

Give Kids a Chance

**Annual Review
April 2010 – March 2011**



Give Kids a Chance

Is co-ordinated by Aberdeen City Public Health Team,
In partnership with local community networks.

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Mission Statement

Give Kids a Chance provides disadvantaged young people with positive, worthwhile activities in a safe environment and helps relieve boredom, raise self-esteem, confidence and personal skills.

Section	Content	Page Number
1	Comment from Project Manager.	3
2	What has GKAC achieved this year?	4
3	Breakdown of new referrals received.	5
	Table 1: Allocation of places and number of young people supported.	5
4	How have our partners helped us?	5
5	Surveys	6
6	What have the young people achieved this year?	6
7	Income and expenditure.	7
	Table 2: Breakdown of income and expenditure during past 4 years.	7
8	Thank you to our funders.	7
9	References	9

The GKAC team interpret ‘early intervention’ as:

“A problem has been identified or is anticipated that can be resolved by making a change to the current situation. The presenting problem should not be so extreme to make us think that change is not possible.”

1. Comment from Project Manager

During this year Give Kids a Chance (GKAC) has been delivered with no change to the organisational or operational structures. The project continues to be managed and hosted by the Aberdeen City Public Health Team. No new sessional staff have been recruited due to vacancy control measures but 3 new volunteers joined the team. The Give Kids a Chance team comprises:

- 2 full time office based staff
- 13 volunteers
- 15 sessional staff

Contact details for the support officers in each of the areas GKAC operates in are shown below. Please contact these named individuals to discuss any potential new referrals to the project and obtain the necessary paperwork.

Aberdeen: heather.wilson2@nhs.net (on behalf of the Aberdeen Referral Review Group)

Abdnshire: david.o'neill@aberdeenshire.gov.uk or
jeremaya.phiri@aberdeenshire.gov.uk (Fraserburgh referrals)
Isobel.davidson@aberdeenshire.gov.uk (Peterhead referrals)

Moray: ivor.lee@moray.gov.uk (Buckie, Speyside and Keith schools)
Iain.macdonald@moray.gov.uk (Forres and Elgin schools)
Susan.stronach@moray.gov.uk (Lossiemouth and Fochabers schools)

During 2010 a paper was produced for the GKAC Advisory Group highlighting the history, governance and significant changes that had taken place in the delivery of the service since the launch in 1997¹. The most significant change for GKAC had been the move from a population approach developed in partnership with Community Learning and Development that welcomed all young people to a more individually targeted approach that now required referral forms and more supportive involvement of the named link workers. As a consequence of this paper, the GKAC advisory Group requested a critical review of the service to identify areas for development or redesign. This report has provided overwhelmingly positive feedback from professionals who had used the project and will be used to determine the future delivery model for GKAC². A full copy of the report is available on the GKAC HI-NET home page.

<http://www.hi-netgrampian.org/hinet/file/6997/GKACCriticalReviewReport.doc>

2. What has GKAC achieved this year?

A comprehensive Evaluation and Monitoring Report has been produced that provides a full breakdown of statistics³. A summary of the key features is shown below:

- 196 vulnerable young people have been supported by GKAC this year.
- On 31st March 2011, 110 young people were registered on the scheme
- 58 of the 196 (30%) young people supported this year were new referrals.
- 28 (48%) were female.
- 30 (52%) were male.
- The most common reasons for referral this year were:
 - Isolation and / or exclusion from peer group
 - Economic or social disadvantage
 - Living in an area with a history of substance misuse
 - Are known or at risk of becoming known to Children's Panel.
- 35 separate activities were available across Grampian.
- Approximately 1,300 activity sessions have been provided for young people across Grampian.
- 8/58 (14%) of new referrals had a diagnosed disability.
- 25/58 (43%) of new referrals were received from social work sources.
- 14 young people are working on Dynamic or Youth Achievement awards
- GKAC awarded Investing in Volunteers status as part of NHS Grampian Volunteer Recruitment team.
- GKAC has maintained volunteer numbers and been able to recruit new volunteers to replace those who have moved on.
- Comedy 4 Confidence workshops piloted in Aberdeen with young people from music groups attending.
- Staff and volunteers have been provided with the opportunity to take part in the GKAC core programme of Child Protection, First Aid and Mental Health & Wellbeing training.
- GKAC introduced new reporting forms for tutors and youth workers to record activity sessions and identify outcomes for young people.

3. Breakdown of new referrals received

The allocation of places to areas was re-aligned in 2008 to allow better evaluation and monitoring of young people. During 2008/9 the reduction in young people supported from 255 to 236 was minimal but the following year, 2009/10 the project worked with 198 young people. This reduction has been maintained in 2010/11 and allowed more detailed evaluation and monitoring with more emphasis on outcomes achieved.

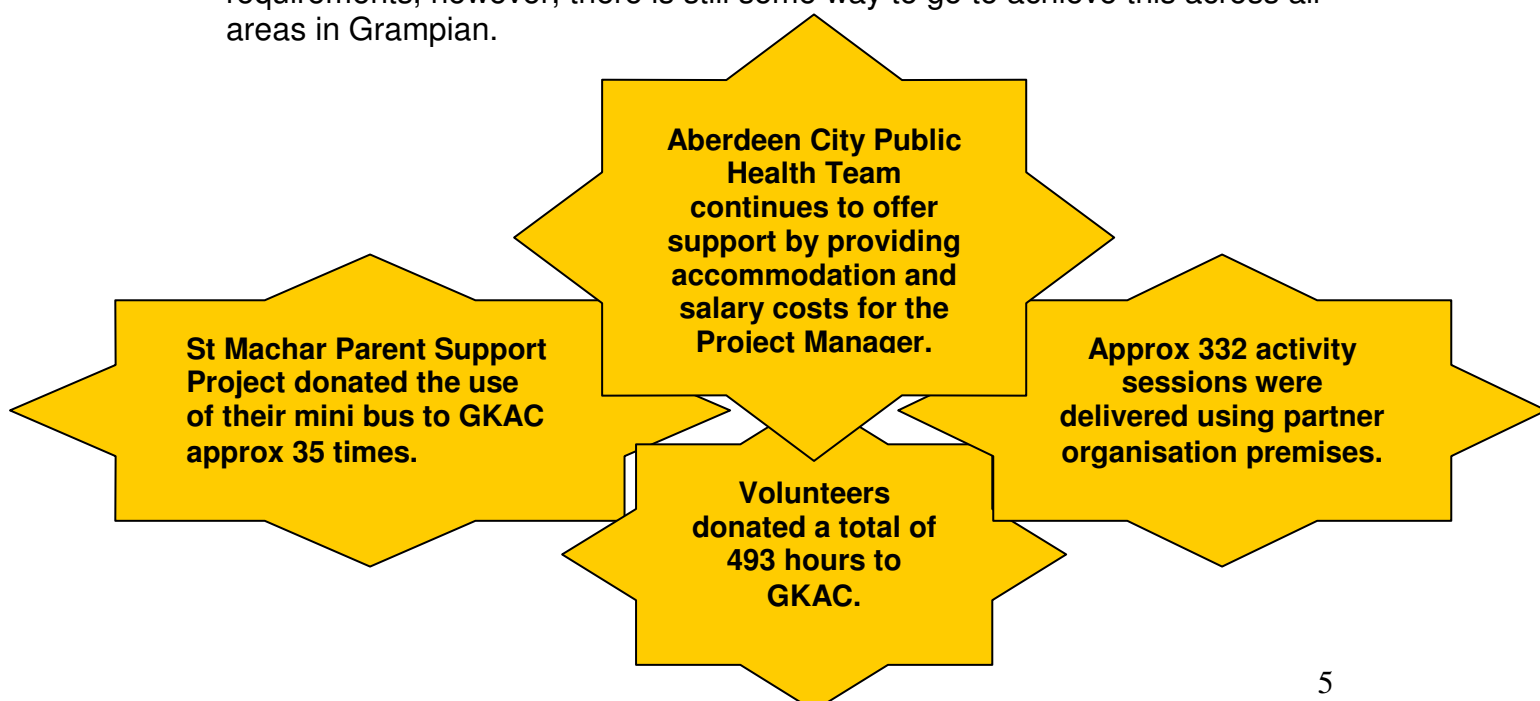
Table 1. Allocation of places and number of young people supported.

Area and allocation of places		Total number of young people		
		2008/9	2009/10	2010/11
Aberdeen	100	164	137	135
Fraserburgh	20	27	22	22
Peterhead	15	18	16	14
Moray	20	27	23	25
TOTAL	155	236	198	196

4. How have our partners helped us?

The support of partners in the community is vital for GKAC. The number of volunteers supporting GKAC work has dropped in recent years and efforts have been made to recruit more volunteers. Despite this drop, volunteers have still donated a total of 493 hours to support GKAC during 2010/11.

Volunteers have been a huge asset to GKAC and over the years the benefit of using volunteer drivers has provided young people with more personal support. The ultimate aim is to involve volunteers in all our transport requirements, however, there is still some way to go to achieve this across all areas in Grampian.



Community projects in Aberdeen continued to allow free access to their premises as we work to support the young people from their areas. This year's figure also includes the use of the Hot Spot in Peterhead and is almost doubled from 180 in 2009/10 to 332 activity sessions in 2010/11.

5. Surveys

Questionnaires are issued to the young people and their parents with the Winter and Summer newsletters. These questionnaires are used to collect feedback on the activity sessions and can prompt changes for the next term so that the young people get maximum enjoyment and learning from their time on the scheme. Tutors are also asked to provide a short report on the young person that can be sent home to parents. This asks for comments on confidence, contribution to class, responsibility and learning. Again this information provides useful feedback when collating outcomes and achievements for each of the young people. More evaluation, monitoring and statistical information is available on request from the GKAC team or by visiting <http://www.hi-netgrampian.org/hinet/2792.html> to read the Evaluation and Monitoring report for 2010/11.

6. What have the young people achieved this year?

- Young people attending the Cooking, Multi Sport and Music groups have started work on Dynamic Youth Awards and Youth Achievement Awards.
- The Hot Spot Club in Peterhead staged their own art exhibition which was displayed throughout the months of May and June 2010, produced a film based on their own devised activity programme from January – March 2011 showing the range of activities they have been involved in. They also took part in a sponsored walk, sold craft items to raise funds and made a selection of gifts and cards for friends and family.
- The Aberdeen snooker group held an end of term tournament in March 2011 with the winner and runner up presented with trophies. During this year, David McCulloch a member of the United Kingdom Pool Team visited the group to give one to one instruction and tell the boys about his involvement in snooker and pool and the various competitions he had taken part in.
- All six Aberdeen based martial arts students were presented for grading in March 2011 and all achieved their belts. Liam, from Aberdeen received his Brown Belt Senior and is working towards his Black Belt– Liam is currently the most senior martial art student GKAC is supporting. He is also a junior instructor at the club and supports others to fully integrate into the class.
- Cody from Moray achieved Green Tag at Tae Kwon Do.
- GKAC youngster Joanne, took part in the Young People's Radio Show at shmuFM to promote the work done by the project in Aberdeen.

- The GKAC music groups in Aberdeen came together and staged a performance for parents and guests at Rosemount Community Centre with the Cooking Group organising the catering requirements.
- Horse-riding groups in Peterhead and Fraserburgh received awards at the annual prize giving at Annandale Equestrian Centre in recognition of their progress and attendance.
- Abi from Aberdeen continues to train with the District Tennis Squad and has had success at various tournaments during this year.
- James from Fraserburgh achieved his first cap for Scotland at the Junior British Championships in Sheffield, organised by Disability Sport England.

7. Income and Expenditure

Income generation is always a challenge for GKAC. The project sets budgets at the start of each year and anticipates fundraising to cover all identified expenses. Often savings can be made by working in partnership with other organisations, or by providing our own transport service through the involvement of volunteers.



Successful partnerships this year have included working with Peacock Visual Arts and Aberdeen Arts Centre on the Scottish Government's CashBack for Communities initiatives. Both organisations successfully bid for funding and were able to provide GKAC young people in Aberdeen and Peterhead with free access to workshops funded from the proceeds of crime.

Table 2: Breakdown of income and expenditure during past 4 years

	31.3.2011	31.3.2010	31.3.2009	31.3.2008
Income	137,641	131,611	130,036	149,633
Expenditure	98,679	106,128	99,190	106,487

For a full copy of the GKAC Audited Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2011 please contact heather.wilson2@nhs.net or download a copy from our HI-NET home page <http://www.hi-netgrampian.org/hinet/2790.html>

8. Thank you to our funders

Give Kids a Chance is grateful to all friends and supporters who have made generous contributions to the project during 2010/11. Although individuals are too numerous to mention the following organisations have made donations.

• Fowler Mckenzie	• Talisman	• ABB Limited
• Aberdeen St Machar Rotary Club	• Society of Petroleum Engineers	• Wood Group Engineering
• CNR International	• Crescent	• Scotoil Services Ltd
• Portlethen Academy	• Wood Family Trust	• Sparrows Offshore

Support for GKAC has also been received from Aberdeen and Moray Community Health Partnership Health Improvement Funds and Fairer Scotland Funds in Aberdeen and Aberdeenshire.

Support in kind through access to facilities and activities is also a valuable contribution to the project and we thank John Mulhern, Manager at Rileys Snooker Club and Bruce Wood and the instructors at Aberdeen based martial art Sooyang Do for their support of our activity programmes.

Give Kids a Chance coordinates two fundraising projects each year. The sale of Spree Books in the Summer time raised £960. A Christmas Fundraiser which runs during December encourages supporters to donate items to hampers which are then raffled to raise funds. Often supporters include donations in lieu of sending Christmas Cards. During the Christmas period this project raised £8,210.42.



Fundraising events

Give Kids a Chance has limited resources to organise events and are indebted to supporters who have organised events on our behalf. Special thanks to:

- Alan Pirie from Aberdeen St Machar Rotary Club for co-ordinating a fundraising golf tournament at Newmachar Golf Club.
- The St Machar Academy Charity Committee who co-ordinated a school ceilidh as an end of term fundraiser.



- Jim Dressel who nominated GKAC to receive the proceeds of the Brigham Young Dance event. The Dance Troupe visited Aberdeen Beach Ballroom as part of their world tour of ballroom dancing in June 2010.

Left - The Brigham Young Ballroom Dance troupe in action

- Phil Mckenzie from Balgownie Bowling Club who kindly stepped up to take over the planning of the Pampered Chef fundraiser after the untimely death of GKAC Volunteer Alan Johnston.

Right - John McRuvie and Charlie Allan – celebrity chefs at the Pampered Chef event



A very big “thank you” to all our supporters for their donations and the difference they have made to so many young people. Thanks also to Aberdeen City Public Health Lead, Linda Smith, who hosts the project and provides an office base and managerial support at Denburn Health Centre.

References:

1. GKAC document: History, governance and change. Document posted on HI-NET <http://www.hi-netgrampian.org/hinet/file/6706/GKACHistory.doc>
2. GKAC Critical Review Report. <http://www.hi-netgrampian.org/hinet/file/6997/GKACCriticalReviewReport.doc>
3. GKAC Evaluation and Monitoring Report 2010/11. Document posted on HI-NET. <http://www.hi-netgrampian.org/hinet/2790.html>

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