



CaritasCare

Making lives better

Annual Overview 2016/17

Welcome to our Annual Review 2016/17, which you will find packed with highlights, stories, facts & figures from a year in which we celebrate reaching out to support more people than ever.



We have attracted new funding, been awarded new contracts, and enjoyed success in our bids for Local Authority 'frameworks' to help further our work in Fostering and Learning Disability services.

Our Adoption services have gone from strength to strength, working alongside our partners to develop the new Regional Adoption Agencies in the North West.

Our sincere thanks go to every single one of our dedicated staff and volunteers, partners, funders and benefactors for making all this happen!

Amanda Forshaw - Chief Executive
Paul Desborough - Chair Of Trustees

Over 4.5k
People



Received our
Support



Over 12.5k
People



Came to our
Events

Adoption

placed with
57 Adopters
children



Adoption
47 orders
granted



Adopters
approved **41**



Training
Events
19



Support
21 groups



Information
Events
90



Adoption Hub

miles
travelled
5395



Locations
40 visited



We have been very proud this year to launch our Dear Adopter campaign.

We engaged several of our adopters to write a series of letters about their adoption experiences and apprehensions. We are delighted to say that they really did step up to the challenge with their inspiring stories.

You can read all their letters here..
caritascare-iadopt.org.uk/dear-adopter

Dear Adopter

Allowing yourself to dream of the simple things is the greatest pleasure, of feeding ducks and pushing a pram, the things you've suppressed for so long as it was just too painful. I relished in walking down the children's aisle in the supermarket, I was suddenly allowed, I was going to be a mummy and had finally given myself permission to step into this forbidden land. Some may think I'm crazy but I'm wondering if you can relate? I have a sneaking suspicion that you can!

Love Lauren



Adoption Partnership Work



worked with **16** local authorities across the North West

placed with **21** Concurrent Carers



Concurrent Carers approved

17



Adoption orders granted



15



“Surviving and thriving after Baby returned to birth family: “There’s definitely life after a baby returns to their birth family. My concurrency placement was an invaluable learning experience. It helped me to grow. It taught me about selflessness. And it helped to prepare me for my next placement. After a six month break and once again weighing up the pros and cons of traditional adoption vs Concurrency, I’m ready to climb aboard the concurrency roller coaster again.”

Anon, Concurrent Carer

Centre for Adoption Support

Referrals from local authorities **159** families



Workshops Attendees

44

714



Consultations



129



304 referrals received for work with families

CfAS Manager Delyth Awarded Adoption Support Worker of the Year



Delyth Evans was named as Adoption Support Worker of the Year at the National Adoption Week Awards held in London in October 2016. Delyth has worked within children's services for over 30 years and for the last 10 years, within the field of Adoption Support. By the end of the first 2 years Delyth and her team had considerably exceeded all targets and expectations and she was recently invited to share the CfAS model with in both Wales and Northern Ireland. Congratulations to Delyth on this fantastic achievement. Delyth is pictured with Award Presenter Claire Grogen and Children's Minister Edward Timpson.

Fostering

25 in placement

young people



New placements

8



recruitment information sessions



12

72 hours

of training delivered



76%



of our children have been in placement over 2 years

“

I like living with my foster family because they listen to me and keep me safe

Joe, 17

”



“

The positive aspects of living in a fostering family are “a bigger family, more people, more things to do and I have a best friend in Joe.”

Toby, 19.

”

2,340 minutes of therapeutic support sessions



Congratulations to Sarah on her Achievement Award

This year Sarah Lal received the Fostering Achievement Award in recognition of her efforts and contributions to society, at The Fostering Network's Fostering Excellence Awards. 'Sarah's resilience makes her amazing. I have never heard Sarah complain once. She is the most caring natured young lady I have ever met and is so caring for others despite not always receiving the care she deserved as a child.

Gaynor Brown, Foster Carer.



Learning Disability Services

The FX Project

Helping hands create a new sensory garden

Volunteers at the Prince's Trust designed a sensory garden for young adults with disabilities. The team worked hard to design and renovate the outdoor space within Caritas Care's building in Sedgwick Street, Preston. "The young people from Prince's Trust came up with ideas to brighten up the area and made a sensory garden. They interacted really well with our young adults and worked alongside them."

Cath Francis, FX Team Manager.

The garden, which was officially opened with the help of Preston Mayor, Councillor John Collins (pictured), will be an extra space for our day service to relax and gain sensory stimulation.



44,688 hours
of **staffing**
support **annually**



42,868 hours
of **total support**
delivered

Supported
people
30

Vision in People (VIP)



Connor gained valuable work experience at Dobbies Garden Centre

For a third year running local garden centre, Dobbies, have provided work experience for our VIP Service. Our VIPs have all gained so much confidence through interacting with customers and staff.

They have learned to understand the need for stock rotation and why this is important, to follow instructions and most of all they have enjoyed working and completing the tasks given to them.

Picture: Connor getting ready for work.

394
sessions
weekly

19,700
sessions
annually

Supported
people
74

Learning Disability Services

Supported Living

Steven enjoys thrilling Dr Who Experience

Steven has been a Doctor Who fan all his life and it was his dream to be able to visit a Dr Who themed venue. He'd heard there was something called the 'Doctor Who Experience' in Cardiff and so had a chat with his Key Worker at Caritas Care who helped him to arrange the trip. He was so excited when he got the news he could go and had an 'out of this world' experience!



89,388 hours
of support
per year



Supported
people
38



Research in Action (REACT)

Award a Dream Come True for Stephen

We were delighted when we heard the news that REACT project worker Stephen Smith had won the Derek Russell Outstanding Leader Award 2017 at the North West Self Advocacy awards in Blackpool. Stephen was nominated by Caritas Care and Castle Supported Living in Clitheroe for his hard work and commitment to motivating and inspiring other people with a learning disability. Stephen was recognised for the high level of work he has put in to enable their voices to be heard.



“I am over the moon, it's a dream come true for me.”

Stephen Smith
REACT Project Worker



people employed with
learning disabilities 9



144
self advocacy
supported groups
monthly

Community Services

ACE

 people attended **576** awareness workshops in prison & the community

 **379** people worked with

People with Life Plan in place **316** 



“

“I have gained more confidence due to talking with people with similar experiences and issues, I could talk openly about my emotions and fears without being judged. The MAP group has given me the opportunity to try new things, exchange stories and my life experiences, which enabled me to open up in an honest way; this is something that I am unable to do with other people or with family. By discussing similar problems together, we were able to offer advice and support to each other – therefore stopping the struggle we all have. I know now, that one should never suffer in silence; there are other people to talk to, essentially/especially those suffering from mental health problem and addictions.”

Lisa; now an ambassador and ACE volunteer.

”



Homelessness Vincent House

 Supported people **43** for up to 9 months

“ Staff are friendly and encouraging, assisting service residents to access services and provide skills to move forward and gain independence. The hostel is homely and everyone is encouraged to keep it clean and tidy. We have a big garden with hens to enjoy and gardening is encouraged.

Claire Taylor Current Resident

”

100%  sustained tenancy in the **first 6 months**

272 nights  Emergency Care

79%  secured permanent accommodation on leaving the service

Plungington Community Centre

People attending
10,680



2441
customers

15 Groups
attending
providing
34
different classes



Pebbles Nursery

We bid an emotional farewell to Pebbles Nursery, who will sadly close its doors following changes within Lancashire County Council's Stoneygate School and Centre in May 17.



Farewell,
it's been a
great 10 years'

'We are delighted that all our children have secured places at other nurseries with the support of our fabulous team who have worked very hard under the circumstances' Susan Swarbrick, Head of Children's Services.

Café Emmanuel



transactions of **3977**
food & drink

Bridging the Gap (BTG)

Supported
3164 people



drop-in
251 clinics



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Volunteers



Over **96**
volunteers
have supported
our work