

The Voluntary Sector 1966-2015

From humble beginnings Western Care Association has grown and developed its Community based services throughout the county from Day Centres, Residential Homes, Respite Homes to Individualised Services. All of these services are available to service users and their families in almost every community throughout Mayo.

From the outset, the Door to Door Collection was established and modelled on the GAA structure, based on local communities and parishes coming together in unselfish dedicated service, all over County Mayo. The great success of the Door to Door Collection is attributed to the hard work, dedication and commitment of hundreds of collectors over the years.

Mayo Based Charity

The financial benefits of the Door to Door Collection cannot be underestimated but it also creates a real connection with local communities enhancing the sense of ownership that these communities have of Western Care. It is worth noting that Western Care is a Mayo based Charity, dedicated to providing a broad range of services to the people we support.

Thank You

A very special "Thank You" to the people of Mayo for their generosity and commitment to Western Care over the years. We thank them for the confidence and the trust they place in Western Care as we always try to demonstrate transparency in how we use our much needed fundraising monies (see inside cover, Use of Fundraised Monies).

Save the Date for this Special Milestone: Saturday 13th February 2016

In January 2016, Western Care will celebrate 50 years of dedicated service to the people of Mayo. We acknowledge the loyalty, support and commitment of the people of Mayo who have sustained the organisation and allowed it to grow. We invite you to join us in this celebration at our **Valentine Candlelight Ball**.

Western Care Association
Celebrates 50th
*Come along and enjoy this fantastic celebration,
at the 16th Valentine Candlelight Ball
at Breaflly House Resort on
Saturday 13th February 2016
More details will be announced closer to the date!*

Branch Activity Dates For Your Diary

24th July 2015	Enniscrone Golf Competition
December 2015	Achill Card Game
December 2015	Ballyhaunis Christmas Social
13th February 2016	Valentine Candlelight Ball ~ Western Care's 50th Anniversary!

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:** 087 246 7857

Email: tward@westerncare.com

2014 Branch Income Door to Door Collection & Other Branch Fundraising Activities:

BRANCH	AMOUNT
Achill	€11,028
Ardagh	€2,305
Balla	€1,790
Ballina	€14,063
Ballinrobe	€7,057
Ballintubber/Ballyheane	€2,695
Ballyhaunis	€7,388
Belmullet	€3,396
Bohola	€670
Bonniconlon	€3,857
Burrishoole/Newport	€4,278
Carnacon	€545
Carracastle	€860
Castlebar	€19,929
Charlestown	€741
Claremorris	€5,818
Cooneal	€790
Crossmolina (Plus EGC)	€7,381
Currane	€996
Drummin	€610
Foxford	€790
Islandeady	€3,133
Kilawalla	€620
Kilfian	€1,140
Kilkelly/Kilmovee	€5,329
Killala	€1,535
Kilmaine	€3,240
Kilmeena	€797
Kiltane	€90
Kiltimagh	€5,922
Knock	€2,054
Knockmore/Rathduff	€6,743
Lacken	€800
Louisburgh	€4,385
Manulla	€553
Mayo Association Dublin	€3,900
MayoAbbey /Facefield	€2,870
Murrisk	€80
Robeen/Roundfort	€257
Shrule/Glencorrib	€5,650
Swinford	€236
Taugheen/Crossboyne	€1,210
The Neale/Cong	€1,504
Tourmakeady	€3,610
Westport	€8,438
Total	€161,081



Western Care Association

2015 NEWSLETTER

Western Care Services and Voluntary Branches
throughout Mayo 1966 - 2015



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Telephone: 094 90 25133 Fax: 094 90 25207 E-mail: 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.

Next year we will be celebrating our 50th anniversary, it is a huge milestone and thanks to each and every one of you as without your support, Western Care would not be in existence. 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. 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. 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. Our website includes "Commitment to Standards in Fundraising Practice", "Donor Charter" & "Annual reports" as we want to ensure a high level of accountability and transparency for all money raised from the public. All documents can be viewed on www.westerncare.com. 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 2014 fundraised money was used to support and maintain direct service provision by Western Care Association. 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 continued support to the Association and to express the hope that you will continue it into 2015 and beyond.

Bernard O'Regan, Executive Director

2013/2014 Board of Directors



Back Row L to R: Philip Mc Kiernan, Anthony McCormack, Bernard O'Regan, Chris Pratt, Ed Rose

Front Row L to R: Ger Lennon, Helen McHugh, Noelle Gallagher, Mary Hegarty

Unavoidably absent: Mary Daly, Mary Kelly and Caroline Gordon

Use of Fundraised Monies

Western Care Association provides a wide range of supports and services to those with Intellectual Disabilities and Autism and their families living in County Mayo. This is done through residential, respite, day and community and home supports. We also provide transport service, and most of the vehicles used for this are wheelchair accessible. All monies raised through fundraising and our Annual Door-to-Door collection are spent within Mayo, and support the maintenance of necessary service provision in these challenging financial times.

In 2014, approximately €160,000 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.
- Minor repairs and capital works to our centres and homes, such as replacement of windows and doors, bathroom alterations, upgrade to heating systems and necessary boiler repairs, etc. In 2014, this included works carried out in Highland Lodge Kilkelly, Lakelands Manulla, St Kevins Castlebar, Cois Abhainn Newport, Riverside and Pine Grove Ballinamore, and Hazel View and Croi Oscailte Ballyhaunis.
- 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 2014 vehicles were purchased for Carrowbeg Westport and Lakelands Manulla services.
- The provision of short-term supports for the users of 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 our centres and homes.
- 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, and we value and thank you most sincerely for this.

James Roche, Financial Controller

Fundraising Department

During 2014 the people of Mayo raised €234,900 in support of Western Care Association Local 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 extra resources to fund training, social and sporting opportunities for our service users. It also funds transport and some building projects. In addition fundraising activities play a vital role in raising the profile of the Association in the Community and the great 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

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

2015 Fundraising Events

Sunday, May 3rd	Western People West of Ireland Womens Mini Marathon	Castlebar
Friday, May 8th - Thursday May 21st	The Wild Atlantic Way Charity Cycle Challenge (sharing with Irish Cancer Society)	Route of the Wild Atlantic Way commencing in Kinsale and finishing in Dery
Monday, June 1st	The VHI Dublin Womens Mini Marathon	Dublin
Saturday, June 20th	Croagh Patrick Heritage Trail Mid-Summer Walking Festival	Aughagower-Murrisk
Sunday, June 21st	Brian Cawley Memorial Fund Charity Cycle	Ballina - Achill
Saturday, June 27th	Clare Island Walk	Clare Island
Friday, July 3th	Annual Michael John McDonnell Am Am	Westport Golf Club
Saturday, July 18th	Charity Walk on New Castlebar Greenway (sharing with Mayo Roscommon Hospice)	Castlebar
Thursday, August 20th	Singles Stableford Competition	Ballinrobe Golf Club
Saturday, September 5th	Tour of Mayo Charity Cycle	Ballina/Castlebar
Saturday, September 26th	Crossmolina 5Km	Crossmolina
Thursday, November 12th	Fashion Show for Moy Chocolates	Hotel Ballina
Sunday, November 29th	Annual Cáirde Crann Mór Bingo	TF Royal Theatre, Castlebar
December 11th & 12th	Christmas Party Nights	Park Hotel, Kiltimagh

Income from 2014 Fundraising Events and Projects

Autism Fundraising Events (Easter Bike Run, Car Boot Sales, Helm Movember, Three A Side in Breaffy)	€13,941
Cáirde Crann Mór Christmas Bingo	€14,598
Cáirde Crann Mór Sundry Fundraising	€22,072
Card Games	€2,634
Christmas Cards & Calendar	€10,331
Christmas Dinners & Party Nights	€8,192
Concerts, Plays, Socials, etc	€2,980
Corporate & Personal Donations	€41,399
Cycles (Achill GAA & Tour of Mayo)	€4,578
Grants	€1,972
Marathons, Womens Mini Marathons, 5kms, etc.	€8,198
Mobile Phones & Textile Recycling	€11,656
Staff Deductions/Standing Orders	€1,719
Strictly Come Dancing	€27,592
Sundry Fundraising Events, Bank Interest, etc	€24,789
VTC Fundraising Events (Operation Transformation, Christmas Trees & Shop, Raffles, etc)	€9,868
Walks (Clare Island & Summer Solstice Walking Festival)	€12,190
West of Ireland & Flora Womens' Mini-Marathons	€8,195
Westport Golf Classic & Kennedy Foundation Donation	€7,996
TOTAL	€234,900

Western Care Services



■ Day Centres	▲ Other
▲ Residential Centres	● Special Schools
● Day/Residential Centres	■ Special Classes
■ Respite Centres	

Volunteering in Western Care Association

Western Care are continuously involving Volunteers in people's lives and we hope to get even more Volunteers involved in 2015.

When Volunteers get directly involved with people in services it means that people are able to join in many local events and take part in activities. It is also a great way to broaden people's social networks and to spend more time in their communities. We would like to thank all our Volunteers both

past and current for the difference you have made in people's lives and we look forward to meeting new Volunteers throughout the year.

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, Volunteer Co-ordinator
Tel: 094 90 29193
Email: nmcgarry@westerncare.com
 Applications can also be downloaded from our website on: www.westerncare.com