



annual report
2008-09

 **Mentor UK**

Letter from the Chair of Trustees

The work that Mentor UK undertakes in the substance misuse prevention field is so crucial in improving the health and well being of the children and young people in our country.

The last year has seen significant increase in our activity and the opening of our Scottish office. However, we know that the bleak economic outlook puts pressure on our ability to fundraise.

My focus as Chairman of Mentor UK is threefold:

- 1** To establish financial stability through the promotion of a set of quality standards and tools to implement them.
- 2** To ensure sound governance and transparency in all activities and to facilitate good decision making by the Board of Trustees.
- 3** To promote Mentor UK's work and to raise its public and corporate profile in order to secure funding and encourage debate and support within the field of drug misuse prevention in the UK.

I would like to thank Eric Carlin, who stepped down as Chief Executive at the end of this year, and to wish him well. Eric was key in establishing Mentor UK as the leading drugs prevention charity and leaves behind a successful legacy.

Thank you to all our supporters, past, present and future, and we hope that you will continue to sustain and promote our organisation for the benefit of our children.



Sim Scavazza, Chairman Mentor UK



About Mentor UK

Mission & Values:

Mentor UK is a registered UK charity that works in conjunction with its partners in the international Mentor family, with whom it shares the same mission: The Mentor Foundation focuses on the prevention of drug misuse in its efforts to promote the health and wellbeing of children and young people and to reduce the damage to their lives. Mentor aims to support the effective use of human, financial and intellectual resources to achieve its goals.

Mentor Strategic Plan:

Last year the Mentor UK Trustees agreed a Five Year Strategic Plan for the organisation.

- Objective One:** Influencing drug and alcohol policy.
- Objective Two:** Supporting good practice in drug and alcohol misuse prevention.
- Objective Three:** Supporting drug and alcohol misuse prevention research.
- Objective Four:** Increasing the profile of drug and alcohol misuse prevention and Mentor's work.
- Objective Five:** To achieve a stable and expandable financial base.
- Objective Six:** To ensure good management and governance.



2008/2009 Our Achievements

CHAMP Awards 2008

CHAMP Awards



P.A.R.T.Y. Youth Alive, Dumfries – Award winners 2008

The CHAMP Awards is a biennial scheme offering a chance for projects working with young people tackling alcohol misuse prevention to win funding and support for their work. Applicants are judged by both experts in the field and young people, and the shortlisted groups attend a ceremony at which the winners are announced.

The 2008 CHAMP Awards Ceremony took place at the Royal Institution of Great Britain. The three winners were P.A.R.T.Y. Youth Alive, Dumfries, Adolescents Anonymous, Kirklees, and LookOut Alcohol, Preston. The winners each received £10,000 cash and up to a further £10,000 worth of consultancy support to help them improve, expand and share their activities. Andy Akinwolere from Blue Peter was on hand to present the prizes.

The CHAMP Awards website will be online by the end of 2009, with the goal of defining and sharing best practice from the winning projects more widely and offering young people and parents information and resources on alcohol misuse prevention.

The Drug Education Forum



Mentor UK continues to host the Drug Education Forum and its influence has never been stronger.

The Drug Education Forum brings together over 30 national organisations committed to improving the practice and profile of drug education in England.

The Forum was asked to contribute to the government's new guidance to schools about drugs, and will host three seminars later in the year which will explore contemporary issues for drug education.

The Forum also launched a new website www.drugeducationforum.com and continues to supply information and briefings to the drug education and prevention field.

“As a fairly small organisation we are encouraged to know our work is backed up by DEF, giving us more credibility and confidence in what we do. The information and policy service is important to us, saving a lot of research time.”

Drug Education Forum Member

Mentor Mark

With the support of Futurebuilders England, Mentor UK is developing a set of Quality Standards alongside a Quality Mark in alcohol and drugs prevention, targeted at commissioners and providers of drug prevention services for children and young people across the UK.

The Mentor Mark will enable commissioners to commission with confidence, secure in the knowledge that the prevention projects they are funding are in line with current best practice and research findings.

For practitioners, the Mentor Mark will enable them to measure how successful their projects are, and will ensure that they have the best possible chance of protecting the children and young people that they work with from harm. The Mentor Mark will ultimately enable them to demonstrate these benefits to potential funders.

Also under development is a range of support services to be provided to those seeking the Mentor Mark accreditation, which will include expert web-based, telephone and face to face advice and a practical toolkit.



“Mentor UK Quality Standards and Mark will help me to strengthen the quality of youth-oriented drug prevention programmes while supporting the five Every Child Matters outcomes” – Drug Prevention Commissioner

EU Kinship Care Project



Project partners meeting in London – July 2009

Mentor UK is leading this 3 year international project aiming to improve the quality of prevention programmes targeting children and young people living with kinship carers, thus preventing vulnerable children and young people from experiencing harm as a consequence of alcohol or drug use.

Funded in part by the European Union in the framework of the Public Health Programme, Mentor UK is working with 7 European partners.

They have been conducting interviews with carers in each country to ascertain their needs and those of the children they are caring for; the resulting needs assessment report is available on the project website – www.eukinshipcarers.eu.

In July 2009 the partnership met in London to discuss their findings and plan for the coming year.

Outputs from the project will include the publication of information and materials for kinship carers, alongside training resources for professionals. The project aims to disseminate these resources and the key findings throughout Europe.

The UK element of the project is based in Scotland.

“I am desperate for my granddaughter to grow up and become a beautiful, bright young woman with so many opportunities at her fingertips; she deserves it following the life she has had so far.”

Carer – UK

Peer Alcohol Education Project

Mentor UK was successful in receiving funding from Comic Relief to develop an Alcohol Education Peer Programme to be delivered across Scotland to young people at serious risk of alcohol misuse.

The project will recruit 12 young people aged 14 – 16 years, to become peer educators. Over a series of leisure activities and a residential weekend the young people will devise an alcohol education programme focusing on the effects alcohol has on the mind and body.

The programme will be delivered to 160 young people at serious risk of alcohol misuse across 18 different areas in Scotland. A further programme will then be devised and delivered to 160 professionals who work with these young people.

“I am really excited about becoming a peer educator as I find learning about alcohol very interesting and I am really interested in meeting new people and giving something back.”

MW, aged 15.

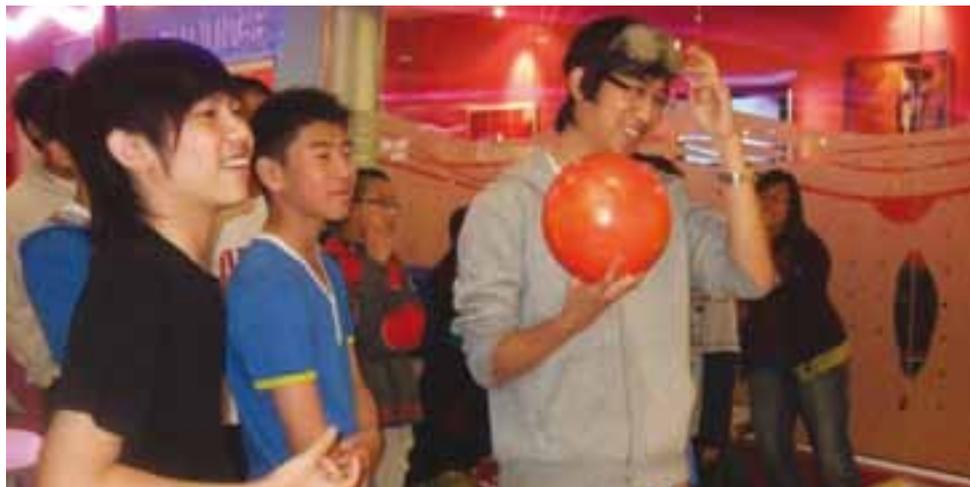
“I am glad I am going to be a peer educator and really want to learn more about what alcohol can do to me and others. My mum is an alcoholic and I am very keen to share my knowledge and experience with others if it will help them make positive choices in the future.”

MD aged 15



Peer Education Project, Dundee

BME Alcohol Project



San Jai Chinese Family Project

Mentor UK in Scotland has been funded by the Robertson Trust to undertake 6 pilot alcohol misuse prevention projects with a focus on black, minority ethnic and migrant communities.

The project works with 6 established youth projects – 3 urban and 3 rural – to devise alcohol awareness and education programmes. Young people are leading on devising the programmes to ensure that they engage their peers.

The 6 youth projects are from; Edinburgh, Glasgow, Dundee, South Lanarkshire, Angus and Perth and Kinross. They are working with young people from the Chinese, Muslim, Indian, European, African and white Scottish communities.

Focus groups have been held and the young people have chosen a diverse range of approaches to alcohol education. These include; peer education, a debating documentary and drama.

“I am really excited about this, we have never covered alcohol before and it has brought back young people to our project that have not attended in some years.”

Louise Chan –Manager, San Jai Chinese Family Project

Other Activities

London Youth Involvement Project

With funding from The City Bridge Trust, Mentor UK will recruit around twenty young people to be consulted on what issues matter to them and provide them with training and skills development sessions. Once trained, the young people will volunteer as prevention advisors, providing advice and guidance to the London Drug Policy Forum's network of Young People's Co-ordinators. The young people's views will reach policy makers, planners and practitioners seeking to develop prevention services across the capital.

Mentor International

Mentor International supports the work and development of seven Mentor Nationals.

This year Mentor International announced the launch of Prevention-Smart Parents, a free e-learning course that emphasises the importance of parental influence and the family environment in preventing drug misuse.

In 2008 the second Mentor International Prevention Awards Gala was held at the Polo Club Saint-Tropez. Presented by Mentor's President, Her Majesty Queen Silvia of Sweden. These Awards recognise and celebrate promise and achievement in drug misuse prevention globally.



Mentor International Prevention Awards 2008 Achievement Award Winner:
Peer Prevention Programme, Ugandan Youth Development Link



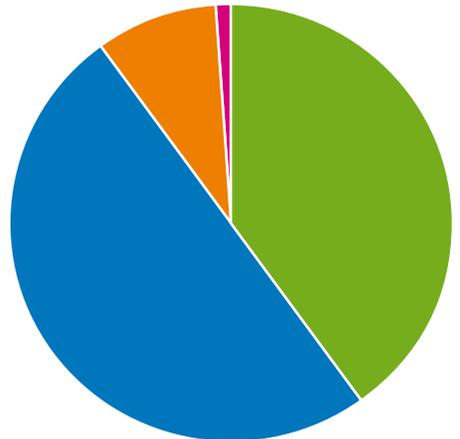
Summary Income and Expenditure 31 March 2009

	£
Total Income	643,852
Total Expenditure	655,789
Net Movement on funds	(11,937)
Reserves at 1 April 2008	65,632
Reserves at 31 March 2009	53,695



How the money was spent

	£
● Staff Salaries	263,187
● Drugs Related Projects	327,224
● Fundraising & Publicity	58,739
● Governance	6,639
	655,789



To request a copy of the complete Mentor UK audited accounts please contact admin@mentoruk.org or call 02077398494

Mentor UK has worked with the following organisations over the last year:

Admirable Crichton

Adolescents Anonymous, Kirklees

Association Mentor Lietuva (Lithuania)

De Sleutle (Belgium)

Drug Education Forum

G.E.E.A.P, Greater Easterhouse

Holt Romania (Romania)

LookOut Alcohol, Preston

Mentor Sverige (Sweden)

P.A.R.T.Y, Youth Alive, Dumfries

Reione Abruzzo (Italy)

San Jai Project (Scotland)

University of Navarra (Spain)

Vienna NGO Committee on Narcotic Drugs





Mentor UK wishes to thank the following for their generous support in 2008/2009:

The Department for Children, Schools and Families

Diageo Great Britain

The Dorset Foundation

Futurebuilders England

The Robertson Trust

Comic Relief

Circle Scotland

Fast Forward

The City Bridge Trust

WPP

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Website: www.mentorfoundation.org/uk

Registered Charity Number: 1112339
Registered Company Number: 5609241

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