



BRIGHTON OASIS PROJECT

ANNUAL REPORT 2017-18





CONTENTS

- 3 The Art of Attachment
- 4-5 Report from the Chairs
- 6-7 Report from the Director
- 8-10 Adult Services in Brighton & Hove
- 11 East Sussex Services
- 12-13 Young Oasis
- 14-15 Key Figures for 2017-18
- 16-17 SWOP
- 18-19 Fulfilling Lives
- 20-21 Fundraising
- 22 Pledge Card
- 23 Accounts



Throughout the year we have been working on an arts project funded by the WellcomeTrust and Arts Council England. #ArtofAttachment has been developed with choreographer/director, Charlotte Vincent and poet, Lemn Sissay. Charlotte and Lemn have created an original new choreographed production and a poem, respectively. The works produced celebrate the everyday resilience of women and children overcoming adversity; their attachments and their losses. Women and children who use our services have had the opportunity to participate in workshops with the artists which inform the final commissioned works. We have also collaborated with visual artists, Oscar Romp, Laura Bissonnet and filmmaker Becky Edmunds. The work has been overseen by a Project Advisory Group comprising artists, academics, clinicians and senior practitioners who have guided and supported the artists and given weight to potential ethical issues.

certain challenges to forming relationships and bonds with their children; there are often concerns about parents' abilities to meet their children's needs, not least because in many cases parents have not had the advantage of a secure base themselves. The Art of Attachment project was conceived to stimulate and challenge thinking about attachment and the ways the term is currently used and misused to help children and families. Our approach was to create opportunities for participants including children, families and the professionals to be involved in discussions about attachment, to influence thinking about how relationships can help and hinder us and to generate conversations about the nature of attachments.

The works premiere at the Attenborough Centre for the Creative Arts in Brighton on the 18th October 2018.

Attachment Theory describes the way in which a parent or carer can respond sensitively to their child's needs at times of distress and fear in infancy. It is thought that children who are securely attached develop greater independence and self esteem than those who are not. As an organisation that has worked with women and families affected by substance misuse for the past 20 years, Brighton Oasis Project recognises that parents who misuse substances can face



Oasis Women taking part in light painting workshop



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Co-Chairs, Jess & Tina

As two women with busy jobs and lives and different skill sets/experience, taking on this role together has been really positive; we are able to share the task of Chair, enabling us to provide greater breadth of leadership and support for Oasis whilst juggling the role with our other lives – working, parenting. We both share very similar values around equality and gender, justice and diversity and have lots of cross over and divergence in our experience and interests, including working in the voluntary and public sectors (local government and NHS), in health and wellbeing and with systems and inclusive leadership.

We are both proud to be part of Brighton Oasis Project, which for the last 20 years has brought about the provision of real quality and gender specific services for women, children and men, which is so important for communities and places. We feel really proud of the work that everyone involved has been doing – staff, service users, volunteers, funders, communities -

particularly over such turbulent and challenging times, with funding decreasing, increasing pressures on our communities and services, and increasing demands placed on treatment services. It never fails to take our breath away to witness the passion, enthusiasm and determination our staff have; many of whom have worked passionately with us for some time.

Over this last year our Trustees have changed (some stepping into new roles and some stepping down) and we are so glad to see an evolving team with a range of skills and expertise, alongside shared values for this work. We recognise the importance of our leadership team (Trustees and Staff) spending time together, building good strong leadership for our organization, reflecting on how we work together and support each other and challenging ourselves to progress. This includes re-evaluating our strategic purpose, our governance systems, our approach to delivering quality and how we manage risks and opportunities. We are really pleased that this year we have ended the year on a more secure financial footing and are grateful to everyone who made this possible.

We feel strongly about working with Oasis service users to refine the organisation's

approach and design our work. As well as service user representation on the Board, our model is to incorporate the lived experience of our clients into the design of each new project or service development. We will continue to build on this and ensure that the needs and issues of our service users challenge the way in which we – and our wider system partners – work.

Our growth into East Sussex has led us to re-evaluate our brand and we have spent some time this year focusing on this. The brand refresh project has encouraged us to consider what our key messages are, what our approach is and what work we will not engage with. Most importantly it has enabled us to focus on the core principles of our work around the drug treatment sector, focused on a non-judgmental approach, on inequalities and the challenges that many women, men and children experience in communities.

One of the important changes we have made is around our staff. At a time when the sector is really struggling, we recognise the need for our senior staff to be robust. Therefore, we have overseen some changes where we are recruiting for additional senior capacity to ensure that our Director has the ability and space to effectively lead Oasis forward over the next decade.

Finally, to end on the theme of diversity. We know that Oasis has a good track record of engaging and working with diverse communities and this is reflected in the performance data we pour through. We want to build on this and ensure we as Trustees and our team – at all levels – are diverse and representative of the people we reach. There is some work for us to do in terms of doing this and this is one of our key ambitions for this coming year.

Jess & Tina
Co-Chairs

Art of Attachment Project Advisory Group



Brighton Oasis Project was the vision, 20 years ago, of women who, having experienced problems with drugs, realised that their needs were not met in “mainstream” services. In generic services men still outnumber women 3-1 and there is rarely a focus on how gender can influence recovery and how treatment can be tailored to meet these needs.



Jo-Anne Welsh, Director

It's fair to say that BOP was founded with the principle of equality at its core and recognition that to treat each person equally does not mean to treat them all the same. With our work in Fulfilling Lives and our POCAR service for men we have also noted that gender neutral services often do not meet the specific needs of men, particularly those who are parents. It's our position that one size does not fit all and in fact different life experiences require support tailored to individuals. This report will focus on equality and diversity and how we address this within Oasis, we aim to highlight both the diversity of the staff team and the clients we serve within it. Staff within BOP will be sharing some of their own backgrounds and life experiences to represent the team and its strengths.

Our aim as an organisation is to represent

the community we serve and we know that it is by doing this that we are more likely to have the confidence of the community and be a service they feel able to use. Although our initial focus was on addressing inequality in access to services for women we are proud that monitoring of our services shows that our services are used well by members

of the LGBT community

and those from black and minority ethnic backgrounds. We do not rest on our laurels however and are committed to ongoing improvement in meeting the needs of diverse communities. We do this by developing new services that meet a specific need such as FLASH; our home HIV testing services for sex workers or by improving staff skills and competency to ensure appropriate responses to individual needs.

Although we are proud of the diversity of our staff we know that there are areas we need to improve in order to ensure that throughout all levels within Oasis there is appropriate representation of people from all communities. Within our new strategic plan we have committed to a number of actions which will address issues related to equality and diversity

within the staff team including the board of trustees. I hope you enjoy reading the short biographies about our staff team which they have written to reflect some of their individuality.

Within our strategic plan we also prioritised the need to review our identity or brand – the messages we give out in the community about our work and how the public who both support us and use our services can get a clear message about what we do. Although branding might be something we associate more with tins of beans or supermarkets, branding is important in making sure people know who we are and what we do. We now have more services across Sussex so we recognised a need to consider whether the BRIGHTON Oasis Project name still fitted.

After 20 years it felt difficult to leave our original name and identity behind but also important to reflect the changes we have gone through.

Towards the end of 2017 we began to work on our new strategy, this process involved the staff team, trustees and some external partners. Within this process we recognised that BOP had undergone a period of growth with increased income and reach. We all agreed that the organisation needed to prioritise investing in some infrastructure developments. We have prioritised increasing our administration and managerial support and investing in new methods of managing data. We are confident that this will ensure BOP is in a good place to carry on delivering effective services in the future.

Over the past 12 months I have been delighted to have been able to lead an arts based project as a result of securing a Wellcome Fellowship. Funding from both Wellcome and the Arts Council England has enabled us to work with professional artists to explore the concept of attachment; this term is often used by professionals in assessing the quality of their family bonds and is often applied in a negative context to the families we work with. We see attachment as being at the heart of our organisation and the way we work. We are nothing if we do not form “attachments” and relationships with the people who come to us for support. Attachments are after all at the core of recovery, there is strong evidence that being able to develop fulfilling healthy friendships and relationships is a good indicator of sustained recovery. For those of us who have experienced strong supportive relationships this is self evident but some people have not been able to rely on this in their lives and our support tries to address this. It is a privilege to be trusted by our clients to be alongside them on their journey.

Jo-Anne Welsh
Director

We deliver drug and alcohol treatment services for women from across the City as part of the Pavilions partnership. We offer support at all stages of need from initial appointments through to structured programmes. Interventions include 1-1 support, group work and peer support. We also have in place arrangements to refer women on to other support such as counselling, employment support, housing, and volunteering opportunities. The model of support is care co ordination which means that staff oversee the whole of an individuals' treatment, working with them to reach their goals. All services in Brighton and Hove are complemented by crèche provision meaning women can attend appointments and groups

knowing their children are safely cared for.

This year we have worked closely alongside Brighton Housing Trust (BHT) to develop a pathway for women who have both drug and alcohol problems and mental health needs. We are aiming to make movement between the services more streamlined and seamless so that women completing drug treatment with Oasis can access counselling via BHT Wellbeing Services without delay and that BHT can refer women to us with drug/alcohol problems. The case study below highlights the potential of this work to improve outcomes and client experience. It was prepared by the social worker for the family,

Clare

Clare was exposed to her mother's alcohol misuse as a child and was also exposed to domestic violence (DV) at home. Clare's experiences resulted in her being subject to a Child Protection plan as a young person under the category of neglect. Clare's experiences understandably impacted on her ability to keep her own children safe through her own decisions and lifestyle choices. Clare has had various relationships with men who have abused her and also posed a risk to her children. Clare has suffered with mental health issues which resulted in her attempting suicide. She also had had considerable issues with substances and these issues resulted in her first daughter being removed from care.

With the support of professionals at BOP, Clare was able to acknowledge that a trigger for her lapses is the painful decision for her eldest daughter to be placed for adoption. Clare has finally been in a position to begin to speak about her huge loss and the guilt she feels over the harm her daughter suffered.

Following a very recent lapse Clare identified that she would benefit from counselling support. This was discussed with the professional network and her key worker at BOP made a referral to BHT Threshold. In line with the Pathway, Clare was fast tracked to enable her to access the very much needed therapeutic support which has allowed her to begin to address her feelings and enable her to continue to parent her baby.

I am very much of the view that without this support the risk of Clare lapsing further was very high and whilst I can not guarantee that she will not use drugs in the future, being able to talk about her immediate and overwhelming feelings in the moment of a crisis has been extremely helpful for this young mother.

Alongside our services for women which are at the core of our operations we have now for several years worked with men with drug and alcohol problems whose children are open to children's social care. We use our gender specific approach with men, tailoring our interventions to meet the specific needs of Dads. We provide both 1-1 support and a parenting group. There is a wealth of evidence

that Dads are often invisible in children's services and that supporting them to be the best parent they can be is not prioritised. Our aim with this service is to reduce the harm caused by problematic drug or alcohol misuse and support men to become better parents. The feedback we receive is that men appreciate the support we offer and the recognition of their role as parents.

Emily

Emily works part time in the adult service in Brighton and started at BOP in October 2016.



I grew up in a small conservative town in the South East that is perhaps the most notorious for being home to the Church of Scientology Headquarters. Although I was raised in an area with this wide variety of religious organisations; diversity was not really appreciated and life was still underpinned with expectations about "normal" relationships. As an openly gay teenager this experience fuelled my passion for activism and for advocating for those who may also be struggling to find their place in society. I began working in homelessness services when I was 19 and noticed very early on that women were under-represented across the sector. When I learned about Oasis and how aligned the organisation is to both my personal and professional ethos, I knew almost immediately that I had to get involved.

Liam

Liam uses our POCAR male service in Brighton

I was born in Brighton, East Sussex. I'm White British. I'm a father of 3 boys but due to a relationship breakdown with their mother surrounded by drugs and alcohol things went downhill. I left the family home and then after bereavement my drinking got really heavy. This really did not help the children. I'm now 9 weeks sober and I feel I can find self worth and love myself again and find myself becoming a man again. It's a bumpy road – onwards and upwards to being the father my boys deserve.

Fran

Fran works in our adult services in Brighton and joined Oasis in 2016.

I moved to Brighton four years ago to study Social Work, whilst my colleagues on my course naturally progressed into statutory services I was always drawn into the voluntary sector. The Oasis spirit and ethos in supporting women and families in a creative, nurturing and trauma informed practice affirmed the reasons why. Alongside working at Oasis I am also studying for a Masters degree in Gender Studies. My interest in feminist thinking came from my father. He brought me and my sisters up alone and always ensured we knew our possibilities in the world as young women.



My first year of the MA allowed me to draw links between feminist research and my work on the POCAR programme at BOP. I hope with critical thinking about gender I can one day contribute to research that creates positive change. I left school with no intention of going to university, I was inspired by sisters and now my education is my most proudest accomplishment. However, I don't think I would be truly fulfilled in my studies without also working in frontline practice. I feel so privileged to have had the opportunity to begin a career with Oasis and working alongside the most wonderful colleagues and the brave women and children who use the service.

Michelle

Michelle uses our adult services in Brighton

I was born in Scotland and moved to Brighton when I was 6 years of age. I would describe myself as white British, I'm a mum but at the moment I don't live with my daughter. I spent time in care as a child which was upsetting and disruptive. I have been attending Oasis on and off for 8 years to help me address my drug problems. In the last year I've completed a detox and although I had a lapse afterwards I'm waiting to go into rehab now for an extended period of time. I have just started on the employment trial with Pavilions and I'm looking forward to thinking about work opportunities. I'm optimistic about the future and hope this time I can achieve lasting abstinence.

Since 2016 Oasis has delivered services to women in East Sussex. Working alongside other support services across the county we have delivered group work to women who are in recovery from substance misuse or trying to reduce their drug and alcohol use. In March 2018 we marked International Women's Day in Hastings with an event at the Jerwood Gallery attended by Amber Rudd MP. East Sussex service continue to develop and the team has made links with local partners to ensure women are aware of the support available.

Victoria

Victoria started work at BOP in July 2017 and leads the women's service in East Sussex

Raised in a single parent family, I learnt feminist values and developed passion for equality from a very young age. At university, I studied identity and critical race theory, discovering how political structures have modelled the way we relate to each other and how we hold our own 'power', through knowledge and ideas. I've spent many years at the front line working with some of the most vulnerable, whilst having my own vulnerable life experiences being 'female,' and 'different'. I try to balance being a single mother myself, with my working role of leading a team, empowering clients and impacting society around policy change by being a part of Oasis. At the core of my own self, I hold the notion we are all equal, all powerful, and all have a voice worthy of sharing and making our mark on the world.



Ruby

Ruby uses our services in East Sussex

I was born in East Sussex and describe myself as white British, I'm 22. I found the school environment made me anxious so I was quite deviant in my youth, setting fire to the field and getting into trouble with fights; it's possible I have an undiagnosed behavioural need which has impacted my adult life and recovery. As a teen I struggled with some trauma around sexual abuse, it has taken me until this year to fully grasp what consent means and have ownership over my body again. I spent some of my youth drinking with friends but I became hooked on cocaine through an ex boyfriend who was a drug dealer. I recovered myself, but after being diagnosed with post natal psychosis I reached for cocaine to help stop the voices. I have been supported by Oasis for almost a year, and the voices clinic and my family. I have had a couple of lapses but these have been around some traumatic events in family, physical health and bereavement too. I have kept care of my son supported by my family, and no longer need support from social services. I'm back at work, and am leading on a service user feedback forum for my Oasis group, East Sussex .

Children and Young People are often negatively impacted by the drug and alcohol use of people around them; numerous studies have highlighted how parental drug and alcohol use can compromise a child's wellbeing and safety. Within the past 12 months there has been more recognition of this including the impact of non dependent drinking by parents, with the release of the Report "Like Sugar for Adults", which Oasis contributed to. Tackling the potential harm caused by problematic drug and alcohol use to children is something that we address via our Young Oasis services. Over many years we have developed our response to children that takes into account their need to receive support in their own right whilst working alongside parents and carers to enable them to better meet their children's needs in the long term. We deliver both one to one therapies to children from 5 to 18 and provide crèche services for children from birth up to school age.

We are really pleased to have been able to expand our services to children in Hastings with funding from BBC Children in Need. Working from the premises of the Fellowship of St Nicholas in St Leonards we are now able to support 8 children a week.

Toby

Toby is a Young Persons Therapist and works both in Brighton and Hastings. He has been with Oasis for 5 years.

I grew up in Kingston-upon-Thames, south of London, and lived there until I was 18, when I moved down to Brighton. I moved down to study Philosophy and English. I had hoped that studying Philosophy would reveal the meaning of life. I was disappointed in this respect, and after finishing my degree sought to find work that would provide meaning and purpose. I eventually discovered 3 things I felt met that criteria– working in service to others, being in nature and being creative. My first proper job was at a community farm in Stanmer Park, working with adults with learning difficulties and mental health problems. Later, I did outreach work with adults with mental health problems, whilst learning and teaching drama, as well as writing and performing songs and poems. My decision to train as a dramatherapist drew me towards working with children and families and allowed me to bring all these skills together. During our summer arts programme, when we go out into nature, and make art through storymaking, drawing, writing I feel fortunate to be doing work that combines all 3 things that I find meaningful – being of service to others, being creative and connecting to nature.



There is often a gap in services provision for Young People aged 18-25, especially when they have experienced disruption in their earlier life and might have unresolved concerns. We developed a response to this for young women with the aim that it would prevent problems becoming significant and may enable them to process some of the losses and experiences they had lived through as children. The Bloom Foundation agreed to fund this service for 2 years in 2017 enabling us to support 20 young women each year.

Baby Leah & Mum

Baby Leah and Mum use Adult services and the creche in Brighton

Leah is one year old and lives with her mum and two brothers in Brighton. Leah comes to the creche so her mum can access support including the Mellow Parenting programme. Mum had this to say: "The creche are always flexible in looking after Leah; Leah had never been left with anyone else before and found it hard to settle, the crèche staff were wonderful and she now loves it. The staff always take time to talk to me about her day, Leah enjoys singing songs, playing musical instruments and having cuddles. The creche is such an amazing place to for people who need to access support to enable their recovery from drugs or alcohol. Knowing my little girl is having fun and being excellently cared for helps me relax and focus on my ongoing recovery!"

Joyce

Joyce joined BOP this year and works in the creche in Brighton

I was born in Nigeria and grew up in a close community where culture, beliefs and respect was highly valued. I came to the UK in 2000 and have lived in Brighton since 2004. I started working with children as a Sunday school teacher where I discovered my passion for making a difference to children's lives, since then I have worked in schools and nursery settings with children with SEN, EAL, and behaviour issues. I was able to gain understanding of some of the issues that children face, and how professionals come together to provide child – centred support. My passion for working with families with young children stems from my own childhood experiences and I believe that through working with parents and others who work to support families, children will have better chances of reaching their full potential. I am currently studying early childhood studies at University, work part time and enjoy being a lone parent.





KEY FIGURES FOR 2017/18

BRIGHTON & HOVE ADULT SERVICES

For adults over 18 years with a drug and/or alcohol problem

305 people were care co ordinated by BOP in adult services in the City of Brighton and Hove



219 of which were women
26 of which were men



30% were opiate users



30% were alcohol users



21% were non opiate



18% were alcohol and non opiate



23% of new presentations in the adult service in Brighton were BME



25% of new presentations identified as lesbian, gay or bisexual

YOUNG OASIS

For children and young people affected by a parent's substance misuse



72 children and young people aged from 5-18 accessed 1:1 therapy in Brighton & Hove and Hastings



69 CHILDREN ACCESSED THE CRÈCHE

- 44 boys and 25 girls
- 20 under 12 months at the start of their time with us
- 19 between 12 months -2 years
- 10 between 2- 4 years
- 20 over 4 years

SWOP

Sex Workers' Outreach project



41 new first time contacts



54 different women supported each quarter



30 women received case support



229 women received brief support/advice

FULFILLING LIVES (EAST SUSSEX)

For men and women in East Sussex with multiple and complex needs



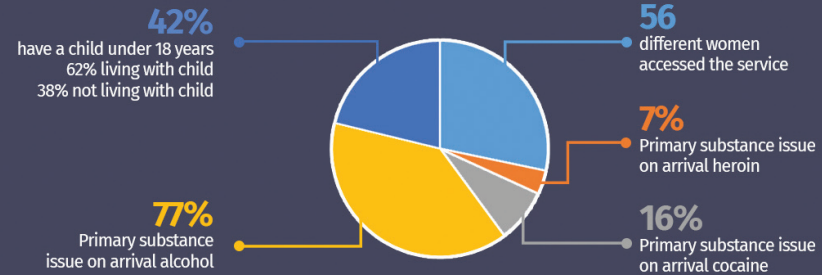
12 women and 8 men were supported in Hastings



11 men and 11 women were supported in Eastbourne

OASIS WOMEN'S RECOVERY SERVICE (OWRS)

For women in East Sussex with a drug or alcohol problem



OASIS IN THE COMMUNITY



81 professionals and supporters from the local community attended one of our open mornings



6 staff members and clients were 'living books' in our 20th anniversary Human Library event



73 people attended our afternoon tea event with journalist/author/broadcaster, Sali Hughes



26 people from the Hastings community attended our International Women's Day event with Amber Rudd



31 supporters attended our women entrepreneur's brunch event at the Grand Hotel

STAFF AND VOLUNTEER SUPPORT

50 members of staff across Brighton & Hove, Eastbourne AND HASTINGS



- 17 Full Time
- 33 Part Time



1829 volunteer hours contributed



Volunteers supported in the crèche, on therapy placements, with groups, on fundraising activities, on reception and on the board (our trustees)

Our services for Sex Workers received a huge boost in 2017 with 3 year funding from the government's Tampon Tax. The SWOP service has been reduced over the last few years as a result of statutory funding cuts so this was really welcome. The project will provide holistic support to a diverse group of women with the aim of;

- Increasing the safety and wellbeing of women involved in sex work
- Improving outcomes for women involved in sex work in relation to recovery from sexual violence and abuse
- Improving outcomes for women with complex needs who are involved in the sex industry

Our previous work has focused more on the physical /sexual health aspects of sex work and we really hope to achieve significant progress in tackling violence and abuse amongst sex workers. We are working with Survivors Network to establish a helpline for this project.

FLASH Project

In April we were advised that our application to the Gilead UK and Ireland Fellowship Programme 2017 had been successful and we would receive funding to pilot HIV Home Screening for female sex workers. Over the last 12 months we have worked closely with the support of a steering group to introduce this initiative which is available to Sex Workers nationally. We are especially pleased that we have been able to make support and advice available in 5 languages reflecting the diversity of women involved in sex work and the barriers that can exist for some groups around accessing health care. At a time when it is acknowledged that advances in HIV treatment and care offer the real possibility of zero new transmissions of HIV this offers a great opportunity to utilise advances in technology for a client group who can be difficult to reach. We have built on our longstanding experience of working with this group to test new approaches including digital methods of delivery.



flash^{HIV} TEST

results
in a
FLASH

A convenient, easy, free HIV self-testing option for sex workers, who identify as women. Get your result in 15 minutes.

MEL

Mel has been with Oasis for 17 years and leads the Sex Worker Services including the FLASH Project

I grew up in a small rural community in Kent. When I left home I went to live in London for a year, doing office temps before coming to Brighton in 1989 to go to University. After university I did different temp jobs and then horticultural work. These jobs funded me doing a couple of long trips to India. I experienced life on a rural development project in India and took away with me the importance of grass roots projects and service user / community participation.



This inspired me to become more involved in my own community back home. I started volunteering for an HIV prevention project, around this time I had my first links with Brighton Oasis Project who were starting to offer outreach to sex workers. I initially volunteered, then after funding was secured, set up the Sex Worker Outreach Project started in a paid role. My rural background before living in cities has made me painfully aware of the lack of equality in access to services for people living in smaller towns and rural areas and how isolating this can be, particularly for many women: I am really delighted that Oasis, including the SWOP Sussex team is now able to offer services in East Sussex and to offer a Sussex wide helpline for sex workers.

ALI

Ali leads the Sex Worker Outreach Project across Sussex and joined us this year.



I have lived all over the UK, moving mostly because of study and work. I am from Essex originally and used to spend a lot of my childhood in France, consequently growing a love for foreign languages. Work-wise, however, I decided to go down the route of becoming a doctor and graduated with a medicine degree in 2014. I worked as a junior doctor for 2 years on hospital wards before deciding to work in preventative healthcare and joining the Sex Workers' Outreach Project. My role at Oasis involves intense frontline work with vulnerable sex working women as well as contributing to subgroups in a "backstage" capacity at the charity. In my personal life I am a mental health advocate with my own blog and YouTube vlog. I am passionate about making the world a better place by addressing inequalities in health and really feel my work here is really making a difference.



Fulfilling Lives is a National Lottery Funded Project that aims to improve frontline response to those with the most complex needs. These needs usually encompass homelessness, substance misuse, offending and mental illness. Oasis hosts the teams working in Eastbourne and Hastings. Working with a small cohort of men and women the overall outcomes of the 9 year project are that services working with this cohort are more tailored and better connected and that service users are empowered to take a full part in effective service design and delivery. The project in the South East is part of a national programme of work with learning shared across the country.

Oasis is really pleased that in the South East a decision was taken to focus on the needs of women with multiple and complex needs as a specialism. We know that this cohort have complicated histories of violence and abuse both as children and adults. Many services which are provided to meet the needs of women struggle to respond to this particular group leaving them vulnerable to further victimisation. As a provider of gender specific services we feel that Fulfilling Lives is a great opportunity to work alongside partners in Hastings and Eastbourne to shape responses and to advocate for service provision that does not place barriers in the way of those in greatest need.

Both the men and women whom Fulfilling Lives works with face huge inequalities in health with life expectancy significantly lower than average. Many of the clients in this cohort have spent time in care as children and as adults have experienced the loss of their own children due to safeguarding concerns. The teams in East Sussex work with clients intensively and their resilience and commitment is heartening.

Duncan

Fulfilling Lives

I was brought up by a single mother until her death when I was 13, I was placed in foster care. I progressed well in care socially and went on to study Performing Arts at college where I excelled. Having a supportive carer I felt comfortable enough to come out as gay. I began going out on the gay scene in Brighton and it was a very exciting time in my life- looking back my relationship with alcohol was already becoming problematic. Alcohol gave me the confidence to engage with others and I felt like the life and soul of the party.

Alcohol is now a huge destructive force in my life it has led to crime, homelessness, serious health issues, risky behaviour and loneliness. Fulfilling Lives have continuously supported me in all of the above. I believe the Salvation Army have supported me greatly too. All I can say at this moment is I will continuously believe that with hope and support and my own will, I can live a sober life.

GILES

Giles is a specialist worker in the Fulfilling lives Team in Eastbourne. He has worked for Oasis since April 2017 when the Fulfilling lives contract started

Having successfully failed at my first attempt at university, but enjoying the time in getting to understand and know myself better I finally graduated with a degree in International Development. This sparked my desire to travel and landed me a fortunate role working across East and South Africa for a number of enjoyable and memorable years. It was here that I encountered a group of young people from disadvantaged backgrounds who were to drastically change my career direction...landing in the UK with a bump and a dose of reverse culture shock, I began my work within the third sector. I have been settled with my partner in East Sussex for 10 years and am currently riding the rollercoaster of parenting two under 5's. I am enjoying the challenges of working within systems that often let down some of the most marginalised groups of people, and supporting clients to feel empowered within these systems to try and bring about system change that better meets their needs.



ANNABEL

Annabel has been our intern for the year on placement from the University of Sussex where she is studying Psychology.

I was born and raised in Portsmouth but moved to Brighton three years ago to attend University which is where I was lucky enough to meet my partner. My first experience in a health and social care setting, was volunteering at a residential home for the elderly for 2 years whilst studying for my A levels. I currently work at Oasis whilst also studying with the hope of becoming a clinical psychologist. I first came to Oasis as a shy and nervous intern, after working here for almost a year I have found my feet and albeit still quiet, my voice. Even though I am the youngest member of staff, I get confidence from the great team that works with me and thoroughly enjoy the work.



In 2017/18, Brighton Oasis Project celebrated 20 years in operation. Within the past year we have experienced significant increases in our income (55% on last year) and have seen diversification in our income streams as a result of dedicated fundraising and business development efforts in line with our organisational strategy. Crucially, this has enabled us to reach more people with a diverse range of needs through the implementation of new interventions and projects.

In April 2017 we were awarded a contract via Brighton Housing Trust to host the Fulfilling Lives South East teams in Hastings and Eastbourne. Fulfilling Lives aims to improve responses to people with multiple and complex needs. This represented a significant expansion for Brighton Oasis Project, with over 20 staff being TUPE d into the organisation.

In April Brighton Oasis Project was chosen as one of two local charity partners for the Brighton Marathon this year. It was a fantastic event. We had a marquee in the event village and had a fantastic time welcoming our runners over the finish line. We had 11 runners in total and they raised over £4,500 between them..



September 2017 marked our 20th year in operation. In line with our engagement strategy, we launched a series of fundraising and awareness raising events, including an open day with living library and exhibition and an afternoon tea event with writer/broadcaster Sali Hughes. Sali talked about her book and the importance of self-care. Over 70 women attended the event, 20 prizes were donated to our luxury raffle and online auction by individuals and organisations across the county and we raised an amazing £3,000 for Oasis. In October 2017 we were awarded a grant from the Bloom Foundation to deliver 1:1 therapy to young women who have experienced early trauma.

In December 2017 we were awarded a grant from the Home Office to deliver specific interventions to young people and parents of young people at risk of knife crime.

In March 2018 we held an International Women's Day celebration event in Hastings with then Home Secretary Amber Rudd as guest speaker. We also hosted a brunch event at the Grand Hotel where Brighton women entrepreneurs talked about their successes and challenges.



Remembering Kathy

After the tragic passing of Kathy our beautiful Mum, I wanted to set up this page to raise money for a charity that she would have loved to have been a part of. Many of you know that Mum struggled with alcohol addiction for a long time, but the one dream she had was to become a counsellor and help others that were at a crossroads in their lives. The stigma that surrounds alcoholism and drug addiction is incredibly sad, and we wish that people were able to feel that they can approach anyone, should they feel the need to. This charity does so much to help people at a young age, and if this were to happen more around the world, then maybe... just maybe, people would have the confidence to share their difficulties to try and get the support they need to battle their addictions.





PLEDGE CARD

Brighton Oasis Project
 11 Richmond Place, Brighton, BN2 9NA
 T: 01273 696970 M: 07835 164911
 E: laura.ward@brightonoasisproject.co.uk

Name: _____
 Address: _____

 Contact Number: _____ Email: _____

Please tick:

- I would like to make a donation of £5 per month
- I would like to make a donation of £_____ per month/one off donation
(Please delete)
- I would like to organise a fundraising event
- I would like to attend an open morning at Brighton Oasis
- I am interested in becoming a trustee
- I am interested in volunteering at Brighton Oasis
- I would like to get my company involved in supporting Brighton Oasis
- I would like more information about what you do
- I would like a collection box for my home / office / shop

Other (please specify):

 _____ =

Thank you for pledging to support Brighton Oasis Project, helping us to continue providing services for women, children and young people affected by drug and alcohol misuse. We will be in touch to follow up your pledge very soon.



ACCOUNTS

Incoming resources from charitable activities	Total £	
Unrestricted:		
Cranstoun Contract	300,00	
Brighton & Hove City Council	145,851	
East Sussex County Council	88,584	
BHT Fulfilling Lives	22,500	
University of Brighton	7,371	
Pebble Trust	4,850	
Dodgson Foundation	1,800	
	£548,456	
Restricted:		
Brighton Housing Trust Fulfilling Lives	437,426	
Department for Media, Culture and Sport	59,430	
The Breadsticks Foundation	46,567	
BBC Children in Need	23,149	
Arts Council England	22,235	
Gilead Fellowship	20,500	
Home Office	20,000	
Trusthouse Charitable Foundation	19,227	
Lloyds Bank Foundation	11,500	
Bloom Foundation	10,000	
Awards for All	9,935	
The Sussex Community Foundation	4,988	
ESCC - Specialist Project Worker	2,922	
Barbara Ward Children's Foundation	1,232	
Other grants < £1,000	1,794	
	£690,905	
Other:		
Donations	22,961	
Other Income	12,773	
Investment Income	844	
	£36,578	Total £1,275,939 (A)
Expenditure:		
Staff Employment Costs	897,898	
Staff Training, Recruitment and Other	25,707	
Supervision	12,447	
Premises and Office Costs	163,759	
Project Expenses	44,025	
Depreciation	3,785	
Accountancy and Professional Fees	69,899	
Marketing, Publicity and Fundraising	6,868	
	Total £1,224,388 (B)	
Net Income Over Expenditure For The Year	Total £51,551 (A)-(B)	

I have examined the summary financial statement for the year ended 31 March 2018. In my opinion the summary financial statement is consistent with the full annual financial statements and the Trustees' Annual Report of Brighton Oasis Project for the year ended 31 March 2018.

Mr Darren Harding ACA, FCCA, DChA
 for and on behalf of Richard Place Dobson Services Ltd. Date: 24th August 2018

BRIGHTON OASIS PROJECT

gratefully acknowledges funding and support from the following:

Arts Council England
Awards for All
Barbara Ward Children's Foundation
BBC Children in Need
Bloom Foundation
Brighton & Hove City Council
Brighton Housing Trust - Fulfilling Lives
Cranstoun Contract
Department for Media, Culture & Sport
Dodgson Foundation
East Sussex County Council
Gilead Fellowship
Home Office
Lloyds Bank Foundation
Pebble Trust
The Breadsticks Foundation
The Sussex Community Foundation
Trusthouse Charitable Foundation
University Of Brighton

PATRON

Baroness Massey of Darwen

OUR BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Tina Favier - Co-Char
Jessica Taylor - Co-Chair
Chris Goss
Richard Kerslake
Gill Whensley
Rachel Cashman
Clare Cochrane



SUPPORTED BY...



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