



Octavia Foundation



Octavia Foundation Impact Report 2017



WELCOME

"Welcome to the Octavia Foundation Impact Report for 2017. Following on from our tenth anniversary, our work this year has supported over 2,000 people in central and west London and in this report we share some of the highlights. If you would like to learn more about any aspect of our work please do contact us."

Gwen Godrey, Chair of Trustees

FIVE HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2017

- ★ OPENING OUR NEW INTERGENERATIONAL HUB, **THE REED**
- ★ EXPANDING OUR OLDER PEOPLE'S PROGRAMME WITH **MORE SOCIAL ACTIVITIES**
- ★ THE FANTASTIC **CONTRIBUTION FROM 130 VOLUNTEERS** INVOLVED ACROSS OUR PROJECTS
- ★ LAUNCHING OCTAVIA'S BETTER LIVES COMMUNITY FUND: **20 SMALL CHARITIES SUPPORTED TO PROVIDE BETTER LIVES FOR LOCAL PEOPLE**
- ★ **133 CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE INVOLVED IN OUR DIGITAL MEDIA PROJECT 'WAKING THE DEAD'**

Our projects



YOUNG PEOPLE'S PROJECTS

Over the course of the year the Octavia Foundation's digital youth club in Pimlico, Base@theRiver, had almost 1,700 engagements with children and young people. Situated in an area where 70% of households are classed as deprived and 40% of children are eligible for free school meals, our youth programmes offer a creative, supportive and safe outlet with a healthy dinner at every session at no cost to members.

186 children and young people were involved across Westminster and Kensington and Chelsea in our digital media projects. 'YO! London', a photo documentary programme, was showcased at Tate Britain at an event supported and attended by celebrated photographer Rankin. Another project, 'Waking the Dead', focussed on the history of Kensal Green Cemetery, with participants creating the UK's first cemetery tour app along with two films.



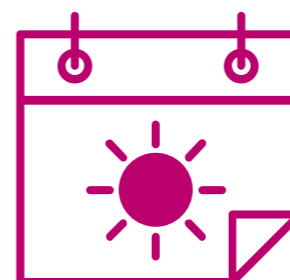
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children and young people supported during course of year



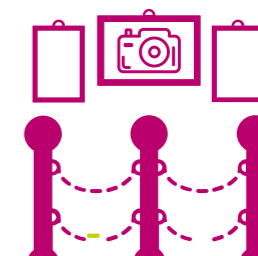
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children and young people involved in our digital media project 'Waking the Dead'



46

children took part in the Base@theRiver summer programme, taking part in an exciting calendar of trips and activities



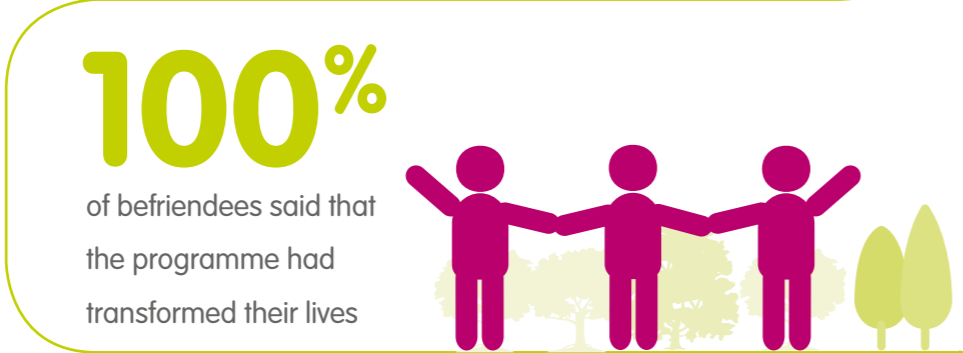
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children and young people took part in YO! London, showcased at Tate Britain



"I am thrilled to support the Octavia Foundation's YO! London project. As a working class kid from Scotland I know all about the barriers that these kids face today. We need projects like this one that inspire young people of all backgrounds. It's an honour to be involved."

Rankin, Photographer,
speaking at YO! London



“Khilna has become a close part of my life. I no longer have to spend my birthday on my own. I was isolated and alone, without friends or family. Now I have a friend who cares for me.”

**Jacqueline,
Octavia befriender**



OLDER PEOPLE'S PROJECTS

130 guests enjoyed a deluxe Christmas party

The demand for our work with older people continues to grow and we offer befriending support throughout Westminster and Kensington and Chelsea, where 50% of people over 60 live alone. The Foundation organises weekly friendship visits to older, vulnerable and isolated individuals, providing companionship and encouraging them to socialise and be more active.

We have grown our programme of social and cultural events, which include an annual Christmas Party and Summer Tea Dance, and successfully piloted a weekly peer-to-peer support coffee morning. A trip to the Royal Albert Hall in September was the first time one service user had left the house in two years.



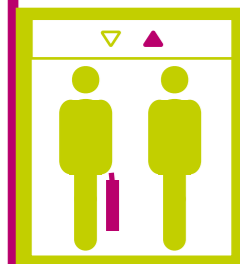
Guests enjoying a tea dance at Grosvenor Estate's 'Summer in the Square'

51 Learn2Earn participants



26 tenants supported into work

15 Learn2Earn participants supported into volunteering



EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING

Over the course of the year we launched 'Learn2Earn' – a Big Lottery funded partnership with Blenheim, a drug and alcohol support service. This is an employment access and volunteering programme for people across the boroughs of Hammersmith and Fulham, Westminster and Kensington and Chelsea who are struggling to find work. Additionally, our 'Tenants into Work' programme continued to support Octavia residents find employment and our commitment to apprenticeships and internships led to the employment of three apprentices to assist the Foundation's programmes.



'It might sound OTT but Learn2Earn has changed my life. I have faced my fears and gained new skills...I have a lot of self worth now; If I compare myself to a year ago I have come so far with my small goals and my confidence has grown. I feel excited to get up in the morning and give something back to the community I am part of.'

Jude,
Learn2Earn participant and Octavia Volunteer



VOLUNTEERING

As in previous years, we owe a debt of gratitude to our volunteers who have given up their time in support of our work (including befriending, shops, fundraising and events) throughout the year. We are also grateful to our corporate volunteers, including representatives from Grosvenor Estates, Harrods, John Lewis Partnership, Sainsbury's and the Cadogan Estate.



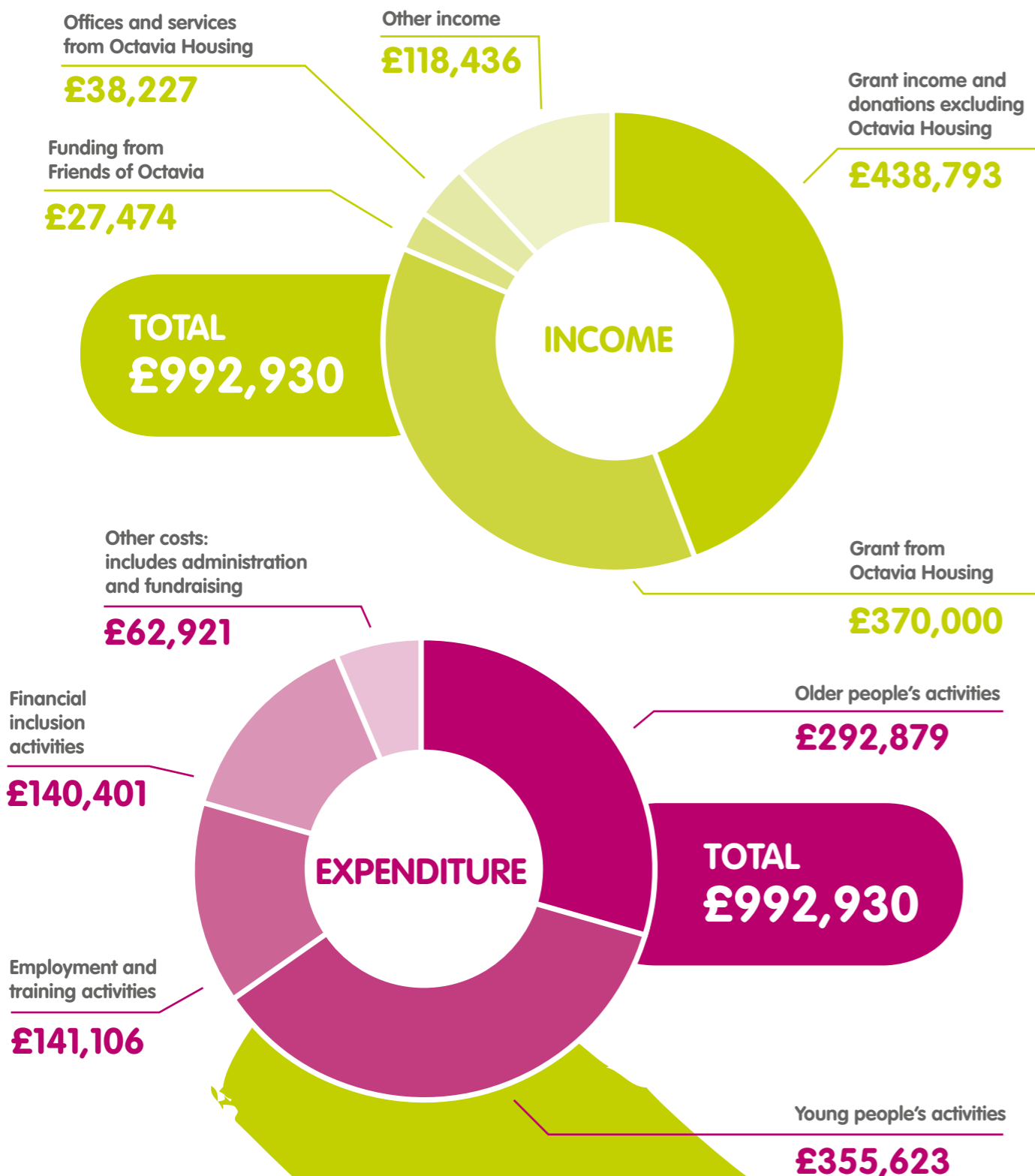
130
volunteers



5,500
hours of support

OUR FUNDING CAME FROM ...

Over the year we received key funding support from Octavia, as well as The Friends of Octavia, Heritage Lottery Fund and Big Lottery Fund. Other funders included the John Lyon's Charity, Westminster Foundation, M&G Investments, Cadogan Estates and John Lewis Partnership. We are grateful to members of the Octavia Circle for their regular donations, and to all other companies, individuals, trusts and foundations for their support.




Our future plans



"We are proud of the work we have achieved and our impact over the last year. However, we know there are more people in need and we want to do more to help. We have expanded our befriending service and launched Base@TheReed, a digital media youth club at The Reed, Octavia's new intergenerational hub in north Kensington. We have also piloted a grants programme supporting small local charities in Westminster and Kensington and Chelsea. We have plans to significantly increase the impact of our work with local communities over the next three years and we look forward to working with our supporters to enable this growth. If you would like to know more, or to help in any way, then I would love to hear from you"

Reena Mukherji
Octavia Foundation Director

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To find out more about the work of the Octavia Foundation, our charity shops, or how to get involved, please visit our website:

www.octaviafoundation.org.uk

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