



The Boom Foundation (NIC100551)

TRUSTEES' REPORT

For the year ended 31 March 2023

The trustees present their Trustees' Report under the Charities SORP in accordance with audited financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2023 also prepared in accordance with the aforementioned Statement of Recommended Practice.

Trustees

The Trustees who served during this year were as follows:

Leona Rankin
Joanne Smith
Kent Smith
Tony Wilson
Sandra McAllister
Laura Rankin

Objective and Activities

The Boom Foundation (the "Charity") is the only charity in Northern Ireland dedicated to supporting patients suffering from sarcoma cancer. There are, in or around, 100 new patients diagnosed with sarcoma each year in NI.

The Charity's objectives are to (1) promote and protect the physical and mental health of sufferers of sarcoma cancer in Northern Ireland through the provision of financial assistance, support and practical advice (2) to advance the education of the general public in all areas relating to sarcoma (3) to advance the research of sarcoma cancer through the provision of financial support to Sarcoma UK ("Sarcoma UK") (a registered charity in the UK under charity number 7487432).

Achievements

The Boom Foundation is the only charity in Northern Ireland dedicated to supporting patients suffering from sarcoma cancer.

Since October 2013, the Boom Foundation has worked alongside Sarcoma UK, allowing it to enhance its understanding surrounding the diagnoses and treatment of sarcoma as well as ensuring that research is continually supported through its own endeavours. 50% of the money raised by the Charity is used in Northern Ireland, offering practical support and assistance to patients whilst the remaining 50% is sent to Sarcoma UK to fund vital research into sarcoma and its treatment.

The Charity's four trustees and members of the Charity give their time voluntarily to ensure that patients receive the support that they require. The Charity relies on the continuing support and generosity of individuals, businesses and organisations across Northern Ireland.

Boom also works closely with health professionals in Northern Ireland which means that it provides support in the right way to patients and their families. Boom has a unique referral system in place with the Belfast Health and Social Care Trust and the South Eastern Health and Social Care Trust. When a patient is diagnosed in Northern Ireland with sarcoma (and provides their necessary consent), a referral is made by their consultant oncologist (or Sarcoma Clinical Nurse Specialist) and

sent to Boom. Boom have a dedicated team of volunteers who liaise with the patient throughout their treatment, ensuring that they and their family receive the unfettered support they require without delay. Referrals for financial support are not means tested in any way and examples of support include the following (the following list is not exhaustive):

1. winter fuel allowance (sent to every patient in January / February of each year);
2. car modifications (for instance, following a patient's amputation);
3. private counselling;
4. private tuition for children undertaking treatment during GCSE / AS / A-Level;
5. travel insurance;
6. funding the travel to GB and abroad for patients' families during periods of treatment; and
7. weekend breaks.

The Boom Foundation facilitates the only support group in Northern Ireland. The support group, which is held quarterly, provides patients and their families with an open forum allowing them to discuss any problems or concerns that they may have. The support group is not "typical" in the sense that it is run like a 'motivational workshop' with professional led discussions and key speakers.

In September 2022, the Boom Foundation held a large scale patient information day, attended by sarcoma patients, their families/friends and other charities. A range of speakers presented on the day including sarcoma consultants, professionals from Sarcoma UK, clinical nurse specialists and patients.

The Boom Foundation prepares for its gala dinner in April 2023 which has been postponed due to the Covid-19 Pandemic. It is envisaged that the proceeds from the Gala dinner will increase the income of the charity for the next financial year.

Financial Review

There has been a decrease in our overall income to £30,534 (last year £48,908). Funds have been raised through community fundraising, donations from groups and individuals. The decrease was attributed to a continued lack of public fundraising due to the continued Covid-19 Pandemic.

At the end of the year, the Charity had funds of totalling £180,855 and no debt.

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

The Boom Foundation is a registered charity and is governed by the terms of its constitution. The Boom Foundation is registered with the Charity Commission NI and is placed on the Northern Ireland register of charities on 16 January 2015.

Management Committee

The objectives and activities of the Charity are administered by a Management Committee of not less than four members ages 18 years and over and who are elected at the Annual General Meeting. The Management Committee shall meet not less than 4 times per annum.

By order of the Board



Leona Rankin
Trustee


Joanne Smith
Trustee

Date: 30 November 2023