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# Don Bosco Care Annual Report 2015

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## Table of Contents

Welcome to Don Bosco Care .....	3
CEO Brian Hogan.....	3
Stories of Hope - John.....	4
Stories of Hope - Patrick.....	5
Fundraising in 2015 .....	5
Don Bosco Care Golf Classic 2015.....	6
God Parent Club .....	6
Christmas Campaign .....	6
Governance of Don Bosco Care.....	7
Board of Directors .....	7
Leadership Team .....	7
Financial Statements.....	8
Balance Sheet.....	9
Income & Expenditure .....	10

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## **Welcome to Don Bosco Care**

Since 1978 Don Bosco Care has been providing homes, healing and support for some of Ireland's most hurt and disadvantaged children and young adults. When they come to us many of our residents have experienced traumatic childhoods, years of chaos and uncertainty and repeated failure of the adults in their lives to provide the love and care they need.

When they arrive at Don Bosco Care they get a new start. They are assured that their past will not dictate their future. That we will not give up on them. That they are valued, loved and are a welcome addition to our homes.

Whether their stay with us is for a few months or many years it is vital that each and every person who comes into our care is treasured and respected as an individual. We take time to learn their strengths, their personalities and interests and encourage them to develop pride in themselves and build their own self esteem. This work is not easy but we believe in the right of every child to be given the opportunity to achieve their potential regardless of their background.

Our success is measured not in awards but in the lives of the young people whom we care for. If we can equip them with the tools to build a better life for themselves and to give their children a better start in life than had they growing up, we know that the cycle of poverty and pain can be broken.

Our work could not be carried out without our strong partnership with TUSLA, The Child and Family Agency, and we would like to take this opportunity to thank the many people whom we work with on a daily basis for their unwavering commitment to children in care and aftercare and their professionalism in supporting Don Bosco Care to provide that care.

Finally, we would like to thank our many supporters whose donations of time and money enable us to create and keep safe, nurturing homes for our vulnerable children and young adults.

### **CEO Brian Hogan**

The secret of our success in Don Bosco Care and the reason why we are able to continue working with the most hurt and troubled children and young adults in Ireland when all other options have failed is simple - our incredible staff team.

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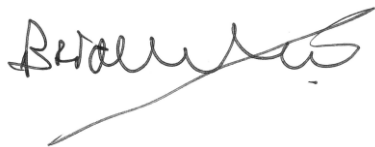
As CEO, with responsibility to our board and supporters, it gives me huge confidence knowing that 24 hours a day, 365 days of the year the children in our care are being looked after, nurtured and protected by a highly trained, exceptionally dedicated and passionate team of professional social care workers. They are 100% committed to doing everything in their power to ensure that our young people are given every opportunity to achieve their potential.

Every year the young people referred to residential care in Ireland arrive with more complex needs. They have been exposed to more extreme levels of crime, addiction and chaotic behaviour. Many have developed addictions and mental health problems as a result of early childhood trauma.

To help these young people accept their past and move beyond the difficulties they find themselves in requires very skilled, extremely patient and empathetic professionals who can help a child make sense of who they are and how their past is affecting them. Without this they can never look to the future. We are lucky at Don Bosco Care to have a wealth of these of people among our staff team.

2015 has been a challenging and inspiring year. While we have faced ever greater challenges working with the more complex needs of our young people we continued to achieve incredible results and see damaged lives repaired and moving on to a better future. We have seen the launch of our first major fundraising campaigns and have had our spirits lifted by the generous and heartfelt response from supporters.

I would like to thank all our partners, supporters and funders for their generosity and compassion towards the children and young adults in our care and look forward to working with you all in 2016.



## **Stories of Hope - John**

He came to us confused and broken, but things turned around for this troubled teen. John's one of those intimidating teenagers that's built like a fridge and looks like he'd crush you if you

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looked at him the wrong way. Or at least, that's the first impression you might get on meeting him. But take the time to talk to him and you quickly discover a gentle giant. John was in one of our residential homes for two and a half years after things at home broke down to the point where it was simply the wrong place for him to be. He came to us as an emotionally volatile lad battling alcoholism – and still only a kid at the time. But where some people would have seen a frightening looking lad with no hope of a future, we saw a hurt teenager with the makings of a wonderful child care worker. You see, not only did John work hard on his own issues, but he quickly became an asset in his home, by playing a kind of 'nurturing' role among his peers. So much so that he has helped us to get through to many other boys.

### **Stories of Hope - Patrick**

Patrick was a tough Dublin lad who came to us from a terrible home life. The sort of thing you wouldn't wish on anyone. By the time he was 19 we'd helped him get past the worst of his demons, but he was drifting. Going nowhere. He'd told us he was desperate to work, but given his home background, had no idea how to go about getting any. It just happened at this time that the home Patrick was living in was getting some repair work done by a plumber. The manager of the home asked the plumber if he'd give Patrick a shot at a couple of days unpaid work experience. Cautiously, the plumber agreed. And Patrick jumped at the opportunity. Two days later the plumber called to tell us that Patrick was such a good worker he'd decided to take him on and pay him properly. "I'm going to give this guy a job," he said. "He doesn't shy away from anything!"

### **Fundraising in 2015**

2015 was an important year for fundraising at Don Bosco Care. Following years of cuts in state funding and an uncertain future should we not secure support from private sources the board approved a multi year fundraising strategy to grow a supporter base of 10,000 individuals.

This was important for a number of reasons:

1. While we have an excellent, long standing partnership with our state funder. It was not prudent to rely solely on state funding and to place the future care of our young people at risk of government and/or policy changes.

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2. Children in the care of the state are really in the care of Irish society as a whole and we felt that it was important to give people who were passionate about children in care the opportunity to support them and play a part in providing their care.
  3. The story of children taken into the care of the state is not well known. They are a hidden group and with that comes stigmatisation. We wanted to share their stories and experiences - while protecting their privacy - with as many people as possible.

### **Don Bosco Care Golf Classic 2015**

We returned to Baltray this summer for our second annual golf classic. We were delighted to have 18 teams taking part, many of whom were returning having enjoyed the inaugural classic so much. The golf classic plays an important part of our fundraising strategy as it gives us a chance to spend time with some of our long standing supporters, while getting the chance to get to know our new ones in an informal and relaxed environment. We are continually amazed at the interest and passion people have for our work.

### **God Parent Club**

Don Bosco Care receives substantial funding from TUSLA, The Child and Family Agency, which ensures that our houses are staffed, heated and our young people well fed. However as any parent can tell you this is not what makes a home. At Don Bosco Care we try to give our young people as many opportunities to grow, learn and discover themselves as possible. This can mean sending them to music lessons, encouraging them to play sport or taking them on short holidays. Regular things that regular children often take for granted but that cost.

In late 2015 we launched our God Parents Club to appeal to supporters who felt like we do that children in our care should not go without just because they are in care. The initial response to the campaign was very positive and we hope it will grow from strength to strength in the coming years.

### **Christmas Campaign**

The main strand of our newly launched fundraising campaign was to use direct marketing to reach as many potential donors as possible. In November 2015 we wrote out to households all over Ireland sharing the story of a young boy who grew up in our care and was encouraging

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people to support us. It was the first time the Don Bosco Care had ever done major public fundraising before and we were staggered by the response. Almost 3,000 individuals sent us donations and many included cards and messages of good wishes for the children in our care. It was amazing how touched people were by our story and how willing they were to join with us.

## **Governance of Don Bosco Care**

Don Bosco Care is governed by a voluntary board of directors and managed on a day to day basis by the CEO and Director of Services. We are committed to being fully compliant with Governance Codes for Community, Voluntary and Charitable Organisations, the Statement of Guiding Principles for Fundraising and SORP financial reporting standards by the end of 2016. We are also compliant with the Voluntary Regulation Code for Approved Housing Bodies

### **Board of Directors**

Tony Mc Poland, Chairman

Tom Quinn

Patrick Hennessy

John Sisk

Julie Gill

Cyril Forbes (resigned 29/09/2015)

Karen Smyth (resigned 01/12/2015)

Mike McGuire

### **Leadership Team**

Brian Hogan CEO

Martin Burke Director of Services

Breda Keogh CFO

Kevin Delaney Head of Fundraising & Communications

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## **Financial Statements**

The financial statements of Don Bosco Care Ltd are attached however they do not reflect the full financial reality for Don Bosco Care as we also operate a number of care homes which are unincorporated entities. As a result the we have produced a pro forma set of consolidated accounts which reflect our operating reality.

We are in the process of bringing all these properties into a single legal entity but as this involves the transfer of property this has taken longer to complete than expected.

The combined operations on a pro forma basis are attached and should you require any further information please don't hesitate to contact our Chairperson Tony McPoland on 01 833 6009 or [info@donboscocare.ie](mailto:info@donboscocare.ie).



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## Balance Sheet

Company: Don Bosco Care

15 Sep 2016

Financial Year Ending: 2015

Calendar Period: Per 12 - December 2015

### Fixed Assets

Fixed Assets Property 2,104,181

Fixed Assets Motor Vehicles 18,500

Total Fixed Assets 2,122,681

### Cash & Bank

Current Accounts 715,434

Savings Accounts 335

Cash on Hand 1,235

Total Cash & Bank 717,005

### Current Assets

Debtors 101,921

Total Current Assets 101,921

### Current Liabilities

Creditors & Accruals (647,442)

Payroll Liabilities (13,189)

### Taxation Liabilities

Total Current Liabilities (660,631)

Net Current Assets/Liabilities 158,295

Inter-department Loans/Transfers

Inter-department Loans/Transfers

Total Inter-department Loans/Transfers

### Long Term Liabilities

Section 5 Mortgages (1,880,968)

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Total Long Term Liabilities	(1,880,968)
Net (Liabilities) Assets	400,008
Reserves	
Restricted Reserves	641,307
Unrestricted Reserves	(182,888)
Profit & Loss Account	(58,411)
Total Reserves	400,008

## Income & Expenditure

Company: Don Bosco Care

Financial Year Ending: 2015

Calendar Period: Per 12 - December 2015

	YTD Amount
Income	
Care Services Income	2,987,001
Fundraising Income	335,940
Investment Income	89
Other Income	55,088
Total Income	3,378,118
Staff Costs	
Staff Pay Basic	(1,984,815)
Staff Pay Unsocial Hours	(313,919)
Staff Pay Relief	(285,792)
Staff Pay ER PRSI	(209,063)
Staff Expenses	(29,048)
Agency Staff	(318)

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Staff Pension ER Costs	(750)
Total Staff Costs	(2,823,704)
Other Operating Costs	
Care House Equipment	(25,869)
Client Costs	(152,728)
Premises Costs	(63,693)
Motor Vehicle Costs	(10,606)
Office Costs	(23,687)
Fundraising Costs	(229,195)
Professional Costs	(22,109)
Financial Costs	(1,098)
Depreciation/Amortisation	(52,605)
Sundry Operating Costs	(31,235)
Total Other Operating Costs	(612,825)
Expenses	(3,436,529)
Profit (Loss)	(58,411)

See Don Bosco Care Ltd Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2015 for full audited accounts.