

Foundation Roundup

August 2019



Debbie Jukes

Partner & Head of Client Care

Sun's out, puns out

Another six months have flown by since our last Foundation Roundup leaving all of us here at EQ wondering where the weeks have gone!

As you may know, we started the Equilibrium Foundation back in 2010 with the goal of raising £250,000 for worthy charitable organisations by 2020. Since then, the Foundation has grown considerably, and I am proud to reflect on the positive influence we have had on the community through our various charitable schemes.

As our company has grown, so has our positive impact, and I am extremely pleased to say that we have smashed our 2020 goal ahead of schedule having raised over £300,000 to date. Never a company to stay still, we have already set our next target to have raised over £1,000,000 in total by 2028 and we have complete confidence that we'll achieve it.

It was especially rewarding to have our efforts recognised at the Greater Manchester Business Awards, where we received the 2019 Corporate Social Responsibility Excellence Award.

I hope you have had a lovely summer so far, and fingers crossed that we will get more of the sun and less of the rain and floods we've been plagued with recently! As always, all feedback and suggestions are welcome, you can get in touch with me directly at Debbie.Jukes@eqllp.co.uk.

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GAYE

We've implemented a new Give As You Earn (GAYE) scheme for all employees which means they can donate to any given charity directly out of their salary. The scheme allows people to donate a portion of their wage to a chosen charity. On top of the money being donated by employees, for every employee who donates £5 or more a month, EQ also donates £150 to the employee's chosen charity.

We asked employees to nominate eight charities that people could select for their GAYE payments, and we ended up with the below selection of fantastic charities:

42nd Street

42nd Street is a Greater Manchester charity that supports young people aged 11-25 years with their emotional wellbeing and mental health.

The Wellspring

The Wellspring is a resource centre for homeless and disadvantaged people that provides educational courses, health services (including a drop-in service from a GP), referrals to other specialist services such as drug and alcohol teams. Free food and drink is also available 365 days a year.

Mummy's Star

Mummy's Star is the only charity in the UK and Ireland dedicated to women and their families affected by cancer during pregnancy shortly after a birth.

Friends of Park Lane Special School

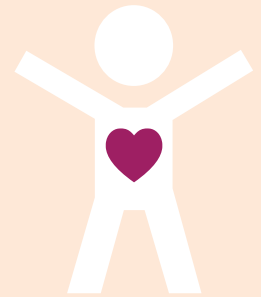
FOPLSS helps the very special children at Park Lane Special school. All the money raised benefits the children directly. Park Lane is a school of approximately 80 children between the ages of two and 19 with varying special needs and disabilities.

Wakisa

Wakisa Ministries was born out of Mrs. Vivian Kityo's vision and passion for young women with unwanted pregnancies and has grown to embrace a number of such girls who are traumatized, confused and rejected owing to their condition from all regions in Uganda.

Claire House Children's Hospice

Claire House Children's Hospice helps seriously and terminally ill children live life to the full by creating wonderful experiences and bringing back a sense of normality to family life.



Healthy hearts

Healthy hearts is a group in Cheshire who put on fun social events to raise money for the British Heart Foundation.

They have a variety of events coming up that all are welcome to attend, no membership is required:

Thursday 15 August

Delway cheese factory, tour, Browsholme Hall and Tithe Barn

Friday 20 September

Canal cruise lunch and Barton Grange garden centre

Friday 11 October

David Pritchard's annual quiz night

Sunday 8 December

Christmas lunch at Manor Farm, Byley

For further information or to book onto any of these events, please call Brian Stamford-Smith **01625 539 729**.



A helping hand

As you may know, every EQ employee has three volunteer days a year to put towards a charitable organisation of their choice and make a positive difference to the community.

Most recently, a team of employees redecorated the living room at Warrington Women's Aid, and the organisation was thrilled with the results.

If you know of any organisations who could benefit from a team of volunteers for a day, let Jason Mountford know:

Jason.mountford@eqlp.co.uk.



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Flying high – Libby’s Big Aeroplane Adventure

Our financial education workbook for primary schools will have reached over 2,500 schools by September.

Included at absolutely no cost to the school are: workbooks for their year five class; a teacher training day (cost of a supply teacher will be reimbursed); in-school workshop; USB with content and wall illustrations; teacher notes; answer sheet.

Dates have been set for next year’s training days but spaces are limited, so please get in touch with Sam Richards at sam.richards@eqlp.co.uk as soon as possible if you know of a school who would benefit from the project. Please see the dates for next year’s training days below:

Wednesday 18 September 2019 (location tbc dependent on demand)

Wednesday 13 November 2019 (Talacre, North Wales)

Wednesday 15 January 2020 (location tbc dependent on demand)

Wednesday 18 March 2020 (location tbc dependent on demand)



Community scheme winners

The winners of this quarter’s community support scheme have been chosen, read below to find out more about the worthy causes:

Soul Kitchen provides hot food and drinks as well as clothing, shower facilities and conversation for homeless people in Chester. The grant will support their introduction of a homeless football team and help purchase equipment for group walks and hikes.

ReflecTeen Hub Organization is a teen-led, not-for-profit voluntary organization that offers support to socially and economically challenged young people. Their work helps prevent crime and reduce the risk of vulnerability and difficult experiences in childhood which are risk factors to crime and offending behaviour. The grant will be used to renew their insurance and for accounting fees.

The End of Life Partnership aims to create a more holistic approach to living well, care, death and loss through public awareness, community engagement, education and training for the health and social care workforce. The grant will be used to purchase a mobile PA system to live-stream events and make them more accessible.

Each charity will receive £500.



#FootballFriday

You may have heard of #FootballFriday back in June, which aimed to raise money for Centrepont, the UK’s leading homelessness charity. The money raised could help with things such as sponsoring a room for a homeless young person to stay and fund emotional support to tackle mental health issues.

We set ourselves a challenge to raise £250 for the cause and, as always, the EQ team rose magnificently to the challenge! For a donation of £2 (or more!), employees could wear their team’s football kit, and we also had a keepy uppy challenge between the team. Client Manager Ben Harrison reigned triumphant, managing an impressive 200 keepy uppys on the dot!

