




Annual
Report
2021-22

- ▶ 3 Mission and Approach
- ▶ 5 Chair's Forward
- ▶ 7 Welcome from our Director
- ▶ 9 Our Performance
- ▶ 17 A Southwark Family Story
- ▶ 18 Lewisham Project
- ▶ 19 A Lewisham Family Story
- ▶ 20 Bump to Babe
- ▶ 21 A Bump to Babe Story
- ▶ 22 Activities and Groups
- ▶ 25 Volunteer Highlights
- ▶ 27 A Volunteer Story
- ▶ 28 Financial Review 2021-22
- ▶ 29 Thank you...

Contents





"The [presents] were what made Christmas ok for me. To know that I had things for my baby meant that even though I was struggling, it was ok for him and felt like Christmas, and I could take it off the list of things I felt bad about".

Parent commenting on the Christmas presents

Our Mission

To provide practical and emotional support to struggling parents enabling them to create happier lives for their children.

What we do

Coping with pregnancy, a new born or young children, alongside emotional, financial or housing issues, can be challenging.

We focus on early intervention with families at this critical moment, providing high quality support for babies, children and their parents in the most deprived areas of Southwark.

Our Approach

Our approach centres around local trained volunteers who are themselves parents and share our families' lived experience of raising children in complex circumstances. A volunteer would visit a family once a week for two to three hours, over 6 to 9 months, offering practical and emotional support, to help parents, with at least one child under five, work through challenging times and find ways to cope and flourish.

Our Networks

Our greatest strength lies in our reputation in the borough which enables us to successfully work in partnership with Children's Centres, health professionals, and voluntary and statutory agencies to support families that are hard to engage but have been identified as in need of targeted support.



Chair's Foreward

Sarah Messenger

We are currently living in the most challenging economic and political times for decades. The choice between 'heating or eating' has become a catchphrase often used by politicians and social commentators yet for many of the families we support at Home-Start Southwark it isn't a catch phrase but rather a lived reality. It's against this backdrop that the work of HSS illustrates its importance and, crucially its impact. The Board of Trustees is always proud of the hard work, passion and resilience that our staff team, volunteers and families demonstrate in all their interactions with each other but never more so than over the past year when the complexity and severity of the challenges families face has grown so much.

In 2021-22, 3 staff moved on and we welcomed 4 new team members, Klaudia, Ola, Luciana and Helen as well as Juliet returning. I know how much they enjoy working together and their ability to come together to meet rather than having to continue to operate virtually has reinforced a sense of togetherness and shared purpose. Some of the Trustees, including myself, have had the opportunity to join all day staff meetings which have focused on some of our strategic priorities. It's important that the Board and staff team share a vision for the organisation and work collaboratively, bringing our respective skills and experience to the table, so that ownership of what we're doing and why we're doing it is dispersed throughout HSS.

We continue to appreciate the support and encouragement we receive from all of our funders. We continue to receive vital funding from The National Lottery and Henry Smith Charity and we are delighted to have maintained our excellent relationship with United St Saviours, a Southwark based funding organisation, who have been so positive about the work we do and the impact we make. The same is true of Marquesado and the very important contribution they make to our work. It's also important to acknowledge the contribution of individual donors and fundraisers who choose HSS as the organisation they want to support. Whilst money is always crucial in enabling HSS to operate effectively, I always want to thank organisations such as John Lewis plc, Decathlon, PWC and Omnicom who generously donate clothing, shoes, Christmas presents and other items to be distributed to our families. The number and quantity of these donations is fantastic and they make a big impact through the provision of important resources or by bringing a smile to the face of a child.

Finally, as ever, I'd like to thank all of my colleagues who serve as Trustees on the Board of HSS for the time, insight and passion they bring to the role. In particular I'd like to pay tribute to Pippa South, a former Chair of the Board and long standing Trustee of HSS, who is standing down at this AGM. Pippa's dedication to HSS is unrivalled and she has steered the organisation and Board through enormous change over the past 10 years or so. Along with her husband Terry, she has also done a huge amount of fundraising for HSS which has been very important as our funding sources had to diversify following the end of our local authority grant. Pippa will be missed within the HSS family but we know that her passion for what we do will remain unabated and she will always be a friend and supporter of the organisation. This will also be my last AGM as Chair after 4 years in the role. I am ready to step back but happy to remain as a Trustee and I look forward to supporting the new Chair in whatever way I can.

Welcome from our Director

Cheryl Rhodes

I would love to greet you all with positive news for this annual report. However, the year 2021-2022 has been a difficult one for the families we work with as financial hardship has escalated, Covid restrictions continued to curb social connection and the most vulnerable children were unable to engage with activities and forge the friendships so important for their development.

We have witnessed the legacy of the pandemic affecting families negatively and exacerbating the inequalities they face. They are experiencing an increase in parental burnout, stress and anxiety, growing concerns about their children's development, and are feeling increasingly isolated. Unfortunately, the need for Home-Start services has never been greater.

Over the course of the year, we returned to face-to-face work with families, trained many new volunteers and expanded our reach to some parts of Lewisham. The importance of establishing relationships with parents and children in the home cannot be overstated and the ending of restrictions meant we were able to resume the relational support that makes such a difference to families.

We welcomed new members to our team who have enhanced the breadth of skills and experience available and are growing a dynamic group of people committed to making a positive difference. I have huge faith in the team and the wider volunteer community and know they offer a service that no other organisation does in the borough. I say a massive thanks to every one of you who give your time, dedication and commitment to support families and change lives.

We also reflected on our Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) strategy and how we could grow and improve our practice. We applied to become part of the Transformational Leadership Programme which is an initiative aimed at growing the number of Black Leaders in Southwark and Lambeth as well as supporting organisations to develop a strategic EDI plan. We want to ensure that we are developing an inclusive culture that is actively anti-racist and will contribute to a more equitable future for Black people in our community.

As an organisation we are in a good position to extend our reach and are building new relationships with Southwark Council, Urban Health and aiming to broaden our connections with local corporate partners so we can realise a vision where we respond to our community's needs in a joined-up way, holding our arms around those who need it most.



Our Performance

In 2021-22

193
Families
Supported

409
Children
Supported

47
Active
Volunteers

Since 1995

3174
Families
Supported

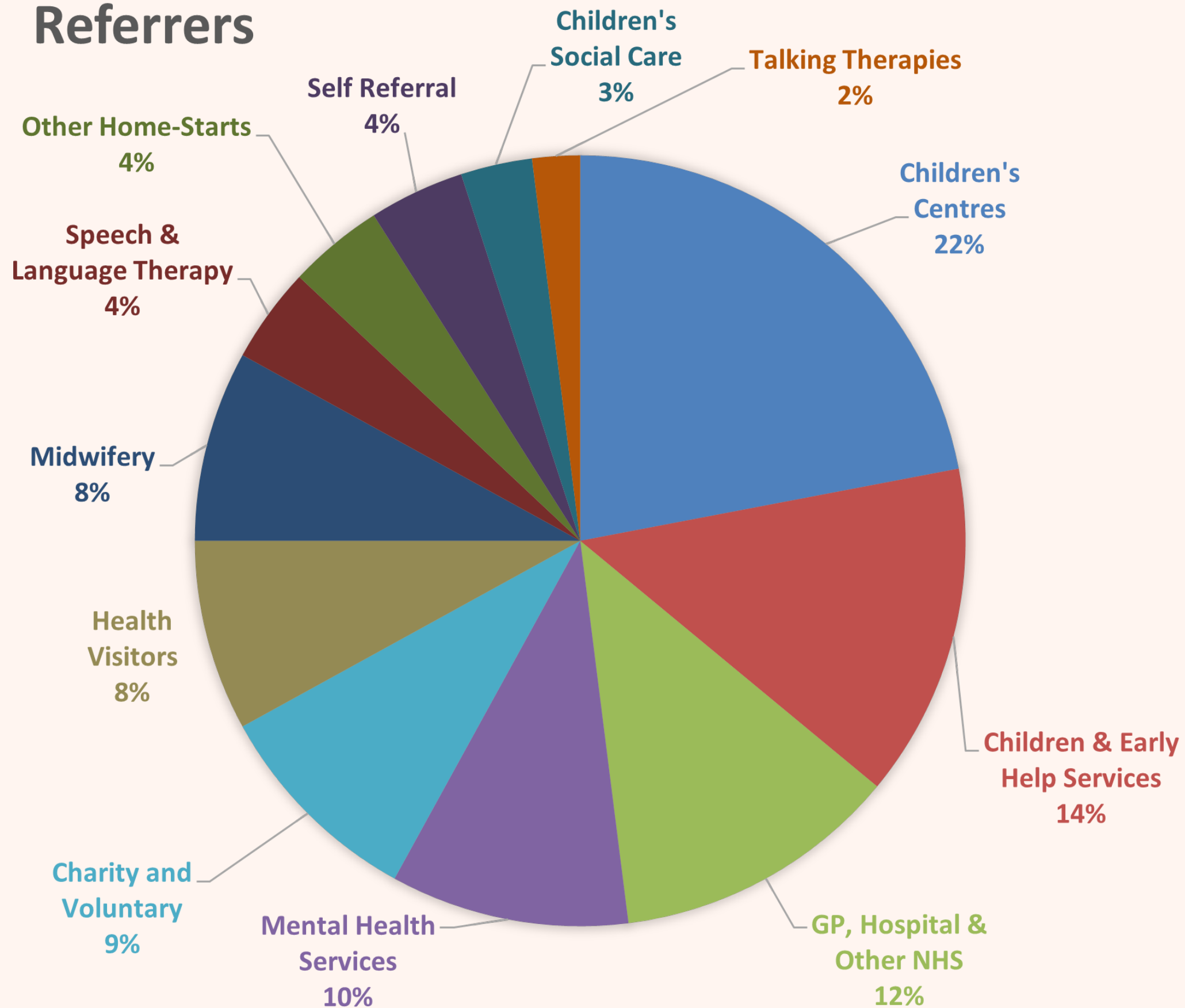
8466
Children
Supported

705
Volunteers
Trained

“I’d give you more than 5 out of 5. The best bit is the chat and the relationship. I want you to stay but no longer need you – and I know that’s when you have to go. Its like Nanny McPhee, she says 'When you need me, but do not want me then I must stay. But when you want me but no longer need me, I have to go'”

Parent about their volunteer

Referrers

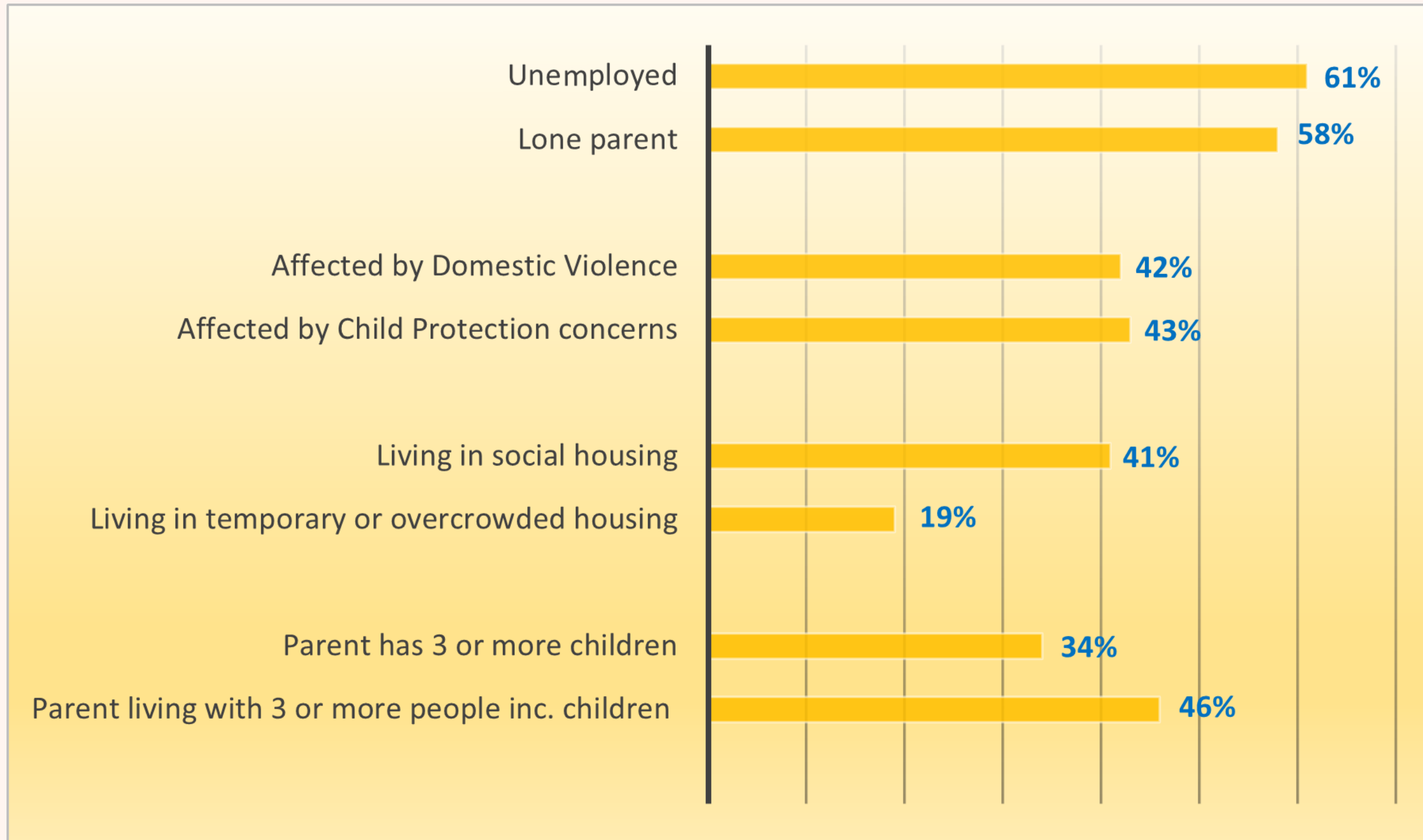


By the end of the year

We received 112 new referrals, of which ten were for families living in Lewisham.

In addition to the home support referrals above, we also received 68 referrals to our activities and groups.

Family Circumstances

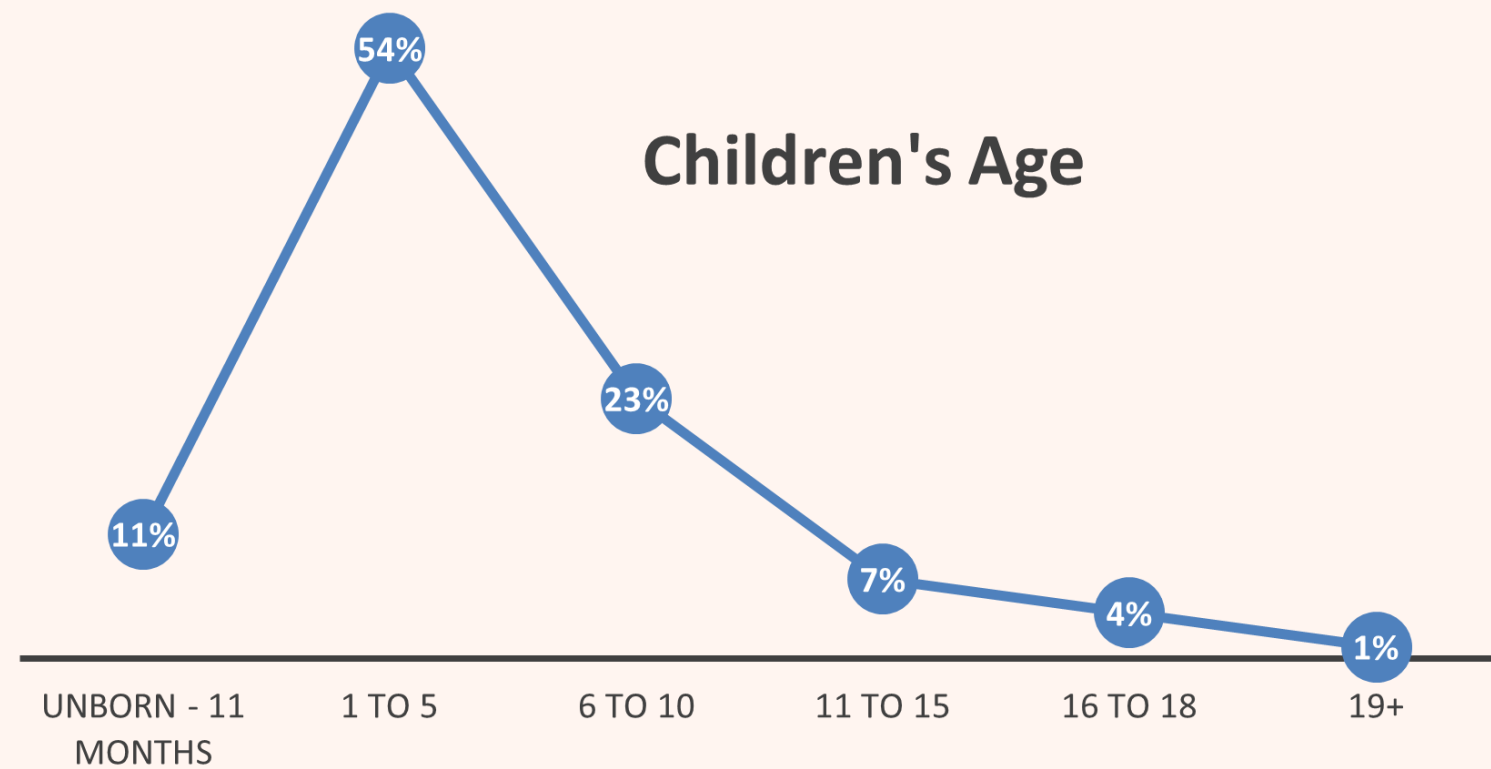
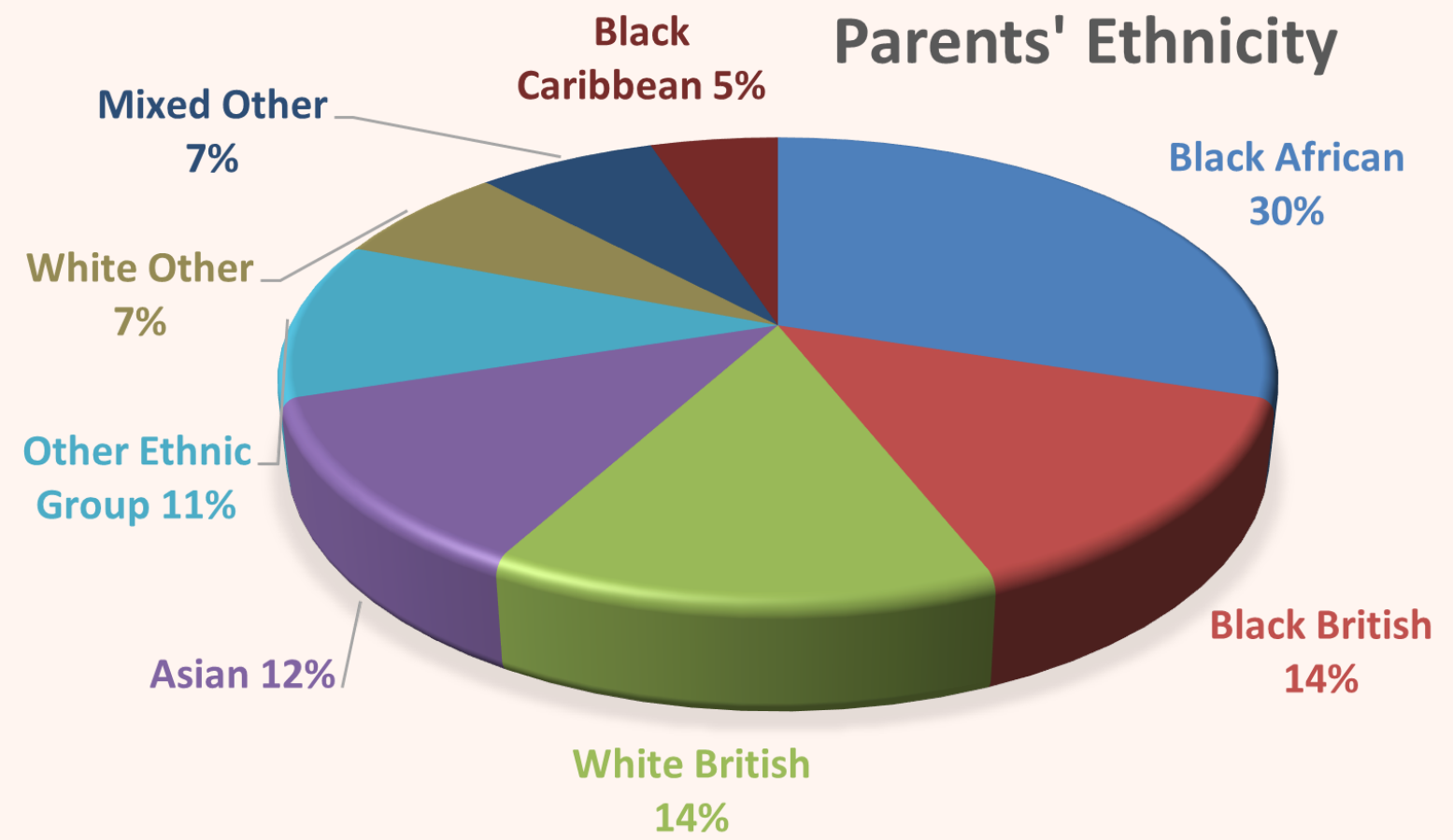


The circumstances of families we support changed noticeably since the beginning of the pandemic.

The biggest change since 2020-21, has been the increase in the number of lone parents supported (45% to 58%) and families affected by child protection concerns rising from 22% to 43%.

We have also seen a rise in the number of families affected by domestic abuse (40% to

42%) and those living in temporary accommodation (12% to 19%), while there was a fall in the number of families supported where the parent is unemployed (67% to 61%).



Health conditions faced by parents and children

26% of parents and children identified having a disability or health condition.



Outcomes

The pandemic changed so much for our families, volunteers and working practice.

We know that our figures for 2020-21 reflected this, and Covid-19's lasting impact has continued to affect our work in 2021-22.

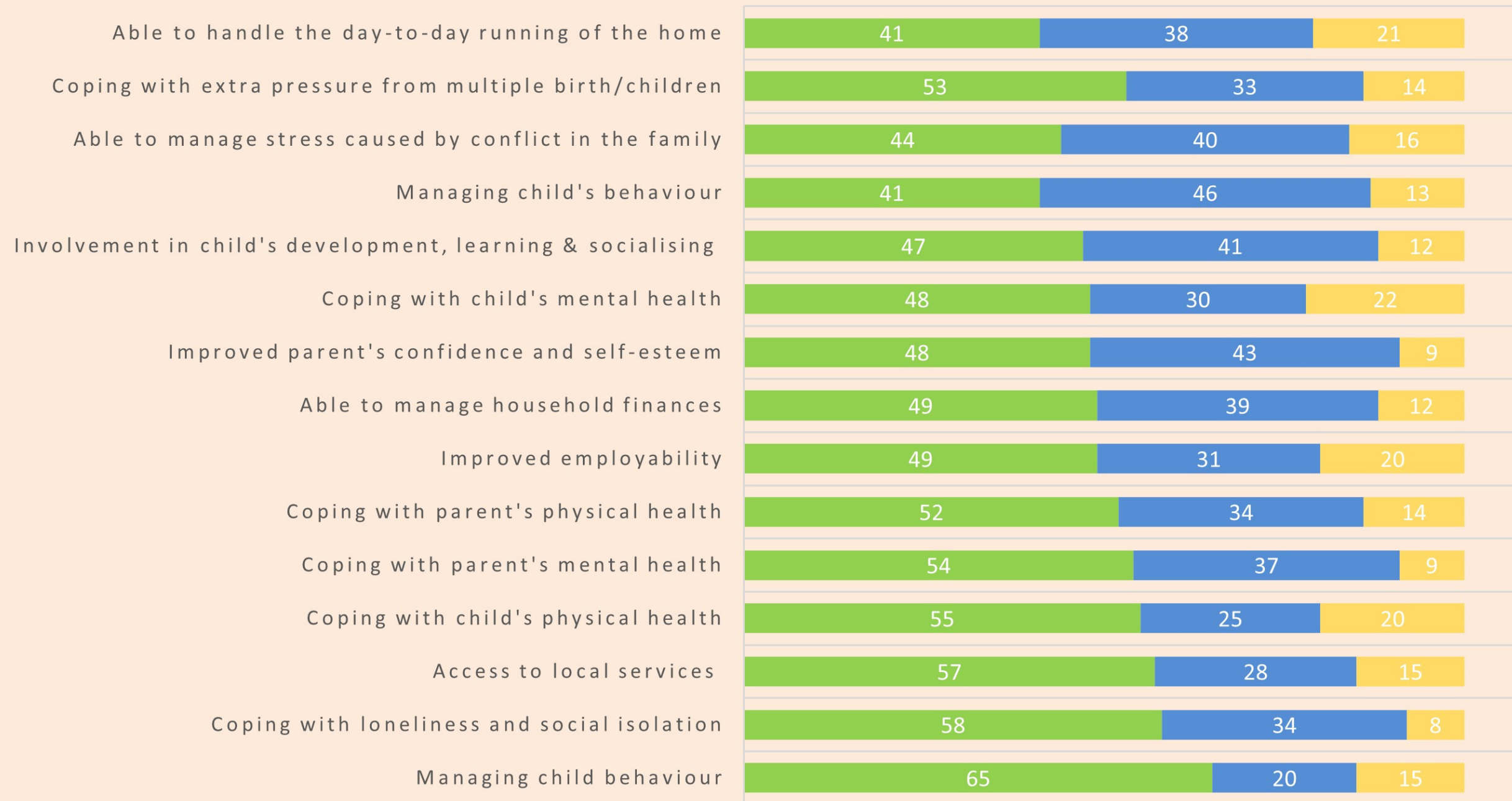
We are seeing increasing complexity in the referrals we are receiving, and this is reflected in our outcomes measurements - compared to pre-pandemic figures (2019-20), we are seeing that 1/6 of families are taking longer to achieve the objectives we set with them.

The next graph shows this comparison, and that as we move out of the pandemic, families' journeys through our support are leading to improved outcomes' at a similar level to those pre-pandemic



Family Outcomes

- Family experienced positive change at the end of the support
- Family still receiving support and working towards the outcome
- Family is now closed and did not experience positive change



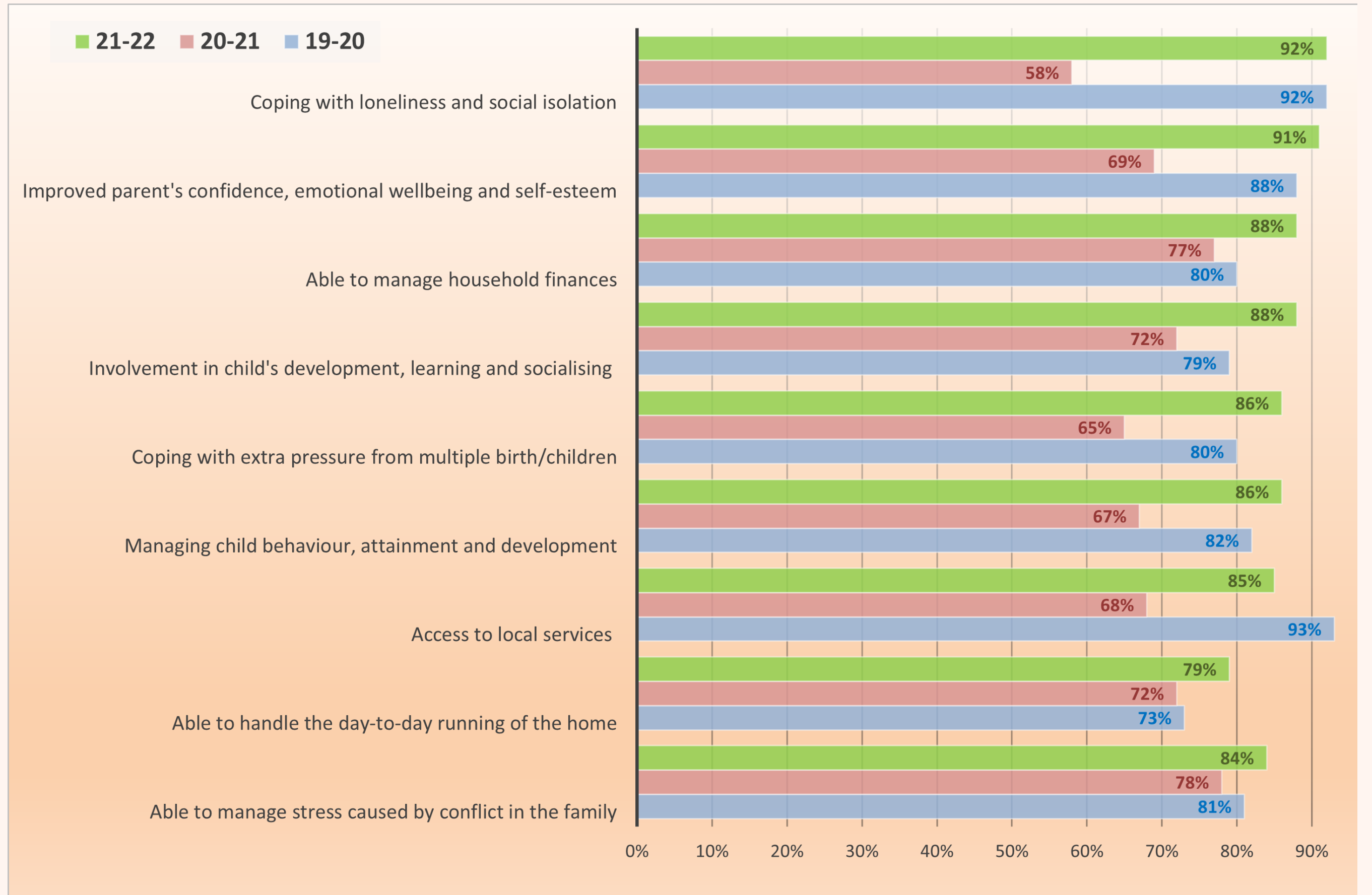
We ask parents how well they are coping across the areas below and set objectives together, which we review every 3 months to measure change.

We know that not all families will need to make changes in all areas, and that sometimes circumstances change which make progress difficult.

How do outcomes compare across years?

The table shows the level of outcomes being achieved over the past three years.

The figure for 2021-22 includes families that have achieved their outcomes and those that are well on their way to achieving them by the end of the support period.





A Southwark Family Story

Amirah is a single parent to 6 children aged 11 months to 15 years old, two of whom are under 5. The family lives in a 3 bedroomed flat with several of the children affected by autism and mental health, including the 3-year-old Allie who has sensory issues and frequent meltdowns.

Amirah is in severe pain and has several health conditions including ADHD, Fibromyalgia, and PTSD following childhood abuse. She is under the care of a rheumatologist and pain management clinic. The children's father, only provides financial support. Due to the complexity of her personal circumstances, Amirah can feel very low. At the initial visit, the coordinator agreed several objectives with Amirah to support her and her family:

- Volunteer support to listen and talk through concerns and help maintain her mental health.
- Support with ongoing home repairs and addressing overcrowding.
- Support with development for the youngest and managing behaviour of the older children.

We matched the family with Mariam who visited weekly for two hours over seven months. Visits were either at home or at parks and children's events. Mariam provided a sounding board for Amirah to reflect and consider options for the future. She delivered hands-on play activities with the youngest children to enabled Amirah to identify new ways of interacting with and managing them. She also helped at a practical level, enabling Amirah to stay on top of her laundry, reorganise the home and involve the children in housework, and helping Amirah access financial advice to manage her debt. The family also benefited from Christmas presents including a food hamper, winter clothes and equipment - generous gifts by our corporate and charity partners. Not least, the family went on holiday to Butlins following our application to the Family Holiday Association.

By the end of the support Amirah's emotional wellbeing increased; the volunteer had a large family and suffered from fibromyalgia, so her empathy and understanding were a great source. Amirah felt more equipped to manage the behavioural and interaction needs of her children. The home was more organised and hygienic with the children taking more responsibility, and the family's financial situation improved, following the donations and ongoing support from Christians Against Poverty; helping Amirah's stress levels. Finally, the holiday to Butlins, the first break in five years, had a huge impact on the family's mental well-being and relationships.



Lewisham Project

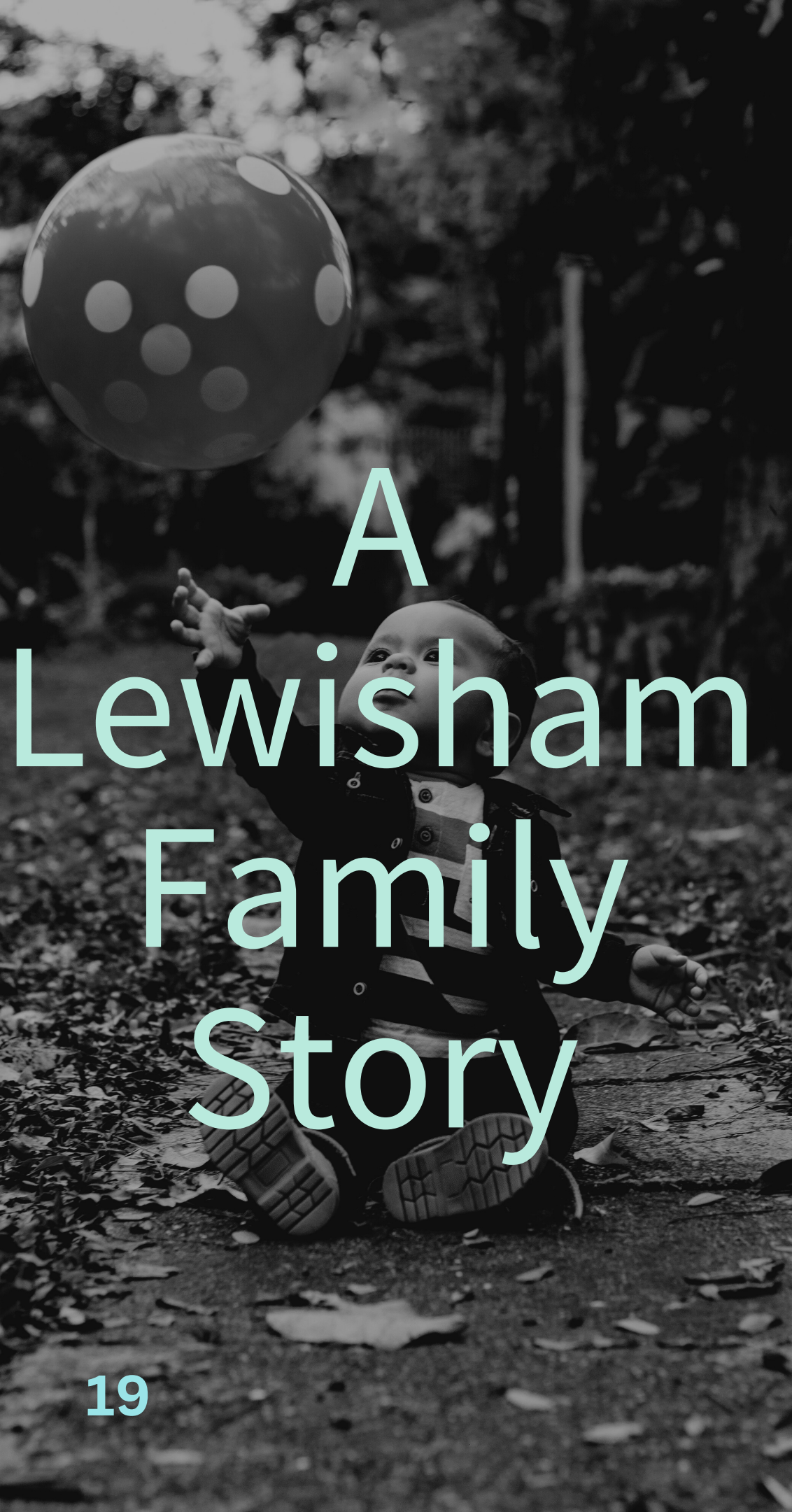
In April 2021, Home Start Southwark started a new initiative aimed at establishing a Home-Start programme in Lewisham. The initial grant from Arbutnots enabled us to begin the process of building relationships with key partners and stakeholders within the borough, as an essential step to creating a fully functioning Home-Start programme in Lewisham within 3 years. This went hand in hand with beginning a process of recruiting new volunteers to support Lewisham families and attracting referrals for families to be supported through Home-Start services.

Since the launch of the project, we have engaged with 15 families in Lewisham. In 2021-22 we received 11 new referrals of which, eight went on to receive support from a coordinator or a volunteer, one was waiting for their initial assessment visit and two declined the service or were found to be ineligible for support. There were a further four Southwark families that moved to Lewisham, for a total of 13 families, with 23 children receiving or starting to receive support.

Half of the supported parents were unemployed, of whom four were also lone parents. There were a further two parents who were employed and single parents. Three Lewisham families were on the Child Protection register, and four had three or more children. Four parents identified having at least one health condition ranging from asthma to depression and one child with development delay.

We are continuing to expand our services within the borough to support more parents to create happier lives for their children.

<p>11 new Referrals, from: Midwifery 4 Health Other 4 Charity 3</p>	<p>Families engaged <i>Closed at end of support 6</i> <i>Receiving support 6</i> <i>Rejected/Declined 3</i></p>	<p>Ethnicity African 3 Caribbean 2 Asian 2 White Other 2 mixed Other 1 White 1 Black British 1 n/a 3</p>	<p>Accommodation Social Housing 3 Temporary 5 Other 1 Private Rental 2 n/a 4</p>	<p>Domestic Abuse Current 1 Previous 4 None 6 n/a 4</p>
---	---	---	--	--



A Lewisham Family Story

Hakima who lives in a two-bedroom, fourth floor apartment, was a single mother with four children aged four months to 18 years old, who was also 28 weeks pregnant with her 5th child. Her Midwife was concerned about the lack of support from the children's father, the family living in overcrowded conditions, and persistent financial difficulties. All of which had a detrimental effect on the family's mental, emotional and physical health. There were also concerns about Hakima's relationship and the lack of involvement in her children's learning and development.

Following the referral, a Family Support Coordinator visited Hakima and carried out an Initial Needs and Risk Assessments to fully understand the family's situation and how best we could support them. During the visit Hakima and the Coordinator identified a number of objectives to work toward. These included, helping Hakima reduce her debts and improve her financial management, support her navigating the social housing system, provide emotional support to reduce stress, anxiety, and build her confidence and support Hakima improve her relationship with her children and become more involvement.

The Family Support Coordinator provided two hours of weekly support. Working in a family-led way the coordinator liaised with statutory and voluntary agencies, provided supporting letters, and accompanied Hakima to an interview with the housing agency. The coordinator also completed referrals to local organisations for the family to receive equipment including toys, clothes, a cot, fridge-freezer, and gas cooker and helped with benefit and utility grant applications. She was also able to secure a food hamper and gifts for the children during Christmas to alleviate any financial pressures.

By the end of the support period, Hakima had achieved significant benefits from the consistent support of the Coordinator. Hakima was able to improve her financial situation through simple budgeting strategies and improved her ability to access other support agencies. She also experienced a significant Improvement in her parenting confidence and her relationship with her children through a better understanding of parent-child relationships, bonding and attachment.

From a personal point of view, Hakima experienced a reduction in her anxiety and improved self-esteem, resilience and ability to cope with her mental health. Yet one of the main achievements for the family was moving from an overcrowded two-bedroom flat to a four bedroom flat, which had astounding effects on the family's mental and emotional wellbeing.





Bump to Babe

Bump to Babe provides support for families in the perinatal period – families are referred in their third trimester of pregnancy or within the first 6 months of their babies’ lives. Volunteers receive enhanced training to provide tailored support to these families at the time they need us most. This year, 34 of referrals for home visiting were for Bump to Babe families.

2021-22 remained a challenging time to have a baby. Covid-19 restrictions were still in place in hospitals throughout this period which limited the support mothers and babies could receive. The isolation the families we support face continued to be exacerbated by the pandemic and the fear and anxiety families felt for their young babies because of this. Many baby groups, which provide a lifeline in reducing loneliness and normalising new parents’ worries were slow to get back to “normal”. National statistics show that maternal mental health concerns are increasing, with 40% of maternal deaths within the year after pregnancy caused by mental illness (MBRRACE 21-22). The work of organisations such as FIVEXMORE continues to highlight that Black women experience higher rates of complications in pregnancy and labour and mortality rates are more than three times as high (MBRRACE 21-22) as those for white women.

The families we support continue to show strength and resilience through these challenging times. Some examples of outcomes achieved for Bump to Babe families are:

- Parents supported to maximise their income through support to source advice on returning to work following maternity leaving, childcare, and apply for universal credit.
- Families with multiple births (twins, triplets and two sets of twins) reported feeling more connected in the community through having practical support to leave the home.
- Mothers who had experienced poor mental health (eg. in previous perinatal periods) cited HSS support as preventative of reoccurring PND, or crucial in their recovery.

We were not able to deliver our Mellow Babies programme this year, due to the ongoing pressures Covid-19 presented to delivering a 14 week course where weekly attendance is mandatory. With the support of our volunteer Rosie, who has completed training as a Parent-Infant Psychotherapist with OXPIP, we were able to offer four families individual parent-infant therapy to support the parent-infant relationship.



A Bump to Babe Story

Nia was 6 months pregnant when she joined Home-Start and lived in temporary accommodation near Borough, provided by a women's refuge after she fled from an abusive relationship with the father of her baby. Originally from Sierra Leone, Nia was also receiving support with her asylum application and a small weekly allowance. When we met Nia, she was suffering from very low moods and had been prescribed anti-depressants. She was concerned and emotional about being on her own, with no friends or family for support, and anxious about how to provide for her child. Nia was very grateful for the support received from the women's refuge and for the assistance from a social prescriber who referred her to us. However, this support was entirely virtual, and other than her midwife appointments, Nia had not received any in-person support for some time.

At our initial visit it became clear that it would be extremely beneficial for Nia to have emotional and practical support during the third trimester of her pregnancy and after the baby arrived. The support aimed to reduce her isolation through regular weekly face-to-face contact. We recognise that supporting a mother and baby during the perinatal period can offer a vital opportunity to minimise negative outcomes such as maternal depression, poor attachment with the baby and the subsequent impact on infant development. It was important to provide Nia with encouragement and reassurance during this time. Yet there was also a need to provide practical support, to help Nia get ready for the arrival of her baby. We therefore supported her to receive new-born baby and hospital essentials from a local charity, helping her secure suitable accommodation, ensuring appropriate plans were in place with midwifery and the safeguarding team for when she give birth, apply for Healthy Start vouchers and free Vitamin D, access the Salvation Army Baby Bank for essential supplies, and helping Nia access the local children's centre to help her find activities.

Nia gave birth to a healthy baby girl, Ada, and is very joyful about her arrival. She shows a determination to do the best that she can for her child, is always organised for her appointments and is receptive to professional advice. Nia and Ada seem to have bonded very well, Nia is breastfeeding and very attuned to the needs of her child. Her mental and emotional wellbeing is much more positive compared with when we first met her. She is very keen to attend activities and find resources that she thinks will benefit Ada's development. When we first met Nia, she hardly left her room; whereas now she is very happy to travel throughout the borough to access services and appointments.

Our support for Nia will continue for several more months with a focus on continuing to connect her with local children's centres and activities and to signpost her to services where she can discuss her asylum application. Nia's immigration status is still uncertain; however, she now displays a resilience that we did not see when we first met her and has developed a strength of character, determined to do what she can to protect and nurture her new child.



Activities & Groups

We provide specialised targeted support in key areas for families with children under 5, that need it. The development of these projects is informed by our analysis of families' needs, and locally and nationally identified priorities.

Big Hopes Big Futures (BHBF) provides tailored support for families with children 18 month to 4 years old who are anticipating starting nursery or reception. The project covers key EYFS framework areas, and aspects of family life which can be a barrier to school readiness such as routines and attachment. BHBF is delivered in the home through volunteers who have received enhanced training, using resource bags and specific assessment tools. BHBF is also delivered as a 5-week group programme, giving parents the opportunity to receive support and feel less isolated, and for children to engage in activities that are beneficial for a successful start in nursery or school.

The **Being Together Toolkit** training is used with families in the home. It aims to promote well-being and quality interactions between parents and their children, through simple shared experiences. Over the course of several weeks of repeating activities, it empowers parents to have better play interactions with children and helps them see the progress their child has made. The toolkit has 4 themes each containing 3 activities, videos and activity cards, with setting up and language suggestions and key tips to develop and extend play.

Financial wellbeing - We work with specialist organisations such as The Money Charity and Quaker Social Action, to train our team in financial management so they can support families with budgeting, financial planning, managing debt, and money-saving tips. The project also looks at some of the root causes of money problems such as our relationship with money and factors that influence our spending.

As Covid-19 restrictions decreased, groups (initially outdoors) were an important way of reconnecting families, reducing isolation and increasing opportunities for children to socialise. At the same time, we realised that following the pandemic, parents were still anxious about meeting in person limiting attendance at courses and groups.

In total 68 families with 105 children attended group activities in 2021-22

Over the Summer term, we provided families with a regular opportunity to meet in Burgess Park, through **Walk and Talk**, a buggy walk for parents of younger children, and **Healthy Movers** a physical activity group for toddlers and their parents. The sessions used various tools and resources such as ribbons, music, throwing, rolling, catching/kicking balls, hula hoops, parachute, blowing bubbles and running after them, beanbags, hide and seek and scavenger hunts. Children and parents were very engaged and really enjoyed the sessions, particularly the action songs and movement. 12 families attended these sessions.

In June-July and in partnership with 1st Place Children's Centre, we delivered **All About Boys**, a 4-week parenting course attended by 13 families (26 children) where 95% of parents reporting improved confidence in parenting their sons. We also delivered **BHBF School Readiness Group** attended by 5 families (6 children), where parents reported improved confidence around child self-care and independence - 'We learnt a lot to improve the confidence of my child to go to school'.

"It was excellent. My son engaged more with it over time, as he has not been able to attend groups due to lockdown, so wasn't used to it. I felt very welcomed."

Parent comment on All About Boys



2021 Events and Trips

Picnic at Burgess Park with fun activities and games to engage younger and older children, using many of the Healthy Movers resources and sensory toys for younger children. 20 families with 35 children attended, with lunch provided by Morrisons, and sports equipment by Decathlon.

We delivered a **World Book Day party** in March 2022, in lieu of a 2021 Christmas theatre trip, cancelled due to covid-19. The event was supported by United St Saviours Charity, Acorn Book Trust – who ensured each child received books; 1st Place Children’s Centre, and storytelling from Whippersnappers. 10 families with 14 children attended.

In the spring we delivered **Playing Up** in partnership with the Blue Elephant Theatre in Camberwell, as a series of 3 creative workshops for families with 1- to 3-year-olds. Attended by 13 families with 19 children.

South London Gallery - Creative sessions for the whole family where children created their own carnival floats. The trip was attended by 6 families with 14 children.

Tate Gallery Buggy Walk - We walked to the gallery and then had an opportunity to walk around with guided activities to engage with the art. 6 families with 12 children) attended.

“Home-Start made me feel heard and never judged. Everyone has been so warm and nice. Everyone at Home-Start has hearts of gold and now I want to tell everyone in the community how good they are and how they changed my life.”

Parent about the support they received



Volunteer Highlights

This year we introduced a new Volunteer Preparation Course, which Home-Start UK have devised after consultation with the network and delivered three courses in Summer and Autumn 2021 and Spring 2022. The three courses successfully recruited and trained 24 new volunteers to Home-Start Southwark.

We also delivered an ongoing programme of training for our volunteers' personal and professional development, including sessions from the Money Charity, online Domestic Abuse training by Tender; Being Together Training delivered by our coordinators Alison and Ola in Jan 22 and Getting it right for every child (GIRFEC) training. We also continue to deliver our Volunteer Support Groups online and in person to give volunteers an opportunity to discuss their experiences, share ideas and address concerns.

As part of our commitment to providing the best experience for our volunteers, in early 2022 we applied for Investing in Volunteers, which is the UK quality standard for good practice in volunteer management. We met our Investing in Volunteers Assessor in February and set up a Working Group consisting of volunteers, Trustees and staff to manage the process. During this ten-month process we will review all aspects of volunteering at Home-Start Southwark and create and implement an Improving Practice Plan.

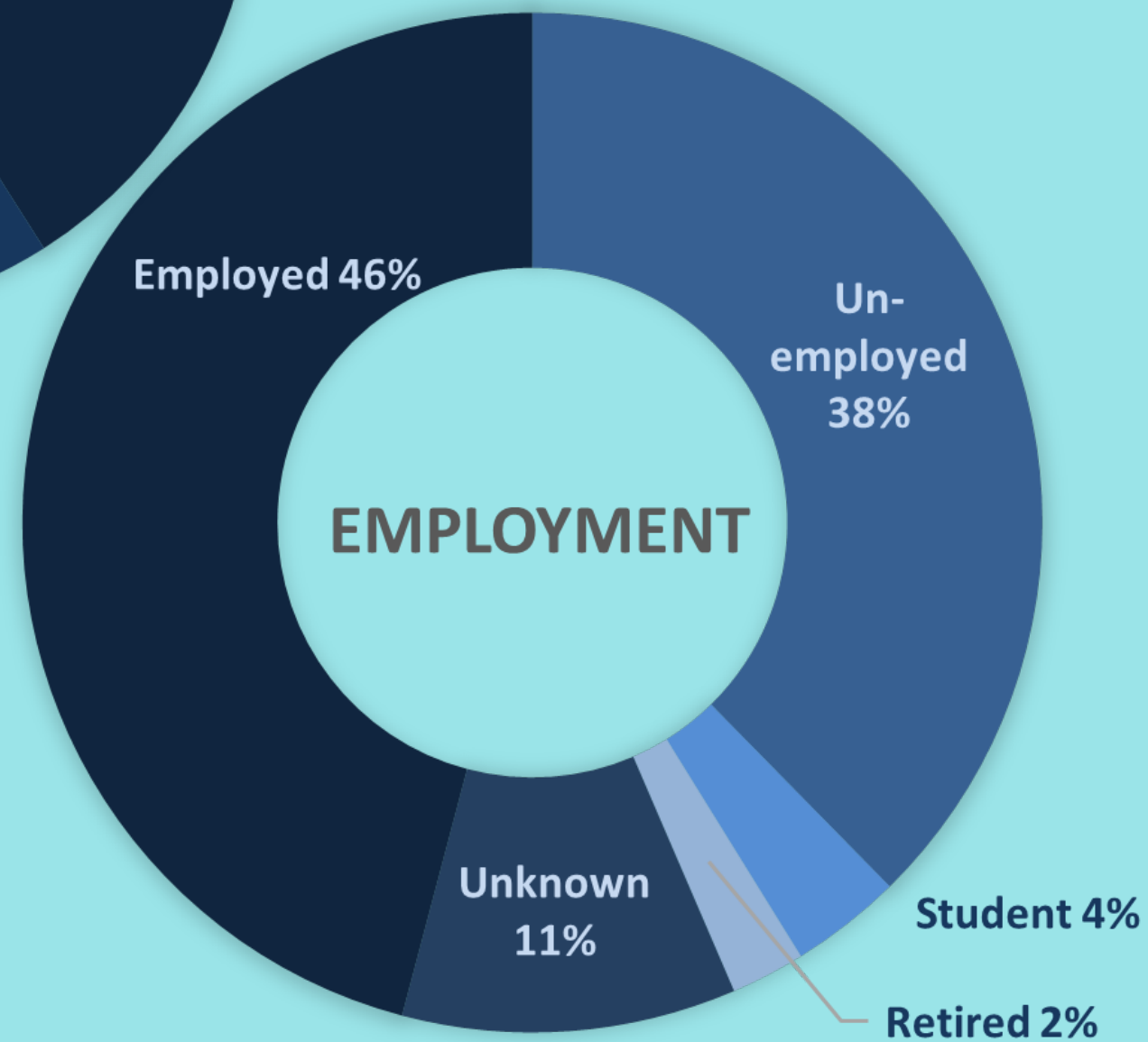
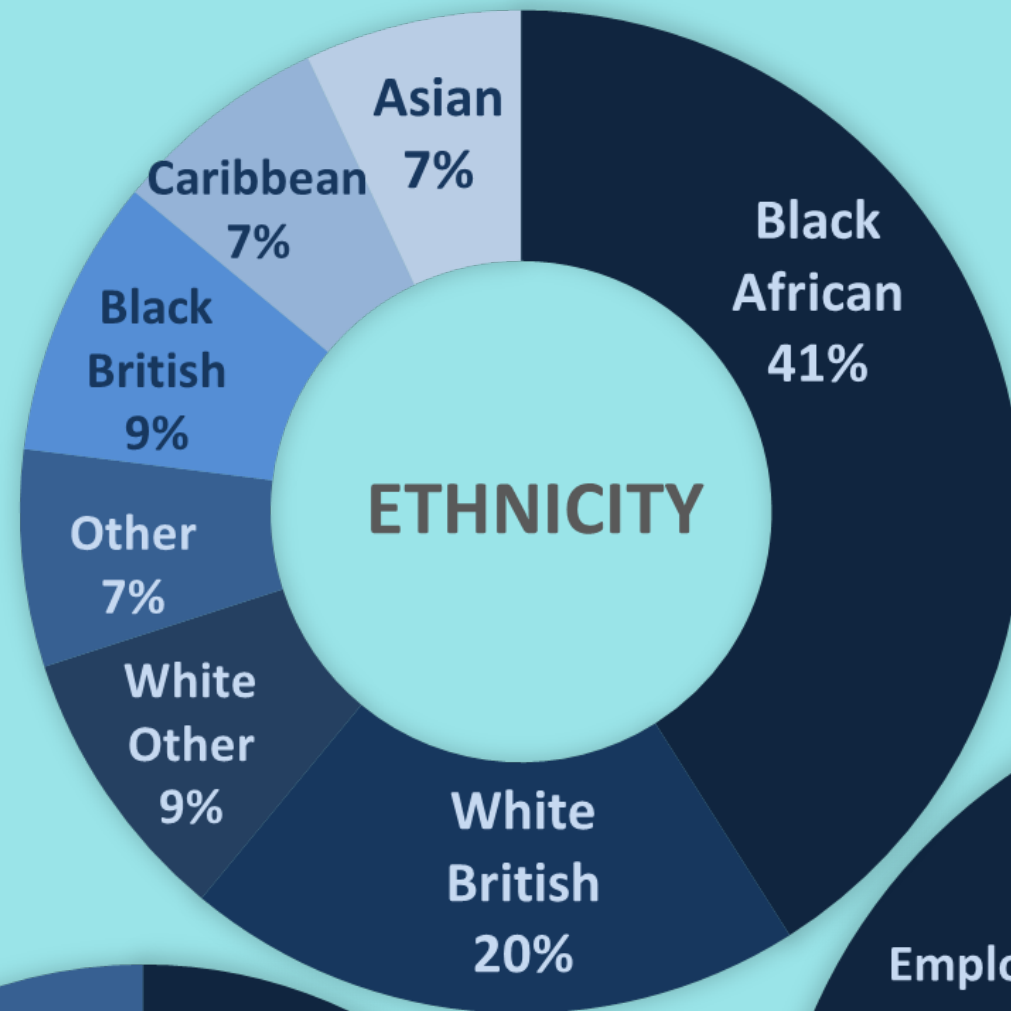
We are very proud of and grateful to our volunteers for their commitment, dedication and resolution to make children's homes a happier place to be.

“My volunteer helped me a lot and the children were really happy. Talking helped me get through the day. She came with me to appointments, and it made me feel more like I could say what I needed to and not forget things”

*Parent comment
about their volunteer*



Volunteers



- 24 new volunteers trained
- 63 volunteers
- 80% of volunteers from non-white British ethnic groups
- 8 volunteers identified as disabled
- 9 volunteers moved on including into education, training and employment
- 2288 hours logged by active volunteers



A Volunteer Story

Grace

I was motivated to join Home-Start as a volunteer by my own experience as a parent. I was a single parent and Home-Start helped me with my daughter who was born with a chronic disability. Having a volunteer drop by every week opened up our little world.

I draw on my own personal life experience to support families. The support I give varies from emotional support and a listening ear, to reduce isolation and improve confidence, to practical support in the home that increases children's physical, social and emotional development. The sort of activities I do with a family depend on their needs. Some parents want to go to health appointments, some to the park and others want to stay at home to play and talk. During lockdowns we talked on the phone and Zoom, and even had a tea party with a mum and her baby! It was a very emotional encounter, when we were eventually able to meet in person, and we started going to the park A LOT!

Reflecting on the most rewarding part of being a volunteer, I'd say: Where to begin?! Families open their lives and invite you on to their journey, which is an honour. It's a real position of trust. To those thinking of volunteering with Home-Start, I would say, if it's something you are drawn to, give it a go. There's a preparation course that will really set you up for the task, you'll receive a great deal of training and support. There's open communication and often friendship with the coordinators, and once you get into the swing of it, it becomes easier and it's very rewarding.

When I was nominated for a volunteer award, it made me laugh with surprise! I'll have to trust the team because I still don't feel worthy of it. I enjoy supporting so much that I'd do it with or without awards, but an award is a real plus.



End of Year Financial Review 2021-22

We are pleased to report the Home-Start Southwark 2021-22 results. Our total funding for the year was £317,992, a decrease of 23.8% compared to prior year, and our 'total resources expended' for the year was £350,340, an increase of 9.7% driven by increased staff costs in 2021-22. Resultant 'net expenditure' for the year was (£32,348) reducing fund balances carried forward as at 31 March 2022 to £220,178 (which includes £137,478 of general unrestricted funds). This was in line with expectations as, post Covid-19 and the transition to Home-Start Southwark being able to deliver the support and services offered to the community as planned, we sought to return to Home-Start Southwark's strategic growth plan which includes the controlled utilisation of excess carried forward resources over the plan period.

Grants

Our key grants this year included funding from the following charitable organisations:

- | | |
|---|---|
| - The Big Lottery Reaching Communities: £90,000 | - The Henry Smith Charity: £60,000 |
| - Peter Minet Trust: £30,000 | - United St Saviours Charity: £28,139 |
| - HS UK Growth Fund – Arbutnotts: £18,750 | - BBC Children In Need: £12,393 |
| - St George the Martyr: £7,500 | - Clarions: £7,250 |
| - Home-Start London: £6,234 | - Home-Start UK - Pilgrim Grant Trust: £1,500 |

Having recognised the value of our service offerings, the powerful impact of our work on our community and our future ambition, Home-Start Southwark has been successful in securing funding from a number of these charitable organisations through their formal bid processes on more than one occasion. As a Trustee body and Management committee we are extremely grateful for this level of recognition and continued support. Thank you.

In addition to these grants, we are hugely grateful to our generous benefactors and private individual donors who recognised the ongoing importance of our work and continue to support us. Our special thanks this year go to Marquesado who donated £33,254, Private Public Ltd who donated £3,000 and to our wider pool of private donors who collectively contributed £15,594.

Despite the ongoing support of existing donors, the funding cycle perpetuates and one of our key priorities remains to seek to secure new and replacement funding whilst also maintaining close control of our expenditure. New and replacement funding is required to cover both our existing project delivery and core costs such that we can continue to provide high quality training to our volunteers and exceptional service delivery to the families in our community in need of our support as well as in order for us to meet our business plan goals and secure our long-term future.

Opening funds balance: £252,526; Closing Funds Balance: £220,178

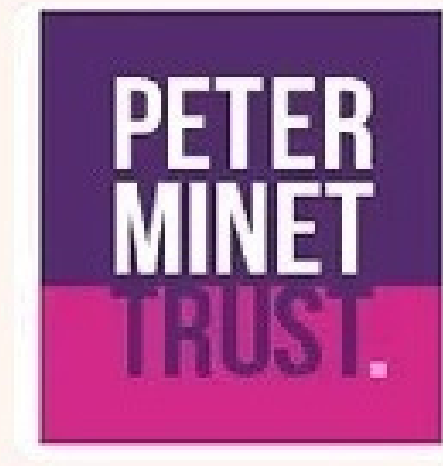
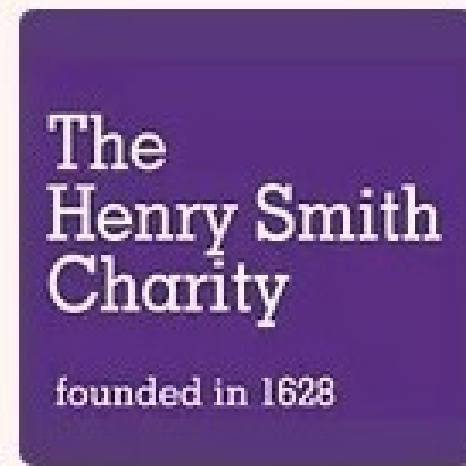
Reserves policy

The Management Committee has agreed a formal policy on reserves which require that:

1. a) Reserves are maintained at a level of which ensures that Home-Start Southwark has sufficient resources to continue its core activity (on a short-term basis) in the event of unforeseen circumstances such as a reduction or cessation of funding.
2. b) The Trustees have reviewed the charity's need for a reserve and agree the appropriate level.
3. c) This will be in line with the annual review of this policy, latest legislative requirements and best practice advice by the Charity Commission and Home-Start UK.

The level of designated reserves at 31 March 2022 was £81,800 (2020/21: £81,800).

Thank you to our funders and supporters, without whom our work would not be possible.



Private Individuals

- Arbuthnot Family
- Caroline and Ian Austin
- Pamela & Howard Jacobs
- Dr N. Johnson
- Chris and Charlotte King
- Celia and Charles Randell
- Richard South

Voluntary & Community Organisations

- Advising Communities
- Albrighton Community Centre
- Bede House
- Citizen Advice Bureau
- Community Southwark
- Contact a Family
- Kids Portage Home Learning
- Link Age Southwark
- Little Village
- PACT (Parent & Children Together)
- Pecan
- Quaker Social Action
- Shakespeare's Globe
- Solace
- Southwark Food Bank
- Southwark Young Carers

Children and Family Centres

- 1st Place Children's Centre
- Bermondsey & Rotherhithe
- Camberwell and Dulwich
- Peckham, Peckham Rye & Nunhead
- Borough, Bankside & Walworth

Charitable Trusts & Foundations

- Acorn Book Trust
- Barton Trust
- Buttle UK
- Children's trust
- Eaton Fund
- Elizabeth & Prince Zaiger Trust
- Family Fund Business Services
- Glasspool
- Peter Stebbins Memorial Charity
- Richardson Charitable Trust
- Robert Holman Memorial Trust
- The Money Charity

Local Authority, Statutory and Health Agencies

- Child & Adolescent Mental Health Service
- King's College & Guy's & St. Thomas's Hospitals' Community Midwifery & Health Visiting
- Nutrition and Dietetics Team
- South London and Maudsley: Parental and Perinatal Mental Health Teams
- Southwark Children's Services: Social Care & Early Help Teams
- Southwark Council Parks and Leisure Department
- Special Educational Needs team
- Speech and Language Team
- Sunshine House

Lewisham Services

- Citizen's Advice Lewisham
- Community Connections Lewisham
- Lewisham CAMHS
- Lewisham Family Information Service
- Lewisham Foodbank
- Lewisham Donation Hub
- Lewisham NHS trust

Others

- Amazon
- Basket Brigade
- Blue Elephant Theatre
- Cavendish Care
- Decathlon
- Dulwich Runners
- Dulwich & Sydenham golf club
- EasyFundraising
- John Keats Primary School
- Jon Lewis & Partners
- M&G plc
- Morrisons (Peckham)
- Marquesado
- New life Covenant Church
- Omnicom
- Price Waterhouse Coopers
- Ryman's
- Sainsburys
- Sammy sounds
- Waitrose Walbrook
- Whippersnappers
- White Stuff



[home-start-southwark](https://www.linkedin.com/company/home-start-southwark)



[HomeStartSouthwark](https://www.facebook.com/HomeStartSouthwark)



[@HomeStartSwark](https://twitter.com/@HomeStartSwark)



[Homestartsouthwark](https://www.instagram.com/Homestartsouthwark)



020 7737 7720



[homestartsouthwark.org.uk/donate](https://www.homestartsouthwark.org.uk/donate)



info@HomeStartSouthwark.org.uk



Thanks to
Pexels photos by:
Asmaa A
Daniel Reche
Filipe Leme
Markus Spiske
Tara Winstead
Tubarones Photography

Unsplash photos by:
Luis Arias
Shane Rounce
Taylor Wright
Tina Floersch

Registered Address: Canopi, 7-14 Great Dover Street, London, SE1 4YR
Charity registered in England & Wales, no. 1107413 | Company limited by guarantee, no. 5239322