



ANNUAL REVIEW

2020-2021

AUTUS | info@autus.org.uk



CHAIR'S STATEMENT

I am delighted to introduce the 2020 / 2021 Annual Review. It seems something of an understatement to say that this was a challenging year for Autus and it's with a sense of pride that I say: despite the difficulties of operating within the context of the Pandemic, we continued to innovate and support our service users in a meaningful way.

The Pandemic brought much change and uncertainty which was a frightening experience for many of our service users and team, so it was crucial that Autus offered a steadying anchor. We were able to achieve this by smoothly transitioning our service to 100% online without difficulty thanks to our virtual learning environment. This served to prove that our unique approach and technology is both robust and effective. Autus service users were able to continue with social job club and our other amazing projects over lockdown periods while others were learning about the very technologies we have harnessed since our inception in 2010.

We were fortunate to have a brilliant team who worked hard to support the additional needs presented by Covid19; Dawn and team devised and delivered projects that were appropriate for the time helping many young Autistic people to develop personally and professionally over the last 12 months.

Enjoy our annual journey through the projects, milestones and achievements of Autus and our fantastic service users!

Eleanor Fisk



CASE STUDY

"Autus and Dawn have changed my son's life!

He approached Autus after receiving his diagnosis of high functioning autism at the age of 21...he was anxious, nervous and didn't have a focus or any idea about his next steps. After 6 sessions with Dawn, he has signed up for an online Teaching Assistant qualification and has a goal to work towards. Unfortunately, he had not been able to work for 18 months previously. He now feels much happier and able to understand his diagnosis, accepting that although he has this condition he will get through life and has changed his outlook. Thank you Autus."

J's Mum

'J' contacted Autus as a young man of 21 who was recently diagnosed with Asperger's Syndrome (high functioning autism). This diagnosis had given him a reflective concept for the difficulties he had experienced in the past and he was now actively searching for employment in an area that would both suit his strengths and give him a career path. At our initial meeting on Zoom 'J' was very opening in sharing background information and stating his long-term goal of financial independence through employment. As he finds social interaction difficult and suffers from anxiety, we worked together on researching possible options. Initially it seemed that working with animals was the preference but through his willingness to explore options and the support of his family he settled on the area of early education.

'J' felt that his own experiences would enable him to assist others learning in special needs schools or autism units as he would empathise with and recognise the difficulties they were experiencing. The role of 'Teaching Assistant' provides both a social environment that would become familiar and predictable and a career path for development. We worked together on a template document that will support him in future job applications and interview situations as it outlines both his strengths and weaknesses and gives coping strategies for the latter.

In terms of outcomes, 'J' has enrolled for an online Level 3 Course as a Teaching Assistant and is currently on his way to completing the first of the 4 assignments required. He has also contacted local schools with a view to volunteering to help him gain some practical experience and is confident that in time he will find an appropriate position. There is no doubt that the Compass Coaching Sessions gave 'J' exactly what he needed to put his own wishes, reflections and ideas together into a common goal and to create an action plan which will lead him there. I enjoyed working with 'J' enormously.



"To put it simply, it was fantastic! I enjoyed every bit of it.

What you have provided for me has been incredibly helpful in my interview preparation. In addition, our conversations about how the job market works and what is on demand were great; you were amazing at breaking down what companies need, want and expect from you if you are applying for a job in Games design, Graphic design, Animation etc... your services have been phenomenal.

I would highly recommend Autus to anyone who is struggling with learning disabilities or Autism that needs help or guidance in securing work. Thanks for helping me get my first job!"

David, Compass
Coaching Participant

PROJECTS

KEYTECH

Year 2 of KeyTech funded by City Bridge Trust was a great success with lessons learnt from Year 1 being embedded into the programme. We were delighted to report to the following successes:

1. 2 jobs secured
2. 4 volunteering roles
3. 3 entered into technical skills training
4. 1 self-employment

Feedback from participants included:

This is a project the team is keen to gain continuation funding for future delivery.

COMPASS COACHING

Thanks to a London Community Response Wave 3 grant we were able to offer a project that offered one to one coaching to our participants. Whether it was individuals seeking support to get through a challenging period or people seeking to help with job search our coaches were on hand to help. Each individual had a minimum of 6 sessions with one of our experienced coaches and after a quiet start this project supported 21 people with 156 personalised coaching sessions. Participants set their own objectives and we facilitated a number of achievements:

- K created a CV and applied for apprenticeships
- D updated his CV and attended 3 interviews
- J worked on his CV and confidence and secured a job
- B developed his graphic design skills and launched an online shop

CREATE

Our National Lottery Community Fund funding meant we were able to offer a creative programme that focused on digital art therapy. This was very much about helping people to have a positive focus over periods of lockdown. A rich variety of digital art was produced whilst providing an engaging context for discussing and reflecting on key themes over the Pandemic.

'It teaches you the real world on how to get a job, how to approach a job interview, getting along with a colleague at work or a boss of the company'.

'The presentations were also good and helped improve my self-confidence and also how to speak more fluently in public.'

'Interacting with many people is an excellent way of giving you confidence and not low esteem.'

KeyTech Evaluation

EMERGE

Funded by John Lewis Partnership, this self-employment project was launched in January 2021. We are very excited about this project which seeks to support our participants 'Emerge' as business owners. We will hone their skills and talents as we provide guidance and practical support on key business areas. We look forward to reporting on the successes of this project over the next 2 years.

KEEPING IT WILD

Keeping it Wild was a program in conjunction with London Wildlife Trust designed to improve engagement with nature in an urban area, promoting awareness of environmental issues and conservation in the Greater London area.

We took a dedicated sim, where we met to discuss options and created a series of step-by-step instructions that people could use to create objects in the real world relevant to conservation.

Participants embraced the project and worked as a team to make it a success. In cases where one learner had issues, others would chip in with support and solutions. The project received positive feedback from LWT regarding our implementation within the virtual world, and people can continue to use it as a resource.

JACK PETCHEY AWARD SCHEME

We have continued to recognize the achievements of our service users through the Jack Petchey Award Scheme. Where we have worked on job applications with individuals as part of other projects our recent awardees have been able to add this achievement to make their CVs stand out.





FUNDERS

That Autus was able to continue supporting our service users with meaningful and interesting projects over the Covid period is largely due to our funders. We would like to take this opportunity to thank our funders and supporters for their continued support and confidence in Autus and its unique model for supporting growth and positive transitions.

The Woodward Charitable Trust logo, consisting of the text 'THE WOODWARD CHARITABLE TRUST' in white capital letters on a dark green rectangular background.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Please see below our independently examined accounts. Full accounts are available on request.

Hao2.eu Foundation		Charity Number: 1153397
Annual accounts for the period		
1st April 2020	To	31st March 2021

Section A Statement of financial activities

Recommended categories by activity	Unrestricted funds £ F01	Restricted income funds £ F02	Endowment funds £ F03	Total funds £ F04	Prior year funds £ F05
Incoming resources (Note 3)					
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	-	-	-	-	-
Charitable activities	-	-	-	-	-
Other trading activities	-	5,400	-	5,400	25,872
Grants	3,650	66,728	-	60,378	37,855
Separate material item of income	-	-	-	-	-
Other	-	-	-	-	-
Total	3,650	62,128	-	65,778	63,727
Resources expended (Note 6)					
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	-	-	-	-	-
Charitable activities	3,650	24,436	-	28,086	31,873
Separate material item of expense	-	-	-	-	-
Other	-	152	-	152	25,872
Total	3,650	24,588	-	28,238	57,745
Net income/(expenditure) before investment gains/(losses)	-	37,540	-	37,540	5,982
Net gains/(losses) on investments	-	-	-	-	-
Net income/(expenditure)	-	37,540	-	37,540	5,982
Extraordinary items	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
Other recognised gains/(losses):					
Gains and losses on revaluation of fixed assets for the charity's own use	-	-	-	-	2,000
Other gains/(losses)	-	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds	-	37,540	-	37,540	7,982
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward	14,153	-	-	14,153	6,171
Total funds carried forward	14,153	37,540	-	51,693	14,153

Accountants:

Taxomatic LTD
63/66 Hatton Garden
Fifth Floor Suite 23
London, EC1N 8LE

BALANCE SHEET

Section B Balance sheet

		Unrestricted funds £	Restricted income funds £	Endowment funds £	Total this year £	Total last year £
		F01	F02	F03	F04	F05
Fixed assets						
Intangible assets	(Note 15)	56,995	-	-	56,995	3,000
Tangible assets	(Note 14)	1,068	-	-	1,068	1,220
Heritage assets	(Note 16)	-	-	-	-	-
Investments	(Note 17)	-	-	-	-	-
Total fixed assets		58,063	-	-	58,063	4,220
Current assets						
Stocks	(Note 18)	-	-	-	-	-
Debtors	(Note 19)	-	-	-	-	-
Investments	(Note 17.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Cash at bank and in hand	(Note 24)	43,563	-	-	43,563	11,271
Total current assets		43,563	-	-	43,563	11,271
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(Note 20)	1,338	-	-	1,338	1,338
Net current assets/(liabilities)		42,225	-	-	42,225	9,933
Total assets less current liabilities		100,288	-	-	100,288	14,153
Creditors: amounts falling due after one year	(Note 20)	48,595	-	-	48,595	-
Provisions for liabilities		-	-	-	-	-
Total net assets or liabilities		51,693	-	-	51,693	14,153
Funds of the Charity						
Endowment funds	(Note 27)	-	-	-	-	-
Restricted income funds	(Note 27)	37,540	-	-	37,540	5,982
Unrestricted funds		-	-	-	-	-
Revaluation reserve		14,153	-	-	14,153	14,153
Total funds		51,693	-	-	51,693	20,135



TEAM

Autus continues to benefit from a committed and hardworking team of autism, teaching and technical specialists. We have a fantastic group of professionals who are willing and ready to volunteer their services for coaching and other bespoke projects.

For many individuals Autus offers a lifeline as they have not been able to benefit from services elsewhere. It is our diverse and flexible team (some of whom take on more than one role) that enables us to meet the needs of those who are referred to us.

Head of Service

Dawn Duffin

Session Leaders

Kitty Mulvihill (Senior Session Leader)
Ross Knowles
Andrea Andreassen

Service Coordinator

Patience Baptiste-Longville

Technical and Operations Officer

James Bradshaw

Fundraising and Finance

Donna Thompson

Mentors and Session Support

James Bradshaw
H Clarke
Andrea Hall

Volunteers

Adam Dixon, Daniel Aldridge, Stefan Gordon

Coaching Volunteers

Donna Thompson
Nicola Herbertson

Support Team

Jo Ivers
Darshan Raja Rayan

We would like to thank all staff, board members, volunteers, stakeholders and contributors for their support throughout the year and look forward to a continued successful partnership.

Follow us at:

www.autus.org.uk

<https://www.facebook.com/AutusTheHao2euFoundation>

<https://twitter.com/autus4autism>