

## **About us**

Every day Muscular Dystrophy UK is working towards a future with effective treatments and ultimately cures for all musclewasting and associated conditions and where there are no limits in life for people who are affected.

We believe this as passionately now as we did when we were established 60 years ago. It drives everything we do.

It is this vision that unites us all – from the researchers we support to the health professionals we train; from the people we help through our information and advocacy services to our supporters who inform, guide and campaign with us to make change happen.

We understand that muscular dystrophy changes everything. That's why we're here for anyone, right from the moment of diagnosis and beyond. We're here to help people take back some control of their lives and to live well with the condition. We understand the everyday challenges of muscular dystrophy, so we're here with information and advice, emotional and practical support, a network of local groups and an online community.

With your support, we can be here for everyone affected today, tomorrow and beyond. Together we are bringing forward the day when there are effective treatments available for all muscle-wasting and associated conditions.





Prof Dame Kay Davies, MDUK-funded researcher at Oxford University





On the cover: Louise and Jacob Halling

# Welcome

Welcome to our impact report. It's been a year of pace and change as we renew our determination to find effective treatments for all muscle wasting and associated neuromuscular conditions and remove the barriers that stop people living full and independent lives. It's only with the support of our wider community and those who work with us that we've been able to deliver that change.

Sixty years ago when Muscular Dystrophy UK was first formed, research into muscle wasting conditions was largely neglected, the life expectancy for people living with Duchenne was around 14 years and attitudes towards people with disabilities were largely negative.

Today, pioneering research has led to over 150 clinical trials globally, better support and care has seen life expectancy increase and improved access to care and support, means that more people with muscular dystrophy have greater opportunities, visibility and aspirations than ever before. There is still a long way to go.

This year we made history, our campaigning work with families and other charities helped to secure access to Spinraza to treat SMA Types 1, 2 and 3. We will continue to press for change until everyone who needs it has access to it wherever they live in the UK. We know how difficult it is to secure approval and funding for treatments for rare diseases, particularly in England and we will continue to collaborate with partner charities to achieve changes to the approval system.

We continue to invest in world-leading research. This year we invested £1.2m into 10 new research projects and we are working in partnership with the University of Oxford to establish a world leading centre aimed at bringing new treatments to patients faster.

Working closely with you, we understand what 'change' means; the challenges that changes in your condition create; the questions the choices about trials open up; the changes in government assessments. In the following pages you will read about the work of our services to provide information, advice and support for people at the times when they need us. This year Robert Meadowcroft, our former CEO, who

led the charity for eight years stepped down and handed over to Catherine Woodhead in September. We thank him for his years of dedicated work and bringing the charity to where it is today.

We welcome Gabby Logan, as our new President and thank Sue Barker OBE who gave us 14 brilliant years of support as our President. We're delighted Sue has taken on a new role as Honorary Life President.

The change that has been achieved is only made possible through our supporters who make every day count. You – our individuals and families living with the conditions, our donors, fundraisers, volunteers, Board members, committee members, researchers, clinicians, care staff and our staff team –will help us to achieve a world with effective treatments and cures, and no limits in life for those affected by musclewasting and associated conditions. We're deeply grateful for your support, commitment and hard work.

Catan

Catherine Woodhead, CEO

Prof Mike Hanna, MDUK Chair



Prof Mike Hanna, Gabby Logan, Sue Barker and Catherine Woodhead at the MDUK National Conference 2018

# Searching for treatments and cures

What we achieved in 2018/19

Every day MDUK is working towards a future with effective treatments and ultimately cures for all muscle-wasting and associated conditions. We're committed to supporting researchers and doctors to carry out the best quality research and continue to invest in areas where we are looking to see change in the near future.

In 2018/19, with your support we invested £1.2m into 10 new research projects, and £1.8m to support UK clinical trial capacity and other activities that underpin vital research. This brings our current investment in research to £9.7m, including 50 world-class projects in the UK and internationally.



### Harnessing the power of genetics

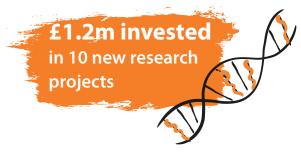
MDUK-funded researchers at Newcastle University have used next-generation sequencing. This is an innovative technology that 'reads' the whole of an individual's genome (their complete set of DNA). It is faster and more precise than current genetic testing methods. Taking DNA samples from 56 families with unexplained muscle weakness, this technology enabled them to search for underlying mutations. They identified mutations in 14 different genes and in 23 families. This will help shape more effective clinical management and tailored care for people.

### **Partnerships**

We are working in partnership with the University of Oxford to establish a world-leading centre aimed at bringing new treatments to patients faster.



Photo © Chris O'Donovan/MDUK



Thanks to your generosity, we invested over £1m in the MDUK Oxford Neuromuscular Centre, which will carry out translational research and boost capacity for clinical trials.

### **Clinical trials and registries**

Only a limited number of neuromuscular centres are currently able to carry out clinical trials, so we're working to ensure that centres across the UK have enough trained staff to support them and more patients have the opportunity take part. Our financial support for clinical trial co-ordinators this year has helped to set up and run 45 different clinical trials.



### Facilitating drug development

With generous support from family funds and others, we continued to support several patient registries, natural history studies and databases. In the case of rare conditions where the causes are poorly understood, these studies can provide useful data for researchers to follow the progression of a condition, and provide access to patients for clinical trials.

£1.8m invested to support UK clinical trial capacity



MDUK Family Funds like Carmela's Stand Up to Muscular Dystrophy help to fund our research. Lucy, Carmela and Darren Chillery-Watson

### WHAT WE'LL DO NEXT

# Accelerate research to develop effective treatments and cures

This year we published our three-year research strategy *Transforming lives through research*.

### In 2019/20 we will:

- promote the theme of innovation and partnership that underpins all that we do and enables research to be given every chance to succeed
- encourage and support scientists and clinicians with new ideas and technologies to come into the area of research
- continue to invest in high-quality research to understand the underlying causes of disease, develop potential treatments and improve the quality of life of people living with neuromuscular conditions.

### **Thanks**

Funding from the Gamma Trust, the James Weir Foundation and the Grace Trust helped kick-start Jarod Wong's research on bone health in Duchenne muscular dystrophy. The Dudley and Geoffrey Cox Charitable Trust and the N Smith Charitable Settlement are supporting Francesco Muntoni's new research into causation of congenital muscular dystrophy and congenital myopathy.



For over 20 years, MDUK has supported the work of Prof George Dickson at the Royal Holloway University of London to design, test and refine a gene therapy for Duchenne muscular dystrophy (DMD), which is now ready to be tested in boys for the first time. Prof Dickson has recently retired and Linda Popplewell is continuing his work, together with teams from the UK and France. They aim to start recruiting patients in 2019.

"Gene therapy in general – and DMD gene therapy in particular – is beginning to prove successful, and I feel we're on the cusp of a new era. An effective and safe gene therapy could be almost curative in younger patients. In older patients or in those with Becker muscular dystrophy, it could stabilise the disease in the long term, improving quality of life, life span and life chances," said Prof Dickson.

"I leave behind a brilliant research team under the leadership of Linda Popplewell, which will continue to elucidate new treatments and opportunities not only in Duchenne, but in the whole muscular dystrophy field."

Linda Popplewell feels honoured to continue Prof Dickson's work.



Photo © Chris O'Donovan/MDUK

"This fantastic opportunity to lead on such an exciting project is humbling but empowering. The project focuses on trialling a gene addition therapy for DMD that could have universal patient applicability and be long-lived in action. I worked with Prof George Dickson to secure and manage this grant and with his retirement now take on the reins on my own.

"It's an exciting time in the muscular dystrophy field with many therapies currently in clinical trial. I have a realistic hope that it won't be too long before a number of these therapies will receive approval from the relevant authorities for prescribed use in patients," said Linda. "MDUK funding has always been at the core, enabling support for my research, having funded our research on exon skipping and gene therapy in the early days, along with the French charity AFM. By focusing on top-rated and expertapproved research, MDUK funding has yielded extraordinary contributions," said Prof Dickson.

### Thanks

Our family funds and donors who support our Duchenne Research Breakthrough Fund, enabling us to fund groundbreaking research like this.

# Driving change for specialist care and support

What we achieved in 2018/19

Time is precious when you're living with a muscle-wasting condition, but it can take years for drugs and treatments to get from the lab bench to those who need them. MDUK is at the forefront of a movement for change bringing together people to have a voice and deliver lasting change.



### Together, making history

Working in partnership with other charities, doctors, individuals and families, we put pressure on decision-makers to make Spinraza, the first ever treatment for spinal muscular atrophy (SMA), available for those with SMA types 1, 2 and 3. In 2018/19, access was secured in Scotland and at the start of 2019/20 NICE approved the treatment for use in England. We are currently fighting for access to the treatment for everybody who could benefit and for Northern Ireland and Wales to give approval too.

34% increase
in physiotherapists
completing specialist
online training

### Investment in specialist roles and services

We secured £511k worth of funding for 12 new NHS-funded specialist neuromuscular roles, including consultants, nurses and physiotherapists. Since 2013, we've secured 93 new roles and saved a further 15. This total NHS investment of £6.4m means more people across the UK with musclewasting conditions have access to the specialist support they need.

### Working with health professionals

When health professionals understand the impact of muscle-wasting conditions on the everyday lives of people, they can provide the best possible care. During the past year, we launched four new online courses for nurses, occupational therapists and teachers so they can better meet the needs of those with muscle-wasting conditions. These courses have been taken over 2,000 times. And for our existing courses, we saw a 34 percent increase in the number



of physiotherapists completing their module and a further 150 GPs completing theirs.

### **Influencing governments**

Working with the All Party Parliamentary Group on Muscular Dystrophy, we launched a major report in the Westminster Parliament, which will guide our campaign for appropriate mental health support. Twenty-five MPs pledged to support the report's findings too. We continue to provide support for cross-party groups in the Houses of Parliament, Scottish Parliament, Welsh Assembly and Northern Ireland Assembly.

### Mental health matters

Muscle-wasting conditions can affect all aspects of life. This year we launched a virtual clinical psychology service, offering telephone reviews and counselling for parents of children who are newly diagnosed or going through a difficult time.

This is a pilot project and early reports have been positive. We'll use the results to campaign for the delivery of improved mental health services nationally and shape future service provision.

### Thanks

The psychology service gave us an opportunity to build a new relationship with the Tom and Sheila Springer Charity, a new trust to us. Their grant enabled us to launch the pilot project.



### WHAT WE'LL DO NEXT

### Drive change for access to specialist NHS care:

- campaign for system change to the drug approval process across the UK so that people can get new treatments faster
- support health professionals to build their understanding of muscle-wasting conditions and their role in providing high-quality care
- use our influence to increase the availability and quality of NHS specialist support
- improve the reach and the quality of the physical and mental support for individuals and families living with muscle-wasting conditions.

# They understood what I was going through

At MDUK, we're determined that everyone with a muscle-wasting condition has access to the best possible healthcare locally. So we're leading the drive to improve the standards of clinical support across the UK through our Centres of Clinical Excellence awards.

A panel of health professionals and patient representatives developed the criteria for the awards, while patients gave their views at muscle group meetings and online. This helped determine which centres were delivering the very best care.

The Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust was among 17 centres recognised in our 2018 UK-wide audit. Rotherham mum of two, Jayne Small, talks about what it means to have access to a specialist support team there.

"I was first diagnosed with muscular dystrophy four and a half years ago. I had gone to the GP with concerns about my walking and getting up and down steps. Two months later, a neurologist told me it was likely I had a genetic neuromuscular disorder and I was devastated. I've had lots of tests to find out what type of muscular dystrophy it is, and we still don't know. The good news is that we're still trying, and I have a much more positive outlook on life.

"Eight months after my first consultation with a neurologist, I realised I wasn't coping very well and needed support outside of my family. The neurologist put me in touch with the Hallamshire Hospital's specialist neuromuscular care advisor who also made contact with clinical specialist physiotherapists.

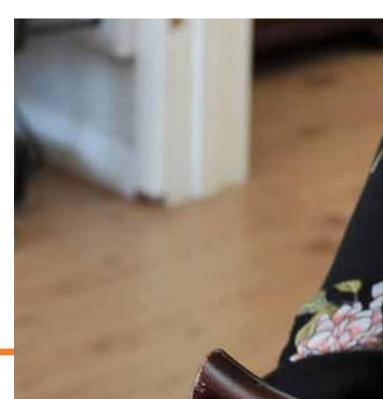
"The main support was they understood what I was going through. They listened to me and gave me advice in so many different areas. They came out to my home and spoke through the difficulties I was having physically, mentally and logistically. I was working then, so they helped with practical support too.

"You can also talk to other people going through similar things – you don't feel like you're on your own."

Over the past few years, Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust has played a key role in raising awareness of neuromuscular conditions, organising and running training days and events for GPs, patients, carers and families. These events, which have been hugely popular, have helped further educate patients, families and their carers on ways they can better manage their condition. Patients have also helped to establish and decide discussion topics – with clinicians responding and acting on feedback to focus events on specific topics such as the importance of exercise and available financial support.

Dr Channa Hewamadduma, Consultant
Neuromuscular Neurologist, says, "the adult
neuromuscular service at the Royal Hallamshire
and Northern General Hospital is a well-established,
comprehensive, diagnostic and therapeutic service
with a range of subspecialist interests in peripheral
nerve, muscle and neuromuscular junction disorders.

"We are hoping to grow with a number of projects to increase research and further benefit patients. This award will galvanise the team to keep striving for clinical excellence."





# Living well with a muscle-wasting condition

What we achieved in 2018/19

Being diagnosed with a muscle-wasting condition means adjusting to a new and unexpected reality, so it's important to have easy access to the information and support you need. That is why we provide free, expert information, resources and confidential support online, over the phone, in communities and in hospitals.

### **Information and support**

Our helpline team continue to provide information, practical advice and support and listen to people's concerns; we answered 1,052 calls, a 26 percent increase on last year's number. We supported 21,710 people in total.

25,000
understand more
about their condition after
downloading our info factsheets

We also provide support through our information resources and online forum. Over 56,000 people visited our website's care and support areas and downloaded 25,000 info factsheets. In addition, 3,000 people used our online forum to share experiences, and support each other. Our Research Line helped 415 people find out more about the latest developments and clinical trials.

### **Advocacy**

People face a range of direct costs because of their condition. To help tackle these issues, our advocacy team helps them get the benefits, care and services they are entitled to. We also advise on housing adaptations and education support. This year we supported 920 people, securing £754k worth of support for them.

### **Thanks**

Generous funding from the Bank of Scotland Foundation, the Northwood Charitable Trust and the Templeton Goodwill Trust enables us to support people in Glasgow and reach out to more people living in the north of Scotland.

### **Equipment grants**

Through the Joseph Patrick Trust (JPT), we gave £331k in grants that provided 236 people with practical aids, equipment and assistive technology to improve their quality of life. JPT expanded its range of grants to include smart home and environmental controls to support everyday living.

### **Bringing people together**

Our regional network of muscle groups continues to grow, enabling people to share their experiences and discuss local and national issues that affect them or that are a barrier to living independently. We also held two family fun days that attracted over 250 people, over half being new to the charity.

### **Thanks**

We're able to run these groups across the country thanks to support from the Lawson Trust, the Liz and Terry Bramall Foundation, The George A Moore Foundation, the Sylvia and Colin Shepherd Charitable Trust, the Patricia and Donald Shepherd Charitable Trust, the Annie Tranmer Charitable Trust, the Charles S French Charitable Trust, The Fowler, Smith and Jones Trust, the Lord Belstead Charitable Trust.

### **Changing Places toilets**

People with disabilities often need extra equipment and space to allow them to use toilets safely and comfortably. We continued to lead the Changing Places consortium



of charities campaigning for more accessible toilet and changing facilities in public places. There are now 1,263 registered Changing Places toilets across the UK and we secured a significant partnership with the Department for Transport to administer a £2m grant programme to ensure there are adequate Changing Places facilities in motorway service stations in England.



£2m grant

to ensure adequate Changing Places facilities in motorway service stations in England

Young campaigners

Trailblazers is a network of 783 young disabled people who work to remove the barriers to living full and independent lives. The Trailblazers' Moving Up work experience scheme for young disabled people has supported 36 young disabled people, over 60 percent of whom have gone on to find paid work or education.

### **Engaging volunteers**

We rely on the fantastic support from volunteers for much of our work. This year we began an



exciting programme of work to ensure we're properly supporting our volunteers and to explore how we can increase the reach and impact of our support services by placing volunteers at the heart of their delivery.

### WHAT WE'LL DO NEXT

# Improving quality of life by enabling independent living. We will:

- improve the reach and quality of our advocacy support
- identify the injustices and barriers to full participation in society that people affected by a muscle-wasting condition experience and campaign on key issues to bring about lasting change
- provide direct financial support to help people meet the costs of equipment and adaptations
- secure improved access to Changing Places toilet facilities through Muscular Dystrophy UK's leadership of the Changing Places consortium.

### **Thanks**

Last year the Bupa UK Foundation funded our new programme of wellbeing camps for young people living with muscle-wasting conditions. They were so excited to hear of the camps' success that they committed a second grant this year to offer this fulfilling experience to even more young people.

# Changing the landscape for disabled people

### "Trailblazers campaign on issues that matter most to young disabled people and the real-life experiences of disabled people are at the heart of every campaign."

This is what appealed to Conrad Tokarczyk when he came across Trailblazers in 2014. A graduate in health sciences who has previously worked for the NHS, he's been a Trailblazer ever since.

"I got involved with Trailblazers' employability project by sharing my experiences of the barriers I've faced as a disabled person looking for employment. I thoroughly enjoyed the Working Group sessions hosted by Emma Vogelmann, Trailblazers Employability Officer, and this strengthened my desire to become more involved with the group.

"On many occasions I've gone to job interviews only to discover I couldn't get into the building or park my car. I've lost count of the number of times I've been offered a job/interview, only to have to pass because of access issues. I hoped that by sharing my experiences, I could play a small part in breaking down barriers and help to create a brighter future for young disabled people.

Conrad Tokarczyk



Photo © Chris O'Donovan/MDUK

"Trailblazers has taught me that when enough strong-willed people with a shared objective work together, you can achieve anything. They successfully collaborated with software giants Microsoft to launch the very first adaptive controller, and with social media giant Twitter to implement more robust measures to protect disabled people from online abuse.

"The *Ready and able* report – the result of Trailblazers work with young disabled people and employers – contains a number of recommendations. I believe Trailblazers will successfully collaborate with policymakers, Government and employers to break

down barriers to employment and, if some of the recommendations are implemented, Trailblazers once again will have changed the landscape for disabled people."

### **Thanks**

The Employability Project was funded by generous long-standing supporter the City Bridge Trust. This complements and adds value to the work experience programme they support through Moving Up.

# Your support of our vital work

What we achieved in 2018/19

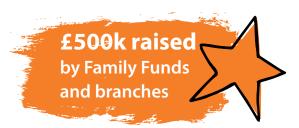
# Together you've raised a whopping £6,628m during the past year.

The dedication and generosity of our supporters makes everything we do possible. You are vital to ensuring more people with muscle-wasting and associated conditions can enjoy better lives every day. Thank you to all of our amazing fundraisers, volunteers, donors, campaigners and those who are changing their communities.

More than 9,000 people got involved in events across the UK. And thanks too for the support of our corporate partners, trusts and foundations, our branches, family funds and other fundraising groups. We're also incredibly grateful to those who chose to remember MDUK with a gift in their Will.

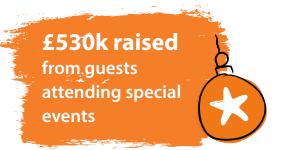
You're all helping to make every day count for people living with muscle-wasting conditions in the UK today.

- 62 people jumped out of planes and raised a breath-taking £70,705
- 28,403 people helped their schools and workplaces Go Orange for a Day and raised £36,250
- 120 runners took part in the Great North Run and raised a record £75,835
- 7,704 people took part in six different challenge events
- 1,386 guests attended a range of special events raising £530,000
- A dinner featuring MDUK Ambassador and Masterchef finalist Nawamin Pinpathomrat, and the friends and family of one of our key supporter family funds raised £50,000
- Our Family Funds and branches raised £500k
- 120 runners took part in the London Marathon and raised £320k





£784k
raised by you
taking part in
runs UK-wide













For us at MDUK, corporate partnerships are much more than big cheque presentations; they're about people getting together to change lives. The majority of our current and previous partnerships have been generated by our families, supporters, trustees, and employees.

These are people who know our charity well, who want to get involved in something really worthwhile and who can inspire their friends and colleagues to get involved too.

Thomas Savill, then MDUK Corporate Development Executive with Martin Donnelly of Matalan

Here's one example of how that happens.

Rubik's Cube produce MDUK-branded keyrings for us to sell in Matalan stores, thanks to a long-term supporter's relationship with Matalan.

The keyring proved popular; it increased awareness of the Rubik's brand, its association with MDUK, and raised more than £150k.

Mike Townend, then CEO of Rubik's Cube, talks about how and why he wanted to support MDUK:

"After a classmate of mine sadly died from muscular dystrophy, my whole family became lifelong supporters of the charity, including my 84-year-old

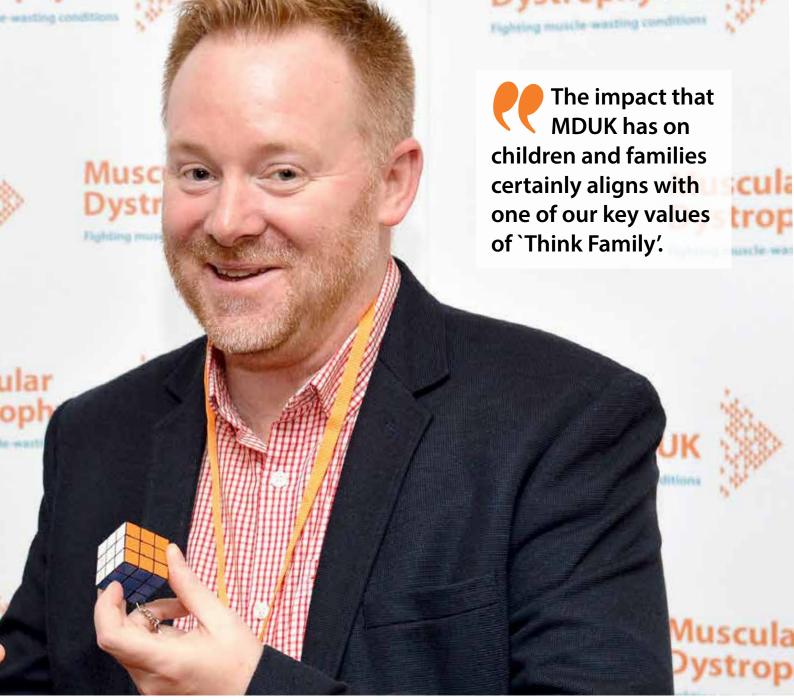


Photo © MDUK

mother, who still collects. Having run the London Marathon for MDUK in 2017, I was reminded of the charity's amazing and essential work.

"Rubik's are delighted by the generosity and support of Matalan; this three-way partnership provides 'win-win' for everyone.

"In a busy and highly commercial world, it is rewarding and motivating to take time out to help and support a charity like MDUK.

"It also gives employees a sense of pride in the company they work for, to know that it has a sense of social responsibility." Martin Donnelly, Senior Retail Operations Manager at Matalan, has been involved in fundraising for MDUK for many years:

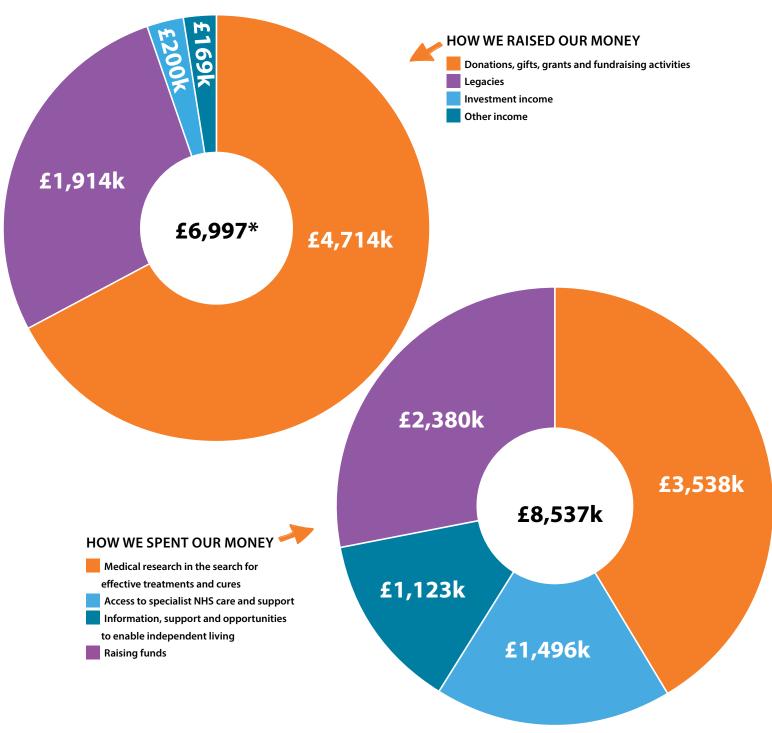
"As a family value retailer, it is important for us that the fundraising we do is compelling to our colleagues and customers. The impact that MDUK has on children and families certainly aligns with one of our key values of 'Think Family'.

"The partnership has involved some of our stores selling Rubik's Cube keyrings, and it has certainly been a success. The iconic recognisable product is fantastic to support fundraising. Our customers are getting a great quality, pick-up line and feel they are making a generous donation to a really worthwhile charity."

# **Our finances**

Thanks to the generosity of individuals, families, branches, groups, corporate partners, trusts and foundations, as well as continuing support from legacy donors, and those who took part in MDUK events across the UK, the year ended as planned.

This included a planned deficit, to bring our unrestricted reserves back to our £1.6m target for the development of our charitable activities in the years to come.



<sup>\*</sup>In addition to our regular income of £6.9m, we also received £2m to be distributed on behalf of the DfT to expand the availability of Changing Places toilets across the motorway network in England.

Our full set of accounts is available upon request, or from www.musculardystrophyuk.org/publications/impact-reports

# Here for everyone

There are an estimated 70,000 people in the UK living with any one of 60 different muscle-wasting and associated conditions. At MDUK, we believe everyone living with a condition should have what they need to live full and independent lives. Here are some of the ways we supported people during 2018/19:



# Thank you

# We are extremely grateful to so many people and organisations for their significant support this year:

Alexander Acloque Anderson Strathern

APL

BGC International L P Bill and Jacky Ronald

Bolt Burdon Brit Insurance

CeX

Charles and Nicola Manby

Comic Relief

Dan and Claire Parker

Frances Carey

Full Story Marketing Gill and George Hubb

**Henry Oldfield Trust** 

**Hogan Lovells** 

lan and Ann McNeil

Jeremy and Mary Champion

John Booth Charitable Foundation

John G. Watson MAP Nemaline

Matalan Retail Limited

**McBains** 

Mrs Gladys Row Fogo Charitable

Trust

OneFamily

Old Mutual Wealth

**PTC Therapeutics** 

Peter and Frances Meyer

Portview

Mayo Marriott Mackies's Taypack

Oison Crawley Rubik's Cube Sally Whittet

The 41 Club

The Annandale Charitable Trust

The Belfast Cathedral Sitout

The Barbour Foundation

The Broughton Charitable Trust

The Charles and Elsie Sykes Trust

The City Bridge Trust

The Constance Travis Charitable

Trust

The Cranbury Foundation

The D'Oyly Carte Charitable Trust

The Eveson Charitable Trust

The Ian Fleming Charitable Trust

The Inman Charity

The Northwood Charitable Trust

The Sir Samuel Scott of Yews Trust

The Templeton Goodwill Trust

The William Allen Young Charitable

Trust

Tony and Monica Moorwood

The Exilarch's Foundation

The Adint Charitable Trust

The Albert Edward Procter

Charitable Trust

The Ann Jane Green Trust

The Annett Charitable Trust

The Annie Tranmer Charitable Trust

The Bank of Scotland Foundation

The Boost Charitable Trust

The Chapman Charitable Trust

The Charles S French Charitable

Trust

The Clapp Family Charitable Trust

The D D McPhail Charitable

Settlement

The Denley Family Settlement

The Dudley and Geoffrey Cox

Charitable Trust

The Fowler, Smith and Jones Trust

The George Moore Foundation

The Gordon Fraser Charitable Trust

The Grace Trust

The IBB Trust

The JK Young Endowment Fund

The JAH Trust

The James Weir Foundation

The JFH Wiseman Will Trust

The Joseph Strong Fraser Trust

The Lawson Trust

The Liz and Terry Bramall

Foundation

The Lord Belstead Charitable Trust

The Lord Faringdon Charitable

Trust

The MEB Charitable Trust

The Melville Charitable Trust

The N Smith Charitable Settlement

The Norah and Fred Roberts

Memorial Trust

The PF Charitable Trust

The Patrick Trust

The Roger Vere Foundation

The Sir Edward Lewis Foundation

The Sir James Knott Trust

The Sir James Roll Charitable Trust

The Sir John Fisher Foundation

The Sunrise (Sidmouth) Charitable

Trust

The Thomas Sivewright Catto

Charitable Trust

The Tilehouse Trust

The Tom and Sheila Springer

Charity



### **Thanks**



who year on year raise funds for MDUK at their Christmas Gala



who support MDUK in more than 300 stores



whose fantastic employees and supporters have raised over £350k



who introduced MDUKbranded Rubik's Cubes into Matalan stores to boost income



for the honour of being chosen again as a BGC Charity Day beneficiary



who support our campaigning activities



who produced a special flavour of crisps and donated a percentage of the income to us



for raising over £64k for us in memory of their late colleague Simon

We're hugely grateful to our enthusiastic and generous committee members whose support and tireless commitment make our events the success that they are: the Microscope Ball Committee, Sports Quiz Committee, The Q Trust, The Clay Pigeon Shoot Committee and the Appeal Board.

We also value the dedication and commitment of those who fundraise for us, our branches, groups, Family Funds and individuals. Thank you – your efforts make a huge difference in the fight against muscle-wasting conditions.

Muscular Dystrophy UK relies almost entirely on voluntary donations and legacies to fund our vital work. We receive no government funding for our core charitable activities. Our Campaigns, Care

and Support team is currently administering a grant provided by the Department of Transport to expand the availability of Changing Places Toilets across the UK motorway network.

While we cannot list every individual here, please know that we are sincerely grateful to everyone who has donated and fundraised for our work over the past year.

### **Royal Patron**

HRH The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh KG KT

### **Patrons**

**Professor Alan Emery** 

Ian Corner

**Bill Ronald** 

Sir Sydney Samuelson CBE

**Keith Rushton** 

### **President**

Gabby Logan (since October 2018) Sue Barker OBE (until October 2018)

### **Honorary Life Presidents**

Sue Barker OBE (since October 2018)

J Alexander Patrick CBE DL

Professor Martin Bobrow CBE FRS FMed Sci

### **Our Vice Presidents**

The Hon. Michael Attenborough CBE

Karen Attenborough

Sophia Bergqvist

Frances Carey

Jeremy Champion

Candida Crewe

**Charity Crewe** 

Sebastian Crewe

Sir Alex Ferguson CBE

Andrew Graham

Matthew Kelly

Sarah Kelly

Simon Knights

**Charles Manby** 

Nicola Manby

Andrew Martin

Valerie Patrick

Jeremy Pelczer

Julian Pritchard

Michael A Thirkettle

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Professor Dame Kay Davies DBE FRS FMed Sci

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Dr David Hilton-Jones MA MD FRCP FRCPE

Professor Darren Monckton PhD

Professor Francesco Muntoni FRCPCH FMed Sci

Professor Mary M Reilly

**Professor Volker Straub** 

Professor Douglas M Turnbull MBBS (Hons), MD, PhD,

**FRCP** 

Professor Matthew Wood MBChB MA DPhil

### **Board of Trustees**

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(Chair)

Marcus Brown (Treasurer)

Ian T Gordon

**Andrew Graham** 

Sheila Hawkins

Louisa Hill

Dr Amy Jayne McKnight PhD

**Richard Price** 

**Charles Scott** 

Baroness Celia Thomas of Winchester MBE

Tanvi Vyas

**Robert Warner** 

### **Senior Leadership Team**

Robert Meadowcroft, Chief Executive Officer

(until September 2018)

Catherine Woodhead, Chief Executive Officer

(from September 2018)

Dr Kate Adcock, Director of Research and Innovation

Rob Burley, Director of Campaigns, Care and Support

Nikki Hill, Director of Communications and Marketing

Alec Raven, Director of Development

Jenny Howard, Director of Finance

(until March 2019)

Wojtek B Trzcinski, Finance and Resources Director

(from July 2019)

Remembering Peter Andrews who was honoured to take on the role of Patron shortly before his death in February 2019 following lifelong support of MDUK.

Our 2018/19 Financial Statements are available upon request. Download a copy from our website at www.musculardystrophyuk.org/publications/impact-reports or call us on 020 7803 4800 and we'll send you a hard copy.

Muscular Dystrophy UK is the operating name of the Muscular Dystrophy Group of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (a company limited by guarantee: 705357 Registered Charity No 205395 and Registered Scottish Charity No SCO39445



