

HELPING
YOUR
COMMUNITY
SINCE 1873

In 2020
The Hospital Saturday
Fund will give:

€1.5 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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The Hospital Saturday Fund Charity Update

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Grant Making Back in Full Swing

The decision was made in March this year to pause our regular grant making efforts. However, we were determined to find a way of continuing to support local communities during the pandemic. The organisation's solution was to introduce the Covid-19 Grant, which has enabled 102 charities such as hospices and care homes throughout Ireland and the UK to receive support. This funding went towards the purchase of PPE equipment, and extra funding for helplines and home visits.

One of our UK-based beneficiaries was Tŷ Hafan, a children's hospice in the Vale of Glamorgan, Wales. Eleanor Prescott, the charity's Grants and Trusts Fundraiser, explained that without support during the pandemic, that they would "struggle to meet the (funding) levels necessary, and in the worst case have to restrict our services to keep families safe". The Hospital Saturday Fund has been thrilled to contribute towards the continuation of this vital service, so that Tŷ Hafan can go on "fulfilling their purpose to help make short lives full family lives, and be there for families as long as they need us".

From Ireland we heard how innovative Cork Life Centre had been with their grant.

"At what has been a stressful time, it has been so heartening to see how communities, and those who support them, have come together. In our lovely home on Winter's Hill in Cork, behind the red door, work is well under way in preparation for safe re-opening for a new school year. This would not be possible without the generous support of the Hospital Saturday Fund with whom we are fortunate to have been involved with since 2017.



Cork Life Centre prepare perspex for their protective visors.

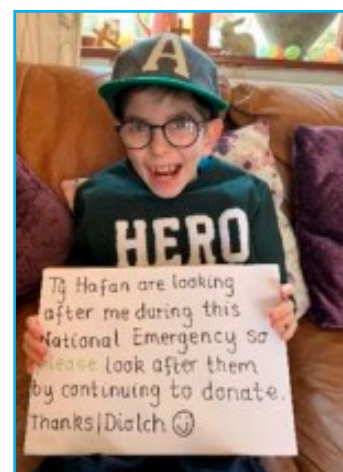
In May and June, as restrictions began to ease, we explored and identified the needs of our community in terms of safety in the current climate and in terms of planning for a new school year. The task felt daunting. When Paul Jackson and the Hospital Saturday Fund approached and offered the support of their COVID-19 Fund, it allowed us to take vital steps on the journey to full re-opening.

With the support of HSF, we were able to purchase three 3-D printing machines and printing materials which are allowing us to print and produce our own visors. We were very fortunate that we

were able to reach out to our community partners in CIT (Cork Institute of Technology), who advised us in relation to purchase and use of 3D printers who also shared their blueprint for manufacture of visors. The added bonus of producing visors on-site at a low cost, was being able to build the sense of community around preparation for re-opening by having staff and students support the production process".

Paul Jackson, said how very proud he is that we were able to be there for beneficiaries and communities like Tŷ Hafan, Cork Life Centre and many more, when they needed us the most.

In July, the exciting decision was also made to resume normal grant-making for charities and individuals.



Diolch supporting Tŷ Hafan

Down Syndrome Dublin

The Down Syndrome Centre in Dublin were fortunate to receive €10,000 at the November GMC.

The grant will go towards assisted technology in the form of I-pads, an interactive whiteboard and apps/educational software/digital resources for active learning for children and young adults with down syndrome.

The Down Syndrome Centre was founded by Peter Gaw and his wife Mary, as a result of their frustration at not being able to access relevant services for their two youngest children, both of whom have Down syndrome. In October 2014 they opened the doors to Ireland's first services-led centre for children with Down syndrome and their families. Their fundraising strategy is quite diverse based on the fact they receive no Government funding and rely on their own initiatives and support from the general public.

Due to Covid-19 their fundraising strategy has required DSC to take a new strategic approach, transferring the majority of fundraising initiatives to online virtual platforms. They have a strong programme devised for the remainder of this year and 2021, as well as incorporating a heavy concentration on corporate engagement with the recruitment of a corporate fundraising manager.



Down syndrome affects learning in many different ways. In relation to speech and language there can be difficulties learning how to listen, understand instructions, coping with long sentences, understanding new vocabulary and speech articulation. Difficulties can also arise

in fine & gross motor skill, poor memory skills and vision & hearing difficulties.

The I-pads, interactive whiteboard and Apps/educational software/digital resources, all of which will be used during 1:1 and group therapy intervention. These specific apps will be used during both direct speech & language therapy and occupational therapy intervention. Children with Down syndrome are strong visual learners, this means that they understand what they see better than what they hear. Studies have shown the use of assistive technology with children improves their ability to learn, provides multi-sensory learning experiences, facilitates added practice of skills in an enjoyable way, makes tasks easier to complete. The Assistive technology will also be used during seminars and workshops which the centre provides to parents and professionals working with their children and also sibling workshops.

KARE

KARE were awarded €10,000 at our November GMC, towards supporting health and wellbeing for adults with intellectual disability through engagement in meaningful occupation and accessing creative art therapies. KARE are an organisation who support people with an intellectual disability and their families, with a network of 11 branches throughout Counties Kildare, East Offaly and West Wicklow. Their aim has always been to help people living with intellectual disability live as normal a life as possible in their local community. KARE has a very low base of public funding and relies on ad-hoc donations and fundraising events to support its charitable purpose. Although established in 1967 (initially as a parents and friends group for children with intellectual disability who had no access to services) this was the first time KARE has applied to The Hospital Saturday Fund.

Although the day services provide a welcome retreat, a lack of resources means that those using the service have little to occupy them – with only some lego or puzzles to use to engage them in activity. Since Covid-19, with little access to the local



Service user Eoin attending his Art Therapy Class.

community, a lot of these individuals are spending a great deal of time in buildings. Often they just sit around, with very little to do.

A grant from The Hospital Saturday Fund will enable KARE to provide creative therapies for many of their adults with intellectual disabilities. Therapies include: music therapy, dance movement therapy, drama therapy and art therapy. They will now be able to provide recreational resource packs, one for each centre, to include all sorts of creative art therapy. For non-verbal individuals creative therapy can be the only way they can express themselves or communicate with others. These resource packs will be instrumental in engaging those individuals whose disability involves challenging behaviours and will be a lifeline to KARE.

St Gabriel's School & Centre



Sharon Phelan, HSF health plan Operations Director, recently presented €13,500 to St Gabriel's towards providing specialised hydrotherapy treatment for children with significant disabilities attending the school.

St Gabriel's was founded in 1961 to support children with learning and physical disabilities from a school with 3 classrooms.

They have seen huge growth over the years and they now have a school of 10 classrooms with 70 pupils and a Centre which last year serviced over 650 children and young adults with varying learning and physical challenges.

Irish Osteoporosis Society

Cathal Nolan, HSF GMC Member, presented Irish Osteoporosis Society a cheque for €13,500 towards supporting the Irish National Osteoporosis Helpline.

The Irish Osteoporosis Society Charity (IOS) was founded by Professor Moira O'Brien in 1996 as a patient support organisation for those suffering with Osteoporosis and their families. They are the only organisation in the Republic of Ireland that deals specifically with Osteoporosis.

The helpline will receive on average 285 calls per month; estimated 3,500 per annum. They will make contact via phone with c2,000 people pa.

Queries include new diagnosis, diet, exercise, medication, lifespan, emerging information, research, living with osteoporosis, assistive equipment, upcoming events etc.



Cathal Nolan, HSF GMC Member, presenting €13,500 to Michele O'Brien, CEO, Irish National Osteoporosis.

The helpline is by far their greatest tool for reaching their clientele. Other methods include emails where they will provide people with the latest written information & web links, which they can peruse at their leisure. Approx 600 people will attend their public seminars and information events annually. These can cover the whole country. They also hold workplace wellness seminars for some large employers.

They can now retain their current helpline service to ensure that all callers continue to receive the support they need and to continually support the treatment and prevention of osteoporosis.

Connemara Therapeutic Riding

Paul Jackson, HSF CEO and Nicola Sheerin, Account Executive, HSF health plan, visited Connemara Therapeutic Riding in Connemara on 21st January 2020 to present a cheque for €13,500 towards the cost of a swimming pool hoist.

Connemara Therapeutic Riding is a Community Group founded with support from various agencies and businesses in the Connemara area and beyond, including Forum Connemara and the Connemara Pony Breeders Society. The Charity provides therapeutic interventions for intellectually and physically disabled children and adults, who would otherwise have an 80 mile round trip to access any specialist therapies and services.

They met Karen Mannion, Secretary of Connemara Therapeutic Riding. It did seem like half of the Clifden turned out for the cheque presentation, including the local town councillor! The hotel where we met even provided free refreshments for all the locals who attended the cheque presentation.



Karen explained that many of the parents or carers were elderly themselves and have been caring for many, many years. This has obviously taken a toll on their own health, both physical and mental. They were also given a tour of the riding school, which is in the most wonderful setting, situated by a lake.



Individual Application Supported by Headway Ireland



In 2007 Mr Burke suffered a stroke leaving him with significant physical difficulties and this resulted in his mobility being considerably impacted.

Headway Ireland support several individual applications to HSF and Mr Burke was fortunate enough to receive €1,000 towards a mobility scooter.



In a thank you letter, Headway said "I have been waiting to be able to take a photo of Jim while using his scooter but because of Covid I was unable. As you will see he is very much up and running and this has been life changing for him by all accounts.

So a massive thank you at HSF from me, Headway and of course Jim".



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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 2020 The Hospital Saturday Fund will give €1.5 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.

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 criteria and link to the online application form:
www.hospitalsaturdayfund.org

Applications for Organisations:

The Grant Making Committee (GMC) meets quarterly. Applications should be submitted online by close of business on the deadline date. Here are the dates for 2021:

GMC 26 January 2021

Standard Grants of £2,000 or €3,000 – deadline 4 January 2021

Large Grants of up to max £10,000 or €13,500 – deadline 1 December 2020

GMC 18 May 2021

Standard Grants of £2,000 or €3,000 – deadline 20 April 2021

Large Grants of up to max £10,000 or €13,500 – deadline 23 March 2021

GMC 10 August 2021

Standard Grants of £2,000 or €3,000 – deadline 13 July 2021

Large Grants of up to max £10,000 or €13,500 – deadline 15 June 2021

GMC 4 November 2021

Standard Grants of £2,000 or €3,000 – deadline 7 October 2021

Large Grants of up to max £10,000 or €13,500 – deadline 9 September 2021

GMC January 2022 (all dates for 2022 meetings to be confirmed in December 2021)

Standard Grants of £2,000 or €3,000 – deadline 4 January 2022

Large Grants of up to max £10,000 or €13,500 – deadline 1 December 2021

Applications for Individuals:

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

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