



• Believe in Your Worth •

Trustees' Annual Report 2020

Introduction

- This Trustees' Annual Report 2020 updates supporters, funders and [Charity Commission](#) about [SAYT - Sevenoaks Area Youth Trust](#) – Charity No 1090595:
 - Charitable work to date during 2019/20 - including COVID-19 response, and
 - Most recently approved annual accounts - for the year to 31st December 2019.

Trustees

- The board of [trustees](#) (and some other roles they undertook) during the period was:

Dawn Hallam [Chair]	volunteer youth worker, deputy safeguarding lead
Dr Caroline Berry	board secretary and prayer secretary
Guy Knight	youth work line manager, HR, disclosures
Rob Marsh	safeguarding lead, SAYT founder
Rev Angela Rigby	volunteer youth worker and Chair of CTSD
Chris Williams	insurance and legal lead

The board are greatly assisted by

Chris Stiven	hon treasurer
Sam Farren FCA	independent examiner

Structure, Governance & Management

- SAYT is constituted as a Trust; through a governing document which is a Declaration of Trust made 3 August 2001, amended by a supplemental deed of 16 January 2002.
- Trustees are selected, invited, inducted and then formally elected by existing Trustees based on skills required for governance, leadership, management, PR and fundraising.

[SAYT – Sevenoaks Area Youth Trust](#)

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www.sayt.org.uk | Registered Charity No 1090595

Objectives

The objects of SAYT - Sevenoaks Area Youth Trust are set out in its governing document:

- to relieve suffering and distress amongst children and young people by meeting them where they are and providing support, advice and counselling according to their need in Sevenoaks and the surrounding towns and villages regardless of the race, religion or creed of any person or persons in need and
 - the advancement of the Christian faith in accordance with the Statement of Beliefs set out in the schedule and to fulfil such other purposes which are exclusively charitable according to the law of England and Wales and are connected with the charitable work of the Trust.
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- SAYT is a Christian Trust founded in 2001 to employ, manage, train & support Christian Youth Workers in the Sevenoaks area, and to:
 - ✓ Undertake Detached [i.e. not in a centre or youth club] Youth Work, in streets & parks of local towns and villages - wherever Young People are hanging out...
 - ✓ Provide limited but regular presence in local Schools and other youth facilities such as '[House in the Basement](#)' led by Sevenoaks Town Council.
 - ✓ Encourage and support other youth workers in local churches who run youth clubs, youth work and other Christian youth activities and residential.
 - ✓ Be salt and light in our local area.

 - The Trust seeks, particularly working with Young People, to serve the whole community of Sevenoaks & District - regardless of race, religion, creed of any person(s) in need; and regardless of nationality, gender, sexuality, disability or any other aspect of their cultural, educational or social background.

 - We are needs-led, young person-focused, non-judgmental and will never discriminate [on grounds of gender, sexuality, disability, faith or social background].

 - We are committed to the [FaithWorks Charter](#) and the highest possible standards of contextual safeguarding [aided by our membership of [ThirtyOne:Eight](#)].

 - We are members of [FYT Frontier Youth Trust](#) and [CTSD Churches Together in Sevenoaks & District](#); and draw on best practice [especially around best practice in making youth work Covid-secure from [FDYW Federation of Detached Youth Work](#) and [NYA National Youth Agency](#). We host youth workers prayer breakfasts, often on zoom, to allow further sharing of best practice and mutual support.

- We seek to provide a **consistent** presence – **someone to trust**. We draw on resources provided by the above organisations, and similar charities who we network with and enjoy support of many churches, donors, volunteers and prayer supporters.
- The Trustees have had regard to all guidance offered by the [Charity Commission](#): on safeguarding, whistleblowing, reporting serious incidents, responding to Covid19 and public benefit. The main public benefit activities undertaken are shown below.

Activities and progress

➤ **Detached work (coming alongside young people where they are)**

- ✓ Every Thursday evening at Greatness Park: offering hot chocolate/squash and home-made cakes (when donated) chatting, listening, advising, assisting and befriending.
- ✓ Every Wednesday evening at "House In The Basement" (Stag theatre basement): having fun, playing games, chatting, listening, encouraging, helping with homework, CVs, job applications, relationship difficulties etc.

➤ **Schools work (where most young people spend a lot of their time)**

- ✓ Regularly in Knole Academy, Trinity Free School.
- ✓ Leading assemblies, Christian unions, clubs, drop-ins and offering a 'playground presence' – someone to trust, someone to listen.
- ✓ Supporting school prayer meetings where these are held.

➤ **Training, promoting quality Youth Work in the area**

- ✓ Funding youth workers to obtain experience and accredited qualifications in youth and community work and schools work.
- ✓ Monthly prayer breakfasts to support other Christian youth workers in the area.
- ✓ Voluntary work experience for those wishing to progress into youth work.
- ✓ Helping local youth groups attend events by offering staff, catering, planning.
- ✓ Promoting training opportunities for (paid / volunteer) Christian youth workers in the area

➤ **Special events & support for young people**

- ✓ Days out, visits, courses, residential events.
- ✓ Mentoring and supporting.

➤ **COVID19 operations to support young people**

- ✓ Mentoring and supporting young people by using social media and socially distanced face to face detached youth work.
- ✓ Encouraging young people, and often reaching out through them to other young people facing severe challenges in their life.
- ✓ See case studies that show the impact our work is having, at a time when schools, families and churches are finding it harder to support young people; and some other charities / services have stopped their work, going into furlough.

➤ **Future Events**

- ✓ Regular prayer breakfasts for youth workers and supporters to encourage, pray and share good practice. Regular informal events to thank and train our amazing team of volunteers
- ✓ Individual donors. Trustees are keen to reach out to about 40 more individual supporters to increase our prayer support and financial support. Please contact our founder Rob@sayt.org.uk if you would like to help us achieve this.

Achievements and Performance – our Impact

SAYT exists to make an impact in our local area and specifically in the lives of the young people we engage. We are proud to have been a positive influence and force for good for many young people, over so many years, and particularly during the Covid19 crisis and lockdown. A number of young people have become Christians, or been able to strengthen their faith. We measure our impact more broadly in terms of showing compassion, empathy and ensuring that every young person knows that we value them and believe in their worth.

Here are 4 brief case studies. We have changed their names and left out some details to preserve their privacy.

Jack is a lad known to us for years now, who had never really engaged with us other than for a cup of hot chocolate and cake. However, during lockdown Jack found himself **homeless** and at the end of his capacity to face going on with life.

SAYT youth workers were able to successfully reach out to him, offer him immediate support with basics, necessities and regular contact; and then help him successfully apply for supported housing and access counselling. The longevity of our non-judgemental relationship, the kindness of the Christian Community and our God-given belief in the worth of this young man has helped him survive a period in his life where **he had no hope and was seriously contemplating suicide**. We are deeply grateful as Christian youth workers that we are there as SAYT to be alongside young people at low points like this in their lives.

Millie is a young woman, just turned 18 who we have known through one of our school lunch clubs. Having built up a trusting relationship with us, when she found herself 'out of her depth' with a friend in need, she turned to SAYT for help and advice.

We have been able to be alongside her, as she is alongside her friend - the power of genuine **care and kindness** having a ripple effect through the communities which we are part of.

This is an important aspect of youth work **empowering** and **enabling** young people to develop **their gifts and abilities**. Kindness really is a superpower!

Dougie, when so angry that he thumped a wall at home, came to the youth bus - wound up and ready to punch a few more things and people! Receiving an offer of a cup of tea, a sympathetic ear and a bandage to his injured hand, he found space to calm down.

Our sincere care and concern wasn't able to solve all the issues he was facing but it allowed him to process what had just happened in a way that gave him options, some (less destructive) coping strategies and prevented a volatile situation becoming worse. Space, peace, concern and a listening ear makes a difference.

Mo, a young person who often feels very alone and misunderstood, has had steady care shown to her by means of our consistent presence and our regular low-key offer of a space to chat. Ideas for work experience have been explored and the belief in the potential of this young woman has helped her begin to believe in herself...

There's been no dramatic success to report, but consistent care, steadfast belief and faithful presence are the building blocks to good mental health and positive choices, which in turn leads to (often un-) steady progress. As youth workers we are so glad to be able to offer this humble but powerful expression of God's love and pray that we may continue to serve the Lord and our community in this way.

Resources

Financial Report

- The Trustees are pleased to submit the most recent approved annual accounts for the year to 31st December 2019.
- These have been subject to an independent examination, as being best practice, although not strictly required this year by the Charity Commission.
- We thank our treasurer, Chris Stiven, for maintaining such clear accounts in such a timely manner; and Sam Farren FCA for her diligent examination and reporting.
- Funds are received primarily from local churches (75%), grants (2%) and individuals (20%).
- The trustees have increased the minimum level of unrestricted reserves to £18,000, in view of recent events, strain on the charity sector and reduced levels of donations that most charities are seeing. The Trust will maintain free reserves [Cash] in practice [and in approved budgets and cash flow forecasts which are monitored monthly] of between £18,000 and £30,000. This reserves policy has been developed to meet the need for working capital, recognising our current dependence on some large annual donations from several churches, that some donations arrive later than expected and the need to provide redundancy costs should they be required. This policy is reviewed annually.
- Most funds come to us from church or individual supporters, so we very rarely need to hold fundraising events. We have not yet joined the Fundraising Regulator as their service is largely irrelevant to our work. Nevertheless, we follow the principles set out by them, the Institute of Fundraising and updated all our data bases, mailing lists, policy and security to ensure best practice as well as meeting our GDPR obligations.
- The Trust remains a going concern, has an updated reserves policy to further mitigate the ongoing funding risks from the Covid19 pandemic, and trustees are seeking to recruit more individual regular donors, to diversify income generation.

Staffing & Volunteers

- We provide regular updates via newsletters, website, social media, visits to local churches [in person or by video] and at public meetings.

- Our film **Believing Their Worth** www.SAYT.org.uk/film still proves very useful.
- Our amazing team of part-time staff and volunteers are gifted communicators with significant life experience and professional experience of working with young people, as we seek to be salt and light, bringing God and His perspective into their life:
 - **Julie** – part time Youth Worker & Team Leader with many years of experience of building positive working relationships with agencies / organisations and with young people, including 1-1 mentoring where needed by a young person.
 - **Holly** – part time Youth Worker, bringing a wealth of local contacts and experience, making her a brilliant role-model, who engages young people where they are, listens and supports; as well as encouraging young SAYT volunteers.
 - **Pippa** – part time admin support to ensure Holly and Julie can spend more time with young people
 - Supported by some very active **volunteers**:
 - Some support our paid staff regularly joining detached youth work, face to face with young people, whilst others bake cakes for the team to take out each week
 - About 60 people are committed to praying for our work and young people we meet.
 - Treasurer – Chris Stiven, Line manager – Guy Knight, Web/IT coord – Chris Brown
 - Trustees who provide governance, vision and spiritual oversight
 - Individual donors and supporters
 - Some people who kindly act as ambassadors to help keep their church updated
 - We are pleased to welcome new volunteers, supporters and donors
- We thank all those who support our work in prayers, donations or time; and thank God for His gracious and timely provision.

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by



Rob Marsh, Trustee

25th October 2020

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of SAYT - Sevenoaks Area Youth Trust

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of SAYT - Sevenoaks Area Youth Trust ('the charity') for the year ended 31 December 2019.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of SAYT - Sevenoaks Area Youth Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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

- 1) accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- 2) the accounts do not accord with those records.

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.

S. Farren

Sam Farren FCA

Sevenoaks

26 October 2020

Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at 31 December

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds 2019	Total funds	<i>Unrestricted funds</i>	<i>Restricted funds 2018</i>	<i>Total funds</i>
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Cash funds						
CAF Cash Account	6,849	-	6,849	10,227	54	10,281
CAF Gold Account	19,516	-	19,516	29,482	-	29,482
Total cash funds	<u>26,365</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>26,365</u>	<u>39,709</u>	<u>54</u>	<u>39,763</u>
Other monetary assets						
Gift Aid reclaim due	437	-	437	352	-	352
Prepayments	1,235	-	1,235	508	-	508
	<u>1,672</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,672</u>	<u>860</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>860</u>
Liabilities						
Accruals	412	-	412	601	-	601
	<u>412</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>412</u>	<u>601</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>601</u>

Signed on behalf of the trustees



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Rob Marsh (Trustee)

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25th October 2020