

## PRESS RELEASE

11 April 2019

### A FREE event celebrating carers in Greater Manchester

Join gaddum and a host of carers partner organisations from across Greater Manchester for the FIRST EVER, [Carers Fest!](#).

Carers Fest! provides opportunities for carers and those cared for of all ages to enjoy a break from their responsibilities, have fun, make new friends and have their voices heard on issues that affect them. Taking place during Carers Week, Greater Manchester-based charity gaddum, will be hosting the event on Saturday 15 June from the People's History Museum.

This event is also an opportunity for professionals to learn about the reality of caring and make a pledge to improve health and social care in Greater Manchester and members of the public to feel informed about carers support in their area.

Activities will include live musical performances, wellbeing workshops, educational sessions, including carers makers market. We really want to create a carnival feeling to the event to celebrate carers.

The theme for the event is follows Carers Week 2019 theme 'Getting Carers Connected'. We would really like to hear about people's personal experiences of being a carer via our especially created social channels on Facebook and Twitter [@carersfest](#)

This event is funded by The National Lottery Community Fund which gives out millions of pounds from the UK's National Lottery to good causes, with money going to community groups and health, education and environment projects.

A carer is someone of any age who supports, unwaged, a relative, partner or friend who due to physical or mental illness, disability, frailty or addiction could not manage without that support.

Many people don't think of themselves as a carer if they are the person's wife/husband/partner, or their son/daughter for example. They might see looking after them as something you just get on with. There are an estimated 280,000 carers living in Greater Manchester, who can be a hard to reach group because of the time and energy they put into caring for a loved one.

**Lynne Stafford, Chief Executive, gaddum and GM carers advisory lead for VCSE, said:**

*"We are absolutely thrilled that The National Lottery Community Fund has been our main funder to help gaddum create the North West's first Carers-Fest. We hope that this event is the first for many more to come and encourage carers across Greater Manchester to join us on Saturday 15 June for our celebration event"*

Those wanting to attend this event which is FREE can do so by booking on [Eventbrite](#) or by visiting our website or social media channels.

**ENDS**

To request interviews with spokespeople, please contact Charlotte Brown, PR & Comms Lead, gaddum.

**Contact:**

**Charlotte Brown, PR & Comms Lead, gaddum**

6 Great Jackson Street, Manchester, M15 4AX

[charlotte.brown@gaddum.co.uk](mailto:charlotte.brown@gaddum.co.uk)

0161 834 6069

[www.gaddumcentre.co.uk](http://www.gaddumcentre.co.uk)

**Social media channels**

Facebook @carersfest @gaddumcentre

Twitter @carersfest @gaddumcentre

Linked In @gaddumcentre

**Notes to Editors**

**About gaddum**

- gaddum is one of Manchester's oldest charities. Set up in 1833, its vision is to support Greater Manchester's most vulnerable adults, children and families.
- We are focused on empowering people and enhancing lives through being innovative, forging partnerships and building relationships.
- gaddum is an established charity offering a range of health and social care services empowering and enhancing the lives of people in greater Manchester. We have three main focus areas: •therapy services (including palliative and bereavement support) •statutory advocacy •carers support service (including provision for young people) As a provider for making lives better, our work includes counselling, advocacy, advice, family and individual support along with training and development programmes for individuals, families, agencies, local and health authorities, professionals and companies We currently work in five Greater Manchester authorities, Bury, Manchester, Rochdale, Salford and Stockport.
- To find our more information, refer a person or family to one of our services, please visit our website [www.gaddumcentre.co.uk](http://www.gaddumcentre.co.uk)

**About the National Lottery Community Fund**



- [The National Lottery Community Fund](#) (previously the Big Lottery Fund) has been working to put people and communities at the heart of its grants since introducing its People in the Lead Strategic Framework in 2015. Last year alone it gave out over half a billion pounds (£508.5 million) of National Lottery funding to community projects across the UK. Over 11,000 projects benefitted from this, enabling people and communities to bring their ideas to life.