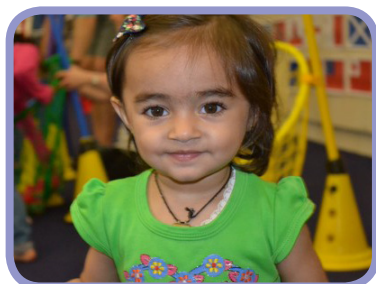


CrossReach awarded grant to support disadvantaged children

CrossReach has secured a grant for £258,000 which will enable it to continue supporting some of the most vulnerable, disadvantaged children in society. Paul Gilroy, Head of Service for Children and Family, said the money awarded by the Scottish Government would be used to help youngsters aged 8 and under and their



parents to improve life chances: "This fund replaces the Third sector Early Intervention fund and will enable us to continue our Daisy Chain Early Years Project in the Govanhill area of Glasgow as a core service. In addition, it will enable us to continue to support and implement the 'Getting it Right for Every Child' principles in communities across Scotland." Daisy Chain was established in 2011 to try and meet the needs of families often described as 'hard to reach'. There has been a particular focus on reaching out to the migrant population in Govanhill, particularly the Roma community. Paul added: "The grant will mean

we can develop play-based interventions to promote attachment amongst parents and children in marginalised groups. These are now being integrated in Perth Prison Visitors Centre with children affected by imprisonment and at Sunflower Garden in Edinburgh with children affected by parental substance misuse."

Social Care Mission Officer appointed

Liann Weir has taken on a new post as Social Care Mission Officer. The job's remit includes researching current social care projects in the Church of Scotland and encouraging and nurturing them. The role will also help to develop close working relationships with other Councils of the Church to further social care. Liann, who has been seconded for a year from her post as co-ordinator of the Daisy Chain Early Years Project in Glasgow, says she is excited by the new challenge: "I am looking forward to finding out about the fantastic social care initiatives currently being provided by congregations and identifying ways in which CrossReach can support, connect and inspire local projects. Our new social care forum website

(www.socialcareforum.scot) provides a unique opportunity to connect services and share resources and I would encourage churches to take a few minutes to upload their details and be part of this exciting development." Liann can be contacted by e-mail: liann.weir@crossreach.org.uk



Recovery Volunteers Graduation

Eight people who have turned their lives of addiction around were recognised recently at a special 'Recovery Volunteers Graduation' in Edinburgh. Each had been helped by CrossReach to embark on their own personal recovery journey, including Stella, now a support worker at Rainbow House in Glasgow, who shared her journey from the isolation of addiction to gaining an SVQ level 2 and a full-time job. The significance of the day and the graduates' achievements was summed up by a family member who said: "Thank you for giving me my brother back. I don't think you know what you do for the families. You saved mine." In his closing remarks CrossReach CEO Peter Bailey made the following observations: "We are all the same. We are all on a journey. We all question ourselves. We all have to persist. Don't look at me as the CEO – look at me as someone who has to persist."

Download CrossReach News now!

The first CrossReach News of 2016 is now available. This edition spotlights our Adult Care Services. You can read about how best to welcome people with learning disabilities in your church, learn about why safeguarding is important for everyone and take a look back at CrossReach Week 2015 in words and pictures. 'Me and My Job' features Allan Marshall from Morven Day Services in Kilmarnock. You can download CrossReach News in either English or Gaelic at: www.crossreach.org.uk.

And if you would like to be added to our free mailing list to receive future editions, please e-mail: bdd@crossreach.org.uk



CrossReach contributes to new SSSC booklet

CrossReach has joined with other professional bodies and the Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC) to produce a new booklet called 'The Impact of Promoting Excellence in Social Service settings'. It features CrossReach's dementia learning journey in Promoting Excellence. Dementia Development Officer Pamela Mackay explains more: "CrossReach has been committed to training all staff in dementia care since the early 1980s. Recent developments have helped us enhance our learning, and Promoting Excellence has really made a difference. One example was the refurbishment of our care home, Bellfield in Banchory. When plans were drawn up they didn't include an outside garden area. Service manager, Janis Grub, spoke with developers about adding gardens that residents could access. She used her knowledge from Promoting Excellence and explained the quality of life outcomes statement: 'People with dementia maintain their best level of physical, mental, social and emotional wellbeing'. I worked with the team to see what might work well in terms of outdoor space and signage so that was enabling and welcoming. It's important we help people to achieve the things in life that are most important to them and engaging with Promoting Excellence helps us to do that."

CrossReach at The Gathering

The largest annual exhibition of Third Sector organisations takes place at the SECC, Glasgow on 17th and 18th February. Entry is free, so why not come and visit CrossReach at stand number 17? We'll see you there!



Christmas Appeal - Thank You!

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the CrossReach Christmas Appeal to raise funds for the Sunflower Garden in Edinburgh. Your donations will help them to continue to support children who are affected by their parents' misuse of drugs or alcohol.

New Supporter Relations Manager

We welcome Crispin Longden to the CrossReach family as Supporter Development Manager. Crispin joins us from Christian Aid where he was responsible for informing supporters of the work of that organisation overseas. He will do a similar job with us, raising awareness of CrossReach throughout Scotland. Your congregations are at the heart of this outreach and Crispin and his Supporter



Development team look forward to being kept busy with invitations to give talks and presentations. Crispin can be contacted directly on: **0131 454 4335** or by e-mail at: crispin.longden@crossreach.org.uk.

Christmas Card Competition

CrossReach is now inviting entries for our 2016 Christmas Card Competition. Any supporter of CrossReach can take part and the closing date is Sunday 27th March. Competition guidelines and details of where to send your entry can be found on the right.

COMPETITION

Design a CrossReach Christmas card for 2016

We will print the winning entry as a card and sell it through the CrossReach Christmas Card & Calendar Collection 2016 catalogue and website. The Winner will receive a certificate and a supply of their winning design as printed Christmas Cards.

Competition Guidelines

- › The card must be an original design, not copied from an existing copyrighted card or clip art
- › Submit your card design on a sheet of paper/card no larger than A3 size
- › Computer generated designs must be original and printed out as a hard copy
- › Textures, 3D effects or metallic colours can be difficult to reproduce in print so are best avoided
- › Feel free to include a Greeting and/or Bible verse in your design
- › If you wish your design returned, please make this clear to us and enclose an appropriate stamped addressed envelope for its return



This competition is open to all supporters of CrossReach of any age.

Remember to write the name of the person or group who designed the card, age (if under age 16) and a contact person's name, address and telephone number on the back of each entry.

While copyright of all entries remains with the entrants, by submitting an entry, each entrant agrees to grant an irrevocable, perpetual and worldwide licence to CrossReach Trading Ltd to use it for the purpose of their Christmas cards and any promotional material connected to that.

Closing date: Sunday 27th March 2016

Send your entry to:
Christmas Card Competition
CrossReach, 47 Milton Road East,
Edinburgh EH15 2SR

Operating as CrossReach, Scottish Charity No: SC011353

