



April 2022 - March 2023

Annual Report



Content

Chair's Welcome - **3**

An overview from CEO - **4**

Performance - **5**

What We Do - **9**

Sarah's Story - **10**

Our Work in Lewisham - **11**

Augustine's Story - **12**

Bump to Babe - **13**

Bump to Babe in Numbers - **14**

Ana's Story - **15**

Because Childhood Can't Wait... - **16**

Pandemic Consultation - **18**

Volunteer Highlights - **20**

Volunteers in Numbers - **22**

Iulia's Story - **23**

Social Work Student Placements - **24**

Thank you to... - **25**

End of Year Financial Review 2022-23 - **27**

Chair's Welcome

We're there for parents when they need us the most because childhood can't wait.

I have reflected on this sentence and our mission and values at Home-Start Southwark as I come to the end of my first year as the Chair of the Trustee Board. I feel a profound sense of pride and gratitude for the exceptional work carried out by our dedicated staff team and volunteers, who have delivered significant impact and improved outcomes for the families we have supported as they face desperate situations over the past 12 months.

It is essential to acknowledge the extraordinary challenges we have faced over the past year. There is clear evidence that children and families continued to struggle disproportionately where Home-Start Southwark deliver our programmes and services. The challenges faced by the families we support are complicated and affected by the lingering effects of a post-COVID pandemic world, the challenging economic climate, the cost-of-living crisis, the uncertain political environment. As an organisation we face the most challenging fundraising and funding landscape the charity sector has faced in decades.

The past year has been one requiring resilience, adaptability, compassion, and kindness from all of us at Home-Start Southwark to navigate the increasing demands on our services, the escalating complexity, and the multi-faceted needs of the families we support, on top of the existing challenges of inequalities already inherent within the Southwark and Lewisham boroughs.



Despite these challenges, Home-Start Southwark has remained steadfast in our commitment to supporting parents and families across Southwark and Lewisham to give their children the best possible start in life. We play a vital role in standing alongside the families and children we support ensuring that they never feel alone or isolated, and always have dedicated and trained support available to them when they need it the most.

In challenging and uncertain times Home-Start Southwark's work is critical. We have continued to deliver improved outcomes and tangible differences to the lives of children and families in their time of greatest need.

None of this vital work would have been possible without our exceptional staff team, incredible volunteers, and our committed Board of Trustees. Our dedicated Chief Executive Cheryl Rhodes has been instrumental in driving Home-Start Southwark forward despite the difficult circumstances we operate within. Her unwavering leadership and passion have ensured we have provided the help and support to families in need.

We appreciate the generous support and encouragement we received in the past year. Our funders, volunteers, and supporters have significantly contributed to our work and impact. We're so grateful to everyone who has supported Home-Start Southwark and the families that we stand alongside.

As we look to the year ahead, we remain resolute in our unwavering determination to do everything we can to help children and families to hold on to hope, and work towards the bright future they deserve.

Many Thanks,

Alex Williams



An overview from CEO

Dear Friends, Supporters, Partners and Volunteers,

Welcome to our Annual Report, we appreciate your interest in our work.

In a challenging year marked by the cost of living crisis, Home-Start Southwark has been a source of vital support for families facing difficulties. Families have grappled with rising costs and stagnant incomes in an environment of diminishing services making life tough for them and their children.

Our dedicated volunteers have been the driving force behind our mission. They've provided invaluable assistance, from offering consistent care and support to giving practical help when it was needed the most. Their compassion and resilience have made a world of difference. I am so thankful they give their time, skills and commitment to making life better for families in their community.

I'd also like to express my heartfelt gratitude to those who have gone the extra mile to raise funds for us this year. A special thank you is in order for our Marathon fundraisers Ben Scanlan, Ryan Duncanson and Tatyana Popova.



Additionally, I want to thank Nan Doble for her Bridge Fundraiser (which will be repeated soon) for those who prefer a cerebral challenge over a physical one! A special thank you also goes to Marquesado who have made invaluable donations for many years which have helped us through very difficult times. All of your efforts have made a significant impact, and we truly appreciate your support.

I'd also like to pay tribute to our incredible team for their tireless commitment, they have encountered some truly heartbreaking situations this year showing compassion and care in everything they do. On a personal note, I am particularly grateful to Becca, our Team Manager who I could not do this job without.

We are in an increasingly challenging funding landscape and need to be innovative, flexible and open to change in order to survive. The Board of Trustees has had to evolve committing more of their time, knowledge and skills to help us grow sustainably; I do feel lucky we have such a great team supporting us.

As we move forward, let's continue to stand together, working to make a positive impact on our families' lives.

Thank you for your support

Warm regards,

Cheryl Rhodes





Performance

We supported

202

Families

including

253

Parents and

390

Children

of which

35 Parent &

63 Children

in Lewisham

We supported

78

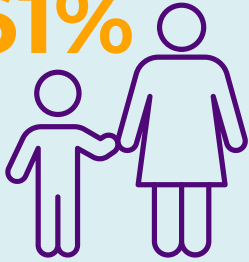
Active Volunteers
who provided...

9,950 hrs

of family
support



61%



lone parents

1/3

of parents aged 18 to 26



1 in 7

parents seeking asylum, refugees or had limited leave to remain



65%

of families had at least one member with a disability or health condition

79

families received Bump to Babe Perinatal Support

36%

of families also had children over 5

we took safeguarding action relating to

46

children

41%

of parents experienced Mental Health issues including anxiety and depression

53%

no paid income



Community Background

Most of our families are from Global Majority groups. This is reflected in the diversity of our volunteers, where the majority come from the same communities we support.

88%

of families

87%

of volunteers

49%

of residents

from Black, Asian and other Global Majority Groups



As part of our ongoing commitment to being inclusive, we have adopted the term 'global majority'. We use it to refer to all ethnic groups except white British and other white groups, including white minorities. This includes people from black, Asian, mixed, and other ethnic groups who are often racialised as 'ethnic minorities'.

Our Impact

79%

of parents were able to better manage the needs of multiple children including twins, triplets and more

78%

of families were able to manage their finances better and felt less stressed about their financial situation

69%

experienced improved access to local services

77%

of parents felt better able to cope with their own physical health

75%

of families experienced improved child mental and physical health

78%

of parents improved their parenting skills, relationship, connection and involvement with their children

80%

children improved their attainment and behaviour

What We Do

Home-Start Southwark works with families **where there is a pregnancy and/or children under 5**, by providing weekly support from a trained peer volunteer or worker empowering them to make changes to improve their family's life.

The way we support families continues to have relationships at its core – we believe, and our work proves, that the confidence and resilience gained by having someone standing alongside you offering encouragement and support, can make a huge difference to parents and children. Being a parent is difficult regardless of circumstances and many of our families are facing several additional challenges.

Families start their journey with a referral, and then meet one of the Family Support coordinators to discuss their strengths, areas for support and agree what they would like to work on with us.

This really varies, and can include support to play, interact and develop relationships and routines with their children, to access services and activities in the community, emotional support to build confidence and resilience, and help with form-filling and budgeting.

A family is then matched with a carefully selected volunteer or worker who visits them for around two hours a week for approximately six months to address their needs. The support is reviewed regularly, and adapted based on the family's evolving circumstances. Parents tell us that support from Home-Start is different from other services, that they feel they can be open and are not judged. We hope that their stories in this report enable you to see the impact we make, and inspire you to volunteer, donate, or refer families for support.



Sarah's Story

Sarah is a survivor of modern slavery and domestic abuse from her child's father. Southwark was far from her abuser, but she had no network of support here and had never lived independently. She was very scared of leaving her home and especially of going to new places. Her three-year-old son Jacob had lots of energy but was not accessing nursery or playgroups. Sarah and Jacob were usually at home, and Sarah did not know how to help his development or manage his behaviour.

We introduced Sarah to our volunteer, Miriam. Miriam visited weekly, and gradually built Sarah's trust to take her to local parks and children's centres. She showed her how to use apps to find locations and bus times. Sarah began to feel less scared, and Miriam began to meet her in the community rather than at home, building her confidence to manage journeys independently. Sarah began to recognise that her past trauma was affecting her, and we supported her to accept and access mental health support.

As Sarah's confidence grew, she realised that Jacob would be safe and happy at nursery, and Miriam went with Sarah to view nurseries, consider her options, and apply for funding. Sarah was concerned that Jacob wasn't ready, and so we unpacked her worries, and supported her with potty training and encouraging Jacob to eat independently, despite the mess!

Sarah and Jacob now attend children's centres independently and this summer attended a trip to the seaside for the first time! Jacob settled into nursery well, and this prompted Sarah to seek our support to attend college open days and apply to study. She is currently studying Business Management.

Sarah has had support from lots of services but says Home-Start Southwark gave her the confidence to believe in herself, and that she can do things for herself and her son independently. She now has much more hope for the future.



Our Work in Lewisham

In 22-23 we have grown our work in Lewisham. We have built relationships with key partners and now have a better understanding of the borough's needs. We have welcomed new volunteers who are Lewisham residents, and this has enabled us to increase our reach.

Last year, we supported 15 low need families in postcodes bordering Southwark; this year, we have doubled the number of Lewisham families we support, and now cover all areas of Lewisham, and families with multiple and complex needs. In 23-24, our aim is to support even more families.

We are proud of what we are achieving in Lewisham and excited for the future. We are continuing to reflect, plan and develop relationships with agencies and organisations to better support families in Lewisham. The more we get to know Lewisham, the more we see how much Home-Start is needed – our hope and aim is to continue building a sustainably funded Home-Start across both Southwark and Lewisham.



Augustine's Story



Augustine was 36 weeks pregnant and facing eviction. She had arrived in the UK two years ago and could not read or write. Augustine did not have friends or family in the UK, and was worried about how she would look after a baby while facing homelessness. Her midwife was worried about her mental health, and that the circumstances she was in made her high risk for post-natal depression.

We introduced Augustine to her volunteer, Victoria, shortly after baby Ibrahim arrived. Victoria introduced the family to local post-natal and baby groups, where Augustine could meet other mums in similar situations, talk about her worries, and normalise the challenges of being a new mum; broken sleep, crying and feeding concerns. Victoria helped Augustine to apply for benefits and register for social housing – this was challenging due to Augustine's illiteracy, but with time spent each week on reviewing the website, she was eventually able to bid for properties independently. Augustine and Ibrahim received baby essentials, clothes and food from organisations we referred her to.

10 months on, Augustine and Ibrahim are still in a property that is unsuitable and unsafe for Ibrahim as he learns to walk. Although things are not perfect, Augustine now feels more in control of her life as she can understand and navigate the systems around her. She is more financially stable and able to budget. She attends baby groups regularly and independently and has become a pivotal member of a parenting group that supports new mums with their mental health and self-esteem. Ibrahim is happy, sociable and thriving.



Bump to Babe

Bump to Babe provides support for families in the perinatal period across Southwark and Lewisham – 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.

In 2022-23, 79 families received Bump to Babe support in their homes.

This year we have focused on reassessing what is needed to support families during the perinatal period by reaching out to the community, midwifery teams and perinatal Mental Health Teams, to work out together what families need most.

Post-pandemic pregnant women and new parents are struggling with their mental health more than ever. The majority of parents we support through Bump to Babe are experiencing depression, anxiety, and other mental health conditions, and often tell us they are struggling or waiting long periods for mental health support. Reaching these families early, with peer support from a volunteer, prevents the devastating impacts poor mental health can have on attachment, babies' development and family life.

We have found that this has especially affected certain populations such as refugee and asylum seekers, who we know are more likely to be experiencing poor mental health due to fleeing traumatic situations, and are more likely to have complex pregnancies (BJM, Aspinall and Watters, 2010).

In response, we are reviewing our training to ensure culturally sensitive and inclusive practice is embedded. We are excited to have developed our staff and volunteer teams to meet the community's needs, and are now able to offer support to families in many more languages than in previous years.



Bump to Babe in Numbers

60%

of parents felt more confident in supporting their baby's development

75%

of parents were able to better manage the needs of multiple children including twins, triplets and more

82%

of parents experienced improvement in their housing circumstances

75%

of parents improved relationships with their children and family

60%

of parents improved their physical health

52%

of parents felt more confident, resilient, and emotionally stable

86%

of parents felt more able to manage their baby's crying

60%

of families experienced feeling less isolated and alone, and more integrated in their community



Ana's Story

Ana has four children with Special Educational Needs (SEN). She does not speak any English.

The eldest three children had not been in education for a year due to the family moving home and Ana not understanding how to apply for schools and nurseries. Due to the children's ages and needs, the family could not leave the home safely without support.

Ana had tried to ask for help but did not know how to navigate the system. It was hard to open up about her struggles via an interpreter, when one was available.

Ana told her Home-Start Family Support Coordinator who spoke French, that she was overwhelmed by supporting the children 24/7. She was depressed and had started drinking and binge eating. The coordinator signposted Ana to counselling she could access in French. We introduced a French speaking volunteer, who Ana felt she could open up to. Working alongside the Children's Centre, we supported Ana to find school and nursery places for the older children and navigate the processes of getting them support with their SEN.

One year on, Ana now has a fifth child – a new baby who brings new challenges to her health and overcrowded housing situation. Ana is still overwhelmed but feels more confident and knows how to reach out for help. She is receiving therapy, medication for her depression and no longer drinks or binge-eats.

She said *“Home start took the time to listen to me, I never felt judged, and this is why I was able to open up and receive the help. My volunteer believed in me when I didn't and helped me improve my relationship with myself and my children”*.



Because
childhood
can't wait...

We know that a child's experiences between birth and age five have a major impact on their future life chances, and so supporting children to develop, grow and thrive is at the heart of what we do.

The parents we work with are facing many challenges due to their own health and circumstances, but we always make sure that the weekly visits from our team have a focus on the child's development; through support to develop an enriching and fun home-learning environment, and accessing children's centres, play groups and early years education settings in the community.

Big Hopes Big Future (BHBF)

In 22-23 we have continued to grow our BHBF project, which is delivered in two key ways – group work with parents and children approaching starting school or nursery, and individual support delivered in the home.

We have reviewed our BHBF training to volunteers and staff this year to ensure we are culturally sensitive in our approach to how parents and children experience and understand play and development.

We delivered two BHBF four-week programmes to groups at Coin Street Children and Family Centre and St Johns and St Clements Primary School in the summer term of 2022, reaching 18 families. This programme helps prepare children and their parents for school or nursery to ensure transitions are smooth and children are given the best start.

Samera “The course really helped me to learn how to deal with our separation, anxiety and change”.

Diana “It helped first time parents like me deal with everyday situations and to help our children improve their development”.



Being Together (BT)

We have continued to use the BT resources developed during the pandemic to enhance our home visiting work. Videos and resource sheets support families to engage in interactive activities using easily available resources (water play, singing, reading, playdough), focused on building relationships and shared enjoyment of enriching activities. We have refreshed and replenished the resource bags over the year, and had some great feedback from volunteers about the resource bags being a "way in" to re-focusing the support visits to the children's needs and to energise and bring joy to family situations where the emotional needs or home environment are challenging and demoralising.

Healthy Movers

In partnership with Home-Start Lambeth, we delivered a weekly Healthy Movers group in Ruskin Park in the 2022 school summer holidays. The group focused on physical activity for the whole family, and children were given free equipment based on a different theme each week - balls, skipping ropes, ribbons, hula-hoops, and refreshments. We received 29 referrals for this group, with 21 families attending 1+ sessions. The group was well supported by volunteers, with 2-4 attending each group.

Mateo, an asylum seeker, who attended with his wife and 2 children said: "I'm thankful that my son has had something to look forward to over the summer. He had an outdoor space where he felt safe, had fun, and could interact with other children. It was a day a week when we knew we were going to be outside and didn't have to worry about money, safety, or not knowing anyone in the community".

Christmas 2022

The cost-of-living crisis means that the poverty we are seeing on a day-to-day basis is increasing, alongside the many other struggles families face. We knew that it was especially important this year to make sure the children we support had a magical Christmas! With support from corporate and community donors we were able to ensure all families received presents for children and adults, a food hamper or food vouchers, and £50 cash or vouchers towards increasing costs.

World Book Day

In March 2023 we distributed over 100 new books donated by audiences at the Globe Theatre at annual World Book Day event at Coin Street Children & Family Centre.

Pandemic Consultation

The COVID-19 pandemic brought significant changes to the lives of families in Southwark. Southwark Council wanted to better understand the ongoing impact of the pandemic on families with children under five, and asked us to consult the families we work with to see what concerned them most for themselves and their children.

We engaged 200+ families through an online survey, snapshot conversations, and in-depth interviews. By actively listening to the families, we gained valuable insights that will help us shape the delivery of services that cater to those needs.

Key messages from Parents and carers:

- They are worried about their child's emotions and behaviour,
- They are concerned about their children's speech, language, and communication skills,
- They are worried about their child's opportunities to play and socialise,
- Money worries are making it difficult for them to focus on their children,
- Family stress is affecting their ability to parent as they would want to,
- The family's mental wellbeing has been affected by isolation and poor support networks.





The families we spoke with appreciated the opportunity to share their experiences of having babies and raising children during such a tumultuous time. Many parents talked about the stress on their mental health during this time. Families have reported that the lockdown and lack of opportunities for children to socialize have had a significant impact on their mental and emotional wellbeing.

Parents of children of all ages have seen different effects, with isolation being the most common issue mentioned. These stories highlight the challenges that families have faced during the pandemic, particularly with regards to child development and accessing necessary services. They also show that the legacy of this period is having an ongoing impact on children's development and family life.

We have adapted how we do things in response to what parents have told us. We reviewed our core support and made some changes, so that where needed, we increased our support period from 6 months to 9-12 months. We continue to do this, but this has put pressure on our staff/volunteer capacity, so it is continually reviewed.

Many families highlighted the significance of Home-Start in their lives, especially in accessing groups and community activities. One mother said that her Home-Start volunteer was a lifesaver for her as she had a child with special educational needs as she found it difficult to attend playgroups on her own. "I wouldn't have been able to get out of the house at all without Home-Start support. Sometimes my Home-Start volunteer was the only person I would see all week."

A full copy of the consultation report can be found at www.homestartsouthwark.org.uk/resources



Volunteer Highlights

We welcomed **19 fantastic new volunteers** to Home-Start Southwark this year. This lower than usual number is in line with national trends, and have been due to the cost-of-living crisis.

We are delighted to have been awarded **the Investing in Volunteers Award** in December 2022. This was a huge team effort from the staff, volunteers and trustees which formally recognises that we put volunteers at the heart of everything that we do. During the course of application, we worked towards improving the volunteer's experience by adapting new and updating old processes around volunteer recruitment and management.

We introduced a new volunteering role - **Admin and Social Media Volunteer** - to help our volunteers in developing new skills, but also to get a different perspective on our Social Media presence. We nominated our first ever admin volunteer, Abdoul Diallo, for the Home-Start UK Digital Volunteer of the Year Award and we were so pleased when he won and went on to star in a Home-Start UK film!

Watch the Digital Volunteer of the Year 2023:
www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gj82YIKzYas





We received funding from Home-Start UK as part of their Volunteering Futures programme to help us recruit more volunteers from minority groups in Southwark and Lewisham. We have reached out to Afghan, Bengali, Ukrainian and Latin American community groups and will continue to do so as forging links and building trust requires time. We do have several new volunteers who speak community languages and will increase our ability to support families with little or no English.

As part of our ongoing training programme, we have provided training for volunteers in: Financial Wellbeing (run by The Money Charity); Domestic Abuse (run by the Director of Home-Start Lambeth who devised the course); and Supporting Speech & Language needs in Early Years (run by the Southwark Speech and Language Therapy team). We have also provided Being Together, Healthy Movers and Safeguarding refresher training.



We said a big Thank You to our amazing volunteers at two Social Events this year – a Summer Lunch in a Turkish Restaurant in East Dulwich and a New Year Brunch in the Brewbird Café in Peckham. Both were fun occasions where staff and volunteers could get to know each other better in an informal social environment. We also ran monthly Volunteer Support Zoom meetings where volunteers could catch up with the latest developments at Home-Start Southwark and share their views and experiences with other volunteers.



Volunteers in Numbers

78

active volunteers

13 volunteers moved on, of whom

6 went into paid employment or education

19

new volunteers recruited and trained

87%

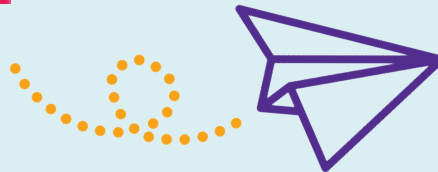
from Global Majority groups

50%

in paid employment

14%

identified as disabled



Iulia's Story

"I decided to volunteer for Home-Start Southwark after reading testimonials about the incredible work this organisation does for families and the support volunteers themselves seemed to receive from them. The training was thorough, in-depth, and up to date with the most current research into child psychology, which to me was very important as it was very much in line with my approach to raising my own child.

From the very first interview with Juliet (Volunteer Coordinator), to being introduced to the other amazing people working for this organisation and the celebratory lunches, it has been clear how much Home-Start values its people.

Their wholesome approach to helping parents find their strength when it all gets a bit much and the practical support they offer mums, dads and young children all around Southwark and Lewisham, really makes them stand out.

Since starting my volunteering role and working closely with families who have allowed us into their homes, I have felt empowered to share my skills, encouraged to be the listening ear so many of us need in their early days as parents and truly felt valued by the two wonderful Co-ordinators I have worked with so far.

The overall support and experience I have gained have also given me a lot of confidence and I have gone from feeling a bit lost and not quite sure about which path to take once my daughter started school, to actively pursuing a career as a counsellor and finding more ways in which I can help parents like me achieve their full potential."

Iulia - Home-Start Volunteer

Social Work Student Placements

In 2022-23 we continued our partnership with London South Bank University by welcoming three Social Work students on 100 day placements. This benefits both Home-Start Southwark, by bringing new experience and knowledge to the team, and the students by providing them with a unique opportunity to develop their skills in building relationships with parents and children to empower positive change.

Akosua's story

"During the week leading up to the start of my placement I was both anxious and excited as I was not sure what to expect. Part of my induction was seven-week Volunteer Preparation Course which included discussions on values, attitudes, listening and communication. It stood out to me that communication is the fundamental element in establishing a working relationship with families and supporting them in achieving their goals.

It was an eye-opener for me to work with families facing complex situations, and I gained a wealth of knowledge about children and families. I was able to attend Child Protection Conferences, Core Group meetings, and a Strategy Meeting. It provided me with valuable skills such as report writing and developing strong relationships with professionals across a range of disciplines.

It was a great pleasure working with the Home-Start team. Everyone was supportive and always willing to help. My supervision was informative and educational. I learnt how to best assist families and hope to use the knowledge I have acquired to support other families as effectively as possible in my next role as a social worker."

Akosua Owusu - Social Work Student



Thank you
to...



The
Henry Smith
Charity
founded in 1628



*Peter
Stebbing
Memorial
Charity*

Impact
on **Urban
Health**

Private Individuals

Dr N. Johnson
Tina Colclough
Ben Scanlan
Ryan Duncanson
Tatyana Popova
Lloyd Davies
Pippa and Terry South
Philippa Orpen-Palmer
Debbie and Nick Barton
Nan and Michael Doble

Voluntary and Community Organisations

Lewisham Donation Hub
Lewisham NHS Trust
South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust
Lewisham Health Visitors
King's College & Guy's & St Thomas's Hospitals' Community Midwifery & Health Visiting
Southwark Children's Services:
Social Care and Early Help Team
Special Educational Needs Team
Speech and Language Team
Indigo Midwives
Lewisham Family Thrive
Mammakind
Lewisham Local
PACT

Get Rid of and Donate
Community Southwark
Little Village
Citizens Advice Bureau
Citizens Advice Lewisham Community Connections
Lewisham Lewisham
Family Information
Service Lewisham Food Bank
Southwark Food Bank
Lewisham Parochial and Almshouse Charities

Children and Family Centres

1st Place
Bermondsey & Rotherhithe
Camberwell & Dulwich
Coin Street Children and Family Centre
Peckham, Peckham Rye & Nunhead
Borough, Bankside & Walworth

Charitable Trusts & Foundations

Acorn Book Club
Buttle UK
Charities Trust
Children's Trust
Elizabeth & Prince Zaiger Trust
Family Fund Business Services
Glasspool
Robert Holman Memorial Trust
The Money Charity

Others

Amazon Smile
BT Group
Barclay's
Canopi
Lush
Brewbird Cafe
London Zoo
Home-Start UK
Home-Start London
Home-Start Lambeth
The GOOD Agency
Globe Theatre
Multiplex
The Body Shop (Tooley Street)
Basket Brigade
Blue Elephant Theatre
Decathlon
Dulwich & Sydenham Golf Club
Easy Fundraising
John Lewis & Partners
LNER
Morrisons (Peckham)
Marquesado
Omnicom
PWC
Sainsbury's
St John's and St Clement's Primary School
Waitrose
London South Bank University

End of Year Financial Review 2022-23

We are pleased to report the Home-Start Southwark 2022-23 results. Our total funding for the year was £454,911, an increase of 43.1% compared to prior year, and our 'total resources expended' for the year was £398,640, an increase of 13.8% driven by increased staff costs in 2022-23. Resultant 'net income' for the year was £56,271 increasing fund balances carried forward as at 31 March 2023 to £276,449. 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 Fund: £127,596
- The Henry Smith Charity: £93,900
- The Peter Stebbings Charity £10,000
- Peter Minet Trust: £30,000
- United St Saviours Charity: £43,853
- Arbutnots: £6,250
- BBC Children In Need: £10,500
- Impact on Urban Health: £9,146
- Garfield Weston: £20,000
- Southwark Council: £25,000
- Home-Start UK: £11,500
- Good Agency: £3,000



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 £42,197, The Elizabeth & Prince Zaiger Trust who donated £2,000, T Colclough for their donation of £1,540 and to our wider pool of private donors who collectively contributed £9,676.

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: £220,178; Closing Funds Balance: £276,449.

Reserves policy

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

- 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.
- b) The trustees have reviewed the charity's need for a reserve and agree the appropriate level.
- 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 reserves in this fund at 31 March 2023 was £81,800 (2021/22: £81,800).



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