

**Making**

**an**

**impact**

**together**

**Impact review  
2019**



# Welcome from Amy

I want to start by thanking you. This year at Leonard Cheshire has been filled with achievements big and small, which together have made a massive impact. And it's thanks to generous supporters, donors and partners like you.



I'm someone who has first-hand experience of the impact your support has on people's lives. Leonard Cheshire's Change 100 internship programme gave me an opportunity I could only have dreamed of.

During university, I was diagnosed with functional neurological disorder. It's a fluctuating and often debilitating condition, and I worried about how I could persuade potential employers to consider me. I've always been a 'can do' sort of person, but I began to doubt whether I would be able to make a meaningful contribution to society.

My Change 100 internship changed everything. It helped me to realise that with the right employer and the right adjustments, I can still do the best job I can and show who



## **International and UK 2018/19 highlights**

**10,220**

**disabled people  
supported in the UK  
through social care  
and our community  
programmes**

I really am. And my story isn't unique. This review gives you a taste of how many people have experiences like mine. And there's an even happier next chapter – after my internship I got a job with Leonard Cheshire's regional fundraising team. I'm proud to be part of the charity's work supporting people to live, learn and work as independently as they choose, whatever their ability.

I'm honoured to introduce our 2018/19 impact review to you. As you'll see, our founder Leonard Cheshire's vision – that diversity creates a world of possibility – remains so powerful. Here's to another year of achieving great things together.

**Amy Bradley**

**46,676**

**people directly  
reached**

**13,250**

**disabled people  
supported to  
find employment**

**4,250**

**children with  
disabilities  
supported to get  
an education**



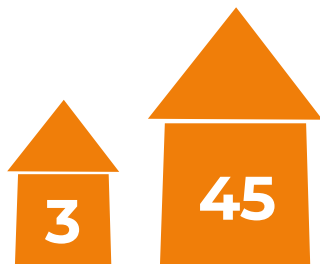
# Live

Being part of a community is essential, but disabled people often miss out. A big part of our work is about giving people more choice in how they live and what activities they do – and supporting individuals to be as independent as they want to be.



**I love playing Boccia – a group of us from Greenhill House play together in a local league and two Boccia England national leagues. I love being in a team and meeting other people from the community.**

Maria from our Greenhill House service



**3 new supported living schemes opened, bringing our UK total to 45**



**people supported every day through our care services**

Thanks to you, we're connecting people with their community – whether we're providing 24/7 support, day services or just a bit of extra help when needed. In 2018/19 we made big improvements to our care services, and more of our services are rated as 'Outstanding' or 'Good' by the UK regulators than the national average.

From supporting people to live more independently, to developing learning and employment opportunities, sports and technology, we're giving people new ways to get involved and make real choices about how they want to live.

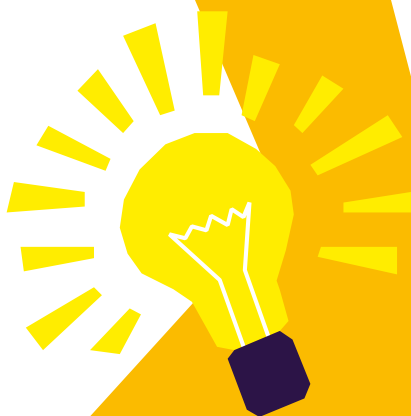


## Knowledge is power

Through our partnership with the Bank Workers Charity, this year we provided specialist advice to 149 people in their communities in areas like finance, health and wellbeing, care and employment.

**100%**

**of participants said they now feel better informed about options for dealing with current and future problems.\***



**My adviser was brilliant. When supporting a child through diagnosis, you don't know what you don't know – she helped me understand the right questions to ask. We've now secured Disability Living Allowance and funding for my son's occupational therapy. This means we can properly support him and understand his world – thank you!**

Bank Workers Charity  
partnership client





## I feel like I've got my life back!

Dave is from our Gloucestershire House service. It's been a busy year there – we revamped the sensory room and built a new activity area and therapy suite. And it's all thanks to gifts in wills. The therapy suite, which is open to all disabled people in the region, has made a huge difference to Dave and many others.

"I have Charcot-Marie-Tooth disease, which affects my nervous system. For me, it has gradually led to a loss of muscle tissue and a loss of sensation. I like to keep active, and the therapy suite has taken my exercise regime to a new level. I've lost 20 kilos and I've recently started using the hydrotherapy pool. Since then I've felt so much better. I'm now able to enjoy getting out and seeing West Brom play, with my son.

"I used to live in sheltered accommodation where the carers came in at set times. I didn't feel like a grown-up. It was a world away from the freedom I have now. I feel like I've got my life back. Here, we're encouraged to make our own choices and be more independent."





# Learn

A good education is the foundation for so many things in life. We're supporting people with disabilities to reach their potential and get the education and learning opportunities they deserve.



It is estimated that at least half of children with disabilities in developing countries are out of school (International Commission on Financing Global Education Opportunity, 2016).

With your help, we are working with our partners to change this. In Africa and Asia, we supported 4,250 children with disabilities to go to and remain in school this year. And in the UK, programmes like Can Do and Discover IT continued to grow, giving more people opportunities to learn new skills and gain vital experience throughout their lives.



**My disability means I'm disconnected from friends and family, particularly in winter. The IT equipment created a bridge to my community and is helping me work towards gaining qualifications.**

Discover IT client

**4,250**  
children with  
disabilities  
supported to get  
an education

**4,494**  
teachers and  
government officials  
trained on inclusive  
education

**84%**  
of participants learnt  
a new skill or gained  
a qualification  
through Discover IT\*

# Yes, we can

Can Do is a skills development programme for young disabled people. We match them to community volunteering opportunities, which are a great way of building life skills and confidence. It's unique in the UK because it's nationwide, community-driven and for people with any disability.

In 2018/2019, we set up four new locations, bringing the total to 26 across the UK. 2,951 people benefitted from 13,608 opportunities.



**Before Can Do, I hadn't left my house independently or ridden the bus. In charge of my own money, itinerary and belongings, I learnt a lot in one week. The experience gave me confidence, and I now know I can do lots more with my life.**

Louis, Can Doer



**872**

**Can Doers received a recognised certification, with a further 641 to be assessed**

**83%**

**of Can Doers felt more included in society after taking part\***



## I feel I can do anything

In November 2018, we launched our inclusive education project in Zambia. In the first six months, we supported 421 children with disabilities to go to school for the first time.

Taonga Nawale is one of these children. Before we met her, she'd given up hope of going to school. But she's now at her local primary school, and we've provided her with everything she needs to thrive there, including her uniform, books and pens. We're also working with her school to make sure their classrooms and teaching methods are inclusive.

"My school is making it easier for me to learn – the teacher visits me at home if the roads are too difficult for travelling in my wheelchair, or if I'm sick. Before, I couldn't read, but now I can. It's changing my future because I'll be able to complete my education and have a better life. I feel I can do anything, and I dream of becoming a doctor."





# Work

It can be hard for disabled people to find and keep a job, often because employers are unsure about what this might mean for their organisations. But disabled people represent a vast pool of untapped talent. We bridge this gap, supporting people to pursue their chosen career path, and helping employers to become more inclusive.

In 2018/2019, we reached more people and businesses than ever before. We gave training and guidance to disabled people and employers in the UK and globally. We managed work experience and internship programmes. And we were chosen by the Department for International Development to lead an international consortium – funded by UK aid – supporting 10,000 people with disabilities in Bangladesh and Kenya to find employment.



**The Leonard Cheshire programme built up my confidence, changed my CV, gave me interview skills and found me a job. It achieved what I wasn't expecting – which is enjoying my life again.**

Tim, Change Works client



**13,250**

**people with disabilities supported to find employment**



**17,293**

**employers and government officials engaged with through our employment programmes**



**94%**

**of people on our UK employment programmes said they learnt new skills\***

# A stepping stone to success

Our Change 100 internship programme provides a vital step on the career ladder for talented disabled undergraduates and graduates, connecting them with top employers. In 2018/19, we placed 141 interns with 70 employers.



**93%**

of Change 100 participants said their confidence in the workplace had improved\*



**Each talented and enthusiastic intern has brought a wide variety of skills – and helped us to change perceptions within the business.**

Tom Fraser, Service Programmes Development Manager at BMW UK, a Change 100 employer



**Change 100 helped me realise that I can (and will) have a fulfilling career – and that my mental health problems don't have to dictate what I can and can't do with my life.**

Chloe, Change 100 intern



## My mind is open

Before Anna found out about our livelihoods project in Uganda, she experienced many challenges. She wanted to develop her farm into an agricultural business, but lacked business skills and knowledge. She also faced discrimination in her community because of her disability, which led to her having low confidence and self-esteem.

Anna received support and training in business skills from our project team in Uganda. As a result her farm is growing into a successful business – she is producing new crops and has set up a piggery project. Her income has increased and she's now able to support her family, including paying for her five children's school fees.

She says: "I didn't believe that I could do something of my own. But they have trained me and they have given me support to start my business. Right now, my mind is open. I am now able to plan for my business due to the skills I learnt."



# Global and national influencing: inspiring positive change

With your support, we're challenging how people think about disability – researching and campaigning to combat discrimination, stigma and injustice.

We go beyond working directly with individuals and supporting them to achieve their goals. Through our influencing work we are having a broader impact on the public, organisations and at national and global levels. We champion issues disabled people tell us matter most – like transport, social care and employment. And we give



influencers and decision-makers the evidence they need to create change. This year, we launched the Leonard Cheshire Data Portal with the Department for International Development. This combines 40 countries' worth of disability data in one resource – the first of its kind. The Portal will be vital in making sure that people with disabilities are meaningfully included in future development programmes.

**Our Data Portal gives governments and organisations easy access to disability data from 40 countries**



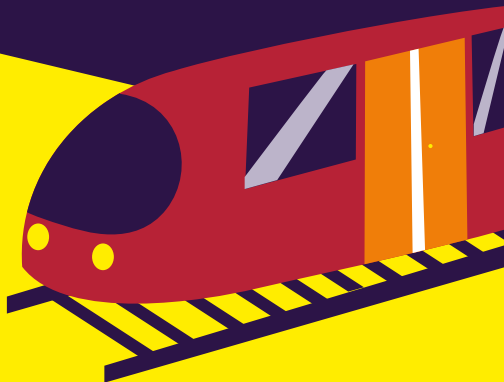
Our Untapped Talent campaign won a ComRes Parliamentary Charity Award. We spoke at key events at the United Nations and continued our formal partnerships with the World Bank, the International Labour Organization (ILO) and UNESCO. And those are just the highlights.

150

**MPs voted for our winning Untapped Talent campaign in the ComRes Parliamentary Charity Awards**

### **All aboard!**

Across Britain, more than 40 per cent of train stations lack step-free access. We're working to fix this with your help – through the Get On Board campaign. The media took up the cause, publishing more than 590 media stories about the problem. We inspired more than 500 people to write to train companies. We discussed the issue with decision makers including Network Rail and the Secretary of State for Transport. We're getting this important message out nationally, making progress with your support.



**Having more accessible transport would widen my horizons and make life easier. It's that independence, that freedom.**

Alison, Get On Board campaigner

**Thanks to  
everyone who  
has supported  
us this year**

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