

The annual report only covers the period until the end of March 2021. However, a lot has happened since then that we felt we should update you on:

- We returned to the office after working from home & can now welcome visitors. (Yaaaay!)
- We are settled in the ABD Centre our amazing new home. Peter & Steve have worked so hard to get our rooms ready & welcome us!
- We held a successful Uniform pop up shop + coffee morning in August. We hope to make this a regular occurrence!
- We have all undergone First aid at work & Paediatric First aid training, aswell as food hygiene & allergens courses! Zoe L has successfully completed a Mental Health First Aid course!
- We welcomed our new Full Time Family Support worker Zoe A on 13th September just in time for all group work to start
- We can now welcome back our volunteers who we have missed terribly! & we are actively recruiting new volunteers!

Staff

Leila Allen - Project Manager
Rachel Allen - Family Support Worker
Zoe Leyland - Family Support Worker
Zoe Ashworth - Family Support Worker
Natasha Cartwright - Administrator

Trustees

Janice Lewer - Chair
Alison Perry - Secretary
Lynn Kemp - Treasurer
Jo Emberton - Marketing and Publicity
Suzanne Craven

Our objectives:

- To develop volunteers in number and ability
- To create greater financial stability of core funding
- To raise profile of the Centre Open events
- To respond to changes in legislation that affects families.
- To develop effective partnerships
- To develop a clear strategic plan for the Centre for the next 10 years
- To ensure compliance with all relevant legislation regarding the work of the Centre



ANNUAL REPORT

April 2020 — March 2021



Thankyou for your help, I ring you before I even ring my family

Thankyou so much I never thought someone would help little old me!



BFC don't just go the extra mile they go the extra 100 miles!



Having someone to finally talk to who listens to me has made a huge difference to me!



Summary of the Year

Well what a year it has been!

March 2020 saw the pandemic hit and this put a stop to all group work, face to face contact and work as we knew it at the Family Centre. Despite these uncertain times this did not stop us, we put on our thinking caps, adapted how we delivered our services and carried on! We worked from home, we did walks and talks in the park, we Zoom called... A LOT! Family support was offered in the same way, through phone calls, Whatsapp, door stop visits & walks and talks in the local park.

We have delivered food parcels, emergency provisions such as gas & electric, beds, an oven, pots and pans, household items, clothing and uniforms amongst many other things. We offered support to people struggling with home learning by donating laptops we had kindly been donated and worked closely with local schools.

One positive impact of the pandemic is that people have rallied together and there was a real sense of community that emerged! Rainbow pictures, clapping on a Thursday evening for our Key workers, Sir Captain Tom raising millions, the discovery of open spaces for family walks and rallying round for our neighbours! This was reflected in an increase in donations and interest in the Family Centre from individuals and local businesses. This kindness really inspired us and spurred us on to continue with this passion for community engagement!

Christmas time was just as busy as ever . Delivering hampers, wrapped and delivering plenty of toys, gifts and food parcels. The wonderful Shine Project made Christmas dinners which we were able to deliver to some of our families who felt a little more cared for and appreciated the kindness and generosity of others.

While groups were suspended we used the time we had to really focus in our pursuit of securing larger premises that offered more community space and would allow us to focus on group work and community outreach, something we had struggled to do in the bungalow! We were all thrilled and excited on visiting the ABD Centre and unanimously decided this was a perfect fit for the Family Centre!

Whilst this year has been unpredictable and sadly we haven't seen our volunteers or people attending groups, we have achieved a great deal! We welcomed a new Administrator, we've been able to work on our social media reach and are looking to recruit a new Family Support Worker, we're ready to open our doors and get groups back on and cannot wait to see you all again!

Family Support

During the past year we have continued to support families and individuals with a huge and wide range of issues whilst navigating the pandemic and lockdowns. We have provided family support to a total of 38 families or individuals. With a total of 55 adults and 73 children. There are currently 10 children or young people accessing befriending services. We have continued with our aim to build resilience, encouraging people to take responsibility and control their own lives and what has been encouraging to see is there are several families and individuals that have in fact coped very well in the circumstances and are very much able to manage their everyday lived amid a global pandemic!



We would like to say a massive heartfelt thanks to all individuals, businesses, schools & local churches who have continued to support us this year! Everyone who has donated, prayed for us, shared our social media posts & helped in our appeals. To our staff who have continued to work with such a positive attitude in testing circumstances! To our Trustees for their ongoing support! To the ABD Centre for welcoming us to our new home & working so hard to get our rooms ready! To our volunteers who we can't wait to work with again this coming year! We are so excited about the year ahead and we could not do what we do without you!

Groups

All groups now take place in "The Loft" at Bacup Family Centre, Top Floor, ABD Centre, Burnley Road, OL13 8AB

Toddler group is returning on 20th September starting with a baby celebration day! Then Mondays (Term time) 9am - 10.45am.

Monday Adult Drop in will return on 27th September.

