

2020 CSR roundup

January 2021

To bring some cheer to Lockdown 3.0 we have summarised below some of the amazing things MH has done this year to help others as part of our CSR programme (and beyond):

1. In the time before we used the words/phrases “lockdown”, “tiers”, “self-isolating” and “new normal” on a daily basis, members of the team attended two Gadget Workshops at Age UK Camden, giving attendees the skills to communicate with family members and friends, and make the day-to-day easier in quick and simple ways.
2. Throughout the restricted periods this year, we have written and delivered **OVER 600** cards (general, birthday and Happy Holidays) to elderly/isolated people in Camden via the Age UK Camden Keeping in Touch Scheme – this is an incredible achievement, particularly in such difficult circumstances.
3. The firm donated a large box of Easter chocolates (which were purchased for a (later cancelled) Easter-themed coffee morning with Age UK Camden) to go into emergency food parcels for elderly/isolated people in Camden.
4. For The Trussell Trust, our 2020 charity of the year:
 - We held a raffle to kick-off the fundraising.
 - The Partners organised and hosted a great virtual firm quiz, bringing the fundraising total to **£650** through entry fees.
 - We curated and designed the first MH Pets Calendar, bringing the fundraising total to nearly **£1,200**. We hope this becomes an annual initiative.
 - We organised a Reverse Advent Calendar initiative, encouraging people to collect and donate non-perishable goods to their local Trussell Trust or other food bank before Christmas.
 - We set up a Fantasy Football League, pledging that half of the entry fees/winnings will go to The Trussell Trust.
5. For the London Legal Support Trust, people took part in a virtual London Legal Walk in June 2020 by walking 10,000 steps in a day, and in October 2020, more people made various “10x-themed” pledges, e.g. cycling 100km in October, reading 10 books in October etc., to raise further funds and awareness. We raised a massive **£750**.
6. We listened to an insightful Q&A session with Steve from Friends of Essex and London Homeless, following which a number of people from MH were inspired to donate to the charity via its Amazon Wish List.
7. Linked to the above, we have decided to support Friends of Essex and London Homeless as our **2021 charity of the year**. In addition to concentrating our fundraising efforts on FOELH, we will (restrictions-permitting later in the year) encourage people to bring in donations for the charity, donate via the Amazon Wish List and, if possible, go along to the weekly Charing Cross kitchens to provide food, clothing and toiletries to homeless people in Central London.
8. Individual members of the firm have been helping their neighbours during periods of lockdown by providing/cooking food and buying and delivering Christmas presents to children in their local communities who would otherwise go without.

AND because social responsibility also means looking after each other as colleagues and friends, we have stayed connected with each other with Zooms, calls, WhatsApps, memes, (more) quizzes, summer parties, guess the desk, yoga, running club, team exercise challenges, hampers, MH Discover and much more...