



**Action on Addiction**

**Summary:**

A Social Return on Investment Analysis of the M-PACT (Moving Parents And Children Together) Programme



**April 2014**

## Summary: a Social Return on Investment Analysis of the M-PACT Programme – April 2014

### About Action on Addiction For Families and M-PACT

Action on Addiction works to find ever more effective ways of disarming addiction in individuals, families, communities and society as a whole. The For Families team develop and deliver models for working with children, parents, carers and friends of people living with addiction. It includes the unique M-PACT (Moving Parents and Children Together) programme. M-PACT takes a whole family approach, enabling children to talk about their experience of living with parental addiction.

In January 2012, HRH The Duchess of Cambridge became patron of Action on Addiction.

### The Research and Methodology

An independent economic assessment of M-PACT was carried out by Interface Enterprises over the period August to October 2013 to provide a robust and defensible estimate of the costs and benefits of the programme. The methodology chosen to undertake this assessment was an evaluative Social Return on Investment (SROI).

### Results

The ultimate outcome for the project was identified as ‘To improve the physical and psychological health and wellbeing of children and young people affected by parental substance misuse’. To achieve this overall objective, the programme is designed to see changes in two broad areas: Parents modifying their behaviour to take into account the effect of their substance misuse on their children, and the impact of parental substance misuse on children needs to be reduced.

Potential benefits and improvements of participation on the M-PACT programme include:

- Improved school attendance and behaviour
- Improved dietary habits
- Improved relationships
- Improved self esteem
- Cessation of prescribed medication
- Improved physical hygiene
- Improved anxiety levels
- In addition the programme hopes to ensure that children and young people are appropriately placed on child protection plans.

Wider benefits to the family include:

- Reduction in parental substance misuse (although not a direct aim of the programme)
- Families engaging with services
- Improvement in family communication. This is seen as a key element which needs to be addressed to improve outcomes. The family needs to develop healthy communication.
- Reduction in feelings of isolation and loneliness in children

The following benefits can be valued financially:

- Improved school attendance and behaviour
- Parents accessing drug treatment
- Improved general health
- Parent moved into employment
- Reduced offending behaviour
- Removal of child protection plan

The evidence suggests that the M-PACT programme saves £2.76 in the first year after a family engages with the programme for every £1.00 spent. In the highest case scenario the programme demonstrates a saving of £6.53 for every £1.00 spent.

| Scenario                   | Family Unit Cost | Family Benefit | SROI Ratio |
|----------------------------|------------------|----------------|------------|
| Full Cost                  | £1,852           | £2,213         | 1.19       |
| Low Cost                   | £656             | £2,213         | 3.37       |
| High Cost                  | £2,092           | £2,213         | 1.06       |
| 2 year effectiveness       | £802             | £3,320         | 4.14       |
| 50% dead weight            | £802             | £1,475         | 1.84       |
| 0% dead weight             | £802             | £2,950         | 3.68       |
| Highest benefit calculated | £802             | £5,237         | 6.53       |
| Lowest benefit calculated  | £802             | £1,287         | 1.60       |

Even under pessimistic scenarios the programme still saves money in the first year. The actual saving is likely to be much higher given the assumption of only 12 months benefit and the cautious proxies chosen. In addition there are additional benefits that have not been monetised such as families engaged with services and children achieving higher educational attainment. From a cost-effectiveness perspective M-PACT has been shown to provide substantial and real economic value.

Action on Addiction takes action to disarm addiction. We do this through research, treatment, family support, advocacy, education and training.

Patron: HRH The Duchess of Cambridge

## Contact us

For more information about any of our services:

Visit [www.actiononaddiction.org.uk](http://www.actiononaddiction.org.uk)

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FORUM**

Founded by  
The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge  
and Prince Harry

