

HELPING
YOUR
COMMUNITY
SINCE 1873



The Hospital Saturday Fund Charity Update

Issue 3 Ireland

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In 2017 the Hospital Saturday Fund will give

€1.3 million

in donations and grants to medical charities for care and research, hospices and hospitals across the UK and Ireland.

Assistance will also be given to individuals whose illness or disability has caused financial difficulties

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Study funded to introduce outreach nurses to help EB

DEBRA Ireland is a national Irish charity, which was established to provide support to patients and families living with the debilitating skin condition called Epidermolysis Bullosa (EB). EB is a rare genetic skin blistering condition, which makes the skin as fragile as the wings of a butterfly. There is no cure for EB, its estimated 1 in 18,000 babies born in Ireland are affected by it, and over 500,000 people have EB worldwide.

Following an in-dept analysis of EB Support Services, DEBRA Ireland has identified the need to develop a team of outreach EB nurses. This study will identify the optimum role of an EB outreach nurse and to identify the impact of an EB outreach nurse programme on patients and their families.

There are currently only two specialist treatment hospitals in Ireland both in Dublin, Our Lady's Children's Hospital & St James Hospital, this means some patients have to travel a significant distance to obtain specialist treatment, and with EB the travelling can be extremely painful as the movement and friction caused by sitting in a car can cause devastating wounds.

The study will enable a specialist nurse to visit patients at home to avoid the need to travel long distances. They believe one outreach nurse will be able to provide care for approximately 100 EB patients in their own homes.

This study also has the potential to make significant contributions to the EB support

services debate in both Ireland and the international community.

The Hospital Saturday Fund are delighted to award Debra Ireland a grant for €2,700 towards this important research study.



Special aids to help people with Epilepsy



Dave Thomas, HSF Vice Chairman, presenting the grant cheque to Epilepsy Ireland

Epilepsy Ireland is the only charity in Ireland for people with epilepsy. There are approximately 40,000 people, including 14,000 under the age of 16 who have epilepsy in Ireland. Between 130 and 150 people die annually from SUDEP (sudden death in epilepsy).

Each new member of Epilepsy Ireland is supplied with a wristband or a safety breathing pillow.

They provide approximately six hundred and sixty wristbands or pillows per year. The wristbands have the technology to allow paramedics and other first time responders to get access to the person's medical information and therefore can be treated quickly and efficiently.

The Hospital Saturday Fund's €3,000 grant will contribute to providing these special aids.

Funding for additional breast pumps for premature babies



Irish Premature Babies is the only charity supporting families of preterm or sick babies. They are the only charitable organisation that

give mothers access to breast pumps so they can express milk for their preterm baby. They have 10 hospital grade pumps but

desperately need more pumps as they are turning mothers away every week. Breast milk for preterm babies is essential. All mothers who deliver preterm babies would be advised by medical staff to express their breast milk. There are over 4,500 preterm babies born each year in Ireland.

tion, UNICEF, HSE and International Neonatology. Numerous research studies over the years have shown only the best clinical outcomes for preterm babies fed breast milk. The Hospital Saturday Fund's grant will allow Irish Premature Babies to purchase additional hospital grade breast pumps to support these mothers and babies. Breast milk is the recommended first food for preterm babies by the World Health Organisa-

Pilot study on rapid pathogen identification



The Temple Street Foundation was founded in 2000 to raise funds for the Temple Street Children's University Hospital. Founded in 1872, the pediatric hospital cares for approximately 145,000 children per year from across Ireland. The Hospital employs 95 consultants and has over 950 other staff members (comprising of nursing, paramedical and support staff).

Over 55,000 of the 145,000 children who attend Temple Street every year attend the Emergency Department, making it one of the busiest Emergency departments in Europe.

Temple Street Foundation are funding the rapid pathogen identification pilot study, as it has enormous potential to support children across Ireland. The hospital has been recently provided with two FilmArray machines which are being used to test children's blood samples for diseases such as sepsis and meningitis. The turnaround time for testing blood samples before the introduction of the FilmArray equipment was two days. Now it is two hours, and the laboratory can identify 95% of bacteria of viruses in the samples.

The rapid pathogen identification pilot study will extend this testing method to non-blood fluids such as the pus from children's lungs.

This study will assist 180 children per year but each cartridge costs €100.

If the Film Array machines can successfully test non-blood fluids, then sample test times would be reduced from two days to two hours. This would be of great benefit not only to the

Temple Street Children's University Hospital, but to other hospitals Ireland and the UK. The Hospital Saturday Fund's grant will help towards funding this invaluable project.



Paul Jackson, Chief Executive, Hospital Saturday Fund and Cailin Maguire, Major Donor Executive at Temple Street Foundation

Supporting self management programmes for chronic pain sufferers



Chronic Pain Ireland is the only National organisation providing information and support to people living with persistent Chronic Pain at a severe to very severe level.

Their Self-Management Programme enables people to implement strategies that helps in reducing pain sensation and improve quality of lives. The purpose of the programme is to greatly enhance the individual's quality of life and to lead to a more appropriate use of medications and in some cases a complete cessation of medications.



Keeping wheelchair sports thriving

The Dublin Swifts is a sports club for children who are wheelchair users and their siblings. In the absence of any other organised sports activities for these children, the club is run by the families of the wheelchair users.

Supported by the Irish Wheelchair Association, they use the venue at Áras Cú Chulainn in Clontarf, and the facilities there. They meet on Sunday mornings from

10am-12pm. Everyone gets into a sports wheelchair and they have fun. Over the last few years they have increased the number of sport wheelchairs to 45.

The €4,000 grant from the Hospital Saturday Fund will help maintain the sports chairs and go towards the €750 per annum that needs to be raised for the hire of the hall.



Roy Smith, HSF health plan's Head of Sales & Business Development, Ireland, & N.Ireland, presents the grant cheque to the service users at the Centre

Specialist assistive equipment for people with Huntington's Disease

Huntington's Disease is a life-limiting genetic neurodegenerative condition that leads to progressive physical, cognitive and emotional symptoms. Physical symptoms include uncontrollable movements, abnormal balance when walking, slurred speech and difficulty swallowing.

Huntington's Disease Association of Ireland (HDAI) provide

funding assistance for specialist seating and assistive equipment as recommended by Occupational Therapists where no other source of funding is available or where waiting lists are so excessive they will have an impact of the benefit of the equipment when available.

The Hospital Saturday Fund's €4,000 grant will help purchase additional equipment.





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About The Hospital Saturday Fund

The Hospital Saturday Fund (HSF) is a UK charity that was founded in 1873 by pioneers in social and philanthropic work to help people to afford medical care. In recent times, the Fund has 'tailored' its benefits and these are now offered through HSF health plan, one of the leading health cash plans in the UK and Ireland. Profits from the trading company, HSF health plan, are channeled into the 'parent' charity, The Hospital Saturday Fund, to enable charity donations to be made. In 2017 the Hospital Saturday Fund will give €1,300,000 in donations and grants to medical charities, hospices and hospitals across Ireland and the UK. Assistance will also be given to individuals whose illness or disability has caused financial difficulties.

Grant Information

Who can apply:

The Hospital Saturday Fund is a registered charity whose aims are to provide assistance through its charitable funds for:

- Registered medical health charities which are in need of grants for medical projects, care, research or in support of medical training within the United Kingdom, Isle of Man, Channel Islands and Republic of Ireland;
- Individuals with a medical condition or disability who would benefit from assistance with the purchase of specialised equipment or from particular forms of treatment.

For how to apply see the HSF website for full details of the criteria:
www.hospitalsaturdayfund.org

Applications from Organisations

The Grant Making Committee (GMC) meets quarterly. Applications should be submitted online by close of business on the following dates:

GMC 30 January 2017

Standard Grants of £2,000 or €2,700 – deadline 1 January 2017

Large Grants of up to max £10,000 or €13,500 – deadline 1 December 2016

GMC 5 June 2017

Standard Grants of £2,000 or €2,700 – deadline 8 May 2017

Large Grants of up to max £10,000 or €13,500 – deadline 10 April 2017

GMC 14 August 2017

Standard Grants of £2,000 or €2,700 – deadline 17 July 2017

Large Grants of up to max £10,000 or €13,500 – deadline 19 June 2017

GMC 6 November 2017

Standard Grants of £2,000 or €2,700 – deadline 9 October 2017

Large Grants of up to max £10,000 or €13,500 – deadline 11 September 2017

Applications from Individuals

Individual applications are accepted throughout the year on a rolling basis. See the guidelines on our website for further information.

**For information on
HSF health plan
please contact:**

1890 451 451

HSF health plan

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HSF Health Plan is regulated by the Health Insurance Authority. Terms and Conditions apply.