

PEOPLE BUILD COMMUNITIES

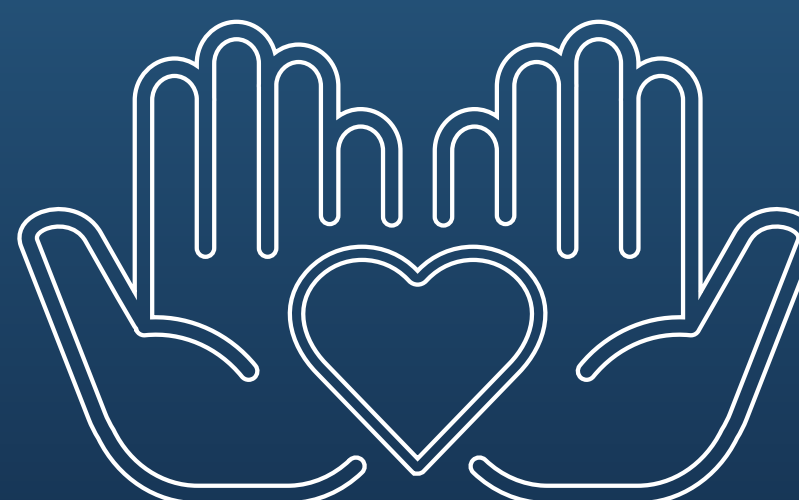
ANNUAL REPORT 22/23

Introduction



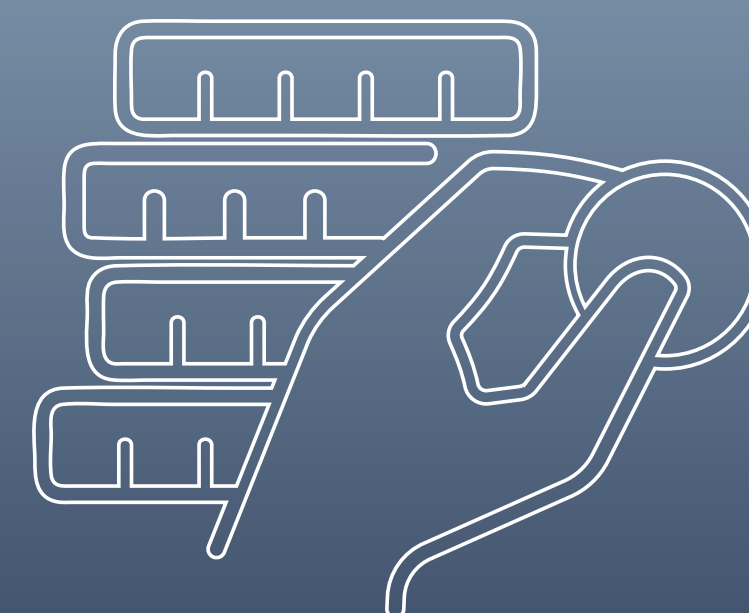
Theme 1

Community Support
& Capacity Building



Theme 2

Community Resource
& Finance Services

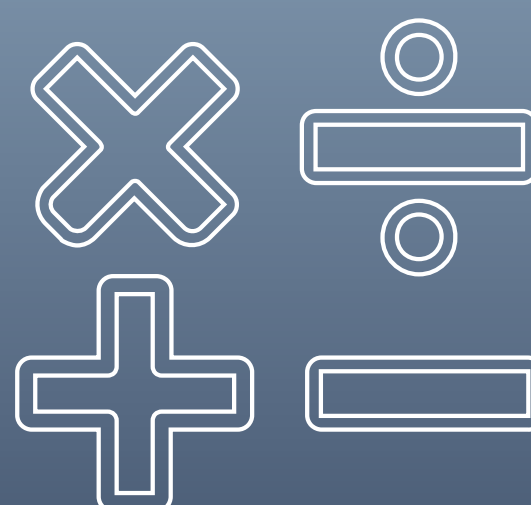


Theme 3

Community Health
Development



Finance: Income & Expenditure



Board, Staff and Members





Introduction

Chair & Executive Director



Welcome to our annual report covering the April 2022 – March 2023 period. With the dreaded Covid now behind us, but recognising it is still around, we have been able to get back to more face to face meetings and engaging more and more with community groups in East Belfast.

This report highlights the work EBCDA have delivered during the April 2022 – March 2023 period which includes daily management of East Belfast Network Centre which is a base for 10 groups; chatty bench project which engaged 23 community groups; ongoing development of work with the menopause cafes and the development of wellbeing cafes; support for the various East Belfast Forums and Networks we collaboratively manage; management of Belfast City Council Hardship Fund, working with 25 community groups to deliver throughout East Belfast; ongoing development of work with mens groups; delivery of the very successful pain management programme; access NI checks for staff and volunteers of East based organisations; supporting groups in managing their finance and resources; member of Dept for Communities Review of Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy Development Planning; member of Belfast Stories Oversight Advisory Group; development and successful funding by the National Lottery Community Fund of our Community Connections Programme, which will start in May 2024;

This is the third year of reporting on our 5-year strategy “People Build Communities”. Within each annual report we report on our activity under our three themes within the strategy, these are;

Theme 1 – Community Support & Capacity Building :

To assess the needs of the community sector and work with other key organisations to:

- recognise the principles and values of adopting a community development approach
- draw up support programmes that develop the community sector
- plan projects that lead to more collaborative working
- develop plans and strategies that build capacity
- advocate on behalf of and with communities
- seek to influence the policies of community, voluntary, government and statutory agencies.

Theme 2 – Community Resource & Finance Services :

To manage our human and physical resources and promote good financial management practice in the community sector by:

- offering financial management advice and guidance
- providing financial training and support services
- providing a payroll and community accountancy service
- managing and maintaining East Belfast Network Centre
- ensuring the sector is up to date in charity compliance.

Theme 3 – Community Health Development :

To encourage, support and facilitate the provision of community health programmes and projects that:

- seek to influence the health policies of community, voluntary, government and statutory agencies
- promote and provide opportunities for health education and training
- support the community sector to recognise the value of adopting a community development health approach in their work
- builds the capacity of the communities in East Belfast to develop collective solutions to their health problems
- plan and deliver health projects that lead to more collaborative working.

Mission

East Belfast Community Development Agency exists to provide resources, support and capacity building programmes for community groups that are based on partnership, equal opportunities and sustainable outcomes.

Theory of Change

EBCDA's job is to add value to the activity undertaken by groups in local areas and to work with key organisations to ensure the continued development of a community sector in East Belfast that is recognised, valued and effective. We seek to support successful community development, encourage reflective practice and promote cooperation and locally based solutions.

Thanks

We are grateful to our staff team and Board of Directors for their time, effort and commitment to EBCDA. Thanks also to our funders, Department for Communities (DfC) Belfast City Council (BCC), the Public Health Agency (PHA), The Executive Office and the Community Empowerment Directorate (CED). Thank you also to our members for their support and working closely with us to build towards achieving our strategy for 2020-2025 “People Build Communities”

Karen Purdy, Chair

Michael Briggs, Executive Director



Belfast
City Council



Northern Ireland
Executive
www.northernireland.gov.uk





Theme 1

Community Support & Capacity Building

To assess the needs of the community sector
and work with other key organisations.

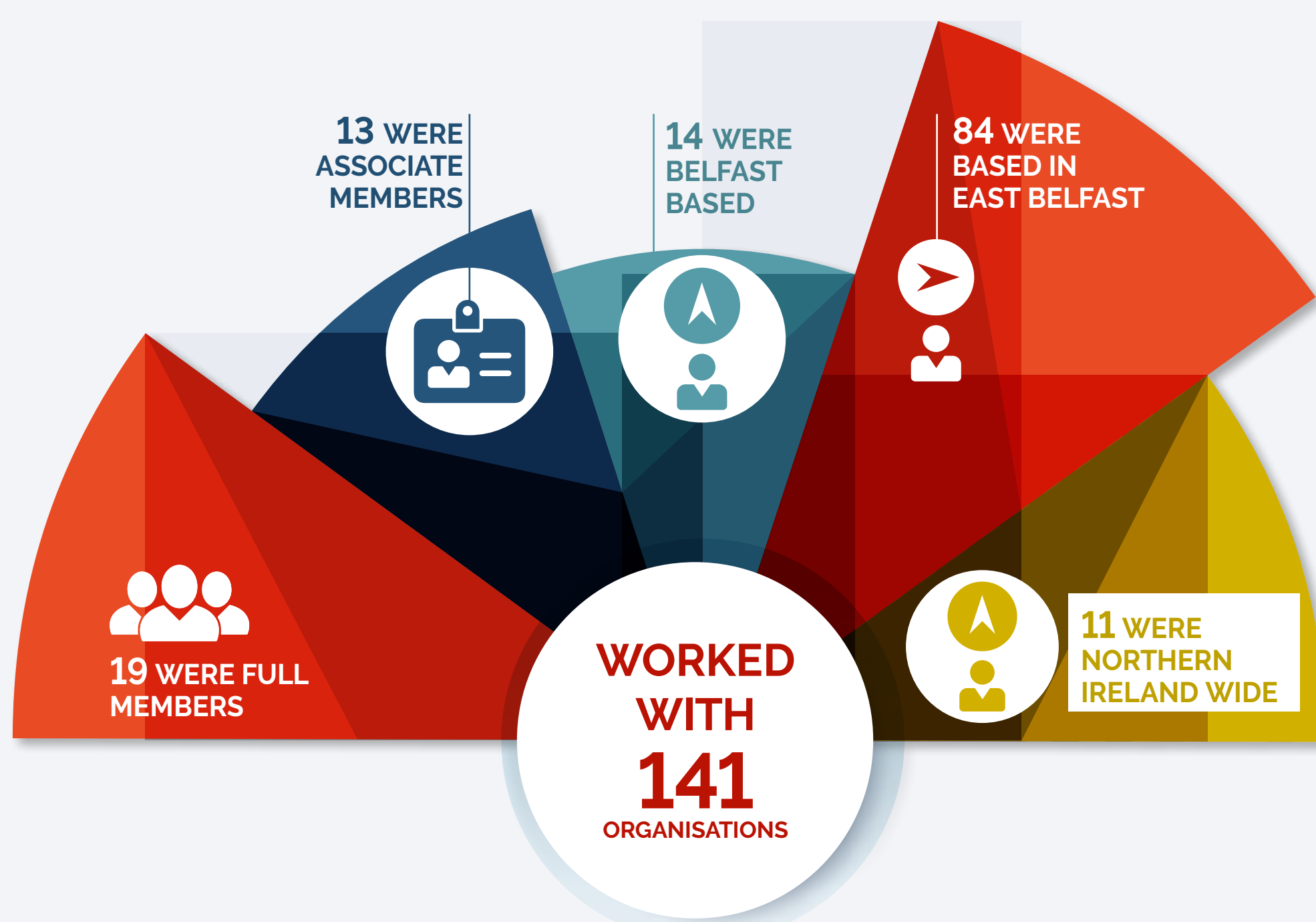
Worked
directly with
**1523
People**

delivered a service to
over 4,132 people
in conjunction with other
partners in East Belfast.

The people involved were

66%
Female

34%
Male



**12
e-bulletin**

produced and
distributed to
353 subscribers



1 Celebrate East
Volunteers event



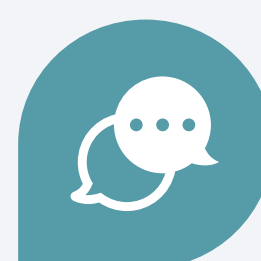
4 Youth Practitioners
e-bulletin produced
and distributed to 45
recipients



24 Groups supported
with funding support,
both applying for and
managing funding



4 Access NI Information
Sessions



9 Facilitated
consultations in relation
to developments
affecting East Belfast



10 Good Governance
sessions



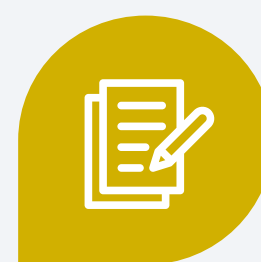
16 Groups supported
with capacity building,
community development
and good relations



5 Groups provided with
unconscious biased and
wellbeing training



10 Groups supported
with Access NI Checks



50 People processed
through Access NI
Disclosures



15 Groups provided
with cultural inclusion
and minority benefit
entitlement training



24 Volunteers
supported through
training opportunities



12 People completed
coaching programme
with 62 sessions
provided



Facilitated a process
of support for 8 new
groups



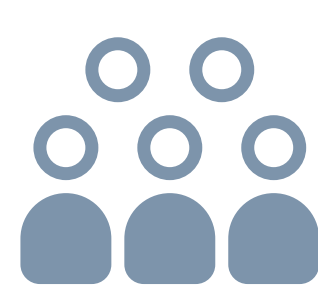
Produced BME local
services map for East in
6 different languages



82 Sessions delivered
by East Belfast Street
Team Collaborative
Programme



3 Themed network
discussion related to youth
work in East Belfast



81 youth volunteers
provided with opportunity
to gain new skills



2 Groups supported
with Charity Commission
NI registration



3 Groups supported
with Charity Commission
NI filing process.

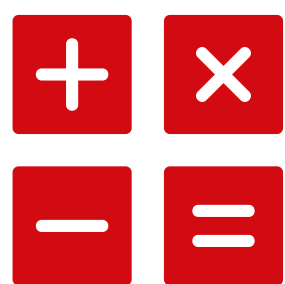




Theme 2

Community Resource & Finance Services

To manage our human and physical resources and promote good financial management practice in the community sector.



Managed EBCDA and TAS
Trust day to day finance.



Managed an additional
£290,000 (approx. £264,000
related to Covid funds from
BCC and DfC)



Worked closely with **East Belfast Covid-19
Reference Group** to facilitate the management
and delivery of the **East Belfast Hardship Fund
with 25 East Belfast Groups**.

DELIVERING:



2,275
GAS TOP UPS



1,890
ELECTRIC TOP UPS



2,426
HOUSEHOLDS
SUPPORTED



Managed day to operations of East Belfast
Network Centre with **10 organisations and
over 60 staff** based in the centre.

Provided meeting, seminar and conference facilities for the community
and voluntary sector in East Belfast and for other organisations
delivering their work for the benefit of East Belfast.



During this period we provided event space for
356 meetings, conferences, seminars and training
events for **8,800 people**.



Theme 3

Community Health Development

To encourage, support and facilitate the provision
of community health programmes and projects.

Managed and delivered **Communities in Transition Health & Wellbeing
Programme** engaging **30 organisations** with **883 people** participating:



DRUG & ALCOHOL
TRAINING



WELLBEING
WORKSHOPS



MEN'S HEALTH
PROGRAMMES



WELLBEING RETREAT FOR
COMMUNITY WORKERS



CHATTY BENCH PROGRAMME
DEVELOPMENT



11
HEALTH OBSERVANCE
DAY SESSIONS
e.g. cancer awareness month,
world Alzheimer's day, international
women's day etc



31
YOGA SESSIONS



34
TAI CHI SESSIONS



12
MEN'S MOVE MORE CANCER
SUPPORT PROGRAMME SESSIONS



25
HEALTH SESSIONS
WITH MEN'S GROUPS



11
HEALTH SESSIONS
FACILITATED WITH CONNSWATER
COMMUNITY GREENWAY



18
TAKE 5 STEPS TO WELL-
BEING PROGRAMMES



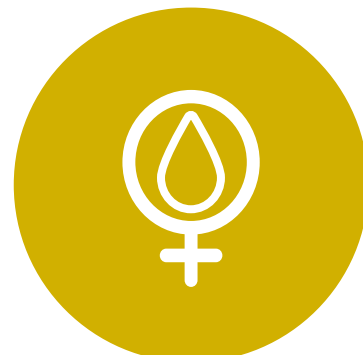
2
PAIN SUPPORT
PROGRAMMES



6
PAIN SUPPORT
CAFÉS



11
TAKE 5 "IN A JAR"
SESSIONS



8
MENOPAUSE
CAFÉS



8
WELL-BEING
CAFÉS



8
CARERS CAFÉ
SESSIONS



10
GROUPS ENGAGED IN
THE RED BOX PROJECT



18
APPOINTMENTS FOR
MEN AT CANCER BUS



9
STRESS AWARENESS
PROGRAMMES DELIVERED



4
ACES PROGRAMMES
DELIVERED



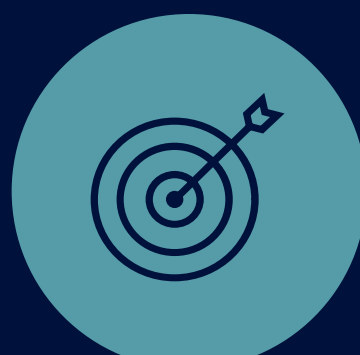
1
ASIST SUICIDE AWARENESS
PROGRAMME



2
SUICIDE FIRST
AID COURSES



3
COMMUNITY
RESILIENCE COURSES



19
ARCHERY
SESSIONS



8
ARTS AND
HEALTH SESSIONS



20
FACILITATED WOMEN'S
HEALTH ACTIVITIES



1
ACCESS TO HEALTH
SERVICES WORKSHOP



10
WOMEN'S FITNESS
SESSIONS



30
COMMUNITY COACHING
SESSIONS



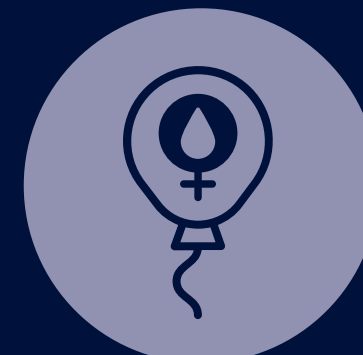
10
DEMMENTIA FRIENDLY STEERING
GROUP MEETINGS



8
DEMMENTIA AWARENESS
PROGRAMMES



10
NUTRITION
WORKSHOPS



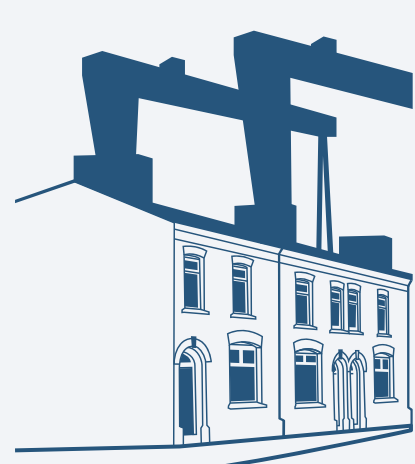
7
MENOPAUSE
CELEBRATION EVENTS

MEMBER OF:



- Department for Communities Review of Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy Development Planning
- Belfast Stories Oversight Advisory Group

- NICVA Executive Committee
- Shared City Partnership
- Belfast Healthy Cities Board

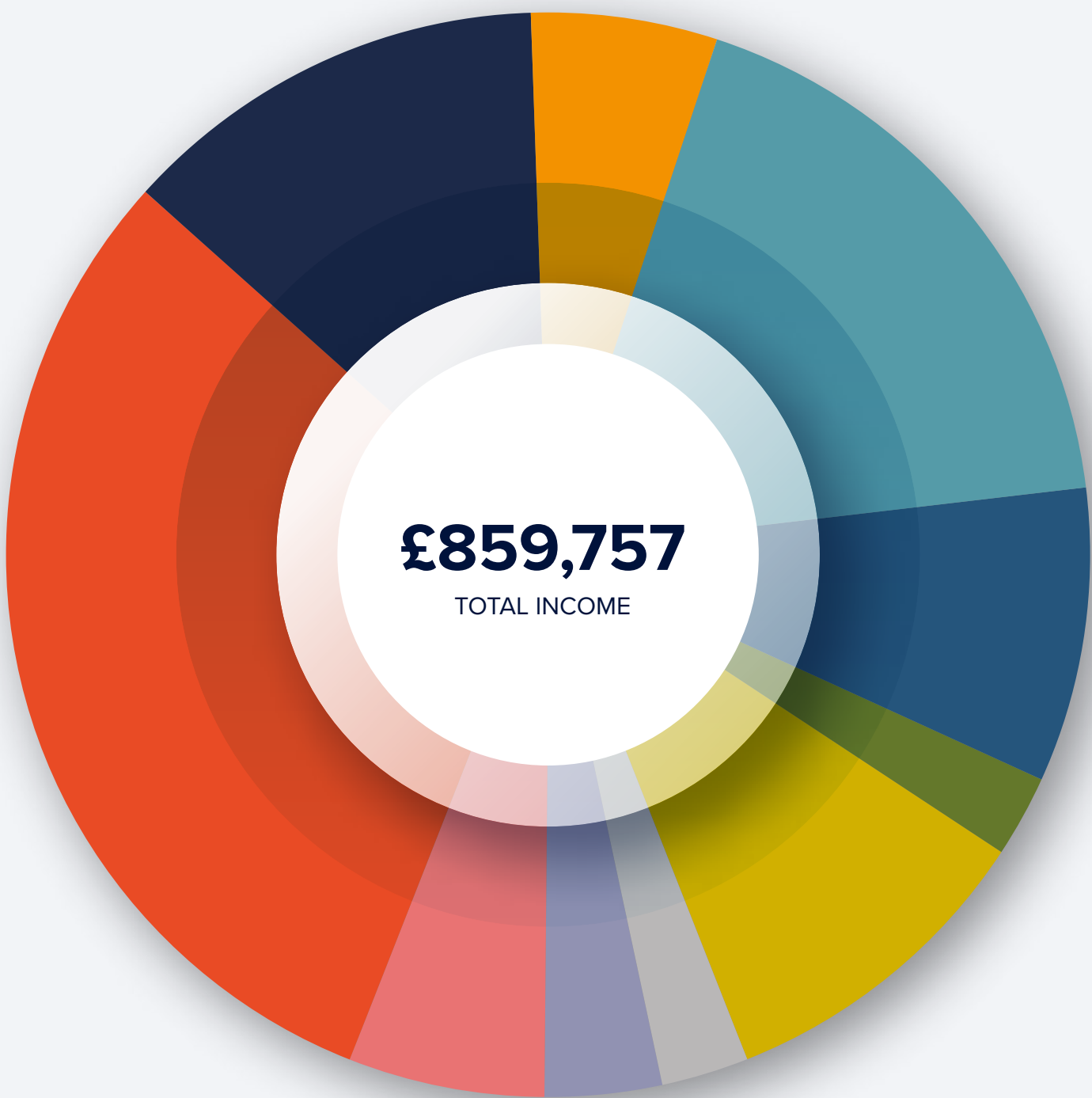


Provided an East Belfast view at online meetings, face to face meetings, conferences and seminars with the Public Health Agency, Belfast City Council, NICVA, Belfast Health & Social Care Trust, Department for Communities, The Executive Office, Community Empowerment Division, DfC Emergencies Leadership Group, NIO.



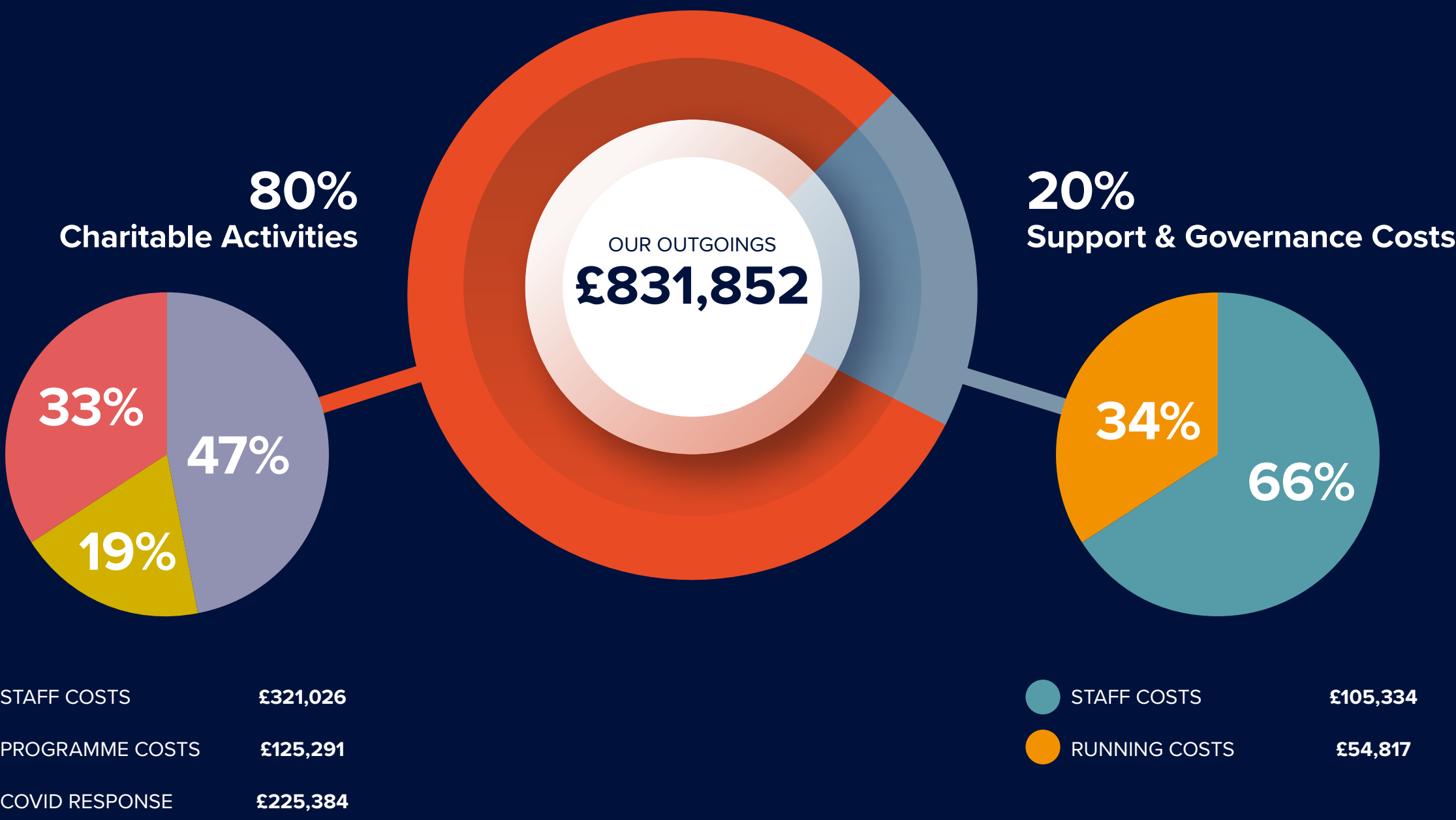
Finance: Income & Expenditure

Our Income and Outgoings



OUR MONEY CAME FROM:

BELFAST CITY COUNCIL – GRANTS	£51,316
BELFAST CITY COUNCIL – COVID RESPONSE/HARDSHIP FUND	£263,830
DFC – COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT DIVISION	£112,628
DFC – COMMUNITY INVESTMENT FUND	£45,169
PHA – HEALTHY LIVING & STRATEGY	£154,945
PHA – INVESTING FOR HEALTH	£82,447
PHA – WINTER PLANNING	£10,000
TEO – COMMUNITIES IN TRANSITION	£94,488
SMALL GRANTS AND MISC	£16,109
SELF-GENERATED	£28,825
Total	£859,757





Board, Staff and Members

Board of Directors

Karen Purdy	<i>Chairperson</i>
Bernie McConnell	<i>Vice Chair</i>
Rev Mervyn Gibson	<i>Hon Treasurer</i>
Sammy Douglas	
Mervyn Cleland	
Annie Cook	
Emma Shields	
Rachael Davison	
Liz Oslon	
Gareth Wright	
Richard Williamson	(Co-Option)
Yvonne Cowan	(Co-Option)

Full Members

Ardcarn Local Residents Group
Ballybeen Womens Centre
Bloomfield Community Association
Christian Fellowship Church
Clara Residents Group
East Belfast Independent Advice Centre
East Belfast Mission
Greenway Women’s Centre
In This Together
Knock Presbyterian Church
Lagan Village Youth and Community Group
Megain Memorial
Mens Minds Matter NI
Oak Project
Round Tower Community Group
Salvation Army
Short Strand Community Forum
Surestart East
Survivors of Suicide
TASA
The Larder (Boring Wells)
Ullans Academy
Walkway Community Association
Wandsworth Community Association
Willowfield Parish Community Association
Wise Men of The East

Staff Members

Michael Briggs	<i>Executive Director</i>
Kim Briggs	<i>Resource & Finance Director (Company Secretary)</i>
Ashleigh Roberts	<i>Community Development Director</i>
Linda Armitage	<i>Health Development Director</i>
Jim Bailey	<i>Health Development Co-Ordinator</i>
Davina Mullin	<i>Health Development Co-Ordinator</i>
Marie Anne Templeman	<i>Health Connections Co-Ordinator</i>
Richard Maguire	<i>Health Connections Co-Ordinator (Until March 23)</i>
Amy Ashe	<i>Inner East Youth Work Co-Ordinator (Until March 23)</i>
Elizabeth Vichitkarn	<i>Receptionist & Administrative Support Officer</i>
Joan Baird	<i>Finance Manager</i>
Eleanor Gibson	<i>Administrative Support Officer</i>

Associate Members

Alison Wightman
Arthritis Care Swimming Club
Ascrt
BCC Neighbourhood Integration Manager (East Belfast)
Belfast YMCA Ltd
Charter NI
Compassion Belfast
Connswater Homes
Cregagh Pre-School
Dee Street Community Centre
Denis Carson
Dr John Kyle
Dundonald Green Belt Association
Dundonald Townswomen’s Guild
East Belfast Alternatives
East Belfast Area Project
George Dorrian
RNIB
Start 360
The Gathering COI Church Plant
The Princes Trust
Thrive Ireland