children), and why play matters. We also cover the importance of listening to our parents/carers and children, and boundaries.

In addition to our Preparation Course, there are continuous learning and development opportunities for our team (staff and volunteers) throughout the year. Some courses in the last year include Supporting Parents, Managing the Needs of Children, and Personal Safety. We know the opportunity for peer support, and socialising amongst the team is also vital, and so we ensure we have a calendar of events and get together to bring the team together, and celebrate and thank our volunteers.

A consultation with our volunteers showed they valued our volunteer forum, and so we have continued these meetings over 2022 – 2023, providing volunteers an opportunity to meet and share their experience with others, their voices also helping to inform our wider services. Our family forum allows supported families to come together to share and discuss the issues that matter most to them and how we could incorporate this into our service. Volunteers receive monthly support with their named Co-ordinator (our staff are available at any time to chat with volunteers if there is any issues or concerns). As well as home visiting support, our amazing team offer crisis support to families who are at risk of statutory intervention or where a mental health emergency has arisen.

The Co-ordinators ensure families have 12-weekly review visits to monitor our progress in terms of meeting the needs first identified at the Initial Visit. This has been an extremely challenging year for our families, with increased numbers of poor mental health, financial hardship, and domestic abuse.

Our team have worked even more closely with external agencies and partners such as CAB, Energy Efficiency Team from Clackmannanshire Council, The Gate Food Bank, our Bairn Bank at our Home Start Shop, Save the Children, and many more.

Our volunteers have helped identify families in financial hardship and the Co-ordinators have also assisted families by referring to Gate Food Bank, Hawkhill Community Shop, Energy Advice Scotland through Clackmannanshire Council, and CAB Outreach services. Referrals have also been made to Wellbeing Scotland, with the team supporting families to attend to attend Mental Health and hospital appointments (tackling issues of missed appointments in the past). We have also worked with Social Security Scotland for Adult and Children's Disability Payments to assist with completion of forms.

The Wellbeing Group, a parent/carer lead group, is going strong with the support of Maureen and volunteer Di. This group is a safe and confidential space for parents/carers to talk openly, try new activities, and not feel judged.

We are excited to move into 2023 – 2024 to continue develop our support services to local families, and provide opportunities for volunteers.



Family Support Services



Family Support Workers

I joined Home-Start Clackmannanshire in my role as Family Support Worker at the end of June 2022, just in time for the school summer holidays and Play in the Park. This was a brand-new role that had been created and I was excited about the opportunity that lay ahead.

Very quickly I was out and about with the Co-ordinators, meeting families and finding my way around Clackmannanshire. Play in the Park, organized by Home-Start's group workers, was a great opportunity to get to know Home-Start families and to begin to understand the wide range of support offered by staff and volunteers.

Leyanne arrived in November, and we became the Family Support Worker team!

The cost-of-living crisis has resulted in severe financial hardship for many families and often our first priority is to offer practical support, for example, referrals for food parcels and gas and electricity vouchers, as well as budgeting advice.

Poor mental health in both adults and children is currently a massive area where support is required. This can take the form of emotional support (often just listening) and help to attend mental health and CAMHS appointments. Post-natal depression and other mental health conditions can result in parents feeling isolated, so we support them to attend our parent wellbeing groups run by Maureen and Paula, and our family groups run by Carole and Carolyne, as well as simply getting out and about, and attending activities in the local area, e.g. Bookbug or the Play Bus. Mental health issues can lead to chaotic living conditions. We have worked side by side with families to clear and clean homes, improving their domestic situations. We can also access funding, for example, Save the Children Grants, for household items families need.

A large part of our role involves working with families on early childhood development, making sense of challenging behaviour and additional support needs, setting boundaries, and establishing routines within the home, all aimed at



improving parent-child relationships. School attendance and punctuality are proving difficult for many families following the pandemic, with many children having difficulty separating from their parents or carers. We work through this with families, offering strategies and practical support to make the process easier. We support parents and carers to attend meetings at school and nursery as this is something our families often find daunting.

Our work involves liaising with and working alongside other agencies, e.g. Citizens' Advice, educational establishments, and the Health Visiting and Social Work teams. We have found there are many benefits to be gained from this sort of information-sharing and collaboration. Our involvement with a family is entirely tailored towards their needs. It might be a short, intensive, targeted piece of work lasting as little as 6 weeks. On the other hand, we have families who have been with us for the entire time we've been here and will continue to be until they are ready to move on to the next step, perhaps group support or a volunteer.

Between us we have provided direct support to a total of 30 families in the time we have been at Home-Start. We have received ongoing training, including personal safety training, and have attended courses aimed at helping parents and carers support their children to regulate their emotions, and more recently a course led by the developmental psychologist and research scientist, Suzanne Zeedyk, on the dynamics of family relationships. We are excited to soon be undertaking Home-Start's Perinatal-Infant Mental Health Support (PIMHS) training, as evidence shows that this type of early intervention can greatly improve outcomes for children and families. We are always looking to build on our existing skills and knowledge to provide the best possible support to Home-Start families.

Thank you to everyone who has given us such a warm welcome. It is a privilege to be part of the fantastic Home-Start team and to work alongside our amazing families and volunteers. We look forward to continuing to deliver support to Clackmannanshire families in 2023/24.

Megan and Leyanne

We welcomed our first Social Work student Louise to the team 2022-2023. From the moment Louise joined us, it was evident that her friendly and caring nature meant she was an excellent fit for our Home-Start Clackmannanshire team.

Louise gained experience working directly with families and supporting within both our Parent Wellbeing group and our Wednesday group at the Ben Cleuch. During her time with us, Louise facilitated meaningful discussions with parents, actively listened to their concerns, and provided them with tools and strategies to address the challenges they faced. Her ability to create a safe and inclusive space allowed parents to share their experiences openly, fostering a strong sense of community and mutual support. We would like to thank the families who welcomed the support that Louise had to offer.

As Louise continues her studies, we have no doubt that she will go on to become an incredible social worker, making a profound impact on the lives of the individuals and communities she serves. We extend our heartfelt thanks and best wishes to Louise.



Home-Start Charity Shop

Report by Shop Managers
Sarah & Emma



With Covid 19 restrictions coming to an end, we have been finding our new “normal” over 2022-2023.

Emma joined us in post in the shop this year, allowing Sarah to start work on strengthening our focus on wider enterprise development, something we will be continuing in 2023-2024. We introduced fabulous new donation pods across the community, to make it easier for people to drop off donations at a time and place in their local community that suits them. Currently, we have three pods – one in Alloa Business Centre, one at Alva medical practice, and one in Tullibody medical practice. These are proving to be a great success, and we’re keen to expand our pods, so if you have/ know a space that would be willing to house one, please do let us know.

We know that parking can be tricky in Alloa town centre for people to drop off/collect items from the shop, and so we were delighted to receive funding from The Robertson Trust to purchase a small van. This has been a great asset to us as it now allows us to use the van to collect donations as well as maintain our donation pods and offer delivery of larger items for our customers. The van has also been incredibly useful in our core work – transporting play equipment for group sessions or events for example.



Thanks to our amazing Charity Shop Volunteers

“Just wanted to pass on my thanks in respect to a referral I put in the other day for a mum who was in need of baby clothes. Picked up the bag today and I am really pleased with the quality, quantity and variety donated to this wee one. Ladies in the shop were lovely too”



Of course, our shop would not be the same without our incredible team of volunteers. We have had 16 shop volunteers engaged with us over the year, bringing us a varied skill set, unwavering dedication, and incredible sense of humour! Our volunteers are the heart and soul of Home-Start, and we thank each and every one of them for supporting us. All volunteers are supported through their journey with us, from undertaking customer service training to mental health first aid, and of course regular volunteer support sessions. We also recognize the importance of social opportunities for our team and have had bingo and quiz nights. We also have a quarterly volunteer forum, which is always busy, and it's great to see volunteers from different "shifts" in the shop, able to come together and connect. We would like to recognize and thank our landlord Mr Howie, our Home-Start Board of Trustees and the wider Home-Start staff team, who, without their immense support we wouldn't be able to continue to grow.

We have exciting plans to continue to develop our shop over the next year, including partnering with Coalfields Regeneration Trust to bring the SQA in Volunteering Skills to our volunteer team, and growing our training offer, contributing to pre-employability locally.

Finally, we would like to thank our customers and those who kindly donate to us; we know how challenging the past years have been, and continue to be for people. We appreciate your continued support - income generated from our shop goes back into our core work supporting local families.



**...thank you
to all our supporters,
including
Clackmannanshire
Council,
Clackmannanshire
Third Sector Interface
and Alloa First.**

Groupwork Programme

With everyone finding a new “normal” after Covid restrictions eased, we were thrilled to get back in a routine with our group provision, and slowly build up our numbers within groups, so families could enjoy greater social opportunities, fun, learning, and peer support. Our groups are spread across the County

(Alloa, Tullibody and Tillicoultry currently), to reach families where they are, or as close to their local community as possible. As with all our services, we simply couldn't provide the support we do without our team of dedicated volunteers, who add so much value, wisdom and experience to each session.

Hawkhill Group

Our Hawkhill Group has gone from strength to strength this year, continuing to support families who have attended regularly over the last year or two, whilst growing numbers of new attendees significantly.

Due to the flexibility of the space we have at the Centre, we have been able to provide both indoor and outdoor activities for families. Each of our group sessions also includes a snack and juice for the whole family. We invested in thermal cups with lids so parents/carers can enjoy a hot drink if they would like – a rare treat when little ones are around!

Some of our activities have included: bookbugs; messy play; water play; sensory toys; and bubbles. Whilst always fun, our activities also look to incorporate literacy, numeracy and social skills, to provide learning opportunities for all the family. Children can enjoy learning and playing in a safe environment and parents have an opportunity to meet others thus reducing social isolation.

The group runs weekly, during term-time, and so we had 35 sessions, with a total of 435 attendees (averaging 12 per session). Attending a group session can be daunting for families, with reports of anxiety leading to some no shows. To support families to engage, we can offer for their volunteer/co-ordinator to support them to attend at first, or put in place transport (our team, or a taxi) to reduce worry around using public transport. These measures helped future attendance.

Summer Activity Programme

Play in the Parks ran through Summer 2022, with 10 sessions across our incredible green spaces and parks in Clackmannanshire. For the first time, we promoted the sessions to the wider community, and received an incredible response – the first session saw over 90 attendees! In total, we had 542 attendees (average of 49 a session).

As with previous years, we were joined by local groups and partners to support us with activities. These ranged from Reachout with Arts in Mind providing fun crafts for all the family, to fantastic book bug sessions to promote story time and imagination with our families.

Lunch was provided for all attendees, which included a sandwich, fruit, water/juice and a treat (biscuit or crisps), with the children learning some valuable life skills by being supported to prepare their own sandwiches.

Easter Programme

We had two Play in the Park sessions over the Easter break. One at Wimpy Park, and one scheduled for West End Park but moved to Hawkhill Community Centre due to the typical Scottish Spring weather. Our families embraced these sessions, the blustery winds serving only to blow away the Winter blues, with around 100 attendees joining us to have fun over the two days!

Blue House Group

We are thankful to continue our partnership with Action for Children, and grateful to them for the use of their wonderful children's room, which leads out to an outdoor area/garden, perfect to introduce little explorers to nature.

Activities across our groups are similar as mentioned, but our families very much guide the activities on offer, providing us feedback at the end of each group, which has led to some mini outings such as going to the nearby park with the families, or going on a nature walk together. At the end of each academic year, we also have little “graduation” celebrations, for our 3-year-olds who will be leaving group to move on to nursery.

As with all our groups, the Blue House group runs weekly during term time, and so we had 34 sessions across the year. A total of 261 people attended (average of 8 per session). Numbers will be smaller for this group as the room size is suitable for 6-7 families maximum, limiting growth. However, as we've seen across all our services, the number of families we are supporting with parents/carers of children who are neurodivergent has increased, and so having smaller groups can be of great benefit to avoid sensory overload, or heightened anxiety for families experiencing poor mental health.



Ben Cleuch Group

As with Hawkhill, our Ben Cleuch group has grown exponentially over the past year. We reached capacity for the space, leading to us exploring the expansion of our group work. We have again been lucky with our space in that we can enjoy indoor and outdoor activities with our families.

Activities across our groups are similar, focusing on fun, bonding, and learning for the whole family. Our volunteers provide support for activities and snack, to ensure that our Group Workers are free for a chat with parents/carers if they need some support, or simply a listening ear.

Sessions occur weekly during term time, with a total of 31 sessions in 2022-2023. We had a total of 252 attendees across sessions (averaging 8 per session).



Family Fun Days

In 2022-2023, we held two Family Fundays at Hawkhill Community Centre, one in September 2022 (11 families in attendance), and one in February 2023 (13 families in attendance).

These events aimed to bring our families together to socialise and have fun together. We had activities such as a treasure hunt, glitter tattoos, art sessions with Reachout with Arts in Mind, and a Family yoga session. A healthy lunch and snacks were enjoyed by all too.



Briarland's Farm Trip

Each year if funding allows, we aim to have a fun day out for all our families. This year, loaded up with packed lunches and goodies, 21 families, totalling 35 children set off on buses to Briarland's Farm. The day started with the very best of Scottish weather (rain), but luckily, by the time we arrived, the rain had cleared and our families were able to fully enjoy the day – from petting guinea pigs to climbing hay bales, and jumping in the ball pit to having a race on the pedal carts; lots of fun was had by all, and memories made for a lifetime.

Kidz-World

Our partnership with Kidz-World has provided a monthly play opportunity, supporting 194 attendees (average of 19 per session), to access a soft play session.

Children receive a lunch box as part of their session, whilst parents/carers are provided refreshments. These sessions are very popular, allowing children to socialise, and have fun in a safe environment, whilst parents/carers can meet peers and develop friendships.



Christmas Party

Christmas should be a special time of year for all, and with the help of our volunteers and supporters who donate gifts, time, and so much more, we were once again able to hold our annual Christmas party at Alloa Town Hall. 115 people from

supported families joined us for an afternoon of dancing, crafts, and of course, lots of festive treats! The party was made complete by a special visit from Santa who took time out to see all our children and deliver them each a gift.



Trustees



Patrick Leavey (Chairperson)



Melissa Albentosa



Lynn Leitch



Doug Moodie (Treasurer)



Hazel Hedley



Stuart Landels



Joan Gibson



Staff



Louise Orr



Jacqueline Kidd



Linda Kerr



Irene Richmond



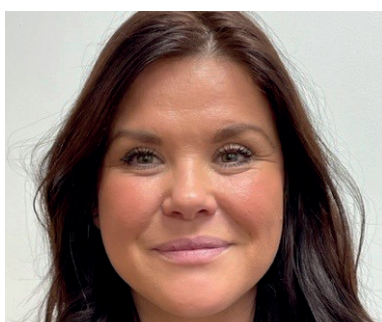
Maureen Holden



Paula Paton



Megan Thomson



Leyanne McLean



Carole Evans



Carolyne Nicol



Sofie Meier



Sarah Gray



Shelley Bowman



Family Quotes

"Thank you for all your help ... I would actually be lost without all the help you have given us."

"Due to the support from coordinator I feel that my stress has decreased and this has had a positive impact on my children".

"When I arrived in Scotland to join my husband who is studying here from abroad I was referred to Home-Start by my health visitor they were the only people who helped me and have built up my confidence and helped me make friends here, they also provided clothing for my child from their Charity Shop which I am so grateful for".

"I never feel judged with things that are going on and I can off load feelings knowing that it is all confidential".

"Parent group has been amazing for me allowing me a day away from the kids to focus on myself and making friends. It's been a massive support for me and I'm very thankful for everything home start do".

"Save the children vouchers helped me get things for the house when I was leaving homeless accommodation this really helped as I could not have done the things without them".

"Homestart are doing things at my pace which is so so good as they aren't pushing me to anything that I am not ready for and all I can say is that they are fantastic and they deserve so much recognition for the work that they do".

"I have now got family support worker who is there to help support myself and oldest child in understanding each other so playing games has really helped build our relationship".

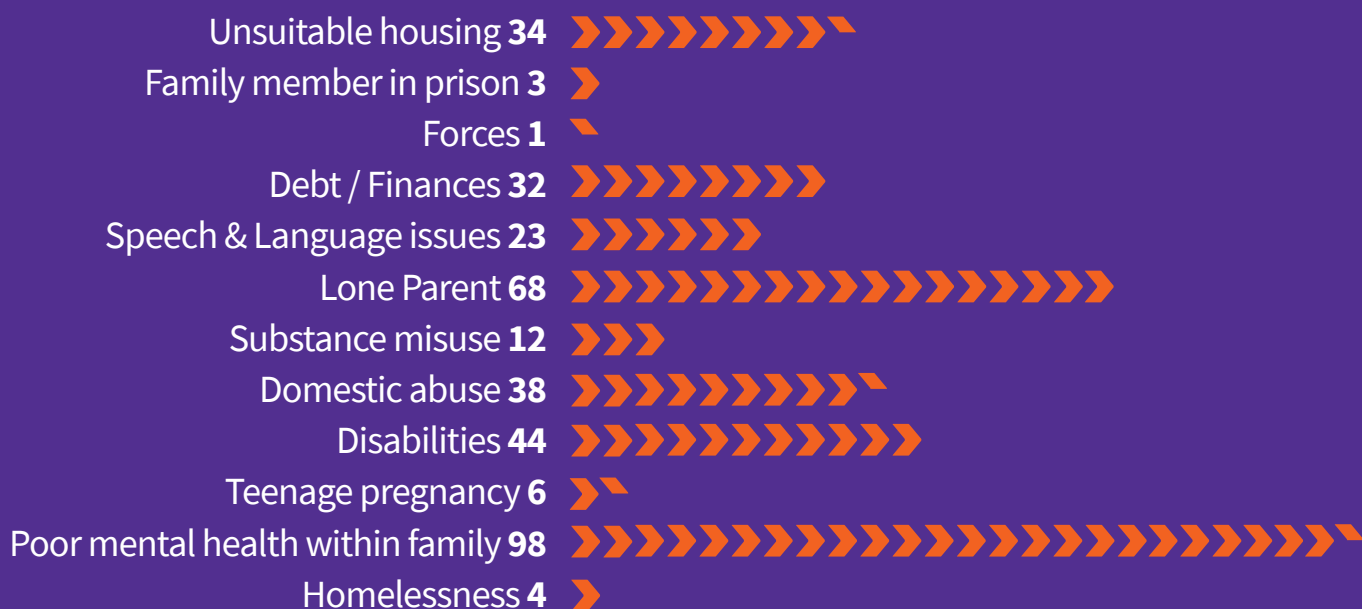
"Confidence in a child is key, we are working extremely hard together to make sure my children will be confident and happy to talk about any feelings and to interact with other children/families".



Statistical Info April 2022 - March 2023



Family circumstances at referral stage



Geographical areas where families reside

Alloa 59	Menstrie 4
Alva 7	Sauchie 13
Clackmannan 7	Tillicoultry 15
Coalsnaughton 4	Tullibody 2
Fishcross 3	

94 new referrals (65 families engaged in support) Referral source

CAB 6	Housing 2
Clackmannanshire Works 2	Perinatal Services 1
Community Mental Health Nurse 1	SACRO 1
Community Nursery Nurse 4	School Nurse 3
Education 16	Self-Referral 11
Health Visitor 29	Social Worker 16
	Womans Aid 2



Clackmannanshire

Supporters/Donations 2022/23

Andy Gray

Tesco Alloa

Asda Alloa

Asda Foundation

Dollywood Foundation

Royal Oak, Alloa

Hawkhill Community Centre

Kidzworld, Alloa

Family Holiday Charity

Emblation, Alloa

Trillium, Alloa

Diageo, Cambus Cooperage

Alloa Unathletic

Wee County Harriers

Sauchie and Coalsnaughton Parish Church

Morrisons Community Champion, Alloa

JJs Pool Lounge, Alloa

Menstrie Mains Residents Association

Prayer Group

Coalfields Regeneration Trust

Lithium Systems

Alloa Art Club

Accubio Limited, Alva

RSVP Knitting Group

Alloa Athletic Junior Academy



Thanks to our funders



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RS MACDONALD
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The Wood Foundation



**YOUTH AND
PHILANTHROPY
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SCOTLAND**

**The
Henry Smith
Charity**



**CORRA
FOUNDATION**

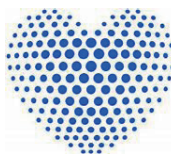


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**May McIntosh
Charitable Trust**

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Arnold Clark

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**HOME
START**



HOME START

Clackmannanshire

**Chief Executive Officer:**

Louise Orr

Assistant Manager:

Jacqueline Kidd

Office Manager:

Linda Kerr

Family Support Co-ordinators:

Irene Richmond
Maureen Holden
Paula Paton

Family Support Workers:

Megan Thomson
Leyanne McLean

Family Support Group Workers:

Carole Evans
Carolyn Nicol

Charity Shop Manager:

Sarah Gray

Social Media Planner and Website Maintenance:

Sofie Meier

Business Development Consultant:

Shelley Bowman

Our wonderful home visiting, group support, and shop volunteers.

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