

NEWS RELEASE



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ARK (ABSOLUTE RETURN FOR KIDS) ANNOUNCES NEW CHAIRMAN

The children's charity, ARK, (Absolute Return for Kids) announced today that Stanley Fink is to become chairman of the ARK trustees, taking over from founding chairman, Arpad Busson who has held the post for the seven years since the charity launched. Mr Busson will remain a member of the Board as founding chairman, and chairman of ARK US.

Mr Fink has been on the board of trustees since 2004, is the sponsor and chair of governors of ARK's first academy, Burlington Danes in Hammersmith, and a co-chairman of ARK's education charity ARK Academies.

Outgoing Chairman, Arpad Busson, said: "I am delighted that Stanley has agreed to take the chair. He is a tremendous asset to ARK and makes a formidable contribution as an ARK trustee and to Burlington Danes Academy and ARK Academies.

"It has been a great privilege to chair ARK's board of trustees at a time when ARK's effectiveness in delivering real life-changing improvements to children has grown hugely – and far beyond our hopes when we began. It has been a privilege to be the Chairman of ARK, and I want to thank my fellow trustees for their leadership, immense effort and support. The strength of the institution of ARK is the collective effort of its board and programmes, working as a team. I look forward to supporting Stanley as he leads the trustees to further success. "

Stanley Fink said:

"It is a great honour to succeed Arki, whose energy and commitment have played an enormous role in ARK's achievements. As the driving force behind ARK from its inception he has been an inspiring chairman. He makes an unparalleled contribution not only to winning support for ARK but also to driving our programmes forward, challenging everyone to give their best and never yielding in his demand that ARK can and must do more.

"ARK's work in health, education and child welfare has never been more vital. If you can offer a child a good education and good health you can change their life. ARK has helped improve the lives of 120,000 children. I look forward to working with the trustees and staff to ensure we reach many more."

Ends

For further information please contact Lesley Smith at ARK 0207 395 2080.

About ARK

ARK is an international charity whose purpose is to transform children's lives. It was founded in 2002 by senior figures in the alternative investment industry. With a shared vision of collective philanthropy, ARK delivers high social returns on philanthropic investment.

ARK has a highly committed board of trustees who use their skills and experience to support ARK's activities. Along with ARK's patrons, the trustees ensure that all administrative costs are covered, so that 100% of all donations go directly to deliver ARK's programmes for children.

ARK's trustees are: Arpad Busson, Paul Dunning, Stanley Fink, David Gorton, Kevin Gundle, Paul Marshall, Jennifer Moses, Mike Platt, Blaine Tomlinson, Ian Wace. Mr Busson indicated to the Board some time ago his intention to stand down in 2009 and the succession was planned by the Board. He will continue to be a trustee and Chairman of ARK US.

ARK programmes

ARK identifies, creates and delivers innovative and highly effective programmes in the areas of HIV/AIDS (South Africa, Mozambique), Education (UK, India) and Children in Care (Eastern Europe) that are transformative, scalable and sustainable. ARK applies the same principles and disciplines to managing the charity as it would to running a business, focusing on the transformation of children's lives through rigorous research, monitoring and evaluation.

ARK in Southern Africa.

ARK launched its first programme to prevent children being orphaned by AIDS in South Africa, with the South African government, in 2003. Today ARK supported programmes treat one in ten of all patients on treatment in South Africa and ARK's anti-retroviral therapy (ART) treatment model is being replicated in Mozambique.

ARK in Eastern Europe

ARK and its partners have closed 15 institutions and moved over 2,000 children into family-focused homes. By 2010, ARK will have supported the closure of a total of 24 institutions.

ARK Schools in the UK

ARK Schools runs a network of non-selective academies offering high quality education to children of all backgrounds. It runs six academies in London with a further two to open in Birmingham and Portsmouth in September 2009. ARK aims to have 12 academies open by 2012. ARK also runs and develops programmes to help schools succeed. The **Future Leaders** programme develops outstanding leaders for challenging urban schools.

About Stanley Fink and Arpad Busson

Stanley Fink is Chief Executive Officer of International Standard Asset Management (ISAM). He was previously non-executive Deputy Chairman of Man Group plc. He joined Man in 1987, became Group Chief Executive in March 2000 and was appointed Deputy Chairman in March 2007.

Mr Fink studied at Manchester Grammar School and Trinity Hall College, Cambridge, graduating with an MA in Law in 1979. He qualified as a chartered accountant with Arthur Andersen and has held positions at Mars and Citibank.

He is president of the Evelina Children's Hospital Appeal Committee of St Thomas's Hospital London and chairman of the Lord Mayor's Appeal.

Arpad Busson is the Founder and Chairman of EIM, which manages assets for institutional investors and high net worth individuals in delegated investment management. He is Chairman of the AAA Foundation, the Swiss foundation providing Swiss pension funds with access to investments in multi-manager products.