

# Impact Report

**April 2020 – March 2021**



# A note from the CEO



DAN HOPE

## 2020-21 has certainly been different!

For some of our partner organisations, lockdowns due to contagious diseases aren't new, but a global pandemic is a new one for all of us. For SFAC, it meant moving everything online and no overseas visits for the first time in 19 years! Instead, online meetings and training have been the new normal (prepare to see lots of Zoom call screenshots in the pages that follow!). We've all adapted and new possibilities have arisen. Possibilities like running training sessions with people from all across the globe at the same time, enriching the learning through the sharing of experiences from different cultures and contexts. We have also piloted employing local practitioners in other countries on a contract basis to increase the diversity of our team and our ability to understand and respond to local needs. We are working to expand this part of our team over the coming years.

Through the testing times, we have been even more than usually grateful for every donor who has stuck with us. (An extra special thank you goes to those who cheerfully endured the hassle of moving their funds to a new donation platform for us!). We are also very grateful to those who have fundraised for us – from cake bakes to skateboard rides, running every day for a month and marathons. It has all made a big difference to children all over the world. And it's meant we're still here despite all the unexpected challenges of the pandemic.

When we get messages saying,

*'working with SFAC was the best decision the charity made,'*

we know that, together with our donors and partner organisations, we've made a real difference. This report demonstrates our impact from the 2020-2021 financial year. We're also in the process of adding case studies of some of our long term work to our website. Keep an eye out for them to see how your support of our work has made a lasting difference.

Hopefully, 2021-22 will start to see a return to us all feeling and being safer and able to connect in person. Separation from our family, friends and colleagues has been a challenge and can help us empathise with the experiences many children feel living away from their families.

Thank you for your support and interest in SFAC.

**Dan Hope**

# Caring for children can be hard!

Caring for children who are vulnerable due to abuse, exploitation, or abandonment can be even harder.

Globally millions of adults with big hearts and good intentions are involved in caring for and protecting the estimated 1 billion children at risk of harm and abuse<sup>1</sup>.

Sounds great, right!?



The problem is many of those adults have had little to no training in what children need to be and feel safe, to find a sense of belonging and to thrive.

That's where SFAC comes in. Our team of experienced, qualified social workers, psychologists and therapists and lawyers and judges train and support adults involved in the care and protection of children, turning good intentions into good practise so children everywhere thrive.

We provide training, mentoring and advice to organisations and practitioners\* to educate, equip and empower organisations with the knowledge, skills and resources to achieve the best practice.

(\* You'll hear us use "practitioners" a lot. Not sure what we mean by it?! Here's a quick explanation: we're referring to anyone working with or making decisions on behalf of children who are vulnerable and their families and carers. This might include carers, social workers, caseworkers, judges, lawyers, psychologists, youth workers or government officials and more...)

## Reference:

1. UNICEF, (2020) Goal Area 3: Every child is protected from violence and exploitation. Global Annual Results Report 2019  
<https://www.unicef.org/media/76921/file/Global-annual-results-report-2019-goal-area-3.pdf>

# What we stand for

**Vision:** (Our vision is **for** children)

- For every child to be and feel safe.
- For every child to feel a sense of connection with their carers, in their environment, culture and community; to feel like they belong.
- For every child to thrive.

**Mission:** (Our mission is **with** adults)

- To educate, equip and empower adults involved in the care and protection of children all over the world by providing practical high quality training and mentoring from qualified and experienced practitioners from social work, therapeutic care and family law.
- We do this in partnership with local practitioners using our combined knowledge, skills and resources to make positive changes for children.

# What we believe

## Values

These three values guide what we do and how we do it. They form part of the standards we hold ourselves accountable to and check our work against.

## Being accessible

We believe everyone involved in the care and protection of children deserves to have access to practical, high-quality training so they can give the children in their care the best chance to thrive.

Access to training should not be impacted by location, financial capacity, educational background, language spoken or literacy levels, faith or cultural background, or by the type of organisation (charity, community, government or judiciary.)



## Working in partnership

We believe our expertise and experience can be of value whilst also acknowledging its limitations and the expertise and experience of those we work with. For this reason, we believe in working in partnership with those who work directly with children and families.

It is the combined knowledge, skills and resources of everyone working together that are most likely to result in the development of the effective systems and good practice needed for children to thrive.

## Safe, effective, sustainable change

We believe safe, effective and sustainable change takes time. Cutting corners or moving too quickly can put children at risk of harm. We believe change needs to happen at the pace of the child, according to their needs, not the needs of the organisation.

Professional support is more effective when it's available for a sustained period of time and includes a combination of training (foundational knowledge and skills), mentoring (application of knowledge and skills into everyday practice) consultation (assistance in evaluating the current situation and creating a plan for future improvements). This allows practitioners to be properly equipped and empowered to support their own communities by providing safe, individualised care to every child.

# Our History

Since 2002 SFAC has worked in over 45 countries. Organisations have ranged from the smallest community organisation looking to support children and families in their local area to the biggest international charities, national governments and judiciaries.

Our work covers many areas including training organisations on best practices in foster care, developing child protection and court systems for national governments, and providing therapeutic courses to practitioners to enable them to support children who have suffered trauma just to name a few.

We have also changed our legal status from an unincorporated charity to an incorporated charity (Charitable Incorporated Organisation or CIO) to provide greater protection to trustees. This has involved a change of charity number but in every other way, the charity is the same.





# How we work

**Qualified and experienced practitioners provide:**

Advice and consultation to organisations to review current practice or identify areas for future development

Advocacy and awareness raising in what children need from those providing care and protection

Advice and consultation to organisations to review current practice or identify areas for future development

UK Study Visits  
(or visits to other countries to learn from each other)

Mentoring with practitioners

Training Workshops

Online Resources and Guides

Online courses with certificates including UK college accreditation.

Subsidies are available to eligible organisations to ensure training and support are accessible to all.

All of our work is grounded in research and extensive practice experience.

There is no one model or method of good practice. Instead, we guide organisations through the process of developing their own solutions based on core concepts and principles – solutions that are appropriate for their context, culture and resources.

**Just as every child is unique, so, too, is every organisation.  
The way they care for and protect children needs to be too.**

# The Year in Numbers

## Project Work

SFAC partnered with  
**38** organisations in  
**22** countries.

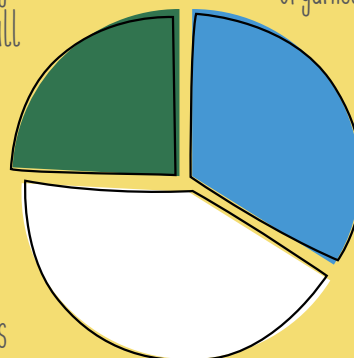
**76%** of the organisations  
were small charities  
(NGOs — Non Government  
Organisations), all of whom received  
subsidies to access our support.

## Subsidies

24% of organisations  
paid SFAC full  
costs

34% of  
organisations received  
a full subsidy

42% of  
organisations  
received a partial subsidy



**100%** of organisations were NGOs

This is unusual for us and we believe it is a result of government and judicial attention being directed to COVID19 activities. We expect more governments and judiciaries to be involved again from 2022 onwards.

## Countries where we worked



# Highlights

CEO, Dan Hope was a named contributor in the [Global Social Work Alliance Best Practice Guide to Supervision](#).



SFAC was invited to participate in the **Global Church Pledge** to see children thriving in safe and loving families. Our founder, Mick, has a cameo appearance in the video [Global Church Pledge](#).



Our first two **Protective Behaviours Foundation Courses** were a big success. Thanks to **Enzygo** whose generous financial support allowed several scholarships and subsidies to be given out enabling practitioners to attend who otherwise would not be able to afford it. 27 participants have completed the course from 15 different countries.

Some of those participants went on to complete a certificate level qualification and feedback from the accrediting college highlighted the quality of the work submitted, a reflection of the knowledge and skills of the trainer and the participants.

## Follow up **Protective Behaviours Power Hours**

have also proved to be a hit with people joining for guidance and support in applying their new knowledge and skills in their day to day work. These quarterly sessions are provided free of charge thanks to financial support from **The Handmaid Foundation**.



We consulted with **The Life Foundation, Romania** on their preventative support work with families who have children with disabilities to reduce the likelihood of admission into children's homes. As a result, they are revising the way they work and developing new plans for 2021 onwards.

**Testimonial:** "Really one of the best things we could have done for our charity." Dr Claire Wood, Trustee, The Life Foundation, Romania.

**Testimonial:** "Caitlin is an excellent teacher and the training was really great. What we learned from the training we will be able to roll out very simply; there's no requirement for a lot of fancy tools, PowerPoints or expensive manuals. I specifically remember Caitlin drawing a clock, a remote control and a person in relation to three time limit options and I've been able to use that with my employees and with kids that have aged out of children's homes as it was just such a simple concept and that Caitlin presented it super, super well." Jackie, Little Neighbours, Paraguay





Dan running a training session with one of the 1MillionHome teams.

We were invited by **The Salvation Army (Kenya and Philippines)** to review their proposals to transition to family care and provide guidance and support. This led to the completion of three reports for them.

SFAC was appointed to **1MillionHome's** group of technical advisors. In that role, we have been given the opportunity to support them in developing best practices in their transition from orphanages/ children's homes to family care

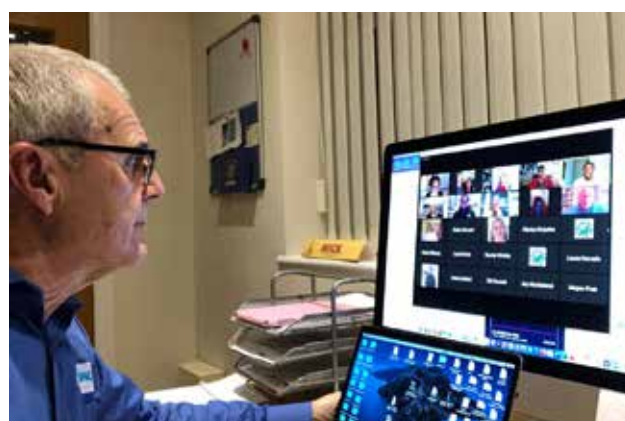
**Testimonial:** "Over the last year, SFAC has filled a critical role for what 1MILLIONHOME is able to do in global care reform...SFAC has provided integral counsel, training and strategy to our community of practice working on the frontlines of child welfare and protection.... We view SFAC as a key partner for 1MILLIONHOME going forward and anticipate tremendous global impact as they continue to provide these imperative services to 1MILLIONHOME and the partners throughout our community' Brandon Stiver, 1MH Director

We've provided ongoing mentoring to key members of the team at **Fape in Morocco**. This has helped to support their child protection and foster care work, and also included consulting on their proposal to create the first child protection system in the country.



Members of SFAC's team have presented at international conferences in **Europe, USA, Canada and Brazil**.

Mick's presentation at the **Rising Tides conference in the USA** resulted in SFAC being contacted to begin conversations about promoting change in Belize's care of children and a move away from children's homes towards family care.



We have also appreciated continued involvement with global network organisations including **Better Care Network, World Without Orphans (Global and Europe) and Faith to Action**.



**VCDF (Village Community Development Fund), Uganda**, is a community group of volunteers in West Uganda working with high numbers of children caring for themselves, children living with relatives who are struggling to manage the children's emotional and behavioural needs in their recovery from trauma, children with disabilities who are vulnerable to being abandoned or unable to access education, and children living on the streets. As part of our Local Practitioner pilot programme, Joseph Luganda, with supervision and support from Dan has been working with VCDF to help them develop a very low-cost kinship care support programme.

**Testimonial:** *"The current contribution of SFAC to VCDF....is indeed key in seeing every child, especially the needy, enjoy the full potential of every child's value and future aspirations. As VCDF team, we would like to thank the entire SFAC team for your contribution in enabling our activities. More especially for the financial facilitation that enabled the five days training. As a team, we would like to acknowledge the down to earth skills and knowledge transfer to VCDF team by Joseph Luganda."* Joseph Ayesiga, Director



Our founder, **Mick Pease's book, "Children Belong in Families"** was published in Burmese! The English version continues to sell well and receive encouraging feedback:

*"The title says it all and if you need persuading, or already are persuaded, this is a book that will inspire, inform and take you in the right direction. A must-read."* Richard, Leading Co-ordinator, European Facilitation Team at World Without Orphans

*"It's brilliant! I really enjoyed reading it and found it informative, encouraging and inspiring."* Rebecca Patterson, UK

*"I think this book is so brave and so necessary. Thank you for writing it. It is bold and compassionate and TRUE. Consider me one of many cheering you on as you continue to pioneer this important work!"* Julie, USA

Mick has worked closely with the team at **Little Neighbour in Paraguay** to help them develop a sustainable foster care programme. Other SFAC team members have also been involved in case consultations which contributed to a significant milestone – the first child in Paraguay to be adopted by their foster carers.

Monthly sessions with the Australian and Indian directors of **Offspring** involve consulting on cases to support their work with young people who have experienced sexual exploitation.

Our friends at **Global Child Advocates**, work in Thailand & Myanmar and posted these lovely words on their social media.

*‘Sometimes wanting to do the right thing isn’t quite enough...you just need to bring in an expert. You know what we mean, the person who can come in and make quick sense of the confusion and competing information and confidently recommend a clear path forward. That is who our friends at SFAC are.’*



**Testimonial:** *‘So great...loved it! A power hour of information that I think is going to be great in helping us move forward with the trainees (and staff). THANK YOU!’* Kristi Davidson, Founder & Director of Offspring.

## Other Achievements

### New Website

Our website has had a makeover. It’s still under construction and new pages are being added regularly with the aim of creating a more interactive site packed with helpful content for parents, carers, practitioners and organisations. You can check it out at [www.sfac.org.uk](http://www.sfac.org.uk)

### New Advisory Group

Our practitioner Advisory Group was set up to review and be involved in the development of all SFAC training materials. This helps to ensure our resources are sensitive to and relevant across, many cultures and contexts. The group comprises practitioners involved in the care and protection of children from around the world. You can find out who they are on our website [www.sfac.org.uk/our-people](http://www.sfac.org.uk/our-people).

### Excellence Award

We’re proud to have received the Quality Mark from Charity Excellence for governance in August 2020.





# So what's next for SFAC?!

## *We have big plans for the next financial year, including:*

- **Employing local practitioners in more countries** who will work under SFAC support and guidance
- Building **more online resources** to expand our reach and provide support to more organisations.
- Providing our services at **low to no cost** to as many organisations as we can.
- Building our **fundraising activities** to increase our income to support the expansions outlined above.

## *How you can get involved to change children's lives around the world by:*

- **Promoting SFAC** amongst your friends, family and colleagues
- **Connecting SFAC to organisations** or individuals you think might be interested in receiving our support.
- Taking part in our **Mile a Day Campaign** in May
- Holding a **fundraising activity** for SFAC at work or home
- Buying some delicious brownies or cookies from one of our newest small business partners in May or November **'Cake is the Answer'**
- Set up a regular **donation** at [www.sfac.org.uk/donate](http://www.sfac.org.uk/donate)
- **Encourage others** to donate
- Signing up to our **Good News & A Giggle** updates
- **Inviting us to speak** at a group, organisation, church or workplace.
- Buying or promoting Mick's book **'Children Belong in Families'**
- **Contact us** – we love hearing from our supporters and those interested in our work



# Our Team



MICK PEASE

Founder and Trainer in Social  
Work Practice and Advocacy.  
Part-Time



DAN HOPE

CEO and Trainer in Social Work  
Practice. Full-Time



DR. CAITLIN LANCE HOPE

Trainer in Therapeutic Services.  
Part-Time



RANJIT UPPAL

Legal Training. Volunteer



JOSEPH LUGANDA

Local Practitioner. Contractor



HANNAH PEASE

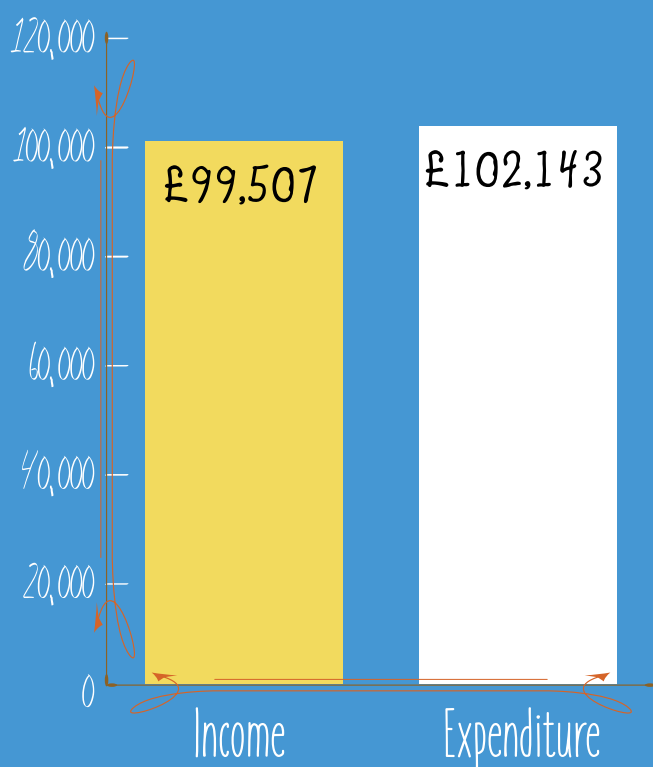
Fundraising. Part-Time

SFAC currently has the equivalent of two full-time staff. We are very grateful to our team of contractors and volunteers who we call on, on an “as and when needed” basis.



# Finances

## April 2020 to March 2021:



Our **income** and expenditure dropped by 33% on the previous financial year as a result of loss of fundraising activities and contracts suspended due to COVID19, as well as one major grant contribution dropping by 66%.

**Expenditure** covers all charitable activities and running costs of providing training, coaching and mentoring and subsidies to organisations.

The income this financial year was a mix of regular donations, grants, fundraising and organisations able to cover some or all of the expenses involved in their projects.

**This small loss was readily covered by savings.**

For further information on our finances, you can visit the Charity Commission website and search for SFAC.

Please be aware that we have been in the process of changing legal entity so the finances outlined above are a combination of SFAC 1095091 and SFAC 1186903. This process will be complete by the next financial year.

# Fundraising

We'd like to thank the following donors and fundraisers for their support during 2020-2021:

- Faith Up, Enzygo, & Handmaid Fund.
- Ranjit Uppal and Rob Fordyce for donning their running shoes and covering a huge number of miles between them all to raise much needed funds for our work.
- All who took part in, or donated in the 2.6 Challenge or attended the SFAC Virtual Quiz.
- Everyone who donated regularly or made a one-off contribution during this financial year.

## Thank you!

Without your support, we would not exist and wouldn't be able to provide accessible support to organisations all over the world.

## What do we do with your money?

Every penny we receive contributes to improving the care and protection of children all over the world.

It allows us to provide more subsidies to more organisations and more courses and support to those working with vulnerable children.

All of which means more children will have the opportunity to be and feel safe, develop a sense of belonging and have the best chance to thrive.



# Governance

SFAC's work is overseen by trustees and regulators in the UK. We are registered with the Charity Commission of England and Wales, the Fundraising Regulator and have our work independently reviewed.

Each trustee has responsibilities for certain parts of SFAC work.

We're looking forward to introducing you to two new trustees who have joined us recently. They will soon be making an appearance on our website.

## Trustees for the 2020-2021 Financial Year



Chair



Safeguarding



Legal

# Hello from Chair of Trustees, Philip Cotterill, OBE

**2020-21 has been the challenge we predicted when we first moved into lockdown in March 2020.** As a board, we are very grateful that Dan, Mick and Hannah all agreed to use the furlough scheme so we could avoid redundancies and enable SFAC to continue to provide support to many organisations around the world. Their flexibility and ability to work together to manage work around furlough enabled us to succeed.

Some projects had to go on hold as virtual training or support was not available in a particular country or practical for the work involved. We are thankful that, for many organisations, modern technology enabled us to continue to provide assistance and enable trustee meetings to happen from our homes.

In many ways, this time of uncertainty underlined the importance of family and home. In the scary times that the pandemic brings the sanctuary of family and home provides some respite and assurance, but the absence and distance of other family members brings pain, loss and grief. These are very familiar feelings for many children separated from their parents. It reminds me of **Mick's powerful story** and brought home how SFAC's work is important in minimising the likelihood of children experiencing these feelings. It is vital that we are able to equip more and more organisations to provide safe family care, preferably within the child's biological family or where this is not safe and appropriate, with a safe and supported alternative family. What we have achieved in 2020-21 is significant but we know there is a lot more to do.

We also want to say thank you for every donation. Regular donors are the backbone of the charity and are greatly appreciated and valued. As is the ongoing support of Enzygo, Faith Up and Handmaid Fund and those who fundraise for SFAC.

Looking back SFAC has achieved significant work. It is always encouraging to see Mick's vision for family care being put into practice in so many organisations. Much more to do and we look forward to 2021-22. We hope to see many of you in May 2022 at SFAC fundraising activities and please remember to keep in touch through our quarterly Good News & Giggle Newsletter, on our Facebook page or website.

Take Care

**Philip**

## Further Information about the Charity

You can visit our annual report at the Charity Commission Website:  
<https://register-of-charities.charitycommission.gov.uk/>

You can also visit our website: [www.sfac.org.uk](http://www.sfac.org.uk)

You can read about SFAC and the story of our founder, Mick Pease, in his book, *Children Belong in Families*, which will soon be available on our website.

You can also find us on Facebook and Twitter.

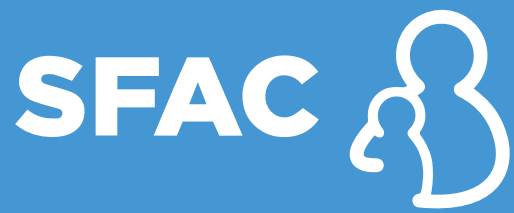
To contact us please email [info@sfac.org.uk](mailto:info@sfac.org.uk)



## **Acknowledgements**

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Charity Registration Number: 1186903

