

September 2011



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Dear Friend,

First the good news...

New statistics for 2010¹ show that even more young people are choosing drug and alcohol-free lifestyles. Education is working - and we'd like to say thank you to the people who regularly support us and help make our work possible.

Now the not-so-good news...

There is still a lot of work to do, and we need more help. Of the 11 to 15-year-olds surveyed last year, 12% are smokers; 45% have drunk alcohol and 12% had used recreational drugs in the past year. Our Drug Educators continue to meet many young people who drink at dangerous levels without realising the damage they are doing to their minds and bodies.

Drinking will kill 650 young people this year.

Shockingly, 650 young people will die this year because they don't understand the dangers of drinking.² In fact, a quarter of all deaths of young people aged 15 to 24 are caused by alcohol. This is a needless tragedy and Hope UK is determined to do something about it.

We need your help

There is a real danger that the improvement in substance-use statistics – the good news - will be reversed as local authorities, struggling to cope with smaller budgets, reduce their support for young people's services. A recent report from the National Council for Voluntary Youth Services warns: "Young people are at risk of suffering heavily from the public spending cuts."

We must stop generation after generation falling into the trap of drug and alcohol abuse. However, **our income from trusts and individual donors has dropped by 38% this year and we really need your help.**

Cont'd overleaf...

If you would like to become a regular supporter, please complete the 'Regular Giving' form below and return it to the office.

One-off gifts are also very much appreciated.

With our very best wishes,



Sarah Brighton
Chief Operations Manager

¹ *Smoking, drinking and drug use among young people in England in 2010*, NHS Information Centre

² Dr Sarah Wollaston MP, <http://www.drSarah.org.uk/issues/binge-drinking>

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If you are happy to be contacted in this way.

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Please pay the Bank of Ireland, PO Box 1755, Croydon, CR9 2SB to Hope UK (sort code 30-16-07, Account no 31706786)	
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One off
We/I cannot give regularly, but enclose a £_____ cheque to 'Hope UK'. Or call 020 7928 0848 to give by credit card.
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I want Hope UK to treat this donation, future donations and donations I've made over the past four financial periods as Gift Aid donations until I notify Hope UK otherwise. (You must pay an amount of Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax at least equal to the tax that Hope UK reclaims on your donations in the appropriate tax year. Please check that your details above are complete.)
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Thank you! Please return to Sarah Brighton, Hope UK, FREEPOST SW1439, London SE1 0YT