## **Annual Summary 2020–21**

This document includes some key numbers from our draft accounts for the financial year ended March 2021. Copies of our full audited accounts will be published on our website in September 2021.

## We invested over £1.8 million in supporting communities, the fifth consecutive year in which our grant-making exceeded £1 million. Of this, £1,488,110 was given to charities and community organisations at the Oxfordshire frontline, with the rest helping causes supported by other donor-advised funds.

We launched a Patrons initiative at our virtual Giving Tuesday event in December, to acknowledge those who have underpinned OCF's success through their generosity over several years, and are committed to doing so in the future.

We supported a housing-led approach to ending homelessness, which argues that people should be given secure homes before they are able to face the underlying issues that led to them becoming homeless. This approach was championed by the Oxfordshire Homeless Movement partnership and through grants made to organisations supplying housing and wraparound support.



We learnt how to support our youngest families in a pandemic as the Growing Minds initiative discovered the challenges and advantages



of working virtually. The partnership with Home-Start, Peeple and The Imagination Library adapted its services to families isolated at home during lockdown. We helped the older population become more confident online as Age Friendly Banbury partners launched their Connect! Project. As restrictions eased, the partners shared community information and support via pop-up sessions in Banbury Market.



We started tackling digital exclusion across the county to address a lack of access to devices and data, and support people with the training they need. The 'Getting Oxfordshire Online' partnership initiative was kicked off with the appointment of a project manager at the start of 2021.

We used data on the needs of Oxfordshire to drive our work, publishing 23 new reports and analyses on our Insights library and hearing from a series of expert speakers. We were delighted to make our Local Insight data and mapping tool publicly available online for free, allowing local community groups and charities to create their own fundraising stories.

We were better connected with the local charitable sector than ever before, starting a series of webinars sharing stories of community resilience. These were co-hosted in 2020 by Amanda Ponsonby, High Sheriff of Oxfordshire, and later became monthly events focusing on key topics involving local subjectmatter experts. We actively sought feedback to gain a greater understanding of the needs.

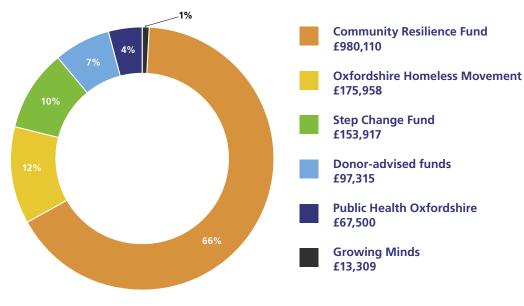
We welcomed a new Chief Executive, Adrian Sell, as Jayne Woodley stepped down after 10 years in the role. Nick Case took over from John Taylor as Chair of our Trustee Board, and very sadly, we lost one of our original patrons and a passionate supporter, with the passing of Jane Wates in August 2020. One of Jane's last philanthropic actions was to give significant support to our Growing Minds initiative.

We ensured representation and inclusion were part of our core work plan and practices, proactively supporting more diversity on our Board and promoting the voice of lived experience within all organisations across the sector.





## Oxfordshire grants awarded financial year 2020–21



Some donor-advised funds award grants beyond Oxfordshire. This page looks at Oxfordshire grant-making only. We publish details of every grant we make as open data via 360 Giving – find it at oxfordshire.org/open-data.

## **Fund highlights**

**Community Resilience Fund** paid out over £980,000 of grants to over 200 organisations throughout the financial year, from a generous base of donations from the National Emergencies Trust and the Indigo Trust, as well as from many of our regular supporters. A separate report dedicated to our work and the community activity throughout the pandemic year can be found at oxfordshire.org/coronavirus.

**Step Change Fund** awarded over £150,000 to six new charity infrastructure projects, helping them scale up their activity by providing training, increasing brand awareness, or better managing back-end systems. The panel and team of project managers continued to provide mentoring support and phased payments for a further 14 projects initiated in previous years. A full report is available at oxfordshire.org/step-change-fund.

Oxfordshire Homeless Movement raised over £151,000 through a Christmas appeal and via the Westgate Fund. The Movement played a key role in supporting the national COVID-19 directive, Everyone In, mobilising volunteers to furnish emergency accommodation and facilitating collaborative working during the pandemic. A dedicated Lived Experience co-ordinator was appointed, ensuring that people with experience of homelessness are part of decision-making, and a project was initiated that will provide long-term support for people who are homeless but have no access to statutory services due to their immigration status. More information can be found at oxfordshirehomelessmovement.org.

**Donor-advised funds** distributed over £97,000 in Oxfordshire alone. A list of all our active funds can be found at oxfordshire.org/donors.

**Public Health Oxfordshire** funded two major grants rounds: Sexual Health and Positive Relationships; and Mental Wellbeing and Cardiovascular Health.

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