

We have had an extremely busy year again and have had even more referrals from our partner agencies. The knowledge and experience we have gained over this last year has enabled us to meet our outcomes for the Big Lottery and has highlighted that the support we are offering is changing.



We are receiving more families where they are identifying mental health issues and we are working with more complex families with child and adult disabilities. We have also identified that there is a need for our service for families with children aged from 5 to 11. With this in mind we will be looking to apply for continuation funding for our current project with the Big Lottery and have decided to look at the whole 'dynamics' of the family where we will be able to address issues such as the whole family's emotional wellbeing and the environment in which the family lives in order to bring about positive change.



Our three Family Groups are currently funded by HealthWhole & Children In Need. The HealthWhole funding continues to Jan 16, but other funding will need to be sourced before this time. Children in Need funding will finish in July and another application has already been submitted for continuation funding.



The Deal Family Group focuses on the Born to Move Programme and we encourage families to attend that need support, especially around children's social skills, language & communication, and bonding and attachment. The parents also receive emotional support from the staff and volunteers at the group.

During the year parents and children enjoyed a day out at Kent Life and although the day was a little chilly they still had a fun time. This was made possible by The Kent Big Week-End and The Family Holiday Association who very kindly provided the coach and tickets for our families.

We have also visited Kearsney Abbey and Fowlmead Country Park during the school summer break. Claire and Vicki provided fun activities for the children, and a lovely time was had by all.

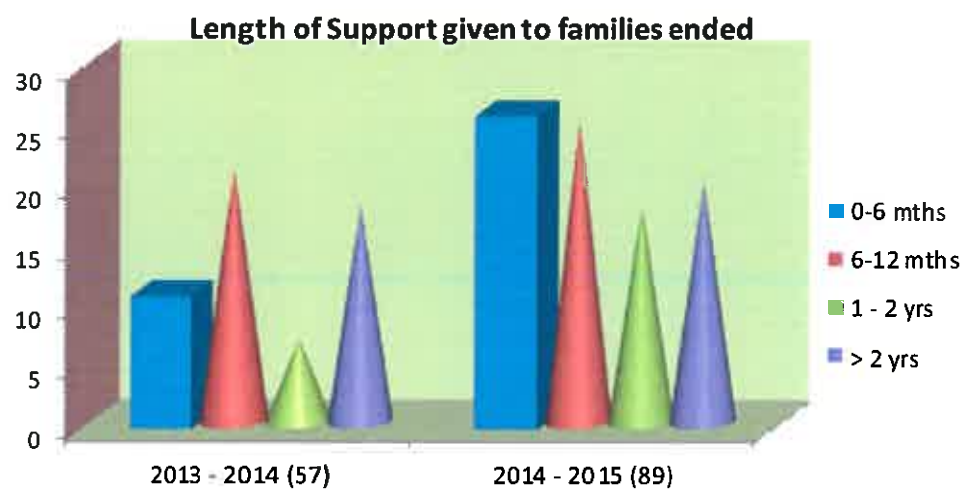
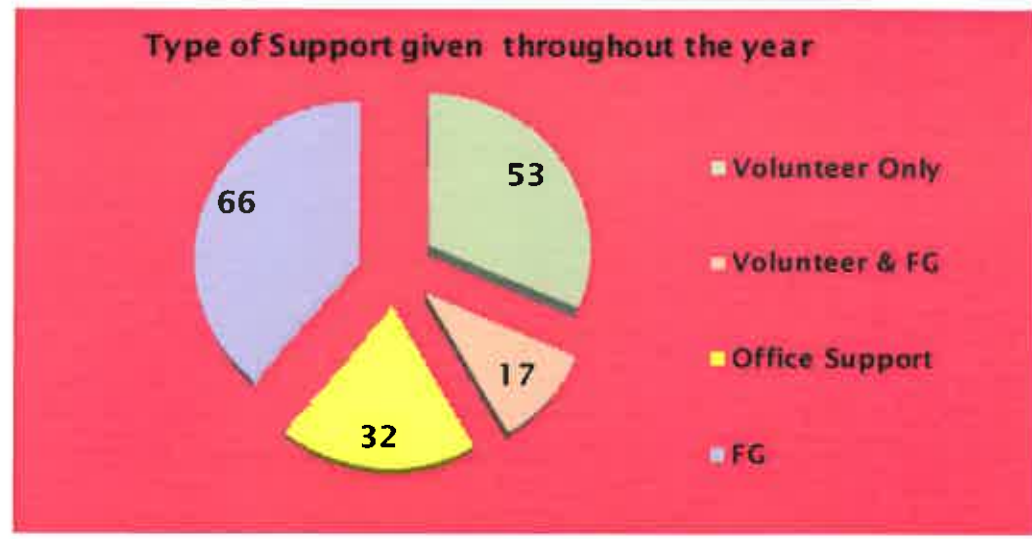
Scheme Manager's Report

I am always asked the question "how many hours are volunteers expected to give" and I always reply only 2-3! But I never underestimate how important these hours are. Not only in the busy lives of our volunteers but equally important as support for our families. That said, some volunteers also find the time to offer support to two families! And many would do more!

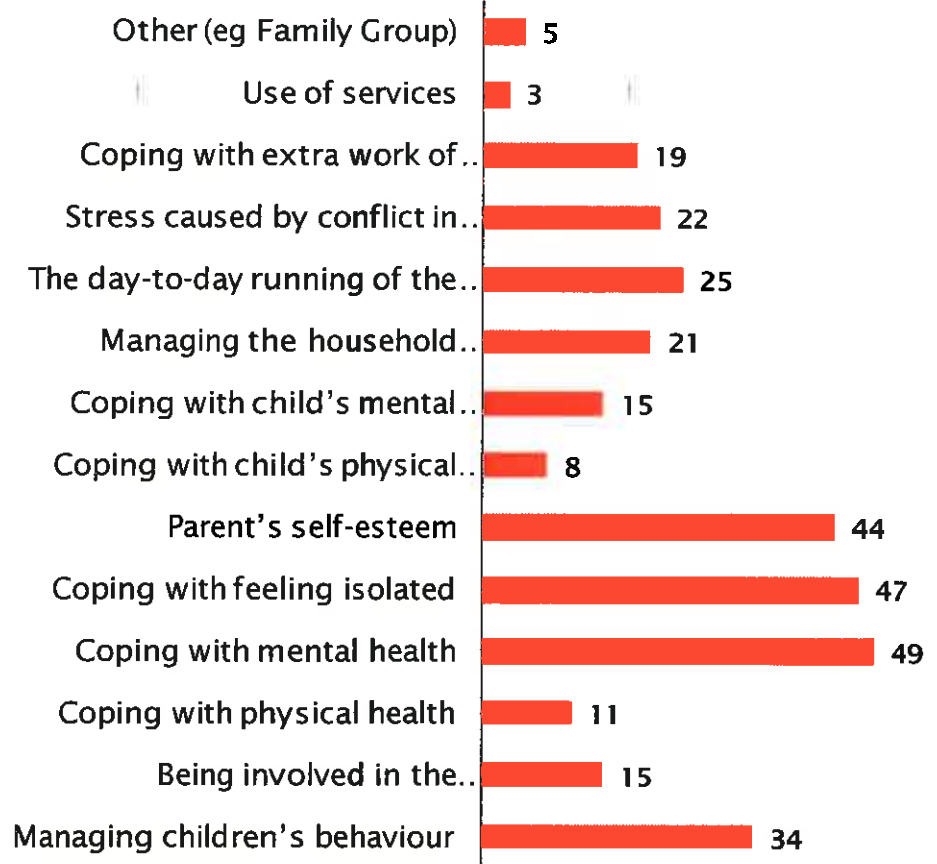


The support offered to our families over this past year has varied enormously. Families have been given emotional and practical support in their home but they have also been given much more from the volunteers. We have been able to give support at an early stage in order to prevent families reaching crisis and prevented escalation of their problems.

We are still the only organisation to offer long term preventative support in the family home. Recruiting volunteers continues to be a challenge for us. We use every type of media to advertise for new volunteers but often find word of mouth and recommendation are the best means of communication. Our volunteers remain resolute in their dedication to Home-Start Dover District and without them we would not be able to support the number of families that we do. So **THANK YOU** to all of our stoic volunteers who are able to donate their time and who remain committed to our work.



Needs Identified by 90 new families



Home Start

Support and friendship for families

Dover District

ANNUAL REPORT 2014-2015



Home-Start Dover District,
The Ark, Noah's Ark Road, Tower Hamlets,
Dover, Kent, CT17 0DD. T/F: 01304 242314.
E: office@home-startdoverdistrict.org.uk
W: www.home-startdoverdistrict.org.uk

Bank: Nat West Dover Branch
25 Market Square
Dover Kent
CT16 1XY

Auditors: Calcutt Matthews
2nd Floor, Cardine House
30 North Street, Ashford Kent
TN24 8JR



Sandie, Suzanne, Vicki, Claire, Tracy
the dedicated Home-Start Team

We were contracted
by KCC to employ 5
full-time &
1 part-time
Early Help Family
Practitioners, and
additional staff cover

Treasurer's Report

Once again we started this financial year with a deficit budget of approximately £21,000. However with extremely careful financial management of funds and income from grants, donations and our management services we were able to cover the costs of all our activities. Our three year Big Lottery Grant of £249,667 continues which has brought an income of £83,823 during this financial year. This covers the majority of our Core Services; the remainder is covered by Management Fees for our partnership work with SSCC's.

At the beginning of the financial year, our Deal Family Group did not have any secure funding, however we were successful with an application to Children In Need and received £9,445 to fund the group for one year. The Peoples Health Trust funding continues with a total grant of £27,225 to cover the costs of our two Dover Family Groups for two years, £8,168 was received during this financial year.

We continue to provide the Outreach Team for SSCC's, which brought an overall income of £201,245. Total incoming resources for the year have seen a decrease from £355,422 to £306,389, and total expenditure also showed a decrease from £337,871 to £290,350. I am therefore pleased to report that we ended the year with a total net surplus of £16,039 and this has enabled the Trustees to avoid redundancies and maintain our dedicated Home-Start staffing levels without needing to use any of our reserves this year.

The Trustees were able to offer a 2% increase in staff salaries this year, and staff entitled to an 'incremental' rise received this as per their contracts.

My personal thanks go to the dedicated staff team for their hard work in achieving this successful state of finances. Full copies of our accounts are produced separately and are available on request from the Home-Start office.

Staff Pension Scheme:

The Trustees offer a contributory staff pension scheme.

Reserves Policy:

The Trustees have agreed to maintain a minimum of six months up to a maximum of one year's running costs as a prudent measure to protect the charity against loss of major or core funding and any redundancy payment obligations or unforeseen circumstances. This policy is regularly reviewed and amended as required.

Risk Management:

The Trustees recognise this as good policy and practice and continue to review the Organisational Risk Policy regularly.

Our Core Belief:

Home-Start Dover District believes that children need a happy and secure childhood and that parents play a key role in giving their children a good start in life and helping them achieve their full potential.

Our Mission:

Home-Start Dover District offers support, friendship and practical help to parents with young children.

Home-Start Dover District offers a unique service, recruiting and training volunteers – who have parenting experience – to visit families at home who have at least one child under five, to offer informal, friendly and confidential support.

In addition to this Home-Start Dover District offers services including family groups and training courses. To help give children the best possible start in life, Home-Start Dover District supports parents to grow in confidence, strengthen their relationships with children and widen their links with the local community.

Our Vision:

Home-Start Dover District wants to see a society in which every parent has the support they need to give their children the best possible start in life.

Our Values:

Home-Start Dover District's values are the principles that Home-Start holds most dear and through which we work. They are: non-judgmental support, friendship, caring partnership, lightness of touch, trust and respect.

Director/Trustee Members 2014 – 2015

Sue Marshall	Chairperson
Georj Donaldson	Vice Chair
Pat Wheeler	Treasurer
Amy Roe	Volunteer rep
Robynne Dix	Volunteer rep — Resigned 25.07.14
Sue Delling	Independent — Resigned 13.10.14
Caroline Nichols	Independent
Graham Hutchison	Independent
Carol Hull	Independent — Resigned 25.07.14
Di Cawsey	Independent — Appointed 25.07.14
Kathryn Davenport	Independent
Leanne Watson	Advisor D, D & SCC
Penny Stephens	Advisor KCC S Services
Suzanne Letchford	Company Secretary

Chairperson's Report

Overall the year 2014-2015 has been a good steady year. Another year of financial stability provided by the Lottery funding towards our core Home-Start activity has enabled our dedicated staff to continue with what they do best, support and train our volunteers who visit families with many and varied needs. Unfortunately we are moving into our final complete year of this present funding and a new bid will need to be one of our main priorities for the coming year.

Once again the fates of the Sure-Start out-reach workers remained uncertain throughout the year, and only at the very last minute we agreed the new reduced contract for a further year.

It only remains for me to also add an enormous "Thank You" to Tracy and her team on behalf of both the Management Board & the Families, for their tireless work to help, and wherever possible to improve the lives of all those seeking our support throughout the year.

- .Gillian S
- .Dee C
- .Twigy H
- .Abi W
- .Margaret R
- .Tina T
- .Margaret L
- .Sharon G
- .John L
- .Claire P
- .Amy K
- .Liz B
- .Corriene M
- .Sally R
- .Gemma S
- .Val S
- .Zoe R
- .Kayleigh W
- .Elizabeth B
- .Julia S
- .Hayley B
- .Margaret W
- .Jodie D
- .Cheryl P
- .Vicky W
- .Robyne C
- .Emma C
- .Andrea R
- .Sharon W
- .Jenny T
- .Lyn B
- .Marie G
- .Karen C
- .Angela M
- .Julia C
- .Anne G
- .Charlotte H
- .Louise E
- .Di C
- .Linda W
- .Stuart M
- .Theresa Z
- .Claire L
- .Samantha G
- .Ann H
- .Sam H
- .Davina A
- .Anna S
- .Diane
- .Roxanne C
- .Carrie W
- .Donna B
- .Joanna Q
- .Jess S
- .Nicole K
- .Jacqui P
- .Julia C
- .Melissa W
- .Carol B
- .Dapne D
- .Lisa L
- .Mary S
- .Marion S



the hands that
make a difference
are the hands of a
volunteer



Throughout
2014 - 2015
our Volunteers
visited families
totalling
448 visits and
amounting to
76,530 minutes



Our Funders:
Lottery; KCC; HealthWhole; Children in Need

Our Partnerships:
Kent County Council; SureStart -
(Dover, Deal & Sandwich Children's Centres);
NHS-Eastern & Coastal Kent; APEK; Case Kent;
Dover & Deal Foodbank; Jigsaw Consortium;

Our thanks:
Dover Lions; Deal Lions; Skullys Catering Services
Asda (Dover) Supermarket; Co-op (Deal) Funeral
Services; Dover Kittywake Restaurant;
Howden's Joinery; Srewfix
Masonic Hall (Dover) Social Committee
The Kent Big Week-End &
The Family Holiday Association