

We are delighted to present our 'New Look' Annual Review 2015/16, which tells a compelling story of our achievements this year across our many services and projects – we hope you like it! The new 'infographics' speak for themselves and show our many successes and ventures.



Along with many other charities, we have experienced some external funding challenges this year; however our services for people with disabilities have grown and expanded, our partnership work in adoption and fostering has developed new innovative ways of working to find the right families for children, and our community projects have brought hope to more people than ever. We are proud of all our work, and hope you will enjoy learning more about what we do; but we could not have achieved anything without the support and hard work of our staff team, our many volunteers, funders and benefactors, so our sincere thanks go to you all.

**Amanda Forshaw - Chief Executive**  
**Paul Desborough - Chair Of Trustees**



# CaritasCare

Making lives better

## Annual Overview 2015/16

Charity No 326021 | Company Registration 1596400

### Adoption



placed with  
**47** Adopters  
 children

Adoption  
**42** orders  
 granted

Support  
**29** groups

Training  
 Events  
**20**

Adopters  
 approved  
**38**

Information  
 Events  
**36**

“It's four weeks since Katie came to live with us and our world has changed dramatically, that's what we signed up for! Katie is a breath of fresh air lively, active, smiley, occasionally cheeky and every now and then a little naughty. Hey that's normal right? Her background means there are challenges now and ahead, for us she is the beautiful little girl we met at the activity day and the one we'd longed for years before our partnership with Caritas Care. So yes our world has changed, changed for the better and we wouldn't swap her for anything!

Paula and Andi



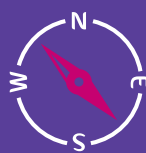
### Adoption Hub

miles travelled  
**8000**

Visited  
**101** Locations  
**810** with people engaging

Caritas Care have given us the opportunity to have an amazing family and made the process very much as smooth as possible. It is clear that everyone who works at Caritas Care who we have dealt with have the interests of everyone involved at their heart. We would not hesitate and have already recommended Caritas Care to anyone who asked for our advice.

### Concurrent Planning



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

placed with  
 Concurrent  
**17** Carers  
 children

Adoption  
**9** orders  
 granted

Concurrent Carers  
 approved  
**21**

“It was reassuring to hear that you are not expected to be 'perfect' and learn practical techniques to support your child and create a physical and emotional bond.

I honestly do not know what we would have done without your support, kindness, advice and communication with school. It truly has made a difference at home and school and life in general. We are so grateful and hope you continue for a long time to come.

### Centre for Adoption Support

Adoption  
 support  
**183** referrals

completed  
**25** assessment  
 of needs  
 with local authorities

Attachment  
 & Trauma  
 Training  
 to over 100 schools

families accessed  
**76** Adoption  
 Support Fund



### Fostering

**16** years  
 longest serving  
 foster  
 carers  
 with our agency

Outcomes for children  
**OUTSTANDING**

**27** in  
 placement  
 young people

Average length of  
 placement  
**4** years  
 2 months

**70%** of our children have  
 been in  
 placement  
 over 2 years

**88.5** hours  
 of training  
 delivered

**1,440** minutes of  
 therapeutic  
 support  
 sessions

I have lived with my carers for 11 years now, and we do lots of things together, like camping, canoeing and fishing.

### A fond farewell to Sadie...

I have really enjoyed my time as a Foster Carer with all the challenges and rewards I have experienced. It has been lovely seeing the children developing and growing and moving on whether to independence or to their adoptive parents or back to their birth family. This has been even more rewarding because my family and friends have all been very supportive over the years and accepted the children I have cared for and some of my family remain in touch with K and P still.



Sadie, Foster Carer

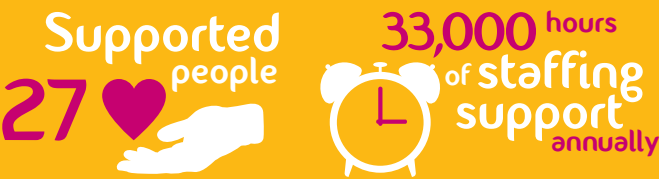
I can't remember life before it. I was involved in redesigning the agency booklets and I have put in an article about my experiences for other birth children to read. I have also been involved in the agency's annual general meeting for the last two years.

Marlie, Birth Child



# Learning Disability Services

## The FX Project



We are delighted with our exciting new 65" interactive touch screen computer. Our young people now have a resource where they have the opportunity to fully interact and learn using modern technology. Complete with new and exciting Apps, height adjustment function and a tilt facility, the interactive screen is fun to use and accessible to everyone.



## Vision in People (VIP)



Meladrama Showcase was a joint initiative between both of the Day Projects. The Tutor worked with both groups to prepare and perform a variety of song and dance to enable everyone to showcase music that showed their personality. An enjoyable afternoon with many laughs and a few tears! The overall programme was titled 'PROUD' and everyone was proud of the work they had done and what they had achieved. The Wheelchair Dance Swan Lake was a memory that will stay with the audience forever!



## Supported Living



Gemma, Kerry, Katrina & Sarah were really excited to see the London Eye, Big Ben & Houses of Parliament on their coach trip to London. They visited Buckingham Palace to see Changing the Guard and got to stroke the horses on parade. Gemma was convinced that she saw the Queen looking out of the window, so gave Her Majesty a big wave!



## Research in Action (REACT)

In November REACT moved into their new office and training suite at Plungington Community Centre.



“I feel proud that the React team have their own training and meeting room within the local community.”  
David Wood, Self Advocate



## Community Services ACE



“All those things that I want, everything that is important to me, those things I never believed I was capable of doing or capable of being, I am now achieving. What I have learned I can never unlearn and this is life changing for me and it is real for my son, it really is that huge.”

“Living at Vincent House helped me move away from my old circle of friends. Staff asked what I was interested in, and always followed things up for me. They supported me to access the services I needed and helped me find accommodation.”

## Homelessness Vincent House



## Children's Day Care Pebbles Nursery



All of the children aged 2 and over went on a trip to Blackpool Zoo in June 2015 over a 4 day period. This was a lovely opportunity for our children to experience.



## Bridging the Gap (BTG)



## Plungington Community Centre



## Volunteers



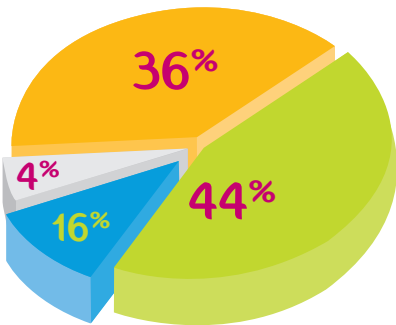
## Café Emmanèl



## Finance

Total Expenditure of £7,547,815

Children's Services
Learning Disability Services
Community Services
Governance



## Caritas Care

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“What a lovely lovely venue!  
I've lived here all my life, and never been in here, what a space, you could do so much here!  
What a brilliant night, thanks for all your help to get our event on, we wouldn't have been able to do it without you.”