Team Jak also provide outreach and pop up Den support to the relevant hospitals and wards/units associated with our warrior and angel families, and any young person at home unable to access the Den.

An online forum has also be created to ensure no family is left out due to geography or inability to get to a Den and has become an integral part of our support as a result of the covid-19 crisis which we aim to continue to build upon in order to serve our families in more remote areas and those in hospital for long periods of time.

We will also work closely with other renowned agencies and charities to ensure the very best opportunities are created for our young people including TCT, YLVC, Maggies, CHAS and the Scotland wide Bereavement Networks.

Values

Ambition - By setting high goals and aspirations for Team Jak we are committed to improving the quality of everything we do for our young people and their families.

Collaboration - Working in partnership with other relevant agencies and health services, and through the commitment of all our staff and volunteers to make the best use of all our resources, enables us to help children, young people and their families to overcome severe disadvantage

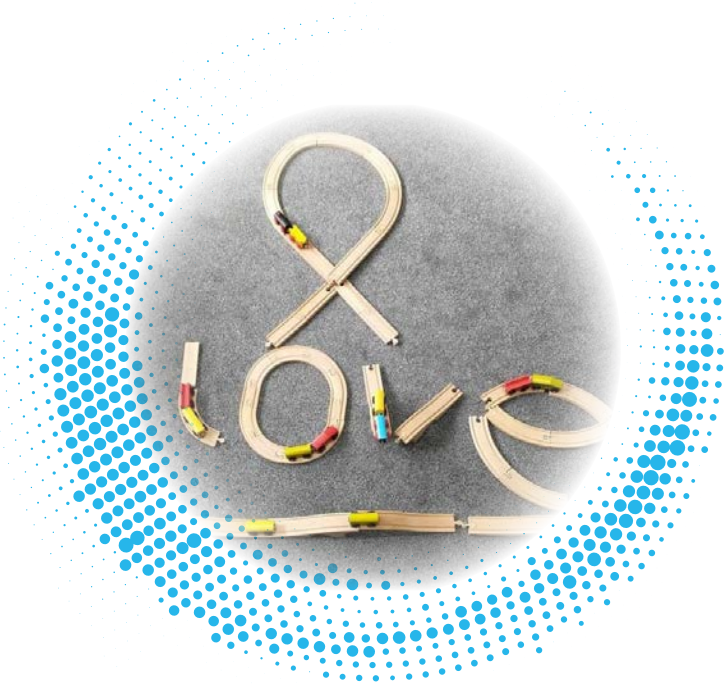
Compassion - Respecting the unique worth of every person - we believe that every person is different but equal, and that everyone's unique talent and need should be recognised and responded to even through illness.

Creativity - In recognising our young people and their families and their unique talents and qualities, we aim to identify and provide imaginative and innovative activities and services and make them smile.

Empowerment - Working with hope - our hope for a more fulfilling "present" for our children and families is the source of much of our inspiration and by listening to their needs and responding appropriately we aim to make their journey a little easier.

Strapline

"Creating smiles, easing the journey"



Executive Summary

This year has been my seventh full year as a paid CE and working full time for our Charity.

It has been a privilege to serve the Charity set up by my son to support other children and young people with cancer, related illnesses and their families and those sadly bereaved and see how far Jak's dreams have come in such a short space of time

Successes

This year has seen the return of our support within our paediatric haematology oncology wards with our CYP staff in Schiehallion, Glasgow on a Tuesday providing pop up fun and emotional support and our music therapist on a Thursday, and our CYP team on a Wednesday in Lochranza Edinburgh, alongside the brilliant achievement of the opening of Jaks Den Aberdeen.

We have built really strong relationships with the nursing, palliative and psychology team from Schiehallion ward in Glasgow and this is allowing us to provide even more bespoke support to them.

We also continue to work closely with the Palliative Team at Edinburgh Children's Hospital through our sponsorship of the Rainbow Cart which just gives a few comforts to families having to say goodbye to their children in hospital.

A number of our families have sadly had the need for this cart this year but it's been an honour to be able to help in this small way at the end of their child's life and make their room more homely. The hospital have sent us feedback to say the Rainbow Cart has been well received and families feel it makes a huge difference to their child's last hours.

Our number of registered families continue to grow and since returning to the wards in Schiehallion Glasgow since October and Lochranza Edinburgh since February, these numbers have been increasing at a higher level and more families are actively engaging in our activities at Jaks Den and pop ups as a result of meeting them on the ward.

We continue to have good links with Teenage Cancer Trust and Young Lives Versus Cancer Social Workers from the ward in Edinburgh, Beatson Glasgow and Western Edinburgh and hope this will continue to grow and build and have received several referrals from them, alongside a few visits with some of the patients to our Den to make use of the facilities with the TCT worker.

We proudly opened Jaks Den Aberdeen in October 22 and used a lot of our free reserves to do this as some funders were saying we had too many, (more about this in challenges also), and appointed 2 new members of staff to be responsible for Jaks Den Aberdeen and the north of Scotland.

Since then Jak's Den Aberdeen has followed the activity schedule of Jak's Den HQ as similarly as possible in order to give as consistent a service as we can, whilst still allowing freedom to have more tailored sessions better suited to the geography of our Aberdeen families.

Social and Emotional Support and Pop Ups

It has been a joy and privilege to continue to provide our programme of fun and support through weekly games and craft sessions, themed family fun activities, online activities, music and storytelling and bespoke segmented activities for Warriors, Siblings, Parents, Grandparents, the wider family and friends from Jaks Den HQ and Aberdeen.

We are delighted that our 4 Bag of Worries booklets written by myself during lockdown- Warrior, Sibling and Generic age 3-6 and 7-12 are being well used in Jak's Den, online and in some schools currently, and we aim to further develop our whole wellbeing programme and write a Bag of Hope trauma related book and also a Bag of Rainbows loss and bereavement programme for siblings and friends over the next 2 years.

We continue to hold targeted sessions including Mums Pamper and wellbeing days, Dad's golf, games and other sessions, Grandparents Days, Teen outings including visit to Escape rooms and back to Den for pizza, and our Big Breakfast; alongside our weekly Mini Denners sessions kindly funded by Better Breaks where under 5s can come and enjoy a "nursery" experience and parents receive massage in our Pamper Pod.

Last Summer we had a "Team Jak Wellbeing Tour" series where we went to various places around Scotland to catch up with our families and allow them to experience some of our fun and wellbeing activities we have on Jak's Den close to their home including Glenrothes Fife, Paisley, Aberdeen and Nairn.

Out of this came more regular Glasgow Pop Up Den sessions which now happen twice monthly from Finding Your Feet in Paisley- one for parents, and one for the whole family and a few months on we now have a regular group of families attending with more joining regularly as a result of our presence on the ward!

We are delighted that our Fife popups have also made a successful comeback post covid with Christine also leading 2 sessions monthly from St Columbas Church in Glenrothes with Mums sessions for one and family fun the other with more bespoke parent support in the form of outings and meals together thanks to our grant from Fife Action Fund earlier this year.

We have visited 2 schools this year to provide emotional support in the form of Bag of Worries and have also presented adult Season for Growth courses within Jak's Den.

Within Jak's Den HQ we now have myself, Hazel McLinden Director of Services, Rhona Fleming, Office & Finance Coordinator, Colette Gough CYP & Family Coordinator, Eilidh Knowles and Rachel Laptucha as Playworkers and Margaret King as part time Fundraising Administrator with a vacancy for Wellbeing Outreach Coordinator, Sarah Anderson and Tiffeny Rothwell in Aberdeen and Christine Birrell in Fife.

It has been humbling to watch many volunteers get so much from helping both at the Den and at Fundraising events and see some of our younger volunteer ambassadors grow in confidence through the work they are doing and we were honoured to be able to reward them at our Annual Awards Ceremony for Volunteers.

We are about to appoint a "volunteer" Volunteer Coordinator who will oversee and organise volunteers for sessions within Jak's Den and fundraising events and hopefully lead us towards recognised awards for Volunteering.

We are grateful as always although never complacent for current funders and supporters with us welcoming a few new corporate supporters this year, who allow us to create smiles and ease the journey for our inspirational young people and their families.

Challenges

This year we spent a lot of our surplus reserves on refurbing and opening Aberdeen Jak's Den having been advised by a number of sources that we would gain lots of financial support locally once we had a postcode within Aberdeen.

Unfortunately to date this has not been the case with competition rife with so many fabulous children's and other cancer charities operating within Aberdeen, and it has been harder than anticipated to secure some of the corporates and funding available.

That said we have created a few really good links with Codonas and Aberdeen Student Show.

The cost of living crisis is our biggest foe atm with grant funding competition even more stringent now with pots getting smaller and applicants greater and sadly we missed out on a couple of grants we were hopeful we would achieve.

That alongside us using our "surplus" reserves to open Jak's Den Aberdeen and soaring energy and service costs means that our reserves are not as strong as they were and we are now looking at ways in which we can adapt our Transformation strategy to allow some "quick wins" as well as looking to our mid and long term future.

Future community fundraising and individual giving may also cause challenges due to cost of living crisis and with all of the wonderful children's cancer charities all supporting the same families and supporters for fundraising.

As a contributor to the Third Sector Tracker survey we are aware this is sector wide however we are determined that we will create new income streams that will allow us to continue to build on our Transformation Strategy and in turn meet the needs of our inspirational families.

Objectives

The following objectives have been in place since our creation and have been particularly pertinent in the last year whilst we consolidate and build our service further alongside the restrictions placed upon us due to our current cost of living and sector wide funding crisis-

- Give hope to the warrior and angel families
- Provide families with the help they need to care for the young person and themselves with specific importance placed on meeting the needs of siblings
- Create the space and opportunities for the young person to have the 'moments' they want
- Offer individual support services to the young person
- Provide emotional support through counselling, play and music therapy
- Provide practical support to hospitals and families at home
- Ensure young people's stay in hospital is as comfortable as possible
- Provide support to schools going through a child's journey

- Help prepare for and support through anticipation of, during and after bereavement
- Support bereaved families and friends and children who are bereaved and need support
- Raise awareness of the need for research and funding in particular for Blood Cancers in Scotland
- Raise awareness for the need for blood platelet and bone marrows donors
- Further the charitable purposes of other recognised/ registered charitable organisations by acting as a resource through the provision of facilities and services

Jak's dream and vision was to have in place a safe haven for those in need to be known as 'Jak's Den' supporting young cancer patients, and those with related debilitating illnesses, and their families and friends, including our inspirational bespoke Jak's Den.

We are delighted Jak's Den HQ encompasses almost all of his dreams including:

- Bespoke Counselling pods for social and emotional support
- A Sensory Room where children can go and shout, scream and let off steam or sit quietly with the sensory items if required
- A Neutropenic Café space - an innovative health initiative, for cancer sufferers and those with a low immune system
- An outdoor area with football goals, music sensory garden and a remote control quad bike/car track, TJ crazy golf and Angel Garden space for reflection
- Support for bereaved families by providing a special memory leaf for our Angel tree and invitation to the 'Den' and offer of counselling or support groups (Angel Bag of Worries)
- Specific Support groups for young people or family who have gone through the cancer or related illness journey (Bag of Worries- Superhero Warriors, SuperSibs)
- Music Therapy
- Alternative therapies for parents and young people
- Mindfulness sessions for families supporting young people with cancer

The Foundation's Trustees and CE have discovered since embarking upon the Team Jak journey that our support services are split very clearly into a number of areas with a child centred response at the heart of everything we do- responding to what the child needs and would like depending on their diagnosis, stage of journey and needs within. Our support will then come from the following directions-

- Jak's Den
- Hospital
- Home/Outreach
- Online/Phone
- Schools

Some support clearly overlaps and everything is very individualised and can change very quickly depending on how well or otherwise the child is at the time. A sibling may require support at home while the warrior is in hospital, or the whole family may be able to come to Jak's Den to make the most of the support and social activities on offer from there.

Key Achievements

Emotional Support	Counselling attended by a number of parents Child and Young persons counselling Music Therapy- number of children attending and siblings – Fridays and Saturdays from Jak's Den HQ, weekly in Schiehallion ward and weekly from Jak's Den Aberdeen Emotional Support/Listening/Peer support from Staff and trained Volunteers from Jak's Den by appointment 1:1 visiting at home in hospital or drop-in to Den- emotional support through chatting and activities Bespoke Bag of Worries programme of support for children- generic, warrior and sibling with teens and bereaved children to follow Development of Wellbeing programmes and services- 1:1 Bag of Hope sessions, and development of Bag of Hope for trauma, Bag of Rainbows for bereaved families and TJ's Wellbeing Tour Seasons for Growth- all staff now trained in child and two in adult programme Staff also trained in number of CBUK courses Mindfulness and relaxation sessions Pamper and alternative therapy sessions Group and Individual Supervision for Staff
Social Support	Fun and themed Activity Days & Coffee mornings and outings in Jak's Den HQ and pop up Dens throughout Scotland including Schiehallion Ward Glasgow and Finding Your Feet building in Paisley alongside Pop ups in Glenrothes and Jak's Den Aberdeen- well attended and new and old faces attending. Specific group activities including Mums, Dads, Grandparents, Warrior, Sibling etc. Bell Ringing and Birthday parties Main weekly and monthly activities include- Big Breakfast Teen Outings Mini Denners Friday Fun Club Parent Patter Seasonal Parties Warrior and Sibling outings and fun days TJs Mindful Juniors TJs Adventures Themed craft and activity fun Trips to Science centre, parks, and much more
Practical Support	Travel expenses for those travelling to Jaks Den (National Lottery Awards for All) Shopping Vouchers Provision of help in numerous ways including completion of forms, purchase of specific items. House cleaning, shopping, garden tidy, arranging lifts where required, organised a wedding😊 and much more. We have also helped with heating or specific items that parents couldn't afford through our Louise's Love, Darcy Rae's Dreams and Francesca's Wishes named funds.

Key Achievements (cont.)

Hospital Outreach	Edinburgh- Jak's Den at Lochranza – pop up Jak's Den fun and games and emotional support as required on the ward and in Daycare Emotional/Distraction Support fun activities and Music Therapy now being provided and practical items as requested including- Snacks and goodies delivered as requested, Jak's Sacks and vouchers delivered, Halloween and Easter goodies Christmas Trees and Advent calendars Buffets for parties and other items on request Pop Up Den Glasgow- Jak's Den at Schiehallion – pop up Jak's Den fun and games and emotional support as required on the ward and in Daycare Emotional/Distraction Support fun activities and Music Therapy now being provided and practical items as requested Aberdeen- support to individual families when requested by them directly Dundee, Aberdeen, St Johns, Victoria & Raigmore-contact made and support provided as requested Individual and privately arranged support visits arranged directly with families
Bereavement Support	Sponsorship and ongoing upkeep by Team Jak of Rainbow Cart for Palliative & Bereavement Team in Sick Kids Hospital Edinburgh Angel Parent Patter coffee morning 1st Wednesday of each month and Parent Support online third Wednesday of each month Angel Family session 1st Sunday of each month- siblings and cousins crafts and memory making and parent peer support 8 children completed Seasons for Growth and another 3 teens also. Angel parent meals, Mums sessions and Dads sessions Sibling and cousin sessions in Jaks Den with memory making activities all planned by the children Bereaved parents and siblings days recognised in some way (varied each year to include everyone) Counselling of adults and children provided Annual Glow Gold Remembering Day – special day in Jak's Den to remember our angels and share happy memories and activities together Memory days- we have completed three beautiful memory days for families personalised to them and their loss and have more planned for this year Leaf for our Angel tree in Jak's Den and invitation to bring family to put it on Angel Garden in Jak's Den for reflection and safe place for Angel families to meet Memory Bear vouchers for bereaved families Seasons for Growth groups on request Visits to schools to support staff and children in anticipation for and sadly on death of a child Memory activities and gifts on birthday and angelversaries Bereavement programme still being developed further (Bag of Rainbows) as the need grows but has grown substantially and has a regular group of families attending all events

Schools & Community Awareness	Staff and Volunteers visited a number of schools this year raising awareness and informing pupils of the work Team Jak are doing & Fundraising Administrator gave information and support for YPI Groups CE and two Trustees, staff and volunteers have represented Team Jak at various community events and spoken at them also about our work. Bag of Worries presented in 2 schools and Seasons for Growth presented in 2 schools. West Calder High School Football Festival annual event relaunched
Fundraising & Volunteers	Senior Management Team responsible for all fundraising and funding applications SLT and key volunteers working together to review and adapt procedures, Volunteer Handbook, Training Sessions and campaigns A number of sponsored events from individual people both known and unknown to our Team and families Kiltwalk still a big fundraiser for us but hasn't been as successful this year sadly SLT looking at ways to develop marketing and comms and developing website further to build audience and support network further and in turn hopefully generate more income CRM still being developed to ensure full register of funders, fundraisers and all corporate and individual contacts in line with gdpr
Grant Funding	We have had a very good level of success with this this year including PPT, National Lottery Awards for All and Year 2 TNLCF and Robertson Trust, Catalent, Better Breaks, Fife Voluntary Action Fund, West Lothian Aberdeen and Glasgow Wellbeing Funds and more and we are hugely grateful to each and every one. **Please see sheet in Appendix for further information and grants.**
Management & Staffing	Staff are our biggest asset due to the emotional and social support we provide. We aim to build our team further with demand and as reserves allow. We are hugely grateful to our Chair, Treasurer, Secretary and Trustees who have been invaluable in keeping us legally compliant with good procedures and policies in place to ensure compliance on all levels. These policies and procedures are being constantly reviewed and overseen by our HR company Magenta.

More specifically we have been able to establish and further develop the following-

We managed to secure a Bell that our inspirational warriors can ring at the end of

Their treatment within Jak's Den and another for Aberdeen Den.

- A 'drop in' centre for young cancer patients and parents in a safe, secure and relaxed environment
- Therapeutically enhanced activities for service users including the use of audio, visual, gaming and conferencing facilities
- Counselling-Adult and child
- Peer support
- Organised support meetings for parents and siblings
- Bag of Worries and Sibling and Superhero Support Sessions
- Mindfulness & Relaxation sessions and videos online and in person
- Mums Days-Pamper Days, Cocktail making, Craft sessions
- Dads Days- Golf, online non gambling poker, outdoor fun
- Mum & Child & Dad & Child Sessions
- Super Sibling Sessions
- Grandparents Days

- Music, soft-play and crafts therapy in Jak's Den for young cancer patients and siblings
- Massage therapy and pamper sessions for parents and young people
- Jak's sacks goodie bags to newly diagnosed children and their siblings
- Distribution of food vouchers for those in need
- Distribution of Team Jak Foundation flask mugs and mugs for parents as requested
- Provision of items and goodies as requested by the hospitals in form of food and presents for parties, games, dvds and anything else required
- Provision of Jaks Sacks at Christmas and items as requested to TCT Units at the Western Edinburgh and Beatson Glasgow
- Provision of treats or practical assistance where required for specific item/s relating to care or treatment
- Arrangements for Pamper sessions and volunteers coming to Jaks Den to provide these also
- Birthday parties for Siblings & Warriors & Ringing the Bell parties
- Themed Fun Days for sibling and friends
- Themed Fun Days for Warrior and friends
- Mini Denners, Teen Chat & Outings, TJ's Mindful Juniors, TJ's Adventures, Parent Patter
- Volunteer training Sessions
- Volunteer Awards Scheme
- Visits to schools
- All Key Staff trained Seasons for Growth and presenting in Schools
- Strong links established with Schiehallion and Lochranza ward staff, Young Lives Versus Cancer, TCT, Maggies and CHAS, Bereavement Network throughout Scotland

Operational Impact within Jak's Den

Warriors: 341

Total outreach sessions: 1692

Angel Families: 67

TEAM JAK

Families in Edinburgh/Lothian & Borders: 76

Families in Aberdeen & North: 89

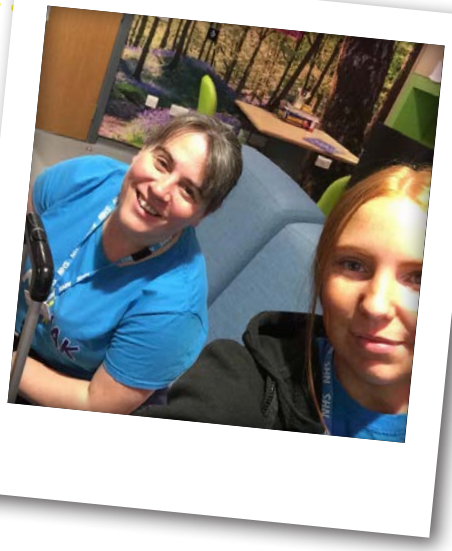
Jak's Den visitors: 2866

Families in Central Scotland: 23

Families in Fife & Dundee: 75

Families in Glasgow & West: 103

TEAM JAK

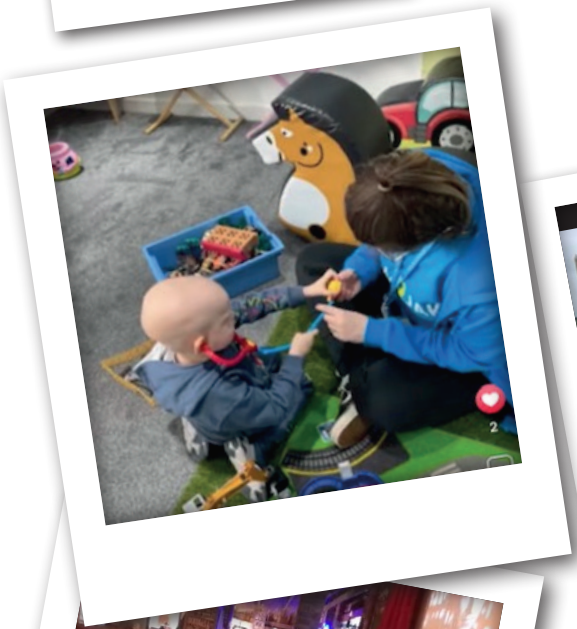


Team Jak Volunteers: 52

Jak's Sacks distributed 112

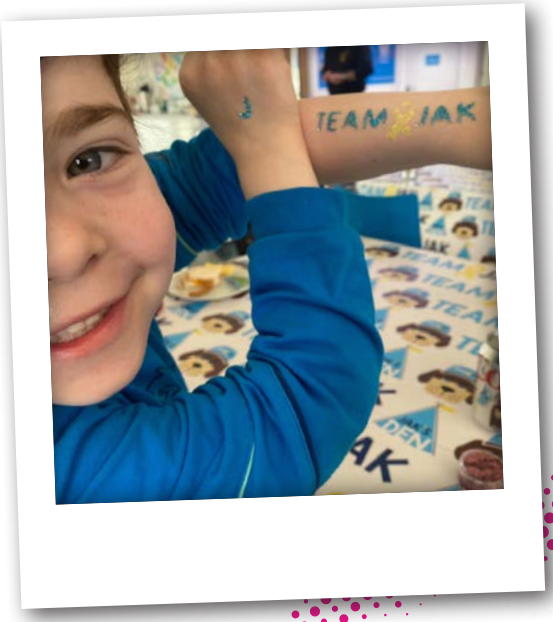
No. of people who use counselling service:
Adults: 19 (152 sessions)
Children: 2 (27 sessions)

Mindfulness course: 8 sessions



Team Jak/Jak's Den employees 13

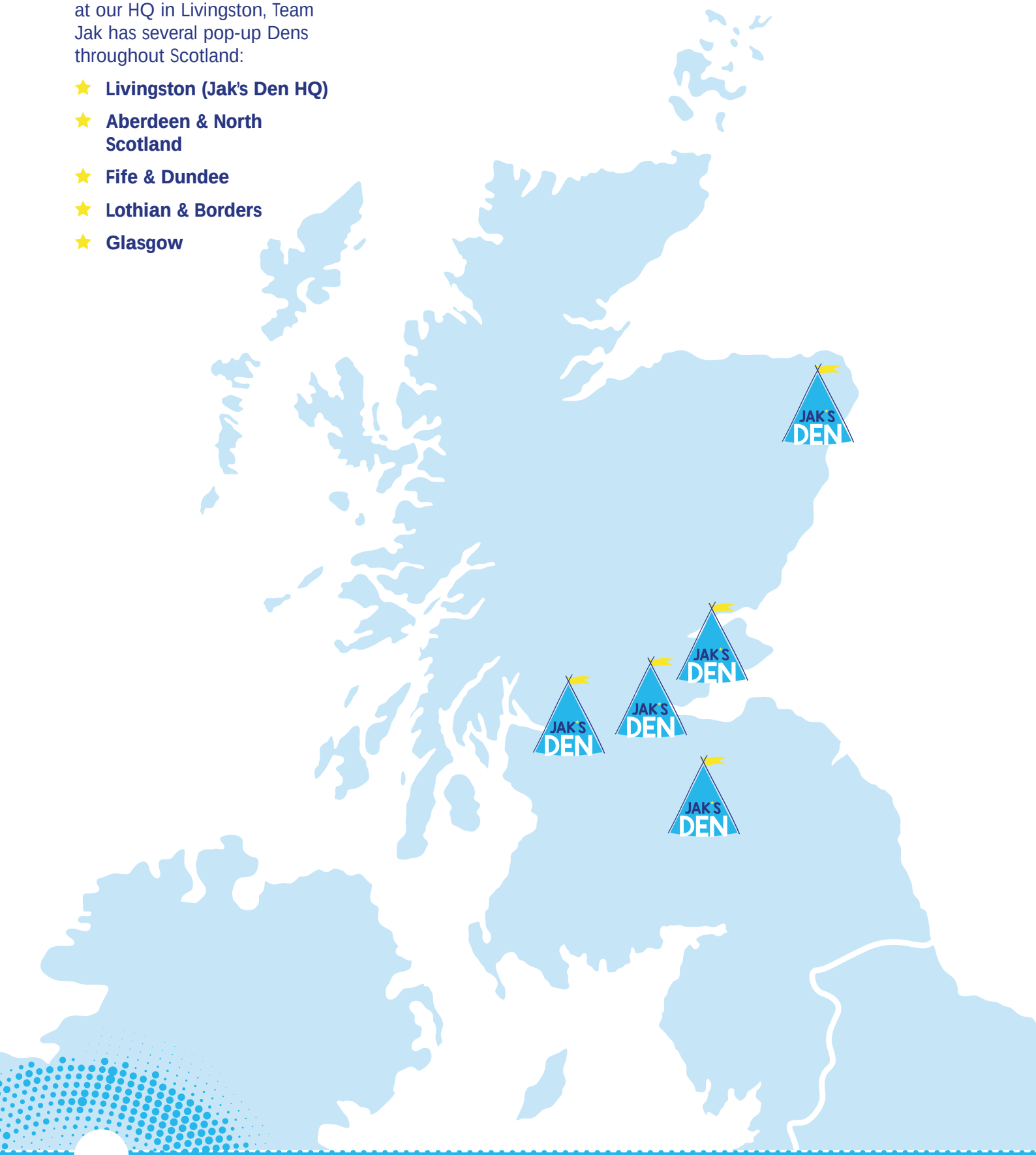
No. of children who have had music therapy:
1:1 sessions = 214 sessions
Online = 77 sessions



Jak's Dens Map

As well as our main Jak's Den at our HQ in Livingston, Team Jak has several pop-up Dens throughout Scotland:

- **Livingston (Jak's Den HQ)**
- **Aberdeen & North Scotland**
- **Fife & Dundee**
- **Lothian & Borders**
- **Glasgow**



Quotes from our Families

Cooper

We've been attending Mini Denners for about 9 months now and its honestly our favourite thing to do. Cooper enjoys having people to play with and is very keen on the sensory room, music and animal toys. As an outdoors child he also benefits from the garden area. Mini denners has allowed Cooper to have the socialisation and support he requires. For me I've made friendships for life and always look forward to seeing the other parents. Susan's treatments allowed me to have that quiet time and to distress my body as a single parent our journey is full on so this little bit of "me time" makes all the difference. Xx

Amelia

Team Jak have been an amazing support to our family since Allison made Jak's inspirational idea a reality. Our youngest daughter Amelia was diagnosed with neuroblastoma at 2 and a half years old. We met Jak and Allison during this time at Sick Kids in Edinburgh.
Team Jak have allowed Amelia who is now 10, to do things that would be out of her comfort zone if they were not within the love and support of the Team Jak family. She is allowed to be herself and feels comfortable with the Team Jak staff as they have taken time to get to know her.
Team Jak also recognise her sister, Rhian, as with all siblings she was affected by Amelia's diagnosis. She has time with other siblings and teens to enjoy days out and has made friends in similar situations. Also, as a family, we can spend time other families who understand that the journey never ends it just changes. Which is a massive support. Bringing the pop-up den to Fife has also made it easier to meet up with some of the other more local families and the Tuesday night events are great for a catch up, with crafts and or cake! As now many of these families we have met over the years we class as good friends. Thank you Team Jak x

Holly S

We were first introduced to Team Jak, the day after our daughter Holly was diagnosed with Rhabdomyosarcoma, a rare type of cancer. Caitlin walked through that hospital room door and each one of us have been supported by Team Jak ever since. From hospital activities and gifts for all three children, bag of worries counselling session and zoom calls, to mums cocktail nights, team jak really do have a support network that is simply unbelievable. The team at Jaks Den, unfortunately have lived experience of childhood cancer, they know the journey and the support that is needed and they give this support to every member of each oncology family at every stage of the journey. Your not forgotten after the bells been rung, and the hospital appointments dwindle, when you need to get "back to normal" which is when sometimes the support needed is at its greatest. Having the Den open in Aberdeen has been phenomenal, a safe space for families all thrust into this very unwanted journey, helping to create long lasting friendships and a support network with families who have experienced a similar journey to your own. Team Jak really are creating smiles and easing the journey, one hug at a time. 💙

Quotes from our Families

Leon

Our worlds were turned upside when Leon was diagnosed with leukaemia when he was just a small one year old, two months from his second birthday. Leon had many invasive treatments and procedures, as well as multiple doses of various chemotherapy drugs, as well as his daily chemotherapy for three and a half years. Leon is now 7 and we are so grateful to be able to say he beat it and is one of the survivors. Although Leon is now two years in remission , he still has multiple medical interventions for his legs / knees / spine, which sadly chemotherapy has caused muscle wastage so badly. He is on two types of morphine to help him have the quality of life he deserves as a seven year old child, as unfortunately cure comes with a cost. Team Jak are our safe haven as a family, as it's a safe space to speak with staff / families who are going through similar experiences, people who just 'get it'. Jak's Den is a place where Leon can have fun at his pace, not having to worry about physically keeping up with others and peers. Team Jak have helped our whole family through diagnosis and beyond and are always there when needed. As a family we are able to use the Fife Team Jak in Glenrothes, where we have had great support in mum's twilight sessions to family Saturday sessions. We also use the main Jak's Den H.Q in Livingston, where the kids faces light up as soon as we park the car, as this is a huge play space where all the children's needs are immediately catered for. We are truly thankful to Allison, Hazel and all our Team Jak family without them our ongoing cancerous journey would've been incredibly painful and lonely.

Holly D

Holly was 7 years old when she was diagnosed with ALL leukaemia. Within one week of being diagnosed, Allison herself was in our ward room visiting with lots of goodies for Holly and her younger sister Ava. This was in October 2015, not even one year after Allison's own tragedy. Allison, Hazel and all the wonderful team at Jak's Den have been with us, our wee family, throughout Holly's journey and I am very pleased to say, are still there for us, five years after Holly finished treatment. We have had amazing support from Jak's Den, emotionally and physically, even after all the finger pricks, medication and worrying lumber punctures are over. Other charities only support childhood cancer families for up to two years off treatment; Team Jak are the only charity I know that still welcome our family with no questions asked. If Team Jak are doing this for every family they have registered, that takes a lot of resources & requires a lot of support from sponsors & fundraisers. Our family love Team Jak, it has come a long way since we first visited the den mark 1. And we feel loved by Team Jak & will do what ever we can to continue to support Team Jak, as that is the only way we know to say thank you ❤

Erin

We received our first Team Jak Christmas decoration the year we finished treatment and we were delighted to get our third this Christmas. There are not enough words to express how much their ongoing support means to us. The treatment may be finished but the emotional scars are still there - if nowhere near as raw as they were. The support provided (and delivered with so much warmth and empathy) has played a huge part in helping us move forward.

Heidi

Heidi was diagnosed at 3 years old with ALL (Acute Lymphoblastic Leukaemia) Heidi had to be taken out of nursery to start treatment so was unable to play with her friends, and since she was diagnosed during the pandemic we as a family were completely isolated from everyone.
After meeting jaks den staff on the ward they made us aware of jaks den in Livingston.
We were very nervous on our first visit as we hadn't really had the chance to interact with other families going through a similar situation but Heidi was so excited as she knew she would have a good time as any time jaks den staff were on the ward they always made such an effort to chat with her and make her smile.
Jaks den is a wonderful safe place and has became a lifeline to us as a family. Heidi has been able to interact again with children her own age and make lifelong friends. Aswell it has gave us as parents the opportunity to meet other families in similar situations which helps us not feel alone in this awful journey.
The staff are always so welcoming, and comforting I cannot speak highly enough of them all.
They are always coming up with lots of fun activities and themes for everyone to get involved with and we will be forever grateful for everything they do.

Aila

Every Tuesday post lockdown, Jaks Den has ben Aila's haven. Her safe place to be messy, spontaneous and enjoy the interactions with the wonderful team - in a way that has given her the confidence to bring her whole self into more of everyday life. Treatment and lockdown left Aila nervous, anxious and always worried someone would hurt her.
Aila started nursery in the summer of 2020 and we quickly had to reduce her hours due to the stress it was causing her. Having a Jaks Den nursery environment to bring her to weekly, where they have structure and engaging activities for her, really promoted a positive example of how much fun she could be having her wee packed lunch and enjoys all her friends just like a normal 4 year old. Aila is even really excited about school this year, having picked out her uniform already.
Jaks continues to support her to push past those anxious feelings and allow fun to be right at forefront of her daily agenda. Watching Aila flourish has been one of life's most precious gifts after all the pain and we nor Aila would be where we are without our Tuesday Mini Denners.

Finlay

Our Finlay was heartbreakingly diagnosed with hepatoblastoma in March 2021. He didn't have the joy of spending time at Jaks Den, but we hold this precious place close to our hearts as they gave Finlay's electric car a home once he passed away. They built a garage for it, including his love for the Avengers. It's just such an amazing place. Xx

Quotes from our Families

Macy

Macy was diagnosed with Acute Lymphoblastic Leukaemia last January. It's been a rollercoaster of a journey with so many highs and so many lows. We've had incredible support from so many people, including the many charities that have offered Macy gifts and a listening ear for us.
My earliest memory of Team Jak was on our first night when Macy was admitted and we were offered a hot drink in one of the thermal mugs supplied to the ward. I remember thinking, what a great idea! Because let's face it, parents rarely get to finish a cuppa at the best of times. Add in everything that's going on in a hospital and there's no chance. Every time we're in hospital now and get a cup it always takes me back to that night. The smallest things really can make the biggest impact.
Macy has been showered with gifts from Team Jak. Including an Easter treat, Halloween bucket and lots of Christmas presents. We were in hospital a lot throughout December, and the decorations provided by Team Jak really brightened up the ward.
I was messaged by Team Jak way back at the beginning, just after Macy's diagnosis, offering support for our family. With everything that was going on I completely forgot. I reached out leading up to Christmas and was informed of all the amazing activities and groups that were available. We haven't managed to attend any yet, but hope to meet with some of the team in the future.
Thank you everyone at Team Jak!
Gillian, Andy & Macy x

Angus

We first became aware of Jak's Den whilst Angus was in treatment on the schiehallion ward in Glasgow in 2019. We'd get gift packages and treat tables brought round to the rooms with the little jaks den stickers on them. And Angus LOVED the music therapy that jaks den brought to the ward. However we probably felt the benefit of the charity more after Angus had actually passed. Allison and Hazel were so supportive in the first few months after Angus died in March 2020. And whilst other bigger charities struggled to adapt to covid rules and regulations, Team Jak started inviting us to zoom events that really were a life line in those first years. By the time we went to the first angel day event in person we felt like we already knew the other families and some of the staff at Jak's Den. We've received so much support from Team Jak that I can't put into words how grateful we are. When other organisations were telling us what they couldn't do, Team Jak were problem solving to see what they could do. Team Jak are the grassroots charity taking on the bulk of the work in supporting families with a child in treatment for cancer and after, whatever the outcome. No child is ever forgotten and we really do thank you so much for that.

Louise

In February 2019 our life changed forever when our daughter Louise who was 9 was diagnosed with Acute myeloid Leukaemia, this was a scary time for her being new to all this and she wasn't up for seeing anyone but in entered Caitlin from Team Jak with her seemingly infinite craft supplies, this made her remember there was still fun to be had, then at Christmas in Glasgow Team Jak came down to the hospital and made that fun and also entertained her sister and another family who were living in the same accommodation as us, Louise sadly passed and Team Jak were there for us all and helped us share our grief and still make themselves available and arrange nice days out and meetings which are always great.

Louise's Love fund has been set up to honour Louise and allow friends and family to raise funds in Louise's memory for Team Jak to "help families cos they helped us"

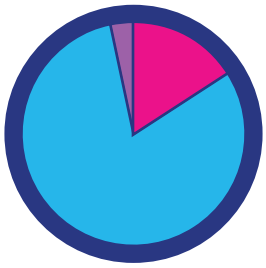
Carson

Carson, my beloved angel, forever 7. Team Jak came into our lives shortly after he was diagnosed with medullablastoma at the age of 4.5 years. They supplied a very useful bag when we first met with colouring books, pencils, water bottles and the handiest of all, a reusable cup for my coffee. They visited Carson in hospital to give me (a single parent with very little support) much needed time for a shower, hot meal and a quiet cup of coffee knowing that my beautiful boy was being cared for and having fun. This continued all through treatment and we regularly visited Jak's Den Mk1 when down in Edinburgh both with and without his sisters. We were always made welcome and the kids all had a fabulous time whilst I relaxed with other parents who quickly became friends and confidants. Fast forward to November 2019 just before Carson's 7th birthday when he had a massive seizure and we were given the devastating news that there was nothing else they could do, he had weeks left. Would he make it to his birthday? Christmas? No one could answer those questions but right by my side and visiting us in hospital we're Allison and Hazel, arms full of toys, those trusty colouring books and pencils, new water bottles and reusable coffee cups as well as a bag of snacks for both of us. Best of all though, was the shoulders they gave me to cry on and the arms they wrapped around me to hold me in my darkest moments. Again they were my rocks, my lifeline during those dark, uncertain days. We got his birthday and they celebrated with us. Next was Christmas and again there they were, making sure the girls still had as good a time as possible while their brother was slowly deteriorating. Then the devastating day came, 01/01/2020. My gorgeous, brave boy left this world and left myself and the family heartbroken and that's when they really stepped up for us. The big charities all left immediately, smaller local ones gave us a bit of support but again, they left. We no longer had a child with cancer but Team Jak stepped up. Of course Covid had a devastating effect on everything shortly afterwards but my girls got grief counselling via zoom, I got the angel group support again through zoom. We chatted, we laughed and we also cried but we also felt loved, cared for and that our grief mattered, we were allowed to be sad, angry, to sob and to rant and they understood. They got it. Sometimes they knew what I was feeling before I did! That is the only counselling we got or were offered from anyone. Yes it was Covid, yes it was difficult to arrange such things but Allison and her team made it happen when no one else did. They cared. They checked in. They sent food hampers. They sent games and pamper packs. They thought of everything and for that I will be eternally grateful. Today, 3 years later, I have recently lost my 4 year old granddaughter and who is there? You got it, Allison and Hazel and our Team Jak family. Without them, their love, support and understanding, we would not be the survivors of grief that we are. They and the whole team are amazing and I love them all. They are our family, yesterday, today and tomorrow. Thank you isn't sufficient and that is why I agree to crazy things to fundraise for them.

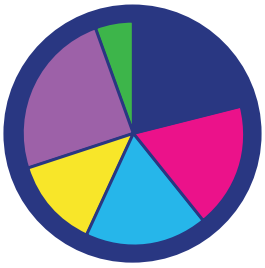
Ronan

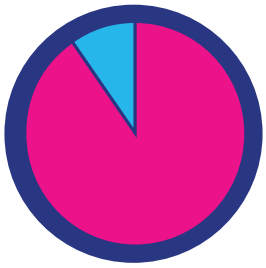
Ronan is 21 months and was born with a rare genetic immunodeficiency called Wiskott-Aldrich Syndrome. He had a stem cell 6months ago and is doing great. Team Jak have not only made us feel welcome, but have given Ronan's older siblings unexpected gifts which made them feel special.
Team Jak have been there to listen and give advice. We have only had one trip to the den but intend to go back more as all of us were blown away with it.

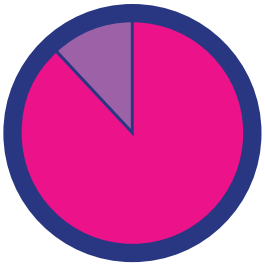
Statistics for Jak's Den

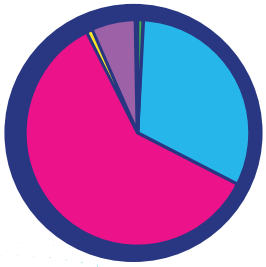


Type Of Support	No. Of People
Angel Families	67
Warriors	341
Families	13
Registered Families Area Breakdown	
Aberdeen & North	89
Edinburgh, Lothian & Borders	76
Fife & Dundee	75
Jak's Den	55
Glasgow & West	103
Central Scotland	23
Total Families	421
Jak's Sacks Distributed To Patients & Siblings	112
Jak's Den Visitors	2866
Team Jak/Jak's Den Employees	13
Team Jak Volunteers	52
People Who Use Counselling Service	21
Adults	19 (152 sessions)
Children	2 (27 sessions)
Mindfulness Course	8 sessions
Children Who Have Had Music Therapy	497 sessions
1:1	439 sessions
Online	58 sessions
First Aid Course	1
Total Outreach	1692 sessions
Phone	17
PM	533
Email	1016
Text	17
F2F	106
Zoom	3









Important Events

This year our most exciting event was the opening ceremony of Jak's Den Aberdeen followed by an Aberdeen Ball which was wonderful.

We also held our annual Ladies Day at The VU which was very well attended and a great time had by all.

We had over 150 children and parents at both of our Christmas parties in Aberdeen and Livingston and then in we had a wonderful Jaks Ball at Prestonfield in February, followed by our Balbirnie Ladies day in March and our first Glasgow Ladies Day in May.

We also held our first Abseil in Aberdeen in July, and then our first skydive in Glenrothes in May! These were great events and raised a lot of money and awareness for Team Jak.

Within Team Jak we celebrated the Kings Coronation and have had lots of exciting and fun days out and parties.

Volunteers & Fundraising

We have over 50 volunteers on our list with approx. 25-30 volunteering on a regular basis in some form.

We have a variety of roles for volunteers from helping at events in the Den and spending time with some of our families to a volunteer Admin. Our Volunteers enhance the wonderful work our inspirational staff do weekly.

We also have some who help us raise awareness and fundraise through our organised Events and Awareness Days in shops, bag packing, theatres at Shows and for anything else that arises.

We interview our volunteers and ask for references and every volunteer must have a pvg regardless of age.

They are then given an induction session and also a full training course if wanting to work in Jak's Den, which includes Child Protection and Safeguarding, Health and Safety, Confidentiality and Bereavement training. We then offer Food Hygiene and First Aid as extras to those wishing to complete.

Volunteers are given instructions on uniform code and also code of conduct. They are then asked to attend at least two further training sessions per year- one Autumn and one Spring which will keep them up to date with all current legal and other issues alongside socialising with other Ambassadors.

We have a lovely strong team of regulars who have been developing their own skills also and working with our families and children in our Bag of Worries programme alongside attending our Big breakfast and angel days, Mini Denners and lots more.

A number of our younger Volunteers have been helping with our Friday Lunch Club.

We had a lovely Volunteer celebration and presentation of awards and are always grateful for everything our volunteers do.

Staff Statements

Tiffeny - Family Support Coordinator Aberdeen

My role is such a versatile one- no two days are ever the same. Supporting our families is at the forefront of what we do. I try to approach everything we do with an aim to benefit the family- our timetable is based around their needs and wants. I regularly ask for feedback and adapt to improve our service. It's such a privilege to be part of their journey, I go home happy if I feel I've made it a little easier. We are such an adaptable charity, there is no pressure to attend if people don't feel ready. We have some families who use us almost daily, some who attend our larger events and others who dip in and out when they need us. When you come into the Den in Aberdeen you can't tell who's mum or dad is who, you walk through the door and it really is like being part of a big family, there to support themselves and each other.

Margaret - Fundraising Administrator

When I see the smiles on the faces of children in the Den and hear their laughter, it reminds me how important my role as Fundraising Administrator is to maximise our fundraising efforts to ensure we can continue to support these amazing children and their families.

Rhona - Administration & Finance Co-ordinator

I have now been with the charity for two and a half years and deal with everything to do with administration and finance.
I also support and spend time with our families when I am needed or have some spare time.
Team Jak staff are dedicated to our families as well as each other, all mucking in together.
Along with all the serious issues we deal with, we do find the time to have fun and a laugh.

Colette - CYP & Family Coordinator Lead

My name is Colette and I am the Children, Young People and Families Co-ordinator.
My role at Team Jak is to offer support to all of our families in any form required... Sometimes that can be as simple as offering an ear, other times it's about providing a safe space for the whole family to have fun, decompress and take time out from the difficulties of treatment or post treatment trauma.
This past year has been full of so many memorable moments. I have been kept very busy offering a wide range of activities in the Livingston Den and establishing a Pop Up Den in Glasgow for parents and then additionally families. I am particularly please to see so many friendships grow between parents and the children and young people particularly as they did not have the chance to meet while on the ward due to covid restrictions. These friendships have grown through the team Jak sessions and hearing the squeals of laughter and joy in the room when any of them come together (and that's just the grown ups) is just wonderful. The peer support being shared freely around the room marvellous.
I feel the area we have had the greatest impact this year is on the Children's cancer wards in Glasgow and Edinburgh. Through our weekly visits we have met and supported families from the point of diagnosis. Offering a friendly ear, moral and practical support, fun and distraction for the children and young people and a link to the Den for when they are released from the ward to go it alone. The success of these visits can be measured in the attendances at our Den sessions with families making their way to us, making friends and joining our Team Jak Family.
I have enjoyed our Spring and early Summer of fun with amazing community links with the local emergency services and Science Centres being developed which we hope will continue in the future.
Our team of volunteers have developed their own skills and I am so pleased to see them taking the lead in elements of sessions as their Confidence grows.
The photos I have chosen show SO many smiles, and my favourite bit about my job...the people we work with, the community, the Team Jak Family.

Sarah - CYP & Family Coordinator Aberdeen

I love my job, I'm really enjoying that new families are coming along, the palliative families are engaging also which is really rewarding.
I feel I have a good relationship with the teens and this will continue .
I love working 1:1 with children also and the teen outings are great fun with the older teens gelling well.

Staff Statements (cont.)

Rachel - Play and Support Worker

Hi, I'm Rachel the newest member of Team Jak, I help out with Admin and also as a play worker, being a part of Team Jak has been so rewarding, I love chatting to the families and interacting with the kids, I have to say my favourite part has been the spring and early summer and how all the kids and adults have been involved during wizard school week, animal week, stems (dinosaur)(Rainbow)(engineering) (space) (up in the air) week.

Hazel - Director of Services

Another fabulous year at Team Jak,we are now supporting over 400 families and it is a privilege to be able to do this. As Director of Services the highlight for me this year has to be the opening of Jak's Den in Aberdeen and watching the success of our Hospital outreach support and seeing the difference we are making to families on a day to day basis. I am very proud of every member of staff and volunteer who helps us to make this possible. Looking forward to seeing what the next year brings as we approach 10 years of "Jak's amazing legacy".

Christine - Fife Family Coordinator

I love working with Team Jak for so many reasons. The families I work with are amazing, living through the most difficult of times, trying to make the best of their situation but still trying to support each other and others in the same boat. Allison and her staff are so inspirational and supportive, working hard to ensure that families of children with cancer, are not alone on their journey, wherever it may take them. Working with Team Jak is a very humbling experience but also very rewarding.

Corporate Support/Partnerships/Funding

Company

- Catalent
- Clarity Simplicity Solicitors
- Concept
- Co-op Eliburn
- Co-op Funeralcare
- Co-op Howden
- Co-op Ladywell
- Early Steps Nursery
- Heineken
- Lloyds Banking Group
- North British Distillery
- Peter Beggs Events
- Spaces Taylored
- Specsavers
- Standard Life
- Stephen Renwick @ Dunfermline Entertainer
- Team Heineken
- Time 4 U
- Primark
- Amey
- Emtec Group
- Barony & CP Publishers
- Frontline Construction Ltd
- 8to8 Dental
- PwC
- NatWest
- Scottish Legal Complaints Commission
- Plexus
- Lloyds Bank Teams
- The Centre Livingston
- PPL
- Curries Print Centre
- Star Harmonies

Funders

- Aberdeen Lord Provost's Fund
- Arnold Clark
- BlackRock
- Bank Of Scotland
- Better Breaks
- Brian Murtagh Charitable Trust
- Cash for Kids
- Catalent Community Fund
- Chance to Connect
- Children in Need (BBC)
- Corra Foundation
- Hugh Fraser Foundation
- HSBC
- Maple Trust
- Martin Connell Trust
- National Lottery Community Fund
- People Postcode Local Trust
- Persimmon Homes
- Robert Barr Charitable Trust
- Short Breaks Fund
- St James Place
- Stephens Bakers
- STV Childrens Appeal
- The Robertson Trust
- Trefoil Organisation
- West Lothian Council
- WM Mann Trust

Grants & Trusts

- Yorkshire Building Society
- Nancy Massey Charitable Trust
- Spifox
- Co-op Local Community Fund
- The Findlay Charitable Trust
- Aberdeen Council Festive Fund
- West Lothian Mental Health & Wellbeing Fund
- National Lottery
- NHS Grampian Aberdeen Health Improvement Fund
- Stafford Trust
- Wood Foundation (YPI)
- Peoples Postcode Lottery
- BBC Children in Need
- Voluntary Sector Gateway

MP/Government Contact

Hannah Bardell	MP
Miles Briggs	MSP Lothians
Jeremy Balfour	MSP

Collaborative Work with other Agencies and Charities

- TCT Western Edinburgh
- TCT RHSC
- CBUK
- Young Lives Versus Cancer (CLIC) Social Work Team Glasgow, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen, Inverness
- Blood Cancer UK (Bloodwise)
- Anthony Nolan
- Glow Gold
- Maggies
- Logan's Fund
- CHAS
- Calums Cabin
- Doing It For Daniel
- Glasgow Children Hospital Charity
- Beatson TCT
- Edinburgh POONS Team
- Glasgow POONS Team
- Tayside Children's Hospital
- RACH/Archie's
- NHS Grampian
- Lothian Bereavement Network
- Fife Bereavement Network
- Glasgow Bereavement Network
- Highland Bereavement Network

Quotes from Volunteers

"I am so glad you have given me the chance to volunteer at Jaks den, the place the means the world to me. I am so proud to be part of what your son has achieved. **K**

"That moment, when you make contact and know these wonderfully brave children and their families trust you, is the most rewarding feeling. **Jenifer**

"The feeling you receive when you make one of these children smile is unmatched. It is an honour to be part of their and their families journey. **Hannah**

"I love being part of the child's journey and spending time with the families. Seeing the children smiling and having fun is the best feeling ever. **Kirstie**

"It's not just a place to volunteer, it's a place where family support family and its an honour to be able to contribute in creating smiles and easing the journey. **Lisa**

"I am always in awe at the strength and bravery of the children and their families throughout their cancer journeys. It is a privilege to pay even just a small part in that journey. **Susan**

Ambition and Long Term Strategy

This year has been a real time of rebuilding and growth following covid lockdown and during this current cost of living crisis.

Sadly due to Covid and now cost of living crisis almost all of our funding streams stopped overnight and the future for all charities is bleak.

Thankfully we were able to secure emergency and continuation funding and many of our current funders contacted us to say their funds were now unrestricted so we had the freedom to use for core costs if required.

We have been granted a number of small "uplifts" towards staffing and energy bills from current funders.

We are still in a relatively ok position regarding reserves however our fears are still valid regarding mid to longer term need especially as we took the plunge on Aberdeen Den, and now due to cost of living crisis we are not bringing in what we need to sustain and break even each month due to much fewer fundraising events or funding.

We have reacted to this by looking at what we can cut back on and what further grants and income streams we can develop further.

By looking at our goals, ambition and long-term strategy we hope to secure this future of in order that we can indeed create smiles and ease the journey of many young people with cancer and their families in the following ways-

- This will allow us to provide the emotional and social support required for children young people and families with cancer and related illnesses within Jak's Den HQ and our Aberdeen Den, alongside our other pop ups and outreach services, and also allow us to expand our much used and needed Bereavement Support Service.
- We hope to still be able to provide support within the oncology/haematology wards in our children's hospitals having re-established this support this year.
- We need to ensure we are bringing in about £42,000 to £56,000 per month in order to stay ahead of ourselves and continue with the high level of operational activity we are providing at the moment in order to continue to provide financial stability and sustainability within our Charity- Staff being our biggest asset and requirement.
- Counselling and Support Services will also be developed further as a result of our bigger and better Den with far more facilities to allow us to carry out all of the support required.
- Family Support and Liaison will be improved via our Director of Services and, Outreach Wellbeing Coordinator, and Children and Young Person Co-ordinators and Play Workers
- Fife and Glasgow links will be further established through the provision of pop up Den activities in all areas
- More families will be reached through our stronger links with main hospitals- Edinburgh, Glasgow
- More support will be provided in particular in Glasgow
- We will continue to strengthen relations with other Agencies and Charities
- We need to improve upon our IT Skills, Website and Mailchimp and keep up to date with other IT developments (covid has definitely thrown us in the deep end here)!

Short Term Goals

In order to support our ever increasing registered number of families our main priority currently is to increase our monthly income on a more regular basis through grant funding, individual giving and community fundraising in turn building our reserves back to a healthy level following the opening of Jak's Den Aberdeen.

We plan to increase this through our reach of families within Aberdeen and the north of Scotland and secure funding and supporters through corporates schools and community groups to allow us to cover all outgoings for our Aberdeen Jak's Den.

Our other main priority within our short term goals and as a result of direct need, is that we aim to develop our programme of support and outreach to Glasgow, as this area also has a large number of registered families and many more to reach whom we are not providing enough support to currently.

We aim to further strengthen our links with Schiehallion ward through weekly visits from our staff and Music therapist, and twilight sessions from Finding Your Feet building in Paisley very close to the hospital.

For our Volunteers we aim to continue to update and further develop our extensive training and support programme in response to Volunteer Scotland's new charter to include appointment of a volunteer Volunteer admin, and a training calendar to help them become aware of their responsibilities as volunteers as well as equipping them to work with sensitivity and understanding with our inspirational families, and include more training on mental health first aid, trauma and grief.

Within Jak's Den we aim to further enhance our programme of weekly and daily activities and further develop our support sessions to ensure we have fully supported all groupings and ages appropriate to ages and stages at this time.

Emotional support and in particular Bereavement Support are two big areas we have respond to quite substantially and see these as being ongoing key areas in the development of our services going forward.

Outreach

We continue to develop our **outreach services** in more depth with a new Outreach Wellbeing Coordinaotr about to be appointed to enable us to respond in the way we really want to. This will include our out of hours phone service and more pop up events and support in geographical areas of need.

We also wish to continue to develop all of our current core services including-

- **Counselling and Support Services –** with facilities to allow us to carry out all of the support required we must now as covid allows continue to build on our counselling and therapeutic services and support groups
- We will continue with **online and phone support** for those that need and want it meantime.
- Our **emotional support programme** including Bag of Worries and Seasons for Growth and outreach to individual children and young people

- **Family Support and Liaison** will be improved via our Director of Services and Wellbeing and Children and Young Person Co-ordinators
- **Bereavement support** will be a priority including for siblings, cousins, friends, parents, grandparents, wider family and children of parents who have terminal cancer or sadly died
- **Aberdeen, Fife, Glasgow and Lothian & Borders** links will be further established through our Children and Young Person & Family Lead Coordinator
- More families reached through our s**tronger links with main hospitals**- Edinburgh, Glasgow, Aberdeen, TCT Units
- Continue to strengthen relations with **other Agencies and Charities**

Medium Term Goals

Financial security and sustainability tops this as a concern for all at this uncertain time of cost of living and will be at the forefront of all our decisions around service provision moving forward.

We have discovered since embarking upon the **Team Jak** journey that our **support services** are split very clearly into a number of areas with a **child centred approach** at the heart of everything we do- responding to what the **child needs** and would like depending on their diagnosis, stage of journey and needs within.

Medium to long-term we also aim to address the gaps and requirements for a further satellite **Jak's Den in Glasgow.**

We hope that medium to long term our very exciting dream of getting a Jak's Den on wheels that we had to put on hold when covid struck will once more become a possibility in the medium future as it would make travelling around our supported areas and support within very accessible. Again we were almost there with that idea and then covid struck.... Hopefully more to follow...

We plan to strengthen our **links with Health and Education** and build upon our support for Education in relation to links with schools and education authorities in order to support children who are going through a cancer journey or in palliative care and those bereaved.

We want to continue to create and develop further bespoke Team Jak branded material in response to issues faced by young people and siblings going through a cancer journey or bereaved.

We also aim to create more opportunities to develop **study support** for Primary and Secondary children who are missing out on schooling and need more 1:1 from home or from Jak's Den.

Next year brings the 10th anniversary of Jak's diagnosis and sadly death and we will be marking this with a huge campaign of "Bee Happy" from September 2024- September 2025 culminating in a huge JakFest on his birthday 21st September 2025 at The Kelpies at Helix Park.

Long Term Goals

Ambition and Long Term Strategy

We need to keep trying to raise momentum further, continue to be positive and upbeat with our fundraising campaigns and follow our Transformation strategy with realism in this current funding climate, and apply for as many relevant grants as we can to ensure we can continue to provide financial stability and sustainability within our Charity.

We also need to find new ways of generating secure long term income and continue to grow our charity.

Long term sustainability via social enterprise/business model/arm and activities and income generated as a result are all possibilities and this year we will be looking into some of these in conjunction with our ten year plans.

We aim to find ways of making money through social enterprise and business ideas and eventually hope to gain commissions for some of our support work and bespoke resources within health and educational settings in order that our long-term goals can be met whilst also continuing to meet immediate demand via our HQ, satellite Dens, outreach support and online forums.

The upkeep and sustainability of our Jak's Den in Livingston and satellite Jak's Dens and pop ups throughout Scotland including outreach support, alongside securing a bigger HQ that we own long term are our key long term priorities alongside working on securing regular and reliable funding.

- **Jak's Den HQ-** current and ongoing
- **Aberdeen Jak's Den-** ongoing funding requirements
- **Glasgow-** ongoing support with Jak's Den premises by 2025
- **Edinburgh/East Lothian-** 2025-support
- **Perth/Dundee-** 2025-support
- **Inverness-** 2025-support
- **South of Scotland-** 2025- support

We believe this will be an ongoing work in progress and in being proactive as well as reactive this will take a number of years to create. All areas are currently serviced via online and phone and occasional in person outreach/fun days where the geographic need arises.

Summary

We are delighted this year to have opened Jaks Den Aberdeen but now need to find sustainable income to keep this much needed resource.

We are also very proud of our work and relationships with Schiehallion ward and palliative staff in Glasgow, and Lochranza in Edinburgh and aim to continue to develop this work further as time goes on.

It's very sad this service is required, however thanks to one young man's dreams over 3000 people are being directly touched by **Team Jak** in one way or another through our services on offer.

The Team Jak Foundation will provide a facility and service to those children, siblings, parents and other family members who are suffering from cancer and related illnesses plus bereavement services as necessary, through **emotional, social and practical support** either at our specially crea**ted Jak's Dens, pop- up Dens or through outreach** at **home** or in **hospital** as required.

Team Jak will benefit **many families** who need support throughout the stages of a young person's cancer or related journey and beyond, either through remission or in some cases sadly death.

We seek to **complement the support** available from **health professionals** who care and administer the appropriate drugs, not replace that support, providing vital, experienced care and understanding at a time of great turmoil and difficulty.

In summary Team Jak aim to **create smiles and ease the journey** for all our young **superhero warriors, siblings, parents, friends** and **wider community**.

Once you are part of the Team Jak Family we hope that you will never leave it.

TEAM JAK- "Together Everyone Achieves More" when we work for the good of our inspirational children young people and their families.

Team Jak thanks to the support and generosity of many will continue to work very hard to **create smiles** and **ease the journey** reaching as many families of **children with cancer** and those **bereaved** from within **Scotland age 0-25** as we possibly can.

Notes

JAK'S
DEN

TEAM JAK

JAK'S DEN

Allison Barr, Annual Impact Report 2023

TEAM JAK FOUNDATION SC045586 (SCIO)

Jak's Den Ochil House Livingston EH54 6QF