### newsletter

- Cambridge Shire Community Foundation

September 2015

Issue 6

### **Cheffins Grassroots Endowed Fund**

#### fund update:

- Almost £60,000 to local projects across Cambridgeshire, Essex, Suffolk, Hertfordshire & Huntingdonshire
- Projects supporting people in need, including:
  - Health & wellbeing
  - \* Poverty & disadvantage
  - \* Disability & access



#### Latest grants awarded:

- St Luke's VA CofE Primary School were awarded £800 to install some playground equipment that is low level and therefore accessible to children with special needs.
- Acting Now CIC received £640 towards running of social theatre workshops in Cambridge for adults with mental health issues and learning difficulties.
- Jimmy's Night Shelter were awarded £750 to use to help liaise with community groups for an art project on the subject of Jimmy's, homelessness and identity.
- **Ormiston Children & Families Trust** received **£800** to use towards travel costs for a project to help children living in Cambridgeshire to manage the



**about the fund:** small grants to local voluntary and community organisations working to help people in need in or around Cambridge, Ely, St Ives, Newmarket, Haverhill or Saffron Walden.

# casestudy

# £868 grant awarded to Cruse Bereavement Care Cambridge with Fenland and Uttlesford:

for additional Children and Young people training for 6 volunteers

Cruse Cambridge provides bereavement support to anybody who has lost somebody close. Unfortunately a surprising number of children and young people - almost 1 in 30 - will experience the death of a parent before the age of 19. Many more will experience the loss of a grandparent, sibling or friend. As a result, last year Cruse Cambridge saw 54 children and young people, 12 percent of our total clients. However, only 10 percent of our volunteers, 12 out of 120, have received the specialised training that enables them to provide bereavement support to children and young people.

Furthermore, unlike our adult clients, for children and young people we operate a no waiting policy. Therefore we have a real need to provide additional CYP training to around six further volunteers so we can keep meeting the needs of children and young people in our community. This training will take place over four full days and will require the services of two professional trainers.

#### Case study:

"I was called by a father to see his young son. The son was struggling with grief over his twin sister who had died at birth. The son was experiencing a wide range of emotions, including sadness, loss and guilt - why had he survived and she hadn't?"

"The first meeting is always very important. I aim to listen and support, whilst hoping the child likes me and can start to trust me. Children are far more honest about their feelings than adults, they do not censor them!"

"At this age I usually start with a couple of questions - favourite football team, food, music etc as an icebreaker. One usually hits the spot!"

"The first meeting went well and I asked him if he would like me to come again, and that I was there to talk about his sister. Subsequently he spoke very eloquently about his sister he had never met, but who he had shared a womb with for 9 months. He missed her and he often dreamt about her. He was very sad, and cried a lot. He described how he imagined his sister, what she might enjoy doing, would she be annoying? There was a real sense of her presence which seemed really important to him."

"I saw the son for 8 weeks. He did not want our sessions to end but after talking about this we came to a very positive conclusion. We were both sad, it had been a privilege for me, and a positive experience for him. Later his Dad told me he had become much calmer and was sleeping better as a result of talking his feelings over."

The Cambridgeshire Community Foundation, an independent charity (1103314), makes grants to local grass root community groups. Individuals, families, business, public sector organisations, and other charitable trusts make this possible by setting up Funds with us. For more information on CCF, please visit <a href="https://www.cambscf.org.uk">www.cambscf.org.uk</a>.

This Fund newsletter has been written and produced by employees of the Foundation. Whilst every attempt is made to ensure the information is correct, this cannot be guaranteed. Please contact the Cambridgeshire Community Foundation if you have any comments about the content - info@cambscf.org.uk