



“The best thing is having someone to talk to. (The Circle worker) makes me happy.”

(Child)

# Introduction

**Circle is a Scottish charity working at the heart of communities across central Scotland.**

Our aim is to support children and families suffering the effects of disadvantage and to improve their lives, promote their healthy development and help them to reach their potential.

We do this by working with the whole family, enabling them to draw on their strengths to take control of their lives. We aim to enhance the dignity and self-respect of all those who use our services. We strive to work in partnership with other organisations to deliver supportive services that invest in families and promote the best possible start in life for children, ensuring that they reach key developmental and educational milestones.

The backdrop to the past year has continued to be one of challenge for Circle and the voluntary sector as a whole. This has meant that we have had to be even more committed and resourceful in maintaining, and in some instances growing, the services that help to support and develop some of the most marginalised families in Scotland.

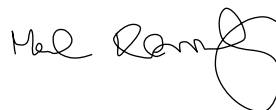
Overall the year has been a positive one for Circle. Our team of front-line Family Outreach Workers and Project Managers

has continued to work in a committed and innovative way to ensure families access support that is respectful and that meets their needs and expectations. We have improved outcomes for families across a range of indicators helping them to be more active and healthy and feel more respected and included.

There have been successes in securing ongoing funding for some of our vital services, and we have added to other services that will support our capacity to innovate and develop our work as we go forward.

None of this would be possible without the generous support of our donors, funders and partners and the dedication and expertise of our staff. We would like to thank you all for your continued support that will allow us to keep delivering services to children and their families in the future.

Best wishes



Mark Kennedy  
Chief Executive



Grant Sugden  
Chair

## Our vision

For all children to be safe, happy, healthy and nurtured within a stable family environment, which supports them to achieve their potential.

## Our purpose

To improve the lives of children by strengthening families.

**In 2019-20 Circle supported 540 families made up of:**

**825** children



**632** parents



**12** kinship carers



**21** young people



# Circle improves the lives of children by strengthening families

## We work with:

- Families with children affected by parental drug and alcohol use
- Families with children affected by parental imprisonment
- Families with children at risk of school exclusion
- Families with very young children who need additional support
- Fathers in their role as parents
- Young people affected by substance use
- Pregnant mothers affected by substance use

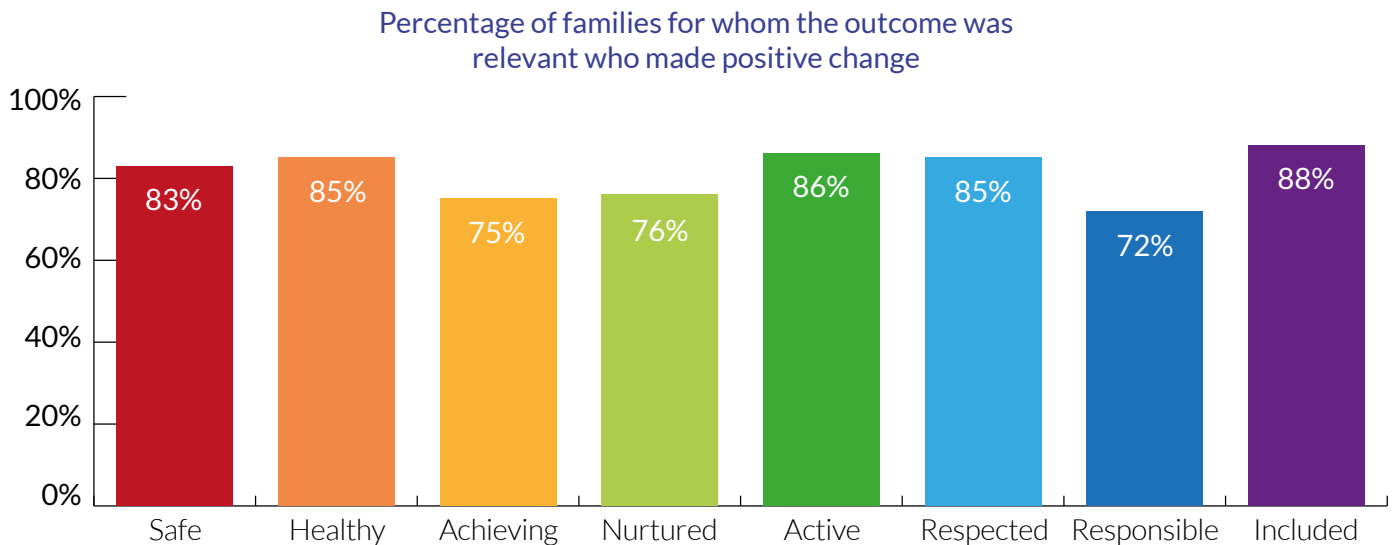
“If I didn't have (Circle Worker) my life would be as bad as it was when I took heroin. If I'm honest, I don't think I'd be alive.” (Parent)

“My experience of working with the Circle team has been hugely positive, they are very strong professionals, with a wide range of skills which are instrumental in supporting vulnerable families and empowering service users.” (Social Worker)

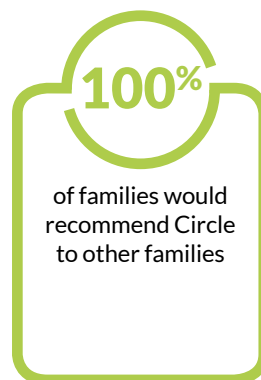
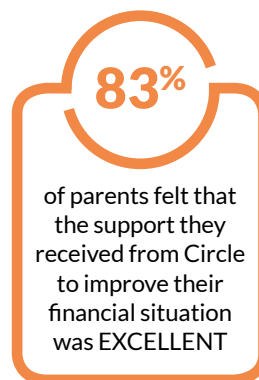
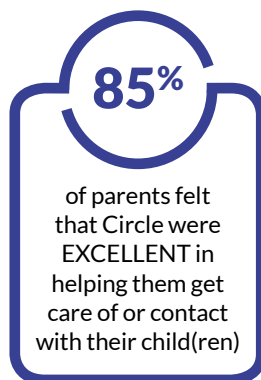
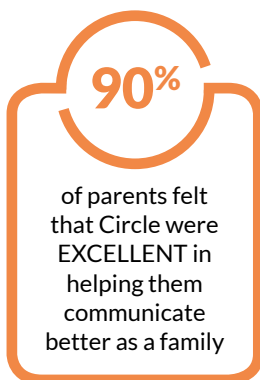
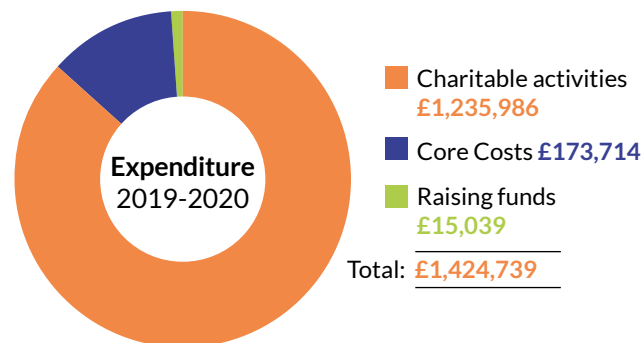
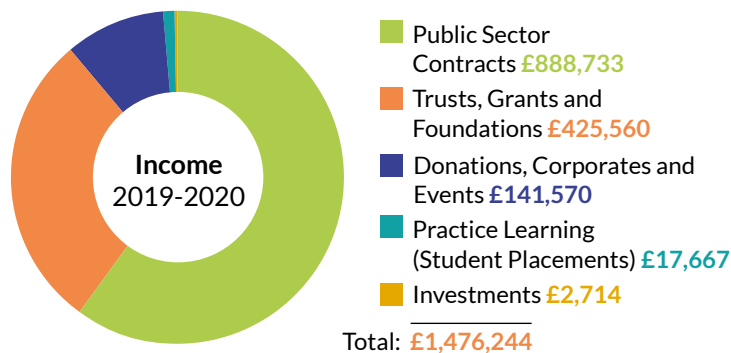
Circle is a learning organisation and through our Practice Learning & Development, we provided 12 placements to Social Work students during 2019-20.

## 2019-2020 outcomes

Our outcomes use the SHANARRI indicators, in line with *Getting it right for every child* (GIRFEC).



# The year in numbers



## 2019-20 Funding

- Caledonia Youth • Cattanach • Chance to Flourish • Clackmannanshire & Stirling ADP • Corra Foundation
- The City of Edinburgh Council • Crerar Trust • East Lothian Council • The Edinburgh Bowling League • Gartmhor Trust
- George Heriot's School • The Henry Smith Charity • JTH Charitable Trust • KPE4 Charitable Trust • Leonardo
- Mrs M A Black Charitable Trust • Muirhouse Housing Association • National Lottery Community Fund
- Reducing Reoffending Change Fund Partnership • The Robertson Trust • The RS Macdonald Charitable Trust
- Scottish Government • Sir Tom Farmer Foundation • Sodexo • South Lanarkshire Council • Spurgin Charitable Trust
- Walter Scott Giving Group • West Lothian Council

We also owe a massive thanks to Mark Fletcher, organiser of the DARED (Do A Run Every Day) Challenge, and to all who participated in raising a record-breaking amount this year.