



Child Concern Consortium Supporter's Newsletter



Hello everyone

Well, World Cup Fever is well and truly with us! And if you take a look at the easyfundraising link mentioned on page three of this newsletter, you will see there are plenty of free giveaways and competition prizes up for grabs to celebrate the event, so why not have a go and support your favourite charity at the same time?



Also on page three, we are advertising for a volunteer to help promote Payroll Giving in the Workplace to local businesses within our area. So if you feel this might be something that you or your friends or family might be interested in helping us with, please do get in touch.

And just to say as always, a huge thank you for your continuing support of our all important work – you really are helping to change children's lives for the better.

Thank you so much. With warmest wishes,

Jayne

Tel: 020 7522 6910

email: office@childconcernconsortium.org.uk

website: www.childconcernconsortium.org.uk

Your gift supports our 5 charities.

Children having their say

The Tameside Participation Project is run by 4Children for Tameside local authority. The aim of the project is to ensure that children and young people have their say and can actively contribute to the development of services such as play, health and out of school activities in Tameside.



The Participation Project uses creative approaches to deliver many different initiatives including school council training and the involvement of children and young people in recruitment and commissioning, consulting about and evaluating local services. These are all things that children and young people identified as being priorities to them, thus the project is having a real impact on their lives.

Children who become more involved in services develop more confidence and greater engagement with their community. Developing school councils has supported children to tackle issues such as bullying, transition from primary school and healthy living.

Children and young people contributed their views to the Tameside Children and Young People's Plan and produced their own child friendly version of the Plan. They commented, *"We feel this plan makes sense... it will give us a better chance of being healthy, safe, listened to and more involved, and to encourage us to be the best we can be."*

The project also provides consultancy to partner agencies on innovative methods of engaging children and young people. The Tameside Participation Project and 4Children are only able to support children's involvement in developing services to meet their needs with your help – thank you so much.
www.4Children.org.uk



Making sure the service is Fit for Purpose

Amanda, a rising 17 year old was rushed to hospital with suspected meningitis. Unfortunately, no information followed the patient and she was placed on a mixed ward for the elderly where 10 separate nurses examined her, forming their own conclusions regarding her condition without ever referring back to her.

Amanda's parents were not allowed to be with her and subsequently, during the night she was continually disturbed by a male patient with a form of dementia who needed continual care. She was unable to look after herself and unable to drink because of the machines attached to her and her drinks being placed out of reach. She was discharged mid-morning

the following day with tablets for a severe water infection and no follow-up information.

This is a short story of a young person who has received poor quality care. Action for Sick Children was specially formed to help people such as Amanda receive the highest quality of care. Her experience is totally unacceptable in 2010 and Government guidelines frown upon young people being placed in mixed geriatric wards.

Action for Sick Children is still required to help with attitudes and training for those working with children and young people in order that they receive appropriate care in appropriate conditions and we are grateful for your support in this – thank you.

www.actionforsickchildren.org



Every child deserves a family

BAAF celebrates our 30th anniversary in 2010. We have been finding families for children in care and providing essential advice and support to everyone affected by adoption or fostering since 1980.



Our pioneering projects have changed the landscape of how services for children and young people are delivered. For example, Be My Parent has linked more than 5,000 children with families over 30 years and our adoption, search and reunion website has helped thousands of adopted people locate their adoption records and begin to search for birth relatives.

We have campaigned for much-needed improvement and effectiveness in adoption and fostering services. For example, we helped persuade the Government to allow unmarried couples, including same-sex couples, the right to apply to adopt. Over the past 30 years, millions of professionals, adopters, carers and others have looked to us to provide knowledge, skills and understanding. BAAF is the largest specialist publisher in the UK of books on adoption and fostering and more than a million people have used our telephone and email enquiry service.

Our work would not be possible without our supporters. You have enabled us to find families for thousands of children in care - children who need and deserve safe, permanent, loving families as much as any child does - thank you so much.



www.baaf.org.uk

Moving On

Working Families' Waving not drowning network for parents of disabled children has its work cut out.

We floated the idea of a 'transition' publication with the Waving not drowning network of parents of disabled children who work or wish to work and the replies came flooding in:

- It is hard enough to juggle work and school but the transition to adulthood is a different challenge again.
- We are about to embark on transition. My son will need ongoing support into adult life.
- My severely multi-disabled son is 24 and we still find that there's work to be done on his behalf.
- The benefits system has been a nightmare.
- Transferring to adult Disability Living Allowance at 16 was very difficult.
- I have changed my job and gone self employed as my son is now in FE. When he was at school it was difficult, now it is impossible.

Staying put



'Did you know that the average age for someone who is not in care to leave home is 24?'



Current arrangements in foster care mean that young people in care no longer have the support of local authorities the moment they reach 18.

Amy, a care leaver says *'The reality is that when you hit 18 you get nothing. One minute you have lots of support and the next it's gone.'*

Foster carers will cease to receive support from their local authority once the child in their care reaches 18, resulting in many young people not being able to stay on for financial reasons. Care leavers are vulnerable and need ongoing support.

The Fostering Network's project - Leading our Lives - allows young people to have a genuine voice in discussions around their own future and the services affecting them. They produce a newsletter, REVO, which offers information and advice to 20,000 young people who have had an experience of fostering, including those about to leave care. They also campaign for the changes needed in foster care.

The Fostering Network also supports the Staying Put scheme, currently being piloted in ten local authorities, and which offers young people the opportunity to stay on in foster care beyond the age of 18 and up to 21.

The pilot schemes are due to finish in 2011, and will hopefully mean that more young people will have the opportunity to stay with their foster carers. This will provide a safe, secure and nurturing family environment at an important time for a young person, as they prepare for the transition to adult life. Thank you for helping us to achieve this.

www.fostering.net

- My son is about to be 18 and I find myself trudging through sludge
- I'm a mother of a boy with microcephaly. I have a very rewarding job. I'm already fretting about the future. It's a minefield.



working families

changing the way we live and work

So, we've recruited an advisory panel of Waving not drowning members and disabled young people. The plan is to provide information about how family finances alter when your disabled child becomes a young adult. Parents may lose benefits. Young people may become entitled to them in their own right at age 16, 17, 18 or older. Parents may need to change their work patterns in order to support their son or daughter visiting the Jobcentre or in finding personal assistants. All that is left to do is find the funding to plug the transition information gap. And we're sure that with your ongoing support, we will be able to realise this - thank you so much.

www.workingfamilies.org.uk

What's happening • What's happening • What's happening • What's happening

Child Concern Consortium promotes
Payroll Giving in the WorkplacePayroll Giving
We'll all be better off

Volunteers Please Step Forward

Could you help us turn a new idea into reality?

Child Concern Consortium is a small charity with big ideas! With offices based right next door to the Canary Wharf Business District, we've become a known face throughout the local community through our regular charity collections held at the shopping mall and Jubilee Line underground station.

BUT, we would really like to build on our relationships within the corporate world to make our presence there even stronger and this is where you could help. We're looking for a volunteer with experience in Sales or Marketing to come along and help us with our promotions for Payroll Giving in the Workplace. The role would ideally be suited to someone from a strong sales or marketing background, with time on their hands who is willing to take on an exciting challenge for a very worthwhile cause.

The approach would be to our local business community so preference would be given to those living within the M25 corridor as we will of course, be covering all travel expenses incurred.

SO! If you would like to help change children's lives for the better and you **have** the time to **give** the time to a really good cause, please ring us on 020 7522 6910 or email office@childconcernconsortium.org.uk – we'd love to hear from you.

If you would like to learn more about Payroll Giving in the Workplace, please visit our website: www.childconcernconsortium.org.uk and follow the links.

THANK YOU!

Raise Funds for Free!

easyfundraising .org.uk



Easyfundraising has teamed up with Argos to give away a truck load of goodies in their World Truck Football Fever competition worth **£5000!** And it's easy to be in with a chance of winning.

1. Register with easyfundraising at www.easyfundraising.org.uk/Register/ and click **Child Concern Consortium** as your charity of choice.
2. Visit www.worldtruck.co.uk and click on the 'Win £5000' road sign.
3. Submit your form and raise 25p by nominating **Child Concern Consortium** as your favourite charity.*

Once you've completed your entry, take a look at the Free Funds tab on the easyfundraising home page to find out how you can raise even more money for CCC without it costing you a penny!

* This offer is limited to one donation per supporter. See World Truck site for terms and conditions.



And here's a brilliant, new way of giving online to your favourite charity!

What is ploink!?

Ploink! is a great new website offering you the chance to donate small amounts of change to Child Concern Consortium as little or as often as you like.

Here's how it works:

1. Sign up at www.ploink.co.uk – it's free and takes just 30 seconds
2. Choose **Child Concern Consortium**
3. Start ploinking by dragging and dropping your choice of coins into your piggy bank

You can add as little or as much as you like, when you like – just like dropping your spare change into a collecting tin! Once your piggy bank has at least 99p in it, you can donate your gift to CCC via your credit, debit or maestro card through ploink!'s secure payment page.

Charity of the month

Every time you donate your coins from your piggy bank to Child Concern Consortium, you will also be able to nominate CCC as Charity of the Month. The charity that receives the most votes will receive the first £50 worth of donations through matched funding from ploink!

So Get ploinking now - every penny makes a difference!

Our Champion!

James comes through once again for CCC. Congratulations to James Millington, CCC's very own 'Marathon Man' for successfully completing the Virgin London Marathon 2010. James also completed the 2009 London Marathon for CCC and said of his experience this time:

'It was a great day but unfortunately I didn't manage to get under the 4hr mark; finishing in 4hrs and 5 minutes. The weather was better than we had expected and the rain in the morning helped to bring the temperatures down a little. It's always an enjoyable experience and the support was amazing! Although at points it is hard going as you are passing BBQs

outside pubs where people are enjoying a few pints! But I was glad to raise as much as possible and I'm still expecting a few people to get back to me in the next few days'

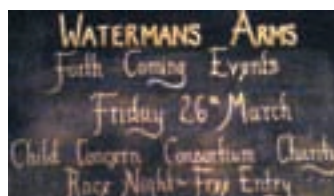
Thank you so much James for managing to resist temptation and for your dedication in crossing the finishing line in such style to help raise money and awareness for Child Concern Consortium! James has managed to raise over **£600** so far in support of our valuable work, which will help to create new and exciting opportunities for the thousands of children we support throughout the UK.

Well done on your fantastic achievement James and for helping us to help change children's lives for the better!



CCC Charity Race Night a Winner!

Many thanks to **Paul** and **Connie** for organising such a great night out at The Watermans Arms, Docklands in support of Child Concern Consortium.



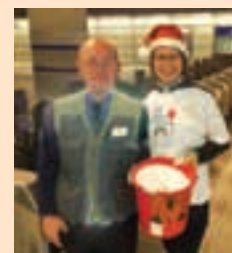
The 'night at the races' theme was a brilliant idea and a fantastic way of encouraging everyone to join in and give so generously to their local children's charity. Paul and Connie worked tirelessly on the night: managing the racing, supervising the bets, controlling the raffle and even having time left over to produce some wonderful food that they provided free to the hungry 'punters'!

Huge thanks also to **Ian** (Adjudicator), **Ron** (DVD Expert) and **Terry** (Master Fundraiser) for their determined efforts on our behalf!

And to those who gave so generously on the night; helping to raise a grand total of **£115** for Child Concern Consortium – thank you all so very much.

Canary Wharf Station Collection

Another big thank you to London Underground for hosting our annual collection at Canary Wharf tube station on 2 December 2009. Our cheery logo Chuckles, seemed to be the perfect antidote to a cold and wet winter's day as Canary Wharf commuters took time out of their journey to say hello and generously donate their change.



A huge thank you to our wonderful volunteers for shaking their buckets with a smile despite freezing noses and numb fingers and toes. And what difference does a smile make?? In this case an amazing **£709!!!** Thank you also to everyone who so kindly donated, and to the lovely CCC payroll donor who came and said hello – you really cheered us along and have made a massive difference to all the children who really need our help.

Get in touch – write to Child Concern Consortium, 5th Floor, City Reach, 5 Greenwich View Place, London E14 9NN

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Child Concern Consortium Reg. Charity No. 1103052 Company No. 4625902 Registered in England and Wales

Member Charities:	Action for Sick Children Reg. Charity. No. 296295	BAAF Adoption & Fostering Reg. Charity. No. 275689	4Children Reg. Charity. No. 288285	The Fostering Network Reg. Charity. No. 280852	Working Families Reg. Charity. No. 1099808
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CHANGE OF ADDRESS/DONATION FORM – I would like to advise you of my new address details/ I would like to make a donation that works **five** times harder! Please return to Child Concern Consortium - address above

- I am enclosing a cheque for: £ made payable to Child Concern Consortium.
- I have made an online donation of: £ through www.childconcernconsortium.org.uk

Please do not send cash through the post

The Gift Aid declaration entitles us to reclaim the tax you have already paid and turns every £1 you donate into £1.25. All you have to do is tick below.

giftaid it

Title Name

Address

..... Postcode

Telephone

Email

Signature Date

I am currently a: standard rate higher rate UK tax payer. Please treat all of my donations to Child Concern Consortium as Gift Aid until otherwise notified.

Signature _____
Today's date _____

NB: You must pay an amount of income tax and/or capital gains tax equal to the tax we claim.

- Please send me: A home moneybox so that my loose **change** can help **change** children's lives for the better.
 Some mobile phone/inkjet recycling envelopes to help raise up to **£30.00** per phone for CCC
 CCC water bottles at **£2.99** per bottle. Cheque for amount £..... attached.
 A copy of CCC's Supporters' Questionnaire.