Dublin Charity Reception

Twenty-nine Irish charities received donations from The Hospital Saturday Fund at a special reception in Dublin in February 2018. In total, €134,500 was donated to the medical charities and organisations at the event, which was hosted by Ardmhéara/Lord Mayor of Dublin, Micheál Mac Donncha, who is also Vice President of The Hospital Fund. HSF Patron, leading Soprano Lesley Garrett, was also in attendance.

Among the beneficiaries was Chronic Pain Ireland which received a donation to help support vital workshops on pain self-management techniques. Cystic Fibrosis received a grant towards their independent living group and DEBRA Ireland’s grant will be used to provide a weekend camp for those with the genetic skin condition EB. Also receiving grants were Fighting Blindness to purchase a RetCam scanner machine and the Irish Motor Neurone Disease Association will use their grant to fund specialised communication aids. A grant was made to Dublin Wicklow Mountain Rescue Team to support their important work as well as the Kevin Bell Repatriation Trust to assist families of those bereaved overseas.

Speaking at the reception, The Lord Mayor celebrated the extraordinary work of all the charities receiving donations from The Hospital Saturday Fund

Ardmhéara/Lord Mayor of Dublin, Micheál Mac Donncha, nominated St Francis Hospice as his chosen charity, remarked that this donation means that the hospice will now have the benefit of a special therapeutic bath for use by the patients in the specialist palliative care unit and this will provide pain relief and comfort to those patients.

Paul Jackson, Chief Executive, The Hospital Saturday Fund said: “We are delighted to continue the tradition of supporting many charities in Ireland, many of which are less well-known. The Hospital Saturday Fund is honoured to support the efforts of such deserving charities and help in some way towards the exceptional, tireless work that they do.

We are delighted to have increased our grant making funds to €1.4 million in 2018 and this is an increase of 100% over the last five years”.

In 2018 The Hospital Saturday Fund will give:

€1.4 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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LauraLynn - Ireland’s Children’s Hospice

Following the Dublin charity reception, the following letter was received:

“My warmest thanks to you both and to your entire team, patron and board for an absolutely lovely evening at The Mansion House last night. It is always a special honour to attend events like these, however having had the unique opportunity to talk to so many people last night, both charities and members of The Hospital Saturday Fund, it left me feeling especially inspired.

Seeing the incredible charities that were represented on the night, many of them still quite new and very small organisations, it really reminded me that not that long ago at all LauraLynn was just 2 people going out there and fundraising to make their dream, to make Ireland a better place for children with life-limiting conditions, a reality. It made me so proud, not only to be a part of LauraLynn and all that has been achieved, but also to be Irish and stand amongst such incredible people doing invaluable work.

I have no doubt you and all the team at The Hospital Saturday Fund must also be so proud to be a part of the wonderful organisation you are, helping so many incredible organisations create such impactful change.

So thank you to all the team at The Hospital Saturday Fund – for inviting us to be a part of this wonderful event, for making so many wonderful things possible, for reminding us where we came from and where we can go, and of course for your continued support of LauraLynn. It honestly means the world to us”. (Michelle Reynolds)

Rebel Wheelers Multi Sports

“Just a short note to thank you so much for The Hospital Saturday Fund grant we received in UCC (HSF’s Charity Reception in Cork) last year.

It again has made a huge difference to our children’s lives. The joy and excitement was palpable last night when TJ, Hussein and Luke received their new chairs.

The new chairs made an amazing difference, straight away, with the parents looking on in amazement. Eoin, parent of Luke said that “it is like putting on a new fitted pair of shoes for the first time, it just works”. Their posture improved and their speed. It will greatly help them have more fun while playing basketball.

Along with other grants, we have been able to purchase an additional seven chairs.

As the team grows we will continue to raise funds and look for your continued support.

Thank you so much and all the hard work you do to make this happen”. 
Kevin Bell Repatriation Trust

The Kevin Bell Repatriation Trust (KBRT) aims to alleviate the financial hardship of bereaved families repatriating the body (bodies) of loved one(s) who have died abroad in sudden or tragic circumstances back to Ireland. The Hospital Saturday Fund grant of €13,500 will go some way in helping the next family to receive the devastating news that a loved one has passed away abroad when they don't know who to turn to. What the KBRT Trust can do is take it out of their hands, make the arrangements to get them home and pay all costs. KBRT have now repatriated 435 loved ones to their families in Ireland since its inception in June 2013, averaging 10-15 per month, from as far away as Australia, Argentina, Canada, Cambodia, Ecuador and the USA to name just a few, to every county in Ireland. The Trust operates on a 32 counties basis for all sides of the community, creed, colour and circumstances of death.

Dublin Rape Crisis Centre

The Hospital Saturday Fund Grant Making Committee member, Carol Murphy (centre in the photo), was pleased to present the Dublin Rape Crisis Centre with a grant for €12,000.

The DRCC’s mission is to prevent the harm and heal the trauma of rape, sexual abuse and all forms of sexual violence. They support the victims of sexual violence, their families and supporters and many others who work on front line services and so meet those impacted by sexual violence. Support is provided through phone support, face-to-face counselling and through training and education.

DRCC currently has 203 volunteers. The Volunteer Service co-ordinates and manages the recruitment, training, assessment and supervision of all volunteers. DRCC volunteers are committed to supporting survivors of sexual violence after completing 72 hours of intensive training. Volunteers are trained to staff the National 24-Hour Helpline outside of office hours and at weekends and public holidays. Their commitment to providing this service ensures that, whenever someone calls for support, a trained volunteer is ready to listen and to provide information. Volunteers provide crucial accompaniment support to clients attending the Sexual Assault Treatment Unit (SATU), making a statement to Gardaí or attending court. The DRCC is extremely proud of dedicated volunteers, without whom they would be unable to provide around-the-clock service to survivors of rape, sexual assault or childhood sexual abuse.

The grant to DRCC will provide training for volunteers who support clients attending the Sexual Assault Treatment Unit (SATU) which is based in the Rotunda Hospital, Dublin. The grant would provide 10 hours of SATU related training for 60 volunteers over 2018.

Down Syndrome Cork

The Hospital Saturday Fund were pleased to make a grant of €4,000 to Down Syndrome Cork.

The funding will go to the provision of LEEIP (Little Explorers Early Intervention Programme).

Down Syndrome Cork have an impressive team and offer all round wide ranging support to families. Each person is unique and they wish to give each and every member of Down Syndrome Cork the opportunity to reach their full potential.
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 channelled into the ‘parent’ charity, The Hospital Saturday Fund, to enable charity donations to be made. In 2018 the Hospital Saturday Fund will give €1.4 million 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.

Dear Reader,
As you are aware by supporting The Hospital Saturday Fund you contribute to some of the most exciting health and wellbeing projects across the UK and Ireland. With your continuous support our work has grown substantially with annual grant totals growing from €260,000 to €1,400,000 over the last 10 years. Your support has also allowed us to increase the number of grants given annually from 170 to 347 thus reaching even more worthwhile causes and positively impacting more people’s lives year on year. Whilst this is incredible, especially as our cover also supports major medical charities in the UK and Ireland, numerous smaller charities and individuals with exceptional specific needs, we want to do more!!! We would like to give to more than 30% of those who apply today. We would truly like to give to 100% of applicants including both big & small groups, UK & Irish charities, individuals, research and medical electives.

Please help by donating or partnering with us today! You can do so through our website, our Facebook page or by calling the Charity Team who will be delighted to share ideas with you.

HOW TO APPLY FOR GRANTS (via www.hospitalsaturdayfund.org)

Applications from Organisations
The Grant Making Committee (GMC) meets quarterly. Applications should be submitted online by close of business on the deadline date. Here are the remaining dates for 2018:

GMC 13 August 2018
Standard Grants of £2,000 or €2,700 – deadline 16 July 2018
Large Grants of up to max £10,000 or €13,500 – deadline 18 June 2018
GMC 5 November 2018
Standard Grants of £2,000 or €2,700 – deadline 8 October 2018
Large Grants of up to max £10,000 or €13,500 – deadline 10 September 2018

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