

SCHEMENEWS

Home
START

Support and friendship
for families
www.homestartlorn.org

Newsletter of Home-Start Lorn

Issue 13

December 2016

Funders include

See our Christmas Appeal



Christmas Appeal

Home-Start Lorn has been very fortunate to receive an offer from national Charity **Four Acre Trust** (Charity No. 1053884) with the promise that any donation received by Home-Start Lorn of £500 or more will be match funded by Four Acre Trust, for a limited period – in fact ‘til mid-January 2017.



Home-Start Lorn supports families with young children in North Argyll and Mull. We use trained volunteers to work on a personal level with families - mums, dads and children. Our

volunteers offer friendship, advice, support and help to families who may be experiencing

difficult times. We currently have 30 volunteers in the Oban and Mull area.

- We believe that children deserve the best possible start to life
- We have been supporting families in the Lorn area for 28 years
- We make a difference to families and children's lives.

Home-Start Lorn is managed by a group of local Trustees: Fiona Campbell, Elizabeth Carson, Bob Clarke, David Hodge, Susie Hutchison, Sarah Palmer, Gela Rose and Val Woodman.

We have sent out an appeal letter to some businesses in the Oban and Mull area asking for help, but we would ask if you can help. You can give personally, or if this is not an option, please will you ask anyone who you consider may be able to help.



Cheques, payable to Home-Start Lorn, can be sent to the address below. For electronic payments please use Sort Code 87-37-63 Account No. 78275560.

Home-Start Lorn, Queens Building, George Street, Oban. PA34 5RZ Tel:01631 566749

E.mail: homestartlorn@btconnect.com or homestartmull@gmail.com



Home-Start Lorn

It is important to note that under the appeal we are happy to receive any donation however small, but we can double any gift of £500+.

Scottish Government debates Home-Start's work with Dads

A Scottish Parliamentary debate took place on 23rd November to mark the Year of the Dad, to specifically raise and praise Home-Start's work with fathers.

Bob Doris, MSP for Maryhill and Springburn, Glasgow, submitted a motion highlighting the current and new work of Home-Start towards engagement of dads.



Bob Doris, MSP talking with Home-Start staff at the Reception

The debate highlighted the important work we do with families and recognised the on-going work within Scottish Home-Starts to be more inclusive of dads. He pointed out that many parents are lucky to have a strong support network – family, friends, work colleagues, etc. - but what if these networks leak or change?

Regarding Dad's he questioned what supports there are for Dads and how do we engage with Dads in a meaningful, respectful and relevant way? Home-Start helps parents and children form life-strong relationships especially during the early years.

Mark McDonald, Minister for Childcare and Early Years also spoke about the valuable work that Home-Start do.

Following the debate Bob Doris hosted a Parliamentary Reception on behalf of Home-

Start Scotland. Home-Start Lorn was represented at the Reception

You can watch the debate on: <http://ow.ly/MsQ5306ulu7>

What our families say about Home-Start Lorn

A mum, who had been supported by a Home-Start volunteer just after she had been diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis said, *“Angela (the home-Start volunteer) just brought some normality into our lives at a time which was far from normal. I don't think I could have coped without her.”*

Another mum told our scheme manager, *“If it hadn't been for Mary (the Home-Start volunteer) I wouldn't be alive today!”*

Numbers alone cannot measure the difference a Home-Start volunteer can make to a family.

More examples can be found on our web site www.homestartlorn.org.uk

Be a Home-Start Lorn Volunteer

Would you like to help in your local community? Can you spare 2-3 hours per week of your time?

Home-Start is *always* looking for new volunteers. If you are a mum, dad, or grandparent, and want to find out how you can help, then please contact Scheme Manager Aileen on 01631 566749.

All home-visiting volunteers receive first class professional training and preparatory courses are organised twice a year. It is only through our wonderful volunteers that we can provide our service!

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You will find us at:

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

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