

# **MoMo Helps Annual Report**

**April 2004 - March 2005**



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## **Mission Statement**

The Charity will provide easy access to funds to 'plug the gaps' for those families and individuals who are identified as 'in need' and come into the following categories:

- **Families and Carers of children, young people or adults who are disabled.**
- **Recovering and ex-drug users who are successfully completing their rehabilitation**

We will seek to ensure that the administration and distribution of this fund is carried out in such a way as to benefit those most in need without adding to the pressures of those beneficiaries or support agencies.

## **Aims and Objectives**

- To provide opportunities for those families and carers who are unable to afford respite care for their disabled dependant by: Providing easy access to such monies as would enable them to have, for example, a much-needed holiday. This will usually mean covering the cost of childcare in a suitable quality residential respite facility and family holiday financial support.
- To provide opportunities for recovering and ex-drug users to participate in such activities that build their self esteem and support their reintegration into society by: Providing easy access to such monies as would enable them to participate in particular activities or groups which will help them develop confidence as an individual and/or a parent.



## **Review of 2004/05**

MoMo Helps was set up in March 2004 by Mo Mowlam. As a former government minister, she had extensive exposure to many social and environmental challenges that she felt prevented individuals and families from reaching their full potential. The Charity aims to help those two groups that Mo felt were most 'in need' by providing funding for either items or services that will benefit them.

The Charity is run completely by volunteers who are all working hard to continue the excellent work done so far.

Much of the fundraising done to get the Charity off the ground was by Mo herself, her dedication and commitment to helping others was second to none. Rory Bremner, Eddie Izzard, Johnny Vegas and Patrick Kielty have very kindly contributed by giving their time to raise money and many, many others, who we are extremely grateful to, have sent donations to the Charity.

In March the group of volunteers got together to design an application process for individuals and families. They put together criteria for applicants and an application form. This then got sent out to agencies and groups around the country to advertise the Charity.

Immediately it became apparent that the Charity was filling a massive gap. Applications came from all over the country. The idea was to give small grants to help with the little things, a new suit for somebody to go to a job interview, respite care for a single mum, bus fares to college, specialist equipment for a disabled child.



## **Statistics**

In the first 6 months the Charity gave out grants to over 93 individuals and 14 parents and carers.

Grants varied between £50 and £300.

Of the 93 individuals, 22 were female and 71 were male.

Grants were awarded across the whole of the UK. The geographical split is as follows:

### **Parents/Carers**

London	2
South	6
North East	5
North West	1

### **Recovering/Ex-users**

London	7
South	46
North East	16
North West	7
East Midlands	9
Yorkshire	8



## **Priorities 2005/06**

To increase the number of families/carers that gain access to holidays/respite care/specialist equipment.

To increase the number of individuals, affected by substance misuse, who gain access to education/employment.

The Charity now operates a waiting list due to the unforeseen number of applications we have received. To enable us to give out more grants we must continue the fundraising. Hence, fundraising will be our main priority for 2005/06.



## Success Stories

Marie\* from South Yorkshire is an ex-user. She went through rehabilitation and started accessing Progress2work and looking for employment. She wanted £33 to get a Criminal Record Check done to enhance her chances of employment. We funded this and now she has a job.

Brian\* from Tyne & Wear is subject to a Drug Treatment and Testing Order imposed because of drug related offending. He has maintained a drug free lifestyle for several months and wanted £200 from MoMo to go on a car maintenance course. He is currently undertaking this.

Wayne\* from Bournemouth is currently in supported housing after being clean from Heroin for 3 years. He applied and received £300 to attend Bournemouth University to carry out an MA in Post Production Sound Design. Whilst doing this degree he also helps out in a recording studio, working with young people with behavioural problems.

Sally\* from Hull was a drug user for 15 years. She has now been through rehabilitation and has put weight on since regaining her health so none of her clothes fit her. She applied for and received £100 to purchase smart clothes to give her the confidence to go out socially and also to attend job interviews.

Steve\* from Tyne & Wear is the full-time carer of his daughter who has cerebral palsy and learning difficulties and also for his wife who is terminally ill. They applied and received £300 for a well-deserved family holiday.

Louise\* from Coventry cares for her disabled daughter. She received £250 for a garden swing as her daughter is not very mobile but does like to sit outside in the garden when weather permits!

Tara\* from Dorset cares for her disabled son and applied for £60 for him to attend special play schemes throughout the summer, giving her the chance to spend some quality time with his siblings.

William\* from Birmingham cares for a disabled son and received £200 funding to take him away for a weekend break with his grandparents and other family members who he does not get to see very often.

\*All names have been changed



## Treasurers Report

This is my report on the year April-March 2004-5, to be read with the Accounts.

In our first year of operation (2003-4) we began to raise money and made no grants. We carried forward a fund of over £31,000 and planned to begin grant-making in 2004-5.

In 2004-5 we began serious fund-raising – we received over £2,000 in donations and raised over £8,000 net mainly through a Johnny Vegas event – we are grateful to him for donating most of the proceeds (The total raised was over £11,000 and the cost around £3,000).

However, our outgoings exceeded our income by nearly 3 times – we paid £22,000 in grants and spent nearly £5,000 more on running costs. These were mainly a payment to Caroline Horsman towards administration and office costs, representing only a fraction of the value of the time she gives to MoMo.

The Trustees have already recognised the need for higher levels of fund-raising to continue to

- meet costs
- increase grant-giving in the light of a continuing waiting list
- enable us to publicise the Fund more widely because need is high

and are actively developing plans for this.

I would like to thank David Grattidge for offering his time and professional skills to the inspection of our accounts for the second year and to recommend that he be asked to do so again for the 2005-6 accounts in due course.

I need to retire as Treasurer by Autumn 2006 and am asking the Trustees to commence the search for a replacement soon.



Jon North

19 November 2005



**MoMo Helps Charity**  
**Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended 31 March 2005**

**Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended 31 March 2005**

	<b>2005</b>	<b>2004</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>INFLOWS</b>		
Donations	2,314	32,635
Fundraising	8,368	
	<u><b>10,682</b></u>	<u><b>32,635</b></u>
<b>OUTFLOWS</b>		
Grants made	22,263	
Bank charges	14	5
Computer and Communications	349	
Office expenses	4,422	
Other expenses	361	
Charity set-up costs		1,458
	<u><b>27,409</b></u>	<u><b>1,463</b></u>
<b>NET (OUTFLOW) / INFLOW for year</b>	<u><b>(16,727)</b></u>	<u><b>31,172</b></u>
	<u><b>10,682</b></u>	<u><b>32,635</b></u>

**Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2005**

**ASSETS**

Bank	14,445	31,146
Debtors		26
	<u><b>14,445</b></u>	<u><b>31,172</b></u>

**CAPITAL ACCOUNT**

Funds as at 1 April 2004	31,172	
Net (outflow) / inflow for year	(16,727)	31,172
	<u><b>14,445</b></u>	<u><b>31,172</b></u>

I have examined the accounting records, reports and accounting statements of *MoMo Helps Charity* (Registered no. 1097831) for the year ended 31 March 2005. I have done so as an independent examiner, as required by s.43(3) of the Charities Act 1993 and in accordance with the Charities Commission's direction.

I have found no matters which would cause me to believe that proper accounting records have not been kept or that the accounts are not consistent with these records. There have been no matters identified in connection with this examination to which the reader's attention should be drawn to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed: 

Date: 02 November 2005

David Grattidge, A.C.I.S., B.A., M.A.  
 Chartered Secretary, Babington House, Greenhill, Wirksworth, Derby



## People

This Charity would not be where it is without the dedication and support of the following people. All who have committed valuable time and resources to the Charity.

### Trustees:

**Mo Mowlam** worked for the government until 2001 and was a prominent well-liked MP. Previously the Northern Ireland Secretary and MP for Redcar, Mo retired, with her husband Jon, to their farmhouse in Kent but still kept herself extremely busy. She dabbled in journalism and radio, was an agony aunt for the lads' mag Zoo and as well as supporting McMillan Cancer Relief, set up the MoMo Helps Charity.

**Jon North** works as Chief Executive of NAVO - Networking Action with Voluntary Organisations, a local charity specialising in building partnerships with the voluntary sector in Nottinghamshire. He has extensive experience as a Honorary Treasurer with, among other organisations, local and national Quaker charities, Hettys and Enable in Nottinghamshire and the Unstone Grange Trust in Derbyshire, and is currently also a Director of the Nottinghamshire charity Community Accounting Plus and Enable.

**Pat Wallace** has been the Chief Executive of two other charities, Crossroads and HACT. He was the UK representative on the European home Care Association and worked extensively with the European parliament. He is currently the Chief Executive at Viatlise, an organisation who offer short-term care packages for disabled people and carers. Pat's work has involved him in housing, capital developments, large and small-scale fundraising programmes and project management. Pat works closely with policy makers at all levels.

**Kate Turner** worked for Mo Mowlam as a PA after she left Parliament for 3 years, and was involved with the inception and setting up of Mo Mo Helps. A former actress and director, she now works in primary and secondary education as a drama and music specialist, and freelances as a voice coach.



## **Administrator:**

**Caroline Horsman** works for a Drug & Alcohol Action Team, giving information, advice and guidance around substance misuse issues. She has extensive experience in working within the voluntary sector, administration, marketing and customer services and is a skilled trainer/facilitator. Caroline is also a member of the Executive Committee of NAVO - Networking Action with Voluntary Organisations, a local charity specialising in building partnerships with the voluntary sector in Nottinghamshire.



## **Special Thanks**

Kate Davies  
Notts County Drug & Alcohol Action Team

Nina Dauban  
Hettys, Nottinghamshire

Lesley Crocker  
NAVO, Nottinghamshire

Eddie Izzard

Johnny Vegas

Patrick Kielty

We would also like to extend our heartfelt thanks to the many people who have very kindly made donations to the Charity, without these donations our work would not be possible.

