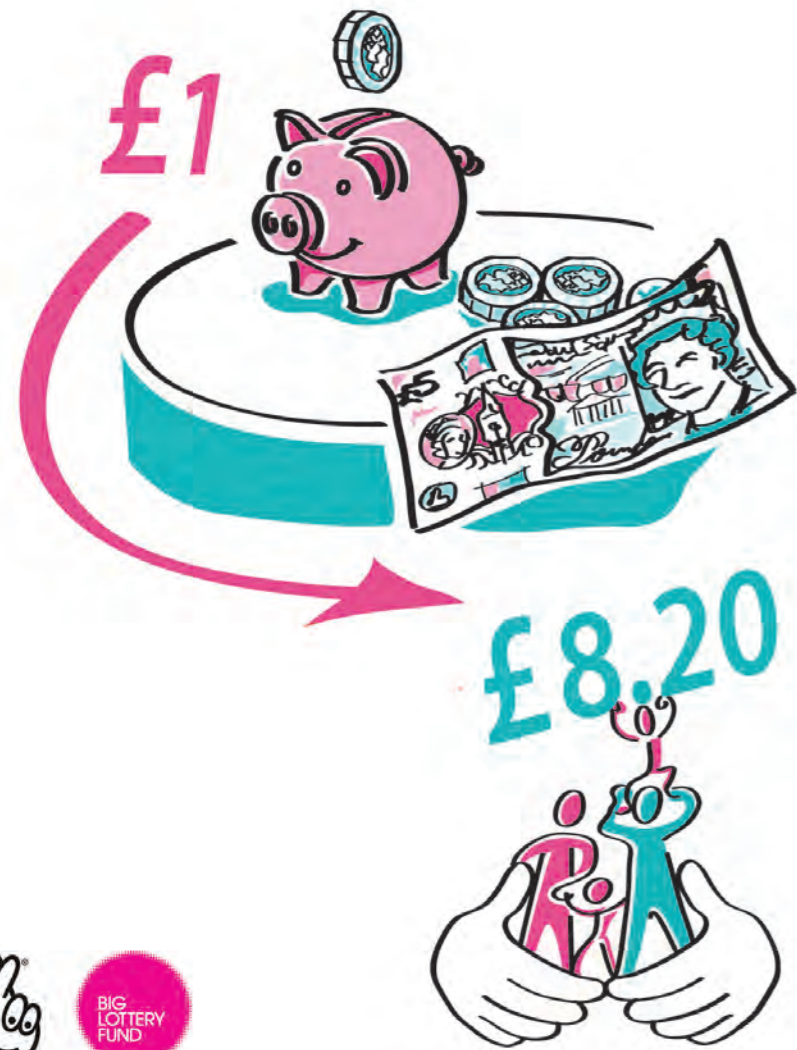
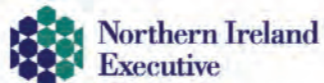


How Did We Make It Happen?

An independent Social Return on Investment (SROI) study found that for **every £1.00 invested in Family Support** by the Big Lottery fund, **£8.20 of Social Value was created.**



Our Funders



We are very grateful to all of our funders, local businesses and the general public whose continued goodwill and support enables us to continue helping local families through tough times in their lives. Thank you.



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Kilkeel, BT34 4AF
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Annual Report 2017



About Us

SPACE believes that every person has the right to access services and support to reach their potential.

We have three overarching areas of work.

1. Supporting Parents and Children



2. Supporting People and Communities



3. Supporting Potential and Community Enterprise



Communities and Agencies working together to change lives...

Early in 2017 we received a call for help from another local charity to help a mum that they were supporting. This lady and her children were moving out of temporary accommodation into a home of their own, they had no material possessions of their own. We met with the mum and the Northern Ireland Housing Executive (NIHE) to look at what could be done. NIHE had provided a house but it was bare inside and needed to become a home. Using our contacts with local businesses, Newry Junior Chamber and Save the Children, we were able to completely fit out the whole house within a week. Volunteers spent the weekend painting walls, laying carpets and moving in furniture. Local businesses donated carpets, beds, rugs, lamps. Save the Children and St Vincent DePaul helped us access white goods and we even had toys, bedding and crockery donated. As charities it is only with the good will of others and our local communities that we can bring about change for the most vulnerable in our communities.

Space is a charity registered with the Charity Commission of Northern Ireland NIC105005

Presenting Issues

Most Individuals who require support from **SPACE** are experiencing a range of challenging circumstances. In addition to practical family support the most common issues that our families face are

Poor Mental Health

Approximately **65%** of families we support are impacted by mental ill health.



Poverty

During 2017 we accessed over **£20,000** worth of household equipment to support families in financial need.



Accessing Hospital Services for Older People

During 2017 we provided hospital transport to **165** older people.



Parenting Support

4268 parents accessed parenting programmes and information sessions.



Low Confidence

48 volunteers. At Space we really value the diversity of our volunteers. In particular we are indebted to those who are helping others whilst coping with their own low mood, poor health or additional needs.



What We Did Last Year

600

Families received 1:1 Support



1178

Children benefited from family support



700

Activity sessions for children

170

Older people received 840 hours of support

6600

Volunteer hours

Martina's Story



Martina's life changed aged 25 when she began taking seizures that resulted in temporary blackouts. Living in a rurally isolated area with three small children and hubby at work she was collapsing on the floor and blacking out three or four times per day, without any warning. She could no longer drive, or go up her stairs, even with extended family helping out, every hour of every day was a worry. After a long period of worry and stress, trying to cope with everyday family life her health visitor made a referral into the **Family Support Hub** and the referral was picked up by **SPACE**.

"SPACE family support worker reassured me that everything was going to be ok. They gave me advice and signposted me to other organizations who could give me additional help, there is so much out there but I wouldn't have known about it without SPACE. They were there when my family needed them most and have helped us through a really difficult time. Having someone who "got" our situation and that we could trust to share our worries and fears with was a godsend."

The People We Helped

Newcomer Families



Older People



ENCOURAGING SIGNPOSTING
CONNECTING EDUCATING

ENABLING SUPPORTING
GUIDING ROUTINES BELIEVING LISTENING
TRANSPORT MOTIVATING CARING
EMPOWERING



Children & Families



People with Disabilities

SPACE can only deliver all of our services with support from volunteers. They can be found throughout all our services; providing practical support to families, driving older people to hospital, helping out at events and summer schemes or serving customers and upcycling furniture in our social enterprise, Love Your Space. Even our management board are volunteers.

This year our volunteers have achieved many successes and it is a privilege to watch them grow and develop. Some of their accomplishments this year include winning a national swimming competition, winning a Shining Light Award, taking on new responsibilities in the shop, helping fundraise and working with the children in our summer camps. Our volunteers do it all, and we can't do it without them. We are so proud of the people that give their time, energy and heart to **SPACE**.

Thank you to a great bunch of people.

The Difference We Made

We use various methods to evaluate and measure our outcomes. These include questionnaires, evaluation sheets and more robust techniques such as Outcome Star, an evidence-based tool for supporting and measuring change.

Our evaluation shows us that we have helped families to:

- Take better control of their lives
- Sustain healthy relationships and build healthier families
- Improve relationships with children, partners and agencies
- Become better educated
- Improve their financial situation
- Improve their mental wellbeing
- Look better/feel better
- Become more connected within their communities

"I now have hope that my child will get the support they need"
Anna, mum of 9yr old child with additional needs



93%

Of the families we have engaged with report an **improvement in their circumstances** as a result of an intervention.

74%

Of families report their **wellbeing improved** after **SPACE** intervention.

67%

Of parents report that they were **better able to meet their children's emotional needs** after **SPACE** support.

70%

Of parents reported that **family routines were better** as a result of interventions.