

Chris Westwood Charity

For Children with Physical Disabilities



Progress Report as at 31st December 2019

What Do We Do?

Background

The Charity was founded on the 19th November 2003, specifically to help children and young people with physical disabilities, in Stourbridge and the surrounding areas, which for practical reasons we defined as being within a 50 mile radius of Stourbridge. The Charity Commission registered number is 1101230. The stated aim is: *“The provision of financial assistance, at the discretion of the Trustees, to provide the relief of physically handicapped children. This includes improvement to the quality of life by the provision of financial or other assistance, or any other purpose the Trustees deem to be in accordance with the stated aim”*.

How we can help

We can provide the funding, or balance of funding, required for the purchase of mobility/sensory/vision equipment when the NHS Trusts/Families are unable to provide support. We aim to respond within 24 to 48 hours as we consider a rapid response is essential when children have degenerative or life limiting conditions. We operate with zero administration costs so that every penny donated goes to help those the donor intended to support. Typically we fund:

- Special exercise equipment, special exercise tricycles, walkers, and standing frames, to assist in regaining and maintaining mobility
- Wheelchairs, special mobility chairs, special car seats and safety harnesses, special seating, special beds, support and lifting equipment, vision equipment and sensory room equipment, to improve the quality of life.

How we assess Grant Applications

Following an initial approach, we request the submission of a detailed grant application. In order to assess the position, we typically require the following:

- Background and reason for the request
- Supporting information from a suitable professional person detailing the medical position and the advantages of the proposed equipment purchase
- A detailed quotation, following assessment by the supplier’s competent person
- Details of any funding already raised, any other sources of funding, and a brief description of the financial position of the family

Provided that we are assured that our help will be for those in real need, the application is in accordance with our grant criteria, and we have the funding available, it will be considered for approval. Grants are funded either by a cheque or online payment to the supplier, to ensure that the funds are only used for the intended purpose. All remaining order and delivery arrangements are then left to the applicant, so that we are not involved in any administration costs.



www.chriswestwoodcharity.co.uk

Activities and Achievements in 2019

Another busy year as we begin to approach £1 Million raised and granted since we started:

We started 2019 having completed 600 grants and £736,120 granted since we started in November 2003. By the time of our 11th grant (early February after another busy start) we had reached the milestone of £750,000 raised and granted. During the whole of 2019 we completed a further 90 grants totalling £100,428, bringing the overall totals to 690 grants and £836,548 granted since we started. Assuming we can continue to raise the funding required, we hope to reach £1 million raised and granted, with zero administration cost, some time during Q4 of 2021, a figure we had no concept of reaching when we started. The rapid rise in activity that followed once we discovered the need that existed, has led to the fundraising challenge we now face every year.

Trustee Highlights:

In the 2019 New Year's Honours List, Dr Janine Barnes was awarded an MBE for her work in the field of Parkinson's Disease, and with NICE (National Institute for Health and Care Excellence), being both a member of the Parkinson's Disease Guideline Update Committee, and, subsequently, an advisor on the NICE Expert Panel.

Lewis Barnes, who was also a Trustee and Deputy Chair (2019) of the *Somerville Foundation*, was elected to become Chairman of that Charity from the start of 2020.

Congratulations to both of our Trustees.

Fundraising Events and Collections:

On pages 10 and 11 we have provided details of some of the many and varied sources of our funds, as we are often asked how we manage to raise in the region of £100,000+/year needed for our work. Throughout the year we have been helped by a number of different groups, with the cumulative effect being substantial. In particular we would like to thank several large personal donors and company donors.

Trying to raise over £100,000/year does present a real challenge, but the need is clearly there, and we greatly welcome any and all donations. This year we have managed to raise £101,506, so we start 2020 with a small reserve, and that large challenge once again.



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How Your Donations Have Helped (1)

Special Exercise Trikes – including parental control by rear wheel steering and hand propelled. *(These are usually proposed to try to build leg and trunk strength, improve co-ordination and help mobility).*



Cole - Cerebral Palsy Spastic Diplegia and a Chiari malformation resulting in movement difficulties.



Olivia – Cerebral Palsy Spastic Diplegia with limited lower limb movement.



Jayden – Idiopathic Juvenile Osteoporosis and has spinal compression fractures



Leo – Cerebral Palsy and needs to build leg strength. Bobby – Acquired spinal injury at birth, no leg movement and needed a hand propelled trike to help build his strength.

How Your Donations Have Helped (2)

Special Support Seating - (Covers a wide range of seating systems to hold a child safely and securely, in comfort and with the correct postural support).



Annie has learning disabilities and was being further assessed. She needed a support seat with an attached tray.



James has a diagnosis of Periventricular Leukomalacia and is non mobile. He needed a P pod Bean seat to hold him when not in his wheelchair.

Walkers - (to help to develop leg muscles)

Special Car Seats – (for safe transport)



Esther has gross development delay and mobility problems. She had outgrown her walker and needed a new larger unit.



Lovesh has a diagnosis of ASD, has no sense of danger and was releasing himself from his car seat. A new secure & supportive seat was needed.

Details of a few more of the Grants Made in 2019

Age (Yrs)	Grant (£)	Details
5	3,825.00	Severe autism and sight problems. Due to his condition he requires full time care, and at school he is taught on a 1:1 basis, segregated from the other children due to his problems. With the family desperate for some respite, the proposal was to provide a safety sleeper to settle him down at night, which was trialled successfully. We agreed to fully fund at a reduced cost following our agreed discount structure with the supplier.
6	2,065.00	She has a diagnosis of Infantile Batten Disease (<i>this is a rare fatal inherited disorder, which results in seizures, regression of gross motor and cognition skills, and vision loss</i>). The prognosis is poor as there is no cure. She had outgrown her car seat, which had been passed on to her younger brother, and required a new seat urgently. With her serious condition, a very special seat was required, which even with the discount from our regular supplier was significantly more expensive than usual. With no other funding available, we agreed to fully fund.
12	2,133.51	He has a diagnosis of Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy (<i>a genetic disorder resulting in progressive muscle deterioration</i>). He uses a wheelchair full time at school, and requires a hydrotilt chair to support him in the correct postural position, and provide comfortable seating, as he has no suitable seating when at home. We agreed to fully fund.
9	1,875.75	He has a diagnosis of Wolf Hirschhorn Syndrome (<i>which exhibits as a range of problems including delayed development and characteristic facial features</i>), has limited independent mobility and requires full adult support. He uses special boots and a standing frame, but we were asked to help with funding a Cavalier Walker to try to get him walking. With the family having raised some funding, we agreed to fund the balance required for the purchase to proceed.
6	1,073.35	He has a diagnosis of Joubert Syndrome (<i>a brain disorder affecting movement and coordination</i>), and Dandy Walker Syndrome as well as other medical problems. He is unable to stand or walk independently and uses a wheelchair. The proposal was to fund a special exercise trike to develop his leg strength and general condition, as well as helping to develop his coordination, and we agreed to fund the balance the family required for the purchase to proceed.
3	1,425.05	He was born prematurely, and has a diagnosis of Periventricular Leucomalacia (<i>a brain condition typically following premature birth, which involves death of brain cells in small areas</i>), exhibiting as global development delay and limited movement. He has just started to crawl, but can only stand using his standing frame. The proposal was to fund a special exercise trike to help to develop his leg and trunk strength, and improve his coordination, which we agreed to fully fund.

The Organisation

We continue to run the organisation with four Trustees, who cover all the work necessary, and contribute any minor incidental expenses incurred, so that the Charity can operate with zero administration costs.

We are all in regular email and telephone contact, which, as a small group, enables us to give a fast response to grant application requests that are in accordance with our grant criteria. We hold two formal meetings a year, where we complete a full six monthly review of the organisation, and we quickly assemble for any additional meetings, as necessary.

It is our intention to continue to operate with zero administration costs, and a fast response, to meet the needs of those who apply to us for help, and the expectations of those who so kindly contribute and support us.

It has also been another busy year for the Trustees. Dr Janine Barnes was awarded an MBE in the 2019 New Year's Honours List, which she received from Prince William in May, and Lewis Barnes was nominated in 2019 to become Chair of the Somerville Foundation at the start of 2020.

The Trustees:



Chris Westwood MBE – Chairman (*and also a Trustee of the Anthony and Gwendoline Wylde Memorial Charity.*)

Dr Janine Barnes MBE – Medical Adviser

Graham Wood – Treasurer

Lewis Barnes – Trustee (*and also as Deputy Chair of the Somerville Foundation in 2019, he was nominated to become Chair from January 2020.*)



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Our Accounts

Reserves held as a Cash Balance and brought forward at 31.12.18: £18,099.70

Income:

Fundraising Events 8,006.06

Donation Income

<i>Personal Donations – Direct</i>	13,730.00	
<i>Online Donations via Everyclick</i>	41.50	
<i>Standing Orders</i>	4,932.00	
<i>Collection Boxes (All Sources)</i>	676.90	
<i>Company Donations</i>	1,500.00	
<i>Grants from Charitable Foundations</i>	63,750.00	84,630.40

Legacies and Collections

Funeral Collections (None in 2019) 0.00

Other Income

<i>Gift Aid: (April 2017 to April 2018 – claimed directly from HMRC)</i>	5,556.16	
<i>Interest on Bank Balances</i>	18.08	
<i>Purchase Commission Payments (Give as You Live)</i>	250.00	
<i>Sale of Donated Items</i>	545.00	
<i>Co-Fund payment from another local charity</i>	2,500.00	8,869.24

Total Income: £101,505.70

Expenditure:

Grants made during 2019: 90 in Total 100,428.09

Other expenditure/costs/overheads nil

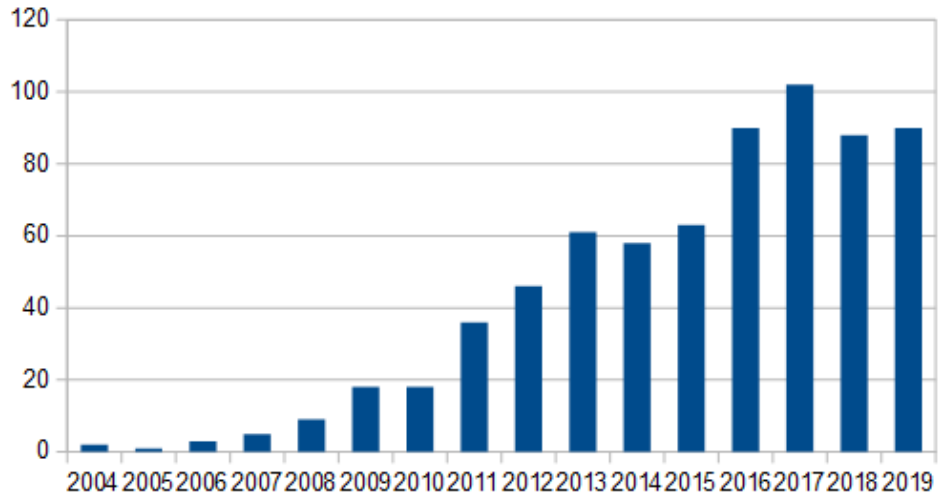
Total Expenditure: £100,428.09

Excess of Income over Expenditure 1,077.61

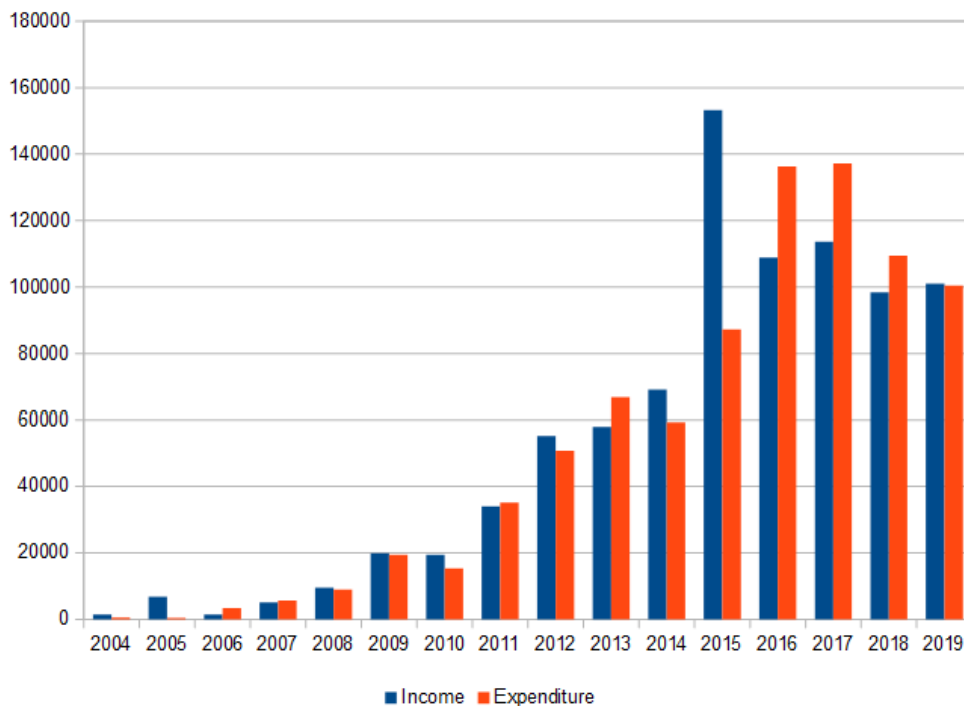
Leaving a Reserve Cash Balance to be Carried Forward at 31.12.19 of: £19,177.31

Funds Raised and Grants Made to Dec 31th 2019

Number of Grants Made each Year



Annual Income (£) vs Grants Made (£)



Another busy year where grants made were 90, with just over £100,000 granted in total, both levels at which we now seem to have stabilised. While we are finding it challenging, we are still just managing to raise the funding needed.

Events and how we raise our Funding

Once again, with the help of our supporters, we were able to respond to the requests for help that we received. The range of events and activities that raised money for us was, as always, extremely varied, and as we are often asked how we raise our funding we have selected just a few events on the next two pages to highlight some of these sources *(and with apologies to the many we have not mentioned, but every donation received was greatly appreciated)*

Birthday Party Collection: A Birthday Party collection at Stourbridge Rugby Club raised £720. *Event collections are often held for us and are a very helpful way of raising funds.*

St Thomas's Church Xmas Tree Collection: The funds from the Xmas Tree collection at the end of 2018 were received early in the year, and amounted to £250. *Another type of collection which again helps to provide a steady income flow.*

Npower Staff Collection: A group at Npower collected £500 for us, which was then matched by another £500 from the company. *As often happens, a relation/friend of a family we have helped later raises a collection for us, and a number of larger companies have schemes where funds raised by employees are backed by a matching company contribution.*

Freemasonry/Rotary: Newfields Masonic Lodge made two donations totalling £282. A Kinver Rotary Whisky Tasting event raised £500, and Stourbridge Rotary raised £500 plus another £500 match funding from Central Office for us. Clent Hills Rotary also helped us during the year. *Both Freemasonry and Rotary regularly collect for us.*

Stourbridge Tennis Club: An event in memory of Roy Bradley, who always supported us, held at Stourbridge Lawn Tennis and Squash Club where he played for many years, raised £400. A Christmas Card collection also raised a further £95.50 (£119.37 with Gift Aid). *At many clubs, a local charity is selected to be the recipient of a fundraising event, and we have been fortunate enough to be selected on a number of occasions.*

Cap Gemini: We were awarded £500 in one of their quarterly competitions to select charities for donations. *One of our Trustees is employed by Cap Gemini, and has managed to get us onto the selection list on several occasions.*

Charitable Foundations: We also received a number of grants from Charitable Foundations, and these have been a great help. *Some of these are national and some local supporting smaller charities. We have been successful on a number of occasions and we have been granted three year support programmes in some cases.*



Events and how we raise our Funding (2)

There were also a range of larger events where we were again the nominated charity, and these included:

Stourbridge Golf Club We were one of the Captain's nominated charities for Dave Fourness's two year term of office. A small part of the funds raised during the two year period were received directly by the Charity, and the final award to us will be transferred in early January once the overall total has been determined.

Butterfly Fellowship 2012 They again kindly nominated us for an award of £1,000, which we collected in September. *A number of local groups collect throughout the year for us.*

Newsquest - Forging a Future Awards This event was held for the second year, Newsquest being the owners of a number of local weekly newspaper titles. We were the nominated local charity for 2019, and received the collection made at the tables during the award ceremony. The total raised was £577 (*plus some Gift Aid*). *Thank you to the Stourbridge News and Newsquest for nominating us.*

Stourbridge Motorcycle Club We were chosen as one of two charities for their 2019 Rally, and were awarded £500 from the collection made during the event. *Collections at events are always a big help to us.*

The Netherton Wives Group They again kindly collected for us throughout the year and raised £1,000. *Another group that collects regularly for us.*

Other Sources of Income:

- The Chairman donated a range of Christmas cards, specially printed for the Charity and these were subsequently sold by a number of helpers, raising £545.
- We received a number of donations from companies, and several substantial personal donations, which were a great help.
- Collection boxes, and in particular, the contribution from our regular monthly donors again provided a very stable income source, exceeding £6,000 during the year, and this is an area we are always keen to expand further.
- **Gift Aid:** Personal donations made by tax payers are eligible for Gift Aid, provided a Gift Aid form has been completed. In April we received £5,556.16 from HMRC in respect of our claim for 2018/2019, showing just how important this source of income is.

We hope that the wide range of activities covered helps to show the diversity of both the help offered and the funding received. Once again, thanks to our supporters, we managed to raise the income needed.



Why is our charitable funding needed?

While the NHS and other Government organisations will provide a number of items of equipment for disabled children, with the inevitable funding constraints there are restrictions on the extent of help available, and with seemingly ever increasing demands on the system, the rules regarding what will be supplied are constantly tightening. The resultant unfunded need leads to requests for help, either directly from families, or via relevant professionals such as the Paediatric/Occupational Therapists working in the Children with Special Needs Departments of the local NHS Trusts, and from the Special Schools where constant tightening of budgets has led to increasing requests for help.

Typically, the equipment funded falls into these general categories:

- **Exercise:** Specifically to develop the necessary muscles and coordination to either improve independence in daily activities, or to slow a deterioration in current mobility. Typical equipment funded includes special exercise trikes, walkers, standing frames etc.
- **Special Seating:** For school or home use, to provide the correct postural support, and enable a child to participate in activities in either location.
- **Comfort:** Many of the cases helped involve severe mobility problems, often wheelchair bound, with the need to periodically change position, provide the correct postural support, and relieve pressure points. Equipment funded includes special comfortable support chairs, Acheeva beds, and special support seating systems.
- **Health and safety:** Special car seats to provide the support a child may need, and to hold them securely, as certain children would otherwise release themselves from their car seat and endanger driver safety. Also, any form of equipment specifically to hold a child safely and provide the correct postural support, as well as hoists and equipment to help with daily living needs.
- **Sensory:** We receive a number of requests for equipment to help to calm and control a range of behavioural problems, and provide quiet and safe areas.
- **Sleep:** Requests usually involve equipment specifically to hold a child in the correct position to avoid hip dislocations, and all types of special beds eg. profile beds, high sided cot beds and safety sleepers to provide the correct environment for sleep.
- **Vision:** All types of vision equipment to help registered blind children achieve their potential when the Vision Impairment Service is unable to obtain the necessary funding for the equipment required.

How Donations can be made to us

In addition to donations by cash or cheque, may we suggest consideration of the following:

Standing Orders

Any amount from £2/month upwards is of great value to us, and a Standing Order Mandate can either be completed online from your Bank account (our Bank account details are below), or a paper copy of the required Bank Mandate is available on the **Forms** page of our website, and has also been reproduced at the end of this brochure. If you complete a paper copy of the Standing Order Mandate, could you please send this directly to your Bank, so that we never see any of your Bank details.

Online Donations to our Bank Account

Our nominated Bank Account details for One-Off online or regular donations direct to us are:

HSBC Bank, Sort Code 40-43-17
Account Number 72275813

Could you please use your name as the payment reference, so that we can track the payments into our account, and claim Gift Aid, where appropriate (please could you complete a Gift Aid form if you have not already done so, it enables us to claim 25p for every £1 donated).

Online Donations: Everyclick using a Debit/Credit card and Amazon Smile.

There is an **Everyclick Donation** button on the **Donations** page of the Chris Westwood Charity website, allowing individual donations to be made online, and access can also be gained to our Everyclick webpage via www.everyclick.com/chriswestwoodcharity/info.

(Anyone kindly wishing to set up a sponsorship page is encouraged to use the Everyclick facility, as we are registered with them, and there are no charges for a new sponsorship page).

You can also raise funds through **Give as You live** for any charity you wish to nominate, at no extra cost. Please see the **Give as You Live** webpage on our website for details of contributions that can be gained at no cost by using either a **Store card**, or making **online purchases**.

The Charity is also registered on **Amazon Smile** so that we can be nominated to receive your commission payments from purchases made using **Amazon Prime**.

Gift Aid

You can increase the effectiveness of your donation by completion of a Gift Aid declaration form, (copy available at the end of this brochure). If the third option box on the form is ticked, that will then cover all donations past, present and future. Provided you are a UK tax payer, the Charity will receive an additional 25p for every £1 donated, which we claim annually from HMRC. **Please return any completed forms directly to The Chris Westwood Charity (address on the form).**



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Gift Aid Declaration

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The Chris Westwood Charity for Children with Physical Disabilities.

Please Treat

- The enclosed gift of £_____ as a Gift Aid Donation; OR
- All gifts of money that I make today, and in the future, as Gift Aid Donations; OR
- All gifts of money that I have made in the past 4 years, and all future gifts of money that I make from the date of this declaration, as Gift Aid Donations.

✓ Please tick the appropriate box above.

In order for us to claim Gift Aid, you must be paying an amount of Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax at least equal to the tax that the Charity will claim from HMRC on your Gift Aid donation. Currently, we are able to claim 25p for every £1 of eligible donations.

Donor's Details

Title _____ Full Name _____

Home Address _____

Postcode _____ Date _____

Signature _____

Please notify the Charity if you:

1. Wish to cancel this declaration
2. Change any of the Donor details
3. No longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains.

Please send the completed form to: FAO Chris Westwood, Chris Westwood Charity for Children with Physical Disabilities, PO Box 7131, STOURBRIDGE, DY8 9FP.

STANDING ORDER MANDATE

To the Manager	
Name of Bank	
Address	
Post Code	

Please pay: **HSBC Bank, 114 High Street, Stourbridge, West Midlands. DY8 1DZ**

For the credit of: **Chris Westwood Charity for Children with Physical Disability**
Sort Code: **40-43-17**
Account Number: **72275813**

The sum of: (in words) _____ Pounds (£) _____
On the _____ (day) _____ (month) _____ (year)
And thereafter every month until further notice, and debit my account accordingly.

Name of account holder to be debited:
Account Number:
Sort Code:

Signed: _____ Date: _____

When completed, will you please pass this form directly to your Bank.


If you are a UK tax payer, and pay an amount of Income Tax, and/or Capital Gains Tax, at least equal to the tax that can be claimed on your donation, you can increase the value of your gift by using Gift Aid. This enables the Charity to reclaim the tax, which currently increases the value of your gift by 25p for every £1 donated.

*If you would like to help, will you please complete a Gift Aid form, and return it to:
The Chris Westwood Charity for Children with Physical Disabilities, PO Box 7131,
STOURBRIDGE, DY8 9FP*

The Charity would like to thank Holmdale Print & Mail who kindly printed and supplied this booklet at no cost to the Charity. Their gift is greatly appreciated.

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If you would like to contact us:

**For the attention of Chris Westwood,
Chris Westwood Charity for Children with Physical Disabilities,
PO Box 7131,
STOURBRIDGE,
DY8 9FP**

***Email:* chriswestwoodcharity@gmail.com**

***Tel:* 07968 008098**



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