



Scottish Families Affected by Drugs

Annual report 2009–2010

www.sfad.org.uk



Scottish Families Affected by Drugs

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Who we are

Scottish Families Affected by Drugs is a national charity that aims to support families across Scotland who are affected by drug misuse and raise awareness of the issues affecting them.

The organisation was established in 2003 when families and family support groups from across Scotland expressed their desire to become a united force to raise awareness of the difficulties families face when living with or supporting a drug user.

Scottish Families Affected by Drugs works on behalf of these families and family support groups, raising awareness of the issues they face while providing them with information, advice and support.



Chair's report

Scottish Families Affected by Drugs may have changed its name this year, but this is only an indication of the other changes which the organisation has undergone throughout the financial year.

2009 will be remembered as a time in the organisation's history of much change and growth. At the beginning of the year the organisation still had only two staff. By March 2010 the staff levels had doubled, with us recruiting a new chief executive officer and a development officer employed specifically to support new and existing family support groups. Our helpline also went from strength to strength with the employment of a helpline development officer who has co-ordinated existing and new volunteers to ensure that many more family members are provided with vital information about drugs and services in their local area.

With extra capacity came the opportunity to make a number of strides to rethink how we operated and some of the services we provided; the removal of membership fees for family support groups and individual family members, a new 3 year strategic plan, the introduction of conference calls which provide family members with information and advice from their own homes, and community events in Aberdeen and Dundee that brought the organisation into contact with new family members.

Thank you to all those family members who have given their time for free this year to help us support as many families as possible. Scottish Families Affected by Drugs could not function without their hard work and dedication, many of whom have been through, or are continuing to experience difficulties in their own lives. We know that their involvement in the organisation can help their own recovery and the recovery of their loved ones.

Thanks to all the staff for their hard work and enthusiasm and finally, thank you to the Scottish Government, The Robertson Trust and the Big Lottery for their continued support.

I'm optimistic that in the coming year the work of Scottish Families Affected by Drugs will continue to grow and develop, bringing more opportunities to help family members when they need it most.

Eleanor Robertson MBE
Chair





Chief Executive's report

It is with great pleasure that I report this year on the organisation's activities. It is now a full year since my recruitment to Scottish Families Affected by Drugs and I am still excited about the potential and possibilities facing the organisation as we go forward.

The organisation has grown this year in terms of its activities and staff. The helpline has continued to develop volunteers to help others in similar circumstances and has expanded its opening hours. Development has taken place in Grampian and Dundee linking families to information and support locally but also introducing them to the organisation and the services it provides. We have engaged with long standing supporters, members and others interested in the role of families through our newsletter, website and networking opportunities. Government has remained firmly supportive of the organisation as the board and staff together adopted a new strategic plan which provides a foundation on which the organisation can further develop.

Perhaps most importantly, though, is the organisation's continued commitment to involving family members in the organisation. The board has expanded and has grown considerably in its role as the governing body of the organisation as well as representing the interests of families to the outside world. I would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank all of the board members for their commitment and support over this past year. Your expert guidance reflects your skills, abilities, energy, empathy and compassion. Thank you.

Finally, I would like to thank all the staff for their tireless enthusiasm, ideas and commitment. I hope that you have enjoyed the challenges and successes of this year as much as I have and are looking forward to the year ahead.

Cara MacDowall
Chief Executive





Key achievements 2009–10

Family support

New development officer

Thanks to funding from the Robertson Trust we recruited a development officer to work with family support groups in July 2009. This new post has allowed us to work more closely with family members and local services throughout Scotland and provide groups with capacity building support.

Building links

We have made many links with organisations and groups throughout the country. We have been able to reach family support groups in all stages of development; assessing their needs, providing direct support and signposting to other relevant services. This work has not only increased the awareness of Scottish Families Affected by Drugs and our services with support groups throughout Scotland but has helped 3 new support groups get off the ground, and many more to continue their work in their communities.

Community events

Working in partnership with Alcohol and Drug Partnerships and local services, we held two community events in Dundee and Aberdeen. The events were designed to encourage family members to meet other individuals in similar circumstances and to find out about local services that can offer support. The events were a great success and resulted in 34 individual family members and family support group members being signposted to local services. The Dundee event also resulted in a television interview which helped to raise the profile of the issues facing family members affected by drugs.

Improved information

A poster campaign to encourage family members in Moray was undertaken in March 2010. The posters were displayed throughout the Moray community to encourage local family members affected by drugs to contact us for support. The campaign resulted in expressions of interest from family members who were signposted to relevant services in their area.



We also produced new family support group literature. The two leaflets, Starting a family support group and Joining a family support group, offer practical information to anyone interested in starting or joining a family support group. The leaflets were distributed to family members throughout the country.

Online database

The website was updated and revised and now reflects local authority areas. Family members who visit our website can now search for support groups in their locality simply and quickly using the online directory.



Helpline and training

Development of helpline



Since the pilot in April 2009 the helpline has really taken off, providing confidential information and support to families all over Scotland. The reach of the helpline has increased significantly. There are now over 60 volunteers staffing the helpline, allowing it to remain open from 5pm–11pm, 7 days a week. The extension of the hours to include the weekend has been a great achievement, particularly since a lot of drug misuse occurs then. We hope to develop the helpline even further by recruiting more volunteers in the coming year.

New training

We expanded our volunteer training to include information on blood borne viruses, overdose prevention, talking and listening skills and additional drugs awareness training. This has given the volunteers more confidence when answering the calls and signposting the callers on to relevant services.

To complement the training, a pack was produced and includes all processes and procedures that a volunteer needs to follow to ensure they are working within our framework, useful telephone numbers, a list of all the drugs agencies across Scotland and contact details for support groups from around the country.

Resource centre

A training resource centre was developed in July 2009 which includes information and resources on a number of issues surrounding drugs and substance misuse. The resources are available on loan to our members to allow them to increase knowledge and training in their own groups.

Conference calls

At the end of 2009 we introduced a programme of conference calls. This involved a series of special 30 minute talks conducted via a conference call system, allowing people from all over Scotland to call in to listen to the talk and ask questions. The calls are charged at a low-call rate making them both accessible and affordable. In 2009/10 we covered:

- Hepatitis C
- dealing with difficult emotions
- a concise guide to cannabis
- supporting children through change and loss
- basic first aid in an overdose situation

A new programme of conference calls will be rolled out this year.

Call our free and confidential helpline

08080 101011

5pm–11pm, 7 days a week.



Profile raising and advocacy

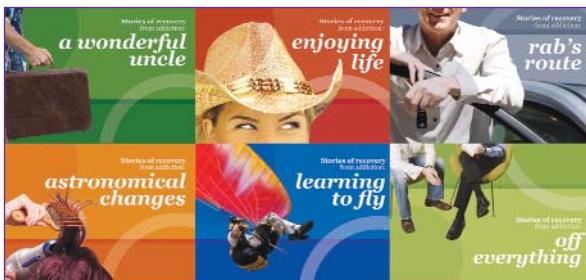
Media interest

Scottish Families Affected by Drugs featured in a number of articles and television opportunities over the course of the year, most of which covered the community events held in Aberdeen and Dundee. The media interest in our work has helped to raise awareness of our role and services, and has provided much needed profile for the issues facing families. With more awareness of the impact of drugs on families and our work, we hope to attract even more media interest in the coming year.

The newsletter

The membership newsletter was sent out bi-monthly to our members. In August 2009 the organisation increased its reach by including other stakeholders in the distribution – increasing the readership by 600%.

Providing a voice for families



In early 2010 we worked in partnership with FASS and Glasgow and Clyde ADP to help find families to talk about their own recovery. These recovery stories were launched at the Aye Write festival in Glasgow in March.

Representing families



Over the past year Scottish Families Affected by Drugs has ensured that families are represented at policy level. During 2009/10 we represented families at a variety of working groups, including the Scottish Drugs Policy Delivery Commission, the National Forum on Drug Related Deaths and the Scottish Drugs Recovery Consortium.

Our Chair took part in the Independent Enquiry into Maximising Recovery from Dependent Drug Use in Scotland, and played a proactive role in highlighting the needs of families. This included representation at a number of steering group meetings, the CEO's attendance at critical jury meetings and the submission of a written report specifically regarding families and recovery.

The Chair also attended the Scottish Drugs Conference on 7th December in Edinburgh and took part in a panel discussion looking at how to reduce stigma and increase the understanding of recovery.



Organisational development

Strategic plan

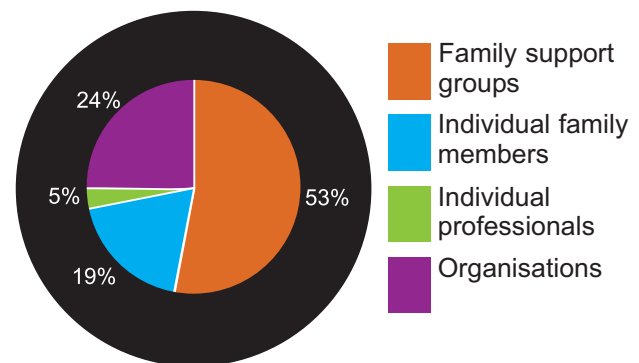
The board and staff worked together to develop the organisation's outcomes for the next three years. It was agreed that in 2010–2013 the organisation will work towards:

- policies reflecting the needs of families affected by drug misuse
- expanding the range of appropriate services for families affected by drug misuse
- sustaining best practice about services for families affected by drug misuse that other organisations can share
- increasing families' resilience
- reducing the stigma experienced by families affected by drugs misuse

Free membership

In February 2010 the board agreed to make membership to the organisation free for family members and family support groups. The board acknowledged that the small membership fee may prove a barrier to some families, and removing it would therefore make the organisation more accessible. Since the removal of the joining fee membership has steadily increased.

Who our membership are



STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (including Income and Expenditure Account) FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2010

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2010 Total £	2009 Total £
Incoming Resources				
Incoming resources from voluntary funds				
Voluntary income	85,274	79,632	164,906	98,733
Investment income	846	–	846	731
Incoming resources from charitable activities	5,365	–	5,365	5,718
Total Incoming Resources	91,485	79,632	171,117	105,182
Resources expended				
Charitable activities	60,880	77,473	138,353	111,690
Governance costs	10,473	–	10,473	8,505
Total Resources Expended	71,353	77,473	148,826	120,195
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources before transfers	20,132	2,159	22,291	(15,013)
Transfers				
Transfer on incorporation	–	–	–	–
Net movement in funds	20,132	2,159	22,291	120,059
Reconciliation of Funds				
Total funds brought forward	120,059	–	120,059	–
Total funds carried forward	140,191	2,159	142,350	120,059

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.
All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities.



Trustees' statement

These summarised financial statements contain information from the Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 March 2010, but are not the full statutory report and accounts. The full financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 31st July 2010 and subsequently submitted to OSCR and to Companies House. They received an unqualified audit report and copies may be obtained from the charity's head office.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees

Eleanor Robertson MBE
Chair
Date: 2nd August 2010

Auditors' statement on summarised financial statements

Independent auditors' statement to the Trustees of Scottish Families Affected by Drugs

We have examined the summarised financial statements which comprise the summary statement of financial activities.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and auditors

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the summarised financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom law and the recommendations of the charities SORP.

Our responsibility is to report to you our opinion on the consistency of the summarised financial statement with the full financial statements and Trustees' Annual Report. We also read the other information contained in the annual report and consider the implications for our report if we become aware of any apparent misstatements or material inconsistencies with the summarised financial statements.

Basis of opinion

We conducted our work in accordance with Bulletin 1999/6 "the auditors' statement on the summary financial statement" issued by the Auditing Practices Board for use in the United Kingdom. Our report on the organisation's full annual financial statements describes the basis of our audit opinion on the financial statements.

Opinion

In our opinion the summarised financial statements are consistent with the full annual financial statements and the Trustees' Annual Report of Scottish Families Affected by Drugs for the year ended 31 March 2010.

Wylie & Bisset LLP
Registered Auditors
Date: 2nd August 2010

Board of Directors

Eleanor Robertson, Chair

Ken Tomory, Treasurer
(resigned March 2010)

Jed Brady
(joined May 2010)

Pam Doig

Keith Fowler

Dorothy Hunt

Maureen MacMillan

Danny Ogierman
(joined May 2010)

Donna Paterson-Harvie

Kathleen Wood

David Armit, Treasurer
(joined July 2010)

Staff

Cara MacDowall
Chief Executive

Lisa Finlayson
Development officer, family support

Sarah Anderson
Helpline development officer

Rachel Brooks
(since April 2010)
Communications & administration officer

Cathy McIntosh
Finance & HR officer

Call our free and confidential helpline

08080 101011

5pm–11pm, 7 days a week.

Scottish Families Affected by Drugs

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Email: info@sfad.org.uk

www.sfad.org.uk

Scottish Families Affected by Drugs is a company limited by guarantee (company no: 345289) and a registered Scottish charity (SCO034737)

Scottish Families Affected
by Drugs was funded in
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The Scottish
Government



LOTTERY FUNDED

