

HELPING CHILDREN WHEN THEIR WORLD IS TURNED

UPSIDE DOWN





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From Covid to Crisis

Two years ago, UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson declared a national emergency of a magnitude not seen since the Second World War. However, despite the hugely significant impact on daily life which followed, wider Society (and the Church) has adjusted to a "new normal" pace and rhythm of life.

Nevertheless, whilst the impact of the pandemic has largely receded, the war in Ukraine, and the growing economic challenges of rising energy costs, and significant inflation in the price of essential goods, underline the reasons why the Society's grants continue to be a lifeline for many Presbyterian families.

Where Crisis meets Community

In responding to need within our Presbyterian community, the Society's grants continue to help in very challenging circumstances. This can include situations where there is bereavement, separation or divorce, sickness, disability, single parenthood, unemployment, or low income. Many Presbyterian families are struggling to make ends meet. Therefore, the collective strength and resilience of a supportive Christian community is greatly appreciated, and at times desperately needed. Presbyterians, through the work of the Society, are (in a sensitive and caring way) supporting other Presbyterians in financial need.

Perhaps Paul's challenge to the Corinthian believers speaks to our current situation: "If one part suffers, all the parts suffer with it..." (1 Corinthians 12:26).

When giving meets need

In financially supporting the work of the Society, Presbyterians illustrate their open hearted and biblical concern for the welfare of others in need within our community.

Last year, Presbyterians provided donations to the Society of around £334,000. This year, when reflecting on the current harsh economic realities and the likelihood of further challenges ahead, the need for sustaining income to the Society, to meet the growing demand for help, is even greater.

Backgrounds of Children (2021) %	
Parents separated or divorced	40
Parent(s) deceased	21
Single Mothers	13
Parent(s) disabled or chronically ill	10
Parent(s) unemployed or low incom	ne 13
Other	3
(Number of children 865)	100
Income (2021)	%
Congregations and Individual Subscriptions	38
Investment income & other income	62
& other income	100
Expenditure (2021)	%
Grants to children and young people	77
Other childcare services	1
Administration	15
Other expenditure	7
	100



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