Ways to support KIDS

Your support makes our work with disabled children and young people possible. Here is how you can get involved in the coming year:

Make a donation: Your donation is absolutely invaluable to us as it enables us to continue providing vital services and support to disabled children, and to reach more families in need. You can support KIDS through a one off or monthly online donation. Alternatively you can set up payroll giving or donate by post.

Take part: From holding a bake sale or pub quiz to taking part in a marathon, there are lots of fun ways to fundraise for KIDS. Get involved and contact our events team on: events@kids.org.uk

Spare a few hours for KIDS: Your time and skills really do make a difference. For the various ways you can volunteer for KIDS, contact our events team.

Gift in your will: No matter how big or small, by leaving a gift in your will to KIDS, you will be supporting disabled children and young people for generations to come.

Partner with us: From raising money to raising awareness, your company can help us to support disabled children, young people and their families.
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A message from our Chairman

I was honoured to be appointed Chair of KIDS in November 2016.

KIDS is a remarkable charity with first class staff and committed trustees, and I want to do whatever I can to ensure that we continue to improve the lives of disabled children and young people and their families.

Over the last few months I’ve visited some of our services, and have been bowled over by the quality and range of what KIDS is achieving. In the last year alone, we have helped over 13,500 disabled children and young people right across the country.

KIDS is continually evolving and over the coming year, we’re going to focus on the following key areas:

- Developing the help we give to young people (14-25) as they move into adulthood
- Continuing to provide high quality Short Breaks to disabled children and young people
- Furthering the Independent Support which helps families and young people find their way through the new Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCP) assessment process
- Providing mediation between families and educational settings to ensure that disabled children receive appropriate support in school

To enable us to achieve these goals we will need to continue to raise funds that allow us to support and develop our work. I am very grateful for the generosity of a wide range of individual and corporate donors, voluntary fundraisers and trusts and foundations who have supported us over this past year.

Disabled children and young people and their families face real challenges, but I know from my own experience as the father of a profoundly disabled young man that KIDS makes a real difference. I hope that you’ll do whatever you can to support us in our mission to improve the lives and futures of so many disabled children, young people and their families.

Stephen Unwin
Chair

A message from our Chief Executive

I am delighted to introduce you to the KIDS’ Annual Review for 2016-17. It has been a very busy year in which I am proud to say we have provided practical and emotional support to over 13,500 families, meeting the needs of an additional 20% of disabled children and young people compared to last year. I am extremely proud that we have managed to grow our direct service provision in what are particularly challenging economic times with ever-increasing pressures on statutory care provision.

At KIDS, our role remains to support parents as they navigate Children’s Services in order to access the best possible care for their child. We aim to help every child, no matter how complex their requirements or challenging their behaviour. This includes supporting disabled children and young people up until the age of 25 as we recognise that a successful transition to adulthood results in greater independence and a far better quality of life for those we support.

We recognise that there will be further challenges ahead and with this in mind we have focussed attention this year on making sure that our organisation is poised and ready for future opportunities and equipped to meet the changing needs of the disabled children and young people we exist to serve.

- We are improving our infrastructure, working on the introduction of new systems and processes to underpin our work to ensure we run at maximum efficiency
- The Government continues to turn to us for expert guidance to inform education and health services for disabled children and, critically, 98% of our families tell us that our services meet or exceed their expectations. As the mother of a disabled young man, I appreciate what many of our families are going through and I recognise the fundamental importance of having trust in any organisation that is involved with caring for your child. It is with real pride that I can report to you that 92% of our families note that they can trust KIDS to act in their child’s best interests. KIDS will always do that. You have my word.

Best wishes

Caroline Stevens,
Chief Executive
What it means to be a disabled child in 2017

“Children do not want to be defined as special or to stand out as different. More than anything, they want to be accepted and included by their peers.”

Disability Matters in Britain 2016

In December 2015 the United Nations issued a global blueprint for disability actions that called on society to “leave no one behind.” At KIDS we want to honour this vision. We know that for families with disabled children the ability to access the right health services, the provision of safe and appropriate childcare and a positive and empowering attitude from professionals are all vital in ensuring that every child can reach their individual potential.

Amongst the disabled population the fastest growth is seen in children aged 0-16 years. 40% of these children are also living in poverty – that’s around 320,000 children in the UK.

For some families it is the responses of others to their child’s disability that creates the biggest barriers to inclusion. This is reflected by the fact that when disabled children reach adulthood they are twice as likely as their non-disabled peers to not be in any form of education, employment or training. Only 8% of disabled children are currently receiving a regular support service from their local authority. The fact that 99% of disabled children live at home, cared for by their families with a gaping lack of support, can lead carers to reach crisis point. Nearly three quarters of families who are caring for a child with profound disabilities have reached or come close to breaking point due to the lack of time away from their caring responsibilities.

KIDS is here to address these issues. Founded 47 years ago we provide a wide range of support services to disabled children, young people and their families. We support children with any disability from birth to the age of 25. Our support is offered to the whole family and as you will see from this report our goals are that disabled children can achieve their potential while their families are fully supported.

Last year we supported 13,500 children and young people with over 120 services across England that are responding to real and growing local needs.

The bigger picture

99% of disabled children live at home cared for by their families

92% of disabled children do not receive regular support from their local authority

40% of disabled children are living in poverty

Nearly 75% of families with a profoundly disabled child are close to, or have reached “breaking point”

92% of parents tell us their children do not have the same opportunities for play as their non-disabled peers

“I was a bit lost without KIDS but now I am happy to be seeing such a difference in my son. You wouldn’t believe it’s the same child from four months ago.”
KIDS’ year in numbers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Over 13,500</th>
<th>1,346</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>children were supported through direct services</td>
<td>young people were supported this year</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Provided over 85,000</th>
<th>2,018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>hours of Short Breaks</td>
<td>families supported through our Independent Support service</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2,174</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>families supported through our Mediation service</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

I am happy with the service I receive or have received from KIDS 90% of families agreed
I trust KIDS to act in my / my child’s best interests 92% of families agreed

“With your help my son has started to do many more things, things that I can do with him too and that makes me actually feel like a mum now.”

Introducing this year’s themes

“If it wasn’t for the KIDS team my children would not be able to go to fun places to relax and be kids themselves.”

Numbers of disabled children and young people are increasing. Current estimates show that there will be over 1.25 million children in England who have a disability by 2029. Against this backdrop KIDS is working to put in place practical and emotional support for disabled children and their families. Our staff enable children and young people to achieve their aspirations through tailored support that treats everyone as an individual.

In this year’s report we are focusing on four of our key areas of support:

**Mediation**
KIDS’ Mediation service supports parents in settling disagreements with Local Authorities and schools or other education providers about the services proposed for their children. This service has grown from a London-only operation through to a national service working with over 70 local authorities.

**Independent support**
KIDS’ Independent Support service works with children and young people who are navigating the new Education, Health and Care Plan process (which replaces statements of Special Education Needs). This new process puts each child or young person’s needs and aspirations into one package of support.

**Short Breaks**
KIDS’ Short Breaks workers provide a time away for disabled children with an experienced worker to develop their skills and independence while giving the family the opportunity to have a break. Last year we delivered over 85,000 hours of Short Breaks which continue to be an invaluable service for disabled children, young people and their families.

I would recommend KIDS to friends and family 91% of families agreed.
Leading the field in Young People’s Participation

“I am better at working together with others. I can work with those older than me and also those who are younger whom I am able to support. It’s really important that everyone gets listened to.”

At KIDS we aim to work with young disabled people to empower them to help not only themselves but also their peers. In the last year we have reached over one million young disabled people with information about personal budgets, Short Breaks and raising awareness and increasing understanding of their rights. This work is developed by young disabled people for young disabled people and this method of participation underpins all of our aims in this area.

Over 1 in 4 disabled people say that they frequently do not have choice and control over their daily lives. (Papworth Trust 2016)

Due to our growing reputation as a leader in the field of young people’s participation, we were awarded funding from the Department for Education. Working in partnership with the Council for Disabled Children, we have delivered an ambitious programme focusing on supporting Local Authorities to ensure young people’s views and experiences are embedded in strategic decision making. This has enabled young disabled people to influence outcomes that affect them personally and other young people, now and in the future.

As part of our “Making Participation Work” project we have developed a “train the trainer” course for young disabled people, equipping them to deliver training to key Local Authority staff to ensure that young people can have an impact on decisions about the policies and services that affect them. Last year 53 young people received this training and have gone on to deliver workshops for 15 Local Authorities who between them are responsible for over 10,000 young people who will benefit from this intervention. We are careful to evaluate the impact of this work and attendees have told us that the training was: fun, engaging, interactive and gave a unique perspective to the training.

“Our young people’s engagement groups, attended by young people with a range of disabilities, have gone from strength to strength this year. They have shared their experiences of access to work with the Department of Work and Pensions, co-chaired national conferences alongside key stakeholders, helped to develop young people friendly local offers and talked to decision makers about their experiences of services. Each young person has grown in confidence from this wide range of experiences.

In addition to our external-facing work with young people we supported 1,346 disabled young people in 2016-17 through a diverse range of services designed to reduce social isolation, prepare for adulthood, and learn about relationships, sexuality and safety.

We remain committed to extending our reach, focusing on quality and embedding young people’s participation in all aspects of our work including governance, service design and delivery and monitoring and evaluating our services.

“Training from young people makes it more real... it is more powerful to hear it actually from the group themselves”

In addition to our external-facing work with young people we supported 1,346 disabled young people in 2016-17 through a diverse range of services designed to reduce social isolation, prepare for adulthood, and learn about relationships, sexuality and safety.

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“We remain committed to extending our reach, focusing on quality and embedding young people’s participation in all aspects of our work including governance, service design and delivery and monitoring and evaluating our services.”
Helping disabled young people to access the support they need

“My independent supporter was amazing from start to finish on phone calls and in person made you feel very comfortable within minutes of the meeting.”

Our Independent Support service works with disabled children and young people to help them access the specific support they need as they navigate the new Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) assessment process.

This process is therefore vital for families; getting it right means that they can access the very best support for their child. A large part of this support involves working in partnership with schools, colleges, Local Authorities and social / health care providers. Our Independent Support workers are there to work alongside families, supporting them through this process and helping them to navigate this new system to ensure that disabled children and young people have the best chances in life.

Expanding our Mediation service

“Thanks to your supportive and reassuring manner, we were both able to articulate and discuss our views about what we feel is important for Sarah’s* future education.”

Children with disabilities usually require specialist support in school, yet securing the correct support can be difficult for families as the levels of documentation, evidencing and dialogue required are high.

This is where our Mediation service comes in. We help to resolve disagreements over the provision of support for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities. We have expanded steadily from a London only service to a national service and are now commissioned by over 70 Local Authorities across England. This makes us the largest specialist provider of SEND mediation in the country.

Children with an Education, Health and Care Plan are six times more likely to be excluded from school than children with no special educational needs. (Special Educational Needs in England, Department of Education, 2014)

This year over two thousand families used our Mediation service, a substantial increase of almost 54% on last year. Families tell us that they really value the sensitive support of our experienced mediation team and our panel of skilled independent mediators. We consistently ask for feedback on our service and 98% of the families we supported told us that our service either met or exceeded their expectations.

“I just want to say thank you from the bottom of my heart to you and your team for your support. My gratitude for the one-on-one telephone guidance and support you provided me with. The mediation team are amazing!”

“Don’t usually like talking to people but I find her really easy to talk to. I met her when she did a workshop looking at future goals at my school. She lets me take things slowly and doesn’t push me, I enjoy working with her and she is helping me plan what I want to do next, not what other people want me to do.”

(Joe, aged 19)
Enabling Short Breaks for young people and their families

“KIDS offered us the highest level of service - they were professional, flexible, easy to contact and gave him a taste of independence away from the family which is fantastic.”

Our Short Breaks service offers tailored support for disabled children and young people. It enables young disabled people to take part in activities they are interested in and enjoy, gaining new skills and independence whilst allowing their family a regular break from their caring responsibilities.

99% of disabled children live at home and are supported by their families, and only 8% of disabled children receive a regular support service of any sort from their Local Authority. (Papworth Trust 2016)

This service continues to be in high demand with 652 families benefitting from over 85,000 hours of Short Breaks during the last year.

We work closely with the disabled child or young person and their family to understand what their goals are and what they want to achieve from their break and the activities they want to undertake.

Ajay’s story
(as told by his KIDS Short Break Worker)

Ajay is 8 years old and has autism. He is non-verbal and lives with his parents and siblings. “When I first met Ajay’s parents, they were understandably very worried about how he would cope with being taken out for Short Breaks without his family as he struggled to adapt to changes.

It took quite some time to find out what Ajay may be interested in doing as his mum said she rarely managed to take the children out together due to Ajay’s needs. I visited Ajay a few times at home so he could get to know me, and I explored a number of ideas with the family. Eventually we decided to take Ajay to the local swimming pool for his first outing and brought a KIDS colleague along with me to make sure that Ajay felt fully supported and able to relax and enjoy himself.

Swimming proved to be an excellent choice, Ajay loved the pool and the way his body could move freely in the water. He was very vocal and animated. Since this first trip I’ve taken Ajay on regular swimming trips as well as trying out new activities such as going to the local park to feed the ducks. Ajay is calm and happy with me when we go out, and slowly building up his ways of communicating with me as we develop our relationship and get to know each other better.

Ajay’s parents have told me that they are “so happy” to see Ajay enjoying a new activity he had never had the chance to experience previously, and that the weekly break from caring for him has given them the opportunity to not only get chores done but to give specific attention to their other children.”

*To protect identities, names have been changed."
Our funding

Our fundraising team is continuing to increase our levels of voluntary income. It’s vital that we continue to expand our fundraising to enable us to have greater freedom in increasing our services in response to the direct needs of the children and families we support. Our income currently comes from three main strands: trusts, companies and individuals who support us via both events and personal gifts.

Over the last year donations from trusts have allowed us to maintain vital services, pilot new projects and update our facilities. For example, a grant from BBC Children in Need funded a specialist after school clubs in Lincolnshire and a gift from the Postcode Community Trust allowed us to renovate the KIDS Orchard Centre in Dudley.

Our corporate support from the hospitality industry continues to expand with the Waldorf Hilton, The Langham Hotel and the Hyatt Regency all choosing to support KIDS this year. We also have many long-term relationships that continue to thrive and must thank Disney, Glencore and Paperchase for their exceptional support.

We consistently look to engage with more corporate supporters and can now add Selfish Mother, The Office Agent Society, Greystar and White and Case to the list of companies that are adding to our corporate strengths.

Our Events this year included our glittering gala dinner whilst many other intrepid fundraisers took on a range of sporting challenges including runs, skydives, cycling and even walking over fire! We must also mention our 34 dedicated London Marathon runners who raised an incredible £66,000 whilst pounding the streets of the capital.

A final mention has to go to a grocery shop based in Lee on the Solent who have been supporting KIDS since 2004 – they have now raised a staggering £26,000 over the last 12 years with challenges ranging from extreme zip wires to hiking in the Himalayas. Their support has remained outstanding.

Every donation we have received this year makes a huge difference to our ability to be flexible and proactive. We would like to take this opportunity to thank every one of our supporters, without you we could not make such a difference to the many thousands of disabled children we are supporting.

Communications highlights:

8,120 Facebook likes
15,600 Twitter followers
10,030 YouTube views
Our Funding
KIDS dad, James, explains why he is fundraising for us

“The charity has done so much for my immediate and extended family, as well as helping many of our friends. My wife, Rachel has already raised several thousand pounds for them by organising and singing at several charity nights including the last two at Napoleon’s Casino. Seeing the opportunity to get involved, I have signed up to complete a range of challenges in 2017 for KIDS and I have already completed a Tandem skydive, the Beverley 10k as well as the Hull 10k. I am looking forward to taking on 2018’s London Marathon which will be the biggest running challenge that I will take part in. These are all challenges far greater than I have ever attempted, but I believe that I will achieve them, the same way KIDS made us believe that we could help Kyan live a normal life with the daily struggles he faces.

Anyone who has had experienced help from KIDS will know what an exceptional organisation they are.”

Financial summary

**Total Income**

£10,468,714

- Charitable Activities: 10%
- Donations & Legacies: 2%
- Other training Activities: 1%
- Costs of generating voluntary income: 4%
- Cost of activities for generating funds: 1%

**Total Expenditure**

£10,307,006

- Charitable Activities: 95%
- Donations & Legacies: 5%

**Analysis of the year**

KIDS’ income for the year ending 31 March 2017 was £10.5m, a decrease of 2% from the previous year. Expenditure was maintained at a similar rate to last year which enabled us to deliver a surplus for the year of £160,725. There are likely to be continued restraints in Local Authority funding in 2017-18 as austerity measures continue.

KIDS is in a healthy financial position but we remain cautious and do not expect our income to increase in 2017-18. It is vital that we continue to look to diversify our income seeking funding from other sources and increasing the level of voluntary income.

95p in every pound is spent on charitable activities

For every pound spent on fundraising, £2.48 is raised
### Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities

(including consolidated income and expenditure account) for year ending 31 March 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income:</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Donations and legacies</td>
<td>321,169</td>
<td>709,435</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charitable Activities</td>
<td>9,201,458</td>
<td>49,791</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Trading Activities</td>
<td>156,301</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments</td>
<td>1,082</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>29,478</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total income</strong></td>
<td>9,709,488</td>
<td>759,226</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expenditure:</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Raising Funds</td>
<td>560,031</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charitable Activities</td>
<td>8,966,084</td>
<td>781,874</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenditure</strong></td>
<td>9,526,115</td>
<td>781,874</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Net Income / (Expenditure)   | 183,373 | (22,648) |
| Transfers                    | 0       | 0       |
| **Net Movement in Funds**    | 183,373 | (22,648) |

| Reconciliation of Funds:     |       |       |
| Total Fund brought forward   | 2,353,968 | 245,591 |
| **Total funds carried forward** | 2,537,341 | 222,943 |

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

### Balance Sheet

For the year ended 31 March 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fixed assets</th>
<th>Group 2017 £</th>
<th>Group 2016 £</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tangible assets</td>
<td>1,775,884</td>
<td>1,809,726</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Fixed assets</strong></td>
<td>1,775,884</td>
<td>1,809,726</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Current assets</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Debtors</td>
<td>1,412,049</td>
<td>982,986</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash at bank and in hand</td>
<td>913,162</td>
<td>1,184,729</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Current assets</strong></td>
<td>2,325,211</td>
<td>2,167,715</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Liabilities                   |       |       |
| Creditors failing due within one year | (765,247) | (775,437) |
| **Net Current assets**        | 1,559,964 | 1,392,278 |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total assets less current liabilities</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Creditors: falling due after more than one year</strong></td>
<td>(575,564)</td>
<td>(602,445)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net assets</strong></td>
<td>2,760,284</td>
<td>2,599,559</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| The funds of the charity:           |       |       |
| Restricted income funds             | 222,943 | 245,591 |
| Unrestricted income funds           | 2,537,341 | 2,353,968 |
| **Total charity funds**             | 2,760,284 | 2,599,559 |

The consolidated financial statements of KIDS, registration number 1346252 were approved by the Board on 25th July 2017.
Reserves

Statement of Funds at 31 March 2017

Restricted funds: £222,943
Unrestricted funds:
Designated funds £96,998
Capital Reserve fund £83,870
General Fund £2,356,473
Total Unrestricted funds £2,537,341

Total Funds: £2,760,284

Unrestricted funds include designated funds to be used to fund investment in the fundraising capacity and continue to improve our infrastructure.

As part of the development of the Corporate Strategy for 2016-20, the Trustees developed a reserves policy that reflects the business needs. This is an agile policy and with internal/external changes to the charity the monetary level may change from year to year but the principles within the policy will remain the same. A key part of our corporate strategy is to change the business model and to increase the level of fundraising income but to do this there will need to be an investment in infrastructure and fundraising.

It is estimated that at 31 March 2018 the unrestricted reserves will meet our minimum requirement including investment in our Digital Transformation project and a Building Maintenance fund.

Full details of our Reserves policy are shown in our Accounts.

Gifts and Grants Received

The list below provides details of all voluntary donations over £5,000 or above received during the past two financial years by the charity.

ICAP
John Ellerman Foundation
John Kenneth Walsh
Leathersellers Company
Les and Linda Heyhoe – DRUNK 2009
Merchant Taylors’ Company
Newman’s Own Foundation
Nexen Petroleum
Operation Happy Child
Peter Harrison Foundation
PF Charitable Trust
Post Code Community Trust
RELX
Royal Bank of Scotland
Royal Antediluvian Order of Buffaloes
Royal Navy and Royal Marines Charity
Sandra Charitable Trust

Santander
Selfish Mother
Signature Living Hotel Ltd
Smith and Williamson
The Albert Hunt Trust
The Anti Bullying Project
The Band Trust
The David and Claudia Harding Foundation
The Hull and East Riding Charitable Trust
The Light Fund
The Presidents Club Charitable Trust
The Three Guineas Trust
The Sir James Reckitt Charity
The Walt Disney Company
The Wimbledon Foundation
Zochonis Charitable Trust

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29th May 1961 Charitable Trust
ACT Foundation
A D Charitable Trust
Adint Charitable Trust
Anonymous
Anonymous
Astor Hotels
Baili Thomas Charitable Fund
Battersea Power station Foundation
Beatrice Laing Trust
BBC Children in Need
Blagrave Trust
BNP Paribas
CHK Charities
Clover Trust
Clothworkers Foundation
Cranwick Foods
Credit Suisse
CVC Capital
DM Thomas Foundation
Elizabeth & Prince Zaiger Charitable Trust
Eveson Charitable Trust
Garfield Weston Foundation
Glebe Charitable Trust
Glencore
Goldman Sachs
Groundwork UK
Grunenthal

Company information

Trustees

Hilary Sears - Chair
Stephen Unwin - Chair
Chris Stefani
Gabby Bertin
Kerry Crichtlow
Teresa Culverwell
Austin Erwin
Benet Middleton
David de Paeztron
Richard Pogrel
Lindsay Thomas
Sue Turner
Zoe Peden

resigned 25th November 2016
joined 25th November 2016
Treasurer

Company information at 31 March 2017

Registered Charity in England & Wales
No. 275936
Company Limited by Guarantee No
1346252

Registered Office
7-9 Elliott’s Place
London
N1 8HX