



In response to COVID-19, Peter McVerry Trust is providing 60 additional emergency accommodation beds for people sleeping rough. We're also providing over 100 isolation rooms, and working to source empty hotel rooms and apartments for people who may need to self-isolate.

An intensive information and prevention campaign is in operation across all our services, to inform and protect our most vulnerable service users and tenants. We have also provided staff with specialist training in the areas of hand hygiene, use of personal protective equipment, and bio-hazard training.

Peter McVerry Trust's Response to COVID-19

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MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

Welcome to the latest edition of our Opening Doors newsletter. I'd like to begin by thanking you, our supporters and partners, for your continued interest in and commitment to the work of Peter McVerry Trust and those who we help.

This edition of the newsletter reaches you in very uncertain times. I hope that all our supporters are staying safe and following the guidance of the HSE on COVID-19. For those of you that have received our newsletter before, you'll notice that our fundraising section carries a lot fewer events this time. That's because we have decided to postpone all of our events until later in the year. This makes your support all the more important, as we still have to raise the vital funds needed to operate our services.

I'm very grateful to the people who have given us their permission to share their stories with you in this newsletter. It is always a hugely brave act for someone, who has benefitted from our support, to step forward and speak about their experience and share it with such a wide audience. Their stories, in their own words, carry huge impact and demonstrate clearly why Peter McVerry Trust works day in, day out to provide as many positive outcomes for people as we can.

The newsletter also features details of our youth services, which includes a visit by President Michael D Higgins to Tabor House, where he helped us to mark 40 years of the service. It was the opening of Tabor House in 1979 which began Fr McVerry's journey in tackling homelessness. Paddy Fay, who was the very first resident of Tabor House, was on hand to speak with President Higgins. Paddy, who you will see pictured on the cover of this newsletter, is now a Housing First tenant with Peter McVerry Trust.

To all of you that have taken part in or supported our fundraising events in recent months, thank you. We really need your support again in 2020 and we encourage you to think of new ways in which you can support us now and in the coming months.

I hope you enjoy the newsletter and I wish you all a safe and Happy Easter.



Pat Doyle CEO

HOUSING FIRST CONTINUES TO DELIVER FOR THE MOST VULNERABLE



Staff from Westmeath County Council, the HSE and Peter McVerry Trust attending the contract signing for the Midlands Housing First service in January 2020.



Housing First, the ground breaking and hugely successful model of housing people with acute and complex needs who have been impacted by homelessness continues to grow. The Housing First model has been rolled out nationally, led by the Department of Health and the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government, in partnership with local authorities. Peter McVerry Trust is delivering the service on behalf of the local authorities in the North East, Mid East and Midlands regions. This is in addition to our long-standing work to deliver Housing First in Dublin, in partnership with the four local authorities.

YOUTH SERVICES AT PETER MCVERRY TRUST

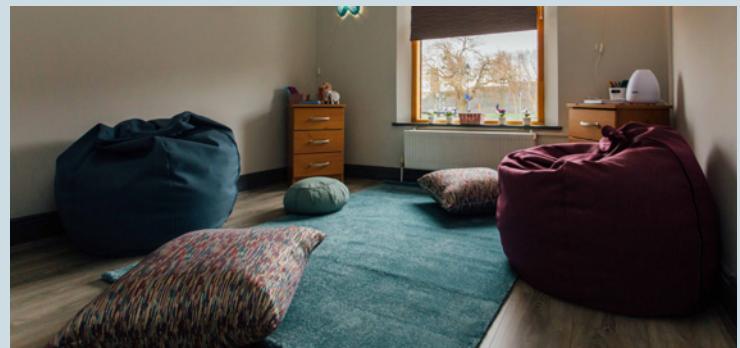
TABOR HOUSE AT 40



President Michael D Higgins visiting Tabor House in Dublin City Centre in November 2019, to mark its 40th anniversary.

The first residential homeless service opened by Fr Peter McVerry in 1979 marked its 40th anniversary with a visit from President Michael D Higgins. The service which originally supported homeless children now provides high quality residential accommodation and supports to young people in State care. Since it opened its doors it has supported 61 young people under the age of 18, with an average stay of around four and half years.

NEW YOUTH AFTERCARE SERVICE



Photos from our new youth aftercare service in Dublin, which provides accommodation for young adults with a history of State care.

Peter McVerry Trust opened its latest residential youth aftercare service in Dublin in February. The new service provides aftercare accommodation for young people ageing out of U18s residential services, and ensures they have an appropriate supported environment to progress to when they turn 18.

HOUSING FOR CARE LEAVERS



Photos of Peter McVerry Trust's latest CAS for CARE apartment in Wicklow, the county's first apartment under the scheme.

Peter McVerry Trust is continuing to deliver housing options for young people who have grown up in State care. These ring-fenced apartments, under the Capital Assistance Scheme (CAS), ensure that these young people have secure housing pathways and avoid the need to access emergency homeless accommodation as adults. It is both a prevention and a housing measure. These homes are funded by the government under a programme proposed by Peter McVerry Trust to house young people called CAS for Care.

PERSONAL STORIES



WAYNE, DROGHEDA

"Having a home means you can cook when you want. You can just come in and cook for yourself."

Wayne was housed by Peter McVerry Trust in Drogheda, Co Louth in a new social housing scheme of 11 apartments in the town centre. Wayne receives support from our North East Housing with Supports team who are based in Drogheda.

KEITH, DUBLIN

"Housing First did everything for us. They got us moved in within in a day. They got us our fridge and our washing machine, that stuff was all done for us. They were brilliant for us."

Keith is part of the Dublin Housing First programme and receives intensive support from the Housing First team which supports people to secure and sustain their homes no matter the level of need they have. Keith has been successfully housed for the past seven years through the Housing First model.



FRANCESCA, DUBLIN

"Housing First reached out to me when I was sleeping in a sleeping bag on the streets. They kept reaching out to me again and again and then I said yes. After 15 years of being homeless words can't express what it means to me to have my own home."



Francesca is also part of the Dublin Housing First programme. Francesca receives support from the Housing First team and has been able to attend drug treatment services provided by Peter McVerry Trust since she was housed.

DELIVERING NEW HOMES FOR PEOPLE IN NEED



NEW STREET SOUTH, DUBLIN

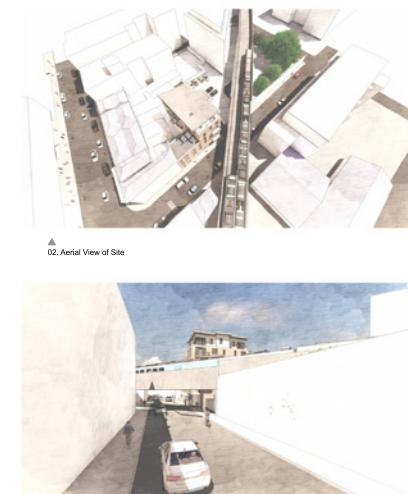
Works are progressing at New Street South in Dublin 8, where Peter McVerry Trust is building eight new social housing apartments.

SHAW STREET, DUBLIN 2

Planning has been lodged by Peter McVerry Trust to construct 12 apartments at Shaw Street, off Pearse Street, in Dublin 2. We hope to secure planning permission in Q2 2020 and be on site by year end.



01. View of Proposed Development from Shaw Street.
CJFA ARCHITECTS C.J. Falconer + Associates



02. Aerial View of Site
03. View of Proposed Development from Shaw Street & City Quay

Proposed Development Images.



FERMOY, CORK

Peter McVerry Trust has just completed the purchase of eight apartments in Fermoy, County Cork. These are the first homes that the charity will own in Cork and sees a long-term vacant block of apartments regenerated and brought back into use as social housing.

FUNDRAISING UPDATES



CAMINO DE SANTIAGO

"The city of Compostela is thrilling and it's a personal triumph when you arrive... but walking for days through fields, forests, and villages is the heart of this trip! For one week you are a designated pilgrim – but, a pilgrim with an assured room and board in a new village each night. There's no other trip like it and I would recommend it to anyone who wants to meet great people, take on a challenge and of course, support a fantastic cause" – Kate, Trek Camino participant, 2014, 2015, 2016 & 2017

If you'd like to join us on the Camino in late 2020 please contact us.

VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION

"I feel grateful every day for the roof over my head, food on my table and a warm bed at night. Volunteering with Peter McVerry Trust over the last number of years has given me a sense of giving something back and helping to make someone's life a little better. Volunteering at a church gate early on a Sunday morning, you get to meet the kindest of people and I find that very rewarding." - Noreen McLoughlin

To learn more about volunteering with Peter McVerry Trust please contact us.



TAX RECLAIM

Thank you to everyone who completed and returned the CHY tax forms which allow Peter McVerry Trust to claim tax back on your donations. A fantastic €370,000 was raised from our Tax Reclaim Appeal in 2019! Thank you to our amazing donors for making this possible. If you have made a donation of €250 or more in the last four years and have not completed a CHY form, please contact fundraising@pmvtrust.ie for more information.

RICK O'SHEA BOOK CLUB CHRISTMAS APPEAL

Following on from a hugely successful appeal in 2018, Rick O'Shea and members of the Rick O'Shea Book club raised a massive €34,350 during November and December 2019. We are so grateful for the continued support we have received from Rick, the members of the book club community around the world, and all involved for their generosity.



GALA BALL

Our annual Gala Ball took place on the 14th of February, with broadcaster Matt Cooper as MC. Our founder, Fr Peter McVerry spoke to the room about the positive impact funds raised at the event can make to the lives of the people we work with. Thank you to everyone who supported the event, and to Clontarf Castle Hotel for their long-term sponsorship of our annual gala ball.

FUNDRAISING UPDATES

#MAKINGHOMES WITH HARVEY NORMAN



In February, Harvey Norman staff and customers across the country took on the challenge to raise €100,000 for Peter McVerry Trust. Thank you to all the staff and customers in Harvey Norman stores for your support once again in helping us kit out high quality homes.

LIMERICK BUSINESS BREAKFAST



Our second annual Limerick Business Breakfast took place in February, with Joe Little, as guest speaker. Our thanks to all involved and to Castletroy Park Hotel for generously hosting the event.

GLENISK #EATLIKETHM EVENT



In partnership with Glenisk, a pop-up restaurant was hosted by the Tang restaurant on Dawson Street, Dublin in February. Our supporters were invited to come along and 'eat like a rugby player' with delicious rugby-inspired dishes. All proceeds from the day were donated to Peter McVerry Trust.

FUNDRAISING AND COVID-19

Given the uncertainty that exists around COVID-19 we have decided to postpone or cancel a number of our upcoming events. Below you will see a highlight of some events that we hope will take place later in the year. Please visit our website for regular updates on other annual events such as the Calcutta Run and the Long Walk Home series. During this particularly challenging time, we would greatly appreciate your support by completing the enclosed donation form or making a donation to Peter McVerry Trust on our website: www.pmvtrust.ie/donate

FUNDRAISING EVENTS 2020

TREK CAMINO SEPTEMBER 2020



The Camino de Fisterra is the only trail which starts in Santiago, ending at Fisterra on the Atlantic coast of Galicia, where you can enjoy a well-earned swim in the sea!

WEXFORD CYCLE SEPTEMBER 2020



Now in its 31st year, the Wexford Cycle will take place in September. Keep an eye on our website www.pmvtrust.ie for details on registration, the route, and other news and updates.

WAYS TO GIVE EVERYDAY



Your support is vital to our work. If you would like to learn more about ways to get involved, please visit our website www.pmvtrust.ie/get-involved

OPENING DOORS APPEAL OCTOBER



Our national Opening Doors Appeal will take place from the 5th-11th October in recognition of World Homeless Day, which occurs every year on the 10th of October. Keep an eye on our website and social media channels for more information on this year's appeal.

Email: info@pmvtrust.ie
Website: www.pmvtrust.ie
Tel: +353 (0)1 823 0776



**Peter
McVerry
Trust**

Opening doors for
homeless people

**Peter McVerry Trust,
29 Mountjoy Square,
Dublin 1, D01 C2N4**

**CLG 98934
RCN 20015282
CHY 7256**