



Deaf Parenting UK

Deaf Parenting UK



Annual Report 2009

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Chair's report



Welcome to our 2009 Annual Report, launched at the Deaf Parenting Conference in London on 7th July 2010: Are We Equal? in accessing to health, social services and children's education.

It is amazing how times flies so quickly in the period of 2009 which has been a busiest year for all of us including 12 awards in last 18months.

The start of 2009 saw Deaf Parenting UK receiving requests via our helpline of which huge proportion of 57% were for parenting supports to deaf parents/ families. We also received 22% request from parents and professionals to provide legal advice/ representation where Deaf parents were at the crisis stage. Those two highest figures is a staggering huge part of our work aswell as DPUK helpline which is manned by our DPUK coordinator working 7 hours a week.

We have come so far since we started in April 2001 as a small project into a small national organisation with two part-time staff (7 hours a week each). Despite the difficult economic climates that comes our way, we have continue to operate as social enterprise and kept the organisation going, to meet the needs of Deaf parents and professionals working with them.

Looking at our history of supporting Deaf parents and professionals, we have identified patterns over the years and previous conferences 2008 looked at Enabling confidence, empowering and supporting Deaf parents which became Deaf Parenting UK's motto in delivering our services. Conference 2009 looked at Education, Education, Education, challenging the Government as to the importance of our children's education but access for Deaf parents were limited. This brings to our next conference 2010: Are We Equal? in accessing to health, social services and our children's education. Our organisation will be 10years old next year in 2011 but how far have we come in improving access for Deaf parents? This year conference would be interesting and challenging for all of us especially with the new changes in Government of Con-Lib coalition and the huge budget cuts that are affecting all services including health, social services and children's education. Will they be engaging well with us and consider the needs of Deaf parents or will they be reviewing all of their policies and cut us out of the loop. There are lots of news in the media about the huge cuts would in turns affect all disability and families services across the country including tax credit, welfare reform. It is a worrying time for all of us.

With the hard times ahead of us, we need to look at the future, drawing on the strength we all have and to support one another and to give our best shot at the Conference 2010 as well as engaging with the Government. This is not the time to give up and we need to unite more and fight harder. Our hard work will continue to focus on reaching out more Deaf parents and professionals aswell as providing services to meet their needs.

We hope to mark our 10 years anniversary in 2011 with a difference by celebrating our achievements aswell as presenting awards to those deserving individuals / organisations who made differences to the lives of Deaf parents. We need your support to make it happen. Watch this space.

Finally, our tremendous thanks to our two part-time staff, Nicole Campbell and Asif Iqbal, for all their incredibly hard work and commitment in delivering services, exceeding above their duty in making things happened for Deaf Parents aswell the committed support of our Trustees and stakeholders.

Sabina Iqbal
Chair/Founder of Deaf Parenting UK

Vision and Mission Statement

Our vision is to be the first part of all for Deaf Parents with children with local branches and affiliated services throughout the UK by 2013

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.

Deaf Parenting UK strives for all Deaf parents and their children to participate in society as equal as any other parents, to be able to make informed choices and to exercise control over their lives as well as to promote their children's well-being.

In order to meet our mission and vision statement, we have outlined our objectives and activities of how we can enable, empower and support Deaf parents as follow:

Objectives & Activities

Our Objectives are:

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

Why the need for Deaf Parenting UK?

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 these 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. There is information on parenting (for hearing parents) of deaf, hearing and disabled children which is readily available in print, Video/DVD material and Parenting Classes etc.***
- ***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 inability of staff to appropriately communicate in sign language or lack of Deaf awareness.

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, fail to engage effectively with other parents and become very isolated.
- Deaf parents' needs are primarily linguistic and cultural and they fail to receive the support they need and so continue to lack in confidence and remain confused and feeling vulnerable.
- Frustration and isolation can be expressed in chronic anxiety or depression, sometimes tipping over into psychosis.

At DPUK's recent National Conference, June 2009 and previous conference, October 2008, delegates reinforced the need for its services to be delivered locally and impartially.

Deaf Parenting UK continues to work tirelessly to campaign for equality for 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 current Equality legislation, DDA and the 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.

What our Stakeholders says:

We are delighted to welcome the support from David Cameron MP, Leader of Conservative Party; Nick Clegg MP, Leader of the Liberal Democrats Party; Theresa May MP; Baroness Warsi and The Rt Hon James Purnell MP, Former Secretary of State for DWP and public as follow:

Rt Hon David Cameron MP, Prime Minister: *"Nothing gives us greater happiness than our families and relationships, which is why strengthening relationships within families is so important. In the support and advice it provides, Deaf Parenting UK is doing just that. It is a unique organisation which has made a real difference to the lives of those it has helped"*

Nick Clegg MP, Deputy Prime Minister *"It is with great pleasure that I lend my full support to Deaf Parenting UK. The work carried out by this organisation is utterly invaluable not only in providing support and advice for deaf parents across the UK, but more generally in raising awareness of the variety of issues which affect the deaf community. Being a parent is one of the most challenging and rewarding experiences in life. This organisation is doing fantastic work in raising awareness of the specific issues facing deaf parents. I would like to take this opportunity to commend all those working at Deaf Parenting UK for their hard work in empowering and supporting Deaf parents and challenging attitudinal barriers."*

Baroness Warsi, Minister without Portfolio & Co-Chairman of the Conservative Party: *"I must congratulate you on the very positive work that you are doing with your charity. I wish you all the best."*

Rt Hon Theresa May MP, Secretary of State for Home Secretary and Minister for Women and Equality: *"Deaf parents face unique challenges and understandably need some extra support. I pay tribute to the work of Deaf Parenting UK in providing this support. In allowing deaf parents to gain skills and share their experiences with others in the same situation, Deaf Parenting UK plays a valuable role in helping families across the country and ensuring that more children have the best possible start in life."*

The Rt Hon James Purnell MP, Former Secretary of State for Work and Pensions: *"I was very pleased to hear about the valuable work that Deaf Parenting UK is doing. I can see what a difference important initiatives such as parenting skills training and networking events will make to the lives of deaf parents and I wish Deaf Parenting UK every success for the year ahead."*

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

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

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

Rose-Ann, Talking with hands: *"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."*

Hilary Grime, Service Manager, Sensory Impairment & Physical Disabilities, Oxfordshire County Council: *"Hearty congratulations to everyone involved – a brilliant achievement!"*

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

Abigail Jackson, Press Association: *"This is fantastic news – what a great achievement."*

Sandra David (deaf mum and deputy head at Frank Barnes School, London): *"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."*

Dr Paddy Ladd, Bristol University: *"Well done DPUK! You are doing fabulous work and your PR is amazing!"*

Kibra Tayes: *"Congratulations on achieving your goals!"*

Dr Gulnur Aybet, Department of Politics and International Relations, Kent University: *"Congratulations Sabina!!"*

Ramas Rentelis, Deaf basketball UK: *"Well done Deaf Parenting UK"*

Liz Sayce, Chief Executive of Royal Association for Disability and Rights: *"Huge congratulations!"*

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

Lillian Lawson OBE, Deaf Parenting UK Ambassador: *"Many congratulations!"*

Dr Lesley Jones, Deaf Parenting UK Ambassador: *"Congratulations!"*

Vanessa Addison, DPUK Ambassador: *"BIG congratulations – you should be very proud!"*

Jeff McWhinney, Deaf Parenting UK Ambassador: *"Please pass on my congratulations to the rest of the team at DPUK – I am mighty proud of you all! All the best."*

Mike Penning MP and Deaf Parenting UK Ambassador: *"For all the success of Deaf Parenting UK and the awards that have been 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."*

Prof. Ulrike Zeshan, Deaf Parenting UK Ambassador: *"My best wishes and congratulations on your recent award, that's a great achievement! I hope you will carry on with the same amount of stamina!"*

Deaf 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 empathise and give support if or when needed*

Deaf Parenting Support:

Deaf Parents and professionals have contacted Deaf Parenting UK for support and as a result, we offered the following:

1) Parenting Skills Course Workshops

Pacesetters Project based in Bristol, working in partnership with the local PCT on community issues on health/mental health of deaf people. Pacesetters received funding for DPUK to run two parenting skills workshops in Bristol, which ran from October 2008 – January 2009.

The workshops were hailed as a success and have been proved to be beneficial for the Deaf parents. Pacesetters have asked DPUK to run a 2nd series of parenting skills workshops.

Pacesetters and NHS Bristol have commissioned DPUK to run 2 years project of parenting support workshops in Bristol to take place June 2010- Dec 2011.

The following testimonials were given after the course:

- *"This course has been great for accessing information and get this 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 empathise and give support if or when needed"*

2) 1:1 Parenting support

We offer 1:1 parenting support for Deaf parents who were often in crisis stage and need immediate support. It is often the result of the social services/ health referrals that commissioned Deaf Parenting UK to provide 1:1 parenting support.

Furthermore, most Deaf parents benefited from 1:1 parenting support especially if there is no parenting skills course workshop available near them or if their needs are better met on 1:1 basis eg: Deaf with learning disability/ mental health support needs.

This is a snapshot of 1:1 parenting support, commissioned by the following council/ referrers that we carried out throughout 2009.

Dec 08 - Feb 09	Brent Council Children & Families	Single Parent with a Young child	5 sessions
April 09 – June 09	Hampshire County Council	Deaf parents with 2 young children	6 sessions
July 09 – Nov 09	Tamworth Disabilities Team	Step father with 2 children	12 sessions
July 09 – Dec 09	Hounslow Children & Families	Deaf parents with 5 children	8 sessions
August 09 – Oct 09	Stockton On Tees Children & Families	Single Deaf Parent with baby	8 sessions

Sept 09-Dec 09	Brent Council Children & Families	Single Mother with 2 young children	8 session
Nov 09-Jan 10	Brent Council Children & Families	Divorced Mother with 2 young children	8 session
Dec 09-Jan 10	CAF Team, Kilburn - Brent Council	Single mother with 11 year old daughter	6 sessions

Facts/Figures:

Since 2005 to date, with 1 part time staff (Coordinator) and one freelance trainer, we have successfully supported Deaf parents by the delivery of:

- Deaf Parenting Skill Courses (average 12 weeks per course) including Pre-natal for pregnant parents to be; parents with children aged 0-9 and parents with teen aged 9-18yrs) to directly support 120 parents (12 courses, 2-3 courses per year), an increase of 47% from last year (65 parents)
- 1:1 Parenting Support: 220 sessions, supporting 27 parents/ family (average 8-12 sessions per family), an increase of 37% from last year (17 parents)

DPUK Forum via Deaf Parenting UK website aswell as email groups for Deaf parents which offers opportunity for Deaf parents to raise comments / concerns or suggestion to share with other Deaf parents. This has been popular with average viewing of 800-1300 per message listed since its launch in 2007.

Deaf Parenting UK Helpline:

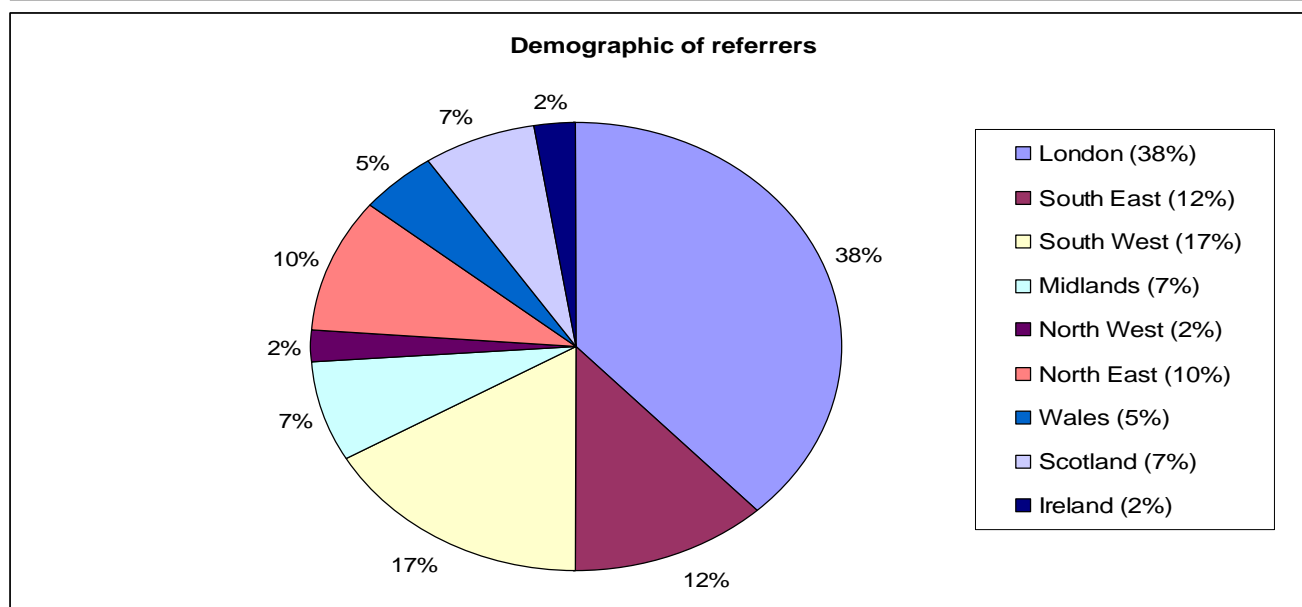
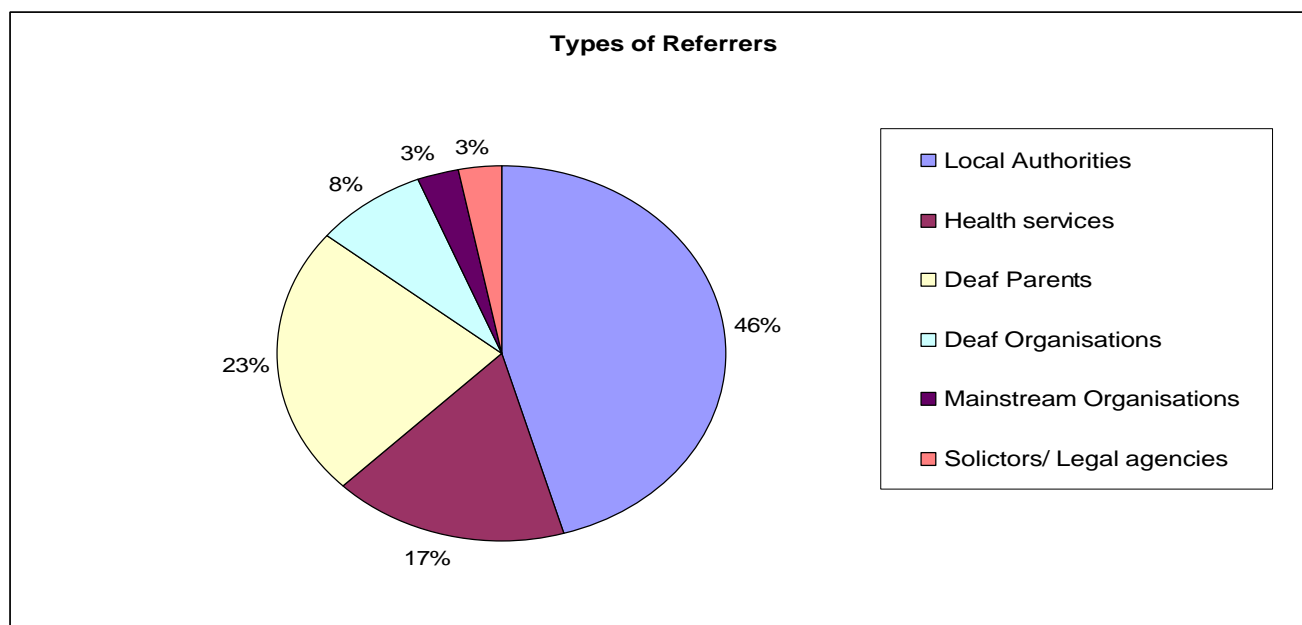
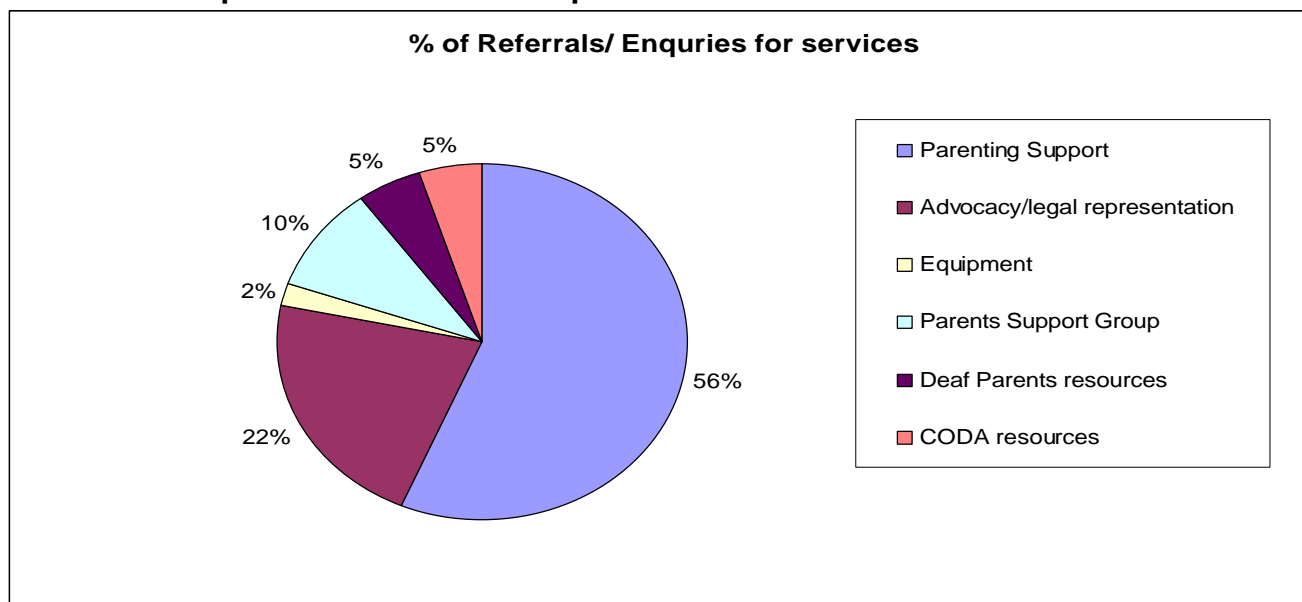
Deaf Parenting UK have a helpline via emails, website, SMS (mobile text messaging) and fax from Deaf parents and professionals and we have received the following enquiries by email:

Please note that this does not include the numbers of enquiries we received by SMS and faxes.

Nature of enquiries in 2009 received by emails:	No. of enquiries
Solicitors / legal enquiries especially during crisis where Deaf parents were at court stage or Deaf parents requesting legal advice/ representation	152
Website – requesting information or passing on information to add onto website	52
General Enquiries about DPUK and the work we do including request for advocacy and practical support from our staff to Deaf parents/professionals	327
Deaf Parenting Conference 2009, information and booking and contribution by sharing their experiences	367
Request for partnership work ranging from information, advice, support, engagement consultation (research/policy making) and training on the needs of Deaf parents.	474
Recruitment/ opportunity to work with DPUK	12
Public comment/ support of our work	41
Baby Show 2009 – information / advice on our 3 events in 2009	95
DPUK Quarterly newsletter – request/feedback/share information	224
Social Services regarding parenting support / information on our services	228
Government Contact regarding our work/services	87
Deaf organisations contact regarding our work/services	77
National (mainstream)organisations contact regarding our work/services	109
Media/Publicity, raising profile of Deaf Parenting UK	312
Total emails received	2557
Total emails from DPUK in replying to the above (including discussion with referrer by emails)	3313

The amount of referrals, type of referrers and demographic of referrals/ enquiries can be demonstrated by our charts below:

Referrals / Enquiries received for the period of Jan 2009 to Dec 2009:



The above enquiries are manned by our DPUK coordinator working 7 hours a week with support from Trustees.

All replies to emails are usually dealt within few days and sometimes within a week depending on the coordinator's availability. Those of complex natures are passed onto Trustees to reply / provide suitable advice and this can take longer. Coordinator have exceeded beyond the 7 hours a week remit to keep the service afloat.

Challenges:

In each work we do with Deaf parents during group sessions or 1:1 basis, we appreciate the challenges that they faces as Deaf parents even though those may be typical in the parenting roles including the battles that they struggles with e.g.:

- Deaf Parent unsure of how to support her child who has been raped / sexually assaulted.
- Deaf parent found it difficult to deal with teenager rebelling at school as a result of bullying because her parents are Deaf.
- Deaf parent struggle to understand and how to support their teenager who dropped out of school and is also pregnant.
- Deaf parent was suspected to have mental health needs ('OCD' and panic attacks, together with depressive disorder) which impact on their child being confused due to lack of parental control between both Deaf parents.
- Deaf parent whose wife's language is not English and is not sign language user and their children used as 'interpreters' to bridge communication gaps.
- Deaf parent whose two young children were removed from her care, the court case pending on adoption proceedings.
- Deaf parent with a child diagnosed with ADHD.

The above examples proved to be tremendous challenges for Deaf Trainers to work with those parents in group sessions or in 1:1 session. The amount of work from the programme was basic to reflect their needs to absorb the information and repetitions. Given that the workshop / sessions ranged from 8-12 sessions (weekly), it is important to highlight that parents would have had difficulty adjusting to new skills learnt and that we are giving them the tools to understand and improve their parenting skills with better outcomes in their children/family unit.

Parents had to learn how to regain control by dealing with their feelings in order to support their children. The parents also needed to learn how to be assertive and set discipline/boundaries with their children in order to increase the ability to deal with children's challenging behaviour.

Furthermore, from DPUK's observation and discussion with parents, it appears that lack of support and access to services had an adverse effect on their health and lifestyle, which has led to them facing really challenges in parenting their children appropriately.

Positive outcomes:

Many parents reported the immediate benefits of mutual support of other Deaf parents in group sessions and learning from one another. They were fully supported in their environment where all Deaf parents and DPUK trainers are BSL users.

Also from the 1:1 parenting support sessions, many parents reported seeing the instant changes in the family unit e.g.:

- Hopes and fears of Deaf parents were overcome and dealt with in a supportive manner with the support of DPUK trainer.
- Establishing routines for Deaf parents to deal with their children eg: bedtime and toileting routines identified in session 1 and accomplished in session 5/6.

- Identified appropriate play and stimulation appropriate to children's age which in turn improve the relationship with parents and child.

Unmet needs:

We have a waiting list of parents in needs of 1:1 parenting support, advocacy support and parenting workshops (41%) which we are unable to meet for the following reasons:

- Lack of funding for parenting skill courses from individual local authority/PCT. This also includes requests to us for funding assistance.
- Lack of awareness on numbers of Deaf parents in local area to needed to maximise the group work sessions. It is mostly the case of individual Deaf parents at crisis stages that resulted in referral to Deaf Parenting UK for parenting support.
- Lack of qualified Deaf trainers to meet the demand for 1:1 parenting support and parenting skill courses as we only have three qualified trainers which are dispersed, one in Scotland, one in Bristol and one in London. All of them have their own full time jobs and work with DPUK on ad-hoc basis.
- DPUK is a social enterprise organisation so for every service we provide, there is a charge to organisations (e.g.: local authorities/ PCT) but not to parents as it is our philosophy to ensure Deaf parents access to our services free in the same way as hearing parents access to mainstream parenting services. This in turn, have consequence on those organisations especially local authorities/ PCT who have limited funding/ grant opportunities and only commissioned Deaf Parenting UK on ad-hoc basis (e.g.: social services working with individual Deaf parents / families).

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 recognises that in some areas, there are Deaf Parents Groups running but in some areas, there are gaps. Deaf Parenting UK encourages all Deaf parents support groups to be set up locally, regionally and nationally and also all Deaf Parents groups to register their details FREE onto Deaf Parenting UK website 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.

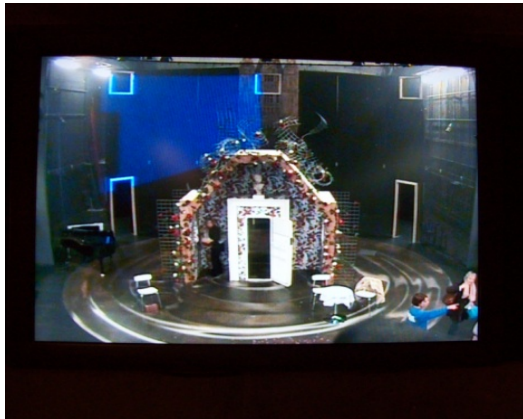
For those reasons of gaps in provision and lack of support for Deaf parents to reduce their social isolations, Deaf Parenting UK have organised a series of Family Fun days in London funded by Children in Needs.

Children In Need Fund Update

DPUK's Children & Families Project including some volunteers funded by Children in Need grant has had a fun year. It has enabled the project to run a vibrant programme of activities and meetings aimed at reducing isolation and working to strengthen families – this offered positive life experience for children of Deaf parents also known as CODA (Children of Deaf Adults).

DPUK Deaf Families events: January – September 2009

- 17th January 2009: Unicorn Theatre presents BSL interpreted production of 'Sleeping Beauty'
- 21st February 2009: Arts & Craft Session, Tower Project Centre, Tower Hamlets
- 28th March 2009: Parent & Toddler Meet at Tumble in the Jungle, Walthamstow
- 18th April 2009: Family Day out at London Wetlands Centre, Barnes
- 2nd May 2009: Krazy Kat Drama/Signed Story workshop, St Bedes Centre for Deaf People, Clapham
- 12th June 2009: Fun Activity at DPUK Conference, GLA, City Hall, London
- 30th August 2009: Day out at Serpentine Lido, Hyde Park
- 5th September 2009: BSL Events for Deaf Families at London Science Museum



Unicorn Theatre – 'Cinderella'



Arts & Craft Session



Parents & Toddler Meet at Tumble in the Jungle



Family Day out at the London Wetlands Centre



Krazy Kat Drama Workshop



Serpentine Lido, Hyde Park

Fact & Figures:

*Family Fun Days – 640
parents/families benefited
from the 12 months project
(Sept 2008-Sept 2009)*

DPUK's Funded Deaf Families Event from Children In Need, for provision of twelve 'one monthly' fun activity events in the London Regions for the period September 2008 – September 2009 has now come to an end.

Nicole Campbell, DPUK coordinator was involved in the project from the start and said *"I have thoroughly enjoyed working and participating in such events which was an opportunity for Deaf families to be entertained in a deaf friendly environment and meet new people."*

Future Events 2010/2011:

Plan is underway for 2010/2011 to have more Family Fun days including some free tickets to the following Theme Parks at various locations across UK, courtesy of Merlin Entertainment:

- The Merlin Entertainments London Eye
- Madame Tussauds London
- The London Dungeons
- SEA LIFE Centres and Sanctuaries across UK
- THORPE PARK
- Alton Towers Resort Theme Park
- Chessington World of Adventures
- LEGOLAND® Windsor
- Warwick Castle

The events are aimed for group of Deaf Parents and their children aged 0-18yrs old across UK to go on a trip to one of the above theme parks, aswell as provide an opportunity for them to mix together, gain peer support and to reduce the social isolation. Some events are free for children aged under 5.

To learn more or to request tickets for your group of Deaf parents with children, please contact us at info@deafparent.org.uk.

DPUK Conference 2009:



National Association of Head Teachers (NAHT), Department of Children, School and Families (DCSF), Daycare Trust, Sign for Success, Deafness Cognition and Language (DCAL) Research Centre and Equality and Human Right Commission (EHRC) as well as two local Deaf parents gave presentations on Education, enabling Deaf Parents to access to their children's education of which many experienced numerous of barriers.

Deaf Parenting Conference 2009 was held on Friday 12 June 2009 in London and attended by 200 people, mostly Deaf Parents aswell as professionals / service providers working with Deaf parents. The theme of the conference on Education touched the core issues shared by many Deaf parents and bringing them from across UK aswell Deaf parents from Italy, Belgium, Cyprus and Greece who challenged the Government and representatives from National Association of Head Teachers (NAHT), Department of Children, School and Families (DCSF), Daycare Trust on the needs of Deaf parents in accessing their children's education without barriers.

Julia Gault, Head of Families Unit, Families Engagement Division, Department Children, Schools and Families (DCSF): *"The conference provided an important opportunity for deaf parents to bring their issues directly to those like myself working on the future direction of national policy. I appreciated the frankness with which they spoke of their experiences and how they would like to see things change. This has given renewed vigour to*



L-R: Richard Barnes, Deputy Mayor of GLA; Carolyn Denmark, Deaf parent/ DPUK trainer, Sabina Iqbal (Chair); Mark Harper, Shadow Minister of Disabled people; Clarissa William, former President of NAHT; Ceri Hughes, DPUK Editor.

my work towards the Government 2020 Goal that all parents will be satisfied with the information and support they receive."

Clarissa Williams, Former Head teacher and President of National Association of Head teachers (NAHT): *"It was both a privilege and an experience to have been invited to attend and contribute to the Deaf Parenting UK conference. Listening to the delegates and speakers I realised that the world of education still has some way to go to*



L-R: Susan Davies, DPUK Ambassador & NDCS Chief Executive; Sarah Robinson & Charlie Swinborne – Deaf parents with their baby; Kathy Robinson, DPUK Ambassador and Director of Sign for Success.

enact the principles as enshrined in law in order to ensure that deaf parents are allowed and indeed welcomed to join in the learning partnership that they so rightly desire for their children.

It was very salutary for me to observe how effectively the deaf community communicates using sign language and this brought home to me the importance of expanding the use of sign language to make communication real and effective amongst all parties

I was occasionally saddened and ashamed to hear examples of prejudice that so often comes from ignorance and understand the need to work together with other agencies to reduce inequality through strong advocacy, challenge and support.



L-R: Deaf parent questioned Mark Harper, Shadow Minister of Disabled people with BSL interpreter.

Deaf Parenting UK are to be congratulated in the assertive and professional manner in which they are leading in raising our awareness of the key issues affecting deaf parents and their children. As a former Head teacher I salute their determination and commitment and will do what I can to disseminate their message to the educational world."

Ceri Hughes, Director of KMPG LLP who did the closing remarks of the conference:

"Many congratulations to Deaf Parenting UK on excellent conference. I very enjoyed attending the conference and meeting lots of different people and found the presentations very interesting."

Kathy Robinson, Sign for Success and is also a Deaf Parenting UK Ambassador: *"The Conference was an eye opener. Excellent speakers and a real feeling of moving forward to address the needs of Deaf Parents. Deaf Parenting UK is keeping Deaf Parents high on the government's agenda. A hugely informative, supportive successful day!"*

Catherine Florry, Deaf Advocate: *"Deaf Parenting UK is a positive support network. Education services provider should involve and value Deaf parents' input in EVERY aspect of their service delivery. With rights comes as responsibility. Deaf parents / Foster carers would need information and support to understand this concept".*

Fact/ Figures:

Deaf Parenting UK have been organising Deaf Parenting Annual conferences aswell as some forum / meetings in the last few years (2005 to date) which has been attended by 450 Deaf parents and 300 professionals. There is a steady growth from when we first started in 2005 at the launch of DPUK logo with 50 parents and 20 professionals and our biggest success was the Conference 2009 which attracted 200 Deaf parents and professionals of which 65% are Deaf parents and 35% professionals.

Deaf Parenting UK strives to involve Deaf parents and professionals, on thematic issues affecting Deaf parents, enabling them:

- have a platform in sharing their experiences and what they want to see improved,
- working with service providers to identify gaps in services,
- removing barriers in accessing to services,
- influencing Government on policies concerning Deaf parents / families.

The Baby Shows 2009:

Deaf Parenting UK launched its first working partnership with the Baby show at Earls Court on 17 October 2008. Since then, Deaf Parenting UK has been working closely with The Baby Show to ensure Deaf Parents and Deaf Expectant Parents were fully inclusive in the same way as any other parents accessing to The Baby Shows. Exhibitors were able to take advantage of the unique service to communicate with Deaf parents as new customers.

Fact/Figures:

Deaf Parenting UK have been working closely with The Baby Show and as partnership work, we had DPUK stand and provided BSL interpreters for the three days show, twice a year.

We are delighted that since 2008 when our partnership was formed, we have succeeded in reaching out 120 Deaf parents who came to the Baby Show. Also the partnership enabled us to promote our work throughout the Baby Shows which were a great success.

The Baby Show's website which include a dedicated page on Deaf Parenting UK and the support we offer on the 3 days show, twice a year, have reached out to over 500,000 people about our work!



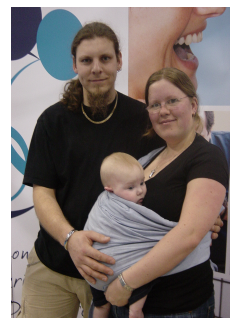
L-R: Nicole Campbell, DPUK Coordinator meet Deaf parents with two children



Word of support from the Baby Show Presenter and public on Deaf Parenting UK stand at the Baby Show 09:

"I really think it is fantastic that Deaf Parenting UK is at the Baby Shows helping deaf parents to get information from the experts on the stage and chat to the exhibitors around the show. It is a wonderful, fulfilling yet bewildering journey that you go on as a new parent and every one deserves the support and knowledge that the Baby Show gives." **Lucy Piper, Baby Show Presenter**

"I feel that it is a good idea as it supports the deaf community. Deaf people in my experience do not have enough support and becoming a parent is hard enough even with the help there. Deaf Parenting UK gives the vital help, advice and support that deaf people required." **Rachel McDonald**



"I want to say a Big Thank you to Deaf Parenting UK for the complimentary tickets I received for me and my mother to attend the Baby show at Birmingham NEC. We both deeply enjoyed our day there! There were lots of mothers with their husband, boyfriends etc and the exhibition was full of prams and stuff but with plenty of space to roam about! Again thanks to Deaf Parenting UK who provided sign language interpreters to help me choose from 30 different prams! With the help from the sign language interpreters and sales people we found a pram that suited me! It will be delivered 2 weeks

before the baby due date and I look forward to using it. Additionally we bought a baby sling, re-usable nappies and a rocking chair!!! There was a lot of useful information that you could pick up across the exhibitions. I would recommend to anyone who is expecting a baby or already has a baby to go and have a fun day at The Baby Show! "From a Deaf Mum-to-be, Oxfordshire

Raising profile & Partnerships:

The year 2009 was the busiest year of **Deaf Parenting UK** in being commended. There was a combination of awards, media interviews, increased public support for Deaf Parenting UK, and recognition by the Political Parties including David Cameron and Nick Clegg; appointments of new ambassadors including Annette Brookes MP, Carissa Williams, Graham Taylor and Vanessa Whitehouse; and working with Department for Children, Schools and Families in their 'Parental Engagement Project', consulting with Deaf parents for their views in accessing to schools.

We have been busy raising profile of Deaf Parenting UK by giving interviews with various magazines including Disability Now; front cover of National Childbirth Trust's NewGen (Spring 2009), Midwives Journal; DPPi (Disability, Pregnancy & Parenthood International); NSPCC's 'Your Family Magazine'; and Emel (Muslim lifestyle) Magazine, The Times Newspaper as well as 'Wicked', first BSL TV programme by BSL Broadcasting Trust.

DPUK's first breakthrough in working with the national newspaper Daily Mirror as Deaf Parenting UK has been included in the advertisement section in a special edition of the Mother and Baby Feature on 22nd March 2009. Our logo reached 2.6 million people nationally.

1) West Midland Government Office, Birmingham, January 2009

Deaf Parenting UK was invited by West Midland Government Office to give a speech at their 'Think Family' conference in Birmingham in January 2009. The aim of the conference was for the service providers to think how they would provide support and ensure that their services meets the needs of various 'hard to reach' families including Deaf parents in the Midlands area.

2) Signed Stories Launch, London Weekend Television, January 2009

Deaf Parenting UK was invited to give a speech of support at the launch of Signed Stories at the LWT (London Weekend Television). Signed Stories is a website where all stories are signed into BSL with audio and subtitles. Deaf Parenting UK gave their support as it enables Deaf Parents and their children (both deaf and hearing) to access those stories as well as improving the quality time together as family.

3) Bristol Deaf Studies Trust – HDM Talk: 29th April 2009

DPUK Hosted a presentation on "How you can understand your child/teenager better" at the Bristol Deaf Centre. The aim of the presentation was to provide some information to Deaf people in BSL friendly format that relates to their parenting experience – in order to recruit parents for the 2nd series of parenting workshops.

4) Leicester Action Deafness Festival: 9th May 2009

As part of Deaf Awareness Week 2009, Action Deafness held a Deaf Festival to celebrate deafness and provide advice and information. A variety of organisations set up exhibitions, and workshops throughout the event. Deaf Parenting UK set up an information stall, an opportunity for Deaf people to obtain information about DPUK Services.

5) Deaf Parenting UK is delighted to show their support to 'The National Family Week', May 2009

Deaf Parenting UK, as the first ever charity and a unique organisation focusing on enabling, empowering and supporting Deaf parents/parents-to-be, were delighted to hear that National

Family Week is taking place to recognise and celebrate the diversity of families across the country. Deaf Parenting UK wish National Family Week every success.

6) Deaf Muslim UK, Regent Park Mosque, London, 16th May 2009

Deaf Muslim UK invited Chair of Deaf Parenting UK to give presentation about Deaf Parenting UK and the work it does. Many had the opportunity to stand up and share their experiences, putting forward questions to Sabina about their parenting experiences and how Deaf Parenting UK can offer advice and support.

7) Deaf Parenting Conference 2009 in British Sign Language, supported by Sign tube.

Deaf Parenting UK was delighted to work in partnership with Sign-tube to bring information about Deaf Parenting Conference 2009 in BSL, accessible for Deaf parents/ families: <http://www.sign-tube.com/video/791/Deaf-Parenting-UK-Conference-2009>

8) Information on Italian website about Deaf Parenting UK Conference June 2009

Our recent Deaf Parenting UK Conference 2009 has generated much interest in the UK and across Europe. Italy's National Association of Deaf people have written a feature about our conference and it is now on their website: <http://www.ens.it/articolo.asp?ID=2179>

9) Oak Lodge School Work Related Learning Day – Thursday 18th June 2009

Oak Lodge School hosted their Work Related Learning Day for Year 11 Pupils and invited Nicole Campbell, DPUK Coordinator to give a talk about her path to employment at DPUK. The set up of the Work Related Learning Day was those enable the students to start thinking about their future as they begin their transition to adulthood at important time in their lives.

Nicole gave a talk about her path to employment gave the students a great opportunity to see how I got to where I am at today. All eleven students were interested in her field of work and three of the students had an interest in working with children – they had a good opportunity to ask her questions about my occupation as part of their assignments.

10) Deaf Carers and Deaf Parents Information Day – Saturday 20th June 2009

RAD hosted their Deaf Carers and Deaf Parents Information Day on 20th June at Broomfield Evangelical Church in Chelmsford.

The event provided an opportunity for Deaf parents and carers to get together and share their experiences. Deaf Parenting UK, along with other organisations such as Maldon Young Carers, and Chelmsford Children's Service set up own stalls and were on hand offering valuable information and advice.

11) Deaf Parenting UK launched mutual working partnership with The Science Museum, 5 September 2009

There were lots of Deaf families interested in the Science Museum BSL Events. The fun free family events were run on the first Saturday of every month, with provision of British Sign Language Interpreters. The weekend of 5th September was attended by the record number of Deaf families at this event, which was great news as would like to encourage Deaf Families to experience the exciting range of activities and DPUK events that is available and geared for deaf parents and their children.

12) Deaf Parenting UK working with DCSF and other organisations on Parental Engagement September 2009 to date:

As result of our recent conference last year on Education, Education, Education, Deaf Parenting UK was invited to be involved in the Department of Children, School & Families (DCSF)'s Advisory Group, consulting on the Children's Plan. The Advisory Group is looking at ways of supporting parents better and enabling parents to have full access to their children's learning and Deaf Parenting UK is representing the views of Deaf parents.

13) Deaf World 2009: New Beginnings Conference in Southampton on 1st October 2009

Deaf Parenting UK was invited by Hampshire Deaf Association to speak about Deaf Parenting UK's work with Deaf Parents and their children/ families at their Deaf World 2009: New Beginnings Conference in Southampton on 1st October 2009.

14) International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) 24th November 2009.

Deaf Parenting UK continued to raise the issues of Deaf parenting in UK and was delighted to work with partners local, nationally and internationally and support one-another to reach out as many Deaf parents as possible. Sabina of Deaf Parenting UK was delighted to meet Dr. Jacqueline Sharpe (IPPF, President), Professor Mahmoud Fathalla, (UN award winner and international campaigner for safe motherhood and human rights), Christine McCafferty MP (Chair of all Party Parliamentary Group on Population, Development and Reproductive Health) and Gill Greer (Director of IPPF), to explain Deaf Parenting UK's work and how vital it is for Deaf people especially in developing countries to have access to IPPF's information and resources as they miss out on so much due to the communication barriers facing deaf parents.

15) Deaffest Film & TV Gala Awards, Wolverhampton, 28 November 2009

The Deaffest Film & TV Gala Awards was held on Sat 28 November at the Light House, Wolverhampton. It was the red carpet event of the year when the awards for Best TV Programme, Best Experimental Film, Best Factual Film and Best Drama were presented. Sabina Iqbal Chair/Founder of Deaf Parenting UK was the host of the evening and used this opportunity to network and raised the profile of Deaf Parenting UK.

16) RADAR People of the Year Awards 2009, Battersea 30 November 2009

Sabina Iqbal, Chair was presented a Lifetime Achievement Award from the prestigious RADAR People of the Year Awards 2009 at Battersea Evolution.

The People of the Year Awards is the only event in Europe that recognises and honours individuals and organisations that have made a significant contribution towards the furtherance of human rights for disabled people in the UK.

The Awards ceremony was attended by over 500 VIPs and guests from the worlds of corporate disability and public sector, business, government, arts & media, politics and disabled people.

17) Ummah Channel, December 2009

Sabina Iqbal, Chair/Founder Deaf Parenting UK was interviewed by Ummah Channel's 'Successful Muslim' - a one hour programme slot. It is a light look into the life of Successful Muslims. The interview was similar to Jonathan Ross's style.

Ummah Channel (Ummah means 'Community' in Arabic), was broadcast to over 165 countries around the world, 24 hours a day 7 days a week. In the 'Successful Muslim' programme, Sabina was an inspiration, a positive role model, explaining about her life, her journey and her achievements especially with Deaf Parenting UK and concluded with a powerful message to parents of Deaf children and Deaf parents.

The 'Successful Muslim' programme was aired on Ummah Channel in December 2009 on Sky channel no. 828, with repeated shows during the day/ evening for a month.

18) Deaf Parenting UK endorsed Child's Play Signing Cards:

Deaf Parenting UK have worked in partnership with www.childs-play.com company, advising them on the BSL usage for their child's play signing cards and encouraging them to market it to Deaf parents as well as Deaf children.

Beth Cox, Educational Sales and Liaison Coordinator said: *"It was great to meet Deaf Parenting UK for the first time at the Baby Show 2008. Although Child's Play aim to develop resources that are suitable for ALL children, we are particularly aware of the lack of books that include British Sign Language so are actively expanding our range in this area. I hope that we can work together to promote our existing sign language resources to Deaf parents and work together to create more valuable resources in the future."*

19) DPUK NETWORK: National Equality Partnership Consultation

The National Equality Partnership (NEP) is a project that supports the third sector charities to challenge inequality and promote equality and human rights. It is a three year project (2008-11) funded by Capacity builders under the Improving Support Programme.

Their national programme covers the whole of England and its remit is to deliver services to sector support providers such as umbrella bodies and infrastructure organisations to help improve how third sectors tackle equality, diversity and human rights.

The project is focused on the needs and it has established a reference group. DPUK have enlisted and now have the opportunity to network with people from other organisations facing similar challenges and contribute to a programme that has the potential to deliver changes for groups working on equality, disability and human rights.

Fact/Figures:

Deaf Parenting UK have been working closely with partners outline above to raise the profile of Deaf Parenting UK and our work, thus reaching out as many Deaf parents and professionals as possible across the UK.

This work meets our aims/objectives of working with partners to:

- Encouraging services them to be deaf aware.
- Presentations, consultations and meetings.
- Promoting DPUK as a partner to deliver services.

As well as working with Deaf parents to:

- Be aware of our services and encourage membership to be kept informed via newsletters/ network and DPUK website.
- Enable confidence, empowering and supporting Deaf parents via our services.

We have received so many requests to do outreach work but due to insufficient funding, we only manage to achieve the above as much as we could within our limited resource of 2 part-time staff (both 7 hours a week).

It is essential for Deaf Parenting UK to continue working with those partners and enabling them to be more accountable and promote DPUK as partner to deliver services.

Awards 2009:

Deaf Parenting UK is pleased to be in receipt of several awards in 2009 in recognition of our work. This has highlighted the importance of our work and the needs for us to continue in reaching out and providing services to Deaf parents and professionals within UK as well as a leading example of good practice worldwide.

Muslim Women Power list 2009:

Many Congratulations to Sabina, the Chair of Deaf Parenting UK, one of the 13 Muslim women who have been named on the Muslim Women Power List 2009, Equality and Human Rights Commission. The Muslim Women Power List commends the achievements of Muslim women in business, the arts, media, voluntary and public sectors. It will raise awareness of their social and economic contribution to British working.

Charity Award on 11 June 2009

Deaf Parenting UK was 'High Commended' UK in the Research, Advice & Support category.



Charity Times Award on 9 September 2009

The Charity Times Awards continue to be the pre-eminent celebration of best practice in the UK charity and not-for-profit sector. After a long night with 18 categories, the last two categories on '**Outstanding Individual Achievement**' – Sabina Iqbal, Chair and founder, Deaf Parenting UK was a runner up and the '**Charity of the Year**'- Deaf Parenting UK was a runner up too.

GG2 Leadership Diversity and Equality Award 2009, 15 September 2009

The Asian Media & Marketing Group (AMG) is Britain's biggest Asian publishing house. With a 40 year heritage, AMG publishes a stable of market leading magazines for the Asian community in the UK and USA. The company hosts a number of hugely successful events and award dinners affiliated with its magazines. The 11th Annual GG2 Leadership and Diversity Awards was a premier ceremony highlighting and showcasing ethnic achievement, celebrating the very best of multi-cultural Britain on their 'Inspirational Leadership in times of change'. All award winners were outstanding individuals who have excelled and overcome barriers against the odds. The GG2 Leadership & Diversity Awards were honoured and privileged to have Rt Hon. Tony Blair, former Prime Minister, as the keynote speaker at this year's gala awards ceremony.

Sabina Iqbal honoured in the GG2 Leadership and Diversity Award 2009: **Achievement through Adversity**, presented by Cherie Blair, the wife of former Prime Minister, Ramnikal Solanki CBE, Editor - in-chief of the Asian Media and Marketing Group, Robin Bailey, Insurance & Investment Director and Chairman the Diversity and Equality Opportunities Committee, Nationwide and Gillian Joseph, Sky News presenter.

Black History Month Award 2009:

Deaf Youth Pride hosted their inaugural Black History Month event which took place on Saturday 24th October at Forest Gate Youth Centre, London. The event showcased the excellent performance of drama, music and dancing from Deaf Youth, raising their profile as Deaf young people from black and ethnic minority groups, a sector of our community which has all too frequently been overlooked. The highlight of the evening was the presentation of awards to Deaf youths who have shown particular skills, aptitude and determination in their lives with a view to building confidence and encouraging them to become role models for their Deaf peers and younger generations. The finale of the evening were a selection of Golden Hands 'Black History Month' Award 2009, presented by Sarla Meisura and Kevin Buckle, Deaf Youth Workers and the first gong went to Sabina Iqbal, for her tireless work and outstanding contribution to the society by setting up a first and unique parenting organisation for Deaf parents run by Deaf parents – Deaf Parenting UK. Sabina came up to collect the award with her daughter, Samaira (3).

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.



Annette Brooke MP, Liberal Democrat Spokesperson for Children Schools and Families

Annette Brooke MP, Liberal Democrat Spokesperson for Children Schools and Families & Vice Chair of All Parliamentary Parties Groups (APPGs) for Children, Endometriosis and Parents and Families.

"I am delighted to become a new Ambassador for Deaf Parenting UK and have long admired the excellent work that they do. I know that they will be helpful in my role as Liberal Democrat Spokesperson for Children and Families and also for my work in my own Constituency of Mid Dorset and North Poole."



Clarissa Williams, Former President of National Association of Head teachers

"I am thrilled to be invited to be an educational ambassador for the Deaf Parenting UK as an organisation. As a long serving Head teacher and recent president of the National Association of Head teachers, NAHT, I know how vital it is for parents and educational services to work together in the best interests of children's well-being and progress in learning."

I have become increasingly familiar with the particular needs of deaf parents who want to be closely involved in their children's education. I am aware of some of the difficulties they encounter in communicating their wish to be an equal part of the relationship that other parents take for granted. Many of the issues can be resolved through closer listening and an acknowledgement that deaf parents have an entitlement to be involved in all aspects of their child's education."

I see my role very much as one of advocacy, working with others to improve ways of communicating in order to break down the barriers that still exist for those deaf parents who feel excluded from supporting their children in their learning."



Graham P Taylor, (CODA – Child of Deaf Parent) and Children's Book of the Year for The Curse of Salamander Street Arts and Entertainment Personality of the Year. Graham is an inspiration and a positive role model for young CODAs.

Graham P Taylor is the child of deaf parents. He has been a police officer – priest and is now a New York Times best selling author. His books are translated into 48 languages worldwide and are about to be made into motion pictures. His book *Shadowmancer* was said to be 'Hotter than Potter' and Graham is regarded as being the 'new' CS Lewis. *"In life, everything happens for a reason. I am so proud to be asked to be an Ambassador. There is no cause more important than this."*



Vanessa Whitehouse, Deaf Parent & Business Woman.

Vanessa Whitehouse, formally a banker in the City, is both a trustee of the RNID and governor of the Mary Hare School for deaf children. Vanessa has established a successful corporate work placement scheme for young deaf people and has a strong interest in opening up employment opportunities for disabled people. *"It is enormously comforting for deaf parents (like myself) to know that Deaf Parenting UK exists to provide them with the support to help overcome challenges that they face. Sabina's enthusiasm, determination to*

succeed and desire to help others overcome barriers/difficulties that they may face is commended and I wish Deaf Parenting UK ever success in future years."

Treasurer's Report 2009:

Financial Report for the year ended 31 December 2009

This report covers the period from January 2009 to December 2009.

The charity's result for the year ended 31 December 2008 was a deficit of £3,289 (2008-surplus £890).

Receipts were £24,152 and outgoings £27,441. The cash funds balance at 31 December 2009 is £12,169. The Children in Need Project grant have all been spent and all the balance is in unrestricted fund.

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

Deaf Parenting UK Receipts and payments accounts For the year ended 31 December 2009

Charity Registration Number 1112453

	Unrestricted funds £	2009 Restricted funds £	Total funds £	2008 Total £
Receipts				
Grants, fees and donations	24,142	-	24,142	33,598
Bank interest	10	-	10	134
Total receipts	24,152	0	24,152	33,732
Payments				
Creche fees	761	-	761	662
Room and equipment hire	1,236	350	1,586	6,415
Facilitators/trainers costs	15,528	7,259	22,787	21,710
Sign language interpreters and communication support	651	125	776	0
Insurance	439	-	439	439
Miscellaneous expenses	372	-	372	963
Marketing and promotion	45	-	45	1,070
Website	0	-	0	1,208
Independent Examiner's fees	675	-	675	375
Total payments	19,707	7,734	27,441	32,842
Net of (payments)/receipts	4,445	(7,734)	(3,289)	890
Cash funds last year end	7,724	7,734	15,458	14,568
Cash funds this year end	12,169	0	12,169	15,458

Deaf Parenting UK
Statement of assets and liabilities
For the year ended 31 December 2009

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted fund £	Total funds £
Cash funds			
Cash at bank	12,169	0	12,169
Total cash funds	£12,169	£0	£12,169

Restricted fund

Children in Need	Restricted	£0
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Unrestricted fund grants received over £1,000

MI Banks Solicitors	£1,338
Drapers	£1,000
Women's Resource Centre	£1,000
Bristol PCT	£6,314
Trafford MBC	£2,709

Signed on behalf of all trustees

Name

Signature

Sabina Iqbal

Date of Approval - 5 July 2010

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: 5 July 2010

Independent Auditors Financial Report

DEAF PARENTING UK

Charity Registered Number 1112453

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2009

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 2009.

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

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Kevin Whalley FMAAT ATT

KJW Accountants Limited

Harrow, Middlesex

Date: 5 July 2010

Governance:

Who we are?

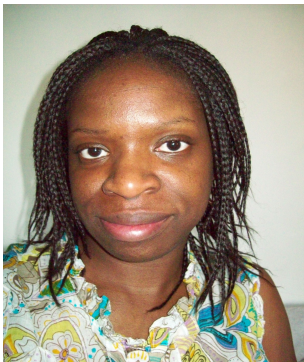
Deaf Parenting UK Board of Trustees:

Chair: Sabina Iqbal, **Vice Chair:** Trudi Collier, **Treasurer:** Simeon Hart, **Secretary:** vacant
Board Members: Ramon Woolfe, Yasmin Kovic, Penny Beschizza, Kevin Buckle and Mary-Jayne Russell de Clifford

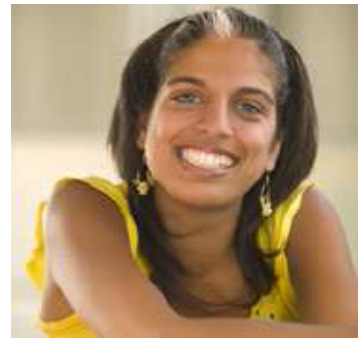
Staff:



Asif Iqbal – Media/Project Manager



Nicole Campbell (left) –DPUK
Co-ordinator (on maternity
leave since Dec 2009)



Radha Manjeshwar is covering for
Nicole until Autumn 2010.

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 Safeguarding Children policy to reflect the current climate.

All our staff and volunteers of Deaf Parenting UK have been CRB checked in line with our Safeguarding procedure.

DPUK 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 users 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 FREE and 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/ 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.

Future Plans:

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

1) Membership:

Deaf Parenting UK currently has 6500 membership on local, national and international levels which is FREE for all. We hope 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. We are keen to increase it by 10% each year. 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.

2) Partnership working:

Deaf Parenting UK will strive to continue working in partnership with mainstream and Deaf organisations on local and national levels in providing information, support and services to Deaf parents. We will offer consultancy services and trainings to those organisations to identify gaps and recommend on improvements of their services to Deaf parents. We also value network opportunities aswell as exchange of goodwill with our partners. Please contact us for more details for partnership opportunities.

3) Deaf Parenting Support services:

Deaf Parenting UK is excited with the Bristol project to support Deaf parents to start in June 2010 til December 2011. Deaf Parenting UK will 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. We are also keen to recruit and train more Deaf trainers so if you are interested, please email us with your details and CV.

4) 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/ Primary Care Trust, it is hoped for funding to be secured as part of Deaf parent's community care package offered by the council.

5) 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.

6) Information Services:

Deaf Parenting UK is working closely with organisations to ensure information is accessible to Deaf Parents as well maintaining information on **Deaf Parenting UK** website www.deafparent.org.uk, making it a central point of resources. **DPUK** 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 is hoping for the newsletter to be revamped into a magazine which is vital source of information, reaching to Deaf parents and professionals/ service providers who are otherwise unaware of our work.

7) Raising profile of **Deaf Parenting UK**:

Deaf Parenting UK has continued to promote its work, raising their profile by speaking at various conferences and running information stalls aswell as reaching out to Deaf parents and professionals/ services providers as possible via word of mouth, publicity and networking.

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



Donnay Charitable Trust

Enfield Deaf Project

Sir Winston Churchill Educational Trust





The Lord Mayor's office
of Birmingham



GREATER LONDON AUTHORITY

