



Stuart Valentine
CHIEF EXECUTIVE



Dr Kirsty Darwent
CHAIR



ANNUAL REVIEW 2017/18

In the past year, the Relationships Scotland Network has provided face-to-face support for over 17,000 people across the country.

The Relationships Scotland Network is a unique Scotland-wide family and relationship support service. Our 21 Member Services help people cope with relationship problems, separation and divorce. We work with individuals, couples, families and children to help reduce conflict, improve communication and ensure that people are supported to manage times of relationship crisis and breakdown.

Our Network provides relationship counselling, family mediation, child contact centres and many other forms of related family support, including sexual relationship therapy, Parenting Apart sessions and children and young people's counselling.

Our work has a strong focus on early intervention and prevention. We work with families as early as we can, supporting them to look at the issues they are facing and helping them avoid letting things get worse. Through our highly trained counsellors, mediators and other practitioners, we provide high quality and professional support services. Our work is supported by over 900 people, including around 400 volunteers.

A recent report by Inspiring Scotland (*Relationships Scotland, Cost Benefit Review, 2017*) has demonstrated the impact that our work has on the lives of children and families and the savings that this work has for the public purse.

When compared against the cost of delivery of such services, the average ratio of benefits

to one pound of cost for relationship counselling is £11.20, family mediation £12.68 and child contact centres £14.94.

The work of the Relationships Scotland Network supports the Scottish Government's vision for children, young people and their families. We fully support the aspirations of the *National Parenting Strategy* and *The Early Years Framework*. Our work operates within the guiding principles of *Getting it Right for Every Child* (GIRFEC) and also supports the National Outcomes which underpin Single Outcome Agreements between the Scottish Government and every Local Authority in Scotland.

We are again grateful to the Scottish Government for their ongoing funding of the Relationships Scotland Network. We are also grateful to the Big Lottery in Scotland for the ongoing support of our child contact centres, which enables us to offer additional services to the most vulnerable families.

We would like to express our thanks to the 21 Member Services who provide such a high level of care and support. We would also like to pay particular thanks to the staff team at the Relationships Scotland National Office for the excellent work that they do, and also to the trustees who serve on the National Board.

The Relationships Scotland Network will continue to work with many partner organisations across the country to make our vision a reality: Positive and Respectful Relationships at the Heart of Scotland.

2017/18 IN NUMBERS

RELATIONSHIPS SCOTLAND NETWORK

21
MEMBER SERVICES

609

COUNSELLORS, MEDIATORS,
THERAPISTS & CONTACT
CENTRE WORKERS

46

CHILD CONTACT
CENTRES

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

99% of clients
would recommend our
services to others

97% of clients
said their relationship
or family situation had
improved as a result
of counselling

69% of parents said
their children found it
easier to cope with their
situation after using a
child contact centre

86% of clients said
their family situation
had improved as a
result of mediation

KEEPING STANDARDS HIGH

277

PEOPLE
ATTENDED
NETWORK
TRAINING
EVENTS

114

COUNSELLORS
AND MEDIATORS
BENEFITTED FROM
OUR PROFESSIONAL
COURSES

48

QUALIFIED
COUNSELLING
& MEDIATION
SUPERVISORS ARE
NOW WORKING
ACROSS SCOTLAND

75,000+

PEOPLE VISITED OUR
WEBSITES FOR INFORMATION
AND SUPPORT

17,000+

clients received

FACE TO FACE SUPPORT

including:

relationship counselling,
family mediation,
child contact centres,
Parenting Apart sessions,
sexual relationship therapy and
children and young people's counselling.

45,000+
PEOPLE

CONTACTED US FOR
SUPPORT THIS YEAR