

It hardly seems any time since I last prepared our last Annual Report and it has been a busy and eventful year for the Project. We faced an uncertain future but thanks to additional funding from the South Central Neighbourhood Partnership and some restructuring of services we were able to continue to offer a Monday to Friday service to the older people in our Community. We did however lose our Outreach Service however we have increased the service in the Centre and offer Higher Level Care on some days and do more preventative work on others – in many ways we are going back to our roots of providing services to enable people to live longer healthier lives, to give increased quality of life and to continue to make a difference to the people we serve.

The changes we have undergone have required us to vary our Registration with the Care Commission to cover every day in the Centre and at our most recent Care Commission inspection I am delighted to report we achieved two grade 6's for our Care & Support of clients and two grade 5's for staffing. 6 is the highest grade and is categorised as Excellent and 5 is Very Good so congratulations to everyone involved in helping us to achieve this for the first time.

Our advice service continues and through our Supporting People funding continuing, we are able to maintain a number of clients in their own homes and supporting them to manage finance and bill paying etc. In the last year we have received 102 new referrals for service and made 1813 contacts to our clients or on their behalf. We also increased the income to our clients by £8,572.20 this past year.

This year we have also undertaken some improvements to our Centre. With support from volunteers from Lloyds Banking Group, the Centre has been painted inside and we have just had new more efficient boilers installed as well as the exterior of the building painted and some of the lighting inside upgraded.

Everyone will be aware that funding pots for the coming year are likely to be reduced due to the financial situation in both Local and National Government. We await decisions outwith our control to partly determine the future of the Project. But we have to remain positive and forward looking. What is clear is that we provide good quality services to a large number of individuals in our Community and the Staff and Management of the Project are working hard to ensure we can continue to offer quality services in the coming year.

The past year has seen change – we have lost some staff and volunteers and welcomed new ones. We have lost clients and welcomed new ones. At the time of writing this Report we have a staff compliment of 8 paid staff, 4 sessional workers and including our Management Group 21 active volunteers providing 94 individuals with service each week. All of those people who work for the Project bring something to the service but also gain from their experiences and commitment here.

I am entering my 20th year working for this Project and in that time have always tried to finish these Annual Reports with some quote or saying which will remind us, refresh or inspire us in what we strive to do. Here is this years.....

Mahatma Gandhi quoted

'the measure of a country's greatness should be based on how well it cares for its most vulnerable populations' - he also said 'you must be the change you wish to see in the world.'

As a believer in Communities I would say as well as a country's greatness, a Communities greatness, should be based on how well it cares for its most vulnerable. I believe that the work we do here in the Prestonfield Community not only cares for those vulnerable individuals but helps to bring the change for the better we all would wish to see, not only in the wider world, but to the lives of those we support and care for on a daily basis.
Linda M Wright

Prestonfield & District Neighbourhood Workers Project



Chairperson's Annual Report

Once again the time has arrived to look back over the past year and for me to comment on the work of the Project and those involved with it. It has not been an easy year. We faced a significant shortfall in finance but thanks to a grant from Fairer Scotland Fund via the South Central Neighbourhood Partnership we have continued to offer 5 days service to our older people. We also managed to recruit a Treasurer for the Project and I welcome Maggie Ramsay to our Management Group.

The Centre has had a facelift and my thanks to those who worked to achieve this.

It is also heartening to note this year that clients and carers, have, during various research and events convened to give their views, confirmed they are more than happy with the services offered to them or their relative by this Project.

The Management were also delighted to be informed that our services received a grading of Excellent during recent Care Commission Inspections and congratulate all involved in gaining this accolade.

We face yet another year of possible change and financial uncertainty regarding future funding but we are more than ready to face this challenge with a Management, staff and volunteer team dedicated to improving the lives of everyone who comes to the Project for service.

Moirá O'Neill



Braid Hills Hotel
Entertaining the sun after lunch
July 2010



Morrison entertaining us on the new piano donated to the Centre by the Taylor family

Acknowledgements

The Project would like to thank the following people or organisations for their ongoing support :-

Bank of Scotland (Newington Branch), Bridgend Allotments, City of Edinburgh Council - Health & Social Care Department, Councillors Burgess, McKenzie, Perry & Rose, Edinburgh Voluntary Organisations Council, Friends of Prestonfield Project, HC Wright Garden & Landscaping, Lloyds TSB Foundation for Scotland, Lloyds TSB Banking Group Staff, Lothian & Borders Fire & Rescue Service, Lothian & Borders Police, Lothian Community Transport Service, NHS Lothian (Dementia Co-ordinator), Robertson Trust, South Central Neighbourhood Partnership, South Edinburgh Amenities Group, Tom Gilzean, Taylor Family, Warner's Solicitors

SOUTH CENTRAL

NEIGHBOURHOOD PARTNERSHIP



Team from Lloyds Banking Group

In the spring of this year a team from the Lloyds Banking Group spent a day repainting the inside of our Centre. Our thanks to them for brightening the place up and 'making a difference' for our clients.



Clients were asked if we were making a difference to their lives and if so could they say why.



Floral art at the Women's Group



Andrew - I come here for enjoyment and good company.

Cathy - I like coming here - I told my daughter in law I won't go anywhere else.

Margaret - I come here because I like doing things, meeting people.

Here are some of their answers



Tommy - I come and enjoy the company - the men and the women and I like the dominoes.

Fern - I come here because it makes you feel better - you hear people speaking - its better to hear people speaking.



Easter Bonnet Parade Spring 2010

Volunteers View

I asked Helen one of our volunteers what it meant to her being a volunteer at PNP. Volunteering here at Prestonfield means everything to me - it changed my life - it gave me my confidence back when I needed it and I now work in the care sector having moved from retail. I love coming in seeing the clients, seeing how they are doing - I enjoy their company and miss them when they are not in.

Carers Event

The Project held an event for the carers of clients in our Dementia Day Care Service. This was to assess if we were offering people what they wanted and needed and to help us identify gaps in our services. Briefly the outcomes stated the service was very beneficial, it is vital in providing support to the families who need it - carers stated they feel we are 'sharing the care' and 'they are not alone'. As a result of the positive feedback an annual event of this type is planned.



Effie - I come here because you can give vent to your feelings - good feelings.

Bill - I come here because it fills your time without it being a pain.

Ella - I come here because it lifts you out of your depression and makes you feel so much better.



Christmas Lunch 2009

Still making a difference to the lives of Older People in the Community



May stepping out at the Spring Lunch 2010