

ANNUAL REPORT 2020

Children's Grief Centre

**Providing children with a safe place to
express their feelings of grief**

CHY 20919 Charity Registration Number 20083403

TABLE OF CONTENTS

01

Our Mission

02

Welcome from the CEO

03

Chairman's Report

04

**About the Children's Grief
Centre**

05

**The Importance of Early
Intervention**

06

Children we helped in 2020

07

**Feedback from Parents
& Children**

08

The Impact of Covid 19

09

Fundraising Report

10

The Dream Build Update

11

Farewell

12

Governance

13

Our Work with the Community

14

Finance Reports

15

Acknowledgements



MISSION

Our mission is to provide support for school aged children and young people affected by loss through death, separation, or divorce. We offer a safe and supportive place for children, young people and their families who are grieving. The service is provided by trained and experienced people.

OUR AIM

Children are given the opportunity to look at feelings associated with loss and learn that they are not alone. We aim to help children overcome obstacles that prevent them from leading full lives. In addition, the Children's Grief Centre strives to educate the community that grieving is an important part of life and is essential to an individual's ongoing growth and development.

VALUES

Caring through listening - We give children a space to talk, share, ask questions and explore their emotions.

Safety – We offer a safe place that helps children feel calm, secure and welcomed.

Non-Judgmental – Our role is never to judge, sway opinion or arbitrate between parents. We are here to support the children.

Acceptance – We work with children across all backgrounds, cultures and religions.

Teamwork – We have a team of professionals with a combination of skills and qualifications.



WELCOME FROM THE CEO

What a year of contrast it has been. In 2019 we celebrated our 10th anniversary with a well-attended conference celebrating our achievements over the years. The 10th anniversary was a special time for all of us, as we looked back on what we had achieved and set out ambitious plans for the future.

In 2020, the Children's Grief Centre continued to work towards its ultimate vision: to provide support services for children between the ages of 4 and 18 who are affected by loss through death, separation, or divorce and to raise awareness and promote understanding of the needs of such children. The service is free at the point of delivery and primarily serves the mid-west region of Limerick, Tipperary and Clare.

Grief is devastating at any age, but for a child who is still emotionally developing, it can be catastrophic. Research shows that without early intervention, bereaved children can experience mental health, emotional, social and behavioral issues, together with educational and financial problems as they mature.

In March 2020, Ireland was plunged into its first lockdown and the biggest concern for the CEO was the safety of our staff, volunteers and the children we support. I am very proud to report that staff adapted to the crisis with fortitude. From June to December 2020 our support workers continued to see children and young people for face-to-face sessions. The support workers responded to the needs of 229 children and young people with a total of 1045 sessions.

Our income and expenditure was affected by Covid-19. Fund raising activities were suspended but demand for our services continued to increase. We have been bowled over by the generosity of our supporters and the loyalty of our fundraisers, who have carried us through these unprecedented times. Faced with cancelled and postponed events, our fundraising team have been working tirelessly to find new opportunities and new ways of working effectively. The key risk in the year ahead is funding to meet charitable expenditure as demand for services rise through the Covid-19 crisis and income uncertainty.

It is always worthy to note that the Children's Grief Centre is 84% funded by individual members of the public, fundraising events, corporate donations and philanthropic grants. 16% of funding is provided by the HSE, TUSLA, and Limerick City and County Council.

We need the ongoing support of the Mid-West Communities and importantly, the State if we are to continue to deliver the support children and young people need following loss through death, separation or divorce. Coronavirus will have a lasting impact on the children and their families. There is no doubt that our services are needed now more than ever before. We will work tirelessly to respond to the challenges children and young people face.

A huge thank you to everyone who has made our work possible in 2020. A particular thanks to Helen McNerney for her work on this annual report. A special thanks must go to our Board of Directors, for their commitment and support throughout the year and for their incredible contribution in dealing with the challenges presented by Covid-19. I want to extend my appreciation to our staff and volunteers who are the life blood of the organisation and without whom we could not do our work. We are very fortunate to have the support of Olive Foley as our Ambassador who works tirelessly for the Centre. To our funders, thank you for your ongoing support that enables us to do what we do every day.

Helen Culhane
CEO

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT



As Chair of the Board of Directors of Children's Grief Centre (CGC) I am delighted to introduce the Centre's Annual Report 2020.

The Board met on nine occasions during the year. I wish to record the gratitude of the Centre to all the members of the Board for their unstinting efforts on behalf of the CGC. Thanks are due, in particular, to Ita O'Brien and Majella Foley Friel, both long-standing members, who retired from the Board during 2020. And we are delighted to welcome Derek Walsh, who joined us in July.

It is also appropriate here to acknowledge the ongoing, generous hospitality of the Sisters of Mercy to the CGC from its beginnings in Mount St Vincent's Convent twelve years ago. However, we have now outgrown the available space in our current home in Westbourne Convent. Hence, we did not hesitate to accept the invitation of Sr Brenda Dolphin RSM, Provincial Leader, to relocate to the former Widows' Residence on the Mount St Vincent's site (now incorporating the John Henry Newman campus of Mary Immaculate College).

The members of the Board are grateful beyond words for the gift of this historic building. To quote Jonathan Harper, our Volunteer Project Manager, "it has great bones," and will provide the ideal long-term home for the Centre. However, the building needs extensive, and expensive, repair and refurbishment, including a new roof, replacement windows, central heating system, electrical rewiring, a lift, new stairs, and much, much more. All going well, we hope to move into our new Centre in the Spring of 2023.

Meanwhile, the CGC Building Sub-Committee and the Design Team (with the architects and quantity surveyor), are meeting regularly to progress planning and preparation with a view to getting builders on site in Autumn 2021. A fund-raising campaign is being planned for Spring 2021.

Finally, despite interruptions on foot of Covid-19, the work of the Centre goes on, under the stewardship of its founder and CEO Sr Helen Culhane RSM, with the enthusiastic collaboration of our highly motivated and multi-tasking staff. And not forgetting the work of our valued volunteers on several fronts.

Phil Mortell.
Chairman of the Board of Directors

ABOUT THE CHILDREN'S GRIEF CENTRE

OUR WORK WITH CHILDREN

Since 2009, The Children's Grief Centre has provided a free support service to children and young people affected by loss through bereavement, separation or divorce. Each year approximately 230 children and young people attend the Centre for one-to-one sessions with our support workers. The Centre addresses the need for support for children and young people who are grieving. The service we offer at the Children's Grief Centre is a listening service that helps children and young people better understand and normalise their feelings. Children adapt to loss to a great extent on how those around them support them in the grieving process. Without the support provided by the Children's Grief Centre, many children would experience long term mental health problems.

OUR TEAM

Our team includes staff and volunteers who support the mission of the Children's Grief Centre with various skills, qualifications, and experience. Our support workers are highly qualified professionals with backgrounds in primary or secondary school teaching, psychotherapy, play therapy and counselling. We interview volunteers following their initial application. References are provided, and they are garda vetted where appropriate.

OUR FACILITIES

A significant constraint to the delivery of our services to date has been the lack of sufficient facilities. In 2020 we converted an unused room into a parent meeting room. This addition will help us to increase the number of parents and older children that we can see once it is safe to do so. A building suitable for the service has recently been gifted to us beside the Mary Immaculate Campus. The building is a substantial structure built from local stone, very much in the style of the surrounding buildings. The building has great potential, but it needs refurbishment to bring it up to required standards. This includes re-roofing, new windows, new heating, electrics, toilets and stairs as well as the tailored provision of a range of therapy rooms and specialised settings needed to support our work. We've assembled a top-class team of architects and designers so that we can get this critical effort right; a planning application has been submitted and we hope to get on-site by the autumn of 2021. This new building will allow us to increase the number of one to one sessions by fifty per cent and will reduce the waiting time from the current 18 months to just 3 months.

THE IMPORTANCE OF EARLY INTERVENTION

International evidence shows that prevention and early intervention approaches achieve much better results for children than later intervention.

Research has shown that early childhood experiences are fundamental to the development of strong mental and physical health, and they interact with genes to shape the architecture of the developing brain (Centre on the Developing Child, 2010; Liming & Grube, 2018).

From our experience at the Children's Grief Centre, many families are under increasing stress and strain (Nixon, Layte and Thornton, 2019).

A range of interventions is required to address multiple needs and affect the kinds of change necessary to build children's resilience, especially those affected by loss through death, separation and divorce.

The effects of child bereavement can be harmful in later life for bereaved children if not dealt with appropriately. For example, the loss of a parent may lead to mental health problems, social withdrawal, anxiety and lowered self-esteem for many years after the death (Worden & Silverman 1996)

The impact on children, parents and other services if the Children's Grief Centre was not available

We are aware of the long waiting times for services such as CAMHS (Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services).

We receive several referrals from parents who have been advised by CAMHS and GPs to contact the Centre for support. Supporting children and young people at the Centre reduces the risk of long-term mental health problems. Considerable research has documented the effect of parental absence and loss on children growing up.

While most children manage these tasks of grieving healthily, approximately one-third of children may exhibit risk for high levels of emotional and behavioural problems during the first two years after bereavement. (Worden, 1996)

We provide our service free of charge, and this is very important for parents. Whether there has been a bereavement or a marital separation, private support services can be costly at a time when parents may be struggling financially. Our free service ensures parents can bring their child or young person for the support they need without worrying about the cost.

THE CHILDREN WE HELPED IN 2020



229 Grieving Children Attended the Centre

We work with children on a one-to-one basis to give them a space where they feel comfortable to talk, share, ask questions and explore their emotions.

We also work with their parents and guardians to help them to understand the impact of grief on their child. When children are grieving everything can feel hard and unfamiliar. The arrival of the Corona Virus pandemic brought this to another level, altering familiar daily routines, new rules around gatherings and limits on people you could meet up with.



We had 1043 planned appointments in 2020

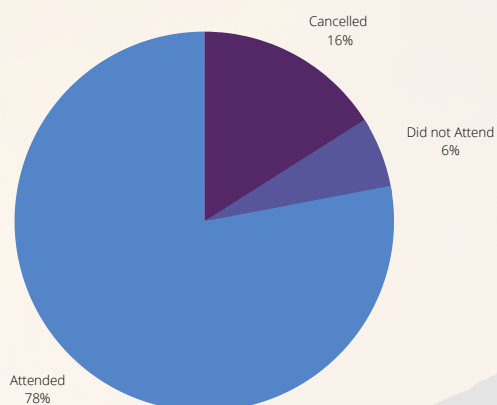
It was with regret that we had to cancel a number of these appointments and close our doors on March 13th due to Covid-19 restrictions.

We continued to offer phone support to those who contacted the Centre during lockdown. On June 8th the Centre doors were reopened with reduced numbers of children attending for appointments. For each session offered to children or parents, there is an additional staff/volunteer administrative hour.

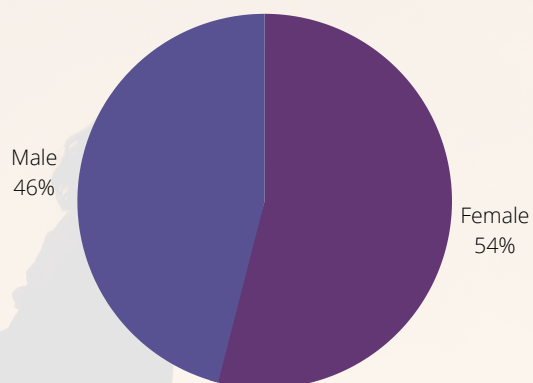
This amounts to a total of 1043 administration hours. Most of the families that had sessions in 2020 were from limerick, with the other families from Clare & Tipperary, Cork, Offaly, Kerry, and Galway. The majority of children were referred by a parent/guardian, many with a recommendation from their GP, school or CAMHS.

THE CHILDREN WE HELPED IN 2020

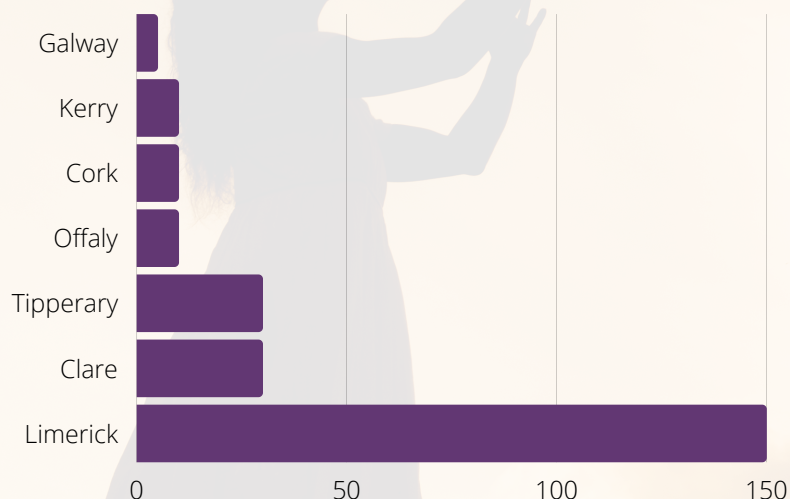
Total Appointments 1043



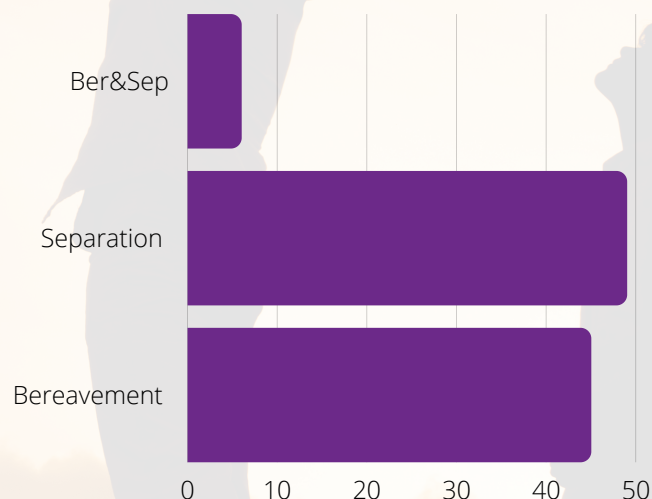
Gender Breakdown



Geographical Breakdown



Referral Type



FEEDBACK FROM PARENTS & CHILDREN

At the child's last session, the child and parent are asked to complete an evaluation form each to provide us with feedback about their experience.
Here is a sample of some of the feedback we received.

CHILD FEEDBACK

- Age 12 – I liked that I could talk to someone.
- Age 16 – I was able to talk openly with no judgement.
- Age 16 – The sessions made me understand its ok to have bad days.
- Age 16 – A very friendly and welcoming environment
- Age 16 – I think the sessions made me more relaxed and mindful.
- Age 11 – They made me happier to just let it all out.
- Age 17 – Got stuff off my chest that I had been holding in.

**I feel much better now in my heart.
They made me understand and have
courage to say something.**

PARENT FEEDBACK

He is much more open to talking and not as angry or upset.
He is not acting out as much and his nightmares have reduced.
She has become more content in herself and can regulate her emotions quicker.
Both my child and myself found the Centre to be a safe haven for us.
It has brought us closer together as a family that we talk about our feelings more and share all the wonderful memories.

THE IMPACT OF COVID 19

We have been living with Coronavirus (Covid-19) disease for the past year. Covid-19 emerged in December 2019 and in March 2020 the Children's Grief Centre closed its doors as the coronavirus was declared a pandemic by the World Health Organisation.

The safety of our staff, volunteers, children and their families was and remains our paramount concern. In line with the Government guidance, we suspended all our face -to- face support sessions and training events.

Being cut off from family, friends and communities because of the coronavirus pandemic is difficult for everyone, but especially for children, young people and families who are grieving a loved one.

The lockdown, social distancing restrictions and safety measures introduced in response to the coronavirus pandemic has affected funerals, memorial services and other rituals after someone has died.

The numbers who could attend a funeral service in person were limited and friends and extended family members may not be able to comfort each other or express their grief due to the social distancing restrictions.

Many children and young people whose parents have separated are struggling to cope with the effects of lockdown. These factors have all contributed to high levels of anxiety and grief.

This is reflected in the number of calls the Centre has received daily from parents, teachers and social workers looking for advice and support. The pandemic has brought grief and loss center stage and our services will be needed now more than ever.

These are challenging times but there definitely is cause for optimism and hope. There will be a brighter tomorrow.

FUNDRAISING REPORT

Like so many other charities the Children's Grief Centre faced a number of challenges in 2020. Our fundraising was affected due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

However, we responded to these challenges by growing our digital fundraising, with many traditional events taking place virtually. We could only continue our work thanks to our many wonderful and generous supporters.

We thank our government partners, corporate supporters, donors and the generosity of all those who help us provide a safe and welcoming space for children and young people. Your generosity directly contributed towards the continuation of our service and to our future expansion plans.

We are an essential service that has a proven and long-lasting impact on the lives of children, young people and their families and the local and wider community.

Our full-time and part-time support workers are gratefully funded by Tusla - The Child & Family Agency, the HSE - Health Service Executive and Limerick City and County Council.

We would also like to acknowledge the support of the Lorna Byrne Children's Foundation for their grant towards our school's bereavement project and to the Ireland Funds for providing funds to send activity packs to children and young people during our short closure.

Thanks to the Conrad N. Hilton Fund for Sisters for their continued support of our work. We were delighted to receive funding under the Healthy Limerick Community Mental Health Fund to support training for our staff and volunteers.



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

"There is no better investment of time and money than in the life of a child. They are the future."

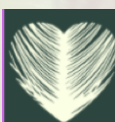
Alma Powell



Ireland's Child & Family Agency



CONRAD N. HILTON
FUND FOR SISTERS



LORNA BYRNE
Children's Foundation



Comhairle Cathrach
& Contae **Luimnigh**

Limerick City
& County Council



THE IRELAND FUNDS



Healthy
Limerick



Cosha um Fhorasairt Rialais & Aithne Luimnigh
Limerick Local Community Development
Committee

RUN WITH CIARA

Ciara McCullough took on an incredible challenge for the Children's Grief Centre in 2020. On January 7th Ciara set off from Derry and began her 1000km journey on foot to Kinsale in Co. Kerry. On February 28th she arrived at her destination having raised an amazing €40,000 for the Centre. Thank you, Ciara.



INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY 2020

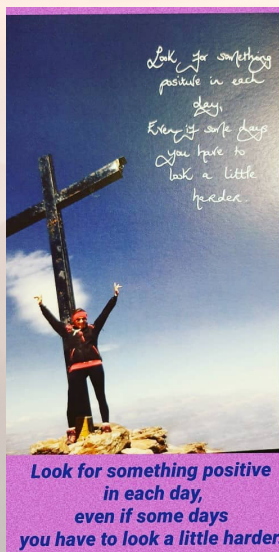
Adare Manor rolled out the red carpet for International Women's Day on Sunday, March 8th 2020, to celebrate inspirational females at a special charity lunch to raise funds for the Children's Grief Centre. Designer Louise Kennedy, Broadcaster, Writer and Producer Maïa Dunphy and Mindset Coach and Photographer Ciara McCullough gave attendees an insight into what has made them such achievers in their own lives and professions with their after-lunch addresses.

The event was hosted by Presenter and Interviewer Claire Brock and Ambassador to the Centre Olive Foley. Over 300 guests enjoyed a drinks reception followed by lunch in the Grand Ballroom.

Musical entertainment was provided by Kathleen Turner, Boris Hunka and the UL Strings directed by Diane Daly. Thanks to generous charity partners for this event, Brown Thomas and Shaws Department Store and the staff and management at Adare Manor for their warm welcome. We remember with great fondness Karen Meagher (RIP) - who gave her time and energy to make this event a success.



12 MONTHS OF AMAZING SUPPORT



REMEMBERING MIRIAM JOY

**GREAT LIMERICK RUN IN
MEMORY OF GER JACKSON**

VHI WOMEN'S MINI MARATHON 2020



**Thank you to these
wonderful supporters !**





**IAN & DAMIEN
WATERFORD GREENWAY CHALLENGE**



**BROWN THOMAS LIMERICK – CHARITY
PARTNER TO THE CHILDREN'S GRIEF
CENTRE**



**MIKE MURPHY MEMORIAL
TOURNAMENT – PIKE ROVERS FC**



AIB LIMERICK



SHANNON COLLEGE OF HOTEL MANAGEMENT



JOHNSON & JOHNSON CHEQUE PRESENTATION

SPONSORS & DONORS

We would like to give a very special mention to our main corporate supporters in 2020 for their incredible generosity and commitment.

Brown Thomas Limerick
Dell EMC Limerick
Men's Club at Adare Manor

SCHOOLS

Thank you to the following for their generosity in supporting our events, fundraising on our behalf and donating funds to the Children's Grief Centre.

Shanagolden National School
St. Clements College
An Mhodhscoil
St. Munchins College
Laurel Hill Colaiste
Tuamgraney National School
Corpus Christi National School

SPORTING GROUPS & COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS

Pike Rovers
Islandeedy GAA
Hilltop Estate Bingo
Granagh Development Association
East Clare Gaels
Ann Hannily Fitness Class
Knockaderry Wren Group
Limerick Vintage & Classic Car Club
Little Company of Mary
Kildare Diocese
Sisters of Mercy Kinsale
Limerick Panto Society

CORPORATE

Limerick and Ennis Court Offices
Tait House
Grassland Agro
Johnson & Johnson
Price Waterhouse
Coopers
Wyeth Nutritionals
DLA Piper
EHA Limerick **Argosea Takumi**
Precision
AIB Limerick
EI Electronics
Shannon College of Hotel Management
Limerick Prison Service
Jack Fitzgerald Electrical
JD Golf Tours
Luigi's Restaurant
Sweeney McGann Solicitors
Northern Trust
Pendulum Summit
City Vet
Limerick Solicitors Bar Association
NCW Surveys
McDermott's Garage
Shannon Region Conference
Lucas Fin Consulting
LIT - Limerick Institute of Technology

THANK YOU

Children's Bereavement Week 2020

A special week in our calendar, Children's Bereavement Week raises awareness that 'children grieve too' and is a wonderful opportunity for bereavement organisations to share activities and resources with schools, families and the public around grief and loss in children and young people and ways to support them.

We were delighted to be part of this special week hosted by ICBN each year. Special thanks to our guest story tellers, author Roisin Meaney, Singer and Songwriter Emma Langford and our own wonderful volunteer Ita Hannan who read and recorded stories.

Our wonderful Dell volunteers Pat Carey, John O'Hara and Catherine Crowe created clay hearts which were given to a number of local primary schools.

Children could decorate the hearts and if they chose to – remember someone they loved who had died. The hearts were also made available to children who attend the Centre for support and were displayed on a tree for Children's Bereavement Week.



OUR DREAM BUILD

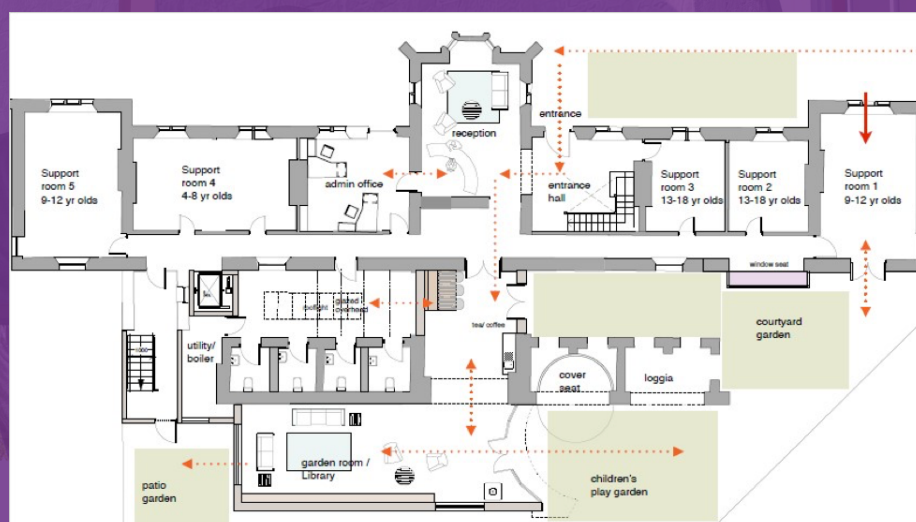
In 2009 Helen opened the red door of the Children's Grief Centre to just three grieving families.

The initial premises consisted of two rooms based in Mount St. Vincent's Convent, Limerick. Since its foundation, the Children's Grief Centre has supported over 1,400 families.

In 2020 the Ladies Residence, on the John Henry Newman Campus at Mary Immaculate College was kindly donated to the Children's Grief Centre by the Sisters of Mercy. It is serendipitous that the Ladies Residence, that provided shelter to grieving ladies, now has a future providing support to grieving children. Our plans to convert this historic two storey building into a warm and welcoming place for children and their families is well underway.

The refurbishment of our dream build will cost approximately €3.5 million. We are delighted to collaborate with Ailish Drake and Conor Hourigan of Drake/Hourigan Architects. Their expertise, design concepts and understanding of our needs is essential in delivering the absolute best for grieving children, young people, and their families. We are extremely grateful to Project Manager, Jonathan Harper for his exemplary management of our dream build.

A lot has changed in the past 10 years, but some things remain the same, primarily our commitment to ensure that no child grieves alone. Our new building will provide a warm and welcoming environment where children and families will find healing and hope.



FAREWELL

Anne English started her journey with the Children's Grief Centre as a volunteer in July 2016. In March 2017, Anne was hired as an administrator where she was responsible for the administrative activities of the Centre. Anne often went beyond the expected parameters of her job, helping with fundraising activities, promoting the Centre and introducing the Centre to social media.

Anne had an excellent rapport with people of all ages. She greeted the children, young people, and their families to the Centre with her warm smile, immediately putting them at ease. The Children's Grief Centre Board of Directors, volunteers and staff would like to thank Anne for her commitment and dedication to the Centre. She will be greatly missed by all staff and volunteers. We would like to wish Anne and her family all the best.



GOVERNANCE

The Board of Directors manage the organisation, with operational responsibility delegated to the CEO, who is not a member of the board. Our Board of Directors are responsible for the overall governance and strategic direction of the organisation. During 2020, Children's Grief Centre's Board of Directors held nine board meetings.

The following table indicates meeting attendance:

Board Member	Attendance Board Meeting
Phil Mortell (Chairman)	9/9
Dr Paula Gaire	8/9
Sr Therese Barry	9/9
Seamus O'Brien	8/9
Fr Michael Kelleher	7/9
Caroline Keane	7/9
Elke Hayes	6/9
Anne Comerford	7/9
Ann Marie Ryan	9/9
Derek Walsh (Secretary)	4/9 (Joined July)
Majella Foley Friel	3/9 (Resigned June)
Ita O'Brien	2/9 (Resigned March)
Marie Stuart	8/9

Our board is composed of volunteers who give freely of their time and expertise to help Children's Grief Centre to set out and achieve our mission. We would like to thank all members of the Board of Directors who progressed the interests of Children's Grief Centre during 2020.

OUR WORK WITH THE COMMUNITY

The Centre engages with local and national community groups to fulfill a need for skills learning around bereavement. Workshops are provided for teachers, social care workers, medical, legal and other professional backgrounds, for example, Schools Chaplain's Associations, Palliative Care Nurses, Mary Immaculate College and many more. Our CEO is also a member of the Limerick Family Court/Dispute Resolution Centre Project steering group. The aim of this group is "To facilitate the resolution of family disputes in a manner that is timely, informed and effective with a view to achieving better outcomes for children and families."

As part of the Centre's aim to raise awareness of grief and loss experienced by children, our Senior Support Worker Theresa Kavanagh participates in the CYPSC (Children and Young People's Services Committee), which has helped the shared learning experience amongst professionals working to improve outcomes for children and young people through local and national inter-agency working.

However, 2020 proved to be more challenging with the restrictions on gatherings preventing groups coming together. In January our CEO Helen Culhane facilitated a workshop for students studying Children and Loss at the Irish Hospice Foundation.

On March 5th Helen was guest speaker at the Croom Family Resource Centre and East Limerick Family Support Network Healing Event. We continued our involvement with Mary Immaculate College and the B.A.Ed. in Primary Teaching Undergraduate Degree Programme. Helen facilitated a lecture with a questions and answers session to the students covering the effects of Loss and Bereavement. We look forward to getting back out meeting people in the community in the coming year.

FINANCIAL REPORT

The Board of Directors present their Annual Report and the Audited Financial Statements for the Financial Year Ended 31st December 2020.

The Financial Statements are prepared in accordance with FRS 102 "The Financial and Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their financial statements in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

The Trustees report contains the information required to be provided in the Trustees' Annual Report under the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) guidelines.

FINANCIAL RESULTS

The surplus for the financial year amounted to €108,505, in what was an extremely challenging year. This represents a reduction of 46.7% on the prior year (€203,678) and was primarily driven by a significant reduction in our 2020 income, resulting from the cancellation of many planned fundraising events and workshops due to the Covid-19 restrictions in place. Total income for the year was €260,940 which was a reduction of 30.5% on the prior year (€375,918). Expenditure of €152,435 in comparison was down 11.5%.

TOTAL INCOME	
2020	2019
€260,940	€375,918
REDUCTION OF 30.5%	

FINANCIAL REPORT

FUNDING

Despite Covid-19 restrictions in 2020, we continued to generate sufficient cash flow to meet our operating costs as well as grow our building fund by €105,485. This fund is specifically for the purpose of adapting and transforming the Ladies Residence, on the John Henry Newman Campus, to create a new Children's Grief Centre which will allow us to increase the number of one-to-one sessions we provide by fifty percent and reduce the waiting time from 18 months to 3 months.

Our centre is funded from a variety of income streams & in-kind donations. During 2020 we continued to receive support from the Mercy Congregation, in the form of our current premises & utilities, and our CEO once again provided her professional services free of charge. The Centre's full time support worker is primarily funded by Tusla, Child and Family Agency and the Health Service Executive. This funding continues to be a welcome support for the Centre. Additional funding is also provided by the Limerick City and County Council to fund our part time support worker position under the Social Intervention Fund.

The Centre continues to benefit from the generosity of our wonderful volunteers who donate their time and expertise, which helps keep our running costs and staff numbers low. We employ the full time equivalent of 3.2 staff. This includes the support workers referenced above as well as 2 part time administrators and 2 part time fundraisers. Income received from fundraising events as well as individual and corporate donations are used in part to fund these positions, which are vital to the successful delivery of our service.

Restricted funding is used only for the purpose for which it was granted



The Centre continues to benefit from the generosity of our wonderful volunteers who donate their time and expertise, which helps keep our running costs and staff numbers low. We employ the full time equivalent of 3.2 staff.



FINANCIAL REPORT

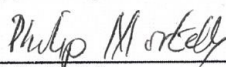
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

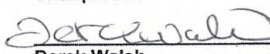
Children's Grief Centre STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES for the financial year ended 31 December 2020

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2020 €	Restricted Funds 2020 €	Total 2020 €	Unrestricted Funds 2019 €	Restricted Funds 2019 €	Total 2019 €
Income							
Donations and legacies	3.1	112,098	106,185	218,283	282,331	-	282,331
Charitable activities							
- Grants from governments and other co-funders	3.2	-	42,657	42,657	-	81,389	81,389
Other income	3.3	-	-	-	12,198	-	12,198
Total income		112,098	148,842	260,940	294,529	81,389	375,918
Expenditure							
Charitable activities	4.1	109,078	43,357	152,435	90,851	81,389	172,240
Net income		3,020	105,485	108,505	203,678	-	203,678
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	(301,309)	301,309	-
Net movement in funds for the financial year		3,020	105,485	108,505	(97,631)	301,309	203,678
Reconciliation of funds							
Balances brought forward at 1 January 2020	12	83,839	301,309	385,148	181,470	-	181,470
Balances carried forward at 31 December 2020		86,859	406,794	493,653	83,839	301,309	385,148

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the financial year.
All income and expenditure relate to continuing activities.

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 8th JUNE 2021 and signed on its behalf by:


Philip Mortell
Chairperson


Derek Walsh
Secretary

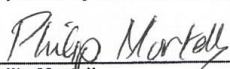
FINANCIAL REPORT

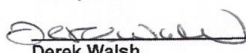
BALANCE SHEET

Children's Grief Centre BALANCE SHEET as at 31 December 2020

	Notes	2020 €	2019 €
Fixed Assets			
Tangible assets	7	<u>22,930</u>	<u>-</u>
Current Assets			
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>534,607</u>	<u>398,432</u>
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	8	<u>(63,884)</u>	<u>(13,284)</u>
Net Current Assets		<u>470,723</u>	<u>385,148</u>
Total Assets less Current Liabilities		<u><u>493,653</u></u>	<u><u>385,148</u></u>
Funds			
Restricted funds		<u>406,794</u>	<u>301,309</u>
General funds (unrestricted)		<u>86,859</u>	<u>83,839</u>
Total funds	12	<u><u>493,653</u></u>	<u><u>385,148</u></u>

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 8th June 2021 and signed on its behalf by:


Philip Mortell
Chairperson


Derek Walsh
Secretary

FINANCIAL REPORT

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION RELATING TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Children's Grief Centre

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION RELATING TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Operating Statement

for the financial year ended 31 December 2020

	2020 €	2019 €
Income		
Donations	218,283	282,331
Restricted Grants	42,657	81,389
Workshops and training	-	12,198
	<u>260,940</u>	<u>375,918</u>
Expenses		
Wages and salaries	96,805	94,554
Social security costs	10,466	8,870
Staff training	1,202	1,853
Support volunteer fees	-	5,573
Conference costs	-	9,401
Cleaning	1,252	1,013
Repairs and maintenance	7,141	2,835
Printing, postage and stationery	5,309	6,201
Advertising	387	-
Telephone	1,303	1,375
Computer costs	3,798	3,621
Travel and entertainment expenses	692	2,175
Website development costs	1,764	3,149
Legal and professional	455	-
Fundraising costs	16,134	26,115
Auditor's remuneration	2,400	2,750
Bank charges	283	660
Canteen	231	48
Art room expenses	447	1,422
General expenses	2,366	625
	<u>152,435</u>	<u>172,240</u>
Net surplus	<u>108,505</u>	<u>203,678</u>

**Our Full Audited Financial Statements for
2020 are available on our website
www.childrensgriefcentre.ie**

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

A heartfelt thank you goes out to each and everyone of our staff members and volunteers. Without your contribution to Children's Grief Centre we would not be where we are today.

OUR TEAM

Staff

Anne English – Part Time Administrator – Resigned

Fiona Sullivan – Part Time Administrator

Helen McInerney – Part Time Administrator

Katrina Morgan – Part Time Fundraising and Events Coordinator

Carol Fitzgough – Part Time Fundraising Administrator

Theresa Kavanagh – Senior Support Worker

Ciara Ní Nualláin – Part time Support Worker

Geraldine Hannan – Part time Cleaner

Volunteers

Helen Culhane – CEO

Ambassador

Olive Foley

Support Workers

Beryl Carswell, Ita Hannan, Marguarite

Quinn, Mary Browne, Mary Power, Sr.

Maura O Connor.

Administrators

Sr Breda O Driscoll, Mary Moran, Mary

Fagan.

Fundraising

Michelle Walsh, Breda Cleary, Kevin Shine.

Décor and Maintenance

Dolores Madden

New Build Volunteers

Jonathan Harper

Catherine Kelly

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Phil Mortell – Chairperson

Derek Walsh – Secretary

Seamus O'Brien – Treasurer

Anne Comerford – Parent Representative

Sr. Therese Barry

Dr. Paula Gaire

Fr. Michael Kelleher

Caroline Keane

Elke Hayes

Marie Stuart

Ann Marie Ryan

Derek Walsh – Joined 28/07/2020

Ita O'Brien – Resigned 01/03/2020

Majella Foley Friel – Resigned 02/06/2020

TRUSTEES

Srs. Margaret Prendergast, Patricia O'Meara,

Noirin Long & Brenda Dolphin

AUDITORS

Carey & Associates, Newgarden, Lisnagry, Limerick.



**If speaking
is silver,
then
listening is
gold.**

- Turkish Proverbs



ANNUAL REPORT

2020

Children's Grief Centre

**Providing children with a safe place to
express their feelings of grief**

WESTBOURNE, ASHBOURNE AVENUE, SOUTH
CIRCULAR ROAD, LIMERICK
T: 061 224 627
M: 087 985 1733

EMAIL: INFO@CHILDRENSGRIEFCENTRE.IE

TWITTER [@CHILDREN_GRIEF](https://twitter.com/CHILDREN_GRIEF)
FACEBOOK [@CHILDRENSGRIEFCENTRE](https://www.facebook.com/CHILDRENSGRIEFCENTRE)
INSTAGRAM [@CHILDRENSGRIEFCENTRE](https://www.instagram.com/CHILDRENSGRIEFCENTRE)
WWW.CHILDRENSGRIEFCENTRE.IE