

Annual Report
2007/2008



chance uk





“ [The most important thing the mentoring taught me was] how being angry can effect other people, which is a good thing to have been taught. ”

Ali, 8

“ [Mentoring] has changed me 110 per cent ... I looked forward to it and really enjoyed it ... It has been one of the major changes in my life. ”

Perry, mentor



Contents

page 3	Mission Statement
page 5	Chair's Report
page 6	Chief Executive's Report
page 7	Chance UK Goes National
page 9	The Queen, the PM and a Conservative Party Press Conference
page 12	ParentPlus
page 14	Days Out and About
page 15	Funding the Future
page 16	Training
page 17	Luke and Bradley – a Case Study
page 18	Financial Statement
page 20	Contact Details

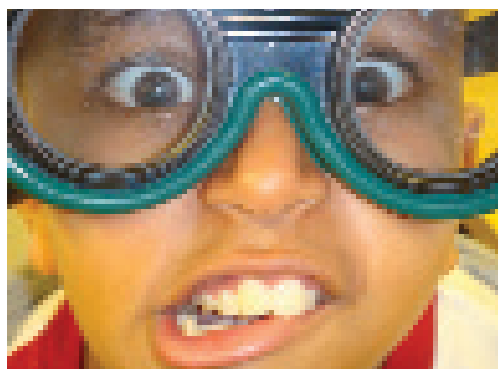
Mission Statement

Our mission: to identify primary school children with behavioural difficulties who are at risk of developing anti-social or criminal offending behaviour in the future; to improve their lives by offering them individually tailored, one-to-one mentoring with a carefully screened, trained and supervised adult volunteer; to offer support and guidance to the children's parents and/or carers.

Our objectives: to introduce more stability into the children's lives; to reduce the isolation the children and their families may be experiencing; to directly address the difficulties experienced by each child; to support the children as they find the motivation and life skills they need to move forward; to channel the children's disruptive energy into projects that encourage a sense of personal achievement; to engender in the children a sense of self-worth.

Here at Chance UK we follow all appropriate child protection guidelines and practices. We also:

- work to build and strengthen supportive partnerships with individuals and agencies involved in a vulnerable child's life;
- find the resources needed to provide successful mentoring programmes;
- recruit and train a reservoir of trustworthy, committed and compassionate adult volunteers upon whom we can call;
- evaluate our mentoring programmes and their effects, and make changes where appropriate;
- promote equality of opportunity and have non-discriminatory policies and practices.





Chair's Report



Geoff Broomhead

Chance UK has a reputation for excellence in the fields of volunteering and mentoring, which is why I am honoured to be writing this, my first report as Chair of the Board of Trustees. Having volunteered as a Chance UK mentor myself, I have first-hand experience of the positive difference our work can make to a child's life. And having been a trustee for the last three years, I know how much we have benefited from the guidance of our former chair, Dr Paul Vaight, who stepped down in September 2007. Paul's is a tough act to follow; he leaves Chance UK on a very firm footing. In his place, I look forward to building on our achievements and ensuring that, as we continue to grow, we maintain our award-winning standards.

We have had some notable successes in 2007/8 – not least the establishing of our four partnership programmes with Action for Children (formerly NCH), which were launched in 2007. There is growing recognition of the importance of mentoring among services seeking to address youth disorder issues. Chance UK is well positioned to lead, advise and offer its expertise in this regard.



During the past year we re-launched our website, now streamlined and much improved thanks to Les Mear, CEO of brand development consultancy Vitamin V, and a long-time supporter of Chance UK. We also updated our referrers' and volunteer recruitment literature, copies of which are available on request.

Looking forward

As always, our plan is to increase the number of children we support; consequently, we would like to see many more mentoring programmes based on the Chance UK model established throughout the United Kingdom. National Development Manager, Jo Hobbs, is working with Action for Children to further expand our service through their existing infrastructure. We are also negotiating new partnership agreements with other organisations. You can read more about our rapid growth on page seven.

Governance

I am delighted to welcome Dr Paul Vaight on to the Advisory Council; it's reassuring to know that his experience and expertise can still be called upon. I am sorry to say farewell to Advisory Council members John Frost and

Richard Woolford, who have stepped down due to work commitments. We wish them well for the future.

The trustees have commissioned a review of both the Board of Trustees and the Senior Management Team to see what changes may be needed in preparation for our continuing expansion.



Thanks and acknowledgements

Chance UK's achievements in 2007/8 are attributable in large part to our extraordinary volunteer mentors who, in addition to attending training, each donate a minimum of two hours a week of their free time for a year; on behalf of the Board of Trustees, I thank them all. I would also like to extend my heart-felt thanks to our staff for their dedication, hard work and professionalism, to our funders and fund-raisers for their generous support, and to the members of the Advisory Council, who give their expert advice so freely. Without your input, we would not be able to help so many young people find the skills they need to go far in life. The trustees are extremely proud of what Chance UK has achieved.

Geoff Broomhead, Chair, Board of Trustees

“Mentoring was the best possible use of my time this year.”
Amy, who has twice mentored for Chance UK

“[Now] when I'm angry, I squeeze my hand and count to ten.”
David, 10

Chief Executive's Report



Gracia McGrath

I am pleased to report that the longitudinal study of Chance UK's work has now been carried out by the Department of Psychology at Goldsmiths, University of London. This study, which has been ongoing since October 2006, is near completion and its findings are encouraging.

The most significant data from the study states that 98% of the children under review had fewer behavioural difficulties at the end of their mentoring year than they had had at its start. What's more, 51% ended the programme no longer being classified as having any behavioural difficulties at all. (In every case, the child's behaviour was measured at the start and finish of our programme using the Goodman's Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire.) The percentages reported by Goldsmiths are greater than those recorded during our own internal evaluation carried out in early 2006. In that study, 89% of our children had fewer behavioural difficulties at the end of their mentoring year, while 45% no longer had any behavioural difficulties at all.

In the second section of its study, Goldsmiths compared Chance UK children who had completed our programme up to five years ago with a control group. The result? All the Chance UK children showed greater improvement in conduct, hyperactivity, emotional wellbeing and pro-social behaviour than those in the control group. Furthermore, 93% of our children who had, at the start of their mentoring, been deemed at risk of developing anti-social or criminal offending in the future had not been in trouble with the police up to five years after the completion of our programme. Also, 53% of the parents interviewed had commented that their child's behaviour had improved as a direct result of the mentoring.

The third, and as yet incomplete, section of the Goldsmiths study closely follows five children from the start of their mentoring year through to graduation and debrief. This in-depth look at the mentoring process will be very useful in helping us focus on those areas in which we, as an organisation, need to improve in order to more effectively help children with behavioural difficulties. When the findings are in, we will have them published.

Farewell to Paul



Dr. Paul Vaight

In November 2007, staff, trustees and Advisory Council members said a formal farewell to Dr. Paul Vaight – our very first chairperson – who had been at the helm of Chance UK for ten years.

It was Paul who led Chance UK in those early experimental days in Islington when we worked with just 20 children. It was under his guidance that we expanded into Hackney, extended our services to more children in both boroughs, and then went on to establish Chance UK programmes nationally through partnerships across the UK. It was also during his tenure that Chance UK won many awards, including the prestigious Queen's Award for Voluntary Service and GoldStar status (awarded to us no fewer than three times) in recognition of our exemplary good practice in mentoring and befriending.

Impressive though this track record is, Paul will, I suspect, be best remembered for his unwavering commitment to our work, and for his great warmth and genuine concern for the families we support. I had the privilege of working closely with him for six years, and am delighted that we will not be losing his support and sound advice entirely as he has now joined the Advisory Council. On behalf of the staff, trustees, children and mentors – thank you, Paul, for doing such a fantastic job as Chance UK's first chairperson.



Chance UK Goes National

2007 saw the launch of four new Chance UK mentoring programmes started up in partnership with Action for Children (formerly known as NCH). Here's National Development Manager, Jo Hobbs, on the latest stage of our continuing expansion:

We launched our partnership with Action for Children through a series of campaigns focusing on volunteer recruitment. We conducted research into why so few people volunteer and used this as the hook to grab media interest. Our first campaign, which hit the headlines in June 2007, targeted men; our research had shown that men tend not to volunteer to work with children for fear of being seen as a paedophile. This campaign attracted a huge amount of media interest: it was picked up by many of the national newspapers, including *The Times*, which ran a big piece about it; it was featured on national TV and radio including BBC News 24; local newspapers, television and radio across the UK covered the story extensively, as did the voluntary sector press, and online publications such as Guardian Unlimited Online and ITV.com. Subsequent

I'm delighted to report that these early child/mentor relationships are making excellent progress; I've included overleaf a brief update on two of them.

I am also delighted to report that our partnership with Action for Children continues to develop positively, and that it has helped both organisations learn from each other. For example, here at Chance UK we have tightened up our child protection training and procedures with input from Action for Children's safeguarding unit. And through the partnership, we have helped some existing NCH mentoring projects develop their current practice, particularly with regard to using the solution-focused approach.

Alongside the four new programmes now up and running, we hope to establish more joint programmes with Action for Children next year. We are also in negotiations with other organisations to see how best we can help them set up a mentoring programme based on the Chance UK model. One of these organisations is Children and Family Action in the East Riding of Yorkshire.



campaigns, which were also well publicised, focused on older volunteers, and on volunteers from Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic communities to help us find mentors to match the ethnicity of the children on our books.

The four Chance UK/Action For Children pilot programmes – in Liverpool, Crawley, Inverness and Derry – held their first volunteer training sessions in autumn 2007. Their first live matches were made after the Christmas break.

Based in Withersea, they offer a huge variety of services for local children and their families such as adult numeracy and literacy courses, a dads' club, sexual health advice for teenagers, play opportunities and an annual summer arts festival. Another organisation with which we are in talks is the Pilton Community Health Project, based in Edinburgh. They run a number of services designed to help local people lead healthier, happier lives.

Partnership working: two case updates

Case one: Seven-year-old Dylan was referred to Chance UK/Action for Children's programme in Liverpool because of his attention-seeking behaviour, poor concentration and uncontrollable temper. He was matched with Liz, 31, just over two months ago.

From the outset, Dylan was keen to work with a mentor. He said he wanted to learn how to stop shouting out in class, how to stop being cheeky to his teachers and mum, and how to be patient with others. Asked why she wanted to mentor with Chance UK/Action for Children, Liz told us she had always been interested in volunteering but was only now in a position to commit the time needed. Liz is keen to change career and feels voluntary work will give her the experience needed to make that change.

Dylan and Liz have hit it off well. So far, they've started a scrapbook by which to remember their mentoring year and they've had trips out during which they've talked about how Dylan's getting on at home and at school. If he's encountering problems, Liz helps him think through how he might do things differently next time, i.e. she helps him look for the positive in each situation. Together, they are making progress.

Case two: Eight-year-old Bethany is an energetic, mischievous child who rarely understands the negative consequences of her temper and actions. A few months ago she was matched with Leslie, a Derry-based

community worker, to help her better deal with her anger and to boost her emotional development. Leslie chose to volunteer because she wanted to put something back into the community – to pass on her life skills and experience to a vulnerable child.

To date, Leslie has taught Bethany rhymes about good manners, to help her learn the value of being polite. She has also taught Bethany how to knit and how to count the number of stitches and rows, thereby improving Bethany's numeracy skills. Other games the pair have played include tennis and football, to improve Bethany's co-ordination and concentration, and word games, to improve Bethany's literacy skills. To help develop her emotional wellbeing, Bethany now keeps a 'feelings' scrapbook.

Although the mentoring relationship is still in its infancy, Bethany's family have reported seeing improvements in her behaviour. Bethany is clearly enjoying the experience, too. She says of her mentor: 'She makes me laugh ... She is always there when she says she is going to be there and she never lets me down.'

'I have met a lovely little girl with a big heart that oozes fun,' responds Leslie. 'She has taught me how to have fun again and not to be too serious all the time. I've even learnt to play football and had to ditch the high heels and buy a pair of trainers.'

Names have been changed in these case studies.





Rt. Hon. David Cameron MP, leader of the Conservative party, talking with Chance UK mentors and staff

The Queen, the PM and a Conservative Party Press Conference

Our profile has risen meteorically since Chance UK's inception in 1995, and on October 16 2007 we were reminded of this when the Conservative party leader, David Cameron, launched his Make British Poverty History campaign from our offices.

Before the press conference, David and former Conservative leader Iain Duncan Smith spent an hour talking to a dozen or so mentors and members of staff about the way our programme works and the results it achieves. After the conference, Iain invited our CEO, Gracia McGrath, to join the Centre For Social Justice's Youth Crime and Gangs working party as the advisor on early intervention. The working party will publish a report of its findings in early 2009.

For some time now, we here at Chance UK have been trying to persuade all major political parties to fully support early intervention initiatives; therefore, it was encouraging to hear David Cameron describe us as 'a brilliant voluntary body' whose work is 'impressive', and to hear him announce that the Conservatives' new child-centred policies will support early intervention programmes such as our own. David also called for changes to the social security benefits system and a boost to voluntary sector powers in order to help end poverty in Britain.

To find out more about David's visit to Chance UK, log on to the Conservative party website, click on 'Web Cameron' and search for 'Making British Poverty History'.



Rt. Hon. Iain Duncan Smith MP with Chance UK mentor Chiedza Kurangwa



Esther Rantzen and Chance UK children outside the Houses of Parliament



Rt. Hon. Phil Hope MP joins Chance UK to celebrate the Charity Champion Awards

“The organisation [of the mentoring] is flawless. [Chance UK has a] clear vision of what [it] is trying to achieve.”
Philip, mentor

Charity Champions

In 2005 we nominated Gordon Brown, then Chancellor of the Exchequer, for a Charity Champion Award. He won his category but was unable to attend the glittering ceremony so asked 11-year-old Cory Brown and his mentor to collect the award on his behalf. Two years later, Charity Champions celebrated its fifth anniversary, and to kick-off the festivities the awards’ organisers, ePolitix, invited three Chance UK children and their mentors to take part in a photo-shoot with television presenter Esther Rantzen and Minister for the Office of the Third Sector, Phil Hope.

Publicity shots were taken outside the Houses of Parliament. Afterwards, the children were shown around the House of Commons. The children were also photographed outside No.10 Downing Street. A tour of the Prime Minister’s home was not part of the itinerary; however, the children soon sussed that if they asked to use the bathroom they’d be able to sneak a peek inside ... and they did!



Chance UK mentors Perry Stephenson and Fabian Watkinson outside Buckingham Palace



Chance UK staff, children and mentors outside No.10 Downing Street

Queen's Award

There was another high-profile celebration in 2008, to mark the fifth anniversary of the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service. This highly coveted accolade is given to groups whose volunteers are judged to have regularly devoted their time to providing an outstanding level of help to other people. As one of the 2006 winners, we were invited to send two of our mentors to Buckingham Palace to represent our organisation. Here's what mentor Perry Stephenson had to say about his brush with the royals:

'...What a fantastic time was had by all: walking through the [palace] gates; passing through the lavish halls and rooms; plenty of bubbly! Meeting the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh was such an overwhelming experience that will last a lifetime.'

Perry talked to the Queen about Chance UK and the work we do. He and fellow mentor Fabian Watkinson also had a chat with Princess Anne. 'A great moment for Fabian and myself happened towards the end,' said Perry. 'We were talking and were interrupted by Princess Anne. She was so down-to-earth it was amazing. She said she was sorry she couldn't mentor.'

Fabian agreed that the Princess Royal was excellent company: 'She was definitely the highlight of the night. She was approachable and seemed to have a genuine interest in mentoring.'



Chance UK mentor Perry Stephenson meets Her Majesty the Queen

Said Perry: 'May I take this opportunity to thank all of you at Chance UK to allow me to mentor and the opportunity for me to meet the Queen.'

“As well as building his self-esteem, [it] has been really good for him to have an opportunity to be involved with things not around his mum or school. School has a learning agenda and his mum is very protective – it is good for him just to be able to do sports.”

John, teacher

ParentPlus

Four years ago we completely re-modelled our parent support programme. To find out how the scheme's developing, we asked ParentPlus Programme Manager, Barbara Sebti, to answer a few questions.

First things first, how does ParentPlus work?

All parents and carers with a child on our mentoring programme are referred to our parent support scheme. They are given an initial assessment to establish the nature of the support they may find useful, then, using our solution-focused approach, I encourage them to set targets they want to reach.

What kind of support do parents want?

Many are in need of advice about parenting issues such as creating and maintaining workable boundaries, and establishing better routines. They may also want help with practical issues such as drawing up a household budget, writing letters to financial institutions, accessing adult education, and finding out which agencies to approach when faced with housing problems or debt. To all of them I offer one-to-one support and someone with whom to talk. Over the past four years I have:

- ❑ encouraged parents/carers to develop a positive involvement with social/children's services by helping them to participate in the processes and prepare for meetings
- ❑ offered advice and signposting where there are alcohol or substance misuse issues. (I have supported grandparents who have taken over parenting in such cases.)
- ❑ mediated on behalf of Chance UK programme managers to ensure parents feel involved with their child's mentoring programme, thereby keeping the mentoring on track
- ❑ helped carers/parents improve their relationship with their child through better communication and joint activities
- ❑ supported Educational Welfare in persuading parents to ensure their children regularly attend school
- ❑ encouraged engagement with Sure Start, One o'Clock Clubs, after-school activities and school holiday provisions.

Last year it became apparent that what was most needed in some cases was help with buying school uniforms and basic household goods such as beds and bedding. This year we have managed to raise £2,345 in grants from, amongst others, the Frank Buttle Trust, the Cripplegate Foundation and the Family Welfare Association. A further £1,500-worth of 'white goods' has been given to some of our families who were in desperate need of basic electrical equipment. Support such as this is always very

encouraging; where awarded, it makes an enormous difference to a family's quality of life.

You mentioned working with grandparents. Is this often the case?

In recent years it has become noticeable that we are now working with a greater number of grandparents. In the main, they have taken on the responsibility of caring for their grandchildren because their own children have a substance misuse problem. We are actively seeking to work jointly with new projects that support carers in such a position. This is very much in line with key objectives within the Government's drug strategy: Drugs – Protecting Families and Communities, 2008.

What kind of targets have parents met?

With Chance UK's help, one of our parents has improved her parenting skills and her engagement with social services to such an extent that she has achieved her goal to have her son removed from a child protection plan. Two of our mothers are training to be domestic violence ambassadors in the community; a fourth is volunteering at her child's school, providing parental support to others. Of the parents to whom we have offered in-depth support, 10% have entered adult education.

'Barbara [Sebti] was 100%. She was scaffolding ... she ran with me rather than trying to cross me ... I mean, I was sitting on the corner of suicide bridge when I met her and it really helped.' **Carol, mother**

'I'm so happy that I met her [Barbara Sebti] because she's really put a lot of sunshine back in my life. I was really down when we met and was thinking negatively all the time.' **Diane, mother**



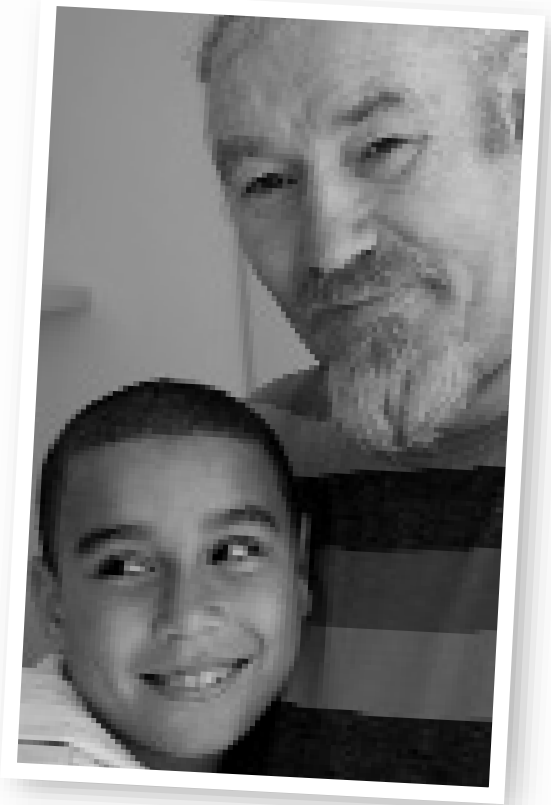
Photo Voyage

In April 2007 we invited some of our children, mentors and parents/carers to participate in a journey of self-discovery using black and white photographs. The aim of the project was to boost the children's self-esteem while at the same time engaging hard-to-reach parents and those whose relationship with their child had suffered as a result of the child's behavioural difficulties. There were two phases to the photo voyage:

1. The child and mentor were photographed together, and the developed photographs used as a basis for discussions about how they see themselves and how they appear to others. Their favourite photos were added to a journal that was used by the pair throughout the mentoring year to help the child develop a positive self-image.

2. The child and parent/carer were photographed together, and the developed photographs used to promote a more positive bond between them, and to stimulate further discussion about their relationship. The photographs were also added to the journal and later used by our ParentPlus worker when talking with the parent/carer about his/her relationship with the child.

Feedback from those who participated in Photo Voyage shows that it was a thought-provoking project. One mother said after studying a photo of her child: 'I see a different person, happy moments.' A beautiful photo had given a new perspective to their relationship; it had made a difference.



“Mentoring has given Jake loads of confidence, structure and boundaries. He is now very eager for knowledge. It has really improved on my relationship with him and we go out much more.”

Kerry, mother

“They got on fantastically from the beginning and Paul [the mentor] was such a positive and consistent role model. I had no idea it would be as beneficial and positive as it was. Cameron listens much better now, is calmer at home and will talk things through.”

Hailey, mother

Days Out and About



What a mentor and child do together during their weekly sessions depends largely on the interests and personalities of the pair, and on the goals agreed during the mentoring year. Activities might include sports, educational games, and visits to museums and libraries. On winter Saturday mornings they include attending art workshops at the National Portrait Gallery in London.

The National Portrait Gallery has been running creative sessions for Chance UK children and mentors since 2005. The aim of the workshops is to introduce the children to the visual arts in a fun and stimulating way. Each workshop has

a different theme and structure, inspired by whichever area of the gallery the children and mentors have most recently explored. Sometimes a mentoring pair may find themselves discussing the different styles of self-portrait they have seen and then creating their own images using, say, polystyrene carving, collage or painting. At other times they may find themselves photographing each other in the same pose as a figure in a recently viewed Old Master. Whatever the activity, there is always a lot of laughter in the workshop studio. Said Kyle, 7: 'I have never been to a gallery before and didn't know it would be this much fun. I want to come again with my sister.'

Chance UK Football Day

In April 2008 we held a Chance UK Football Day for 12 boys and their mentors, to which we invited Advanced Skills teacher Dan Lyndon to lead a workshop on the life of one of Britain's first Black professional footballers, Walter Tull.

The early part of the workshop focused on Tull's difficult childhood: growing up in Folkestone as part of a dual-heritage family; being sent to an orphanage in East London after the death of his parents. The latter part focused on Tull's professional football career, which was blighted by racism – in 1909, newspapers reported that he had been subjected to racist abuse during a game against Bristol City.

As part of the workshop, the children were asked to make a digital audio recording of a post-match commentary on the Bristol City game. They took to the task enthusiastically and the recordings were impressive – the combination of football and an extraordinary role model had obviously fired their imaginations. They went away from the day inspired by a man who had found the motivation to overcome hardships and reach his full potential, just as they themselves are learning to do under the guidance of their mentors.



Funding the Future



Funders

Big Lottery Fund • BBC Children In Need • Cabinet Office • Cripplegate Foundation • Esmée Fairbairn Charitable Trust
Help a London Child • London Borough of Hackney • London Borough of Islington • New Philanthropy Capital
PiggyBankKids • The Henry Smith Charity • The Mercers' Company • Tuixen Foundation

Fund-raisers

In July 2007, author Marie Phillips held a launch party for her novel *Gods Behaving Badly* and donated the royalties from all copies sold at the launch to Chance UK. In September, former mentor Donna Prince raised more cash for us by running in the Lucozade Hydro Active Women's Challenge. Said Donna: 'I am passionate about changing young lives in the community, which is why I volunteered as a mentor.'

In April 2008, Times Online journalist Robert Crampton went on a sponsored diet, which contributed £1,000 to our coffers. Former mentor Diana Francis also raised £1,000 in support of our work by hosting a fabulous fund-raising night in July.

The Chance UK Supporters' Group, which is run by former mentors, continues to organize social and fund-raising events. In August 2007, they held a brilliant quiz night at a London pub that netted us more than £500.

“ [My mentor] was kind, he would never swear and he would never break the rules ... He always showed respect to me and my mum. It's very helpful to have [a mentor]. Mentors help you a lot with anything you need help with. ”

Cemal, 11

“ The mentor always told me what was going on. She was flexible and consistent. She was full of energy and always ready to go and take him out ... It exceeded my expectations. ”

Tina, mother



Chance UK mentor Donna Prince



Training

In 2007/8, we allocated funding for a full-time volunteers' training officer, to ensure that our mentor training follows current best practice, and to provide our volunteers with additional on-the-job training. The successful applicant, Matt Collins, began his task by reviewing our three-day introductory training course against the National Occupational Standards for Mentoring. Of the 133 trainee mentors who attended the course in 2007/8 and were asked to evaluate it, 97% awarded it a mark of seven out of 10 or higher. Many trainees also commented on the friendliness and expertise of Chance UK staff.

Follow-up sessions

As part of his brief, Matt carried out a survey of our current volunteers to find out what additional skills they would find most useful in their mentoring. In response to the feedback, extra training sessions were delivered in

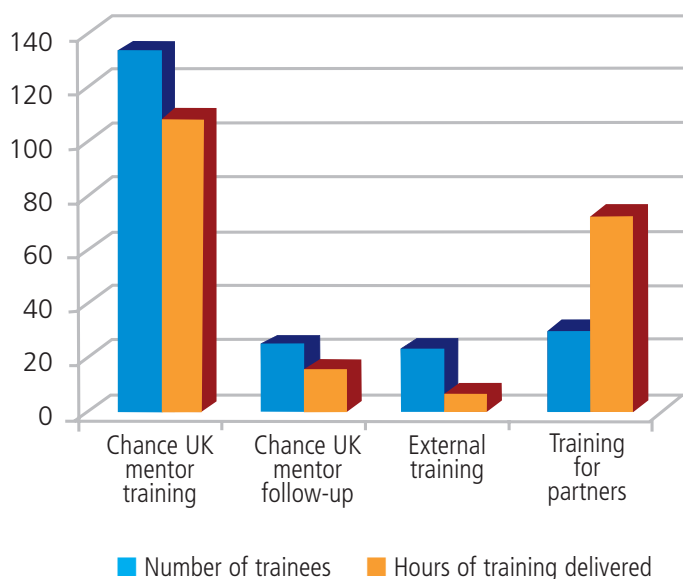
areas such as how to help raise a child's self-esteem, and how to use the solution-focused approach taught during the initial training in a more advanced way. The success of these sessions has led to the planning of others, in areas such as working with quiet children, and the benefits of setting and maintaining boundaries. 'I was looking for tips to help build my child's confidence in a structured way,' said one mentor. 'After the [follow-up] session I felt so much better about myself and what I was doing with my child ... Mentoring can take a lot out of you and these sessions are a good way to put it back!'

Online

The re-launched Chance UK website provided a great opportunity to further support our volunteers. Now, every Monday, we email a practical 'Tip of the Week' to current mentors, to use in their mentoring sessions. In addition, we've created online versions of our follow-up sessions, thereby enabling mentors who can't attend in person to work through the learning at their own pace. The website also provides an up-to-date list of child-friendly activities and events in London.

Training for partners

Several members of our staff team have used their experience and knowledge to train the first intake of mentors recruited to the new Chance UK/Action for Children mentoring projects in Liverpool, Crawley, Inverness and Derry. We also provided training for the mentoring co-ordinators of these projects so that they themselves will be able to deliver the Chance UK training programme to future intakes of volunteers. To all these mentoring co-ordinators we continue to offer our support.



Luke and Bradley – a Case Study

In 2007/8, Chance UK provided mentoring for 120 children in the London boroughs of Islington and Hackney. We've asked one of our Islington programme managers, Christine Hatt, to talk about a case on her books. All names have been changed in this case study.

The background

When six-year-old Luke was referred to Chance UK he was having serious difficulties at school. The main problem was his anger, which he found extremely difficult to control. He was verbally aggressive and violent, and bullied vulnerable children around him. To prevent Luke from harming himself and others, staff occasionally had to physically restrain him, which he hated.

Despite his fury and bravado, Luke was a vulnerable child. He did not confide in anyone, not even his friends. At school, he was a nervous learner who was fearful of making a mistake, especially in front of his classmates. He did, however, enjoy writing, and arts and crafts because these subjects gave him the opportunity to express himself without the risk of giving a 'wrong' answer. He also adored football and was a talented player, but his disruptive behaviour meant he often missed out on a place in school teams, which further fuelled his anger.

At the time of referral, Luke's grandmother had been his main carer for about five years. His mother was in prison (although soon to be released) and contact with his father had only recently re-started. Luke's referrers (staff from his school) were particularly concerned about the influence that his father's 'gangster lifestyle' might have on him and asked Chance UK for a male mentor, to provide him with an alternative male role model.

As part of the referral process, Chance UK interviewed Luke's grandmother, Sarah. During the interview, she, like Luke's referrers, pointed out the contrasting aspects of her grandson's personality: on the one hand, he was a shy, loving boy who lacked confidence; on the other, he could fly into a rage over nothing. Like school staff, Sarah asked that Luke be matched with a male mentor who was Black (Luke is of mixed race), and who would show him that being a man does not have to involve criminality. When asked what type of mentor he would like, Luke said that he wanted someone sporty, friendly and chatty, but that it would be good if he were a man, too.

The match

Luke was matched with Bradley, a Black banker in his late 30s. Bradley comes from a loving, supportive family and wanted the opportunity to share the many advantages of his own upbringing with a child who had not had such good fortune. More importantly from Luke's point of view, Bradley was a serious football fan!

The mentoring

At first Luke was painfully shy with Bradley; however, as the mentoring progressed, he became more relaxed – and

Bradley became more aware of Luke's difficulties, in particular his fierce temper and his fear of failure. To help Luke recognise and deal with his tantrums, Bradley explained to him that although his frustration was understandable, he alone was responsible for his reactions, which meant he had some control over them. Bradley then encouraged Luke to come up with his own ideas for how he might do things differently the next time he saw red.

To help Luke deal with his fear of doing things badly – Luke often crossed out chunks of writing or whole drawings simply because he felt they weren't good enough – Bradley explained that everyone makes mistakes, and that Luke could easily amend his work rather than starting all over again. In this way, with gentle encouragement and repetition, Luke began to have more confidence in himself. As he became accustomed to Bradley's calm, solution-focused approach, he also became better at keeping his anger in check.

After the first three months of mentoring, a review is held between mentor, child, carer/parent and a Chance UK staff member to review progress and agree targets for the next stage. At Luke's three-month review, it was agreed that, in order to reinforce the positive changes in his behaviour, Bradley would create a chart onto which he would stick paper stars whenever Luke behaved well. Each time a star was awarded, or withheld, Bradley would explain why. Luke loved decorating this chart with drawings. What's more, he took great pride in seeing the cluster of stars grow week by week.

Of course, the mentoring year was not without its fun. There were Chance UK-organised outings such as a canal boat trip with other mentors and children. There were also lots of one-on-one activities. Luke particularly loved quizzes that involved bombarding Bradley with general knowledge questions. Cars were another joint passion and the pair spent hours designing and drawing their dream automobile. Playing football together, however, was their favourite activity and Luke was thrilled to be declared the winner of a closely fought penalty shoot-out competition between Bradley and himself that had lasted the whole year.

The happy end

Towards the end of the mentoring, Luke was asked what he had learnt from Bradley. He wrote: 'to have fun, to not get upset, to talk about things ... [and] it doesn't matter if you make a mistake.' Nine months into the mentoring, Luke's grandmother, Sarah, summed up the difference made by Bradley's support even more clearly. She said: '[Luke] still has his little tantrums but only for a minute or two. They used to [last] up to an hour and be uncontrollable. This is a major change ... [Luke] is so much calmer now that [we] can go out as a family ... His behaviour is much better already.'

6 [A mentor is] someone who helps you with things you are having trouble with. Someone who takes you out, helps you understand things better and helps families get on better. 9 **Rebecca, 11**

CHANCE UK LIMITED
(A company limited by guarantee)

SUMMARISED BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST MARCH 2008

	<u>2008</u>		<u>2007</u>	
	£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS				
Tangible fixed assets		18,556		12,938
CURRENT ASSETS				
Debtors	33,194		6,037	
Cash at bank and in hand	223,390		314,165	
	<u>256,584</u>		<u>320,202</u>	
CREDITORS: amounts falling due				
within one year	(51,259)		(173,338)	
NET CURRENT ASSETS		205,325		146,864
NET ASSETS		<u>223,881</u>		<u>159,802</u>
INCOME FUNDS				
Unrestricted funds		193,075		111,282
Restricted funds		30,806		48,520
		<u>223,881</u>		<u>159,802</u>

These summarised accounts have been extracted from the full audited accounts of Chance UK Limited for the year ended 31st March 2008 and they may not contain sufficient information to allow for a full understanding of the financial affairs of the charity.

For further information copies of the full audited accounts can be obtained from Chance UK Limited, 2nd Floor, London Fashion Centre, 89-93 Fonthill Road, Finsbury Park, London N4 3JH, Telephone number 020 7281 5858. The full audited accounts were approved by the Trustees and have been submitted to the Charity Commission and Registrar of Companies. The audit report thereon was unqualified.

**AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF
CHANCE UK LIMITED**

(A company limited by guarantee)

We have examined the summarised accounts, which have been extracted from the full audited accounts for the year ended 31st March 2008. In our opinion the summarised accounts are consistent with the full audited accounts.

RAMON LEE & PARTNERS
REGISTERED AUDITORS
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

KEMP HOUSE
152-160 CITY ROAD
LONDON EC1V 2DW

9TH SEPTEMBER 2008

CHANCE UK LIMITED
(A company limited by guarantee)

SUMMARISED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2008

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2008 £	2007 £
INCOMING RESOURCES				
London Borough of Hackney	149,000	-	149,000	145,000
London Borough of Islington	152,812	-	152,812	101,502
Mayors Fund	20,806	-	20,806	-
Cripplegate Foundation	-	-	-	10,000
Timebank	-	7,900	7,900	-
New Philantropy Capital	128,164	25,000	153,164	65,164
Cabinet Office Gold Star Award	-	59,820	59,820	59,717
Big Lottery Fund	-	45,212	45,212	58,984
Piggy Bank Kids	5,000	-	5,000	-
BBC Children in Need	-	30,996	30,996	30,236
Esmee Fairbairn Charitable Trust	-	29,737	29,737	29,737
Future	-	10,000	10,000	-
Tuixen Foundation	20,000	-	20,000	-
Help A London Child	-	1,740	1,740	2,580
Barings Asset Management	-	-	-	30,000
The Henry Smith Charity	-	40,000	40,000	40,000
The Mercers' Company	14,000	-	14,000	14,000
Donations received	27,735	3,977	31,712	113,688
Bank interest	9,496	-	9,496	6,173
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES	527,013	254,382	781,395	706,781
RESOURCES EXPENDED				
Charitable expenditure	431,432	272,096	703,528	612,579
Governance costs	13,788	-	13,788	16,339
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED	445,220	272,096	717,316	628,918
NET INCOMING RESOURCES	81,793	(17,714)	64,079	77,863
FUND BALANCES, brought forward	111,282	48,520	159,802	81,939
FUND BALANCES, carried forward	193,075	30,806	223,881	159,802

CONTINUING OPERATIONS

None of the company's activities were acquired or discontinued during the above two financial periods.

TOTAL RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES

The company has no recognised gains or losses other than the above movement in funds for the above two financial periods.

Contact Details

Chance UK

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89-93 Fonthill Road
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Website: www.chanceuk.com

Trustees

Nicola Baboneau
Geoff Broomhead (chair)
Lynne Burdon
Fergus Munro
Ian Norman-Bruce
Annette O’Gorman
James Salmon
Lady Simon of Highbury

Advisory Council

Paul Colwill
Jane Fletcher
Yvonne Millar
Barrie O’Shea
Dr. Paul Vaight

Charity Registration Number: 1046947
Company Registration Number: 3057840

GoldStar



chance uk

