

Volunteering News

Issue 27

Spring / Summer 2019

Raising Funds To Support Our Services

This issue is dedicated to the importance of raising funds for the delivery of our services. We are operating in challenging times in terms of external grant funding. Currently 36% of our services are delivered using fundraised income. This means we must generate increasing sums to maintain our services. We are applying for additional grants and contracts, but unfortunately we are up against stiff competition.

In December we had the sorry news that the funding had ended for our highly successful North East Derbyshire project. We are still seeking opportunities to bring elements of this back, and to utilise the volunteers that have given so much to this project.

However, we've also had some fantastic news. After a tough three-month tender process, we've won Derbyshire County Council's contract to provide rehabilitation and advice services to visually impaired people. This runs for



Ey Up Mi Duck Race—our big annual fundraiser

the next two years. There is much more to fundraising than meets the eye, so read on for some ideas to inspire you, your friends, family, work colleagues and social contacts.

Lesley Coombes, Volunteer Coordinator

Help Us Get Connected In Your Community!

On your doorstep, and in your circle:

Some local shops and bigger supermarkets have a Charity of the Year. Others run fundraising token schemes throughout the year. Check in store or on their websites to find out how to **nominate** us.

Would any of your **social groups** be willing to get involved with fundraising, or choose us as their Charity of the Year? Ideas are Women's Institutes, choirs, churches, pubs, luncheon clubs, sports clubs such as golf or tennis. How about **business contacts** (e.g. friends with their own business, your regular hairdresser, beauty salon, baker, dog groomer, etc.)

We are happy to do awareness talks about our charity so staff understand why our services are so vital. Ways they can support us include sponsoring an event, taking part in a sponsored challenge, providing a raffle prize, or having one of our collection tins.

Do your own fundraising:

Run a coffee morning for friends, ask for donations instead of gifts for your birthday or anniversary, or perhaps open your garden to friends and neighbours for the day. We have a handy **A to Z of Fundraising Ideas** which we can provide you with, but we are always open to new ideas. Perhaps you'd like to try a sponsored run or bike ride, or a bigger adventure such as the three peaks challenge or skydiving. We can help to arrange these.

Helping at our events for a few hours:

This may be our annual duck race, which is on 8th June this year, or at supermarket store collections, or events such as our Fashion Shows. It's a great way to meet our supporters and tell them about what we do.

If you have a contact, an idea, or would like to find out more, **ring the fundraising team on 01332 292262.**



Every donation gratefully received - Molly (left) accepts a cheque

There's So Much More To Fundraising - By Molly

I'm Molly and I'm a fundraising volunteer at Sight Support Derbyshire. What do the words 'fundraising volunteer' conjure in your mind? Someone with a collection box, bag packing at a local supermarket, selling raffle tickets at a stall, managing a cake sale? Yes, all these roles are valuable fundraising roles. However, this is not what I do.

My role is in the fundraising office, helping with administrative and research tasks. I assist with tasks from sorting letters to checking, researching and updating fundraising information. Funding grants are a huge part of fundraising, so I help in researching possible funding and grant sources. I search for the initial information on potentially useful funding trusts, which enables the fundraising team to apply for grants. I also help to write the 'Book of Remembrance', thanking those whose family and friends have donated in memory and those who have left a legacy to Sight Support Derbyshire.

Whilst my role is administrative and research based, I do also sell raffle tickets and Christmas cards to my family and friends and also attend events. The Harry Potter quiz was a highlight for me as I won!

Molly O'Brien, Volunteer, Sight Support Derbyshire

As Molly points out, there are many aspects to being a fundraiser for Sight Support Derbyshire. All our roles include providing information to the general public about our charity and our services. It is only by building our relationship with the public that we encourage people to support us and make a donation. As we need to generate a lot of our income through fundraising, we are always looking for volunteers to run their own event or to support events on an ad hoc basis. You will also need to politely provide information about the charity. If you can spare a few hours then I would love to hear from you on 01332 287005 or at volunteering@sightsupportderbyshire.org.uk

Lesley Coombes

Event Calendar Summer 2019 Volunteering Opportunities

Thursday 2nd May/Friday 3rd and Saturday 4th of May at Sainsbury Intu Derby: man the stand, talk about our services, provide information leaflets.

Wednesday 8th May 7pm: Ladies' Fashion Show and Clothing Sale, Marehay Miners' Welfare, Ripley. Help on the door, run the raffle.

Saturday 8th June 11am to 3pm Ey Up Mi Duck Race 2019 Derby River Gardens: We are looking for volunteers to run stalls, sell raffle tickets and look after the ducks as they arrive and enter the race.

Sunday the 9th of June Derby Half Marathon: Looking for runners!

Wednesday 10th July 7pm: Ladies' Fashion show and Clothing Sale, Chaddesden Jubilee Club, Derby. Help on the door, run the raffle.

Click - And We Collect

Choose Sight Support Derbyshire as your nominated charity when you use these websites, and we will receive a donation at no extra cost to you:

- **Top Cashback**
- **EBay**
- **Amazon Smile**
- **Easy fundraising**

Did you know that we can convert into cash.....Any of your old and broken jewellery (Including fashion items and watches); used stamps (Leave a 1cm margin around the stamp); old printer cartridges and toners, mobile phones, cameras, foreign currency. For more information contact the fundraising team on **01332 292262**