Judy 2017

Annual Review

June 2018

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Chair statement

The Museum of Homelessness continues to be one of the most, exciting, radical and dynamic new charities in the UK. It is changing how people think about homelessness and giving choices and chances to those who have experienced homelessness. By taking the history, culture and art of homelessness seriously, it is acknowledging and valuing the lives of people who have experienced homelessness in the UK.

Over the past year we have grown the collection and developed our programme of activity. We have collaborated with museums, other cultural organisations and funders to meet our objectives of changing perceptions of homelessness and will be giving platforms to unheard voices through our Catalyst and Objectified programmes this coming year.

All of this has been made possible through the tireless work of our volunteers and core group and with the support of our founders and trustees. Their dedication and commitment over the past year has enabled the Museum of Homelessness to test and explore new ways of working and to build knowledge and experience for the future.
Based on this year’s activity I am more confident than ever that the Museum of Homelessness will succeed in our ambition to create a ground-breaking new residential museum space that will unlock the history of homelessness and create a better future for all those involved.

Sharon Heal, Chair of Trustees
Co-founders statement

Our year which runs July to June, began with shock at the tragedy that was Grenfell Tower and a growing sense of despair at increasing inequalities across the UK. The current hostile socio-political and economic landscape means we have seen a 169% increase in rough sleeping, as the most visible aspect of homelessness since 2010.

Austerity policies mean that more people are ‘slipping through the net’ and losing control of their lives. Factors such as the roll out of Universal Credit in the coming years will increase the number of people in desperate situations and housing policies such as Right to Buy (1980) has led to the decimation of social housing stock, with scarce alternatives for those in need. In 2017, mainstream homelessness charities came under fire from the street homeless population and in the media for supporting the Home Office to deport people sleeping rough.

In the last year the national picture for homelessness has largely remained unchanged and we have continued to build on the momentum of our State of the Nation campaign in order to push for change on an individual, institutional and societal level.
Part of this process has involved reflection, both on where MoH is going and where it has been. The result is a plan that will take us a step closer to having a residential base that will enable us to better serve the MoH community and the collection and archive we hold.

In the meantime we have, and will continue, our work in different sorts of spaces. This year saw us launch our first archive based project and hold our first major showcase outside of London – our most successful event to date. It has also been a year where MoH has sharpened it’s campaigning, both in response to the continuing inequality and needless deaths.

In the background we have been trying to go further and have created the first ever museum campaigning programme for people who have experience of homelessness. We’ll also be launching a major investigation into the science behind how people become marginalised. This will take the form of an interactive exhibition and ongoing project that will launch in Manchester later in 2018.

MoH’s community has developed all this in response to the increasingly terrible situations we find ourselves and those we care about in. We find hope together in the midst of very difficult times. Watch this space!

Jess and Matt Turtle
Co-founders, Museum of Homelessness
Frequently Asked Questions
By Anthony Luvera & Gerald McLaverty
State of the Nation, Tate Liverpool, January 2018
What we've done

MoH completed its first full year of operations in June 2017. In July 2017 we defined our Theory of Change which sets out how MoH can make a difference to individuals, to institutions and to society.

The Theory of Change gives us a framework for delivering public benefit and our stated charitable purposes.

The activities carried out have included training, workshops, exhibitions, events and offering volunteering opportunities.

Left: Placard Exhibition
London, March 2018

Right: This Stuff Matters,
MoH offices, Nov 2018
During the year July 2017 – Jun 2018 we have achieved the following in line with our Theory of Change we have:

**Individual empowerment**

- Worked with 60 people with experience of homelessness have donated objects, carried out workshop activities or presented content as part of our events, performances and exhibitions.
- Secured a £10,000 emerging artist award from Unlimited for core group member and artist David Tovey to create an ambitious staging of his performance project Man on Bench in Manchester.
- We have developed a hardship fund to support people experiencing homelessness who contribute our work. The fund supports travel, accommodation and relief for people who need it.
- Developed plans for our new Paul Hamlyn Foundation funded programme MoH Catalyst, a creative change-making programme that will give up to 20 people the opportunity to change public perceptions, influence people with power and speak out for what they believe in.
Institutional Influence
- Created a new collection and archive panel to better safeguard and steward the Museum of Homelessness collection and archive. Panelists are drawn from across the UK including Newcastle, Birmingham and Derby.
- Presented on the impact of our work at numerous events including two museum conferences in Athens and Arizona reaching nearly 1000 people.
- Carried out direct action work to push for change in housing and homelessness policy.

Public Awareness & Education
- Launched our first archive based public engagement programme at Islington Central Library – This Stuff Matters.
- Welcomed 5,012 people to our events and workshops, mostly as part of our January 2018 State of Nation week at Tate Liverpool. We contributed to a 10% uplift in visitors to Tate Liverpool for that week.
- Held 12 workshops in a variety of settings including homelessness hostels, art galleries and festivals on a variety of subjects including heritage and activism.
- Secured support from the Wellcome Trust for Objectified - an exhibition and project that will explore the science behind stigma in partnership with Manchester Art Gallery and the NHS.
Major moments

State of the Nation, 22-28 Jan 2018

At Tate Liverpool, MoH presented Anthony Luvera and Gerald McLaverty’s artistic project Frequently Asked Questions. This landmark artwork showed how 61 local authorities across England, Scotland and Wales respond when asked questions like ‘where can I get something to eat?’ Informed by McLaverty’s experience of homelessness, the questions illustrate rough sleepers’ struggle to meet their most basic needs.
Major moments

This Stuff Matters, 09 Dec 2017

This Stuff Matters was an archive sharing day held at Islington Library on 9th December 2017. The day rounded off our 'Resilient Heritage' project funded by Heritage Lottery Fund. Volunteer curators on the project took part in four workshops to prepare displays, films and reading with visitors.

Did you gain any new skills, if so, which ones? “Yes. Conservation, creativity and respect, as well as duty of care for objects.”
Major moments

Catalyst 2018

In early 2018, MoH began to be involved in direct action work in central London. Responding to ongoing outrage about deaths on the streets, the work has influenced new campaigning.

Informed by this, we have launched Catalyst - a one month programme in creative campaigning, using what’s gone before to make change today. MoH will be working with 5 campaigners from the group in 2019.
Financial Review

The accounts have been prepared on a going concern basis.

Income:

Income is credited to the statement of financial activities on a cash basis. Restricted income from grants is accounted for separately. £26,949 of income was carried forward to the financial year 2017/18. Total income for this year was £127,935, broken down as:

- Corporate Donors - £10,000
- Individual Donations - £2,852
- Trusts and Foundations - £107,900
- Earned Income £7,183

Expenditure:

Expenditure is currently accounted for on a cash basis. Expenditure for 2017-18 was £37,630 with 17% designated to essential running costs. The rest of its expenditure was on direct charitable activities including events and projects, homelessness artist support, volunteering costs and a new fund to support MoH community members in hardship.
During the year there was increased spending on events and exhibitions in relation to our project funding. Our increased spend on travel represents our commitment to working nationally.

Funding:

The organisation is run largely on a voluntary basis and currently has no paid employees.

This year the expansion of the charity’s activities are largely due to two grants from the Wellcome Trust (£75,000) and the Paul Hamlyn Foundation (£59,000)

Their willingness to support MoH’s creative programme has represented 84% of our income. This has enabled us to prepare our most significant projects to date, Catalyst a campaigning programme for people with experience of homelessness and Objectified a city-wide programme in Manchester that will platform unheard voices to explore stigma, homelessness and health.

Both these projects will provide paid opportunities for talented people affected by homelessness to deliver creative activities for MoH.

A grant from Unlimited has also enabled us to continue our work with the artist David Tovey to develop an ambitious new performance in late 2018.
Museum of Homelessness would like to thank all of its supporters, funders and volunteers:

Trustees
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Fr. Philip Bevan
Carmel Kavanagh
Joseph Murphy
Richard Matthews
Ruban Yogarajah

Patron
The Rt Rev the Lord Bishop of Salisbury

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