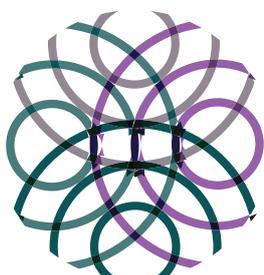


# Looking back at 2019

Welcome to Corra's impact report for 2019. Corra has published these summaries for the past few years, alongside its annual report and accounts. You can read the annual report and accounts on the website [www.corra.scot/about/publications/](http://www.corra.scot/about/publications/)

As part of Corra's new strategy the team are thinking about different ways to share highlights of the year. If you have any feedback on how helpful (or not) this summary is, or what you'd find more interesting the team would love to hear from you! Please email your thoughts and ideas to [shasta@corra.scot](mailto:shasta@corra.scot) – thank you!



**CORRA**  
**FOUNDATION**  
voice • power • change

# Highlights

## Listening

People with lived experience should shape and inform work that's directed towards them. It's been a privilege for Corra to learn from the many people who have shared their experiences during 2019.

- ▶ Children and young people shared their stories of the impact of drugs and alcohol on their lives through a powerful art exhibition at Ocean Terminal in Edinburgh.
- ▶ Young people came together with charities and partners at the first Listening Fund Scotland event, sharing learning and ideas on how to embed their voices in practice.
- ▶ People contributed their expertise through 'lived experience panels' as part of the Scottish Government (drugs and alcohol) Challenge Fund and #ShiftThePower Scotland (Comic Relief fund delivered by Corra).

## Shifting power

Corra occupies a position of privilege and power, which it recognises and tries to give up or share as best it can and as much as it can.

- ▶ Nine communities across Scotland have continued to empower themselves, grow their capacity and make a huge difference locally, supported by Corra's Community Co-ordinators.
- ▶ Communities in Carbrain, Dunterlie and Banff and MacDuff have designed and decided how funds should be spent in their areas, supported by the #ShiftThePower Scotland Comic Relief Programme and Corra's Community Co-ordinators.

## Influencing change

One of the most powerful ways of creating change is through conversations between people who have experience of inequality, and people who hold power. Corra has tried to create spaces for these conversations to happen.

- ▶ People from a wide range of groups took part in the second Change Convention, sharing their experiences with decision makers and making calls for action and change.
- ▶ The Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Local Government, MSPs and others learned from residents of the nine communities that Corra works alongside at a Parliamentary Reception in late 2019. Communities shared inspiring stories of how people can come together and create change that matters to them.



# Stories

## Communities creating change

In Castlehill the Dumbarton West Community Events Group has taken on a natural leadership role, working together and supporting each other to plan and deliver community events. This year the Community Co-ordinator has taken a step back and has been there for support 'just in case'. This has boosted the confidence of the group and they have delivered three excellent events during 2019. Two 'Family Night' events were attended by around 280 people, and another event took 50 community members on a visit to Heads of Ayr Farm Park. The group are now looking at becoming constituted so that they can apply for funding to do more events and trips for the community at a low cost.

In Langlees, Bainsford Community Hall was at risk of closure. Over 40 residents came together to form the Bainsford Community Group, which worked together with the Baptist church which was looking at moving its shop into the hall. The Community Co-ordinator supported the group to form a SCIO (Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation). The group is now in negotiation with the council about managing the building as a community space through a Community Asset Transfer. They have held wide community consultations, gathering lots of ideas and views about the future of the centre.



# Stories continued

## Grass roots groups supporting wellbeing

Pass IT On provides computers to disabled people in Edinburgh and Lothians and gives individual support with IT skills. In 2019 the organisation received a small grant through Henry Duncan Grants. Pass It On's clients have increased confidence with banking and online shopping, developing interests and hobbies and undertaking learning and studying. Clients have regularly reported that their computer has become their lifeline and that it has made keeping in touch with family and friends easier.

One person attending the service had experienced a heart attack leading to a significant brain injury. She used the computer she received to create music as part of her rehabilitation. She was able to resume composing music after a life-changing illness.

## Charities helping to tackle inequality

Includem supports young people throughout Scotland, with its work founded in the belief that 'no young person is beyond help'. One young person who was supported through Includem's Impact Project (which receives a PDI grant) was referred when he was 16 and involved in criminal behaviour. Peter\* was not in education or employment and was spending his time drinking alcohol with his friends. He lived with his family who were at risk of eviction as a result of Peter's behaviour. Includem workers supported Peter to work through his thoughts on crime and to understand the consequences of his actions through reflective conversation. Through this he identified alcohol as a catalyst for his offending behaviour. Peter was supported through an alcohol brief intervention, and was then able to develop a set of goals for his future. In time Peter reduced his alcohol intake and offending behaviour. His relationships with his family improved and they were no longer facing eviction. He developed a more positive outlook and was able to hold down a full-time job.

\*Name changed



# The year in numbers



**£20.4m**  
distributed  
across Scotland  
and internationally



**1,276 groups**  
accessed advice  
on funding and  
capacity building



Over **7,000 local  
people** reached in the  
communities Corra  
works alongside



Supported  
communities to  
develop **40 new ideas**  
in their local areas

**Corra aims to understand the positive changes charities and communities hope to make. During 2019 work supported by Corra contributed to three broad outcomes:**

## ● Improving health and wellbeing

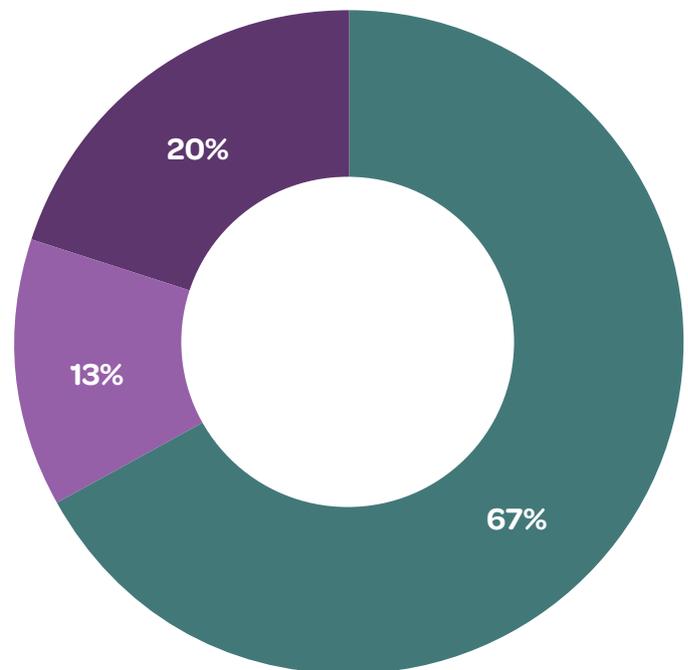
For example: 5,273 children, young people and families affected by drugs and alcohol supported through projects that received funding from PDI (Partnership Drugs Initiative). PDI funding in 2019 totalled £2.3m.

## ● Reducing isolation

For example: people in the nine communities Corra works alongside provided 2,000 hours of volunteering during 2019.

## ● Reducing inequalities

For example: 229 charities shared almost £1m of Henry Duncan Grants. Nearly a fifth of these were supporting work aimed towards young people who had a lack of opportunities.



## Partners



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.

You can read more on Corra's new ten year strategy **here**.

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