



ST JOSEPH'S
PASTORAL CENTRE
working with people with learning difficulties

Annual Review 2009



From the.....

Chair of the Management Committee

and Our Director



Richard Ashcroft, Chair of Management Committee

In 2009 we put a lot of effort into finding out about the impact of our services. Did we improve the lives of those people with learning disabilities who used our service? Whether those were children living at home with their families supported by our outreach team, or as adults accessing the courses and therapies at the Centre?

We strive to make a difference: to see a world where attitudes change, where people with learning disabilities are **included** in the community of faith and where they can be **enabled** to engage as citizens in society with dignity and respect.

So at St Joseph's, wherever we are operating, we strive to create an environment which is respectful of the person, where the individual's dignity is paramount and where all people are included and enabled to fulfil their potential. How did we do?

"We strive to make a difference"

At our Activities Centre, we help people to fulfil their potential though learning and development programmes, and also by supporting their emotional, social, cultural and spiritual needs. Students who use our centre have a range of needs, interests and aptitudes. The programmes are designed to introduce students to new areas of development, and also to build on their **individual strengths**.

Our outreach services are driven by the desire

to include people with learning disabilities in every aspect of community life. Our vision of **community inclusion** is being delivered, through the provision of catechetical training, profile raising in schools, and the management of events and projects.

A scoping project on social advocacy work, **enabling** people to find out about rights and opportunities, was completed. As a result of this work we were able to identify a unique role for St Joseph's in helping families link to community resources. Our aspirations are to establish an advocacy project providing advice and information on resources and support available as well helping people navigate through the social care and educational systems. We are now seeking funding for this.

We have continued to win grants, and fundraising has been fun and successful. In overall terms I am pleased to report that the budget was balanced in 2009; that

fees income beat budget by some £30,000 whilst turnover has increased by £100,000 to some £400,000 over a 5 year period – an increase of 33%. With a strengthening of Governance, some new Management Committee members and significant developments of skills within the staff group, St Joseph's is well-placed to face the challenges of the next few years.

To all those who have assisted - staff, volunteers, and funders - and to our families and students who so graciously share their gifts and lives with us, we say many thanks.

Helen O'Brien *Director*

Richard Ashcroft *Chair of Management Committee*



Helen O'Brien, Director

From..... Outreach

The major event of the year was our St Joseph's Pilgrimage to Lourdes; about 60 pilgrims from St Joseph's joined the Diocese of Westminster. We took part in the Diocese's programme but also held our own masses and prayer groups. We were supported by Redcaps from St. Dominic's College in Harrow, and friends from the East End parishes. The fundraising totalled an amazing £32,000.

We were very busy supporting parishes with 20 sacramental preparation programmes, 41 on-going social clubs, 17 inclusive masses, respite events and enrichment days. The team also attended a SPRED (Special Religious Development to pioneer inclusive catechesis for people with learning disabilities) conference in Northern Ireland.

We ran a 'Symbols of Faith' course for people interested in preparing children with special needs for the sacraments

and other liturgies. This was very well received by those who attended. The impact of our courses has meant that children in the programme felt accepted and nurtured in their spiritual lives, their families felt included and local parishioners grew in

Lourdes Reflection
"a special moment was our Stations of the Cross, and also the candlelit procession."

acceptance of people with learning disabilities and were able to include them in parish ministry.

Staff were also trained in the Widgit method of

communication, and we developed a Questions Book, using Widgit, to obtain valuable feedback, from those with learning disabilities, as to whether we met their needs.

In addition, 2009 saw the completion of the scoping project, for the social advocacy work which we wish to develop. Through this research we were able to identify three areas of concern: lack of information, appropriate housing and family holidays. The need identified is that in many cases families or individuals do not know how to access the services. We believe our outreach service is uniquely positioned to provide such a link and we hope to develop an advocacy service in 2010/11.

We also further enhanced our website which will be important in linking to other organisations but also to further raise awareness of our own very special community.



From the.....

Activities Centre



Courses were well subscribed to, with some 140 students, all flourishing appropriately, given our theme for the year of Seeds. We had several new courses on offer, *'Enriching My Life'*, aiming to enhance the individual's life by exploring his or her personal gifts, preferences and spirituality; *'Music and Recording (Production)'*; and *'My Photo – My Story'*, a computer course in which the students use Power Point to produce the key points of their life story. Our 22 courses support healthy living, independent living and employment skills and leisure activities. This year we became an ASDAN (Awards Scheme Development and Accreditation Network) centre with some students working towards certification.

In 2009, for the first time each student received a written assessment, building links with them and their homes. Similarly, we had an Open Day for potential students

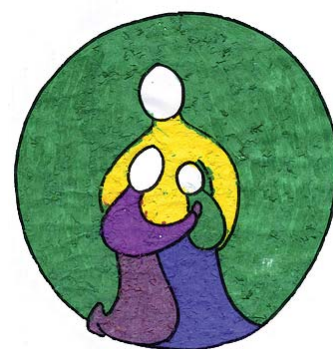
to come and taste the courses on offer. Believing that communication is the key to growth, some staff did the first stage of comprehensive training

“we used produce from our Horticulture allotment in our 'Cook and Eat' meals..”

in Makaton signing and symbols use - we began to sign in class, and use symbols around the Centre. This was continued by care workers extending this in other areas of the students' lives outside the Centre. Every effort was made to encourage all students, families and friends

to attend events and functions.

It is important to look outwards, too; we undertook three trips ourselves, outside our immediate environment, to the Tate, to Sadlers Wells, and to Brent Cross shopping centre, all of which we hope helped individuals with learning disabilities to participate with equality of opportunity in the larger community.



Winner in 2009 Christmas Card Competition

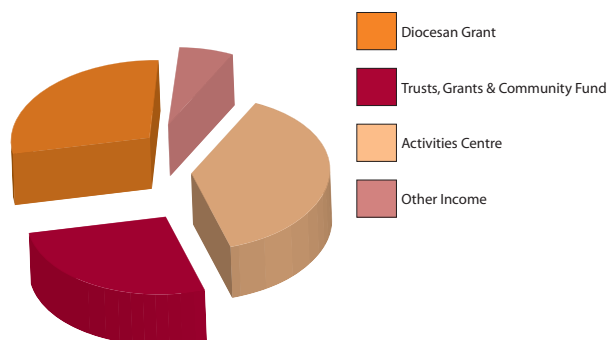
From the.....

Finance Team

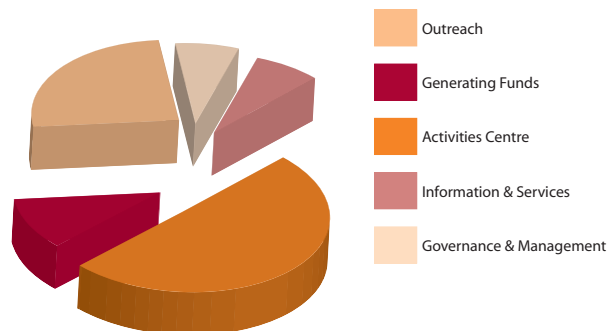
Incoming Resources	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds	Total Funds
General			2009	2008
Diocesan Grant	123,060		123,060	119,037
General Income	8,434		8,434	4,957
Trusts, Grants & Community Fund	19,850	87,258	107,108	88,802
Activities in furtherance of Charitable objectives				
Activities Centre	163,176		163,176	144,609
Outreach to Communities in the Diocese	1,149		1,149	1,508
Information & Services	7,579		7,579	6,594
Activities for generating funds				
Events	15,880		15,880	12,697
Lettings	3,094		3,094	3,382
<i>Resources Generated in Year</i>	342,222	87,258	429,480	381,586
<i>Restricted Funds balances b/f - 1st Jan '09</i>		105,241	105,241	
TOTAL FUND RESOURCES	342,222	192,499	534,721	
Resources Used				
Costs of generating funds				
Fundraising & Publicity	32,455		32,455	33,789
Events & Lettings	9,946		9,946	8,676
Costs of furtherance of charitable objectives				
Activities Centre	180,660	25,515	206,175	182,262
Outreach to Communities in the Diocese	59,993	43,174	103,167	87,877
Information & Services	30,532		30,532	29,044
Support costs*				
Governance & Management	28,636		28,636	27,485
<i>Total Resources Expended</i>	342,222	68,689	410,911	369,133
<i>Less Total Fund Resources</i>	342,222	192,499	534,721	474,374
TOTAL FUNDS C/F AS AT 31st DEC '09	-	123,810	123,810	105,241

*Bldgs & Facilities expenditure apportioned across cost heads.

Total Income



Total Costs



From the..... Fundraising Team

Special Thanks

Special thanks to the St Joseph's Pastoral Choir, who sadly lost their choir leader, Ann Macdonald. She will be sadly missed, but we are pleased to know that the choir continues to support St Joseph's under its new leader Robert St John.



Our Funders

St Joseph's would like to thank the Trusts, Foundations and individuals who have donated during 2009:

Sir Harold Hood's Charitable Trust
The St John Southworth Fund
Mercy Union Generalate
The Bisgood Charitable Trust
MFPA
Ofenheim Charitable Trust
Haymills Charitable Trust
Church of Our Lady (St John's Wood),
and 10 other parishes
The Wates Foundation
The Estate of the Late Fred Wolffing
The Henry Smith Charity
Mitchell Trust
Northern Heights Circle of The Catenian Association

Arimathea Charitable Trust
Dorothy Pamela Smith Charity
Waitrose Ltd
St Gregory's Catholic Science College
Hendon Rotary Club
3 Unions of Catholic Mothers

Events and Donors

There are many people who give their time or expertise, without which so much would not happen and we are always grateful for any help. We would also like to thank everybody who has helped to raise money either through major fundraising, or social and spiritual events at the Centre, in the parishes and the communities of London and Hertfordshire:

- Valentine's Pancake Party
- London Marathon
- St Joseph's Disco
- Polish Day
- African Evening in Whetstone
- Sri Lankan Day
- BBQ
- Sponsored Walk
- Music Soiree
- Charity Collection at Hendon Central Station
- British 10k London Run
- Carols by Candlelight

Our Committed Staff and Volunteers

The costs of raising our funds were only 10% of the amount generated, due in large part to our small number of hard-working staff and large number of trained volunteers, without whom we could not offer the high quality service to which we are committed. Our thanks go to each and every one of them.



From..... You to Us

Appreciation from Outreach

First Holy Communion Candidates

"I couldn't have done it without you." A Parent

"She has hardly any speech and I had been preparing her for about 6 weeks. When I was kneeling for the Eucharistic prayer at her Communion Mass she looked at me and said clearly "Change". I knew that she understood fully the wondrous moment she was witnessing." Catechist



Social Group Member

"The first time she's had **real** friends visiting" A Parent

Appreciation from The Activities Centre

"You become part of a special community where each person is accepted as they are." A volunteer



"One of my students had never been encouraged to think for herself, and as she aired her thoughts and feelings I could see her growing in confidence." A tutor

Our Management Committee

We also extend our special thanks to our Management Committee for their advice and 'critical friendship'. Members in 2009 were Richard Ashcroft (Chair), Edmund Adamus, Mark Brenninkmeyer, John Boniface, Chris Fernando, Roger Forster, Joanna Hartley, Fr Allen Morris and Jackie Reddington.



Write to Us:



mail

**St Joseph's Pastoral Centre, St Joseph's Grove,
The Burroughs, Hendon, London NW4 4TY**

Phone Us:



phone

020 8202 3999

Email Us:



email

enquiries@stjoseph.org.uk

Website:



computer

www.stjoseph.org.uk

Our Mission and Values

Our Values

Respect -
for the gifts and
dignity of each
individual

Love -
expressed in warm
care and long-term
commitment

Community -
a welcome which
creates friendship
and belonging

Spirituality -
nurtured by that
creativity and joy in
activity which lifts
the spirit

Our Mission

We exist in order to support individuals with learning difficulties, their families and friends.

We aim to do this by:

Helping to educate
society and to
transform attitudes,
enabling people
with learning
difficulties to achieve
their potential.

Working in
partnership with
other Organisations
and with people of
all faiths or none,
enhancing activities
and services.

Including children
and adults of faith
with learning
difficulties into full
participation in the
life of the Church.

Offering training and
formation to people
throughout the
Diocese, so
that they may
support people
with learning
difficulties.

