



The Voluntary Sector 1966 – 2014

Western Care was founded in 1966 by a group of dedicated and far seeing individuals with a vision to deliver community based services to people with intellectual disabilities in County Mayo. From humble beginnings and through the dedication and hard work of families and friends, this sector is now a thriving, vibrant and vital component of the overall organisation that is Western Care.

The Door To Door Collection throughout the County during the month of May each year, is without doubt one of our principal and most important fundraisers. The continued success of this Collection is attributed to a very large voluntary group of dedicated, committed and loyal collectors all over Mayo. The Western Care ethos is portrayed by all our collectors in their local communities. They earn the respect of everyone by giving so generously of their time within their own areas. Without the continued support and good will of these collectors the door to door collection would just not be possible. In addition we must not forget the extraordinary generosity of the people of Mayo who continue to support us in the provision of our extensive range of services. This support is needed now more than ever as we find our funding significantly reduced.

Supporting the Local Economy

Western Care has a proud record of responsive and innovative service provision throughout County Mayo. In these difficult economic times it is important to remember that we as an organisation support our local economy by employing 700 people through full and part-time positions, thereby giving back something to many communities in our County.

Branch Activities - Dates For Your Diary

18th July 2014	Enniscrone Golf Classic
December 2014	Achill Card Game
December 2014	Ballyhaunis Christmas Social
26th December 2014	Crossmolina Annual Swim
7th February 2015	Castlebar Voluntary Branch Annual Valentine Candlelight Ball

2013 Branch Income, Door to Door Collection & Other Branch Fundraising Activities:

Branch	Amount
Achill	€11,279
Ardagh	€2,313
Balla	€2,042
Ballina	€11,184
Ballinrobe	€7,103
Ballintubber/Ballyheane	€2,435
Ballycastle	€260
Ballyhaunis	€8,074
Belmullet	€4,178
Bohola	€855
Bonniconlon	€4,059
Burrishoole/Newport	€15,450
Carnacon	€640
Carracastle	€160
Castlebar	€15,314
Charlestown	€2,826
Claremorris	€5,977
Cooneal	€919
Crossmolina (Plus EGC)	€7,827
Currane	€1,077
Drummin	€650
Foxford	€2,022
Islandeady	€3,065
Kilawalla	€553
Kilkelly/Kilmovee	€5,386
Kilmaine	€4,412
Kilmeena	€872
Kiltane	€166
Kiltimagh	€6,807
Knock	€2,264
Knockmore/Rathduff	€7,062
Lacken	€1,054
Louisburgh	€4,762
Manulla	€560
Mayo Association Dub	€1,000
Mayo Abbey/Facefield	€3,492
Murrisk	€1,537
Robeen/Roundfort	€260
Shrule/Glencorrib	€5,950
Swinford	€243
Taugheen/Crossboyne	€1,220
The Neale/Cong	€2,061
Tourmakeady	€3,500
Westport	€7,289
Total	€170,156

National Lottery Funding

Western Care wishes to acknowledge with gratitude, the support of the Department of Health in securing lottery funding of €20,000, towards the purchase of a wheelchair accessible mini bus, for Carrowbeg Enterprises and Pine Woods, in Westport.

Door to Door Collectors

If you feel you would like to give a little of your voluntary time and help with our Annual Door to Door Collection, we would be delighted to hear from you. Please contact:

Teresa Ward, Development Officer

Tel: 094 90 29174 / 29120 Mobile: 087 2467857 Email: tward@westerncare.com

Western Care Association Annual General Meeting will be held on the 2nd July 2014.

Time and Location will be published nearer the date.

2014 Newsletter

Western Care Association

Western Care Services and Voluntary Branches throughout Mayo 1966 - 2014



Western Care Association, Head Office, John Moore Road, Castlebar, County Mayo.

Telephone: 094 90 29100 Fax: 094 90 25207 Email: info@westerncare.com Website: www.westerncare.com



Helen McHugh,
Chairperson

I want to welcome you all to the Western Care Association newsletter, new readers and a particular welcome to all those who have been supporting us for nearly 50 years. Western Care is very lucky to have such a strong community connection and it is very positive and encouraging to witness the strong tradition of fundraising and of people volunteering their time to support people with disabilities to live fulfilled lives. It is heartening to know that even in these difficult and uncertain times, we have sustained our volunteerism throughout our community in the whole of Mayo. I hope you find the newsletter informative; it is designed to give you an overview of the various activities which have taken place over the last year and many of these will take place again this year and I am asking for your help to ensure that the voluntary sector in the Association is as successful in the coming year as it has been in the past.

We sincerely thank you for the time and effort given so willingly. If you feel that you are in a position to help either in fundraising activities or in other aspects of volunteering, please contact us: Email: info@westerncare.com

Helen McHugh
Chairperson, Board of Directors



Bernard O'Regan,
Executive Director

In 2013 over €400,000 of fundraised money was used to support and maintain direct service provision for Western Care Association. You will see from this newsletter that this accounted for almost all of the monies fundraised by Western Care in 2013. This demonstrates the:

- Importance of fundraising to the work of the Association
- Link between the money raised and how it is used.

As the cuts to budgets have continued in recent years, the reliance on fundraised monies has increased and you will see details elsewhere in this newsletter of how it was actually used.

We publish this newsletter annually, and circulate it to almost 20,000 homes in Mayo, to demonstrate what monies were raised and how and to report on their use. We do this to be transparent and to maintain the confidence of the public in what we do with community resources. This newsletter is also published on our website www.westerncare.com.

I want to thank the people of Mayo for their ongoing support to the Association and to express the hope that you will continue it into 2014 and beyond.

Bernard O'Regan
Executive Director

2012/2013

Outgoing
Board of
Directors



Back Row L to R: Anthony McCormack, Ed Rose, Bernard O'Regan, Chris Pratt, Noelle Gallagher, Stephen Melia,
Front Row L to R: Mary Hegarty, Mary Kelly, Mary Daly, Helen McHugh, Caroline Gordon.
Unavoidably absent: Mary Diamond, Gerardine Lennon

Use of Fundraised Monies

Western Care Association provides a wide range of supports and services to people with Intellectual Disabilities and Autism and their families living in County Mayo. This is done through residential, respite, day, community and home supports. We also provide a door-to-door transport service between home and our centres, and most of the vehicles used for this are wheelchair accessible.

All monies raised through fundraising and the Annual Door-to-Door collection are spent within Mayo, and support the maintenance of necessary service provision in these challenging financial times.

In 2013, over €400,000 of fundraised monies was used for the following purposes:

- To maintain and support the direct provision of services and supports to people with an Intellectual Disability and Autism.
- The provision of short-term supports for the people using services, eg provision of personal assistant hours for a specific purpose, provision of transport supports, etc. This is particularly important when the people we support come into crisis.
- Purchase of necessary aids and appliances, such as hoists and lifting equipment, which are needed in services.
- Minor repairs and capital works to centres and homes, such as replacement of windows and doors, bathroom alterations, upgrade to heating systems and necessary boiler repairs, etc. In 2013, this included works carried out in St Ritas Claremorris, Riverside Ballinamore, Crannmor Ballinrobe, Hazel View Ballyhaunis, St Huberts Castlebar, Carrowbeg Westport, and St Stephens Turlough.
- Purchase of minibuses and vehicles for direct service use by our centres and houses, which facilitates social opportunities, outings, breaks, etc for the users of our services. In 2013 vehicles were purchased for Newport services, Beehive Ballina, and a residential service in Crossmolina.
- Some monies donated are given for a specific purpose or service. In those situations that money is ring-fenced, and kept for the purpose or service that it is donated for.

The continued financial support of the people of Mayo assists Western Care in maintaining the level of service that we provide throughout the county. In the current difficult financial times that we live in, it would not be possible to continue to do what we do without your support.

We value and thank you most sincerely for this, and appreciate your assistance and support, both financial and otherwise, in what are challenging financial times for all.

James Roche
Financial Controller

Fundraising Department

During 2013 the people of Mayo raised €267,195 in support of Western Care Association Services through fundraising events and projects, donations, grants, etc. This funding is vital, particularly in the present economic climate, as it provides the Association with critical resources to fund training, social and recreational opportunities for service users. It also funds transport and some building projects. Fundraising activities also play an enormous role in raising the profile of the Association in the Community and the work it does throughout the County. Western Care is greatly indebted to the many volunteers and benefactors who give so much of their time, energy and money to support Mayo people with intellectual disabilities and their families. If you would like to help in any way please contact the Fundraising Department (details below) or call to me at John Moore Road, Castlebar, County Mayo.

Joe Brett, Fundraising Manager
Phone: 094 9029136/144
E-mail: fundraiser@westerncare.com

Income from 2013 Fundraising Events and Projects

Event / Project	Amount
Achill Half Marathon, West of Ireland & Flora Womens' Mini-Marathons	€15,294
Belmullet Rose Festival	€10,025
Cáirde Crann Mór Bingo	€12,235
Cáirde Crann Mór Sundry Fundraising	€29,280
Chefs of Mayo Fundraising Event	€10,200
Christmas Cards	€16,802
Christmas Dinners, Party Nights & Socials (Claremorris Chamber, Highland Lodge, Nevin's Tiernaur, & Park Hotel)	€5,086
Corporate & Personal Donations	€41,050
Fashion Shows (Funky Hair & Fashion & Moy Chocolates Shows)	€6,000
Grants (AIRC, Allergan, Ballina Beverages, Christine Kilker Fund, Corrib Gas, Hospital Saturday Fund, MAPS, Ltd., MCC, NCBI)	€21,867
Lower Lakelands, Manulla Sundry Events	€8,200
Lough Lannagh Family Fun Day	€3,078
Mayo GAA County Board & Ballina Stephenites	€2,500
Mayo Wristbands & All Ireland Ticket Raffle	€9,360
Mobile Phones & Textile Recycling	€20,292
Staff Deductions/Standing Orders	€1,706
Sundry Fundraising Events	€29,246
Three-a-Side in Breaffy Darts	€4,470
VTC Christmas Shop & Trees	€6,150
Western People National Schools Bounceathon	€5,070
Westport Golf Classic & Kennedy Foundation Donation	€9,284
TOTAL	€267,195

Volunteering in Western Care Association

Western Care has a long tradition of volunteers being involved in a wide variety of roles. This voluntary contribution is highly valued and has made the organisation what it is today.

Many volunteers are involved in supporting people directly. This support means people are able to get involved in many local events and activities and is a great way to broaden people's social networks. We would like to thank all our Volunteers both past and current for the difference you have made in people's lives.

There are many opportunities available across the country if new volunteers are interested in getting involved. Becoming a registered volunteer involves an Application and Vetting process. Following this, volunteers are matched to a role that they are interested in.

If you would like to find out more about Volunteer Opportunities in your area, please contact: Noreen McGarry Tel: 094 9029193 Email: nmcgarry@westerncare.com Applications can also be downloaded from our website on: www.westerncare.com

2014 Fundraising Events

Sunday, May 4th	Western People West of Ireland Womens Mini Marathon	Castlebar
Wednesday, May 14th	Rhythms in May Concert	The McWilliam Park Hotel, Claremorris
Monday, June 2nd	Flora Women's Mini Marathon	Dublin
Friday, June 20th – Sunday, June 22nd	Croagh Patrick Heritage Trail Mid-Summer Walking Festival	Balla – Murrisk
Saturday, June 28th	Clare Island Walk	Clare Island
Saturday, June 28th	Garth Brooks Tribute Show	The Park Hotel, Kiltimagh
Friday, July 4th	Annual Michael John McDonnell Am Am	Westport Golf Club
Saturday, September 13th	Tour of Mayo Charity Cycle	Ballina/Castlebar
Sunday, November 30th	Annual Cáirde Crann Mór Bingo	TF Royal Theatre, Castlebar

Full details of these and other events will be available on www.westerncare.com and on the Western Care Association Fundraising Page on Facebook.

Western Care Services



- Day Centres
- Residential Centres
- Day/Residential Centres
- Respite Centres
- Other
- Special Schools
- Special Classes