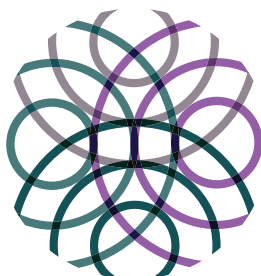


Annual Impact Summary 2020



CORRA
FOUNDATION
voice • power • change

Annual Impact Summary 2020

An exceptional year of change and challenge for us all, and new ways of working for many communities, charities and funders, including Corra.

In early March 2020, Corra launched its new ten-year strategy – a response to the world we live in, and to the one we want to play a part in building. It is long term because making a difference on the big challenges will take time. At its heart is the strong belief that when people find their voice, they unlock the power to make change happen.

The strategy's themes – voice, power and change – have proven to be more critical than ever as we've experienced what, for most



of us has been the most challenging year of our lifetime.

Coronavirus has impacted every aspect of life and, even once the crisis subsides, the effects will be felt for some time to come. While everyone has been touched by the pandemic, it is clear that it has been felt most acutely by people who were already furthest from their rights.

In the midst of such a difficult year, the response by communities and charities has been incredible. Groups across the country have come together, understood what people needed and demonstrated creativity, flexibility and kindness.

Highlights – in 2020 Corra...



Listened to charities and responded by redesigning one of its core grant-making programmes. Henry Duncan Grants was relaunched, offering more flexible, multi-year funding and new micro grants, making it easier to access small amounts to support grassroots action.



Contributed to a range of policy developments, including discussions on how Scotland should recover after the pandemic. Corra also sought to help amplify the voices of those furthest from power, for example, through its Community Stories work.



Worked alongside a wide range of partners to develop activity on human rights, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) and racial justice.

Coronavirus response

Corra has had the privilege of seeing how the third and community sector has made sure people's practical needs are met, isolation is reduced, mental health is supported and existing services are still available, albeit often delivered differently. In 2020 Corra:



Administered **4,240 funding applications** and distributed **2,771 grants** in emergency funding.



Distributed funding across all **32 local authority areas** in Scotland.



Released over **£4.1m in small £2,000 grants** as part of the Scottish Government's immediate response to coronavirus.



The Equity Programme was established, with a **donation of £150,000** from Stewart Investors, providing funding to Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic communities who had been adversely affected.



Made **29 coronavirus response micro-grants** to organisations working with overseas partners in the international development field, supporting work in nine countries and reaching nearly 50,000 people.



Voice: The power to create change rests with people themselves

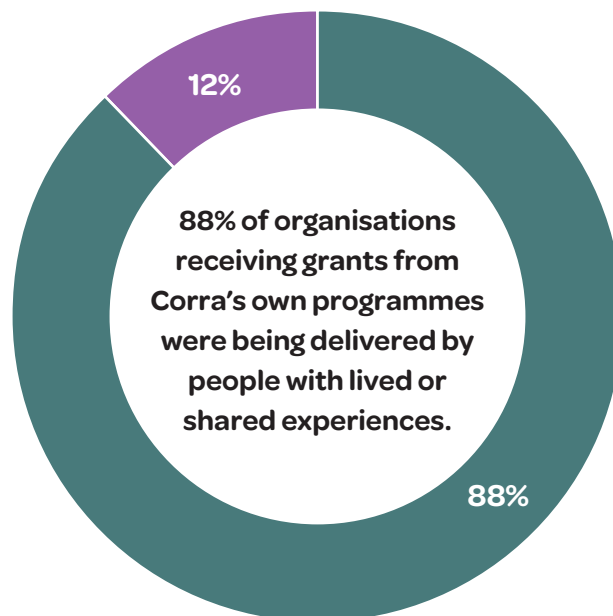
In 2020 Corra continued to strive to listen, and help amplify people's voices. The team is deeply grateful to all who shared their expertise, experience and ideas.

Examples during 2020 include:

Of ideas funded through People in Place, 64% were community led – identified, designed and delivered by people in the community. Pre-pandemic, Corra's Community Co-ordinators had been working alongside people in nine communities, with a focus on developing ideas that matter to them, particularly around addressing poverty. As a result, many of these local community members were well-placed to respond rapidly to heightened challenges due to the coronavirus.

Corra heard from lived experience panels to help shape the Challenge Fund (Alcohol and Drugs) and the #ShiftThePower Comic Relief Programme. It also worked alongside people from Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic Communities to shape and deliver The Equity Programme.

Corra published the findings of an 18-month piece of research called *Connections are Key* which asked about the value and importance of relationships to help families



affected by substance issues. Corra shared the report findings with policymakers, charities and people with direct experience at an online event, sharing evidence-based recommendations for services which are based on compassionate, non-judgmental, long-term support.

Listening helped Corra understand how the pandemic has made the effects of existing inequality, poverty, abuse and neglect, and the challenges of loneliness and addiction all the more acute. The #SameStormDifferentBoat social media campaign and Corra's Community Stories project aimed to gain local insight and give voice to people who are less often heard.

Carbrain is one of the nine communities Corra works alongside as part of the People in Place programme. Carbrain & Hillcrest Community Council member, Frances, helped set up a Community Food Initiative, working with children and families to inspire healthy eating, have a positive impact on individual's self-esteem and bring about more community connections. During the pandemic, they had to adapt this to online tutorials, recipe sharing and food parcel delivery, she explains: "When we came into covid, this food initiative had to carry on, this connection with the community had to carry on more than ever." Frances Parks, Community Conversations in Carbrain

Power: People with ideas for radical change are supported, skilled, connected and confident

Throughout 2020, Corra has offered support to people and communities who want to build their own capacity to create change. Corra has also continued to learn about, and develop models of community-led grant making.

As part of the Comic Relief #ShiftThePower programme, Corra delivered three community-led grant making programmes across Scotland (Aberdeenshire, North Lanarkshire and the Scottish Borders). In the Borders, the grant programme was led by young people who designed and made the decisions on projects and activities for other young people. Nine projects were supported totalling just under £19,000. Many of the activities funded were aimed at helping young people with key transitional points in their lives.

It became clear very early into the pandemic that emergency food provision, befriending services and digital connectivity were the main areas of support needed.

Collydean Community Centre received a Henry Duncan Grant in 2020. Since the start of the coronavirus crisis the community centre has been instrumental in assisting the Collydean and North Glenrothes area as one of only a few organisations which remained open. Before lockdown the centre had introduced a Community Larder which meant people could get access to fresh and frozen food and store cupboard essentials, working in partnership with local retail partners.

One community member said; “*The Community Larder is a life line to people who are in need*”. Volunteer “Community Champions” were also created as a point of contact between the community and the centre. This allowed it to reach further, by supplying food and other necessities to those who may not be able to come to the centre but may have the greatest need.



Change: People are working together to respond to the big challenges facing Scotland

Partnership is at the heart of everything that Corra does. Corra worked closely with over 40 partners during the course of 2020 and would like to thank all of these individuals, communities, other funders, national and local government, national umbrella organisations, researchers, charities and social enterprises.

Coronavirus Response – flexible approaches were adopted to meet the needs of communities and third sector organisations. Collaborating with partners, Corra helped to deliver grants on behalf of Scottish Government, including: the Third Sector Resilience Fund; Food Fund; Wellbeing Fund; Supporting Communities Fund; and Community Recovery Programme.

“We were able to secure funding from the Scottish Government Supporting Communities Fund to help local families. We are using the money to provide three key areas of support to local families, these are:

- Weekly mobile phone top-up – this allows people to stay connected with their loved ones from a distance
- Weekly home energy top-ups – this allows families to keep the lights on while trying to cope with increased energy costs from being at home more during lockdown
- Weekly shop vouchers – this allows families to keep the kitchen stocked up while trying to cope with increased food costs while the whole family stays home.”

Fernhill: A story from Kirstin

Corra continued to work alongside partners to develop **The Social Action Inquiry**.

As part of this, a piece of community-led research was commissioned to learn about social action during the pandemic.

Together We Help reflected on the experiences of 367 people across Scotland and offered valuable insights into what enables collective action at neighbourhood and community level.

Throughout 2020 Corra, along with Making Rights Real and Human Rights Consortium Scotland, created space for conversations on the role of independent funding in strengthening human rights in Scotland. ‘Small Places Close to Home: Towards a Human Rights Funding Agenda for Scotland’, highlighted significant themes for funding human rights work, at a time of pivotal policy change for the human rights framework in Scotland. In late 2020, Corra made grants to Making Rights Real and to the Children’s Parliament.

“Some people have been impacted far more than others by the pandemic, and that’s not a matter of good or bad luck. It’s a consequence of the inequalities woven into our society over generations; through the decisions we take, how resources are shared, who’s voices are heard, and how we act when a crisis hits. Human rights offer a powerful and compelling challenge to this.”

Fiona Duncan, Bold and Fearless – Towards an Independent Human Rights Funding Agenda in Scotland

2020 in Numbers



Managed 22 grant programmes,
including 8 new ones in
response to the pandemic



Distributed £58m*
to third sector organisations and
communities across Scotland



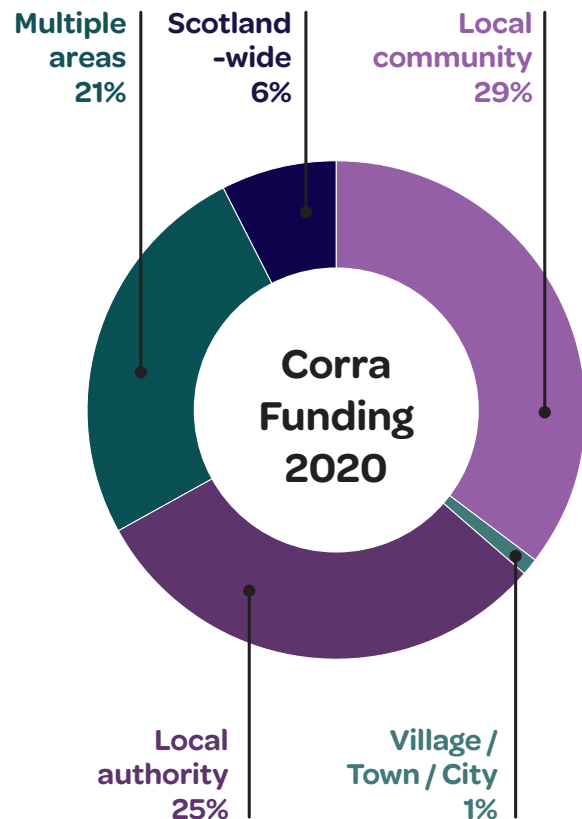
Reached 1,191
third sector organisations and
community groups new to Corra



Connected with 6,080 people
in the nine areas Corra
works alongside

Funding

Corra's funding remains focused
on support at local levels



Just over **half** of funding from Corra's own programmes was supporting work within a local authority area, with around **29%** of this within a specific local neighbourhood or community.

Henry Duncan Grants

- During 2020, organisations funded by Henry Duncan Grants aimed to support over **32,000** people.
- **23** of the applications came from **Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic groups**. Over half were successful, with grants totalling **£231,460**.

* Majority of the funds distributed were on behalf of Scottish Government

A Note to our Partners

The past year has shown more than ever the importance of collaboration. Corra is deeply grateful to all of its partners, including communities, charities, national and local government and other trusts and foundations. There are too many to name here, but the team would like to extend a sincere thanks to every one of them.

Corra Foundation exists to make a difference to the lives of people and communities. It works with others to encourage positive change, opportunity, fairness and growth of aspirations which improve quality of life. Corra wants to see a society in which people create positive change and enjoy fulfilling lives.

In 2020 Corra launched a ten-year strategy. It is long term because making a difference on the big challenges will take time. At its heart is the strong belief that when people find their voice, they unlock the power to make change happen.

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