

# ACC Annual Review 2021



2021 began with a sense of uncertainty with a new wave of Covid-19 and whatever the term “the new normal” meant, we all knew that it would involve change and challenge. This was certainly the case for ACC like many other organisations, but we also knew that 2021 would be a year of great opportunity.

## CHANGES

### Our Team

The appointment of Kathy Spooner as our CEO at the end of 2020, meant that in 2021 we were able to look at restructuring and enhancing our staff team. The appointment of Gillian Stuart as Head of Membership Services, Yineng Hart as Head of Training and Communications, Stephen Poxon as Accord Editor and the return of Teresa Onions to work on some PCUK projects have all meant that we have been able to greatly develop and improve the services that we provide to our members and to the public.

In 2021 two Board members, Marlene Forsythe-Gidharry and Helen Vipan, stepped down, but have remained involved with ACC in other roles. We thank them for their work as Board members and their on-going support. We welcomed Gathoni Hamilton-Foster as a new member of the Board and will be appointing new Board members in 2022.

### Our Office

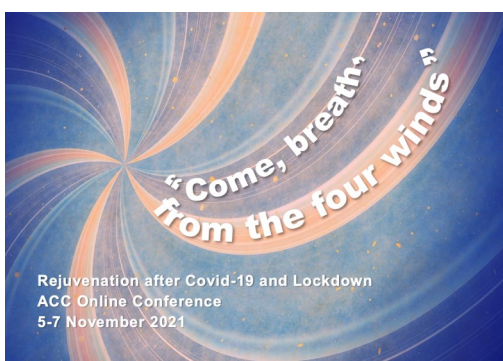
The pandemic meant that all of our staff moved to remote working in March 2020 and continued to do so very effectively. This gave us an opportunity to consider how and where we worked going forward and it was decided that we would close our Coventry office in June 2021 and move to complete remote working. The office closure involved a lot of working, adapting how we work as a team and saying goodbye to the many memories that the building held. We marked the occasion with a gathering in the park (inside gathering restrictions were still in place), which, despite it being cold and rainy, was a chance to celebrate with current and former ACC employees all that had been achieved during our time in Momus Boulevard. Being an organisation that works remotely has enabled us to be much more flexible in our recruitment and has been a successful transition.



## OPPORTUNITIES

### Training

Throughout 2021 we continued to expand our online training for counsellors and pastoral carers, with 40+ training events, retreat days and forums being held for members and non-members. In November we held our first ever online conference – the Four Winds Conference. Even though this was online, there was a real sense of the ACC family coming together, with many workshops being led by ACC/PCUK members, sharing their wealth of knowledge, expertise and experience. The conference was well attended and valued, and certainly something that we will consider repeating in the future. In 2022 we look forward to our National Conference taking place in October and the chance to physically be together for training, worship and fellowship.



### NHS Service

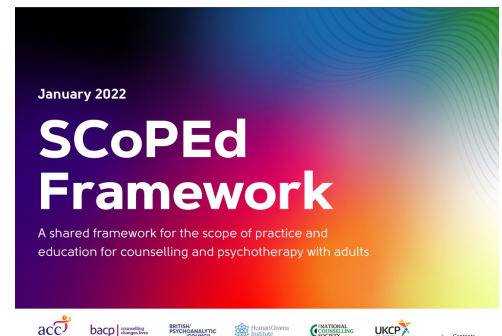
After 9 months and providing over 2,000 counselling sessions, it was decided that the totally voluntary counselling service set up at the start of pandemic to provide no fee counselling to NHS staff, residential care home staff and the bereaved needed to come to an end. However, the service was so valued by the NHS that they decided to fund a scheme for NHS hospital staff and paramedics, who worked with Covid-19 patients. The funding continued throughout 2021 and into 2022, enabling a further 600+ counselling sessions to be delivered. Providing this service has raised the profile of ACC within the NHS; feedback from clients and discussions that have been held have increased the awareness of the importance of faith and spirituality in



the mental well-being of many people. In acknowledging this, the NHS have decided to continue to fund an on-going service provided by ACC for all patient-facing staff, whether or not they have been working with Covid patients, and that whilst it is open to anyone, it is being emphasised that this is a safe and open space in which a client can talk about faith and spirituality if they wish to. This feels like a God-given opportunity for ACC to serve the NHS and we want to say thank you to everyone who has contributed to it.

## **SCoPEd**

ACC has continued to play an active role in the development of the SCoPEd framework, working collaboratively with other Professional Standards Authority accredited register counselling and psychotherapy bodies. The Framework was completed and published in January 2022, as phase one of the work, with work continuing in 2022 on impact assessment, communication and by the technical group. It is hoped that SCoPEd will enable the development of the counselling and psychotherapy profession and those that work within it, making it better understood, valued and trusted by clients, employers, commissioners and society.



## **Communication**

ACC have continued to be invited to contribute regular interviews with Premier and Trans World Radio on mental health and well-being related issues and an interview on Radio 4's Sunday programme.

## **Members' Groups**

ACC Ethnic Tapestry (ACCEnT) has continued to meet regularly, attend Board meetings and several members contributed to the Four Wind's Conference in October

Children and Young People's (CYP) Group was established for counsellors working with CYP clients and has continued to meet on a regular basis throughout 2021, to provide support and discuss issues.

## **Pastoral Care**

In the fall out from the pandemic, there has been a significant increase in the need for those involved in pastoral work to have a support structure. In response to this, ACC/PCUK established a Pastoral Support Group programme, which included initial training sessions on self-care, reflective practice, etc. and then the establishment of small facilitated reflective groups. The feedback has been very positive and we will look at how this programme can be

developed in 2022.

The adaptation of the Resourcing Pastoral Care Course to be delivered online has meant that in 2021, the number of people attending the course increased significantly. The course also continues to be delivered in Kenya and Uganda, with ACC UK supporting that work.

### **Accredited Register**

Finally, once again ACC successfully renewed our Accredited Register status with PSA with no conditions placed upon us and a commendation for the counselling service established in response to Covid-19.

## **PLANS FOR THE FUTURE**

2022 will be a busy year again for ACC, with many projects planned and to be completed:

- At the end of 2021, it was decided that the website and database would be redeveloped to provide an improved facility and service for members, those looking for services and general members of the public. It will also provide the platform for us to develop new membership streams. This extensive work will be carried out in 2022.
- Our National Conference in October 2022.
- Continuing our work with SCoPEd.
- Developing our policies and the services we provide.
- Developing new membership categories.

Financially, 2021 was a good year with a surplus for the year, even though we expected a deficit due to the National Conference needing to be postponed. We know, however, that in 2022 we will be making significant investments in the developments mentioned above and so would not expect to have a surplus. We are grateful to God for His provision in these over the years and also to the very many people, both staff and volunteers, whose incredible commitment and hard work have enabled ACC to achieve so much in 2021 and will enable us to continue to develop in 2022.

We also want to acknowledge that like 2020, 2021 was a time of immense personal tragedy for both some members and the many people that they have supported through these difficult times. We pray that we will all find hope in God to strengthen and guide us through 2022 and beyond.



*Sue Moulton-Rickett*

Chair  
Association of Christian Counsellors

## Financial Review

The Accounts for 2021 show an overall General Funds surplus of £19,500 for the year, compared with last year of £36,103. This resulted in the General Funds increasing from £149,635 to £181,082 after a transfer of £11,947 from the Restricted Funds. The bi-annual conference was postponed to 2022 due to covid-19, and although there was an increase in income, expenditure increased even more. The main reasons are shown below.

Income increased by £49,441 due to the following:

- An increase in training fees and levies of £26,462 using online training.
- An increase of £15,807 in fees of Pastoral Care courses using online training.
- An increase in subscriptions of £6,168.
- An increase of £2,900 through holding the Four Winds online conference in November.
- A decrease in advertising in the Accord magazine of £3,207 and gifts of £1,274.

Expenditure increased by £66,044 due to the following:

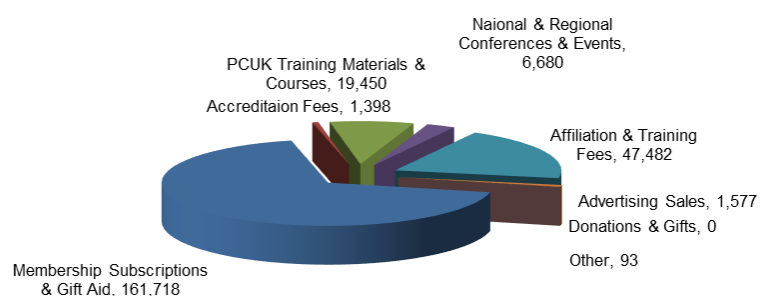
- An increase in staff costs of £18,797 with the recruitment of a Head of Training and Communications and contract staff to develop several Pastoral Care projects.
- An increase in Executive Allowance of £17,761 with the appointment of a CEO and Head of Membership Services.
- The cost of providing ACC online training courses of £10,871 and Pastoral Care online courses of £7,347 during the pandemic.
- An increase of £6,124 in payments to the Professional Standards Authority (PSA).
- Further increases of £5,830 in the printing costs of the Accord quarterly publication.
- Increased costs of £4,839 for Accreditation leads, assessors and audits.
- A decrease of £4,236 in rent and utilities, and £4,538 in telephone and internet with the closure of the Coventry office.

There is budgeted to be a deficit in 2022, due to the strategic investments in:

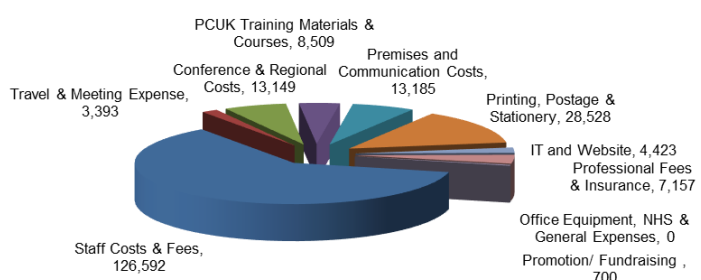
- The development of ACC infrastructure, so that it is equipped for potential growth and new membership categories
- Improvements to the ACC website to promote membership connection and interaction.

## Peter Roberts, ACC Finance Director

ACC analysis of  
revenue 2021: £243,452



ACC analysis of  
expenditure 2021: £223,952



**ASSOCIATION OF CHRISTIAN COUNSELLORS  
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021**

	General Fund (£)	Restricted Funds (£)	Total Funds (£)
<b>INCOME &amp; ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>			
Donations and Legacies	19,082	39,715	58,797
Charitable Activities	222,726	-	222,726
Other Trading Activities	1,577	-	1,577
Interest Income	67	-	67
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>243,452</b>	<b>39,715</b>	<b>283,167</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>			
Raising Funds	6,688	-	6,688
Charitable Activities	217,264	15,884	233,148
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>223,952</b>	<b>15,884</b>	<b>239,836</b>
<b>Net Income/(Expenditure)</b>	<b>19,500</b>	<b>23,831</b>	<b>43,331</b>
<b>Transfer Between Funds</b>	<b>11,947</b>	<b>-11,947</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total Funds Brought Forward</b>	<b>149,635</b>	<b>4,099</b>	<b>153,734</b>
<b>Total Funds Carried Forward</b>	<b>181,082</b>	<b>15,983</b>	<b>197,065</b>

**ASSOCIATION OF CHRISTIAN COUNSELLORS  
BALANCE SHEET AT 31 DECEMBER 2021**

	Total Funds (£)	Prior Year Funds (£)
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>		
Intangible Assets		
Tangible Assets	-	-
Investments		
<b>Total Fixed Assets</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Debtors	21,895	6,553
Cash at bank and in-hand	192,859	170,333
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>214,754</b>	<b>176,886</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
Creditors: amount falling due within	17,688	23,152
<b>Net Current Assets</b>	<b>197,065</b>	<b>153,734</b>
<b>THE FUNDS OF THE CHARITY</b>		
Restricted Income Funds	15,983	4,099
Unrestricted Income Funds	181,082	149,635
<b>Total Charity Funds</b>	<b>197,065</b>	<b>153,734</b>