



# Parry Family

## Charitable Foundation

## Review of Grant Programme 2023/24

### □ Grant Budget & Approvals

- The Grant Budget for 2023/24 was £40,000 embracing Main Grants funding and our Small Grants Fund (SGF).
- We approved 6 Main Grants of £37,147 to five charities with an additional 4 grants of £3,420 from our SGF making a total of £40,567.

### □ Main Grants

#### ➤ Alder Hey Childrens Hospital Liverpool



Alder Hey is a Partner Charity. Our grant of £10,500 is the fifth we have made bringing the total to £53,596.

Our grant covered the cost of two NAVA modules which enhance the Servo U Ventilator with 'Neurally Adjusted Ventilatory Assist' - providing personalised ventilation to help young patients breathe. This is all part of a major project to raise £495,000 covering the cost of 15

ventilators.

Mechanical ventilators are crucial pieces of equipment across Alder Hey's High Dependency Unit ('HDU'). They provide support for patients who are struggling with their breathing, ensuring that enough oxygen is getting into their blood.

Due to safety concerns with existing ventilators, the HDU is currently reliant on loaned equipment. This is temporary. Whilst ventilators are in huge demand across HDU every day, the winter months bring an increased wave of hospital admissions as cold weather, viruses and the bronchiolitis season puts children with respiratory conditions at increased risk.

The 15 Servo-U new gold standard the HDU. They process called Ventilatory Assist' revolutionise the by operating at a than in response breath response. benefits for the children and young people in their care.



Ventilators will set a for patient care on will facilitate a 'Neurally Adjusted ('NAVA'). NAVA will detection of breathing neural level, rather to a child's physical This will bring huge

#### ➤ Institute in the Park, University of Liverpool

Institute in the Park is a Partner Charity. It is an internationally recognised research organisation focusing on childhood illnesses. It embraces childhood inflammatory disease (respiratory disease, infectious disease, autoimmune and autoinflammatory disorders).



It is the UK's first and only Experimental Arthritis Treatment Centre for Children and is based in Liverpool at the Institute in the Park and the University of Liverpool. Childhood arthritis and other

related autoimmune/rheumatic disorders impose a significant burden to quality-of-life and mental wellbeing of affected children and young people, their families, and the adults they will become.



These conditions are frequently associated with patients experiencing chronic, severe pain, disfiguring effects of the disease or associated treatments, disability and/or impact on school, education, sports and activities of daily living. Most of the work is patient focussed translational research, involving both scientific and clinically trained researchers.

Our grant of £15,705 covers the cost of Twin Compressor Freezer for storage of biological samples to investigate Molecular Mechanisms in Childhood Disease. The work performed in the research facilities at the Alder Hey Institute in the Park is dependent on the collection and safe storage of samples from children and young people, including (but not limited to) blood, skin, airway epithelia, etc. Safe storage of samples can only be guaranteed in  $-80^{\circ}\text{C}$  or even  $-153^{\circ}\text{C}$  freezers. Storage space in the  $-80^{\circ}\text{C}$  freezers was limited, and two of the freezers had come to the end of their life cycle. Freezers are difficult to get funded by the hospital or NHS because they are considered part of a research laboratory infrastructure.

This equipment will support research across childhood disease areas and ensure safe long-term storage of irreplicable biosamples.

We have now made four grants to Institute in the Park totalling over £76,000.

### ➤ University of Derby

Professor Myra Conway leads a talented team at the university researching dementia and Alzheimer's disease. The work area we supported this year is targeting the autophagy pathway in Alzheimer's disease.



Their aim is to inform nutritional or supplementation knowledge that will help delay disease onset.

This grant of £5,712 funded the purchase of an incubator and orbital shaker.

They needed a bespoke incubator to grow cell models. Previously, their cells models got infected because the facilities were shared. The provision of a bespoke incubator ensures that only their cell models will be grown in this incubator with the risk of infection substantially reduced. Additionally, the equipment is highly regulated for CO<sup>2</sup> levels, an important aspect for optimal cell health.

The orbital shaker allows for a smooth continuous motion for uniform mixing, ensuring consistency and uniformity when blots are treated with antibodies. This ensures that the quality of the blots will be improved. Data generated using this equipment will be combined with additional supportive data sets using complementary approaches improves the quality of the research.

We have supported Myra and her team when she headed up this research programme at UWE and now at the University of Derby. These are exciting times with the university committed to building a new facility. In turn this will mean an increased demand for important equipment to help the research programme.

This is our fourth grant bringing the total to over £35,000. Further grants are planned. Our Foundation puts a high priority on help and research into dementia with the aim of managing this corrosive disease which is estimated will affect 1 in 4 of the population over the age of 80.

## ➤ Lifeshare, Manchester



A new and important relationship with the oldest homeless charity in Manchester. We made two grants totalling £4100 during the year.

Lifeshare is a grass roots organisation established by volunteers in 1984 and registered as a Charity in 1989. They provide a 7 day a week wrap around service for the homeless. To those at risk of both homelessness and exploitation across the ten boroughs of Greater Manchester. Their work includes working with young people embracing physical and mental challenges. Their Respite service runs from Friday to Sunday every week aimed at homeless clients, providing a full cooked breakfast, showers, toiletries, clothing, signposting to other services, and offering training sessions such as digital inclusion and cooking sessions. Their Christmas programme covers seven days delivering three meals a day to the homeless. Food banks and digital inclusion are just some of their other programmes.

Lifeshare do not receive any funds from the Government or any other public sector body, and never have done. They have been hit badly from the impact of Co-vid and austerity with many supporters, particularly corporates, unable to continue their support.

Our grants covered the cost of one day's Respite service and a second grant one day's cost of their Christmas programme.

Homelessness in a modern and relatively rich economy is a scar on our society and we are determined to build on our relationship with Lifeshare.

## ➤ Swings and Smiles, Thatcham

This our first grant to Swings and Smiles but we are confident that this will grow into a long term relationship. We are currently developing a "matched funding" project with a local secondary school to help the charity.

The charity provides childcare and educational services for the benefit of the community in particular focusing on children and adults with special needs. It has facilities for recreation or other leisure-time occupation in the interests of social welfare.

Our grant of £1,130 covered the cost of specialist play equipment which can be transported between the Centre and Outreach sessions in the community.



This grant was to buy basic clothing for kids to help them through the winter. Their project 'Share a Pair' will distribute 300 pairs of new socks, undergarments and gently used coats. It is the second year we have supported this project.

➤ **Love Marlborough Kids Meals, Marlborough £500**

A small local not-for-profit organisation run by volunteers whose aim is to get meals to families in need. The families do not need to be referred they can turn up and be supported. To help often provide slow help with no bureaucracy and it works.



profit volunteers whose families in need. need to be up and be families they cookers. Practical

➤ **Mentoring Plus, Bath**

**£1000**



Mentoring Plus supports young people in Bath & NE Somerset who are facing a range of challenges. They help 5-25 year olds feel connected through award-winning mentoring schemes, youth clubs and inspiring activities programmes in our community children.

Our grant of £1000 covered 25% of the yearly cost of mentoring much of which is undertaken by volunteers at no cost.