DON’T DISCARD ME

BORDERLINE
ANNUAL REPORT
2007
WHEN I FIRST CAME TO BORDERLINE
I HARDLY TALKED, AND COULDN’T LOOK THEM
IN THE EYE. I SUFFERED FROM PARANOID
SCHIZOPHRENIA, AND HAD SEVERE MENTAL
HEALTH PROBLEMS MADE WORSE BY AN
ALCOHOL PROBLEM.

I SLEPT ON THE STREETS BECAUSE
I COULDN’T MANAGE AT DAY CENTRES
AND HOSTELS — I FELT THREATENED,
SOMETIMES WITH GOOD CAUSE. I OFTEN
HARMED MYSELF WHEN I WAS DEPRESSED.
I LOST MY FAMILY WHEN I WAS YOUNG;
MY PARENTS WERE BOTH ALCOHOLICS.
I WOULD MAKE CONTACT, THEN DISAPPEAR. IT MADE IT HARD TO HELP ME, BUT SHORT-TERM THEY DECIDED THEY’D TRY JUST TO BE THERE AND NOT MAKE TOO MANY DEMANDS ON ME.

AFTER ABOUT A YEAR, I STARTED ASKING FOR THEIR HELP WITH BASIC THINGS: ORDERING MY BIRTH CERTIFICATE, MINDING MY PASSPORT. THEY LISTENED TO MY STORY AND QUIETLY, DILIGENTLY, LOOKED INTO WAYS THEY COULD HELP WHEN I WAS READY.
AS I CAME TO TRUST THEM, THEY GENTLY ENCOURAGED ME TO GET THE SUPPORT I NEEDED. ONE DAY THEY EVEN WALKED ME DOWN THE ROAD TO A DAY CENTRE TO INTRODUCE ME TO A MENTAL HEALTH WORKER.

EVENTUALLY, THEY PERSUADED ME TO WORK WITH THE TEAM THAT PROVIDES SPECIALIST SUPPORT FOR HOMELESS PEOPLE WITH MENTAL HEALTH PROBLEMS.
THE SPECIALIST TEAM AGREED THAT I WAS VERY VULNERABLE AND FOUND ME APPROPRIATE ACCOMMODATION.

THIS TIME I DIDN'T DISAPPEAR.

MONTHS LATER, I'M THRIVING. I'M THINKING I MIGHT TAKE UP PAINTING AND DECORATING.

THE KEYWORKER AT MY HOSTEL SAYS I'M DOING SO WELL THEY MIGHT MOVE ME ON SOON.
Borderline was able to see the whole of me. Because I came to trust them, they could help me make a real difference in my life. Now I’m off the streets and beginning to enjoy living.

My name is David.
From the inaugural Caledonian Carols for Borderline in December 2006 to the Third Sector Excellence Awards ceremony in September 2007, with many hundreds of miles travelled across London and Scotland, this has been an amazing year. It has been a year of making Borderline visible, and especially of making our clients visible - a year of showing our film “Can you imagine...” to thousands of people, of sending our award-winning annual report to thousands more, of saying “here are the people who need your help - help us make a difference in their lives”.

And we are proud that we do make a difference, and we are thankful for the support of each and every person who has helped us so to do. Of course, we don’t work in isolation - indeed, it is our creative and successful partnerships across London and throughout Scotland that add immense value to the work of the Borderline team.

In the twelve months April 2006 to March 2007* our staff of five made a difference by:

- Making 3,900 contacts with clients and agencies
- Accommodating three people each week
- Helping two people return home to Scotland every month
- Accessing birth certificates for 200 people for ID purposes
- Helping 111 people travel to visit their family, attend interviews and view accommodation
- Giving 39 grants to help people settle into accommodation or begin work or training

We know we’ve made all these differences, we know we’ve helped a large number of people change their lives for the better. But we can’t afford to be complacent, so we’ve commissioned a highly targeted piece of research to determine that we’re providing the right services to the right people in the right way, now and for the future. We don’t want our clients hiding in doorways, shuffling facelessly around the anonymous streets of London - we want them safely and securely housed, walking tall and known by name.

In the busyness of life in a small charity, persistently concerned about funding, striving always for good practice, knowing there are constantly more people needing our help, we seek always to remember who we’re helping and why. One of the most powerful ways of reminding ourselves is attending the Annual Service of Commemoration for homeless people who have died in the past year each November at St Martin-in-the-Fields. The solemn roll call of names touches every heart, and the stories we listen to both sadden and encourage us.

The biggest boost to our work this year has been the Church of Scotland Guild’s Project Partnership Scheme, with the strategy “Let’s Live: Body, Mind and Soul”. Not only have we received an incredibly generous amount of money, but also the opportunity to make our work highly visible, to introduce our clients to a vast number of supporters, and to have the prayerful support of an amazing group of people. We cannot say a big enough thank you.

We are truly grateful for all the support we receive, financially and otherwise. The Scottish Government continues to fund us - their belief in and support of Borderline makes a real difference. The many other groups who support us are shown on the inside back page. We also thank the many individuals who give so generously of both time and money.

Over the last few years the Trustees have chosen to spend from Reserves rather than reduce services. Concurrently, we have cut costs and reviewed our fundraising strategy, and our efforts are reaping new rewards. Our thanks are shown by the work we do in your name, as the conduit of your interest and care for homeless and insecurely housed Scots in London.

We are proud of the staff team, who work with skill and determination to improve the lives of each client they meet. We are grateful to our trustees, who care for the staff and for the good governance of Borderline.

We thank especially Andrew Ross, who has helped us name our clients, and we are proud that Andrew’s pro bono work won Borderline the Third Sector Excellence Award for Best Annual Report. Andrew generously continues to work with us.

We commend to you the lives of our clients - we call them each by name, we strive constantly to make a difference in their lives. Please, help us to make a difference in your name.

Alan Mackie  
Chairman

Eileen Ward  
Director

* Our traditional reporting period for statutory funding from the Scottish Government
Financial Information

for the year 1 April 2006 to 31 March 2007

A full financial statement is available on request.

Income and Expenditure
Income £237,606
Expenditure £262,219
Operating deficit £24,613

Fund Balances
General Fund £53,310
Designated Funds £122,082
Total £175,392

Breakdown of Income
Donations £124,019
Recoveries £768
Investment Income £7,839
Grants £105,000

Donations 2007
Church Related
Balaclava Parish Church
Cameron Parish Church
Crown Court Church Collection
Crown Court Church Special Projects Fund
Dumfries Guild
Glasgow Memorial Church
Kilwin and Ardsheal Parish Church
Kings College Chapel, University of Aberdeen
Laithwell Church
Leuchars Parish Watchnight Collection
Melrose and Peebles Guild
St Andrew’s Church, Brussels
St Columba’s Benevolence Committee
St Columba’s Burns Supper
St Columba’s Carol Service
St Columba’s Scottish Country Dances
The Town Kirk of Stranraer Senior Members Club
Charitable Trusts
Oldhurst Trust (Adam & Company)
Christian Isobel Fleming Trust
Celtic Charity Fund
Hope Trust
IIB Trust
Royal Caledonian Ball Trust
Scottish Charity Art Show
Stevenson Family Trust
The Castle of Mey Trust
The [ ] Murray Napier Fund
W M Matheson Foundation
William Gibson Trust
Groups
Baltic Caledonian Group
Celtic Club
Clan Macpherson Association (London Branch)
Reels Evenings
Flora Active Women’s Challenge – Anonymous
Friends of Jane Morrison, in memory
Great Scottish Walkers
Lunnain Alba (Arbuthnott)
Philharmonia Britannica
Photography Exhibition (Cl Thubron & W Benzie)
SNP Parliamentary Group
Stranraer Town Harvest Lunch
Wandsworth Older People’s Group
Regiments
London Scottish 1995 Trust

Breakdown of Expenditure
Administrative & Governance £8,966
Advice £98,846
Fundraising £22,535
Client Services £41,207
Client Accommodation £90,645

Donations
Church Related
Caledonian
Hamiton & Inches
JK Rowling
justerin & Brooks
Maximum Gain Ltd
Reverse Delta
The London Gathering
The Big Issue Scotland
Tutor Proprietary Trading
Partners
The Church of Scotland Guild Project
Partnership Scheme 2006/09
The Members of the Borderline 300 Club
Statutory
Scottish Government

Trustees
Chairman
Alan Mackie
Treasurer
Audrey McNair
Rev Barry Dunsmore
Nicholas Ferguson
Bruce Macpherson
Rev Sigd Marden (to January 2007)
Douglas McNelli
Iain Robertson
Rev Forbes Walker
Betsy Wilkie (to March 2007)
The Trustees also form the Management Committee of Borderline

Staff
Director
Eileen Ward
Client Services Manager
Murdy Maciver
Advice Team
Mark Murton (Lead Advice Worker)
Erin Baltes
Finance/Admin Officer
Catherine Rodgers

Companies
Andrew Ross
Caledonian
Hamilton & Inches
JK Rowling
justerin & Brooks
Maximum Gain Ltd
Reverse Delta
The London Gathering
The Big Issue Scotland
Tutor Proprietary Trading

Investors
The Royal Bank of Scotland plc

Auditors
Danes & Co. – Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors

Investment Advisers
UBS Wealth Management (UK) Ltd

Borderline is run by COSLAS, the Church of Scotland
London Advisory Service
COSLAS/BORDERLINE
19 Belgrave Road
London SW1V 1Q8
Tel: 0845 456 2190
Fax: 0845 456 2399

To protect confidentiality images used do not relate to case studies.