familiesoutside.org.uk





Impact Report 2018–19



Families Outside is the only national charity in Scotland that works solely to support children & families affected by imprisonment.

Over the course of 2018/19 we hosted a number of events, campaigns, and activities to support Scotland's Year of Young People, highlighting the specific challenges that children and young people face when a family member is in prison and the solutions we can provide to support them more effectively. We are pleased to share the impact of these initiatives and thank you for your continued interest and support.

Chairman's Report

This has been another successful year for Families Outside. We are hugely grateful to all our donors and to the organisations that contract with us for the provision of services. We always strive to give good value for money and deliver results of the highest standards, so it is encouraging when donors come back to us in subsequent years.

2018 was the Scottish Government's Year of Young People. We marked it with the theme of our Conference in November – What about me? The huge attendance was moved by the powerful contributions from young people directly affected by the imprisonment of a parent.

One of our particularly successful influencing activities was "Send your MSP to Prison". We were delighted that so many Members of the Scottish Parliament took up our challenge to get to their local prison by public transport, mirroring the travel arrangements of constituents. The initiative concluded with an event at the Scottish Parliament, when we heard from some of the MSPs involved as well as from families affected.

We were delighted to be able to appoint a Volunteer Manager, and have high hopes of extending our capacity with more volunteer activity. I say "more" because we already have the benefit of many unpaid hours from my fellow trustees, and I am grateful to them for all they do for the organisation. To them, and to Nancy Loucks and her staff team, I say "very well done" on the completion of another great year.

Valerie Macniven Chairman

Chief Executive's Report

2018-19 completes another positive year at Families Outside. In addition to our core work supporting families directly and through training, and policy development, we continue to create new and innovative ways of supporting families when someone goes to prison, always in response to the needs families identify.

Partnership work through the Criminal Justice Voluntary Sector Forum, the New Routes PSP, membership of NHS Scotland's ACEs Hub, and this year our participation in the Journey Phase of the Independent Care Review all ensure a central role in the development and delivery of policy and practice. Our hosting of the Cross-Party Group on Children & Families Affected by Imprisonment continues to play a significant role in this, this year looking at the role of IT in promoting family contact; Lord Farmer's Review on the importance of family ties for women in prison: the Management of Offenders Bill: and Scotland's compliance with the 2018 Council of Europe recommendations regarding children of prisoners.

Through such work, Families Outside has influenced support for children and families throughout the world and consolidated a reputation for excellence that increases our opportunities to develop such work further.

Families Outside can only achieve its outcomes through devoted and hard-working staff and volunteers as well as a tremendously well-qualified and supportive Board. We are also grateful for the continued interest and support of our funders; of the many agencies we work alongside; and especially of the families who share their experiences and expertise with us. Our work would not be possible without you.

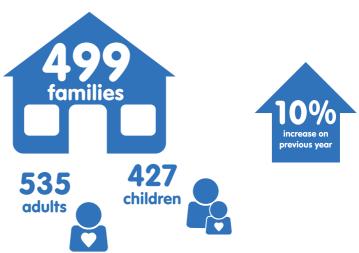
Prof Nancy Loucks OBE

Chief Executive

Helpline



Direct 1:1 Support



"[Staff Member] has comforted, advised, listened, supported, and informed me of how the justice system works. In short, without her, and the Families Outside Organisation, I would definitely never have been able to cope. The support has given me reason to carry on, and believe there is a future to look forward to." Family Member

Campaigns

MSPs visited prison using public transport as part of our Send your MSP to Prison Campaign

#SendYourMSPtoPrison

"I'm delighted to be a part of Families Outside's 'Send your MSP to Prison' campaign; it's often the children and families that suffer the most from imprisonment and this initiative will not only raise these issues but also the steps Scottish Government can take to mitigate them." Jeremy Balfour MSP after his visit to HMP Edinburgh on Friday 28th September

Training and Awareness Raising

3,242 professionals

who come into contact with families affected by imprisonment, attended our Training & Awareness-Raising sessions. "I absolutely loved the course, thank you. I was very much out my comfort zone in the prison as I had never been in one before so it helped to understand the effects it could have on the offender and the families." Delegate from Teacher CPD at HMP Inverness, 1 October 2018

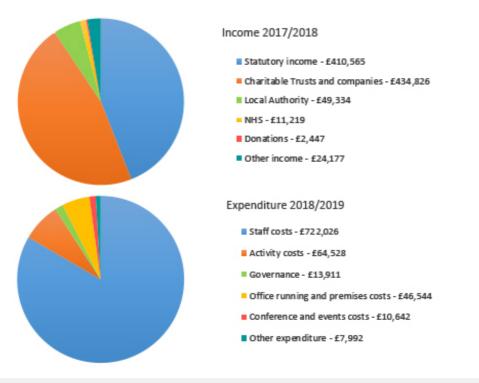


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Finance

We have had another successful year at Families Outside, with an increase in our income of almost a quarter. This was partly due to funding being received from the Social Economy Growth Fund, which allowed us to recruit a Volunteer Manager and a Group Work & Peer Support Manager, as well as increase our capacity on the helpline and in our direct 1:1 service we provide to families in the community.

We would like to thank the many organisations, charitable trusts, local authorities, and statutory agencies, along with the many individuals who donated funds to Families Outside during the year. Without your help, we could not provide the support we give to families affected by imprisonment in Scotland.



Families Outside is the only national charity that works solely to support the families of people affected by imprisonment in Scotland. Our purpose is to improve outcomes for children and families affected by imprisonment so they can live lives free from stigma and disadvantage.

For information and support: Freephone 0800 254 0088 Text FAMOUT followed by your message to 60777 Email support@familiesoutside.org.uk Visit www.familiesoutside.org.uk





Families Outside is a company limited by guarantee registered In Scotland No. 236539 and is recognised as a Scottish charity by the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator No. SC025366

Prison Visitors' Centres

Our national coordination of the service our partner organisations provide in prison visitor centres ensures that even more families receive support.



"[What resonated with me most was] in relation to all the services [Centrestage provides] for prisoners' families as well as the community and how that approach can help with the prisoner on release; although I had good knowledge I wasn't aware of just how joined up the approach was and how they can assist all members of the family regardless of age." Feedback from National Prison Visitor Centre conference

Staff

New Posts

including a Volunteer Manager, a Group Work & Peer Support Manager, and a Helpline Worker, all funded by the Social Economy Growth Fund.

Research

Completed research alongside the University of Salford

on behalf of NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde into the experiences of children and young people with a parent in the justice system.

*Me and my brother were asked if we would like to share our story and after some convincing, we agreed... Little did I know such a small decision would change my life forever. This is what inspired me and led me into activism work. with Young Offenders and Families impacted by imprisonment." Young Person with a Parent in Prison Impact Report 2018–19

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attended the National Prison Visitors' **Centre Conference* including the** then Cabinet Secretary for Justice, Michael Matheson MSP.

*Coordinated by Families Outside on behalf of the National Prison Visitors' Centres Steering Group.

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> about me?" looking at the types of support that is available for young people affected by imprisonment.

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Publications

New Publications

have allowed us to increase awareness of the issues facing children and families throughout the world and consolidated a reputation for excellence that increases our profile and reputation.

Donations

333 children & young people

2:

adults

were able to celebrate Christmas this year thanks to the kind donations from individuals, community groups, and organisations across Scotland.

'Thanks so much it means a lot to me and it will mean a lot to my son. If it wasn't for you, my son would not of got a present as I'm in for Christmas. You've made my day it means a lot." Mother in prison

Policy & Practice

We develop policy and practice with local and national statutory agencies as well as internationally through our membership of COPE (Children of Prisoners Europe) and INCCIP (International Coalition for Children of Incarcerated Parents). We also host the Parliamentary Cross-Party Group on Children and Families Affected by Imprisonment, convened by Mary Fee MSP.

