

### Our new charity newsletter...

As many of you may already know, The Equilibrium Foundation was set up back in 2010 with the aim to raise a quarter of a million pounds for good causes by the end of 2020. We've currently raised more than £130,000 and are doing more than ever before to give back to our local community.

We hope our new Foundation newsletter gives you a flavour of how we have supported local charities and non-profit organisations over the past six months! If you have any suggestions of things you would like to see, or have a cause close to your heart that you would like to support, please email [debbie.jukes@eqllp.co.uk](mailto:debbie.jukes@eqllp.co.uk).



### The recent winners of our community scheme

We launched our Community Support Schemes a couple of years ago with the aim to give local charities and non-profit organisation the opportunity to apply for grants between £100-500 to help support the valuable work they do. We currently run the scheme in two locations: Chester & District and Cheshire East.

In the last round, we received so many applications that we struggled to choose between them! This time we chose three winners from the Chester & District area and one winner from Cheshire East:

#### Macclesfield Seals Disabled Swimming Club

<http://www.macclesfieldseals.org/>



#### Handmade for Dementia

<https://www.facebook.com/DementiaFriends>

#### The Joshua Tree

<http://www.thejoshuatree.org.uk/>

#### DIAL West Cheshire

<http://www.dialwestcheshire.org.uk/>



David McKendrick, Partner & Chartered Financial Planner, with Keith Roper from DIAL West Cheshire



Jason Lowe, Partner & Financial Planner with Joshua the giraffe!



Katy Littler, Client Manager & Equilibrium Foundation Trustee with Handmade for Dementia



## Supporting Francis House

The Foundation recently donated £7,100 to Manchester-based Francis House Children's Hospice. This was the last cheque to be presented to five chosen charities from Equilibrium's year of fundraising to raise £21,000 as part of its 21st anniversary plans. Other charities to benefit were St Kentigern Hospice, The Christie Charitable Fund, The Alzheimer's Society and The Enthusiasm Trust.



Head of Culture Sarah Warburton and Partner & Head of Client Care Debbie Jukes at Francis House Children's Hospice

## The Flying Seagull Project

Founded by entertainer Ash Perrin in 2007, the Flying Seagull Project aims to spread love, light and laughter to hospitals, orphanages, deaf/blind schools, marginalised communities, refugee camps and slums across the globe. Some examples of their work involve partnering with doctors to provide pre- and post-op clown therapy to children undergoing surgery and performing shows in hospital wards and refugee camps.

The Equilibrium Foundation has donated £1,000 to the charity to help them continue to deliver their worthwhile projects and mean the charity can sponsor a volunteer to train and go to Greece to perform to Syrian children in refugee camps.



## The Lalley Toy Appeal

We will again be supporting The Lalley Toy Appeal this Christmas... and believe it or not Christmas is actually only 149 days away!

The appeal, run by Dee and Chris Drake, is now in its sixth year and provides toys at Christmas to children living in poverty. Members of the Equilibrium team will be helping to package up the toy sacks, which are made for each child based on their age, gender and any special needs they may have.

## CRY

The Trustees of The Equilibrium Foundation will always consider nominations to support charities from both the Equilibrium team and clients. Recently, Data Analyst & Investment Administrator Ed Pemberton put forward Cardiac Risk in the Young (CRY) to receive some funding. Every week in the UK at least 12 young people die of undiagnosed heart conditions and the charity's vision is to prevent young sudden cardiac deaths through awareness, screening and research, and supporting affected families.

We met Deborah Dixon to present the £1,000 donation which will be used for screening more young people. Deborah is the CRY representative for Cheshire and works to raise awareness after losing her son to ARVC – a genetic heart defect. To read Deborah's story visit: <http://www.c-r-y.org.uk/deborah-dixon-cheshire/>



CRY Representative Deborah Dixon with Ed Pemberton and Debbie Jukes

## Recommend a charity...

Do you know any charities that need support? All members of the Equilibrium team have two days a year where they can volunteer to help good causes. If you know of any organisations in either the Wilmslow, Knutsford or Chester area that might benefit from some extra help for a day then just get in touch and let us know!



## Did you know?

We support The Enthusiasm Trust who provide a focus for young people who have become socially isolated and vulnerable within their community. The vision of Enthusiasm is to see young people fulfil their true potential in life by: diverting them from crime, raising aspirations, building self esteem and equipping others to aspire to excellence. They have developed a unique approach to youth work by recruiting and developing local young people to become mentors to others in their peer group.

It costs the taxpayer an average of £140,000\* per year to jail one young criminal (this includes an estimated £40,000 in indirect costs to society once they are released). In comparison, it costs just £2,500 per child to support them on an Enthusiasm programme to help change the lives of young people.

\*New Economic Foundation Report 2010



## Double your money!

If you are raising money for a charity or cause that is close to your heart, The Equilibrium Foundation might be able to help.

Equilibrium will match the amount you raise so that your chosen charity will receive a double donation. Whilst we are keen to support local projects, focusing on the needs of the young and the elderly, we also take into account charities with whom our clients and colleagues have a personal affiliation with.

Below Tansy Wilson explains how she doubled her London Marathon donations for cancer research at The Christie:

*"I initially chose to run for The Christie to raise money for my stepmother's fund. Our aim was to reach a target of £16,000, as she had requested that any donations were to go towards breast cancer research after she had received treatment there. All the family were involved in different activities to raise the money to go to this fantastic cause.*

*In 2011, unfortunately I found a lump in my neck which was cancerous. Luckily, it was quickly removed and after treatment I was incredibly pleased to get the all-clear. It was after this that I chose to run the Manchester 10k for The Christie – and I got the running bug!*

*Equilibrium have been a huge support to me and have matched a lot of fundraising that I have done over the years. We reached our original target for my stepmother's fund back in 2015 but I wanted to continue to get this figure up to £20,000 – and I'm delighted to say that we have now smashed it!*

*Earlier this year I ran the Virgin Money London Marathon. I got in touch with Equilibrium again and was thrilled to hear that they would double the amount I raised. In total, from my own fundraising I raised £3,087.50 from friends and family, which Equilibrium then matched to reach a combined total of £6,175 which has now been donated to The Christie. Having this extra support from Equilibrium has been absolutely fantastic and will go a long way in helping The Christie carry out their invaluable research."*

Are you fundraising for a good cause? If so, get in touch with Debbie at [debbie.jukes@eqllp.co.uk](mailto:debbie.jukes@eqllp.co.uk) to see if The Equilibrium Foundation can support.



Tansy Wilson at the London Marathon finish line

