

# HCF

Hertfordshire Community Foundation

# Annual Review

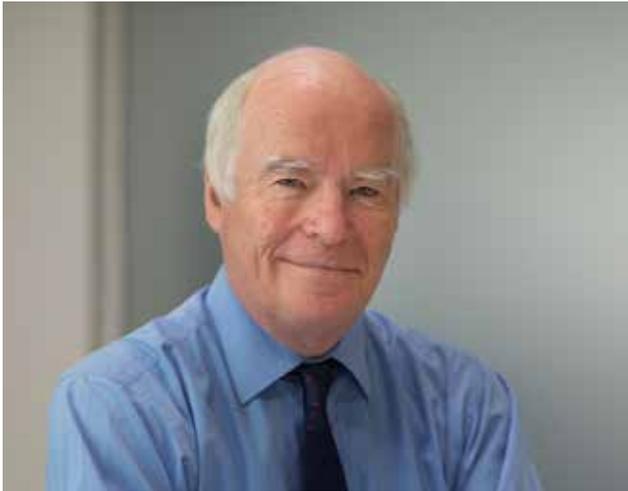
2017-2018



# Contents

<i>03 Welcome from the Chairman</i>	<i>14 A helping hand for vulnerable people</i>	<i>22 Strategic advice for brain injury charity</i>
<i>04 What we do</i>	<i>15 Helping bereaved young people cope</i>	<i>23 How to give</i>
<i>05 From the desk of our Foundation Director</i>	<i>16 Encouraging community cohesion</i>	<i>24 How I chose to honour my parents and keep their legacy alive</i>
<i>06 Our impact 2017/18 at a glance</i>	<i>18 Growing better futures for young people</i>	<i>26 Financial overview</i>
<i>08 The year in review</i>	<i>19 Peer education to prevent homelessness</i>	<i>28 With thanks to</i>
<i>13 The impact of your giving</i>	<i>20 Nurturing supportive relationships</i>	<i>30 Our people</i>

# Welcome



Gerald Corbett, Chairman

“

*It is local charities that make a real difference to vulnerable people through their relationships, networks and ability to mobilise. HCF's role has never been more important.*

2017 was a year of significant progress for Hertfordshire Community Foundation (HCF). Thanks to the generosity of our donors we increased our grant giving by 72% to £804,126 reaching over 52,800 beneficiaries. We welcomed several new funds and we launched our Love Herts appeal, which has already provided support to local groups that would have otherwise gone unfunded. We also continue to build upon our solid endowment base that ensures HCF's sustainability into the future.

During the year we were pleased to welcome a new trustee, past Hertfordshire High Sheriff, Will Hobhouse. Will's business and marketing expertise is a real asset to our skilled board.

Helen Gray, our Foundation Director has now spent a year in the role and HCF is striding ahead with a capable and dynamic team. I would like to take this opportunity to thank our committed staff team, each of our trustees and tireless volunteers for all their hard work.

Another recent development is the appointment of Henry Holland Hibbert as Vice Chairman of HCF. Henry has been an HCF Trustee since 2015 and I am pleased to announce that he has been elected by the Board of Trustees to take over as Chair of HCF in September 2019, when I step down at the end of my 9 year tenure. Henry has had a very successful career, firstly serving in the armed forces, then at Lane Fox and Strutt and Parker, and latterly farming at Munden just outside Watford. Henry knows HCF and the county well, will be High Sheriff in 2020 and is the ideal person to lead us into its next phase.

I would also like to thank you for your continued involvement. I invite you to read through this report and see how people from different life experiences are coming together to build a Hertfordshire community that is stronger and better for all.

# What we do

Hertfordshire is generally perceived as an affluent county, however this hides pockets of genuine deprivation. Our county has several areas which fall within the top 10% most deprived areas in the UK.

At Hertfordshire Community Foundation we make local giving easy. Through our expert knowledge we identify areas of greatest need in the county and give vital support to small charities working to improve the lives of vulnerable people. Donations from individuals, families and businesses enable HCF to support local causes that matter.

We have over three decades of in-depth local knowledge and are part of a broader network of 46 UK wide Community Foundations.

# What we offer

- Philanthropic advice to help our donors achieve their local giving goals
- Research and expert knowledge of the needs of Hertfordshire's communities
- Strategic grant making to support grassroots voluntary and charitable organisations
- Training and capacity development for the voluntary and community sector

# Did you know?

In 2016 we conducted an in depth report, Hertfordshire Matters, in order to better understand the needs and challenges in the county and to inform our strategic grant making. The report shows that Hertfordshire remains a county of contrasts – between rich and poor, rural and urban, traditional and innovative. Here is a snapshot of some of the challenges facing our communities:

## Fairness



- Deprivation is evident across the whole county and the most deprived areas can often be found next to the least deprived
- Around 10% of the county's population is living in the most deprived areas

## Housing



- Homelessness is on the increase – especially in Broxbourne, Dacorum, Hertsmere and St Albans
- Fewer people own their homes and there is less social housing available

## Safety



- Levels of drug related crime remain above the average for England and Wales in particular for possession or use of drugs

## Work and Learning



- 18.5% of Hertfordshire residents have no qualifications
- The number of job seekers over 50 years of age is increasing

## Healthy Living



- Life expectancy differs by up to 11 years depending upon where you live in the county
- Higher risk drinking is above the national average in the majority of the county's districts

# From the desk of our Foundation Director



**Helen Gray, Foundation Director**

Since I joined HCF in September 2017 I have had the pleasure of meeting some of the organisations HCF supports. Seeing first hand the difference these groups make to our local communities is nothing short of inspiring. From the Phoenix Group for Deaf Children to Herts Area Rape Crisis I am confident that HCF is delivering real impact through its grant programmes to those in greatest need.

A major success of the year was the amount we awarded in grants which totalled over £800,000 – an increase of 72% on the previous year. This was the result of several new funds and donors which enabled us to boost our grant giving. We were particularly pleased to administer grant programmes on behalf of the Police Crime Commissioner and Hertfordshire County Council which enabled us to broaden our support.

We were pleased to reopen the Children's Fund thanks to a significant anonymous donation. Regrettably this fund temporarily closed in 2017 when funds ran dry.

Last year also saw the completion of the first Building Effectiveness programme. Delivered by HCF Training and Development in conjunction with Cranfield Trust, ten selected charities took part in a nine month, bespoke development programme. All participants have reported great benefits in taking part and in all instances participants are now better positioned to face the future with confidence. The second year of the

programme is now underway and so HCF is seeking funding to ensure this much valued programme can continue into the future.

Fundraising has also been high on my agenda. Based on application numbers alone it is evident that many charities are being hit hard by funding cuts and so HCF must be in a position to do more. Legacy giving (a new appeal will be launched in 2019), our Love Herts appeal, corporate giving and attracting new fund holders will all help HCF to grow and help those in greatest need. If you know anyone who might like to get involved we would be delighted to hear from you.

Once again I would like to thank everyone who has played a role in helping HCF over the past year and in particular our fund holders and donors. My thanks also go to my colleagues and our Board of Trustees, not only for making me feel so welcome, but whose commitment is evident in all that they do as we strive to make Hertfordshire a better county for everyone.

# Our impact 2017/18 at a glance



**£804,126**

awarded in grants  
(72% increase on previous year)

**£3,649**

average grant made  
to groups



With over

**52,800**

estimated beneficiaries

**215**

projects supported



**68**

grants to  
individuals  
and families  
living in crisis

An endowment fund of

**£10,207,531**

## Grants by theme



**25%**

**Fairness**

(including individual grants)



**1%**

**Housing**



**11%**

**Safety**



**19%**

**Work and  
Learning**



**23%**

**Healthy Living**



**18%**

**Strong  
Communities**



**3%**

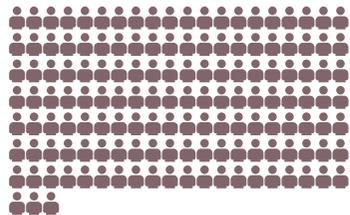
**Other**

## HCF Training and Development provided:



**59** training courses provided

with  
**743**  
attendees



organisations received advice and guidance from advisors



organisations received support through the Building Effectiveness development programme

## Additional assistance to groups



**3**

not for profit organisations who rent office space for a reduced rate from HCF

**29**



not for profit groups that used HCF's meeting room facilities at a reduced rate

# The year in review



## Love Herts Appeal



Unfortunately HCF receives more requests for support than we can fund. It is for this reason that we launched the Love Herts appeal in 2017, a simple yet powerful tool for the people of Hertfordshire to come together to help vulnerable people in the county.

The appeal helps us fund groups that otherwise go unsupported. In the short time since its launch Love Herts has already helped a wide range of deserving causes and community initiatives working to change local lives.

## Hertfordshire Matters: Stronger Communities Report

In June 2017 we published our first Hertfordshire Matters interim report - Strong Communities. The report contains data, feedback from our communities, links to further information and snapshots of some of our current activities which are helping to improve community cohesion in Hertfordshire. The report forms part of our commitment to understanding the needs, challenges and opportunities

in our county and we will be publishing themed reports each year. Our ongoing research and learning provides us with the resources to support our quest to make sure that our grant making is as effective as possible and that our grants are directed where they are needed most. The Stronger Communities report, as well as the in-depth Hertfordshire Matters report, can be found in the Publications section of our website.

**£27,574.37**

was distributed in grants in 2017/18

**12**

projects were supported immediately that HCF would not have otherwise been able to fund

**10,000+**

beneficiaries

## Building Effectiveness

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Building Effectiveness in the Hertfordshire Voluntary Sector is our new intensive tailored organisational improvement programme. The programme is being delivered by HCF Training and Development, in partnership with the Cranfield Trust, supported by the Garfield Weston Foundation and Will Hobhouse (High Sheriff for 2017).

In January 2017 ten selected organisations started working with HCF's advisors to identify their key development areas and plan

their tailored programme. By the end of an intensive 9 month period, supported by mentors from the business community, the participating organisations all reported being more effective, resilient and strategic in their outlook. The programme is running again in 2018 with ten more participant organisations. HCF is currently looking at how it can sustain this programme into the future to enable more Hertfordshire charities to benefit.



Building Effectiveness 2017/18 participants left to right: Sarah Elliot - HCF Training and Development, John Archer - Headway Hertfordshire, Rob Smith - Watford Football Club Community Sport & Education Trust, Will Hobhouse, Jenny Provin - Rennie Grove Hospice Care, Michael Farrell - Crossroads Care Hertfordshire, Helen Elliott - Herts Young Homeless, Neil Ashley - HACRO, Emma Power - Home-Start Watford & Three Rivers, Caroline Stevens - Herts Inclusive Theatre, Kevin Davis - Grove Cottage Bishop's Stortford Mencap, Ian Richardson - CVS Broxbourne & East Herts, Dawn Harrison-Wallace - Cranfield Trust

## High Sheriff Awards 2017/18

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The 2017/18 High Sheriff, Will Hobhouse chose to celebrate volunteering in his year. One of the initiatives he undertook was to partner with HCF to develop the skills and effectiveness of volunteer organisations across the county. He did this through training and mentorship programmes, including the Building Effectiveness programme. (see pg. 9)

The 2018 High Sheriff's Awards ceremony was held at Micklefield Hall where eight local voluntary organisations were publicly recognised and rewarded for their outstanding contribution to the community.



Will Hobhouse, Hertfordshire High Sheriff 2017/18 is pictured with representatives from Cruse Bereavement Care Hertfordshire who were presented as the winner in the Volunteering Family category.

## The Police and Crime Commissioner's Action Fund

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In March 2017 HCF was appointed by the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) to manage their small grants programme - the Police and Crime Commissioner's Action Fund. HCF received £120,000 to make grants of up to £5,000 each. The fund aims to support projects and services that help make Hertfordshire a safer place to live, in line with the priorities of the Commissioner's Community Safety and Criminal Justice Plan (2017-2022) for Hertfordshire.

In 2017/18 the fund:

Helped support **27** groups working to make Hertfordshire a safer place

With an estimated

**28,411**

beneficiaries

The average grant was

**£4,140**

“

*We are delighted to have worked with HCF to manage the PCC's Action Fund. By using their networks the fund has supported a wide range of organisations. It has given the PCC the opportunity to use proceeds of crime funds to best effect, empowering local organisations to find local solutions in support of delivering the Commissioner's five year plan 'Everybody's Business'.*

David Lloyd, Police and Crime Commissioner for Hertfordshire

## #iwill - Encouraging youth social action

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The UK wide #iwill campaign was launched by the Office for Civil Society and Big Lottery Fund in December 2016. The fund seeks to increase the number of young people aged between 10 and 20 (up to 25 for young people with disabilities) taking part in volunteering.

HCF received £30,000 to award grants for social action projects that have a positive impact on the wider community. This was generously match funded by the Police and Crime Commissioner.

14 grants awarded

Benefiting over 2,500 young people

£4,701

An average grant value of

## 2018 London Marathon

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The Virgin London Marathon 2018 saw 10 brave people run on our behalf and raise an impressive £20,395. These funds make a significant contribution towards the Foundation and the groups that we support. We are very grateful for their hard work and fundraising efforts.



“

*I wanted to fundraise for Hertfordshire Community Foundation to give back to my local community. They support such a wide range of deserving causes and community initiatives across Hertfordshire.*

Gail Holloway

Each year we have spaces available for runners who would like to raise money for the people of Hertfordshire. We would be delighted to hear from any runners who may be interested in taking on this challenging event on our behalf. To find out more contact [sarah.tisdall@hertscf.org.uk](mailto:sarah.tisdall@hertscf.org.uk)

# GIVE WHERE YOU LIVE

If you would like to get involved and help support a wide range of Hertfordshire based community initiatives please consider supporting our Love Herts appeal.

Love Herts is a simple, yet effective way for the people of Hertfordshire to come together to help local vulnerable people. Every penny raised stays in the county.

Donations are pooled and turned into grants that are awarded to charities and voluntary groups who are making a real difference to communities and addressing clearly identified needs.

Donations of any size are welcome and can be made on a monthly, annual or one-off basis.



## Giving Form

I wish to make a regular donation of £..... per month/ year to the Love Herts appeal (HCF will be in touch to help you set this up)

I wish to make a one-off donation of £..... to the Love Herts appeal and enclose a cheque made payable to Hertfordshire Community Foundation

I wish to make a one-off donation of £..... to the Love Herts appeal via electronic bank transfer (Sort Code: 60-10-39 Account Number 28592379)

Name: .....

Address: .....

..... Postcode:.....

Email: .....

Signature: .....

Date: .....

## Thank you for your support

Gift Aid: By using Gift Aid you can add 25% to the value of your donation. I confirm that I wish HCF to treat this donation as a Gift Aid Donation. I will pay an amount of Income Tax or Capital Gains Tax during the current year that is at least equal to the amount HCF will reclaim. **Yes / No**

Data protection: By completing this form you agree to allow HCF to retain your contact details on its database. This information will be used to record your support. Your data will not be shared with a third party. To view HCF's full data policy statement visit [www.hertscf.org.uk](http://www.hertscf.org.uk)

For more information visit our website [www.hertscf.org.uk](http://www.hertscf.org.uk), email [helen.gray@hertscf.org.uk](mailto:helen.gray@hertscf.org.uk) or call 01707 251351

## The impact of your giving

We invite you to read through a selection of our stories that showcase some of the vital community initiatives that we have been able to support during the year.



## Support for victims of substance linked domestic abuse

The Living Room is an addiction recovery charity based in Stevenage and St Albans. It is their aim to break the cycle of addiction by supporting the whole family, not only the individual affected by addiction. It is well known that substance abuse and domestic violence are linked. The Living Room wanted to raise awareness of the complex co-existing issues between domestic abuse and addiction and the treatment options available to those affected.

HCF provided a £4,964 grant from the Police and Crime Commissioner's Action Fund. The grant was used to raise awareness of their programmes and to provide weekly therapy sessions helping 50 victims of domestic abuse from the Stevenage area.

“

*It's being tortured every day in your head but no one knows. He said outrageous things to me. He was very manipulative and turned the responsibility always onto me. The Living Room has helped me to make room to live. It has helped me to connect, grow and change.*

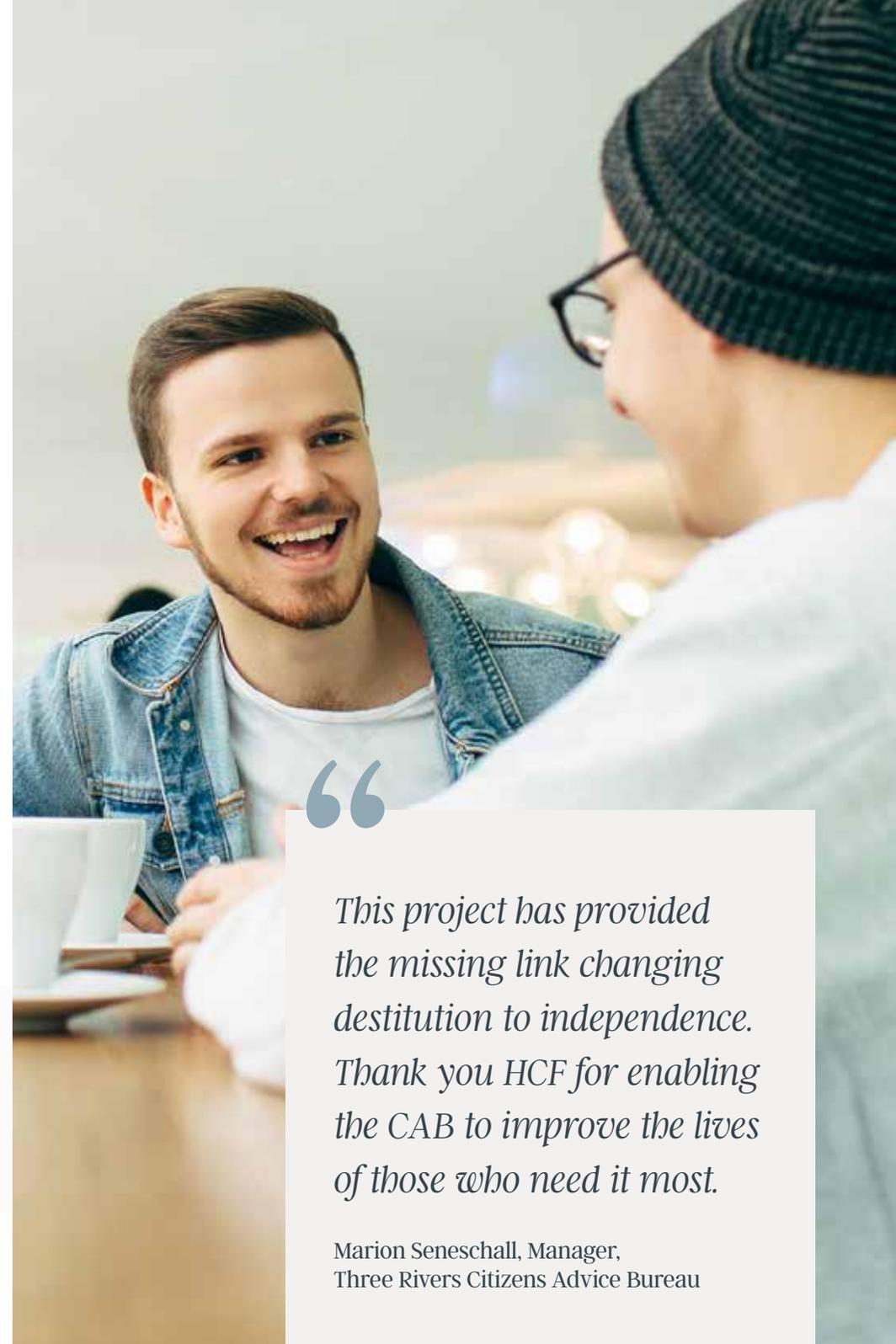
Anonymous client of The Living Room

# A helping hand for vulnerable people

Universal Credit is a single monthly payment for people in or out of work, which replaces some of the previous benefits and tax credits. In the lead up to the roll out of Universal Credit the Three Rivers Citizens Advice Bureau identified possible challenges and severe implications for many of their services users who would need to apply online. They predicted that limited access to the internet and mental or physical health needs could seriously affect people's ability to submit their claim when the programme went live in the area. Any delays in applications could mean that applicants would be without any source of income for several weeks.

HCF was able to help with a grant of £5,000 towards providing advice and support to those transferring onto the credit or who were having problems as a result of the changes. The majority of the grant was funded by the Love Herts appeal.

***"I have no internet at home and can't work a computer anyway. I would have been really stuck without her help as I had no money and was living off the foodbank. Now I have my independence back. Thank you so much for changing my life." Mr R, South Oxhey***



“

*This project has provided the missing link changing destitution to independence. Thank you HCF for enabling the CAB to improve the lives of those who need it most.*

Marion Seneschall, Manager,  
Three Rivers Citizens Advice Bureau

# Helping bereaved young people cope

When children and young people suffer a bereavement the grief can affect their health, education and future life prospects. Stevenage based charity Stand-By-Me provides information, advice, guidance and support to these young people and their families.

Their Youth Ambassador project was established to help past service users who wanted to use their experiences to help others. HCF supported the project with a £5,000 grant awarded from the national #iwill programme.

The grant went towards training a group of Young Ambassadors to equip them with the skills to reach out to their peers, professionals,

potential service users and funders about the effects of childhood bereavement. The ambassadors have since created short films telling their own stories of bereavement.

Sandra Blacker, Clinical Lead Trustee at Stand-By-Me said: "This grant enabled us to develop this programme and continue to work with these remarkable young people on their journey to becoming Young Ambassadors. The self-belief, confidence and skills they have acquired whilst working on the project has been immense. It wasn't too long ago when these young people first attended Stand-By-Me with many worries about life and death, a feeling of isolation and often finding it hard to talk, smile or even give eye contact."

“

*Before I went to Stand-By-Me I struggled a lot in school and didn't get much work done for many different reasons. Some of them would be because the work would remind me of the person I lost, or someone would say something that would offend me because it would remind me of something I had done with my lost sibling.*

Young Ambassador for Stand-By-Me





Herts Welcomes Syrian Families social outing to St Albans Museum and Gallery

# Encouraging community cohesion

As part of the Syrian Vulnerable Persons Relocation scheme, District and Borough councils across Hertfordshire have committed to receive a number of Syrian families by the end of 2019. Whilst Councils provide critical support and services (housing, education, etc.) complementary efforts are required to increase the chances of these families feeling welcomed, supported and integrated.

Herts Welcomes Syrian Families (HWSF) was the first charity to be formed to run a county-wide programme to welcome, support and help integrate refugees arriving in the county. As one of their activities they identified the need to help resettled refugees improve and learn English. Being able to speak English gives individuals an opportunity to make a civic, social and economic contribution and to participate and integrate within the local community.

HCF provided a £5,000 grant to support this project which was jointly implemented by HWSF and Community Development Action (CDA). The added benefit is that the sessions help bring families together and reduce isolation.

Irene Austin Chair for HWSF credits HCF saying; ***“Without this grant, HWSF would not have had the capacity to be able to place volunteers with individual refugees across Hertfordshire who want the opportunity to practise their language and build relationships. For the volunteers and the refugees, it is a real opportunity to build up a relationship and friendship with someone from a different culture and to learn from each other.”***

“

*I was worried about my writing and my exam and it really helped having someone coming to my home every week to practise with me. I am also enjoying developing a friendship.*

Syrian refugee now settled in Hertfordshire

# Growing better futures for young people



training, valuable experience in a work-like but supportive environment and opportunities to develop practical skills. The groups tackled 12 gardens of vulnerable residents within the St Albans area. The project was thoroughly enjoyed and well received, benefiting both the young people involved and the service recipients.

*“This grant offered 13 young individuals the opportunity to learn new practical skills, work as a team and help vulnerable people in their community. It was wonderful to see them develop throughout the project. Not only did it benefit these individuals but also the 12 residents they helped.”*

*Sarah Holloway, Project Officer, Groundwork.*

Groundwork East is an environmental and community charity that works alongside communities to transform places and lives by improving people’s prospects, creating better places and promoting greener living and working. They focus on communities challenged by deprivation and on people who are most disadvantaged and vulnerable.

The charity was awarded a £5,000 grant from the #iwill fund towards their Green Aiders project. The funding allowed for a 2 phase project, each 6 weeks long and offering one session per week. The first group included 8 students from Oaklands College’s horticultural class, all with learning difficulties, and the other included 5 Syrian refugees studying English. Participants received

“

*I really liked helping elderly people with their gardens. At first I was nervous to try something new outside of the college but I am glad I challenged myself as I learnt how to use tools which I hadn’t tried before.*

*Olivia Andrews, College Student*

# Peer education to prevent homelessness

Herts Young Homeless (hyh) seeks to prevent homelessness by empowering individuals to make positive, informed choices and to support young people and their families, those in crisis and individuals at risk of becoming homeless. It is the only organisation in Hertfordshire to specifically tackle youth homelessness. They see over 2,200 service users in total each year, preventing or resolving homelessness, with a successful resolution rate across projects in excess of 70%.

HCF awarded a grant of £3,200 towards their Home Truths education project. Focussing on the Broxbourne area this project tackles youth homelessness at the beginning of the cycle by

“

*The funding from HCF has enabled us to offer young people more opportunities to share their experiences through peer education. The funding has helped our service users grow their own skills and confidence and to influence our service delivery.*

Helen Elliott, Chief Executive, Herts Young Homeless

educating young people about the realities of leaving home. The sessions were run by previous hyh services users (called iPros) and covered issues including what to consider when thinking of leaving home, the realities of homelessness, sources of support available and how to prevent impulsive decisions to leave home prematurely, especially as a result of problems that can be resolved.

In a survey of Herts Young Homeless service users they found that 31% felt that if they had attended a Home Truths session at school, their homelessness may have been prevented.



# Nurturing supportive relationships

Up on Downs is a small registered charity that offers support to people with Down's syndrome and their families, helpers and carers within Hertfordshire. They aim to enable people with Down's syndrome to flourish and attain their full potential. In particular they encourage the building of supportive relationships between individual families and the greater Down's syndrome community in Hertfordshire. They do this through specialist speech therapy groups, family support meetings for pre-natal diagnosis as well as longstanding members, toddler coffee mornings and social trips and parties.

HCF awarded a £4,800 grant, funded predominantly by the Love Herts appeal, towards a part-time development and fundraising manager position to enable the group to focus on providing their valuable services.

*"In August 2017 our bank balance hit rock bottom and we realised there were no guarantees we could fund the planned activities for autumn term or pay staff to deliver them. Securing funding towards the part time Development Manager position gave us the stability to plan and fundraise for the year. It literally saved the organisation and its services at what was a critical moment for Up on Downs".*

*Arron Hopcroft, Trustee*



*Up on Downs has been a vital resource to our family. They have provided much needed guidance and support, right from the very beginning when I was a very tearful new mother who did not know what to expect or how to support my new baby.*

*Sarah Stockley, service user*

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WELWYN • 01438 714686

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*The perfect setting to commemorate  
the life of your loved one*



Crematorium and memorial gardens created and managed by the Austin family in the beautiful Hertfordshire countryside.

[www.crematorium.co.uk](http://www.crematorium.co.uk)



*Serving the local  
community for ten  
generations*

# Strategic advice for brain injury charity

Headway Hertfordshire is a charity that works closely with local people who have been affected by brain injury as well as their carers and families. Through their work they aim to help recover as much of the cognitive and executive brain functions that may have been compromised and support people back to a new life with more meaningful activities. They also aim to reduce social isolation, improve health and wellbeing and give carers a break.

Headway was founded in 1997 and in 2017 they welcomed a new CEO. HCF's Building Effectiveness programme was therefore an ideal opportunity for the charity to assess how far they have come and to plot their future direction and growth strategy.

Their key stakeholders found the intensive 9 month programme helped their organisation to become more focussed, productive and motivated.

*"We are very grateful for the support this programme has provided. Our Advisors were a critical element in the earlier stages. Both Dawn's and Viv's input throughout the project have been invaluable. Our Cranfield Trust Mentor, Steve, was instrumental in focussing on the priority needs and developing stretchy but achievable targets to give the charity direction. I personally benefited from the regular workshops with the other organisations to discuss key topics and learn or refresh vital business approaches." John Archer, CEO*

During the year Headway Hertfordshire also received £1,600 in grant aid from Hertfordshire Training and Development. These funds have been used to fund courses in first aid, safeguarding and brain injury specific training.

As a result of the support and development provided by HCF Training and Development Headway is driving forward its 2020 Vision with its board focused on delivering their strategy.



# How to give

Charitable giving through HCF is one of the easiest ways to support causes that are close to your heart. We offer flexible and customised solutions for your giving. We look after all the paperwork, take care of the accounting and make informed recommendations based on your giving requirements. Ways to support HCF include:



## Setup a named fund

A fund in your name is a simple and effective alternative to setting up your own charity or trust. It gives you the opportunity to choose the cause and projects that you wish to support, with the support of local expertise to ensure that your giving is effective and used wisely.



## Support Love Herts

You can make one off or regular donations to the Love Herts appeal. This appeal pools together donations of all sizes to support a range of causes reflecting the needs of our county.



## Provide sponsorship or in-kind support

Giving doesn't always have to involve making a financial contribution. Your time, skills or networks can all help the work that we do.



## Leave a gift in your will

Leaving a legacy in your will is a simple way to go on helping your community for generations to come. You may choose to allocate your gift to one of our existing funds or to support specific causes or local areas that are important to you.



## Give online

Our Just Giving page is a quick and easy way to make a one-off donation or regular payment to HCF. To make an online donation simply visit [www.hertscf.org.uk](http://www.hertscf.org.uk).



## Corporate giving

By becoming a member of our Business Philanthropy group your business can support small, grassroots community organisations that work hard to improve the quality of life for people across the county.



## Trust transfers

We work with charitable trusts to find solutions to help unlock dormant funds that have become inactive over the years.

# How I chose to honour my parents and keep their legacy alive

Penny Williams DL and her husband Paul moved to Hertfordshire over forty years ago. Penny, a qualified social worker, spent her career helping people and is now actively involved in the local voluntary sector. Penny's current roles include Chairman of Vincent's Charity (a housing charity), Trustee of Centre 33 (a day centre for the lonely) and Trustee of Hertfordshire Domestic Abuse Helpline. She was also a much valued Trustee of Hertfordshire Community Foundation.

In 2017 Penny was left an inheritance following the death of her parents. She wanted to ensure that their hard earned money would be used to honour their memory by supporting local communities. Penny talks about why she chose to create a family fund with HCF.

## **Why is Hertfordshire special to you?**

Hertfordshire is in a very fortunate position to benefit from thriving industries and a close proximity to London which is balanced by beautiful green open spaces. As a result of this the county attracts a vibrant and diverse population, but this is also one of our challenges. Areas of deprivation are often hidden by areas of

perceived wealth. Our communities need to be inclusive to function cohesively. If individuals feel they belong and work together they can operate fully as citizens of the county and the UK. It is here that I feel that local community and voluntary groups play a crucial role.

## **What attracted you to HCF?**

In my role as an HCF Trustee I sat on their grants panel and governance committee where I gained a deep understanding of how HCF benefits the county through their support of many of the local charitable and voluntary groups. HCF is a vital grant maker in this time of austerity when there is not only less funding available but also very strong competition for the funds.

I was so impressed by HCF's approach to grant making. Every funding application is thoroughly assessed to ensure grants are allocated to applicants that are sustainable and will benefit those most in need in the county. Having recently setup the Hulm Woolcott Endowment Fund in honour of my parents I am certain that grants awarded from our fund will be of great impact for the people of Hertfordshire.



### **What should a donor know before they give through HCF?**

I would say that it is how HCF informs their grant giving through their needs analysis reports, Herts Matters. The full report was published in 2016 and HCF continues to build on this knowledge through annual interim reports that further unpack each of the 8 key themes identified. This means that grant applications can be assessed against where need and deprivation is identified in

the county and funds awarded to groups who are working to best address them.

### **In conclusion**

HCF has a deep understanding of Hertfordshire's voluntary and community sector, and the issues they tackle, as well as seeing the importance of partnership working and encouraging philanthropic giving. It acts as the vital fulcrum in the county between people wishing to donate to good causes in the county and the groups that need the grants to provide the needed services. As a fund holder you can expect regular reports and interaction in a way that is tailored to suit your wishes. HCF manages a range of individual funds but they also manage several national and local programmes including the PCC Action Fund.

HCF Training and Development is another element of HCF that is key to the success of the local charitable and voluntary sector, both in terms of their training opportunities and their activities that support the development and sustainability of the sector.

Both of my parents were very involved in volunteering in their local communities, even into their late 80's where they were still visiting the elderly and volunteering at drop in centres and local theatre groups. I am satisfied that setting up the Hulm Woolcott Endowment Fund with HCF was the best way for me to honour their memory and their hard work over their lifetime.

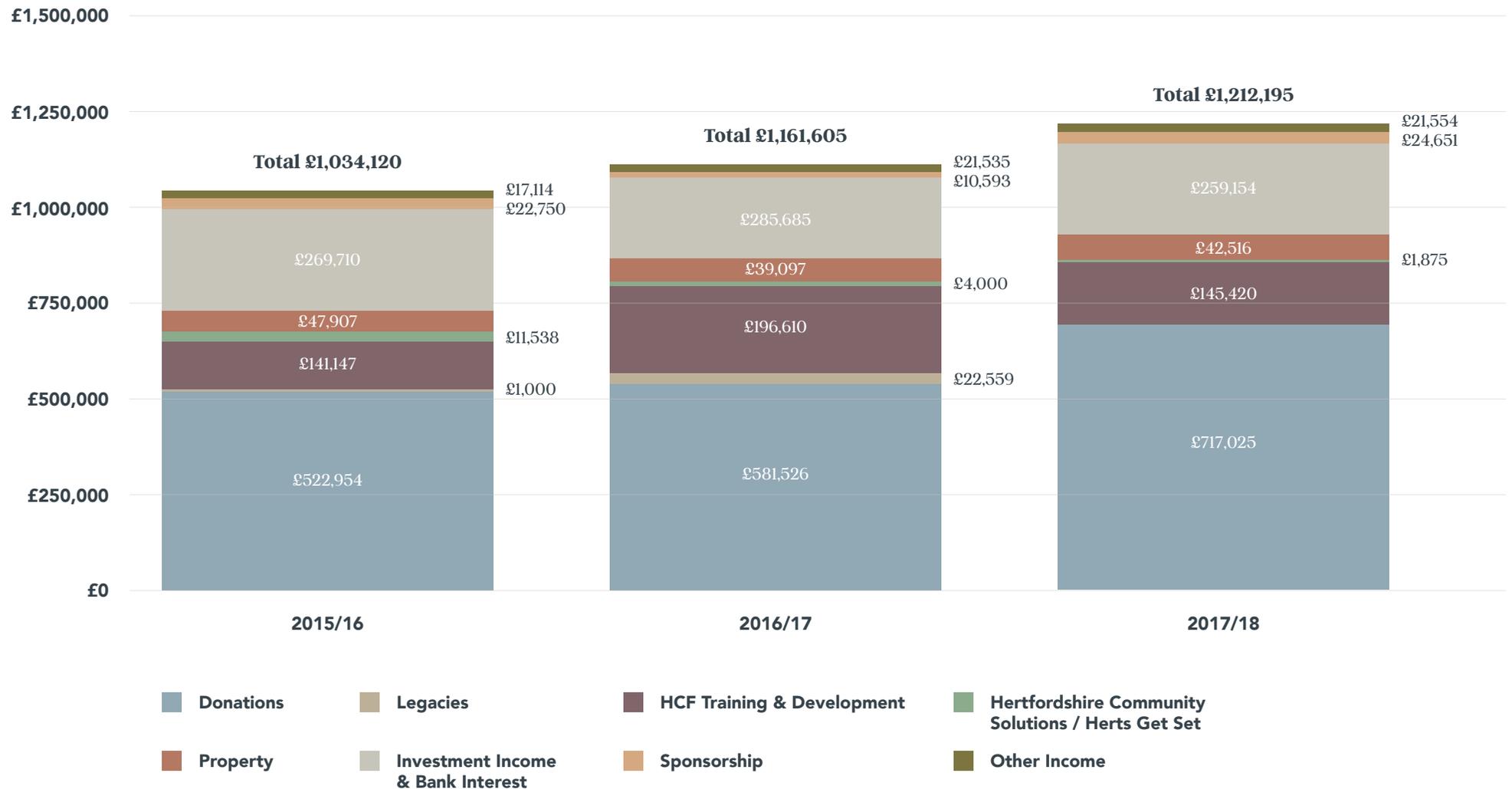


*I was so impressed by HCF's approach to grant making. Every funding application is thoroughly assessed to ensure grants are allocated to applicants that are sustainable and will benefit those most in need in the county.*

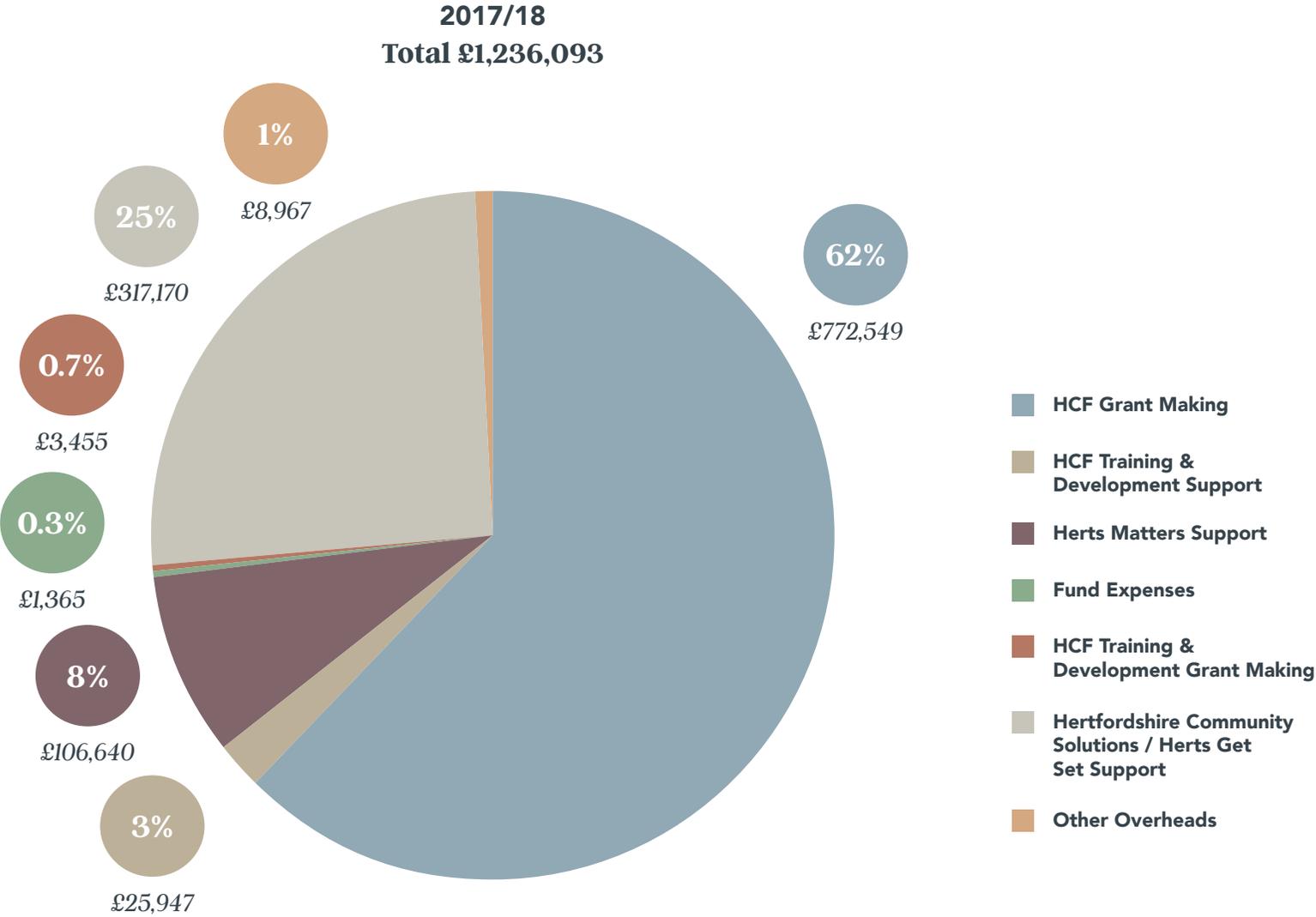
Penny Williams, Fund Holder

# Financial Overview

## Income trends



# Expenditure



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Thank you to our supporters for the part that you have played in tran  
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Myers Clark is proud to support the Hertfordshire Community Foundation and the work that it does.

We look forward to continually working with them in the year ahead.

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### Staff (as at 31 March 2018):

Helen Gray	<i>Foundation Director</i>
Alan Clarke	<i>Finance Officer</i>
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### HCF Training and Development:

Sarah Elliott	<i>Project Manager</i>
Ana Siewniak	<i>Project Coordinator</i>

### Volunteers:

The Foundation's activities are enhanced by the help of numerous volunteers for which we are hugely grateful. We would especially like to thank:

Sarah Beazley, Hannah Constantinidi, Biagio Fraulo, Johanna Mason, Caroline McCaffrey JP and Nicola Stokes for their ongoing assistance.



“A garden requires patient labour and attention.  
Plants do not grow merely to satisfy ambitions  
or to fulfill good intentions. They thrive because  
someone expended effort on them.”

– *Liberty Hyde Bailey,*  
*Horticulturalist and Botanist*

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