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MAF NEWS

Moira Anderson
 FOUNDATION



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DEVELOPMENT DAY HELPS MAF WITH FORWARD PLANNING

Around 2 dozen attendees enjoyed a day of development at Airdrie Workman's Club in Spring. Peter our Chair said many thanks were due to Angela Gribben for the very helpful work that emerged to assist Board and Staff with forward strategic planning from 2025-2029. Inspiring Scotland's Report on front line agencies receiving Scottish Govt Funding is also hugely helpful for steering direction. It highlights MAF as among the 3 top CSA agencies in terms of the numbers of referrals we support. In 2022 we dealt with over 860 clients. (In 2021 this figure totalled 730 people, a rise of almost 20%.)

A TALENTED TRIO

MAF loves to see our staff develop their skills and their academic qualifications, so it is grand to give huge congratulations to recent graduates Janine Lamont, Gillian Wardhaugh and Chaimae Baqqari. All three of you should be very proud of your achievements, well done! No wonder Chaimae is jumping for joy. All three ladies now hold the SCQF Diploma, Level 11 in CBT & Group Work.



SAFE HANDS TRAINING FOR TRAINERS

Kirsten Jorgensen and Audrey Leckie under the mentorship of Founder Sandra have spent around 18 months preparing for accreditation as independent trainers and have been busy training over 50 people. Evaluations included 100% responses saying the attendee would be very happy to recommend our training, which is based on the Protective Behaviours Process. MAF is keen to roll out more courses on a less ad hoc basis in 2024, and to see our training portfolio become more streamlined. Audrey and Kirsten deliver in tandem in late November in front of a UK external assessor from the Protective Behaviours Training Partnership. Good Luck to both Trainees! Other training news is that MAF identified funding for Erin Foley and Ann Fabiani to attend a 3 day residential course in Trauma Recovery at the University of St Andrews which they found invaluable.

MAF VOLUNTEERS MAKE SURE FUNDRAISERS GO FURTHER

Huge appreciation to Glasgow's own Dear Green Coffee Roasters for a welcome £1K donation from Founder Lisa Lawson and to Stobo Castle Health Spa for once again providing our star prize- a super overnight stay for two worth £500! Great teamwork, speakers and musical guests meant our 2023 Lunch raised well over £7K. Mention must also be made here of the brilliant boost our 2022 total was given by Graham Lewis from Epic Games, whose company, world leaders in virtual reality games, matched what we raised so the total was an incredible £13K, an enormous help to us.



Graham Lewis and partner Katie with Founder Sandra and Volunteer Anne Taylor, who engaged their interest in showing support.

MOIRA PODCAST OUT SOON

Exciting news is that the podcast on Moira's case from Audible is scheduled to be released in early 2024. Produced by London-based Chalk and Blade, ten episodes will cover the story from Moira's disappearance in 1957 right up to the present day and the life-changing work of the charity. Sandra our Founder is narrator, and comments: "True crime podcasts are a really different way of telling a story, they provide access to those who recall victim, time and place strongly and they rarely concentrate on the offender. That clear focus is crucial for me. Victims are brought into the light, so that loved ones can share the type of person that individual really was." We can't wait!

ANIMATION PROJECT

Thanks to the Paristamen Charity for their generous help with animation film "The Woods" which involved youngsters over 2022, and was highly thought-provoking. Evaluations were excellent. Well done to all the potential movie makers!

A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

The final fundraiser of 2023 is a fun Race Night in Coatbridge Indoor Bowling Club Fri 27th October, doors open 7pm. Tickets are online at just £5. At the venue, race cards will be £1, horse ownership £5 and jockey status is £3. So- quick, saddle up, folks!

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MAF GAINS A NEW GLASGOW HUB!

MAF is delighted to have the opportunity to promote and deliver our services in a wonderful new hub provided in Glasgow's vibrant Buchanan Street precinct, funded by the Glasgow Communities Fund, for adults who reside within the City post code areas.

This expansion hasn't come about by luck, but sheer hard work over the past eight years in building up a solid track record and promoting a care model with a client-sensitive approach which made a real impression on decision makers. Thanks to our Positive Steps Project and our Hands on Health self-management course programmes (designed and implemented by highly experienced MAF staff member Janine Lamont) we have cemented excellent rapport through fostering good relationships in Glasgow. An Open Week to view the exciting new premises runs in mid-September during Self Management week.



Here come the Glasgow Girls, Lisa, Janine & Catherine

Janine was appointed Glasgow Hub Manager in April and she welcomes Lisa Cameron, Client Support Officer and Administrator Catherine Scott. Over and above this tremendous news, we congratulate Audrey Leckie and Eileen Waugh who share co-ordination of the ever-evolving Positive Steps Project previously managed by Janine. In turn, they welcome Project Worker Sheila Morrison. Janine is thrilled by what has emerged from her team's early hard work partnering Links Practitioners in many GP practices within the city.

"I'm delighted that we have established a base in the City Centre, it's an exciting time for MAF. Our long-term partnership with the Links Worker Programme has helped to reduce barriers to participation for people in Glasgow who need our support. The development of the Hub has already led to increased links with referring organisations across Glasgow. We look forward to building on this going forward and further developing partnerships and service provision in Glasgow. Feedback from clients accessing services has been extremely positive".

It comes as no surprise that the Positive Steps Project were worthy winners of the Self-Management in the Community Award, and the Hands on Health Self-Management Programme was also shortlisted for Resource of the Year at the prestigious Health and Social Care Alliance Self-Management Ceremony of September 2023. The new Glasgow Hub has already lined up trophies to display in a base with the WOW factor!

GILLIAN HITS THE HIGH NOTES IN GLASGOW TOO

Talking of success in Scotland's largest city, how about the fantastic achievement of Gillian Urquhart our Director at the end of last year? Nominated by our agency in the Social Leadership category of the Scottish Businesswomen's Awards, Gillian was absolutely delighted to receive a Highly Commended Certificate at a very glitzy evening.

Sandra Brown, OBE, our Founder was there to celebrate an unforgettable night in the Hilton Hotel and commented: "Gillian found herself in a very strong field with no less than ten nominees all from organisations putting forward candidates with remarkable leadership skills. We're not at all surprised that judges gave her the Highly Commended award-it was a superb result!"



Gillian Urquhart



PETER TAKES THE HELM AS THREE NEW TRUSTEES COME ABOARD

Highly experienced Trustee Peter McCrossan was elected Chair of MAF after our AGM of November 2022. Peter's day job is Director of Allied Health Professionals in NHS Lanarkshire, with his own background being in podiatry.



Peter McCrossan was elected Chair of MAF

He is responsible for 12,000 staff who work across the HNS Trust. On his new role overseeing the Board of 8, Peter comments: "I am honoured to lead this organisation in its mission to support survivors of CSA. I pledge to uphold the values of compassion, justice and healing that have guided MAF since its inception."

Peter welcomed three new trustees post-AGM, Angela Donaldson, Dr Javita Narang, and Kerry McGhee who all bring a wealth of specialist skills and knowledge to the Board. Angela has a solid background in financial management and analysis while Kerry has considerable experience of the third sector and a senior management career in social work: Javita carried out much respected research for MAF as part of her PhD at Edinburgh University, and was involved in The Listening Fund Project we rolled out over the pandemic with young people, so we know her well. We are so pleased to have the highly relevant expertise of all three available to our Board. All charities need fresh ideas, and new approaches to problems which come up, as well as having experienced trustees who have overcome past challenges.

Peter adds: "It is great to see new talent stepping up to the plate. What I hadn't expected in my first year was to hear of MAF receiving a Special Achievement Award from North Lanarkshire Lord Provost Kenneth Duffy. This is for the work MAF does in the local community and as I'm aware of the many charities out there, it's a tremendous accolade."



Angela Donaldson



Dr Javita Narang



Kerry McGhee

Over two decades it has grown significantly and now has over twenty staff as well as a range of sessional therapists and a healthy volunteer pool. I am amazed at MAF's growth from modest beginnings, and greatly welcome the exciting news about the new Glasgow Hub. Its opening coincides with Scotland opening its first 'Bairnshoose', where children and youngsters are questioned in a much safer setting than court-something MAF has campaigned for since Day One."

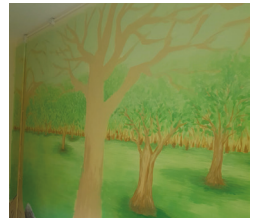
Other heartening news comes from further afield, where the Brave Movement and its allies gathered outside the EU Parliament in Brussels. Our International Ambassador Matty McVarish -with other global survivors -urged MEPs to pass the proposed On-Line Safety Bill and to flag up the 2nd Annual World Day of Prevention, Healing & Justice to End Childhood Sexual Abuse as 18th Nov. Remarkably, Matty now has a permanent seat representing survivors at the Council of Europe in Strasbourg, where 48 Euro nations gather, to push for improvements to child protection laws. The Brave Movement is now on Facebook. Check it out...and watch this space for more exciting news!

CORRIDOR OF HOPE OPENS AT MAF

MAF Lord Provost Duffy visited the charity in June to help open the Corridor of Hope and see stunning mural "The Spirit of the Forest" on display. Designed by Ukrainian artist Tetiana Hurn, it is the first thing children and young people see as they walk through a very long corridor for therapy. Tetiana and young son Nikolai were among the first refugees who arrived in Scotland in April 2022. We were delighted to introduce her to Cabinet Minister Neil Gray in Spring and let him hear of her vision for the mural. The three month project was delivered successfully and several clients from various age groups helped with finishing touches to a most serene and enchanting piece of art. MAF will be able to treasure it for many years.

"It is astonishing how children attending notice all the tiny forest creatures," says Client Support Officer Ann Fabiani. "Each time they spot another one, they're thrilled. The mural has surpassed all our expectations from seeing the original sketch ideas of Tetiana's at our Development Day. It uplifts everyone who sees it." (Tetiana's details are at : <https://tetianahurn-art.com/art-in-scotland>)

A MAGICAL MURAL FOR MAF



**WE ARE STANDING STRONG,
WE HAVE DEEP ROOTS, WE
CAN'T BE BLOWN OVER..
THIS IS THE PLACE WHERE
WE ARE GROUNDED.**

