

December 2021

Fundraising News

Dear Supporters, Trusts, Foundations, Friends, Families and Mount Community,

Welcome to our latest Christmas edition! We are delighted to tell you about our very special friendship with the Ramm family, whose son Carl came to The Mount as a student. Anne and her family have so generously supported our Pond House fundraising campaign by loaning us the full amount to buy Pond House with such generous terms! Anne and her family also donated a very large sum towards the necessary renovation to create a beautiful cohousing home. Inspired by our work, they have since set up their own residential project in Berlin. We hope you enjoy this insight.

Written by Anne & Christian Ramm:

We are the Ramm family, mother, father and three children. Carl is our middle child. He was born with Downs syndrome in 1995. We lived in Turkey at that time, our life was turbulent. In 2000 we returned to Germany, where the children spent their school years. All three attended different schools, according to their personal interests and abilities. We helped and supported them.

But we asked ourselves what comes after school? The big leap into independence, vocational training or university. For our eldest and our youngest, that matter was clear: they couldn't leave the nest at home fast enough!

And Carl? Straight into employment, the workshop, that didn't fit. He, too, should have the opportunity to find his bearings and try things out, to learn with his peers and to cope with everyday life. We couldn't find anything suitable in Germany. So we searched further and found what we were looking for in the south of England. "The Mount", a great orientation, learning and living project. Three years of time for Carl, three years in a community with support and a sense of belonging. Three years with the chance to develop and try out in the best way possible. Looking back, a complete success for all of us.



We wondered why isn't there such a great project in Germany? So one question became a matter of the heart: firstly, the establishment of the Anne Ramm Foundation in 2015 and secondly, the idea of the college. A place with the goal of offering young people with support needs a protected space for orientation in living and working.



One stage on the way to establishing the college is the Lern-WG, our first residential project. Twelve young adults live together in an apartment building. Some with, some without support needs. Self-determined learning.

The Foundation sees itself as a companion for young people on their way to an adult life. Door to door with eight other tenants. What sounds like a daring experiment at first is actually the best training for independence. It is geared to the individual needs of each person as well as the needs of the group. And in the middle of Berlin life.

The special features of the Lern-WG compared to other forms of housing - 12 young people with and without assistance live together door to door. They support and benefit from each other. Integration assistance is provided by qualified personnel, who also bear the responsibility. Necessary care service is integrated on request. Living in the Lern-WG is limited in time. The learning goals are independence, competence in everyday life and in the community.



“It was a privilege to stay with Anne, Christian and Carl in Berlin and visit the Lern-WG during one of its open days. Carl and his friends were proud and keen to show me around. Carl was able to stand up and give a short talk which added to the general celebration. We wish them all continued success for the future.” Crystal.

Pond House update

We are pleased to let you know our Pond House appeal has now raised over £576,548. Our chosen contractor is scheduled to start work in the new year. We look forward to sharing further news and photos of progress once the building work gets underway.

Our Friends community have made it possible!

A New Polytunnel arrives at The Mount!

Thank you to all our Friends donors, who have helped us to buy this brand new 24 x 6 metres poly tunnel. Itai, our gardening tutor, is looking forward to growing garlic, carrots, kolrabi, lettuce, tomatoes and basil plants in it and the gardening students and cohousers will be able to shelter in here during the wet weather but continue to garden.



Out with the old!

We are proud to say it has been upcycled.



In with the new!



We'd like to take this opportunity to thank you for your amazing support and connection to us here at The Mount and wish you a wonderful Christmas and a very Happy New Year.

*With heartfelt and very best wishes from,
Chrystal Hayn & Vicky Phillips*

A few other things to let you know about: Simple ways to help

Close the Gap – Crowdfunding campaign for the Pond House appeal

This has been launched and so far raised over £8,000. We are in the process of changing our online donation platform to Just Giving, but it's not quite set up yet. For news of when this is ready and the link to our page, visit our website www.mountcamphill.org or email fundraising@mountcamphill.org for details on how to make your donation.

Easyfundraising is an easy way to donate to The Mount when you do your online shopping. Follow these easy steps and support us at no cost to you.

1. Go to www.easyfundraising.org.uk.
2. Choose The Mount Camphill Community to support, then join for free.
3. Put in the retailer's name that you wish to shop with to check it is listed.
4. Start shopping – shop online as normal.
5. The Mount will receive free donations. Donation percentage varies from retailer to retailer. Remember that you will always need to log in via www.easyfundraising.org.uk for this to work each time.

AmazonSmile 😊

AmazonSmile is another way for you to support and give donations to The Mount, at no cost to you, every time you shop with Amazon. Shopping with smile.amazon.co.uk is exactly the same as Amazon, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate 0.5% of the net purchase price to The Mount!

Signing up is easy!

1. Go to smile.amazon.co.uk and login with your existing Amazon account or create a new one using your preferred email address.
2. Once logged in, scroll down and type "The Mount Camphill Community" in the box as the charitable organisation to support and click 'search'.
3. Click 'select' to choose The Mount to receive the donations.
4. Check the box acknowledging that you must visit smile.amazon.co.uk each time you shop in order to support The Mount and click 'Start shopping'. Continue from there as normal. Remember that you will always need to log in via smile.amazon.co.uk for this to work each time.

Become a Friend of The Mount & A Lasting Legacy of Support leaflets

Our leaflets – Become a Friend of the Mount, which sets out how you can become a regular donor, and A lasting Legacy of Support, which explains how you can leave a gift in your will to support the young people at The Mount, are both available to you. Please email fundraising@mountcamphill.org if you would like to receive copies.



Gift Aid

As you may know, completing a Gift Aid form for donations you have made to The Mount, enables us to boost these by reclaiming 25p of tax on every £1 that we receive, at no cost to you! To be able to do this you need to be a UK taxpayer. Please let us know if you would like to receive a form to complete and we can send this to you.

