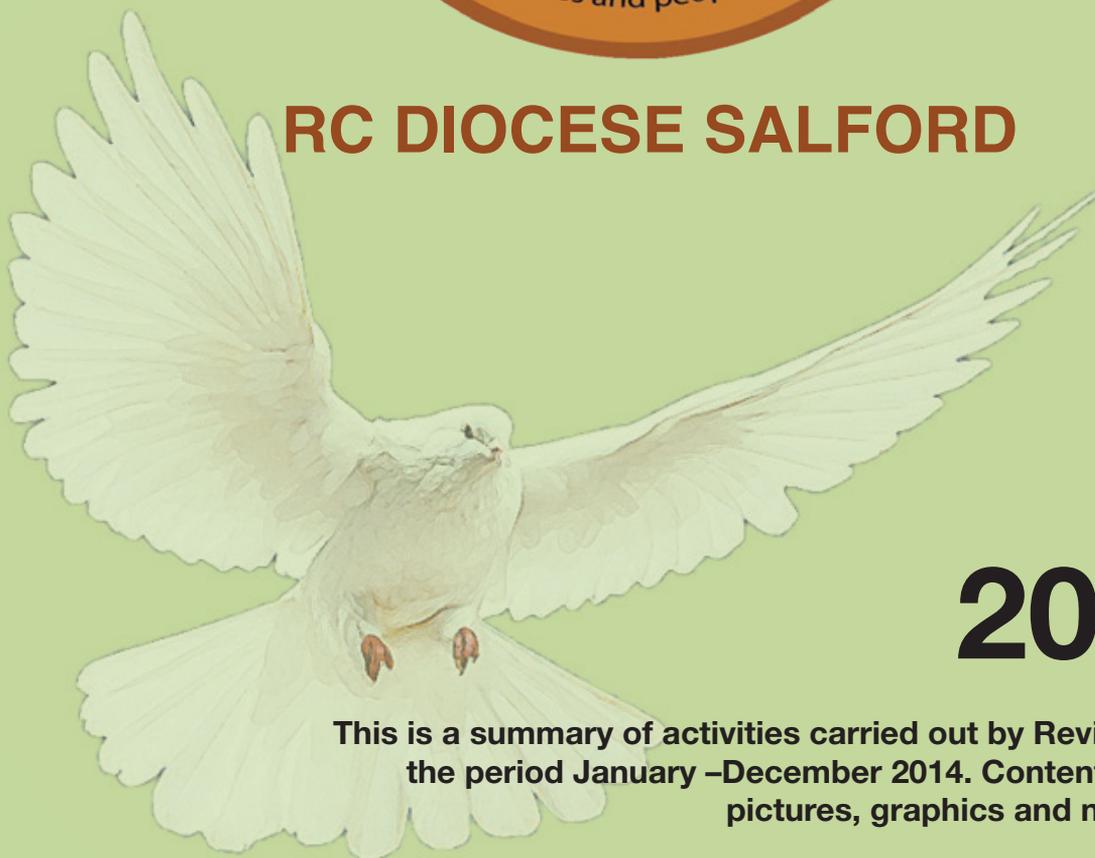


**The Congregation of the Holy Spirit
British Province**

Revive Project Annual Report



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2014

**This is a summary of activities carried out by Revive during
the period January –December 2014. Contents include
pictures, graphics and narratives.**

Charity No: 227350

OISC No: N200900004

Celebrating with our service users



Mission

To accompany and support refugees and asylum seekers in a way that is informed by Christian values of compassion, equality and respect for human dignity and to walk beside them in their difficulties, irrespective of race, ethnicity, age, gender, or religious belief.

Our team

Our team consists of a manager, two qualified social workers, a level three certified OISC immigration adviser and a volunteer coordinator who are involved in the day – to- day operations of Revive project.

We are supported by a highly dedicated and committed team of volunteers who bring invaluable contribution to our work in different ways. We are also supported by social work students on placement who gain knowledge and skills through hands on practical experience through the drop-ins and taking on case works.

Our Objectives and how we achieve them

Revive project:

Revive Provides immigration advice to our service users as a path to community integration

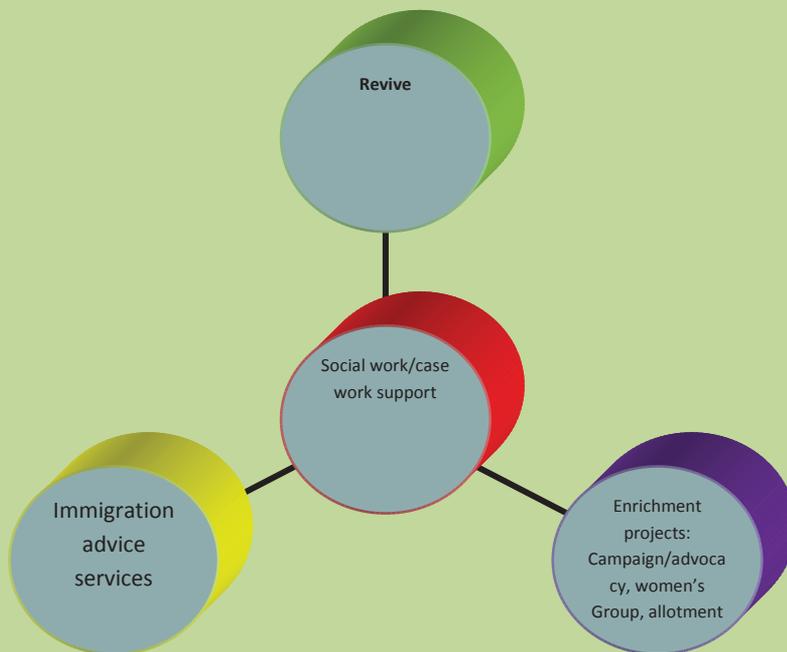
- ❖ Provides social work support to families and adults with complex support needs, in particular supporting people who have experienced trauma in their home countries.
- ❖ Offers free emotional and practical support, specialised casework and advocacy to refugees and people seeking asylum.
- ❖ Empowers individuals through our enrichment projects in becoming successfully integrated into the community.
- ❖ Actively seeks to prevent and reduce homelessness of adults and families who have acquired refugee status, by ensuring access to mainstream service provisions in relation to housing, medical care, financial support, employment opportunities and education.

Revive accomplishes its objectives by providing free holistic support and advice to asylum seekers (people seeking asylum, refugee has negative connotations), refugees as well as people with questionable immigration status in Greater Manchester. Not just a signposting organisation, Revive provides both short-term and long-term advice and support to those with simple as well as (Take Out) complex needs. Revive is multifunctional, delivering social work, immigration advice, general welfare and social advice. We advocate for individuals by working

with supporting external agencies, engaging clients in activities and empowerment projects, offering training and volunteering opportunities to clients and the wider community and successfully working in partnership with local and national organisations.

To deliver the above, we offer a variety of ways for clients to engage with us. We run drop in sessions twice a week that allow both new and established clients to seek advice. The social work team's outreach service ensures that service users (clients) with complex needs and who are unable to access the organisation's drop in services, are supported on a long term basis in accordance to their individual needs. In this way, we are reactive to the fact that many asylum seekers and refugees face financial hardship and social isolation and cannot always come to meetings that are outside of their immediate area. We also accompany our clients to court hearings as appropriate, to offer support, advocacy and to guide them through the complex asylum and immigration process. We apply a 'human rights' based approach to our practice, utilising our expertise and knowledge to ensure our clients access their full rights whilst in the UK.

Revive practical support to clients



The Social Work Department

The social work department continues to offer therapeutic social work and practical support through outreach work within people's homes, drop-ins and office based appointments. We primarily work with individuals and families who have suffered and are affected by trauma and work with families that have significant complex social support needs. The team supports clients accessing the service to know their rights, advocate for fair treatment and access to services whilst offering emotional and practical interventions including safeguarding whilst promoting wellbeing, independence, choice and stability.

Making a positive difference

Work with Adults and Families with Disabilities

The social work department has provided a range of services to adults and families with disabilities. A number of community care referrals have been made to social services. We have provided advocacy in accessing appropriate equipment and accommodation, including making referrals to legal solicitors to challenge poor decisions with a number of successes.

Samuel's story:

'Samuel has had significant injuries from torture in his home country. We undertook a holistic assessment and made a referral to mental health services and to social services requesting appropriate accommodation. We further made a referral for aids and adaption's within the home to improve his mobility and challenged a decision for social services to refuse appropriate accommodation with support from a local housing solicitor. The appeal was granted.'

Work with Families

Revive has worked with a number of families this year including working with parents who have been trafficked to the UK and with families that have experienced torture and faced risk of persecution in their home countries as well as fleeing war.

Zara's story

"Zara has three children and is a survivor of trafficking. She has been in the country for a number of years and was supported by friends. She was allocated a key worker through the social work team as she was at risk of losing her home and support. A referral was made to social services and a student social worker attended a multi -agency child in need meeting as an advocate for the family. Accommodation and support has now been granted. Revive has also taken their case on to provide legal representation with their immigration matters. "

Work with Adults with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and suicide prevention

Ali's story

'Ali informed his worker that he was experiencing flashbacks and that he became unaware of his surroundings. He stated that he believed people wanted to harm him and said that he had hit a friend whom he believed to be an intruder. He also disclosed thoughts to harm others. He described feelings of worthlessness and loss of identity and did not see a purpose in life. He

spoke of wanting to die and had thoughts to jump from a building or take an overdose of tablets. Due to the potential risks to self and other we advocated for the GP to refer Ali to mental health services. Initially, the Primary Care Mental Health team became involved, and referred him on to secondary Mental Health services for assessment. The Community Mental Health team upon assessment revealed that Ali did not meet their criteria and referred him back to the GP, where Ali found himself without access to mental health services.

Revive remained consistent in its approach to safeguard Ali and the workers at Revive, in recognising our own capacities to work with individuals with possible risk to other. However, we were also dedicated to the recognition of Ali as a vulnerable adult and his rights to access support. Through use of effective internal recording systems of risk and incidents that had occurred, a letter of concern was submitted to the mental health services, with a request for services to be involved to safeguard a vulnerable adult. As a result he was assessed by a clinical psychiatrist and was referred to the High Intensity Therapy service for psychological support through the PCMHT.'

Drop-in Services

Our Drop-ins have seen a dramatic increase in numbers this year, with an average of 60 people attending each Wednesday at the Salford centre and an average attendance of 20 People at the Beswick centre every Tuesday. The drop-ins continue to provide advice and advocacy services with support from student social workers on placement and from volunteers. CHRISP also runs a successful Thursday group, led by Bernie Lomax and Wednesday English classes led by Brother Ger. On a Tuesday, Get Talking project of the 4CT led by Jane Holden with other partners provide activities, education and wellbeing.



Thai Chi class, pool and socialising: Some of our wellbeing activities at the drop-in

Challenges we face

Housing: There have been a large number of refugees in particular from Sudan and Eritrea who have been granted Refugee status. Whilst this is fantastic news, it also creates many challenges as many of our clients find themselves homeless and cashless whilst they try to manage their transition to mainstream services. We have made about 50 applications to local hostels in the last few months

and we have made a number of successful applications to emergency night shelters for those who are homeless. Especially in the winter season, this group of clients continue to be excluded from service based on their assessed priority needs with the local council and often sleep rough. At least 60 percent of clients who come to our drop-in present with housing issues.

Food poverty: Most of our clients have no recourse to public fund, cannot work because of their immigration status and those with status have long delays in accessing their support entitlements and are regularly sanctioned by the benefits agencies. At Revive, we mitigate this challenge by offering food parcels and basic toiletries and make regular referrals to other agencies that run food banks, schools and churches.

Language Barriers:

Some of our service users do not have basic English skill, and as such are not able to carry out simple instructions required of them at job centres, DWP and HM Revenue and customs. Job centres have not been providing interpreters and this has caused them sanctions, fines, and further inflicted hardship.

New asylum seekers:

In the year under review, we have witnessed new cases of asylum seekers, particularly from Syria, Sudan and Eritrea. We have been proactive by ensuring processes and procedures are in place to manage these new cases through the drop-ins. However, funding and resources remains a major challenge.

Despite these challenges, Revive has remained resilient and focused to continue to provide these support services to refugees and people seeking asylum.



Social Work team

From the Immigration department

The immigration department continues to support client with immigration services. 60 new cases were formally taken on for long- term casework. *A positive development this year has been the decision to allow family reunion cases back into the scope of legal aid funding pending legal proceedings on the matter.* This has meant that family reunion service users have had the benefit of accessing legal aid services for assistance with their cases. This has taken the pressure off the service.

The 60 cases that were taken on exclude one off advice that has been provided to individuals calling and emailing for assistance throughout the year. The department has built a reputation for working in the best interests of clients and many individuals and organisations have made contact for advice and reliable signposting. Our OISC Level 1 Advisers have also done an excellent job with assisting newly recognised refugees attending our Salford drop in with travel document applications. Over 30 applications were submitted throughout the year.

Positive outcomes have more than doubled from last year, which is very encouraging. 28 files concluded with positive outcomes resulting in grant of status for 50 service users and their families, with the bulk of the casework consisting of human rights and family reunion cases. Of the 28 files, five were granted on appeal at the Immigration and Asylum Chamber.

Case Study 1

Mr FO and his wife and 3 dependents approached Revive following referral by the local immigration reporting centre. The family had been refused the permission to remain in the United Kingdom on human rights grounds and had been denied an in country right of appeal. The family was distressed about the prospect of removal from the UK because of their daughter's serious medical needs. In view of the grave nature of the child's health condition and length of residence in the UK, Revive requested that the immigration authorities grant the family the opportunity to have their case heard in country. This was duly granted and with a lot of support from medical and other social welfare experts the case went before the Immigration Tribunal. The case was allowed by the Immigration Judge at the first instance with no further appeal from the Home Office. The family have now been granted leave to remain in the United Kingdom and are working on building their future.

Case Study 2

The organisation assisted Mr DK with a family reunion matter. He had been in the UK since 2007 having fled persecution from his country of origin. The application was particularly urgent as Mr DK has been battling a life threatening medical condition. He expressed his worst fear as never having to see his family again. In a sad turn of events three of the minor children were granted permission to join their father while the eldest daughter and Mrs DK were refused on the basis that they were considered as not meeting the Immigration Rules. This was heart wrenching for Mr DK as he desperately wanted to see his children but accepted that it was not practical for them to travel without their mother and sister as his own health meant that he would not be in a position to care for them. An appeal against the refusal of Mr DK's wife and oldest daughter was lodged with a request that the immigration officials expedite the appeal in view of Mr DK's health. The application was fast tracked and thankfully resulted in the initial decision to refuse Mr DK's wife and daughter being overturned. On 2nd October 2014 Mr DK's

family flew into Manchester Airport and he was there to meet them. After seven years apart, the family is readjusting to their new life. Mr DK states that he has found strength and happiness in the presence of his family. He no longer worries about them and concentrates all his energy on his treatment.



The Immigration team

The year in numbers

121 drop-in sessions	40 New Clients advised and supported through the social work services and 15 existing clients continued to be supported.	60- Average immigration cases taken on
25 Partner agencies provided courses, activities, training, and support at the drop-ins	42 Volunteers supported Revive's work	620- Food parcels were provided to individuals and families

The year in quotes

"I have learnt new skills, my confidence to work in an office environment grown. Infact, there is no better school than Revive. I am indeed grateful for all you have done and continue to do for me"(Volunteer)

"Thank you Revive for giving my daughter the chance to live a long fulfilling life"

(Service user)

"Dear Kenneth, I am writing to express our gratitude to Revive for the good work you do. Your staffs are excellent, their rate of dedication to client is unbelievable, and their professionalism is none to compare with. We are proud to be able to work with your organization" (GMP)

"Not sure what my life would have been without your help. Thank you to all in Revive"

(service user)

Volunteering at Revive

Revive has depended on its pool of committed volunteers and continues to make every effort to motivate and keep them, through providing training, supervision, support and including them in organisational decisions and events. Volunteering provides opportunities to gain confidence, experience and new skills. This year we have gained new volunteers, as well as having some volunteers move on to take on paid employment. We have had in house training sessions this year on Team building/bonding facilitated by Kevin Buchanan, Introduction to Interpreting and Translation, facilitated by Laura Harper, Sexual and Domestic violence , facilitated by the Trafford Rape Crisis team, and continued supervision.



Staff, students and volunteer interpreters

Volunteer roles in Revive

- Fund raising support
- IT Support
- Case work support
- Immigration support
- Admin and office support
- Interpreting
- Advice support
- Drop-in support/Socialising
- Office cleaner
- Food bank/donation support



Celebrating our Volunteer, Sister Eileen



Some of our 2014 volunteers

Our enrichment projects

Our enrichment projects remain holistic and therapeutic in nature and achieve the following; combating isolation and enabling skill acquisition and empowering our clients to continue to advocate for the rights of refugees and asylum seekers. The Women's Group project, the Revive Action Group and the Allotment projects are notable for such empowerment.

The Women's Group project

The aim of the project is to alleviate women refugees and people seeking asylum of isolation, and to build their confidence, mutual support and cultural sharing for easy integration into the community. This project creates an environment that encourages people to leave their house during the day and meet other people because we believe that the development of client's social skills and self belief helps them to have the confidence to integrate into the society. The group meets every Monday between 1 and 3pm with an average attendance of 10 women in each session for 6 months. Activities in the Women's Group include;

- Card making
- Knitting
- Crochet
- Chatting/socialising
- Hair braiding
- Origami

A certificate of attendance has been provided to all group members completing the 6 months with a list of their achievements and developed skills on the programme.

Graduation of the first Cycle of women attended the craft course.



Crafts on display made by the group

Campaign/Advocacy Programme: Revive Action Group

The objective of Revive Action Group is to raise awareness, advocacy and campaigning on issues affecting refugees and people seeking asylum. In particular, we have focused on the topic of destitution of people seeking asylum, challenging the negative stigma that is often attached to those who are seeking sanctuary. The group continues with awareness raising and education through the use of drama, song, poem as a veritable tool in reaching out to different audiences.

Below is a list of achievements this year

1. Group members have delivered talks at parishes and schools, providing personal testimonies, which have seen a positive response through the donation of food and clothing,
2. We have linked up with the Salford Forum for refugees and people seeking asylum as well as Red Cross in organizing of cultural events and this year's Refugee week.
3. The Revive Action group continues to meet every Friday and plan for cultural and awareness raising events. We plan to have more joint meetings and strategies with United for Change and have identified a designated coordinator for the Action Group to implement agreed plans.



Revive Action Group members and their mentor at a performance



Allotment project (El's plant plaza)

'El's plant plaza' is a brand new therapeutic allotment project based in our Beswick office in Manchester. It is a volunteer-run project, coordinated by Humphrey Simpson and set up with the support of the Princes Trust and the Manchester College in March 2014. Everyone has contributed to the allotment- building paths, planting seeds, weeding, and pruning. We have harvested strawberries, onions, beans, potatoes, sweet corn, lettuce, flowers and herbs. This has contributed to our food bank to clients at our Tuesdays and Wednesdays drop-in service. The garden also serves as a great spot for the team to have their lunch break and relaxation, especially during the summer.

We have just purchased a polytunnel to help us grow vegetable and fruit in shelter, especially in the winter. We have also started preparing the ground for our next project. We can't wait to get started in the New Year. Not only are our participants a great practical help, they bring fun, laughter and an amazing energy to the plot. The 'Growing together' allotment project at Levenshulme continues to grow and gain independence with little administrative support from Revive.



Preparing the beds



News and Events

'Revive is a Hate Crime Reporting Centre'

The Manchester Metropolitan Police came up with strategies to eliminate hate crime in the society. It followed some processes in selecting hate crime reporting centres. After due process and consideration, Revive emerged a hate crime reporting center.

On the 13th of March 2014, The Manchester Police held training and sensitisation for Revive and other stake holders around Hate Crime and reporting process. It was well attended and informative.



Book Launch

On Thursday 30th October, Revive team was at a book launch/Conference on Sites of Confinement, with contribution from Eloise Cockcroft, Revive Social worker, which was dedicated to our service users, Fozia and Nawaz. This was held at the Centre for the study of crime, Criminalisation and Social Exclusion Liverpool JMU.



At the book launch, Sites of Confinement



Celebrating our Volunteer

Maureen Clark was nominated for the Spirit of Manchester 2014 Volunteer of the Year Award. Maureen coordinates the women's group project, one of Revive's enrichment projects.

The Spirit of Manchester Awards is a series of awards celebrating and highlighting all the excellent work being carried out in Manchester's voluntary and community sector by volunteers. The Spirit of Manchester award is hosted by Manchester Community Central (MACC). Congratulations Maureen.



End of year gathering

Revive team, partners and service users, took time out to unwind with a gathering at the end of the year. Some photos from the party.



Christmas party at CHRISP with support from some staff and students of St Joseph Stoke



Our Partners who support our work in many ways:

A huge part of Revive's success is due to the support of our funders and partners. For their continued funding and partnership, and believing in us, we remain grateful.

In the year under review, our funder and partner organisations have included:

The Spiritans, Medaille Trust, Fare Share, HEAP (Highfield Eco-Allotment Project), parishes within the diocese especially from St. Anne and St Brigid's parish, Ancoats, Our Lady of Dolours Kersal, St Ann', Stretford, the University of Salford Chaplaincy, St Mary's Horwich, St Joseph the worker parish Irlam, and our Lady of Grace, Prestwich.

Many schools have also been very generous in their donations of money, clothes, food stuffs and support especially , Blessed Thomas High School Altrincham, St Ambrose preparatory school, Altrincham, St Mary and Philip Neri, Radcliff, St. George's high school, Walkden, Salford and St. Joseph high School, Horwich.

Freedom from Torture (Formerly Medical Foundation), Christian Brothers, Edmund Rice foundation, Just Youth / CHRISP, Rainbow Haven, Caritas diocese of Salford, Mary Strand Trust, St Vincent De Paul society, Churches Together Chislehurst

Other partners include the national organisation Freedom from Torture (FFT), Primary Care psychology services, crisis mental health teams and primary care mental health services.

GCS Support Services, 4CT, ZEST, Waitrose, Manchester Mental Health and Social Care Trust, Greater Manchester Centre for Voluntary Organisations, Eastland Homes, Legal Aid Service Protection of Human Rights, British Red Cross, Greater Manchester Immigration Aid Unit, Trussel Trust Food Bank, Manchester College, The Prince's Trust, Refugee Action, TS4SE, Trafford Rape Crisis Centre, Manchester Metropolitan Police.

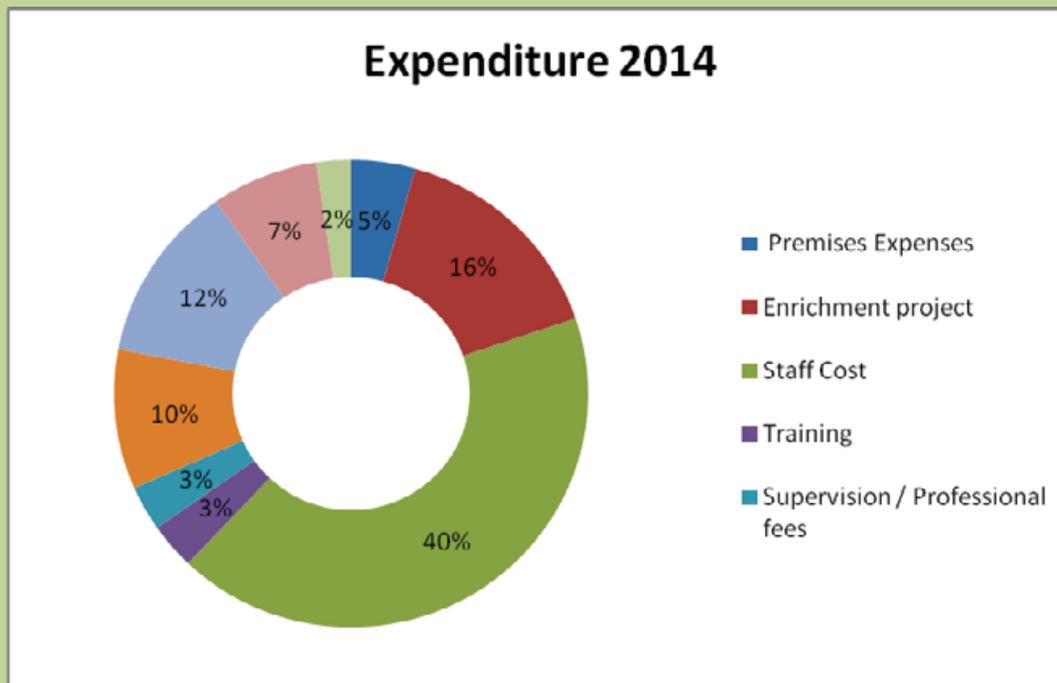
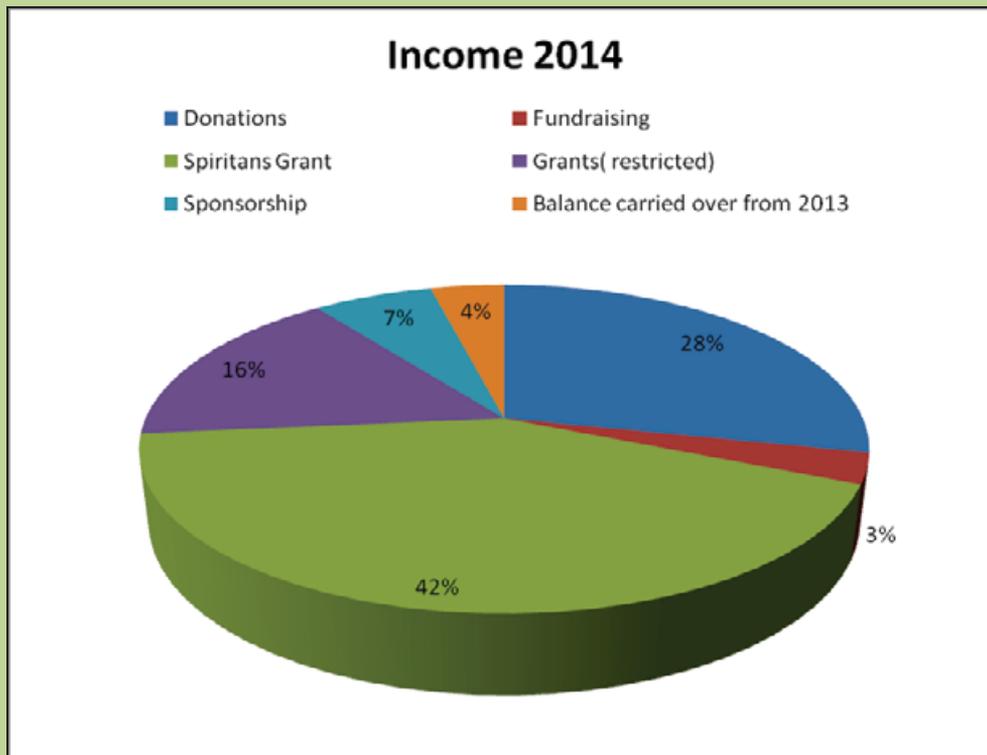
These well established organisations demonstrate the reputable value of Revive and the quality of services we provide to adults with mental health problems who have suffered or been affected by torture and various forms of trauma in their countries of origin. We regularly work alongside statutory mental health services and in partnership with external organisations to access a range of expertise.

Intercultural exchange programme

Revive in partnership with Sparkpro of Israel, established an intercultural programme, where Revive and Sparkpro participate in exchange programme. This year, it was Sparkpro's turn to visit and have a feel of life and culture in the United Kingdom. They visited a lot of places and community projects within Manchester and London. They went back fulfilled and gained a better knowledge of the United Kingdom.



Financial Information



REVIVE

Supporting Refugees & People seeking Asylum

187 Grey Mare Lane

Beswick. Manchester. M11 3ND

We need your support.

Do you have:

- Time to give as a volunteer
- Toiletries
- Dried and tinned foods eg.
- Rice, oil, pasta, noodles, tinned tomatoes, beans, tuna, corned beef.
- Household items
- Spare computers
- Monetary donations



Contact: Kenneth Okoli
Telephone: 0161 223 5668
Email: info@revive-uk.org

Main office

Monday – Friday – 9:00am – 5:00pm

Revive: 187 Grey Mare Lane, Beswick, Manchester M11 3ND.

Tel: 0161 223 5668

Fax: 0161 2239195

Email: info@revive-uk.org

Web: www.revive-uk.org

Advice Service/ Drop-in

Beswick

Tuesday – 11:00am-4:00pm (no appointment needed)

St Brigid's Parish Hall, Grey Mare Lane, Beswick, Manchester M11 3ND

Tel: 07500 662 596

Salford

Wednesday – 10:00am – 4:00pm

Spiritane Centre, Just Youth, North Allerton Road, Lower Kersal, Salford M7 3TP.

Tel: 07500 662 595

Enrichment Projects

Women's Group

Monday 1pm-3pm @ St Brigid'S Parish hall

Grey Mare Lane, Beswick, Manchester M11 3ND.

Allotment Project

Tuesday 10:30am-2.30pm @ 187 Grey Mare Lane, Beswick, Manchester. M11 3ND

Campaign/Advocacy

Friday 3pm – 5pm @ St Brigid'S Parish hall

Grey Mare Lane, Beswick, Manchester M11 3ND.