

Newsletter Spring 2025



Dear Supporters and friends,

Welcome to the Spring Edition of our quarterly newsletter.

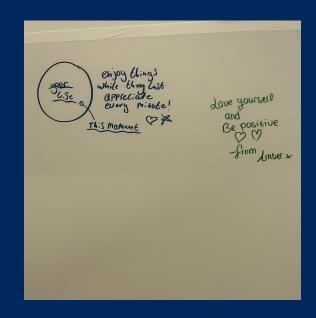
As the season brings renewed energy and a sense of momentum, we have continued to build on its work with progress and purpose. In this quarter, our work has been focused on creating more opportunities for engagement- with new initiatives taking root and partnerships growing stronger, all helping us make an even bigger impact across the social care sector.

Thanks to the ongoing support from CareTech Ltd employees and our amazing partners, we've seen some truly inspiring involvement, from fundraising and volunteering to championing communities. These shared efforts are at the heart of what we do and continue to drive the positive impact we're making.

In this quarter, we have continued to make important impact overseas, namely with the Special Education Needs Initiative (SEN-i) in Pakistan. The Initiative continues to form meaningful connections and is making developments to revolutionise the education system in Pakistan.

Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to the opportunities ahead and to building on the progress made over the past few months.





Updates

We're excited to share our 2023/24 Annual and Impact Reports!

This year, we saw the power of collaboration and community in action, helping our work reach farther and deeper than ever before.

From strategic partnerships that have fueled innovation, to targeted small grants that have sparked big change, the CareTech Foundation is proud of all we have achieved. Our impact is clear, we have:

- provided £1.2 million in funding
- supported 40,719 people directly
- · worked with 70 charities
- built 21 active partnerships
- increased 655 people's employability skills
- trained 170 facilitators
- worked within 5 countries

While the numbers tell a powerful story, it's the personal experiences that truly remind us why this work matters. We're honored to have made a meaningful difference in so many lives. Below are a few stories that bring this impact to life.

A Breaking Barriers participant shares their story finding employment: 'I got a job as a Support Worker helping autistic children from the time they leave school, until they go back to school the next day. I go to their home, help bathe them, clean them, take them to the park. Wherever they want to go, I go with them. I enjoy it very much. Supporting, caring for and helping people gives me so much joy, especially when I can see the joy in their face too'

A carers Worldwide Participant outlines the impact that our partnership has had on their life: 'Now I am also a financial contributor to my family. As a result my family is getting out of poverty. It's only possible because the Community Caring Centre is with us. It is a platform which changes carers' lives'

Read more here: Annual Report / Impact Report

Small Grants

Match-Funding Grant

Through our Match-Funding Grant, CareTech Ltd staff and service-users can boost their fundraising efforts for causes close to their hearts. This quarter we granted a total of **24 grants** amounting to a total of **£3888**.

Macmillan Cancer Support offers help to people living with cancer and their loved ones. Southland School took part in a colour run to fundraise for the charity! Altogether they raised £1100!

We are pleased to match their efforts with the full £1100, taking the total up to £2200, as multiple CareTech Ltd staff members took part!











Community Grant

Our Community Grant enables CareTech Ltd staff to make a positive impact on their communities and for their family and friends. This quarter we granted a total of **14 grants**, amounting to over **£13,500**.



The Oakhanger Project is a long-standing, small charity that provides inclusive outdoor adventures designed to empower young people and families. Rooted in nature, these experiences inspire growth and connection.

We are delighted to award the charity with a Community Grant of £2500 to go towards new equipment and specialist training for staff, helping to provide outdoor adventures for over 100 young people and families!

'This support from the CareTech Foundation meant we could act quickly, keeping our sessions safe, inclusive, and inspiring. Participants have reported increased confidence, emotional resilience, and a greater sense of belonging.'

Partnership Grants

The Children's Society

Celebrating its 25th anniversary this year, the Young Carers Festival is the world's largest gathering of young carers, where over **1,000** young people came together for a weekend of music, connection and respite.

Our funding made the festival bigger and better than ever, by providing:

- travel grants to remove access barriers,
- more activities including DJs and creative workshops,
- •the development of post-festival resources on mental health, careers, and peer support.

Young carers play a vital, often unseen, role in society. Many balance school, home responsibilities, and emotional challenges daily. This festival offered them the chance to simply enjoy being young.

Through music, creative spaces, adventurous activities and meaningful conversation we saw the resilience and brilliance of the young carers shine through.

We're honoured to help empower young carers, celebrate their strength and amplify their voices.

"We are delighted to be celebrating our 25th anniversary with the support of the CareTech Foundation.

"The funding has enabled us to reduce the barrier of travel costs, which has previously prevented young carers across the country from attending, as well giving festivalgoers more fun activities when they arrive.

"We really hope this partnership will help shine a spotlight on young carers and their experiences so everyone can recognise them for the remarkable people they are.'- TCS







Action For Kids (AFK)

We're proud to partner with AFK to support disabled and neurodiverse young people into meaningful careers in social care.



Over three years, this partnership will:

- •Provide training and work placements for 24 young people each year
- Create pathways into paid care sector jobs,
- •Promote inclusive recruitment and workplace practices.

The CareTech Ltd head office were delighted to host the first cohort of young people! They had the opportunity to work in different departments to explore their interests and skills!

Together, we're helping young people build confidence, gain valuable skills, and make lasting contributions to their communities.





Access Social Care (ASC)

We're thrilled to continue our partnership with ASC in supporting AccessAva- a free chatbot that helps users better understand social care law and access the support they need. It's an invaluable tool that empowers carers and those in care with knowledge, builds confidence, and supports everyday decision-making.



So far, AccessAva has had over **8,000** conversations and

generated over **1,500** legal letters!

We're hosting a webinar with ASC to dive deeper into how AccessAva works and the impact it's having.

We hope to see you there:

Date: 22nd July

Time: 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM Link: ASC and CTF Webinar 'I used the chatbot for personal reasons a couple of weeks ago and cannot praise it highly enough. It was user friendly such that even my family members who have no knowledge of this area of law were able to equally access and understand it. The content was fantastic and it was incredibly helpful having all the information collated in one place which, as we had been finding, doesn't seem to exist anywhere else!'



Special Education Needs Initiative

A lack of public funding, infrastructure, and expertise has left Pakistan's education system in urgent need of intervention to support children with SEND requirements.

SEN-i is the outcome of decades of experience with special needs in the UK, set up to provide resources and support for the children with SEND requirements and their families.

During the past year, SEN-i has worked tirelessly with some of the best schools in Pakistan. With the pilot programme beginning in January 2024, and with the continuous support of partner schools, they have accomplished major milestones!

This Quarter, SEN-i have made brilliant progress, they have:

- made links with specialist service providers in Karachi, who support learners with visual impairment
- engaged with new entrants in the SEND landscape, including early childhood-focused centers like First Hope Center in Lahore, as well as several independent professionals working across the special education domain.
- began developing a tailored digital solution to support online training delivery, streamline lesson planning and to create individualised education plans for students with SEND requirements
- signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Network of Organisations Working for People with Disabilities, Pakistan (NOWPDP). This partnership will enroll its teachers into a blended learning model.







We are pleased to announce that we are launching a digital presence for SEN-i on our website. It will be a platform to stay updated on the initiative's plans and successes. Find the page here: https://www.caretechfoundation.org.uk/sen-i/



DELIVERING MEANINGFUL IMPACT

Web: www.caretechfoundation.org.uk

Tel: 01707 601 800

Email: info@caretechfoundation.org.uk

Charity Number: 1182567 Company Number: 11651094