

**CARERS
TRUST**



**Introducing
Carers Trust**

About us



Our vision: Unpaid carers are heard and valued, with access to support, advice and resources to enable them to live fulfilled lives.

Our mission: We work to transform the lives of unpaid carers through collaboration, influence, evidence and innovation.

Carers Trust operates the largest UK-wide network of local carer organisations. We refer to the 126 carer organisations in our network as Network Partners. Network Partners specialise in promoting the wellbeing of unpaid carers and providing them with information, advice and support specific to their city or region.

We were created more than ten years ago through the merger of the Princess Royal Trust for Carers and Crossroads Care – two innovative and respected charities which had reach into the heart of local communities and had developed a network of local carer organisations. As the need for a UK-wide network of local carer services became ever more obvious, the two charities merged in 2012 to form Carers Trust, with HRH the Princess Royal becoming our President.

Last year our services reached over one million unpaid carers, the one in three of us in society who at some point in our life support a loved one with a mental or physical health condition, or addiction. As a UK infrastructure charity, we work through our network of independently constituted local carer organisations, which currently cover 85% of all local authority areas across the UK (with an ambition to reach 100%). As such, we have two 'faces' – Carers Trust, as a standalone national charity, has around 75 staff and a turnover of around £9 million. However, as a federated entity, we reach 4000 staff and have a turnover of £137 million.

Our activities to support unpaid carers and local carer organisations are diverse. We provide infrastructure support for our Network Partners and run programmes around topics such as education and employability. We also have a policy and campaigning function, and are a grantmaker. In addition to our network, we also run the Young Carers Alliance in England and Wales and Young Carers Services Alliance in Scotland, plus a growing network of NHS mental health trusts running an innovative programme to enable unpaid carers to support family members with mental health conditions.

In 2022, we launched our refreshed strategy 'Building a Caring Society', which sets out stretching ambitions to ensure that all carers have access to high quality local carer organisations, no carer is pushed into poverty or financially disadvantaged by their caring role and that all unpaid carers, regardless of circumstances or age, are able to enjoy a fulfilling role alongside their caring relationship.

Our impact in numbers *(March 2022 - March 2023)*



£3,820,380

awarded in grants
across the UK to support
16,849 unpaid carers



45,039

young carers and young
adult carers were directly
supported across the UK



£519,023

awarded in grants
directly to **2,370** unpaid
carers

Grants for unpaid carers included:

1,349

towards essential
household equipment

636

for short breaks

103

to support employment
and education aspirations



67%

of unpaid carers have seen
an improvement in their
wellbeing due to our
network's support



57%

of unpaid carers have
seen an improvement in
their resilience due to
our network's support



81%

of young carers and
young adult carers have
seen an improvement in
their employability due
to our network's support



1 million+

unpaid carers are now
registered with Carers
Trust's Network Partners



9.8% - 11.4%

an increase from 9.8% to
11.4% in the proportion of
unpaid carers under 18 we
are supporting



86%

of unpaid carers say their
Carers Trust Network
Partner has improved
their quality of life

Our strategic vision for 2022-25



Carers Trust works to transform the lives of unpaid carers across the UK. We partner with our network of local carer organisations to provide funding and support, deliver innovative and evidence-based programmes, raise awareness, and influence policy.

We are a forward-thinking organisation about to embark on our 2022-25 strategy, Building a Caring Society, which has several ambitious goals. Carers Trust is working towards a future where:

- Every carer has access to a high-quality local carer organisation
- No carer is pushed into poverty or financially disadvantaged by their caring role
- All carers, regardless of circumstances or stage in life, are able to enjoy a fulfilling life outside their caring relationship

By 2025, we will have:

- Increased the number of unpaid carers accessing our collective services to at least 1.5 million, with greater take-up of support by under-represented groups
- Achieved 100% coverage of UK geographies within our network of local carer organisations, with all our local partners rating our support as 'excellent' or 'good'
- Delivered measurable benefits to unpaid carers and local carer organisations through our policy and campaigning work

Carers Trust values



Our values are at the heart of who we are and everything we do. They inspire our thinking, guide our actions, and ensure we deliver the very best for unpaid carers.

We are Trusted

We work as a trusted partner working collaboratively and building genuine relationships with unpaid carers, network partners and supporters to deliver the services we say we will. We behave with integrity, transparency, and value everyone's contribution to our work.

We are Inclusive

We recognise the value of listening to the experiences of as diverse a group of unpaid carers, network partners and supporters as possible in helping us to meet the needs of unpaid carers in new and exciting ways and to shape services that are truly inclusive.

We are Courageous

We speak up, challenge and act when we see an opportunity or when there is an injustice and want to enable unpaid carers, network partners and supporters to be bold, and seek out opportunities for us to work together to create effective change and suggest innovative ideas for improvements in what we do.

Our **benefits**



Carers Trust offers a generous annual leave allowance of **26** days (not including bank holidays) plus **3.5** office closure days



Our holiday buy scheme gives you the opportunity to purchase **3 extra** days of annual leave per year.



We've updated our flexible working policy to include **day one access** for new joiners and the opportunity to make two applications per year.



Our workplace pension is with Aegon your contribution starts at **5%** and **Carers Trust matches** that from day one for new starters.



Our health discounts plan with HSF, includes our Employee Assistance Programme which also offers **legal, GP advice and counselling services.**



Carers Trust encourages employees to take part in volunteering opportunities and offers **2 paid volunteering days** a year.



Employees have access to **1000s of discounts via Perkbox**, covering a wide range of products and services, including shopping, entertainment, dining, travel, and wellness.



We lead the way in offering our employees **2 weeks paid carers leave per year**, to help balance caring responsibilities alongside their work.



We know family is important, which is why Carers Trust provides employees with **life and critical illness cover** as well as **enhanced maternity, adoption and paternity leave.**

