

THE LESBIAN & GAY FOUNDATION

IMPACT REPORT 08:09



The Lesbian &
Gay Foundation

Ending Homophobia,
Empowering People
www.lgf.org.uk

Reg. Charity No. 1070904



WE'RE HERE IF YOU NEED US!



Ending homophobia in the 21st century

For almost ten years, The Lesbian & Gay Foundation has been serving the lesbian, gay and bisexual communities in the North West.

“The work you do every day to champion the rights of lesbian, gay and bisexual people has helped to make this country one of the most progressive in the world.”

Michael Foster MP, Minister for Equality, July 2009

WHAT IS LGF?

The Lesbian and Gay Foundation (LGF) is a lesbian, gay and bisexual charity. Our mission is “Ending Homophobia and Empowering People”; and since 2000 we have been working with LGB people and organisations in the North West, the UK and around the world; empowering strong, well informed LGB communities to develop and grow.

OUR VISION

We believe in a fair and equal society where all lesbian, gay and bisexual people can achieve their full potential

OUR VALUES

Innovation. Diversity. Excellence. Fairness. Integrity.

OUR AIMS

- **Supporting Individuals**
The LGF will support lesbian, gay and bisexual people to increase their skills, knowledge, and self-confidence to improve health and well-being.
- **Strengthening Communities**
The LGF will work in partnership to build a strong, cohesive and influential lesbian, gay and bisexual community sector.
- **Promoting Equality**
The LGF will promote awareness, visibility and inclusion of lesbian, gay and bisexual people to achieve full equality.
- **Developing Excellence**
The LGF will continuously develop its people, systems and procedures to deliver and sustain excellence for all of our beneficiaries

The Lesbian & Gay Foundation would like to thank the following volunteers for the photography used throughout this annual review: Paul Jones, Stuart Rainsbury and Sarah Quinn. The Lesbian & Gay Foundation work with a wide range of other organisations. We thank them all for their continued support. For more information, visit our website at: www.lgf.org.uk



The Lesbian & Gay Foundation

Ending Homophobia, Empowering People

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Supporting individuals.

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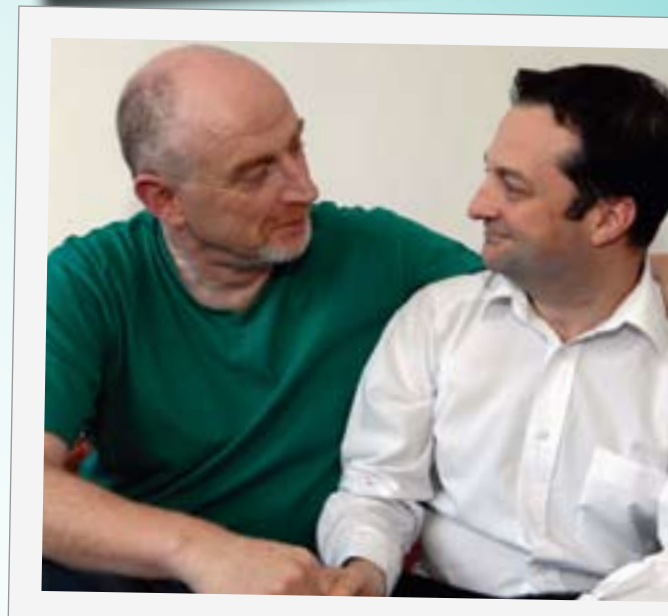
For the last ten years we have been supporting a wide number of people on a day to day basis. The LGF provides information, services, advice and resources enabling individuals to make informed decisions about their health and wellbeing.

We encourage the health and wellbeing of all LGB people and recommend that they access our diverse range of groups. The LGF works on projects and develops strategies to highlight the areas of LGB need in the UK, to improve the quality of life for all LGB people. Also, through our communication network and resources we promote positive representations of LGB life and raise awareness of LGB issues and events worldwide, encouraging individuals to realise that they are an important part of this global community

- In 2008/9, 379,015 people accessed the LGF via our services, resources, magazine and other printed resources (excluding safer sex packs).
- Through providing safer sex packs, we enabled people to have safer sex over 540,000 times last year throughout Greater Manchester, and beyond.
- Through our Helpline and email support over 2,000 people were supported and informed remotely via these services.
- We provided almost 1,000 hours of counselling; helping to improve the mental health of over 500 LGB people across Greater Manchester and the North West.
- During 1,422 visits to our group work sessions, people were able to explore coming out, meet others and gain vital support and information in a safe and supportive environment.

- LGF is a key partner in the national Community HIV & Aids Prevention Strategy (CHAPS) promoting HIV prevention initiatives within the LGB community.
- We helped the campaign to reduce sexually transmitted infections and HIV infection by opening the doors to our unique, community based outreach sexual health clinic to 167 men.
- Almost 3,000 people walked through our doors to receive crisis intervention, work in partnership or simply to ask for information, advice or training.
- We published two new sexual health resources - Sex Education (A guide to the most common sexually transmitted infections for men and women) and Sex Bomb (A guide to HIV for men who have sex with men)
- We introduced a Comic Relief funded young people's mental health project.
- Our three advice surgeries continued to be successful and served over 100 people last year (Police – 50, Housing – 45 and Legal – 24).
- LGF continues to facilitate therapeutic social activities at monthly group meetings with patients at Rampton Hospital in Nottinghamshire.
- In January 2009, in partnership with The Ramblers Association, LGF started a brand new group to encourage LGB people to get walking. Our group Gay City Strollers had over 30 members and continues to attract new members as well as inspire people to lead their own walking groups.
- We successfully designed and bid for a major project to support LGBT carers, Caring with Confidence, launched in spring 2009.

For more information about our Free Gay Men's Safer Sex Scheme, sexual health work, counseling programme and Caring with Confidence please check out: www.lgf.org.uk



Strengthening communities.



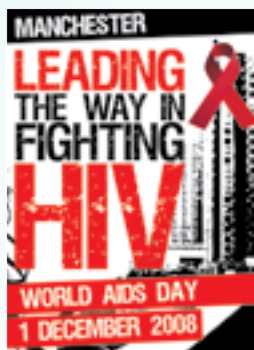
The LGF will work in partnership to build a strong, cohesive and influential lesbian, gay and bisexual community sector.

- In 2008/09 LGF with the support of European Human Rights Commission were able to deliver targeted events at various sections of our diverse communities including sexuality awareness training sessions provided for staff working with disabled people.
- In June 2008 Manchester Cathedral played host to 'Celebrate' a special event to support LGBT people of faith in the presence of The Rt Rev Nigel McCulloch, the Bishop of Manchester .Over 200 people attended.
- We are a leading member of Manchester HIV partnership which promotes World Aids Day on 1st December and helps to inform our communities about the importance of HIV awareness
- In February 2009 LGF, in partnership with Lancashire Sexuality Equality Forum & Cumbria & Lancashire Sexual Health Network, held a unique intergenerational event in Preston. 'Through the Ages' brought together LGBT people of different ages to share thoughts and experiences.
- In February 2009 The Lesbian and Gay Foundation launched a ground-breaking new piece of work - "Breaking the Cycle" – a five year strategy underpinning the development of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and trans sector in the North West.
- In March 2009 the third annual Sugar & Spice lesbian and bisexual women's conference was held and for the first time was a weekend event, attracting women from all over the UK.
- In March 2009 a special event was held to celebrate the regions LGB Black & Minority ethnic communities. This was the first event of its kind and attracted much support from the UK's black LGBT community.
- In 2008 we launched "Part of the Picture", a major national five year project funded by the Big Lottery, to research the drug and alcohol usage of LGB people, undertaken in partnership with the University of Central Lancashire



The LGF works with partner organisations to strengthen the LGBT community to make sure we are in the best possible position to lobby for equality.

We campaign for government and public sector organisations to recognise and celebrate the achievements of LGB individuals and groups; highlighting to the wider community the positive contributions that the LGB communities make to society. The LGF brings communities together and raises awareness of LGB issues through our events, campaigns and resources. Also, the charity provides invaluable support to other LGB communities in the North West who find it difficult to access information and support.



For more information about Breaking the Cycle and Part of the Picture please checkout: www.lgf.org.uk

Promoting equality.

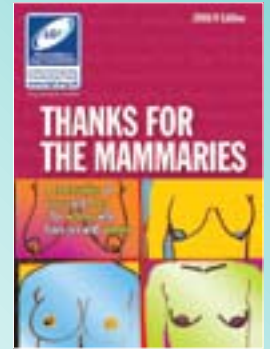
The LGF will promote awareness, visibility and inclusion of lesbian, gay and bisexual people to achieve full equality.

The LGF campaigns for LGB equality and lobbies for legislation and public services to meet LGB peoples specific needs. The charity works to promote the visibility of LGB issues and highlights inequality in the wider community. We highlight the prejudice and discrimination present in our society and work to change attitudes, encourage understanding and end homophobia.

- In 2008/9, The LGF's website - www.lgf.org.uk - continued to be an increasingly significant resource, providing news, information and advice to people not only regionally, but indeed nationally and internationally. With content developed on a daily basis, the number of unique users more than doubled during the year to over 138,000.
- LGF's profile has been significantly raised internationally in the last year with thousands of new people visiting our web site and commenting on articles. Hopefully we will have made many friends in the blogosphere, and begun some relationships which can be built upon in the future to benefit the LGF, its service users and the wider LGBT community.
- We produced and distributed over 180,000 copies of outnorthwest our regional community magazine which continued to highlight issues affecting LGB people, including personal stories on sexism, body image, serving in the armed forces, domestic abuse, and celebrating being black and gay. A new regular feature on physical health, sports and LGB sporting groups was also included.
- We produced a further 192,831 resources including: Girls On Pop – aimed at reducing alcohol consumption amongst

lesbian women, Pocket Village – a 3D map of Manchester's Gay Village, and We are Family – considering the range of parenting options for LGB people.

- We continued our focus on sexual health, including specific campaigns on syphilis and chlamydia, joint work with the Bears and Skins community groups, and a redesign of our men's CLDS scheme as well as our new women's sexual health packs
- Due to overwhelming demand we secured funding to re-print our trailblazing resource for lesbian and bisexual women. 'Beating About The Bush' has become our most in-demand resource to date.
- Our reach across the North West region was considerably expanded, with the number of distribution points (including colleges, GPs, bars and clubs, libraries, clinics, youth clubs and other venues), increasing by 26% to 465 venues.
- Exceeding Expectations, Manchester's multi-agency partnership to end homophobia through education, produced a resource for young people in schools and a total of 8 newsletters to date that have reached every adult working in secondary and primary schools across Manchester.
- In May 2008 we hosted our first ever Walk against Homophobia in Manchester City Centre with over 200 people walking through the streets led by our patron Antony Cotton. The event was an enormous success.
- Following a spate of homophobic incidents and attacks, we instigated the start of our 'Enough is Enough' campaign, engaging with the local community to collect their experiences of discrimination and hate crime. A survey of over 200 residents was also undertaken in partnership with Greater Manchester Police.



Reg. Charity No. 1070904



YES!
I want to help end homophobia

Developing excellence.

The LGF will continuously develop its people, systems, and procedures to deliver and sustain excellence for all of our beneficiaries.

Standing Order Form

Account to be debited (Your Bank Details)

Bank Name _____

Bank Branch _____

Bank Postcode

Sort Code - -

Account Number

Account Name _____

Payment Details

Donation amount £

Date of first payment / /

When paid (please tick box) Monthly (to be paid until further notice) One-off donation

Your contact information

Full Name _____

Address Line 1 _____

Address Line 2 _____

Address Line 3 _____

Town/City _____

County _____

Postcode

Telephone Number _____

Email Address _____

Please note that the LGF will use this contact information only, and it will not be shared with any third parties without first requesting your permission.

Signed

Customer signature(s) _____

Date / /

Beneficiary Details (Our Bank Details)

Bank Unity Trust Bank plc

Branch Details Nine Brindley Place
Birmingham
B1 2HB

Sort Code 0 8 6 0 0 1

Account Number 2 0 2 1 2 0 4 3

Beneficiary Name LGF Supporters Account

The Lesbian & Gay Foundation, 4th Floor, Princess House, 105-107 Princess Street, Manchester M1 6DD Tel: 0161 235 8035

Thank you.

Please detach this panel and post to:

FREEPOST RLZG-SLUJ-RXKJ
The Lesbian & Gay Foundation,
4th Floor, Princess House,
105-107 Princess Street, Manchester, M1 6DD.



Using our finite resources in the most effective way to develop the organisation, has helped to build on the very foundations that the LGF needs to continue to develop all its areas of work. We work toward a future where LGB people enjoy equal rights and do not live in fear of homophobia.

- The LGF offers exciting volunteering opportunities which enable our volunteers develop new skills, gain experience, build for the future, and help the LGF make a difference to the LGB community.
- We rely on the energy and initiative of fundraisers at work, in bars and clubs and in the community to continue to be able to do our work.
- Fundraising is fun at the LGF with a wide range of social events including roller discos, burlesques, speed dating, and a host of other novel ideas all aimed

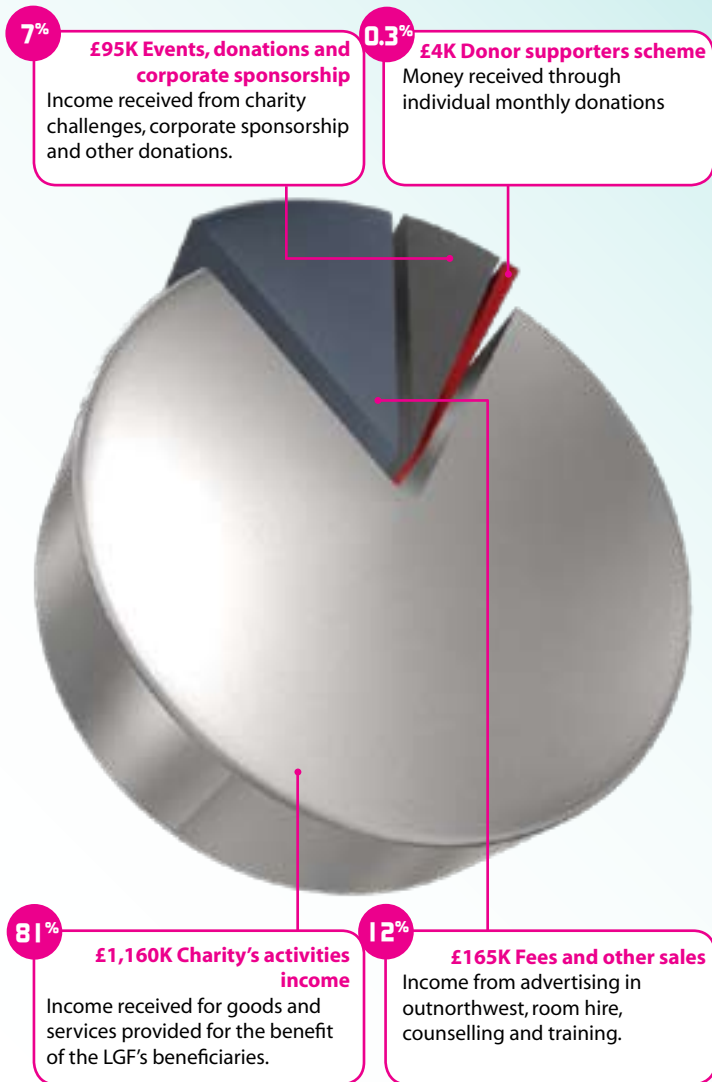
at raising much needed funds for the charity.

- In the last year our Charity Challenges have involved our volunteers and staff, friends and supporters running, cycling, parachuting, mountain climbing, and walking against homophobia – to name just a few!
- We currently have over 200 dedicated volunteers, many of whom are members of the LGF, who provide over 6,000 hours of vital volunteering across all our services.
- We launched 'LGF Design', extending our design services to a range of other organisations, including George House Trust, Healthy Schools Manchester, Brook, and Jigsaw (Stonewall Housing) thus bringing much needed revenue into the organisation. We continued to provide articles for other publications and continued to be significant commentators on LGB issues in the UK media.
- We made significant steps towards the launch of our new integrated first point of call for service users.

The Lesbian & Gay Foundation is dedicated to helping support all lesbian, gay and bisexual people. But we can't do it without your support!

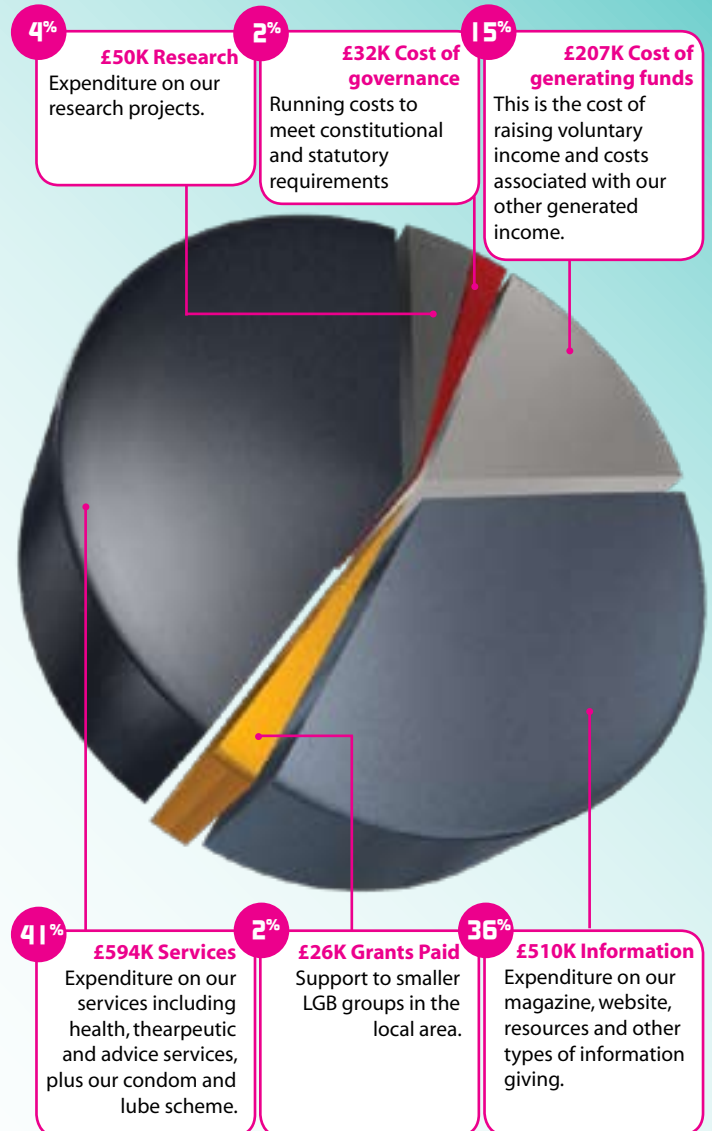
Where our resources came from 2008/09*

The Lesbian & Gay Foundation cannot exist without continuing financial investment from a range of Funders, grant makers and donors. We would like to thank every one of them for their vital support.



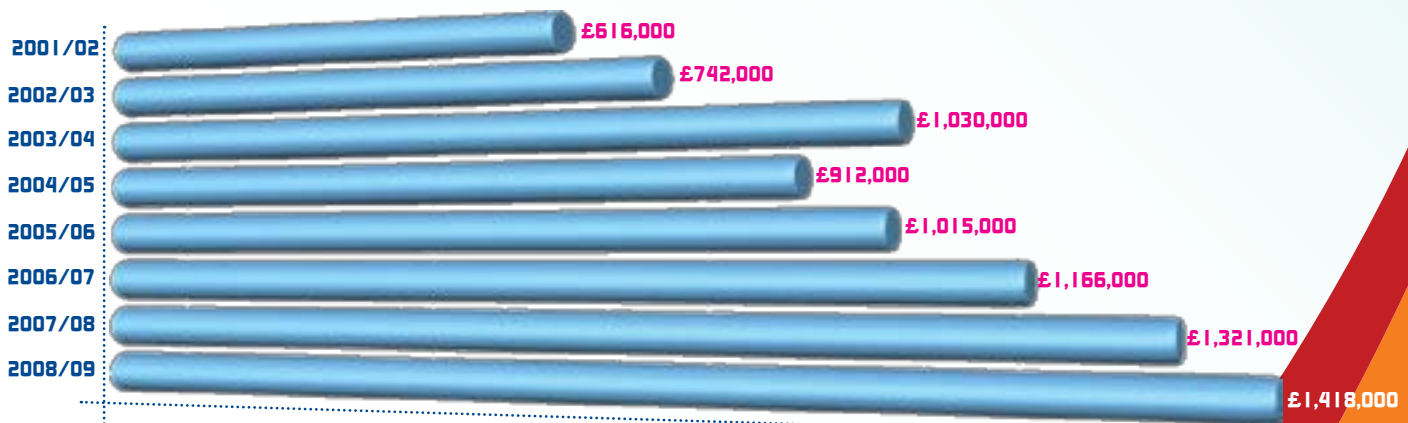
How we used our funding 2008/09*

Over 80% of our expenditure was spent on delivering our strategic programmes - services, information and research. Our largest areas of expenditure continue to be in delivering first class and accessible community, health and support services and producing high quality information resources.



Expenditure 2001-2009

Over the past eight years, £8.2m has been spent on 'Ending Homophobia, Empowering People'



* The Lesbian & Gay Foundation audited statutory accounts will be ratified by the members at their Annual General Meeting in September 2009. A full set of these accounts will be available after this date by writing to The Company Secretary, LGF, Princess House, 105-107 Princess Street, Manchester M1 6DD, or emailing info@lgf.org.uk

Our impact...



David McGovern
Chair of the Board of
Trustees



Paul Martin
Chief Executive

In 2010 The Lesbian & Gay Foundation will celebrate its 10th anniversary

In the last ten years we have endured a wide variety of challenges, many of which will continue. We have been helped by our supporters, funders and friends to make sure that we are fighting together to end homophobia, not just at home but also empowering others to challenge injustice and prejudice wherever it appears.

All of our principal activities support our objects, mission and vision. Our services include a wide range of community, health and support services. A broad community programme incorporates a number of groups that are run by our staff and volunteers at Princess House for an ever increasing number of lesbian, gay and bisexual people. Our health services continue to have a strong focus around HIV prevention and sexual health through our Condom and Lube Distribution Scheme, Outreach & HIV clinic and education and training. Other health and support services include a counselling service, helpline advice service along with newer services such as our substance misuse project, carers project and young people's project. During the last year, two of our major projects have continued to be successful- Exceeding Expectations, the multi-agency schools project running across Manchester secondary schools and The Rainbow Partnership, a coalition of LGBT groups across the North West of England.

We continue to produce a wide variety of information and advice services to support and reinforce our objectives. These include outnorthwest, the free bi-monthly magazine, distributed throughout the North West, which addresses a wide range of health, community and other issues. Our website and numerous information resources provide relevant and up to date information and advice to lesbian, gay and bisexual people and their families and friends. Internal and external training courses also reach a wide variety of people and organisations.

To ensure lesbian, gay and bisexual people's voices are heard, the LGF is represented on a wide number of local, regional and national bodies including the North West Equality and Diversity Group, Greater Manchester Sexual Health Network and the Department of Health Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Advisory Group, amongst many others.

To deliver all of these activities the LGF is reliant on the support and enthusiasm of our volunteers. We are currently supported by over 200 dedicated volunteers, many of whom are members of the LGF, who provide over 6,000 hours of vital volunteering across all our services.

The next five years will see continued growth of the work and influence of the LGF. Our revised business planning process has been led by the establishment of our four strategic goals which, linked to our vision, mission and values will drive forward the LGF's agenda and priorities for the medium to long term for the years ahead. We are developing a number of new initiatives and a comprehensive review and development plan to increase the quality, delivery and reach of a number of our existing services.

The challenges ahead are numerous and as always we could not do what we do without your support.

We would like to thank everyone who has supported the Lesbian & Gay Foundation in any way, shape or form in the last year and throughout the last ten years.

We will continue our fight to end homophobia and we know that our supporters will continue to be crucial not only to our development, but to the long term sustainability of the LGBT sector and of full equality and inclusion for all lesbian, gay and bisexual people throughout the North West and beyond.

Thank You!



The Lesbian & Gay Foundation would like to offer its sincere thanks to everyone who has supported our work over the last 12 months. Please visit www.lgf.org.uk for a full list of all our supporters.