



Western Care Association 2016 NEWSLETTER

The Voluntary Sector 1966-2016

Western Care Association celebrates its 50th Anniversary this year which is a significant milestone. From little acorns big trees grow. This is a time to reflect, remember and recognise all those Volunteers who gave so generously of their time and expertise to Western Care over the 50 last years. You were part of the journey with the Organisation, be proud of your contributions, **you have made a real difference.** We continue to need you now more than ever. I would like to remember in particular all those who have passed from this life and gone to their eternal reward.

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 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 for 50 years. We thank you for the confidence and the trust that you place in Western Care. We always try to demonstrate transparency in how we use our much needed fundraising monies (see inside cover, Use of Fundraised Monies).

Branch Activity - Dates for your Diary

Supervalu & Western Care Partnership 2016

Sunday 5th June - 5K & 10K Walk/Run in conjunction with the four Kavanagh stores: Castlebar, Westport, Claremorris & Killimagh

22nd July 2016	Enniscrone Golf Competition
December 2016	Achill Card Game
December 2016	Ballyhaunis Christmas Social
11th February 2017	Valentine Candlelight Ball

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: ward@westerncare.com

2015 Branch Income Door to Door Collection & Other Branch Fundraising Activities:

Branch	Amount
Achill	€13,766.58
Ardagh	€2,309.50
Balla	€1,852.00
Ballina	€8,049.23
Ballinrobe	€6,879.10
Ballintubber/Ballyheane	€2,168.78
Ballyhaunis	€7,576.34
Belmullet	€2,415.81
Bohola	€716.00
Bonniconlon	€4,067.00
Burrishoole/Newport	€3,155.05
Carnacon	€650.00
Carracastle	€500.00
Castlebar	€18,300.85
Charlestown	€848.09
Claremorris	€5,769.87
Cooneal	€821.00
Crossmolina (Plus EGC)	€8,018.00
Currane	€1,008.00
Drummin	€621.07
Foxford	€470.00
Islandeady	€3,023.00
Kilawalla	€1,297.30
Kilfian	€562.00
Kilkelly/Kilmovee	€4,725.88
Killala	€1,815.00
Kilmaine	€3,057.00
Kilmeena	€785.00
Kiltane	€416.00
Kiltimagh	€5,960.00
Knock	€1,999.00
Knockmore/Rathduff	€6,915.00
Lacken	€860.00
Louisburgh	€1,140.97
Mayo Association Dublin	€14,270.00
Mayo Abbey/Facefield	€2,825.00
Murrisk	€1,172.20
Robeen/Roundfort	€230.00
Shrule/Glencorrib	€5,465.00
Swinford	€628.13
Taugheen/Crossboyne	€1,340.00
The Neale/Cong	€1,284.00
Tourmakeady	€3,655.00
Westport	€8,481.27
Total	€161,869.02

Western Care Services and Voluntary Branches
throughout Mayo 1966 - 2016



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

Telephone: 094 90 25133 Fax: 094 90 25207

E-mail: info@westerncare.com Website: www.westerncare.com

Helen McHugh, Chairperson, Board of Directors



I would like to welcome you all to the Western Care Association newsletter and hope you find it 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 hopefully take place again this year.

This year we are celebrating our 50th anniversary, it is a huge milestone and we hope to mark it with various events throughout the year to acknowledge the hard work and dedication of all our members / supporters. The Candlelight Ball which took place in February was hugely successful and was attended by some of the founder members of Western Care.

We want to ensure a high level of accountability and transparency for all money raised from the public and our website includes "Commitment to Standards in Fundraising Practice", "Donor Charter" & "Annual reports" as all documents can be viewed on www.westerncare.com

We sincerely thank you for the time and effort given so willingly.

Helen McHugh, Chairperson, Board of Directors

Bernard O'Regan, Executive Director



In 2015 fundraised money played an important part in supporting and maintaining direct services by Western Care Association. This demonstrates the importance of fundraising to the work of the Association. As a reduction in budgets has coincided with increasing need for services and supports, 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 2016 and beyond.

Bernard O'Regan, Executive Director

2014/2015 Board of Directors



Back Row L to R: Chris Pratt, Annette Dillon, Bernard O'Regan, Ed Rose, Mary Kelly, Anthony McCormack
Front Row L to R: Mary Daly, Mary Hegarty, Helen McHugh, Noelle Gallagher, Geradine Lennon
Unavoidably absent: Philip McKiernan

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

In 2015, approximately €150,000 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. This includes the provision of short-term supports to those who come into crisis from time to time, and need an immediate service response.
- 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 2015, this included works carried out in St Riias Claremorris, Bellas Foxford, The Acres Foxford, Barrack Hill Newport, Pine Grove Ballinamore, Highland Lodge Kilkelly, Kilmovee, Aras Aoihbinn Ballina, St. Stephens Turlough, and 20 Knockthomas Castlebar.
- 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 2015 vehicles were purchased for Ballyhaunis Day Service, Lakelands Manulla, Cluainin Crossmolina, VTC Castlebar, and for a number of individual services throughout the county.
- 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 2015 the people of Mayo raised €216,535 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, particularly in this year marking the fiftieth anniversary of the foundation of the Association, please contact the Fundraising Department (details below) or call to the fundraising office 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 not listed above are available on www.westerncare.com and on the **Western Care Association Fundraising Page on Facebook**.

2016 Fundraising Events

Sunday, May 15th	Crossmolina 5Km Fun Run & Walk	Crossmolina
Sunday, May 22nd	Free Charity Open Day in Westport House	Westport House
Saturday, June 4th	Mayo Bikers Run - Countywide	Countywide
Monday, June 6th	The VHI Dublin Womens Mini Marathon	Dublin
Saturday, June 23rd	Kathleen Conneely Memorial Charity Walk	Clare Island
Friday, July 1st	Annual Michael John McDonnell Am Am	Westport Golf Club
Thursday, August 18th	Singles Stableford Competition	Scullinrobe Golf Club
Saturday, September 3rd	Tour of Mayo Charity Cycle	Mayo
Friday - Sunday, September 23rd - 25th	Croagh Patrick Heritage Trail Autumn Walking Festival	Dalla to iurist
Sunday, November 27th	Annual Cárde Crann Mór Bingo.	TF Royal Theatre, Castlebar

Income from 2015 Fundraising Events and Projects

Brian Cawley Memorial Cycle & Tour of Mayo Cycles	€10,078
Cárde Crann Mór Bingo	€10,933
Cárde Crann Mór Sundry Fundraising	€32,177
Card Games	€8,717
Christmas Cards	€11,096
Christmas Dinners & Party Nights	€2,176
Concerts, Plays, Socials, etc.	€2,958
Corporate & Personal Donations	€32,067
Grants	€2,000
iRegister/iDonate	€2,990
Mayo Four a Side Darts	€5,800
NYC Marathon, Dublin Marathon & Womens Mini Marathons	€34,336
Mobile Phones & Textile Recycling	€10,247
Staff Deductions/Standing Orders	€1,819
Sundry Fundraising Events	€18,405
VTC Fundraising Events (Christmas Trees & Shop, Raffles, etc.)	€8,910
Walks (Clare Island, Michael's Walk & Summer Solstice Walking Festival)	€13,746
Westport Golf Classic & Kennedy Foundation Donation	€8,079
TOTAL	€216,535

Western Care Services



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 2016.

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 county if new volunteers are interested in getting involved. Becoming a registered volunteer involves an Application and Waiting 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 9029193
Email: nmcgarry@westerncare.com
 Applications can also be downloaded from our website on: www.westerncare.com

Noreen McGarry, Volunteer Co-ordinator