



Shortlisted



Deaf Parenting UK

Deaf Parenting UK

Education Education Education

Annual Report 2008



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Chair's report



Welcome to our 2008 Annual Report, launched at the Deaf Parenting Conference in London on 12th June 2009.

The year 2008 was a most successful year as we continue to gain recognition and achieved 7 awards for Deaf Parenting UK in recognition for our specialised work with Deaf Parents.

We continue to provide and support Deaf parents, liaise with all of our stakeholders including our Trustees, members, ambassadors as well as our partners across social services, health and education.

As you can see from the Annual Report on all achievements that we have achieved during the year of 2008. This has been challenging work that we carried out to raise the issues of Deaf parenting and developing services for Deaf parents and professionals who work with them. There is still a long way to go, as Deaf Parenting UK is still a relatively small national organisation with one coordinator and one project manager.

Support for all Deaf Parents is vital for Deaf Parenting UK so all Deaf parents and parents know that they are not alone in their experiences/ difficulties in accessing to information about their own rights, parenting services and accessing their child's education which is proving a huge battle for many parents, especially with the primary and secondary schooling. *Every Parents Matter* and *PEAL* confirmed that every parent has the right to be involved in decision-making of their children's educational futures, but how can they if they are unable to access to information and choices? Attitudinal barriers and lack of Deaf awareness among schools and health services are broadly widespread. Most Deaf parents, through our consultation days, express their wishes for an easier and more straightforward way in communicating with childcare, nurseries and schools without barriers. All Deaf parents deserve to be accepted for who they are, not excluded by barriers and ignorance just because they are Deaf.

We are excited about what the future it holds for us as it opens up more opportunities and challenges for Deaf Parenting UK. With the Deaf Parenting Conference 2009 on "*Education, Education, Education*", it is hoped that the Government, including the Department of Children, School & Families (DCSF), and their partners - National Association of Head Teachers and DayCare Trust, they will take steps to recognise and address the needs of Deaf parents/ parents to be and work closely with Deaf Parenting UK in empowering, enabling and supporting Deaf parents, campaigning for equal access to their children's education without communication barriers.

The work of Deaf Parenting UK and its achievements could not have been gained without the committed support of our Trustees and stakeholders. Most of all, we are indebted to our dedicated Co-ordinator Nicole Campbell and Media/ Project Manager Asif Iqbal for their incredibly hard work and commitment in delivering services, and making things happening for Deaf Parents.

Our hard work will continue to focus on reaching out towards more Deaf parents, professionals/ service providers, saying more and to influence the Government at local and national levels, in order to empower, enable and support Deaf Parents accessing services without barriers.

Sabina Iqbal
Chair/Founder of Deaf Parenting UK



Key Achievements

Deaf Parenting UK gained a number of achievements in the last year (2008) which raised our profile, putting us on the map. Those achievements consist of:

- 1. Raising Profiles & partnership** - working with various organisations to raise the profile of Deaf parenting UK, and promote the delivery of essential services to Deaf parents. .
- 2. Deaf Parenting Skills Courses** - demands for our courses have increased, and now we offer 3 types of courses and 1:1 parenting support.
- 3. Support Groups & Family Fun Events** - Successful outcomes have happened from our Support Groups/ Family days for Deaf Parents and their children. These enable Deaf parents and children to meet on a monthly basis to socialise and reduce being in social isolation. Children's activities were provided as opportunity for children to mix with others and avoid the stigma of having deaf parents, creating positive environment for everyone.
- 4. Deaf Parenting UK Conference 2008** – A well-attended conference with Deaf Parents and professionals, working together to enable, empower and support Deaf parents. This included presentations/ workshops from the Government (Department of Health, Department of Children, School & Families, Equality & Human Right Commission (EHRC) and Nursing & Midwifery Council (NMC).
- 5. The Baby Show 2008, Earl Court, London**
Deaf Parenting UK had an exhibition stand at the Baby Show, Earl Court, 17-19 October 2008 and provided BSL interpreters to enable Deaf parents to enjoy the experiences of The Baby Show in the same way as many other parents. Exhibitors were able to take advantage of the unique service to communicate with Deaf parents as new customers.
- 6. Awards 2008** – An amazing experience for Deaf Parenting UK, as a Deaf organisation, to collect a number of commendations and awards. These promoted DPUK on local, national and international levels.
- 7. Deaf Parenting UK Ambassadors** – we have recruited more Ambassadors to support and raise the profile of Deaf Parenting UK. These include celebrities.
- 8. Membership, Newsletters & Website** – numbers and subscribers have increased. Our website has been visited more, our newsletters reaching out to more Deaf parents and service professionals. Those resources enable awareness, participation and information sharing.
- 9. Deaf Parenting UK services** – These face increasing demands, confirming the challenges to meet the needs of Deaf Parents and working with professionals to open up better access and inclusive participation.



Background

Deaf Parenting UK is the first ever national charity organisation to be led and managed by Deaf parents for Deaf parents with deaf, hearing and disabled children, representing the needs of Deaf parents in the UK, of whom are sign language users. According to statistics, 90% of Deaf people, as parents, have hearing children.

Objectives & Activities

Our Objectives are met through our Deaf-led services which currently provide:

- a) **To enable confidence, empowering and supporting Deaf parents/parents to be through providing:**
 - Deaf Parenting Skills Courses
 - 1 : 1 Support on Parenting Skills
 - Befriending services
 - Membership services
- b) **Identify the gaps in services for Deaf Parents in UK and make recommendations through:**
 - Addressing issues where service providers have the accountability.
 - Media & Promotional events
 - Advice/ email/text helpline
 - Research/ influencing policies
- c) **Work with public services, including Health, Social Services, Deaf & mainstream parenting organisations to improve access to information and services to Deaf Parents through:**
 - adopting measures to equip staff and people in organisations to be deaf aware and accommodate the needs of the deaf parents, through;
 - Presentations, consultations and meetings
 - Promoting DPUK as a partner to deliver services

Deaf Parenting UK was established by Sabina Iqbal as a project in 2001. The project became an independent organisation in 2004, following her research done on gaps in services for Deaf parents within the UK. Sabina's research, revealed a scenario of risks to families of Deaf parents – services demonstrating the lack of awareness and appropriate consideration of the needs of Deaf parents.

Because of varying hearing-led communication issues within the home and at school, Deaf children often lack reasonably adequate access to basic information in the area of personal, social and health, such as growing up, sex education, pregnancy and parenting. The reality of such backgrounds and statistics expose those facts:

- **90% of Deaf children are born to hearing parents. As well as mainstream support and information, which is available to parents in general, parents of deaf children have limited access to information, resources and support via Social Services and Deaf children's organisations. Such information on parenting (for hearing parents) is also readily available in print, Video/DVD material and Parenting Classes etc. It all depends on how proactive the parents are, such resources are available locally, and the attitudes of medical & educational professionals working with deaf children.**

- ***When those Deaf children grow up into adults and become Deaf parents, what is appropriate for them to get resources, information and support in accessible formats, is scarce or fragmented locally and nationally. Therefore the lack of such access creates an acute issue when Deaf Adults have a 90% chance of having hearing children.***

The following is common in Deaf parents' daily lives, as services offered to Deaf parents are sometimes non-existent, very limited or patchy as compared to those available to hearing parents:

Deaf parents are unable to easily access mainstream information - parenting skills classes, midwives or health visitors. Deaf parents find it difficult to access or adequately participate in their children's school life due to staffing's inability to appropriately communicate in sign language or lack of Deaf awareness.

Furthermore, Louise Fitzgerald carried out a research on the local services for Deaf Parents (2007) in relation to the Government paper - Every Parents Matters (EPM 2007 p.21) which stresses the importance of being informed of services, "...In order for parents to take advantage of services designed to help them, they need to know what's available. If they're not aware of what's there, they could be missing out." This has a high relevance to Deaf parents whose first and preferred language is British Sign Language and therefore not always able to follow the literatures but also where the information is conveyed by word of mouth.

The topic of parental responsibility came to light with the 1944 Education Act which pointed the responsibility of a child receiving, "efficient full-time education suitable to his age, ability and aptitude, either by regular attendance at school or otherwise", this has led to the development of partnership between the parents and practitioners, legislation came to force where the promotion of partnership is supported with the Education Reform Act 1988 which places the school accountable to parents.

The importance of parental role was articulated with the National Children Bureau's (NCB 2007) PEAL programme (Parents, Early years And Learning) as "parents are deeply interested in their child development, and their involvement is crucial, what parents do matter more than who they are" however it admitted that some parents are finding it hard and on the other side of the fence members of staff find it hard to help the parents.

Request for support:

Professionals from statutory services have contacted **Deaf Parenting UK** with requests to provide support. Individuals and organisations have been inspired by the impact of the pilot work in London.

- Our research (2001, 2008) shows that Deaf parents suffer from poor communication within their own extended families and fail to engage effectively with other parents become very isolated.
- Deaf parents' needs are primarily linguistic and cultural and fail to receive the support they need and so continue to lack in confidence and remain confused and vulnerable.
- Frustration and isolation can be expressed in chronic anxiety or depression, sometimes tipping over into psychotic symptoms for some.
- Consulting with Deaf parents we identified to have missed the chance too often to positively 'role model' parenting skills themselves, and missing out on information concerning parenting skills.

At our recent National Conference, October 2008, delegates reinforced the need for our services to be delivered locally and impartially.

Deaf Parenting UK continues to work tirelessly to campaign for equality of Deaf parents. To date, they are 'voiceless members' of our society, whose needs have not been adequately met by mainstream resources as demonstrated above. Despite the current Equality legislation, DDA and Human Rights Act, many of those parents are unable to fully enjoy their own family lives, or effectively participate within their parental roles to decide their children's futures rationally.

Raising profile & Partnerships

Raising DPUK's Profile:

The year, 2008, was the busiest year of **Deaf Parenting UK** being commended. It was a combination of awards and recognition by: World Federation for Deaf, World of Business Leaders, local Communities and Sabina, (DPUK Chair) as one of the most “inspirational women in the UK”. **Deaf Parenting UK** was featured in the Guardian's Public Services Award as well as Channel 5 News! Curious? Read on!

Together with the numerous of awards (7 in total – see Awards list 2008 for more information), **Deaf Parenting UK** made news as the first-ever signed interview on Channel 5's programme – “Your News, Your Story”, promoting Deaf Parents' need for better access and promoting positive images of Deaf parents. Speaking of positive images, a Deaf family also featured in the Guardian, where a journalist experienced the life of living with a Deaf family (it is featured in the Spring 2009 Issue of Deaf Parenting UK's newsletter in case you want to read all about it) which made interesting reading for everyone.

It is an amazing record for any one Deaf organisation like **Deaf Parenting UK** to have a series of awards, gaining publicity and awareness on local, national and international levels. This is a cause for celebration, bringing to a positive end of the year 2008. We look forward to exciting projects at the start of 2009, especially with our Deaf Parenting Conference, London: ‘Education, Education, Education’ on Friday 12th June 2009.

Partnership work:

Deaf Parenting UK has worked hard, developing links and working closely with several partners. They have been very supportive within our line of work, and wanting to reach out as many Deaf parents as possible. To date, we have achieved:

- Working in partnership with local authorities/ health services who commissioned us to deliver Deaf Parenting Skills courses: Brent, Edinburgh (Scotland), Bristol and several boroughs in London.
- Providing 1:1 parenting support in London, West Sussex, Manchester, Bristol, and Surrey.
- Exhibiting Deaf Parenting UK stall at The Baby Show, mainstream exhibition shows. DPUK also networked at the Community Care Live events – one event for Adult social services, another event for Children & Families.
- Partnership with mainstream Parenting Services (Manchester, Bristol and London) in auditing and improving their services towards Deaf parents' accessibility.
- Partnership with Remark! and Sign tube for media, for increased publicity to reach as many Deaf people nationally as possible
- Developing links with local, regional and national Deaf centres, Family centres to enable their awareness about DPUK's services, and to motivate local Deaf Parenting Groups be set up.
- Working closely with DCAL (Deafness, Cognition and Language) Centre which works within the University College London. University of Manchester, iSLandDS (International Sign Language & Deaf Studies) Centre under University of Central Lancashire and University of Bristol/ Deaf Studies Trust were other academic places DPUK shared research and practices on Deaf parenting issues, promoting the need for further research to influence policies.

Setting examples:

Staff at Deaf Parenting UK made contact with local, national and international Deaf organisations in UK and internationally, sharing good working practices, like providing clear information and support towards Deaf parents. We have seen the fruits of such hard work causing other countries to contact DPUK, wanting to learn more from our work, and using Deaf Parenting UK as a role model to set up similar schemes in their nations.

One example from Africa: *"Congratulating to your additional membership. We are as well campaign to establish Deaf Parent Working Group in Swaziland that will oversee the support and action on development assistance as well as care in Swaziland, Africa."*

Presentations at those following events:

Equality and Human Rights Commission, 25th July 2008 - The meeting went well, as they were explaining about their new structure as an organisation and how the disability committee on disability issues fits in, very useful for us to be aware of how Deaf Parents fit in too. It was also good networking opportunity.

Deaf Parenting UK in Scotland, June 2008 –

I was in Scotland to raise the profile of Deaf Parenting UK and was delighted to meet Cathie Craigie (MSP-Member of Scotland Parliament) at the Scotland Parliament and Lilian Lawson, Chief Executive of Scotland Council on Deafness (SCOD). Cathie and Lillian agreed to be our DPUK Ambassadors and were delighted to work with us to raise the needs of Deaf Parents in Scotland especially with the Scottish Government.



Asif with Cathie Craigie, MSP

Since my meeting with Cathie, she raised her questions on Deaf Parenting issues in Scotland at the Scottish Parliament's Question Time. Replies to those questions can be found in our Autumn 2008 newsletter or via Deaf Parenting UK website.

Scottish Council on Deafness, 29th Oct 2008 - Members also enjoyed Sabina Iqbal's excellent presentation about Deaf Parenting UK and scope for partnership working to reach out Deaf parents in Scotland.

Asian Women Deaf Association Centre, 12th November 2008

Sabina gave her presentation to Asian Deaf Women Association which is very successful event. *"She was great last night, her presentation got my attention and made me want to root for her!"* **Deepa Shastri**

Networking at the following events:

Every family matters: Disability, pregnancy and parenthood Conference – June 08- A joint meeting of the Royal Society of Medicine Maternity & the Newborn Forum and Intellectual Disability Forum took place at the Royal Society of Medicine in London.

The purpose of this conference is to enable health and social care practitioners to respond effectively to the needs of disabled parents and parents of disabled children. Nicole attended as representative of DPUK and networked with service professionals.

NSPCC Launch of 'SAFE' – Personal skills for deaf children, July 08.

Deaf Parenting UK was invited to attend the launch, held at Thistle Hotel, Barbican and the launch included practical demonstration of resource and presentations. This resulted in

partnership work to show the DVD to Deaf parents who benefits from the information in BSL and it was demonstrated at the Deaf Parenting Conference 2008.

Community Care Lives (Adults) in May 2008 and Children & Families event in October

08- A fantastic event where we met professionals in social care fields and were able to explain the important role of Deaf Parenting UK. Feedback from them were that Deaf Parenting UK is most needed services that they were otherwise unable to find and were delighted to hear of our work. This has resulted in increased numbers of enquiries and referrals to us. Asif Iqbal of Deaf Parenting UK had the opportunity to meet Rt. Hon Beverley Hughes, Children Minister for Department of Children, School and Families (DCSF) and explain about our work at Deaf Parenting UK and stressing the needs of Deaf parents in accessing to children & families services as well as accessing to children's education. Beverley were interested to hear about our work and sent a letter, wishing us every success.

Nursing & Midwifery Council – Stakeholder meeting, 23rd September 2008 – A useful event in engaging with the Nursing & Midwifery Council (NMC) and influencing their standards and policies on the needs of Deaf parents. NMC is a regulatory body who monitor the registration and quality of standards in nurses and midwives, ensuring that they are professional and ethical in their line of work including working with diversity of service users.

NAPP (National Association of Parenting & Practitioners) – Deaf Parenting UK have been liaising closely with NAPP, ensuring that Deaf Parenting UK are involved in training opportunities in positive parenting programme and ensuring quality assurance in our Deaf Parenting Skill programmes and retaining skills of our Deaf Parenting workforces.

Website & Newsletters:

Deaf Parenting UK have produced quarterly newsletters and update our website on regular basis and feedback from our readers have been so positive. In addition, our website and quarterly newsletter will also make Deaf parents and service professionals aware of the benefits and success of the project to encourage them to take up support from us.

Feedback from our readers:

World Federation of Deaf People wrote in their WFD Newsletter (December 2008) that in United Kingdom, ***“Deaf Parenting UK is a very active organisation for Deaf parents.”***

Further afield, *in Ukraine*, Deaf newspaper - “Our life” wrote an article Deaf parents and Deaf Parenting UK. This is a good publicity for us to share good practices with other countries, enabling, empowering and supporting Deaf parents.

“Just wanted to say what a wonderful edition this newsletter is, such a pleasure reading all the info and news....keep up the very worthwhile work and a very happy year ahead with even more successful events.” Sandra David (deaf mum and deputy head at Frank Barnes School, London)

“With a big pleasure I read your newsletter – it was so very interesting and cognitive – it’s so nice gift before X-mas. And we printed it in our newspaper for Deaf Ukrainians ‘Our life’.” Nathalie Kamenskaya, Editor of “Our life” newspaper.

Your story on Channel 5 is inspiring! **Elaine Webster**

Deaf Parenting Skills Courses

Deaf Parenting UK have three type of courses, one for Deaf parents with children 0-9yrs, one for Deaf parents with teens (open to children aged 9+) and one is Ante-natal course for Deaf parents to be. We also provide 1:1 parenting support for those who have additional support needs or unable to participate in the course's group sessions. Those courses are run for 12 weeks at 2-3hrs per sessions per week.

Joint Partnership with Parentline Plus on Parenting Skills 'Parent Together' workshops for Deaf Parents of Young children from Brent Locality – January/February 2008

The second workshop delivery was based at Brent Council's Deaf & Hard of Hearing Community Care Centre in Wembley. The provision of the Parent Together workshops looked at issues surrounding challenging children's behaviour, co-operation and negotiation skills, family agreements and discipline. Again the workshops ran for 5 weeks and throughout both workshops, deaf parents met up with other deaf parents, and was able to share the learning and they were fully supported in their environment.

Brent Councillor Reg Colwill, Lead member for Adults, Health and Social Care paid a visit on the 1st session and commented "This is an excellent opportunity for deaf parents to pick up extra expertise in parenting. Deaf parents have varying needs; they can be a single mother or father, with hearing or deaf children, have step children or be a foster carer".

The parents were saddened when the course came to an end, but they have benefited a great deal and it is hoped that they continue to put the use of the skills learnt into practice with their family.

Antenatal Support Workshop, working with National Childbirth Trust – March/April 2008

Following a successful pilot Pre Natal Parenting Skills workshops with deaf expectant parents and deaf parents with babies of up to 12 months, Deaf Parenting UK have taken the lead to run a 2nd Pre-Natal Support Parenting skills workshops for deaf expectant deaf parents living in the Lambeth, Southwark, Wandsworth & Westminster boroughs.

The workshops ran for 7 weeks and were held at Salmon Youth Centre in Bermondsey, South East London and a National Childbirth Trust Trainer was recruited to facilitate the parenting skills sessions.

The aim of these workshops was to provide the necessary encouragement, information and support to help deaf expectant parents have an experience of pregnancy, birth and early parenthood that enriches their lives and build confidence.

The workshops also encouraged mothers to make informed choices in preparation for their birth and early postnatal period and to promote parents confidence in parenting their child in a way that is right for them, their baby and their family.

Bristol Parenting Skill Courses – October 2008

Deaf Parenting UK launched a working partnership with Bristol Pacesetters Project, a working party of PCT and NHS to improve access to information and services for deaf

families in Bristol. Deaf Parenting UK delivered Parenting Skills Workshops for Deaf Parents with Children and Deaf Parents with Teenagers.

The Parenting skills workshops ran for a period of 12 weeks delivering two separate workshops, morning sessions for Deaf Parents with Young Children and evening sessions for Deaf Parents with Teenagers.

The workshops were geared for deaf parents living in Bristol, South Gloucestershire and North Somerset.

Parents quotes on how they felt they have benefited from the parenting skills courses...

"This course had been great to access information and get support, thank you for giving me the opportunity to join"

"I found this course very useful and made me feel a little more confident"

"Interesting course with lots of great ideas and information"

"Good experience and worth it!"

"Fantastic and a brilliant course"

"It is also good to know that the other mothers share the same feelings about their worries or concerns about bringing up children."

"It is good to have a deaf mum as a facilitator, a role model who can empathize and give support if or when needed"

Figures:

Since 2005 we have delivered 8 Deaf Parenting Skills courses (average 12 weeks per course) to directly support 65 parents and our 1:1 parenting support has delivered 136 sessions to support 17 parents/family (average 8-12 session per family). In the last 12 months the demand for our work significantly increased and we have delivered 5 Deaf Parenting Skills courses and 57 1:1 support sessions.

Support Groups & Family Fun Events:

Deaf Parenting Support Groups:

Deaf Parenting UK believe in enabling network and peer support among Deaf parents locally/regionally and work closely with partners including local Deaf parents support groups, Deaf Centres, Family Centres and Deaf parents themselves who have their own support groups.

It is vital for Deaf parents to give and receive support from other Deaf parents and learn from each other. Social Isolation is a major barrier for many Deaf parents especially if their friends/families are far away, mean limited support network to support them in the challenging times or even to support Deaf parents when they needs someone to talk to. Deaf Parents support groups is a lifeline for many Deaf parents who were unable to access to mainstream parenting support group.

Deaf Parenting UK encourage all Deaf parents support group locally, regionally and nationally to register their details onto Deaf Parenting UK website for free so that Deaf parents can browse to find out where are their nearest support groups and details of when and how often to meet. Their events can also be added onto Deaf Parenting UK's Event Calendar which can be viewed on the website www.deafparent.org.uk and click on Event Calendar.

For those reasons, Deaf Parenting UK have organised first Deaf Parent's Social Evening (BSL Comedy Show) and a series of Family Fun days in London. We hope to continue with those vital events to reach out as many Deaf parents as possible. Although those events are based in London (due to funding), it is also open to Deaf parents who lives outside London.

Deaf Parent's Social Evening – BSL Comedy Show: An Audience with John Smith – March 2008:

Deaf Parent's Social Evening, courtesy of Deaf Parenting UK, took place at the Community House Centre in Bromley, Kent on Saturday 16th March 2008. The evening was a success with 75 deaf parents, adults and sign language users who attended from all over London and surrounding.



Tickets was a sell out and stand up Deaf Comedian, John Smith, provided the entertainment to the audience, engaging them in hours of laughter, amusements, a fascination insight of being Deaf and the world of British Sign Language.

To the delight of the audience, Raffle prizes also took place after the show ended. Prizes consisted of a Harrods



Hamper, Gift vouchers from Marks & Spencer & John Lewis, wristband voucher from Adventure Island, together with small prizes to add to the equation. Light buffet and tea/coffee refreshment was also provided.

A jolly fun night out for all, and thanks to the success, Deaf Parenting UK raised some money and most importantly, providing opportunity for Deaf parents to socialise as well as raising the profile of Deaf Parenting UK.

DPUK Children In Need Fund Family Fun Events: September – December 2008

These fun day event are organised by **Deaf Parenting UK** and funded by Children In Need for Deaf families living across all London Regions. The events are an opportunity for Code of Deaf Adult (CODA) to be entertained in a Deaf friendly environment enabling them to meet and socialise with other CODA's. Family Fun Events consisted of Trips to signed performance theatres, Soft play adventure centres, Arts & Craft sessions, not to mention DPUK 1st Children's Christmas Party which proved to be successful!

Arts & Craft Session



Krazy Kat Theatre – 'Clownderella' Signed Performance



DPUK Xmas Party



Children of Deaf Parents participating in these events allows them to have fun, be creative and meet new friends whilst at the same time, learn and develop social skills. Becoming a family or carer is complex and at times a stressful role. It is vital to take time out and instil family fun time and as Coordinator and Deaf Mum myself, I have thoroughly enjoyed my role in the planning and preparations of fun day events. Big thanks to all the 'army of helpers' who turned up at the events and made the days enjoyable for the families and children alike.

Deaf Parenting UK Conference 2008

Department of Health, Department of Children, School and Families, Equality and Human Right Commission have made their pledges to address the needs of Deaf Parents. The pledges were made at the Deaf Parenting Conference 2008 in Birmingham on Saturday 4th

October 2008 where many Deaf Parents, professionals/ services providers working with Deaf parents challenged the Government on the needs of Deaf parents in accessing to services without barriers. The event was filmed by BBC See Hear.



L-R: Maria Miller, Ulrike Zeshan, Sabina, The Lord Mayor & his wife, Cllr Margaret Sutton of Birmingham City Council.



L-R: Louise Fitzgerald, Natalie Salmon NMC, Sabina and Yasmin Kovic, NSPCC.



All BSL interpreters in black tops and volunteers in grey tops

Sabina Iqbal, Chair/Founder of Deaf Parenting UK explained: "The conference was a great success as it provided an excellent opportunity for Deaf parents and service providers to have a voice and influences the Government on the needs of Deaf parents to enable them to enjoy their family life without barriers."

Maria Miller, Shadow Minister for the Family: "Deaf Parenting UK understands the challenges that parents who are Deaf or hard of hearing face on a daily basis. The Conference highlighted the importance of always considering the needs of children in the context of their family, not in isolation. Charitable organisations such as Deaf Parenting UK have a critical role to play helping support Deaf and hard of hearing parents and helping to deliver the specific support they need."

Lyn Frith – Director CSPIRe Ltd:

"The Deaf Parenting UK National Conference was, in my view, a highly inspirational event which effectively raised awareness of the challenges faced by Deaf parents. The input from keynote speakers was highly informative and provided examples of good practice that we can all aspire to. Congratulations to DPUK for a great conference."

Deborah Jamieson, Head of Children, Families & Social Inclusion Programme Department of Health:

"I really enjoyed participating in the conference, and it highlighted the need to ensure that Deaf Parenting UK are included in parent focus groups and are kept informed of new developments. My impression is that the

conference was successful and provided a good opportunity to engage with an important parent group.”

Jackie Driver, Head of Policy, Equality and Human Right Commission: “This year’s Deaf Parenting UK conference was a great success. It brought together D/Deaf parents and service providers and hosted opportunities to share understanding and explore solutions to the barriers many D/Deaf parents face in accessing services. The Equality and Human Rights Commission, itself charged with delivering greater equality, human rights and good relations for all citizens were delighted to be asked to address the conference and take away key learning points that will help us deliver our objectives more inclusively. We wish Parenting UK every success in meeting their own objectives and look forward to working together in future joint initiatives to help improve the life experiences of Deaf parents.



L-R: Jackie Driver, Sabina, Lyn frith and Deborah Jamieson

Natalie Salmon, Head of Equality and Diversity, The Nursing and Midwifery Council:

“It was a pleasure and privilege to speak at the Deaf Parenting UK conference on Saturday. It was one of the most inclusive, interesting and informative conferences I have attended. It was incredibly valuable to learn more about the innovative and much needed work of Deaf Parenting UK. I hope the NMC is able to continue working with Deaf Parenting in the future.

Carolyn Denmark, Deaf Parent: “it is good to know that Deaf parents felt the day was beneficial and to share their experiences although I feel there should be more opportunity for Deaf parent to share their concerns and views of current services in the area, and what training they would like to receive in the near future.

I thought it was a big breakthrough for Deaf Parenting UK as so many things have been achieved in the last 12 months and seeing more people are involved and its publicity, I can see the flag flying up high, thanks to the staff and trustees for making this happening. “

Stuart Harrison, Deaf Parent: “The DPUK Conference was an excellent opportunity for Deaf parents to interface directly with professional service providers to make them aware the needs of Deaf parents.”

A successful annual conference, hosted by Deaf Parenting UK at the Deaf Cultural Centre Birmingham took place on 4th October 2008. VIP, Guest speakers, Deaf Parents and Professionals working with deaf parents attended the event.



Deaf parents with kids

The annual conference also incorporated a fun day event for children of deaf parents, with an army qualified crèche workers – provision of free crèche facility, together with arts & craft, fun activities made the children’s day very enjoyable. Also on courtesy of DPUK, a Myster Magic Children Entertainer was booked to provide fun entertainment to the delight of 27 children age ranging from 7 months to 10 years old attend.

Baby Show, Earl Court

17-19 October 2008

Deaf Parenting UK launched its first working partnership with the Baby show at Earls Court. Deaf Parenting UK was proud to work with the Baby show to ensure Deaf Parents and Deaf Expectant Parents were fully inclusive.

Deaf Parenting UK had their exhibition stand at the Baby Show and provided BSL interpreters to enable Deaf parents to enjoy the experiences of The Baby Show in the same way as many other parents. Exhibitors were able to take advantage of the unique service to communicate with Deaf parents as new customers.

This was a fantastic opportunity for Deaf parents to ask questions and learn about baby stuff during the three days show at Earls Court. The Baby Show really was a great value day out for the whole family and approximately 25 deaf parents and expectant deaf parents attended the event!

This is the major breakthrough for Deaf Parenting UK to have a great presence at the Baby Show. Being there enabled Deaf parents to be empowered in liaising directly with the exhibitors with provision of our BSL interpreters. It was also easy to identify our BSL interpreters by their black polo-shirts with Deaf Parenting UK logo on the front and 'BSL Interpreter' on the back. Instantly in the space of three days show, exhibitors became more Deaf aware on the importance of meeting the Deaf parents' needs in accessing to services and buying goods. Likewise, feedback from Deaf parents found accessing to those exhibitors with BSL interpreter enabled them to have equal access without barriers which is what Deaf Parenting UK is all about!

25,878 visitors attended The Baby Show Earls Court 2008. More importantly, exhibitors reported superb trading on the floor; which resulted in a record onsite re-book of 65% of 2008 exhibitors.



- 1) Deaf Dad trying out the pregnancy outfit from Tommy's not realising how pregnant women feel! Midwife of Tommy's explained how outfit works via BSL interpreter.
- 2) Deaf pregnant woman question an exhibitor who designed and sells baby sling, via male BSL interpreter.
- 3) Models show with BSL interpreter at the back of stage.

Awards

Social Impact Award on 2nd October 2008



Deaf Parenting UK, www.Deafparent.org.uk, the first ever charity to be run by Deaf parents for Deaf parents, has won TFPL's first Social Impact Award - an award for the most innovative use of knowledge and information management in the voluntary sector.

The award, which was introduced by TFPL at their EBIC conference in Berlin October 1-3rd, was open to organisations in the charity and voluntary sectors who could demonstrate innovative use of knowledge and information management (KIM) which includes information,

knowledge, records or technology management.

Deaf Parenting UK, who won a €5,000 prize donated by Nokia, offers information, events, a website, email group, DVD, research and book to Deaf parents and professionals who work with them. They also encourage debate, showcase good practice and enable Deaf parents to have voices to Government.

Deaf Parents UK in particular impressed the judges with their winning mix of ideas and emphasis on inclusion; the judges were also intrigued by the opportunities provided by the use of visual and communications technologies.

In a close vote Deaf Parenting UK were declared the winner, in the way their ideas brought their community together. Deaf Parents support groups and Family fun days, although patchy and dispersed across UK, form an important social element amongst Deaf community of Deaf Parents. With the Deaf Parenting UK website, email groups and newsletter, DPUK extends this vital service to more Deaf parents and professionals working with Deaf parents, who are otherwise isolated across UK.

Dacorum Excellence Award 2008 on 21st October 2008

Sabina was delighted to have been chosen as a Runner Up for The Dacorum Excellence Award 2008, for her success, and achievements of Deaf Parenting UK by the local community.



Talk Talk Innovation Award 5th November 2008



Deaf Parenting UK, a based charity which is a unique charity run by Deaf parents for Deaf parents aiming to give confidence and the necessary support, has received a Talk Talk Innovation in the Community Award at a ceremony at the House of Lords on Wednesday 5th November.

The TalkTalk Awards, run in partnership with UK digital inclusion charity Citizens Online, opened for entries in June and called for submissions from non-profit

making organisations and charities in the UK. The Awards specifically focus on helping organisations to get the best out of technology. Deaf Parenting UK was one of 30 of the UK's most exciting charity projects chosen to win one of the awards.

Women in the Future Award 6th November 2008

Britain's most inspirational Sabina Iqbal has been honoured in the BT Women in the Future Voluntary Award, presented by Princess Zahra Aga Khan. Judges of this category included Clive Alderton, deputy private secretary to TRH The Prince of Wales and The Duchess of Cornwall at a lavish ceremony in London on 6th November 2008 at the London Marriott Grosvenor Square.



The judges said: "Sabina is someone who spotted a gap in service provision and had the motivation to plug it - overcoming numerous barriers to do so. She has transformed the provision of services to this group in the UK and we have every confidence that she will go on to do the same overseas. She has created a truly sustainable, world-class organisation in the voluntary field."

L-R: Melody (joint winner), Princess Zahra Aga Khan, BT rep and Sabina Iqbal (joint winner)

Runner UP for the Guardian Public Service Award 25th November 2008



Deaf Parenting UK was stunned when Deaf Parenting UK was announced as shortlisted of the Equality & Diversity Award.

"As a runner up of The Guardian Public Services Award is a real achievement, given how far we have come from vision of Deaf Parenting UK into reality, enabling, empowering and supporting Deaf Parents."

"We are delighted that with the Runner up of the Guardian Award, and like many other awards, it has given us more recognition that we deserve on the local, national, international level."

Highly Commended for the Beacon Fellowship Award 2008 – Sabina Iqbal



Sabina have been awarded with a certificate of Highly Commended for her work at Deaf Parenting UK.

She was extremely well regarded by the scrutineers (judges) and was one of a small number who were Highly Commended in the category of Community Builder.

Feedback from our readers:

"You are doing a wonderful job in raising awareness about deafness. Sabina is a remarkable role model for other deaf young people. Very well done." Professor Waqar Ahmad (Deaf Parenting UK Ambassador), Deputy Vice-Chancellor Research & Enterprise Middlesex University

"Congratulations on all your recent awards and high profile recognition!" Eddie Lynch, Chief Executive, MENCAP

"I am very impressed with the recognition of Deaf Parenting UK." Deborah Jamieson, Department of Health

"Many Congratulations!" Jackie Driver, Equality and Human Right Commission

"Talking with hands are very impressed by your e-mail. Deaf Parenting UK are real going to make a positive different in the Deaf world." Rose-Ann, Talking with hands

"Hearty congratulations to everyone involved - a brilliant achievement!" Hilary Grime, Service Manager, Sensory Impairment & Physical Disabilities

"Congratulation to everyone in the team! Well done!!" Troi "Chinaman" Lee, Deaf Rave

"You've certainly worked very hard. Well done." Penny Beschizza, DPUK Trustee

"Congratulations" Angela Abell, TFPL

"For all the success of Deaf Parenting UK and the awards that have bee presented to you and the organisation this year, I would like to offer my congratulations for all the hard work I know you have put into the community. P.S You are a star!" Mike Penning, MP and Deaf Parenting UK Ambassador

"C O N G R A T U L A T I O N S!!!! On winning the Social Impact Award for charity organisation. It is an achievement well deserved. You both put in lot of hard work and effort into your organisation (Deaf Parenting UK!!). It is pleasing to hear that you have been recognised worldwide. I am sure this last year has been a rollercoaster of a ride for both of you but as you can see you are reaping the rewards of your hard work. May Allah SWT bless you both and give you and your children happiness, success and wealth for the future." Rukhsana, Ijaz and Family

Ambassadors

We are delighted to introduce our board of Ambassadors and below are their profiles of who they are and their vast support to Deaf Parenting UK.

Maria Miller MP



“Deaf Parenting UK is unique, a charity run by deaf parents for deaf parents. There is no other charity in the world like that. And Deaf Parenting UK’s philosophy means that Deaf Parenting UK can empower as well as support deaf parents to highlight to those people who are running important public services, the severe gaps in provision which can have such a profound effect for families with deaf parents.

Deaf Parenting UK’s commitment of ensuring parents have the information that they need is impressive from helping parents to understand their rights under the Disability Discrimination Act, to information for deaf women in pregnancy, to parenting skills courses in BSL(British Sign Language), recognising the different needs of parents of children with different ages.

Our Conservative Party leader David Cameron made it clear then that at the heart of our vision for this country, is making it the most family friendly country in the world. That’s for every family. As a Shadow Minister for the family it is my responsibility to turn that vision of being the most family friendly country in the world into reality through the policies that we propose. I hope this will help support Deaf Parenting UK’s ethos of empowering, enabling and supporting deaf parent because I share your concern that every family should have the support they need to succeed and give their children the best start in life.

There are estimated to be some 9 million deaf and hard of hearing people in the UK and many will be parents facing all the pressures and strains of being a parent as well as coping with the challenges of being deaf. Despite the 1995 Disability Discrimination Act many have difficulties in accessing the information we need in everyday life. The universal language of deaf parents in sign language may not be always available despite the fact that organisations have a legal responsibility to make their services accessible to deaf parents.

All families need to know that the support is going to be there when they need it particularly at those pressure points that families face. More has to be done to ensure that communication is not a barrier whether it is during pregnancy, or around of the time of the child’s birth or indeed through parenting classes. Deaf Parenting UK have highlighted that too many deaf parents still find it difficult to participate in the way they would like to at the child’s school. As we all know parental support for children in the early years and indeed throughout their children’s school career is critical. Yet a great many deaf parents feel that more needs to be done to help them achieve the support that they want for their children, whether it is in reading or whether it is in other aspects of their development or indeed parenting skills.

As with so many other issues it is charitable and voluntary sector organisations on the ground in our community like Deaf Parenting UK, who are the main source of support for deaf families and it is little surprise that Deaf Parenting UK shows that deaf parents want more support groups and social net works for deaf parents to get the peer group support that they need and to help reduce that feeling of isolation that all parents feel but particularly that deaf parents feel.

Now if we are going to make Britain the most family friendly country in the world, it is clear there is still a great deal to do to meet the needs of deaf parents but the problems run deeper than that. We need to not anymore side step the need to promote family stability in general; to help families come together and stay together. This is an issue that is as pertinent to deaf parents as hearing parents.

Our families and relationships with our children, with our community shape our lives and for children those relationships can mean a difference between achieving their life potential and not. The evidence is clear, children thrive when they have their parents, both parents involved in their lives and helping to strengthen families is vital, whether it is through parenting support programmes or in other ways, we can really help children to get a better start in life.

Being a deaf parent presents very real challenges and everyone will have first hand experience of how the services that are currently in place do not always meet their needs. But pressures on families go even further than that. Long working hours; the rising cost of living; the pressure to buy our children the latest trainers or the latest electronic game; we can't address the needs of deaf parents by addressing the specifics of communication alone. We also have to look at the broader systemic issues too.

Well I believe that the time has really come to say that the support that we give families, whatever challenges they face, are some of the most important mechanisms we can put in place. We want to make sure that everyone can access those support services when they are under pressure so that rather than floundering, families have the tools they need to survive, but the important thing is that they are also services that are accessible to deaf parents too.

Deaf Parenting UK rightly focuses on how to give practical support on the ground through the programmes that DPUK have developed to bring deaf people together, helping them feel that it is not an isolated world out there, giving information and the skills they need through workshops and joint working. But the fundamentals needs are the rights too.

Family life and families change, the challenges faced by deaf parents are still too great. What I have explained above, is just the start of how we want to help strengthen all families in Britain and in this changed world making Britain the most family friendly country in the world needs to be at the heart of all of our visions in the future of this country. I believe that working with our health visitors, child care workers, family and relationship experts, those above all voluntary organisations that know the real issues that deaf parents faces. I know if we can work together we can turn this vision into a reality."

Maria added that in her new role as Ambassador: *"I am delighted to support Deaf Parenting UK and hope that I can help highlight the issues facing deaf parents"*

Markku Jokinen, President of World Federation of the Deaf (WFD)



"It is an honour to the World Federation of the Deaf (WFD) and to me to be invited to become Ambassador for Deaf Parenting UK. You are aware that it is through linguistic human rights that Deaf people are able to reach all other human rights. You have shown this in your important work for Deaf parents and kept service providers, politicians, local and government officials as well as partner organisations aware of this basic and necessary requirement. Your organisation is indeed a very rare one and thus you set an important example and model for all other Deaf parents in the world. We in WFD with its members all over the world wish all success, wisdom and strength in your important work."

Rosie Cooper MP



Rosie Cooper was elected in May 2005 to be the Labour Member of Parliament for West Lancashire.

Rosie, a board member for Merseyside Centre for the Deaf for over 30 years, has been actively involved in politics since the age of 16, becoming a Liverpool City Councillor in 1973 for Broadgreen. During her 28 years as a City Councillor, Rosie also became the Lord Mayor of Liverpool in 1992-93.

Rosie has also been involved in health issues and the National Health Service for the past 30 years. Rosie has been involved with the NHS as a member of Liverpool Health Authority and then Vice-Chair between 1994 and 1996. In 1996 she became Chair of Liverpool Women's Hospital. During her tenure as Chair, Rosie successfully delivered Foundation Trust status for the hospital in 2005.

Rosie said: "I am delighted to be an ambassador for Deaf Parenting UK. As the eldest child of deaf parents myself, I was often my parents' voice. It was during these years that I became aware of the barriers facing people with disability and I had to fight hard to make my parents' voices heard."

My political career has very much been shaped by my experiences as a child in a deaf household and I am determined to do everything I can to raise awareness of issues facing the deaf community."

Mike Penning, MP



Mike was born in North London in 1957 and was educated in Essex at Appleton and King Edmund Comprehensive Schools. He is married to Angela and has two daughters.

He joined the Army as a boy soldier and served with the Grenadier Guards in Northern Ireland, Kenya and Germany; he also undertook ceremonial duties in London including the Trooping of the Colour. On leaving the Army Mike served as a full time fireman in Essex for many years before going into the family business and later, after several career changes into political journalism.

In May 2005 Mike was elected as Member of Parliament for Hemel Hempstead. He is a strong believer in the traditions and values of our country and is a passionate defender of our constitution and that includes keeping our own currency. The first job of any politician is to serve his country and Mike has a proven track record here for most of his working life.

Since winning the election in 2005, Mike has taken up many campaigns that affect the people of Hemel Hempstead, most notably the campaign to Save Hemel Hospital, the fight for compensation for Dixon pensioners who lost their pensions and the campaign for a public inquiry into the Buncefield disaster.

In July 2007, Mike was promoted to the Opposition front bench as a Shadow Health Minister.

"I am delighted to have been invited to support Deaf Parenting UK. There is a vital role for voluntary organisations such as DPUK who can offer a wealth of information and shared experiences in support of all deaf parents in this country."

Richard Howitt, MEP



Richard Howitt is the Labour Member of the European Parliament for the East of England, first elected in 1994.

He is Vice Chair of the Human Rights Sub-Committee, a member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, Human Rights, Common Security and Defence Policy and is the Labour European Spokesperson on Foreign Affairs. Richard is a member of the EU-Turkey Joint Parliamentary Committee, and was recently a member of the Parliament mission to the UN Human Rights Commission in Geneva, and to monitor the Palestinian Presidential elections.

He is also a member of the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs, and is European Parliament Spokesperson on Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR). He was a member of the EU-ACP Joint Parliamentary Assembly and Parliament's Development Committee for nine years. He regularly campaigns to raise awareness of Fair Trade issues, and has written a number of parliamentary reports on Europe's relations with developing countries.

Richard is the President of the All-Party Disability Intergroup at the European Parliament and is Labour's European Disability Rights spokesperson. He has campaigned on social, anti-discrimination and, in particular, disability issues for many years. He has campaigned for disability to be considered a human rights issue, and previously worked in community care for people with disabilities.

Having served for eleven years as an elected councillor, three as Leader of Harlow Council, Richard speaks on local government issues in the European Parliament, and is European vice-president of Britain's Local Government Association.

"I am honoured to be an Ambassador for Deaf Parenting UK and to support their tireless work drawing attention to the needs of deaf parents within the UK. As President of the All-Party Disability Intergroup at the European Parliament I am keen to work alongside DPUK to aid their important work championing these issues. I hope that DPUK's good work will continue to make a real difference to the lives of deaf parents."

Cathie Craigie MSP



Cathie Craigie MSP is the Member of the Scottish Parliament for Cumbernauld and Kilsyth constituency.

First elected in 1999, Cathie chairs the Parliament's Cross Party Group on Deafness, working with Scottish organisations and charities to ensure Deaf and deaf people and their concerns remain high on the political agenda at Holyrood.

"I am honoured to be invited to be an Ambassador for Deaf Parenting UK. Too many of the needs of Deaf parents are still to be

Celebrities Supporters:



Boris Johnson, Mayor of London Greater London Authority

"We are working hard in London to remove barriers for people in the Deaf community and raise the profile and awareness of British and Irish Sign Language as London languages. I wish you well in developing the important work you are doing and hope we can work together to make London a truly inclusive city. "



Her Majesty The Queen

"Her Majesty, The Queen was interested to see Deaf Parenting UK's first Annual Report and Newsletter. Her Majesty sent her warm good wishes to you and to everyone at Deaf Parenting UK for a successful future."



Niki Evans Semi Finalist of X-Factor

"As a parent with two boys, I have overcome so many challenges that parenting brought and can support Deaf parents as parents themselves. Having learnt about the work of Deaf Parenting UK and read their annual report with Deaf parents' experiences, I realise the barriers that Deaf parents face in being a parents and the lack of access to the much-needed information and services that many of us have taken for granted.

For these reasons, I am delighted to show my strong support to Deaf Parenting UK and the work they are doing. They have worked tirelessly to highlight the gaps in services for Deaf parents and working with others to empower, enabling confidence and supporting Deaf parents in UK. I am also impressed by the recognition that they have in raising the profile of Deaf Parenting UK across the world."

Coronation Street



"Coronation Street learnt that 90% of deaf children come from hearing families but when these deaf children grow up and become deaf adults, they are 90% likely to have hearing children and yet Deaf parents' access to information and services on parenting issues are extremely limited. Coronation Street is proud to support the work of Deaf Parenting UK and share the vision that Deaf parents should have the same opportunities in life as everyone and should not be discriminated."

Emmerdale



Emmerdale' Spokesperson recognised the importance of Deaf Parenting UK, saying: *"If you are a parent yourselves, it is challenging being a parent but for Deaf parents, it is even more challenging as information and services are not accessible for Deaf parents who use sign language as first/ main language. Little things like access to info during pregnancy, birth, the choices of labour/ birth, planning the baby, child's first few years, their education – choosing which school are often taken for granted where hearing parents can find out information from other parents, chatting to*

neighbours/ local network, local radio/ newspaper, TV as such but for Deaf parents, they miss out so many information and were often the last to know.

Deaf Parenting UK is working hard to reach out to Deaf parents, enabling them to have confidence in being parents as well as to raise awareness of Deaf parenting issues among Deaf parents and professionals who work with them. Deaf Parenting UK also campaign for better access to services for Deaf parents in all aspect of parenting in the same way as other parents.

For those reasons, all cast from Emmerdale Production Team are thrilled in support of Deaf Parenting UK and wish to highlight that Deaf parents should have the same opportunities in life as any other parents in accessing to information and services. We are in favour of the unique work that Deaf Parenting UK do and would urge everyone else to support Deaf Parenting UK by any means necessary."



Anne McGuire Minister for Disabled People

"Deaf Parenting UK sounds like a very interesting and innovative charity, which fits closely with the principals set out in the 'Improving the Life Chances of Disabled People' report published by the Prime Minister's Strategy Unit in January 2005. As you will be aware, the Office for Disability Issues has a key role in helping Government take forward the report's recommendations.

I read with interest your annual report and am impressed with what you have achieved so far. Using well known people to raise awareness of the issues deaf parents face is a particularly effective idea. I hope you will accept this letter as a statement of my support for the work that you do. I hope Deaf Parenting UK continues to be successful in its work and I look forward to being kept informed of its progress."



David Lammy MP Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Skills

"I would like to thank you and the organisation for all the hard work you have put in for deaf parents and congratulate you on the publication of your book, 'Pregnancy & Birth: A Guide for Deaf Women'. Providing support to deaf parents is a vital service and I am thankful to Deaf Parenting UK for providing this."

Tom Levitt MP



"I know that Deaf parents face special challenges in bringing up their children, whether hearing or deaf themselves, and I admire the work they do tremendously. Although we have passed laws to help people like you in several ways, it remains the job of politicians to make life better for those who struggle with the everyday demands of life. I urge you to make sure that your local politicians are aware of what needs to be done - and encourage them to do it."

Haji Saghir Alam OBE, Equality 2025 Member



"You are doing excellent work in a very important area ensuring disability equality for all."

Treasurer's Report

Financial Report for the year ended 31 December 2008

The charity's result for the year ended 31 December 2008 was a surplus of £890 (2007-£13,614).

Receipts were £33,732 and outgoings £32,842. The cash funds balance at 31 December 2008 is £15,458 of which £7,734 related to restricted fund under the Children in Need Project.

This year will see more unrestricted funds arriving to support the overhead costs especially for the Facilitators and Trainers work.

Deaf Parenting UK

Charity Registration Number 1112453

Receipts and payments accounts

For the year ended 31 December 2008

	2008			2007
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds	Total
	£	£	£	£
Receipts				
Grants and donations	22,760	10,000	32,760	31,159
Miscellaneous income	838	-	838	150
Bank interest	134	-	134	148
Total receipts	23,732	10,000	33,732	31,457
Payments				
Creche fees	662	-	662	263
Room and equipment hire	6,096	319	6,415	4,291
Facilitators/trainers costs	5,246	16,464	21,710	6,383
Sign language interpreters and communication support	-	-	0	1,002
Insurance	439	-	439	-
Miscellaneous expenses	912	51	963	1,502
Marketing and promotion	1,070	-	1,070	-
Website	1,208	-	1,208	4,112
Independent Examiner's fees	375	-	375	290
Total payments	16,008	16,834	32,842	17,843
Net of receipts	7,724	(6,834)	890	13,614
Transfers between funds	0	0	0	0
	7,724	(6,834)	890	13,614
Cash funds last year end	0	14,568	14,568	954
Cash funds this year end	7,724	7,734	15,458	14,568

Deaf Parenting UK
Statement of assets and liabilities
For the year ended 31 December 2008

		Unrestricted funds £	Restricted fund £	Total funds £
Cash funds				
Cash at bank		7,724	7,734	15,458
Total cash funds		£7,724	£7,734	£15,458
Restricted fund				
Children in Need	Restricted		£7,734	
Liabilities				
Independent Examiner's fees	Unrestricted	£675		

Signed on behalf of all trustees

Name

Signature

Sabina Iqbal

Date of Approval - 28 September 2009

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature

Full name – Sabina Iqbal

Position – Chair

Date: 28 September 2009

Independent Auditors Financial Report

DEAF PARENTING UK

Charity Registered Number 1112453

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2008

Independent Examiner's Report to the Members of Deaf Parenting UK

I report on the accounts of Deaf Parenting UK for the year ended 31 December 2008.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year (under section 43(2) of the Charity Act 1993 (the Act) and an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts (under section 43 of the Act);
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 43(7)(b) of the Act); and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Association and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the Management Committee concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with our examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the trustees have not met the requirements to ensure that:

- proper accounting records are kept (in accordance with section 41 of the 1993 Act); and
- accounts are prepared which agree with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Act; or

Kevin Whalley FMAAT ATT

KJW Accountants Limited

Harrow, Middlesex

Date: 28 September 2009

Governance

Who we are?

Deaf Parenting UK Board of Trustees:

Chair – Sabina Iqbal

Vice Chair – Trudi Collier

Treasurer – Jessica Wilde

Secretary – vacant

Board Members:

Ramon Woolfe

Yasmin Kovic

Penny Beschizza

Kevin Buckle

Mary-Jayne Russell de Clifford

TJ Jobson

Joanne Harrison

Stuart Harrison (fundraising)

Staff:

Asif Iqbal – Media/Project Manager

Nicole Campbell – Deaf Parenting UK Co-ordinator

Structure, Governance and Management

75% of the Trustees must be Deaf parents (including foster/adopter) or Deaf parents to be. At the moment, 100% of our Trustees are Deaf parents themselves with children of all ages which brings a rich diversity of experiences to Deaf Parenting UK.

Trustees meet 4 times a year as well as keeping in touch via Deaf Parenting UK Trustee email group. Trustees are appointed or reappointed annually at the Annual General Meeting held in July.

We have reviewed and updated the Deaf Parenting UK's constitution (originally adopted December 2004 and revised in December 2006) and Child Protection policy to reflect the current climate.

Deaf Parenting UK Services:

Deaf Parenting UK has a vast range of services which includes as follow:

1. **Deaf Parenting Skill Course (DPSC)** for:
 - *Pre-natal course for Deaf parent/ parent-to-be who are expecting baby*
 - *Deaf Parents with children aged 0-9years*
 - *Deaf Parents with teens*
2. **1:1 Support on Parenting skills**
3. **Befriender Services**
4. **Presentation/Meeting** on services that DPUK offer
5. **Tailor-made Services to Deaf Parents** If there is anything you need from DPUK that is tailored-made to suit your needs, please let us know.
6. **Expert witness/ independent social worker/ assessor for Deaf parents/ families in the legal setting:** We have a network of independent social workers who are mostly Deaf BSL user or hearing with BSL level 3 or above. This is following requests from courts of where Deaf parents are at the crisis stages and requires a range of support that we can offer which includes advocacy, parenting support, expert witness and an assessor to check whether the services offered to Deaf parents are accessible to them.
7. **Information/ Support** – We have a range of information and work closely with our parenting partners to ensure that we have the up to date information/ support to meet Deaf parents needs. Please check out our website or if you have any specific enquiry, please contact us by email.
8. **Membership** DPUK values the vast support from all members across UK on Deaf Parenting issues. Membership is open to all Deaf Parents and professionals/ service providers working with Deaf Parents. Benefits of Memberships for DPUK members include:
 - Opportunity to influence DPUK as an organisation and their services to ensure that it meets Deaf Parents' needs.
 - Network with other Deaf Parents with children/ Professionals working with Deaf Parents.
 - Involves & contribute to FREE Deaf Parenting Email Group/ Forum (see below)
 - Receive Deaf Parenting Newsletter on quarterly basis.
9. **Deaf Parenting Forum/ Event Calendar** on Deaf Parenting UK website, which is FREE for members.
10. **Deaf Parenting UK Newsletter** – quarterly newsletter FREE for members

If you want to know more about **Deaf Parenting UK** and the services we offer, please feel free to contact our Coordinator on SMS: 07789 027186 or email: info@deafparent.org.uk.

Vision & Future

Deaf Parenting UK has some projects in the pipeline which includes the following:

Membership:

Deaf Parenting UK hopes to see a continued steady growth of membership of Deaf parents and professionals to support our work in providing information and support to Deaf parents and their children. Your membership give you a voice in influencing and shaping how **Deaf Parenting UK** runs as an organisation and what you want to see happen in the next few years.

Partnership working:

Deaf Parenting UK continues to work in partnership with mainstream Deaf organisation on local and national levels in providing information, support and services to Deaf parents. **Deaf Parenting UK** also encourage positive working practices with mainstream parenting organisations and service providers to enable them to consider how they can meet the needs of Deaf parents in line with the DDA.

Deaf Parenting skill courses:

Deaf Parenting UK continues to work closely with their partners in bidding for funding to deliver Deaf parenting skill courses locally and nationally and hopefully have all courses roll-out across the country with **DPUK**'s pool of Deaf Trainers.

Tailor-made services:

Deaf Parenting UK continues to provide 1:1 tailor-made parenting support to Deaf parents including Deaf parents with additional support needs. As the demand for this service continue to increase nationally, more awareness and recognition of Deaf Parenting UK among local authorities and Social Services/ PCT, it is hope for funding to be secured as part of Deaf parent's community care package.

Professional Network of Expert witness/ independent social worker/ assessor for Deaf parents/ families:

Deaf Parenting UK recognised the importance of recruiting and retaining a network of professional expert in the field of Deafness and parenting which include a list of Independent Social Workers, specialist Deaf Advocates, Befrienders and Deaf Parenting Trainers. So if you are qualified or have experiences in those fields, and wish to add your name onto our professional network of experts, please email to info@deafparent.org.uk with your CV and explain your skills and areas of services that you can offer. All experts must be CRB checked and will be vetted by Deaf Parenting UK.

Information Services:

Deaf Parenting UK is working closely with organisations to ensure information are accessible to Deaf Parents as well maintaining information on **Deaf Parenting UK** website www.deafparent.org.uk, making it a central point of resources. We are working on a series of new information factsheets and working with partners to update their information to meet the needs of Deaf parents. The **DPUK** newsletter continues to grow to many more pages and we are hoping for newsletter to be revamp into a magazine which is vital source of information, reaching to Deaf parents and professionals/ service providers who are otherwise unaware of our work.

Raising profile of Deaf Parenting UK:

Deaf Parenting UK has continued to promote our work by speaking at various conferences and running information stalls. **Deaf Parenting UK** will continue to raise their profile and reaching out to Deaf parents and professionals/ services providers.

Support from you

Membership – to become a member, please contact Deaf Parenting UK for a membership form or apply online on www.deafparent.org.uk.

Support the work we do: Donate to Deaf Parenting UK

Deaf Parenting UK works tirelessly to highlight the needs of Deaf parents in UK, to help to promote the rights of individual Deaf parents, support Deaf parents and professionals/services providers working with Deaf parents and reduce Deaf parents' sense of exclusion. We need your help to continue this work. Please give generously.

Make cheques/postal orders payable to **Deaf Parenting UK**. This form can be photocopied.

I wish to make a donation of

£

My name:

My address:

Beat the tax man and make your gift to **Deaf Parenting UK** go further. If you are a tax payer, for every pound you donate, we can claim an extra 28p from the Inland Revenue. All you need to do is to tick the box and we will do the rest!



11) Contact Us:

Deaf Parenting UK

Nicole Campbell – DPUK Coordinator

SMS: 07789 027186

Fax: 0871 2643323

Email: info@deafparent.org.uk

www.deafparent.org.uk

Acknowledgement

We want to thanks to our supporters, partners and funders that we worked with since 2001, for their tremendous support & contributions to our vital work:



South East London Community Foundation



REMARK



UK Council on Deafness



Donnay Charitable Trust

Enfield Deaf Project

Sir Winston Churchill Educational Trust





The Lord Mayor's office
of Birmingham



GREATERLONDONAUTHORITY



ESRC Deafness Cognition and Language Research Centre



Avon and Wiltshire **NHS**
Mental Health Partnership NHS Trust



TRAFFORD
COUNCIL

Equality and
Human Rights
Commission



equalityhumanrights.com

