
A Child of Mine

UNAUDITED ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30/06/2022

Prepared By:

Carthy Accountants Limited
Certified Practising Accountants
33 Eastgate Street
Stafford
Staffordshire
ST16 2LZ

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30/06/2022**

TRUSTEES

Pamela Kearns
Elizabeth Lennon
Susan Culver
Helen Taylor
Catherine Andrews
Warren Dix (RESIGNED 13/07/2022)
Michael Carthy (RESIGNED 08/12/2021)

REGISTERED OFFICE

17 Eastgate Street
Stafford
ST16 2LZ

CHARITY NUMBER

1152159

ACCOUNTANTS

Carthy Accountants Limited
Certified Practising Accountants
33 Eastgate Street
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Staffordshire
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**ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30/06/2022**

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30/06/2022

TRUSTEES' REPORT

The Trustees of A Child of Mine are pleased to present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 30/06/2022

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

The principal activity of the charity in the year under review was to provide emotional and practical support to bereaved parents and families .

STRUCTURE GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

GOVERNING DOCUMENT

The organisation is an unincorporated association registered as a charity on 23 May 2013.

It is governed by its constitution adopted on 23rd April 2013 and most recently updated in November 2017. It was registered with Charity Commission on 23 May 2013.

Its principal purpose is to provide emotional and practical support to bereaved parents and families. To work in partnership with health professionals to improve the care and support available when a child dies.

RECRUITMENT AND APPOINTMENT OF TRUSTEES

The Trustees may appoint any person who is willing to act as a trustee.

Membership is open to individuals over eighteen, or organisations who are approved by the trustees. The board of Trustees come from a range of professional backgrounds relevant to the charity's objectives.

Once a new trustee is appointed training is provided via a presentation detailing the roles and responsibilities of a trustee and continual support from the other trustees to ensure they are fulfilling the requirements.

Each of the trustees shall retire with effect from the conclusion of the next annual general meeting following from their appointment, but shall be eligible for re-election at that annual general meeting.

RISK REVIEW

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, in particular those related to the operations and finances of the Charity and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate any exposure to the major risks. These procedures are periodically reviewed.

OVERVIEW

A Child of Mine (ACOM) continues to be run in a well organised and positive way. Thanks, must go to the charity's Trustees who all bring valuable skills and knowledge. They have continued to help raise awareness of A Child of Mine, and its objectives. We are looking forward to expanding the charity in the coming year, bringing in new resources and increasing our fundraising activities.

OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the charity as defined in the constitution are to relieve mental and physical sickness of person's resident in England and Wales suffering from the bereavement of a child by the provision of advice and support through, email, telephone, face to face, working with healthcare professionals to improve bereavement care, social media and through an online website. We also aim to promote and protect the physical and mental health/wellbeing of sufferers whose child has died in England and Wales through the provision of financial assistance, support, education and practical advice. (Financial assistance will be provided to families whose child has died under the age of 18 and are resident within Staffordshire).

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30/06/2022

TRUSTEES' REPORT

ACTIVITIES

A Child of Mine has continued to focus its activities set out in the constitution. There are many activities which contribute to achieving our objectives: We provide emotional & spiritual support, financial support, advice, practical guidance, information and vital peer support directly to bereaved families after a child's death, through group work and 1-2-1 sessions.

We strive to improve professional care for families whose child has died. We do this by working closely with both bereaved families and multi-agency professionals to help improve care and educate on the needs and experiences of bereaved parents. We further this by the provision of information for families and professionals, attending regular meetings with key healthcare professionals, lecturing, networking, focus groups and multi-agency alliances. We partner with other relevant charity organisations to work together ultimately supporting our beneficiaries. We also sit on some prevalent bereavement groups across the West Midlands including: the regional networking group for the Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP), a lay member for the Staffordshire Child Death Overview Panel and for the Black Country Neonatal death reviews, West Midlands Regional CDOP Network, the National Children's Hospitals Bereavement Network, Staffordshire Bereavement Alliance, Friends of Stafford Cemeteries and LeDeR (Learning from the lives and deaths of people with learning a disability and autism)

For families within our area of benefit we provide small financial grants (via referral). We offer several different support groups every month, which include a 'Stay and Play Playgroup', for bereaved parents and their children born before or after loss. A teenage group for bereaved young people, building confidence through humour, and drop-in peer support groups for bereaved parents, in partnership with local child death nurse specialists. These drop in's normally run in several venues across Staffordshire. We also run 2 baby loss support groups specifically for those who have lost in early pregnancy and those who have experienced a stillbirth/baby loss. All the above groups had been run virtually due to COVID-19 and continued this year with ongoing restrictions. However, we did manage to welcome these groups face to face in March 2022 and our group for young people managed to meet in person outside from July 2021 and inside from October 2021 socially distancing.

We normally provide 2 memorial services for families within Staffordshire, these services are hosted by Penkridge Methodist Church and St Mary's Church in Stafford. They offer a safe place to come and remember those children or babies that were lost too soon. They provide an emotional outlet and a place to meet others who have also lost children. "Such a beautiful service! Thank you so much, and for all the support you have given" - a bereaved mother. We ran our baby loss service at Penkridge in October 2021 in person and it was very well attended however, we didn't hold the St Mary's service due to the new strain of Covid.

ACHIEVEMENTS

For the last few years, we have spoken about how proud we are to have been able to grow in such a difficult climate. We have also reported how COVID-19 has impacted us as a charity over the past couple of years. With some restrictions still in place we have found we have had to continue to adapt as guidelines changed, we have had to become creative, changing the way we work but still being able to offer the support that is vital to our families. However, we are extremely proud once again to have increased our reach and to a much wider area as some of our support continued online. We have worked hard to keep our services and our engagement with the families we support a priority in such worrying times. We also marked our 9th year of being a registered charity and are looking forward to the next year ahead albeit we appreciate still in very challenging times.

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30/06/2022

TRUSTEES' REPORT

We are always proud to be acknowledged and respected by our peers, including the bereavement teams within the main Children's hospitals across the UK and, being regarded as the "go to charity for child loss" by the palliative care team in Great Ormond Street. "I hold you in high esteem and think what you do for bereaved parents is phenomenal. I will continue to promote your work with A Child of Mine." - Bereavement Service Manager at Great Ormond Street.

We are honoured to continue our position on the National Children's Hospital Bereavement Network which has been meeting monthly online throughout the pandemic and we have decided this will continue with one face to face meet up a year. This is a huge testament to the work we are doing and has enabled us to develop new key relationships with other children's hospitals across the country and gives the group a parent voice. Our work with the Child Death Overview Process (CDOP) has grown this year and we are honoured to be working more closely with the specialist nurses to provide education for student nurses and other agency staff. These relationships help us develop and further our aims as a charity, and they are vital for us to move forward to provide the best possible support we can.

Our work with the Bereavement Team at Birmingham Children's Hospital has continued with a strong relationship. The team there have had some personnel changes and it has been good to work with the new members. We regularly receive family referrals from them within our area of benefit and we still provide talks on a parent's perspective on their study days. The feedback from this is always outstanding and proves that a parent's experience is extremely valuable to help professionals improve their care and relationships with families. "I found this really helpful to support me in saying the right thing to parents who are going through a bereavement." - Family support worker.

Our second awareness day National Bereaved Parents Day was held on 3rd July 2021. We know that there are many awareness days for loss over the year, with baby loss awareness week in October probably the best known. However, we wanted to acknowledge and join together every bereaved parent whether they had lost in pregnancy, or after or a child at any age. The day was a huge success reaching 10 times more than last year with over 3.5 million people. It was wonderful to see that other charities and organisations sharing and supporting the day with charities like Ronald McDonald House Charities UK, Sands, Samaritans and NHS joining in.

Working with local business' is extremely important for us as it helps develop relationships within our community and ways in which we can work together for mutual benefit. This year has been no exception and we must acknowledge and thank the following companies for their support: This is Fitness, who very generously support the charity and regularly arrange challenges for their members as fundraising events for ACOM throughout the year. Tony's Ices continue their support towards the charity with a percentage of their charity ice-creams coming back to ACOM. Carthy Accountants, Networkin, Sainsbury's, Nowell Meller, Stafford Railway Building Society and Veolia have all helped to support the charity in some way this year and we hope to continue to build on these relationships in the coming year.

During 21/22 we have supported directly over 500 people through signposting, peer/emotional support, information, or by attending one of our groups. It has been another challenging year with continuous changing restrictions due to Covid. However, as last year we worked hard to continue our support and engagement with our families. As the restrictions lifted fully in early 2022, we managed to get back face to face in the Spring of for all our groups.

For most of this year we have not held our playgroups for the younger children, once again due to Covid. We aimed to hold a Christmas party in December 2021 for them to come together but a new strain of Covid came around, so we made the decision to postpone the party as we didn't want anyone getting ill for Christmas. The restrictions lifted in 2022 and it was great to welcome our families back in March 2022 after 2 years away.

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30/06/2022

TRUSTEES' REPORT

We have also continued our resource library that our families can utilize. The library is still a work in progress as we add new titles to its inventory, but we have a large variety of books about different kinds of loss and written from different kinds of perspectives, mothers, fathers and grandparents and also a selection of bereavement books for children. We have found the library has been a great support for our families that couldn't afford to buy a book, or who just wanted to try reading a few different books without committing to buy. We lend out the books to any family that feels it would be of help.

Fundraising continued to be challenging again this year and due to COVID we reluctantly postponed our annual charity ball once again. The ball is our main fundraiser bringing in over £11,000 in 2019. As with our charitable activities we have had to adapt quickly and look to grant funding to continue our work. We have been able to secure some restricted pots of funding and were successful in receiving some lottery funding again. COVID-19 has had a big impact on us regarding fundraising as we have not been able to hold any events in the community, so grant funding has been made priority until we can get back to more traditional ways of raising funds.

The trustees continue to consider the appropriate balance of financial stability and investment in charitable activity. The pandemic has highlighted the importance of an appropriate reserves policy. Given the length of time likely until we recover fully after the pandemic, it is important we continue to hold a level of reserves which can sustain our activity until we have a better picture of what fundraising might look like, both in the short- and medium-term. We aim to hold a target level of free reserves of around £35,000, which the trustees consider to be approximately six months of core expenditure, including staff salaries, accommodation costs and general running costs.

Designated reserves which are set aside for a specified future use. We currently have around £21,000 of designated funds set aside to support specific projects and pieces of work and cannot be used for the general running costs of the charity. We hope these designated funds will increase in the coming year as we start working on new projects and partnerships.

THE FUTURE

We are looking forward to the next 12 months and growing ACOM further and in 2023 we celebrate 10 years of being a registered charity. We are still very aware that we are in a difficult environment after 2 years of a global pandemic, we have seen a significant decrease in our income and acknowledge that the cost-of-living crisis will also affect funding and community fundraising in the short/medium term. However, building on our services and relationships with healthcare professionals and increasing the communication and reach within our community we are confident that we will continue to sustain and fund our charitable activities.

We aim to look at further developing our support, and in particular the mental health and wellbeing of our families. We have seen first-hand the impact that COVID-19 has had amongst our parents and siblings. We aim to offering wellbeing workshops, pamper days and other ways to support our bereaved families and to improve their wellbeing.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has been involved in the charity to date. To our fabulous trustees, staff, supporters and volunteers without whom, we would not be able to make such a difference to our family's lives

The report was prepared in accordance with the special provisions within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

This report was approved by the Board of Trustees on 03/02/2023

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30/06/2022

TRUSTEES' REPORT

Pamela Kearns
Chair

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30/06/2022

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF A CHILD OF MINE

I report on the accounts of the company for the year ended 30/06/2022 .

RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF TRUSTEES AND EXAMINER

The trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed. The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of Independent Certified Practising Accountants.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to an audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

BASIS OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS STATEMENT

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS STATEMENT

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30/06/2022

Carthy Accountants

Date: 06/01/2022

Carthy Accountants Limited
Certified Practising Accountants
33 Eastgate Street
Stafford
Staffordshire
ST16 2LZ

**Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 30/06/2022**

			2022	2021
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£
Income				
Income from generated funds				
Income from Investments	3	-	3	-
Income from charitable activities	30,333	22,408	52,742	92,979
Total Income and endowments	30,336	22,408	52,745	92,979
Expenses				
Costs of generating funds				
Expenditure on Charitable activities	34,128	15,669	49,798	54,558
Total Expenses	34,128	15,669	49,798	54,558
Net gains on investments				
Net Income	(3,792)	6,739	2,947	38,421
Transfers between funds	3,298	(3,298)	-	-
Gains/(losses) on revaluation of fixed assets				
Net movement in funds:				
Net income for the year	(494)	3,441	2,947	38,421
Total funds brought forward	100,037	15,876	115,912	77,491
Net funds carried forward	99,543	19,317	118,859	115,912

This statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities

BALANCE SHEET AT 30/06/2022

	Notes	2022 £	2021 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	3	2,009	1,829
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors (amounts falling due within one year)	4	3,126	4,743
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>114,232</u>	<u>109,979</u>
		117,358	114,722
CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year	5	<u>508</u>	<u>639</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		116,850	114,083
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>118,859</u>	<u>115,912</u>
CAPITAL AND RESERVES			
Unrestricted funds	6		
General fund		99,542	100,037
Restricted funds	7	<u>19,317</u>	<u>15,875</u>
		<u>118,859</u>	<u>115,912</u>

For the year ending 30/06/2022 the company was entitled to exemption under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

Approved by the board of trustees on 03/02/2023 and signed on their behalf by



Pamela Kearns
Trustee

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30/06/2022**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

1a. Basis Of Accounting

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with FRS102 - The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland and the Companies Act 2006 and the requirements of the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities.

1b. Incoming Resources

All incoming resources are included on the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

1c. Resources Expended

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

1d. Allocation And Apportionment Of Costs

All costs relate to the single activity of the charitable company and are recognised accordingly.

1e. Fund Accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Designated funds are funds set aside by the trustees out of unrestricted general funds for the specific future purposes or projects.

1f. Depreciation

Depreciation has been provided at the following rates in order to write off the assets over their estimated useful lives.

Equipment	reducing balance 25%
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1g. Turnover

Turnover represents the invoiced value of goods and services supplied by the company, net of value added tax and trade discounts.

2. EMPLOYEES

	2022	2021
	No.	No.
Average number of employees	2	2

3. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Equipment £	Total £
Cost		
At 01/07/2021	3,764	3,764
Additions	850	850
At 30/06/2022	<u>4,614</u>	<u>4,614</u>
Depreciation		
At 01/07/2021	1,935	1,935
For the year	670	670
At 30/06/2022	<u>2,605</u>	<u>2,605</u>
Net Book Amounts		
At 30/06/2022	<u>2,009</u>	<u>2,009</u>
At 30/06/2021	<u>1,829</u>	<u>1,829</u>

4. DEBTORS

	2022 £	2021 £
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Other debtors	<u>3,126</u>	<u>4,743</u>
	<u>3,126</u>	<u>4,743</u>

5. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2022	2021
	£	£
Taxation and social security	508	387
Other creditors	-	252
	<u>508</u>	<u>639</u>

6. UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

	Brought forward	Incoming resources	Outgoing resources	Transfers	Carried forward
	£	£	£	£	£
General fund	100,037	30,336	(34,129)	3,298	99,542
	<u>100,037</u>	<u>30,336</u>	<u>(34,129)</u>	<u>3,298</u>	<u>99,542</u>

7. RESTRICTED FUNDS

	Brought forward	Incoming resources	Outgoing resources	Transfers	Carried forward
	£	£	£	£	£
Dads Group	1,000	-	-	-	1,000
Our space	4,362	2,434	(1,902)	-	4,894
Sunshine and Rainbows	758	4,491	(1,529)	-	3,720
Mariposa	1,270	-	(98)	-	1,172
Publications	4,000	-	-	-	4,000
Advertising	600	-	-	-	600
PPE	587	-	(37)	-	550
Pamper Day	-	3,000	-	-	3,000
National Lottery	-	10,000	(10,000)	-	-
Butterfly boxes	-	400	(20)	-	380
Christmas gifts	-	750	(750)	-	-
Laptop	-	850	(850)	-	-
Overhead costs	-	483	(483)	-	-
	<u>3,299</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(3,298)</u>	<u>1</u>
	<u>15,876</u>	<u>22,408</u>	<u>(15,669)</u>	<u>(3,298)</u>	<u>19,317</u>

A Child of Mine

**Incoming Resources
for the year ended 30/06/2022**

	2022	2021
	£	£
Incoming resources		
Incoming resources from generated funds		
Investment income		
Interest received	<u>3</u>	<u>-</u>
	3	-
	<u>3</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>52,742</u>	<u>92,979</u>
	<u>52,745</u>	<u>92,979</u>

Expenses
for the year ended 30/06/2022

	2022	2021
	£	£
Expenses		
Costs of generating funds		
Charitable Activities		
Support groups	4,426	1,994
Wages and pension costs	33,471	35,625
Office Hire	3,788	4,116
Travel and other expenses	1,201	711
Fundraising	813	1,647
Postage and stationery	1,924	9,306
Publications and information packs	418	111
Insurance	643	849
Just Giving charges	504	199
Professional fees	355	-
Telephone and email	994	-
Subscriptions	591	-
Depreciation of equipment	670	-
	<u>49,798</u>	<u>54,558</u>
	<u>49,798</u>	<u>54,558</u>