



Shine Even Brighter

Champions for Change (South Ayrshire's Champions Board) support young people with experience of care to work alongside those who make decisions about the care system. In this way, they are involved in the decisions that affect their own lives. This work sits within the context of Corporate Parenting and Children's Service Planning.

The Promise is a movement that aims to improve the lives and outcomes of children and young people in care and highlights the need for significant changes in Scotland's care system to better support children and young people with vulnerabilities.

There must be a significant, ongoing and persistent commitment to ending poverty and mitigating its impacts for Scotland's children, families and communities

Small Grants Scheme

The Small Grants scheme is budgeting that addresses inequalities that already exist, and it has been led by people with lived experience through South Ayrshire's Champion Board. Grant making is a powerful tool in order to increase choice and control in the participation of young people with care experience.

Key Findings

- The number of applications grows every year
- Multi-layered benefits.
- Empowering young people to get items they have been talking about
- Great way to connect with other care experienced people
- Ability to spot themes in things that might be missing or desired by care experienced population
- Opportunity to connect people with supports that they did not know existed including free travel and across leisure services



**Total funding
£56,095**



Items purchased:-

- Electronic devices
- Clothing
- Driving lessons
- Sports request
- Household items
- Baby items
- Food bank vouchers
- Data SIM cards
- Energy vouchers
- Active8 (free leisure access)
- Other including music lessons ; art supplies ; business start ups

Growth by Year

Year	Number of Applications	Total funded
May 2020	100	£15,777
October 2021	112	£16,037
January 2023	151	£38,936
June 2024	209	£57,780
April 2025	244	£56,095

"I have been getting things for my home to make it more beautiful – I want to keep my safe space nice"

"I feel that I will fit in better at school if I have new clothes and trainers"