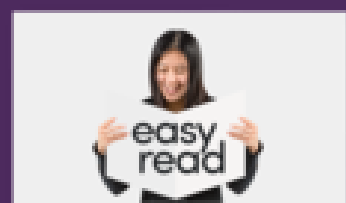


CASBA



ADVOCACY

ANNUAL REPORT 2023-24



AMBASSADORS AND



The Ambassadors make a big difference to CASBA. We help make changes to the charity and to other organisations.



We go out to talk to hospitals and businesses to help them understand what people with learning disabilities need.



We volunteer at community events and show what people with learning disabilities can do when given opportunities.



By going to meetings, we make changes happen. Lots of organisations in Northfield are now using Easy Read because of us.



We make sure that we get together and have fun, too. Everyone loves going to our Christmas meal.

SELF-ADVOCATES



Our LINK self-advocacy group have been meeting since November 2022. They have spoken to lots of people about things that are important to them.



They spoke to the police about crimes that affect them.



They went to the Council House to help make the phone systems more accessible and teach staff how to be more inclusive.



They have been to universities to talk to teachers and students about their experiences.



The group has learned lots of new skills and worked with different people to express themselves.

Training and



We've helped our citizens to learn important skills to help them live independently.



For example, keeping themselves safe from criminals who want to get their money.



Or learning to budget, so they know how much money they can spend without getting into debt.



We've taught parents with learning disabilities the skills to keep their children safe.

Learning



We've made videos and leaflets to explain how to keep yourself safe from domestic abuse.



We created a course to teach social workers how to work with parents with learning disabilities. They can do it on our website.



We've taught people about healthy eating, helping them to lose weight, save money and feel better.



We've made sure that everyone at CASBA and in other organisations can learn from our experts by experience .

Advocacy



Pregnancy to Parenthood is the only advocacy project in the country helping new moms and pregnant women with learning disabilities to keep families together.



Support

The advocates work with parents in groups or on their own. We help them with hospital appointments and provide emotional support.



Our project helping carers with a learning disability is also the only one like this in the country.



We have been helping carers to understand what help they can get and how to get their voices heard.

Projects



We helped 120 people on our My Money Matters project in two years. We helped people get out of debt.



We also helped people to avoid problems like losing their homes, getting scammed and made sure they're getting the right benefits.



Crisis Advocacy is something our citizens told us is very important.



Our advocates have been there when they feel unsafe or worried.



They have helped with health issues, court cases, speaking to day centres and job centres.

Messages from CASBA

Ginny is the CEO. It's her job to manage CASBA and make sure it has enough money and runs well.



"Our citizens asked me to make CASBA stronger. By working together we've made excellent progress."

This is Jackie. She's the Chair of Trustees. They are volunteers who make very important decisions about how we do everything at CASBA.



"I can't thank Ginny, the staff, Ambassadors and volunteers enough for everything they do for CASBA and their dedication to our Citizens."

Money



Most of our money comes from writing to funders and asking them to pay for our projects. in 2023-24 we got £467,015 of income in total.



Last year we did the Big Give Christmas Challenge for the second time. We got two pounds for every pound that people gave us. We raised over £4,000.



Our 500 Miles Challenge did even better than the first year. We raised more than £3,000 and had lots of new people raising money.



Some businesses help us by raising money. Lloyds Bank have helped us by raising thousands of pounds in their branches. IT company SCC also helped us this year.

Join us



You could become a CASBA Ambassador. If you have a learning disability and want to help us make CASBA better and learn new skills speak to our Volunteer Coordinator.



Our LINK group is looking for new members to join and help us. You can use your voice to represent people with a learning disability in the local community.



**New
website**

**Please
take a
look!**

If you want help from CASBA, look on our website and fill out the referral form. You can read all about our projects and see the latest news there, too.



casba.org.uk



0121 475 0777