



Support, Help & Integration in Perthshire  
for young people with additional support needs

The Gateway  
North Methven Street  
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### **Manager's Report – AGM – 2023**

We are delighted to report we have had another successful year.

2022/23 has been another successful year for SHIP, including the following highlights:

SHIP has supported 215 families and has offered a total of 25,372 hours of inclusive activities and respite over the year. Over the year we have supported children through our youth clubs, Saturday clubs, Rural youth clubs, young adult group, after school clubs and Holiday Clubs. The children and families have contributed to the planning of services and future plans for the charity making S.H.I.P services relevant to those that are using them. Families reported over the year S.H.I.P has been fundamental in improving their whole families mental and physical wellbeing.

Throughout this year we have managed to freeze the cost of sessions to parents. We recognised how difficult this year has been financially for a lot of our families.

The After School Club ran from Fairview School and for the use of the building we are very grateful. This group is allowing families to have access to sessions straight after school, meaning that they can continue to work, take on employment knowing that their child is well cared for, start to study/re-train giving their family better opportunities or allowing families to collect other siblings building strong family relationships before their caring role beings. After school club supported 41 families (43 children) from 9 number of schools across Perth and Kinross. The groups ran Monday to Friday 3 – 5.30pm and transport was provided to families ensuring that the group was fully accessible to all. Families have reported that without this service their families would have been financially worse off as they would have had to stop work or reduce their hours. Others have reported that it has allowed them time to spend with other siblings doing homework ect, giving them the opportunity to build stronger family relationships, improving family life.

Holiday Clubs ran from Fairview school within the April, Summer, October and Christmas school holidays. Running sessions over Christmas was a new addition to services and had been requested by families as this is a stressful and challenging time of the year for



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them. Within the whole year SHIP supported 175 children (525 Carers/young carers) with holiday respite care and 9048 hours of respite. SHIP secured funding from Shared Care Scotland (Better Breaks) and FIHP fund allowing SHIP to provide respite places and childcare spaces for working families. Within the FIHP fund we supplied families with packed lunches for the children and a healthy meal home with them (which they cooked). Once again spaces for Holiday clubs were heavily subsidised to parents by these two funds.

Saturday clubs run every weekend offering morning and afternoon sessions for 2.5 hours per session. These groups have been supporting up to 12 children and young people per session. Numbers have remained consistent throughout the year.

Young Adult group has been extremely successful with 14 young people attending each week. Throughout the year this group has also had trips out into the community.

Rural clubs – Crieff has been extremely successful with between 6 – 10 young people attending each week. This club is supported by 7-10 volunteers, mostly attending Glenalmond school. Kinross has been slower to take off but we now have four children attending with another referral in last week. Kinross currently has no volunteers supporting it, so moving forward a push to local schools and their local community is needed to move the club forward.

Family engagement – family coffee and chat sessions have been happening every month on a Saturday. We have consulted with families and added some sessions through the week. This was successful and moving forward we will have one through the week and then two weeks later one on a Saturday. Those attending have stated that “it is lovely to speak with other parents and ask for advice from them. Hearing their stories makes me know I am not alone.” We have had Justin from PKAVS come to a Saturday session to give information and advice on self-directed support. Information has been sent out to families via email and



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Famly about financial support available that families maybe able to apply for. Welfare calls have also been made to families needing a little more assistance.

Staff wages increased by 10% this year recognising the rising cost of living, supporting staff through this difficult time.

Throughout 2023/24 we have obtained funding support from:

The Gannochy Trust, The National Lottery, PKC SLA , Better Breaks, Children in Need, Scottish Government - Access to Childcare Fund and the FIHP fund. We are extremely grateful to all the individuals and organisations who have contributed to our funding and fundraising over the last 12 months.

We would like to thank Fairview school, Glenearn Community Campus, Gleneagles day opportunity Centre, Loch Leven Community Campus and Strathearn Community Campus for allowing us to use their building to provide our vital services.

### **Volunteers**

We are also extremely grateful to our wonderful team of volunteers whose participation and support play a vital role in the success of the charity. We are proud to say we now have around 90 active volunteers, these dedicated and inspirational individuals are the backbone of our charity.

### **Staff**

In 2022/23 the service was supported by 3 full time members of staff and 39 part time/sessional staff that have ensured, through their dedication, children within Perth and Kinross have enjoyed and been included in social activities/groups. These opportunities and experiences have enriched the young people's lives and offered respite to families.



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Ruth Stewart was employed as the young person engagement practitioner and developed the Monday night group for young adults. Unfortunately, Ruth left in May 23, we wish Ruth all the best for her future endeavours. We also said goodbye to Paul Mills our Volunteers co-ordinator in August 2023, we wish him all the best and every success in his future adventures. We are currently recruiting a new volunteer coordinator, hoping to do interviews in December.

We would like to thank all the staff and volunteers for their continued hard work and support, they have been an inspiration.

### **Fundraising and Donations**

The charity has continued to receive generous support from the local community and businesses, and we would like to thank everyone who has supported us through fundraising and donations.

Especially those who took part in the Kilt walk and raised a massive £5,200 collectively. In November, Ashley organised a Race night. This was a huge success with local companies sponsoring the event. The event raised £1945. A massive thank you to all those that came and supported the charity.

### **Duty of Candour**

There is has been no duty of Candour events to report to the board or Care Inspectorate.

### **Challenges for the coming year –**

Staffing – Recruitment is becoming difficult, we have very few applicants especially for after school club.



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Funding – We will require additional funding next year due to the increase in living wage and staff costs.