

# RODA'S HISTORY

- 1994** A group of local mums start meeting together when they discover their children are using drugs. A local psychiatric nurse helps them to form themselves into a support group and they meet regularly to share knowledge, experiences and feelings.
- 1997** The first Management Committee is formed and a Constitution written. Sufficient funding is secured to employ a part time Development Worker. A base is established in the community room at Southey Library.
- 1998** A three year lottery grant is secured.
- 2001** A worker is employed to develop the Outreach service. A second support group is started in the City Centre.
- 2002** RODA receives another three year grant from the Big Lottery. RODA now offers telephone support; three support groups, an outreach service and regular training and information sessions. Two volunteers establish a specialist group for those bereaved through drug use. It is called Space2.
- 2003** "Putting it into words" video is produced in collaboration with Sheffield Family and Friends Alliance, ADFAM and the Home Office.
- 2004** A Project Co-ordinator is employed to develop a strategy and implement the infrastructure to meet the needs of the future and plan for long term sustainability. RODA brings the 'men only' support group under its umbrella following the closure of the Lowedges, Batemoor and Jordanthorpe (LBJ) project. A prison information booklet is produced for family members whose loved one is in prison.
- 2005** Eddie Concannon joins RODA as a Support Worker. Vera Grundy, a founder member of RODA, receives a Centenary Award from Sheffield University for her outstanding contribution to the community. Barbara Scott is awarded a 'Year of the Volunteer' Award for her commitment and contribution to the organisation. The 'Listening to Grandparents' information pack is produced in collaboration with the Sheffield Family and Friends Alliance.
- 2006** RODA is commissioned by Sheffield DAAT to provide services for the families and friends of drug users. A drop in service starts at Shirecliffe Community Centre and at Melrose Surgery in Burngreave.
- 2007** A long term volunteer and Management Committee member came runner up in the prestigious national ADFAM writing competition. RODA move to a new premises at Shirecliffe Community Centre. RODA employs an administrator and starts to offer student social work placements.