

I am so pleased to be here with you this evening in this, the second year that 100 Women in Finance has generously supported WellChild, a charity that is very close to my heart.

The significant power of 100 Women in Finance's Philanthropic initiatives has made lasting contributions to William, Catherine and my charities in previous years, and I am so pleased that WellChild has been chosen, for a second time, to benefit from this support.

WellChild works tirelessly to ensure the best possible care and support for thousands of children and young people across the UK living with long-term and complex health conditions. In my tenth year as Patron I am proud to see the great strides made by the organisation, which continues to work hard to meet the growing demand and reach as many children and families as possible. None more so than the growth of the WellChild Nurse programme, which also celebrated its tenth anniversary recently.

Over these years, I have met many inspirational children and young people living with serious and exceptional health needs. Their strength, positivity and often good humour in the face of such difficult circumstances is astounding, and it reinforces the importance of WellChild's crucial work.

For so many families, organisations like WellChild offer a lifeline that otherwise would not exist. Your support of the partnership between WellChild and 100 Women in Finance will result in many more families receiving the care and support that they so desperately need and deserve.

Thank you so very much for your help. I hope you all have a wonderful evening.