



Action  
For  
Families  
Enduring  
Criminal  
Trauma

## *Sharing news and support for families*

[www.affect.org.uk](http://www.affect.org.uk) [affect01@hotmail.com](mailto:affect01@hotmail.com)

**SPECIAL EDITION** 0300 365 3651

### Good News

Dear Ones,

AFFECT has successfully applied for, and received, a National Lottery Community Fund grant. Not a vast sum of money (£3,000), but enough to give us a much-needed boost, and facilitate a period of growth and development. The award also recognises the extra pressure faced by families where prisons are locked-down, and families unable to visit. A condition of the grant is that it has to be spent by April 2022. As you can appreciate, this has put a great deal of pressure on the Trust Board in order to complete in time- a lot of extra work!

To date, the Board has held an additional session to consider approaches, via teleconference. The outcome of this was to:

- ❖ Increase the frequency of Group Gatherings, via Zoom and, when Covid restrictions lift, encourage and give financial support for attendees, and consider local Gatherings.
- ❖ Develop skills in supporting families with children
- ❖ Hold training sessions (initially via Zoom), which will include developing coping mechanisms, mental health and update on the criminal justice system.
- ❖ Advertise the AFFECT service in "Inside Times", "Big Issue", the "Voice", and using the 'Family Stories' approach.
- ❖ Increase recruitment of Telephone Support Workers
- ❖ Invest in AFFECT's infrastructure capacity, (eg zoom rental, printing etc).

As you can see, this list represents a sizeable piece of work and the Trust Board, although very willing, will need some help.

If you have any suggestions to make and/or can offer any time, even if to complete one task, please phone 0300 365 3651 or email [affect01@hotmail.com](mailto:affect01@hotmail.com)

We can support you through the process. Also, if you would like to attend a Group Gathering, but are unable to do so, let us know, and we will attempt to resolve any issues.

Carol  
Chair

The next Group Gathering will be on Saturday 27th March, 1pm, via Zoom. If you would like to attend, please email [affect01@hotmail.com](mailto:affect01@hotmail.com), and we will send a link nearer the time.

