

10 Years of Your NHS Charity

Enhancing healthcare for everyone in North Wales



2010/11

Expenditure £2,756,000

Formation of a single NHS charity for North Wales, incorporating the three charities dissolved following the health organisation merger

2011/12

Expenditure £3,732,000

Development of an Arts in Health programme at Ysbyty Glan Clwyd, improving patient wellbeing through direct participation in the arts

2012/13

Expenditure £4,260,000

Refurbishment of the Abergele Ophthalmology unit, including a new eye day unit and treatment lasers

2013/14

Expenditure £3,283,000

Adoption of a new working title for the Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board Charity, "Awyr Las" (Blue Sky)

2014/15

Expenditure £2,003,000

Work begins on the Alaw Unit extension, the start of a £1.2m redevelopment of Ysbyty Gwynedd's Cancer Treatment Centre

SEPTEMBER 2010

NHS charities are not new – they, like the NHS itself, have been around since 1948.

Originally known as "Charitable Funds" and later relaunched as "Awyr Las", the charity currently incorporates over 400 funds, representing every ward, service and department within BCUHB. The Awyr Las heart logo is based on the shape of North Wales, symbolic of the charity's mission to enhance healthcare for everyone in the region.



MAY 2014

CAMHS Nurse Manager Irfon Williams, who was diagnosed with bowel cancer in January 2014, launches his #TeamIrfon campaign.

Irfon tragically died in 2017, but his legacy lives on. #TeamIrfon has raised over £200k and has focused on supporting the emotional wellbeing of people living with cancer; funding wigs, complementary therapies, and specialist mental health support.



2015/16

Expenditure £4,418,000

Launch of a £68,000 research project examining abnormal blood vessel function in rheumatoid arthritis patients

2016/17

Expenditure £1,413,000

Purchase of new furniture for Deeside Community Hospital, providing a multi-purpose space away from the ward to aid rehabilitation

2017/18

Expenditure £2,762,000

Provision of a "Trilogy" non-Invasive Ventilation Machine for Critical Care Unit, Ysbyty Gwynedd

2018/19

Expenditure £1,838,000

Opening of a new hybrid theatre for vascular surgery at Ysbyty Glan Clwyd, supported by a legacy of £500,000 from the Livsey Trust

2019/20

Expenditure £2,211,000

First human cases of COVID-19 reported by officials in Wuhan City (China) in December 2019; the UK's first confirmed cases followed in January

2020/21 What lies ahead? Our future with COVID-19

The Awyr Las "Resilience" fundraising campaign will help the NHS in North Wales and local communities adapt to life with COVID-19

JULY 2018

The NHS and NHS Charities celebrate their 70th anniversary.

On 5th July 2018, supporters across North Wales joined NHS staff in celebrating this special milestone. As part of the #Big7Tea campaign, Awyr Las held its first cake decorating competition, inviting NHS colleagues and members of the community to create fantastic designs honouring the NHS.

MARCH 2020

Awyr Las launches its COVID-19 Response Appeal.

Thanks to overwhelming support from the North Wales community, the appeal had raised over £400k as of 31/10/20. Donations have funded a range of support, from training and equipment to help staff prepare for redeployment to the frontline of the pandemic, to mental health resources for vulnerable or isolated patients.



COVID-19 Response Appeal

Expenditure £171,813*

Commitments £289,858*

*As of 31/10/20

We had funding so we could purchase more equipment for the practice development team. We were able to purchase phlebotomy arms to assist with 'back to the floor' training for redeployed nurses and care home staff. This additional training has been more important than ever since March because of COVID-19. We purchased an additional phlebotomy arm to train nurses to obtain blood samples, and iPads have enabled us to teach the theory remotely, which has been incredibly useful. These extras have made life easier for all of us, and it has meant that nurses could be upskilled quickly. We appreciate this extra support so much, it really has made a difference for nurses in care homes and in our community healthcare settings, which of course means that it has made a difference for our patients, too. Thank you.

Kara Rich - Practice Development Lead Nurse



**Emergency Department
COVID-19 Simulation Suite**

£3,907



**Equipment to help staff
prepare for redeployment**

£2,450



**Tablets and digital devices
for staff & patients**

£20,772



**Virtual support for chronic
pain**

£4,968

Awyr Las has received £214,500 from NHS Charities Together, and over the next six months the charity expects to receive a further £717,194 through additional grant rounds. The £214,500 from NHS Charities Together has already made a real impact on NHS staff in North Wales and on patients in the region receiving care both in our hospitals and in their homes.

Thanks to the generosity of those supporting NHS Charities Together's Covid-19 Appeal, Awyr Las has been able to make a difference for NHS staff by funding the Staff Wellbeing Support Service which provides psychological support for NHS staff. We have also been able to purchase many additional wellbeing items for frontline staff, including beverages, white goods, devices & furniture for new staff breakout areas and staff and volunteers have together been able to take part in an important virtual arts project too.

Patient care has been transformed in some cases thanks to the additional support given. The donations funded small but significant items like baby monitors that are used to implement a safe monitoring service for patients in hospitals, and blood pressure machines to monitor heart failure patients in their own homes. The support funded large, life changing programmes like the Health Board's bereavement support service, its carers support service, the chronic pain management virtual support service and a talking therapy service for mental health service users.

Young people benefitted in hospitals, with frontline staff organising children's inpatient activity bags, and at home with a small grant given to help provide extra monitoring equipment for children with diabetes. Frontline NHS staff have been able to give extra support to mental health service users in the community by providing self-care and wellness helping hand bags. They've also been able to give patients across many different services in our hospitals a much needed boost by purchasing digital devices for virtual visiting and entertainment. Thanks to the funding from NHS Charities Together more people have been able to take an active role in improving the care that our patients receive, with grants funding volunteer expenses and extra equipment to help train up nursing staff in care homes as well as hospitals.

Funding received from NHS Charities Together has helped NHS staff learn and share their learning from the initial Covid-19 response period. NHS Charities Together has funded a COVID-19 Medical Education Fellowship, a Covid-19 Simulation Suite for one of our Emergency Departments, three innovation projects that are being led by local NHS staff and new equality and inclusion programmes. All this support goes over and above what the NHS can provide.

**NHS CHARITIES
TOGETHER**



**COVID-19
Medical
Education
Fellowship**

£39,200



**Staff Wellbeing
and
Support
Service**

£15,386

The Talking Therapies programme, provided in partnership with Mind and Advanced Brighter Futures, provides an early intervention for people experiencing low mood, anxiety and depression. People self-refer onto the service, and from April referrals have increased by 50%. The therapy is delivered by talking therapy specialists who provide group therapy or 1:1 counselling or Cognitive Behavioural Therapy. COVID-19 has heightened the need for this service - now our valued partners are able to increase their capacity, which has drastically improved waiting times.

Ruth Robinson - Commissioning Manager for Mental Health & Learning Disabilities

The blood pressure monitors funded have helped our team of nurses to continue the vital work of monitoring cardiac patients who are self-isolating at home. These monitors have been, and continue to be, invaluable. Thank you to everyone who made the support we've received possible.

Andy Bennett, Heart Failure Specialist Nurse

Nathan Wyburn, a Welsh artist, has created nine collages of our staff members made from thousands of photos of different NHS staff and NHS volunteers from North Wales. These will be on display in our hospitals, and prints will be available for staff as a lasting reminder of the incredible commitment of our NHS staff here in North Wales, and the huge sacrifice that so many people made during the initial COVID response period. It was a wonderful project for staff to be involved in.

Andrea Davies, Arts In Health & Wellbeing Project Coordinator



Home equipment for patients with diabetes

£300



Arts in Health initiatives

£4,500



Blood pressure monitors for patients self-isolating

£1,760



Provision of Talking Therapies

£20,000

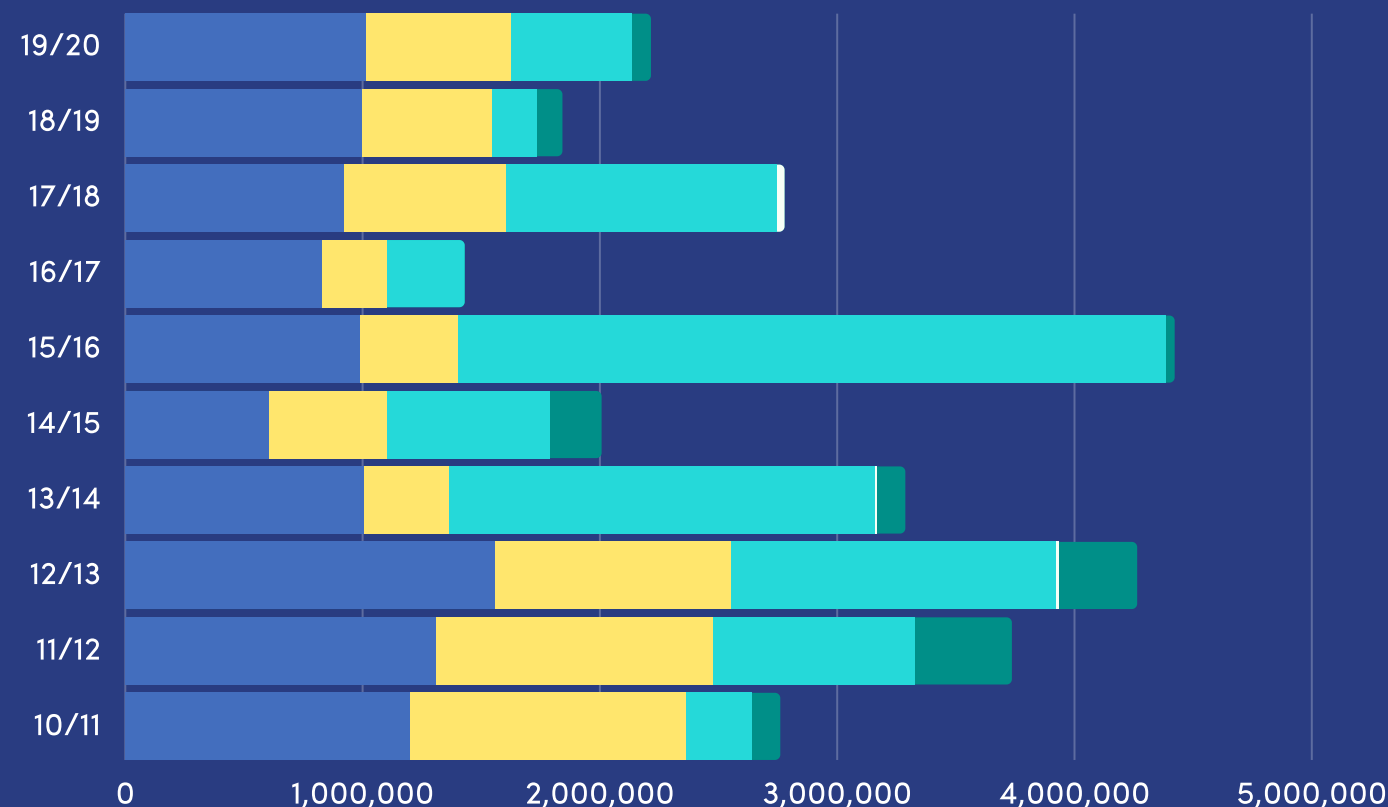
Overview 2010-2020

Expenditure £28,676,000



The significant impact that the charity has had on patient and staff experience cannot be underestimated, and nor can the power of people coming together to help make change. The charity has played an important role in helping to transform patient services thanks to inspirational fundraisers and supporters from across North Wales and beyond. This has only been possible because of our NHS staff's dedication and desire to improve care and treatment for patients, and because of the passion and commitment of North Wales' communities. There is much work left to do to make sure all patients in hospitals and in our communities can receive the very best care possible, but all those that have given to, or worked in partnership with, the charity and everyone that has played a part in improving care with Awyr Las grants, should be very proud of what has been achieved over the past ten years.

Rt Hon Lord Barry Jones P.C. - Honorary President of Awyr Las



Expenditure by Theme 2010 - 2020

	Patient Welfare & Amenities	£ 10,403,000	36%
	Staff Welfare & Amenities	£ 6,703,000	23%
	Grants for NHS Capital Expenditure	£ 10,119,000	35%
	Miscellaneous	£ 54,000	1%
	Research	£ 1,397,000	5%

Total: £28,676,000



Awyr Las
Blue Sky

Elusen GIG Gogledd Cymru
The North Wales NHS Charity

Thank you to everyone who has made this possible!



Awyr Las: The North Wales NHS Charity

Registered Charity Number 1138976

www.awyrlas.org.uk • 01248 384 395 • awyrlas@wales.nhs.uk



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