



MATCH-FUND
"MATCH IT"
COMMUNITY GRANTS
PARTNERSHIP
GRANTS
STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Welcome from our Director

Dear Supporters and Friends,

Welcome to the latest edition of the Foundation's Quarterly Newsletter. I am pleased to share that I have been appointed Executive Director of the Foundation and, following a successful round of recruitment, we have added Ariful Islam as Partnerships Manager. But, rest assured, no amount of changes at the Foundation will impact our aims and ambitions. We continue to strive towards making a positive impact for the social care sector, those working in care and those living in care every day.

I have spent my first two months of appointment going out to meet many of you and it is my commitment that we will continue to be visible. We also want to work with you to impact your communities, your families and your friends in the best way possible through your support. This newsletter serves as a means for us to update you but just as important is for you to update us. We want to amplify the incredible work you do so share your pictures and stories with us regularly and we will use our platforms to tell your story through our grants.

Thank you for being an integral part of our journey so far and for joining us in this new and exciting period ahead.

Kind regards,

Tariq Raja
Executive Director, CareTech Foundation



'Match It'

Are you a CareTech Ltd Employee?
Do you volunteer for a cause close to your heart?

If so, the Foundation is here to make your efforts even more rewarding through 'Match It'. 'Match It' is an extension of the Match-Funding Grant, designed to recognise the voluntary work you do for the charities you support. Unlike the Match-Funding Grant, which requires staff to fundraise to receive matching funds of up to £350, 'Match It' rewards your contributions even when fundraising isn't involved.

We recognise that giving your time and expertise to a cause can be just as impactful as raising money. Whether you volunteer occasionally or regularly, you can apply, and your chosen charity could receive up to £350. This means that alongside donating your valuable time, you can help your charity with a financial boost.

The charity will qualify for:
o£150 if you volunteer on a one-off occasion.
o£350 if you volunteer frequently.

Multiple staff members can apply for the same charity and activity, allowing you and your colleagues to amplify the support your charity receives.

So, whether you volunteer at your local church, youth club, sports team as long as they are a registered charity (many are), you could help them receive a valuable financial contribution to support their work.

Community Grants

The Foundation delivers a grant initiative to help the communities, relatives, and acquaintances of CareTech Ltd staff undergoing significant financial challenges or confronting issues impacting the localities in which CareTech Ltd is active. These grants are available to CareTech Ltd staff members, to aid in their contributions to community welfare and volunteering.

During the current quarter, the Foundation has awarded **22 grants amounting to over £21,606.**



A grant of £1,200 has been awarded the Brooke Sparkle Project who are hoping to support underprivileged families, individuals and new immigrants in their community this winter. Through various events that they hold throughout the year, the organisation puts together packages of clothes, food and groceries for those less fortunate during this cost of living crisis. Through this grant, the Foundation is delighted to be able to fund 60 packages!

Another donation of £350 has been given to The Birmingham Children's Hospital. Sabrina Smith is a foster carer working with By The Bridge. Her Grandson, Finley, had been terminally ill with cancer and wanted to thank the hospital for all of the care that they have received. Finley bravely took on the challenge of abseiling off a bridge in order to fundraise for the hospital who help underprivileged children that are undergoing care. Well done Finley, what a brilliant achievement!

Match-Funding Grants

Staff Hardship

The Foundation supports the fundraising endeavours of CareTech Ltd employees, empowering them to contribute to charities that hold significant meaning for them. Every staff member, and service user, can apply for an annual Match-Funding Grant of up to £350 to enhance the fundraising initiatives of their chosen charities.

We're delighted to say that we have successfully processed 11 Match-Funding Grants during this quarter, collectively **contributing £3,183 to UK-registered charitable organisations.**

The Foundation receives a restricted donation from CareTech Ltd to enable us to offer small grants of up to £1,500 to both current staff and those who have recently left the company and are facing significant financial hardship or are at risk of experiencing such hardship.

In the most recent quarter, the Foundation granted a total of **65 grants, amounting to over £50,153**, to individuals in need of financial support.

If you believe you could benefit from this assistance, please don't hesitate to get in touch with us at info@caretechfoundation.org.uk to learn more about the support we may be able to provide.



A Grant of £350 has been awarded to the **Pituitary Foundation** following the commendable fundraising of a Gillian Greenshields and her daughter. Having faced a diagnosis of Prolactinoma (a brain tumour), the pair have been fundraising through a GoFundMe page as well as selling jewellery. So far they have managed to raise £470! This month they are selling their jewellery at Christmas markets. We wish them the best of luck with their admirable work and are glad to have helped towards the cause.

A further grant of £350 has been awarded to **Diabetes UK**, a charity who fund crucial research and raise awareness for diabetes. This is in support of the amazing fundraising of Katy Blake whose son has lived with type 1 diabetes for the last 10 years. Katy completed the Royal Parks Half Marathon on Sunday 13th October and managed to raise a brilliant £483. The Foundation is pleased to have been able to contribute to this important cause.



This year marked ten years since my son, Charlie, was diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes. I wanted to commemorate the milestone with a fundraiser and a meaningful challenge, so I decided to train for the Royal Parks Half Marathon in London.

With little running experience, I followed a structured training plan to prepare myself for the race, which was just four months away. During my preparations, the Head at our school mentioned the CareTech Foundation Match Fund, and I decided to apply for their support.

Race day arrived on 13 October, and I was thrilled to complete the half marathon in just over two and a half hours. Shortly after, I was delighted to learn that the CareTech Foundation would be contributing £350 towards my fundraising efforts, bringing the total to an incredible £853.

Buoyed by this experience, I've now set my sights on an even bigger goal—I've started training for a full marathon!

Partnerships

Action For Kids (AFK)

The Foundation is proud to partner with Action For Kids (AFK), providing £51,930 over three years to support young people with disabilities and autism in accessing training and recruitment pathways within the social care sector.

AFK empowers disabled children and young people through education, training, and work experience programmes, while also providing mobility equipment across the UK. This collaboration aims to equip disabled and neurodiverse individuals with the skills and experience required for meaningful employment, enabling them to contribute positively to their communities.



CareTech Ltd will offer in-kind support by granting access to its offices, care homes, and schools, enriching the training and mentorship experience. Additionally, the initiative will equip staff with the skills needed to mentor participants effectively, ensuring long-term success. This partnership reaffirms the Foundation's commitment to fostering inclusivity and creating sustainable employment opportunities for disabled young people.

The Open University

The Open University has been offering life changing access to education to carers since 2019, when their Carers' Scholarship Fund began. They recognise the necessity of flexible, financially available education to those who have made and continue to make immense sacrifices in their lives. The CareTech Foundation has played a crucial part in this, supporting 12 students in their first few years of study.



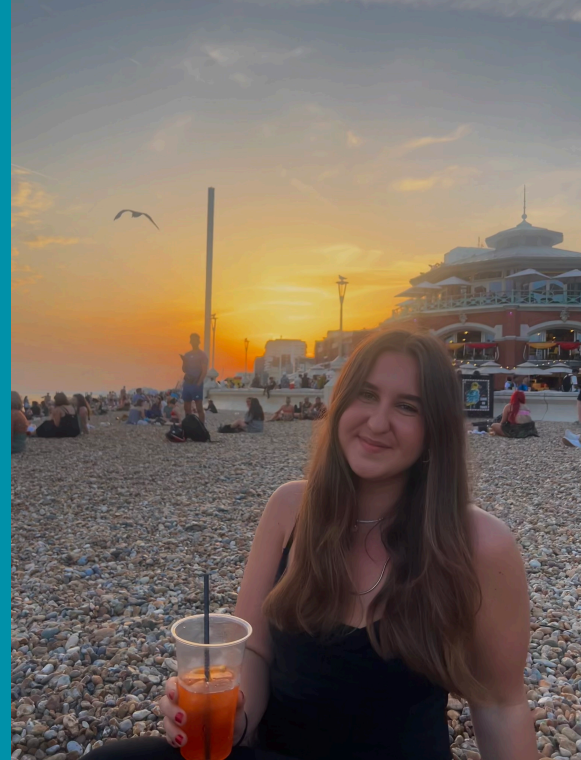
For many selfless carers, this scholarship is an invaluable opportunity to build a better life for themselves and their families. The importance of this to the recipients is reflected in their hard work; scholarship students have a higher-than-average retention rate, demonstrating their commitment to their future.

Special recognition goes to Faye, a Natural Sciences student who has recently completed her studies with the Open University! Faye has been a carer since the age of seven when her Dad passed away from leukemia and her brother was diagnosed with autism. The Open University and CareTech Foundation have provided Faye with the first crucial steps to pursue her dream role in the Oceanography field.

"Thank you CareTech Foundation, from the bottom of my heart, from me and all of the other students in my situation who are now benefiting from this priceless scholarship."- Faye.



Staff Spotlight



Jess Burgess

I have recently joined the CareTech Foundation in a volunteer communications role. This is a brilliant opportunity to work in a space where I feel I can make a real difference to people's lives. Having seen some of the work the Foundation has achieved, I am certainly proud to be even a small part of it.

I graduated from the University of Nottingham in 2022 where I studied English. It was a complicated time (to say the least) due to Covid being prevalent throughout, however, I am grateful for everything that it has taught me. For example, my love of words and their impact began here which is something I hope I'll be able to draw on in my work for the Foundation. In addition, my passion for the charity space was ignited: I volunteered at a soup kitchen where we would go into the heart of the city and be able to offer food and a listening ear to the homeless people of Nottingham.

After finishing university I got a job at a coffee shop. This allowed me to develop many invaluable personal skills which will stay with me whatever I decide to do in the future. I am now in charge of the coffee shop's social media and often spearhead our online campaigns in support of charities/ movements such as UK Coffee Week and Project Waterfall.

It is my hope that I can offer a fresh set of eyes when it comes to marketing, social media and communications in the CareTech Foundation and am excited to get started! I feel incredibly privileged to be a part of a skilled, diverse and warm team from whom I can learn from and develop my skills.



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