

Dedicated charity of



University Hospitals Sussex
NHS Foundation Trust

Impact Report

2023/24

my

my University
Hospitals
Sussex

www.myuhsussex.org



Welcome

My University Hospitals Sussex's first year has been a momentous one, and our Impact Report shares just some of the many highlights from the last 12 months.

The charity has embarked upon an ambitious programme of communications, fundraising and grant-making.

A programme with a clear purpose: to support patient benefit and staff wellbeing across our seven hospitals. A programme that has seen success right from the outset, raising more than £1.6m in funds and distributing £4.2m in vital grants. And this is just the beginning. From the foundations laid we will continue to grow.

None of this is possible without our incredible supporters and generous donors, who have given their money, time and energy to reinforce our work this year. Because of you, we have made a positive difference to the lives of patients and staff at all our hospitals.

Steve Crump OBE
Director of Charities and Voluntary Services



Who We Are

My University Hospitals Sussex is the dedicated charity supporting the University Hospitals Sussex NHS Foundation Trust.

It was formed in April 2023 by the merging of two former dedicated charities: Love Your Hospital and BSUH Charity.

We raise funds for treatment, care and research which go over and above core NHS funding, making real and tangible improvements to the lives of patients and staff every day.

Our mission is to make life all together better. We enhance the care and experience of everybody who comes through the doors of our hospitals.

The work of the charity supports seven NHS hospitals across Sussex:

- Princess Royal Hospital, Haywards Heath
- Royal Alexandra Children's Hospital, Brighton
- Royal Sussex County Hospital, Brighton
- Southlands Hospital, Shoreham-by-Sea
- St Richard's Hospital, Chichester
- Sussex Eye Hospital, Brighton
- Worthing Hospital.



Our Key Achievements



The new Trust charity, My University Hospitals Sussex, is established and three exciting sub-brands launch: **My Comedy, My Music and My Gaming.**



The charity hosts the inaugural **Together for Tomorrow Ball**, raising £128,000 to support the future of healthcare in Sussex.



More than £5m of charitable funding is distributed across the Trust to **enhance the care and experience of everyone** who comes through the doors of our hospitals.



My University Hospitals Sussex recognises **staff commitment, dedication & hard work** by holding the STAR Awards, Staff Conference and 'Thank You NHS' Ice Skate.

The Difference You Made



£2,215,000
Total income



£2,835,000
Capital grants

Supporting productivity improvements in our hospitals



£5,081,000*
Total expenditure



£1,038,000
Patient welfare

Representing contributions made towards patient experience

*N.B. After merging, reserve funds from the two former charities were consolidated, which allowed us to significantly increase expenditure to improve the lives of patients and staff during the 2023/24 financial year. Existing funds have been distributed equitably across the Trust in addition to the year's income, including long-term projects in research and innovation spanning multiple years.



£1,154,000
Staff education and welfare

Including additional training to enable the provision of even better care

How You Made It Happen

3,402

Donations from supporters across the county

390

People attended My Comedy fundraisers

27

People left gifts in their wills

37

Businesses supported the charity with donations and gifts

80

Supporters attended our Together for Tomorrow Ball

Spending: A Snapshot

Funding the Future

Medical Research Fellowship

In partnership with the University of Sussex, we are funding a Medical Research Fellowship to support the Trust's Research and Innovation Strategy.

Over three years, Dr Stephen Robinson will undertake his PhD, developing blood tests to help with diagnosis, subtyping and monitoring treatment for brain tumours.

The Clinical Oncology Registrar explained:

“

The development of new procedures is urgently needed. If a blood test can inform us about a person's brain tumour, then we can refine our ability to provide a prognosis and decide on a treatment plan. It would be a significant step-forward. And to have the Trust working with the University of Sussex is a fantastic opportunity to learn, improve and evolve cancer treatment.



A Sea View

Refurbishing the Fluoroscopy Suite

My University Hospitals Sussex has funded the refurbishment of the Fluoroscopy Suite at the Royal Alexandra Children's Hospital, providing a state-of-the-art service for paediatric patients across the region.



Fluoroscopy is a procedure that makes a real-time video of the movements inside a part of the body by using X-rays. The refurbishment has introduced new imaging equipment into a freshly decorated ocean-themed room.

Improvements to the service are evident already, with reduced waiting times and diagnostic pathways and a less stressful experience for patients.

Beyond the Treatment

Small Acts of Friendship

Working together with two other charities, Friends of Brighton and Hove Hospitals and Princess Royal Hospital League of Friends, we are proud to have supported 4,616 patients through the Small Acts of Friendship programme this year.

Small Acts of Friendship is a unique programme that improves the wellbeing of inpatients across our hospitals. Offering personal services, therapies and activities - from haircuts and reflexology to music sessions and art therapy - the acts of friendship support patients' emotional state, sense of dignity and social activity while in hospital.

One patient commented:

“

For the duration of the reflexology treatment, I was taken away from the stresses and strains of my hospital admission. At the end I felt a feeling of hope.

Fundraising: A Snapshot Together for Tomorrow

Supporting the Future of Healthcare

In November 2023, My University Hospitals Sussex held its inaugural Together for Tomorrow Ball.

Hosted at the stunning location of Goodwood House in Chichester, the event marked a significant milestone in our ongoing commitment to advancing healthcare in Sussex.

The ball embodied the spirit of unity and shared purpose, and through the generosity of supporters and sponsors the charity can invest £128,000 into changing local lives for the better.

Director of Charities and Voluntary Services, Steve Crump OBE, said:

“A truly transformative amount was raised, enabling My University Hospitals Sussex to continue to make a profound impact, ensuring that our hospitals remain at the forefront of cutting-edge medicine and compassionate care.



Chuckles for Charity

A Hat-Trick of Comedy

The My Comedy sub-brand launched in the summer, kicking off one of three comedy shows for the year. Each show brought first class comedy to Sussex, with stellar stand-ups from across the circuit as seen on TV shows such as Mock the Week, Live at the Apollo and 8 Out of 10 Cats.

Audiences have continued to grow with each event as recommendations spread across both public and staff from entertained audience members.

November's headliner, Maisie Adam, shared:

“It's hugely important to have the hospitals we have in the best state they can possibly be in, and that relies on brilliant charities like My University Hospitals Sussex. It was a wonderful evening for a wonderful charity - a real pleasure.

Muddy Miles

Tackling Tough Mudder

Wading through mud, tackling obstacles and battling rain; Brighton's Stroke Unit team didn't let anything stop them go the extra mile (or 6.2 to be exact) for their patients.

Twelve team members took on the infamous Tough Mudder to fundraise for the charity. They smashed their fundraising target, raising an incredible £1,702 for their patients.

Tom De'Ath, Stroke Registrar, said:

“It certainly wasn't easy, but we pushed through and made it to the finish line together - and all in one piece! It was a great accomplishment, made all the more meaningful because the money we raised is supporting our patients.





Looking Forward



My University Hospitals Sussex will continue to grow its versatile events programme, including more gigs, exciting challenges and unique experiences.



The charity will begin a fundraising appeal towards the new Sussex Cancer Centre, ensuring the Trust provides a state-of-the-art medical facility upon opening.



Having taken responsibility for the Heritage Space in the Louisa Martindale Building, the charity will programme a series of exhibitions in partnership with Brighton & Hove Museums.



The charity will develop and fund new concepts, working towards the Trust's Patient First Strategy, including key worker accommodation and a MediCinema for paediatric patients.

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