



**Peter
McVerry
Trust**

Opening doors for
homeless people

Peter McVerry Trust

Annual Report 2015



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Board of Directors - 2015

Fr Peter McVerry SJ - Founder and Secretary
Rod Ensor – Chairperson (From June 2015)
Peter Birthistle – Treasurer (From June 2015)
Orla Barry
Liam Connellan (Treasurer until June 2015)
Dr Philip Crowley
Wenda Edwards
James O’Higgins (Chairperson until June 2015)
Fr Tony O’Riordan SJ
Ivan Hammond (RIP)

The Board of Directors extends its deepest sympathies to Ivan Hammond’s family on his passing in June 2016 and wishes to acknowledge with sincere gratitude the contribution over many years provided by Ivan as a valued member of the Board of Peter McVerry Trust and previously the Board of Belvedere Social Services.

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Charity Registration Number:
Company Registration Number:
CHY Number:
Solicitors:

Bankers:

Auditors:

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OUR VISION

An Ireland that supports all those on the margins and upholds their rights to full inclusion in society.

OUR MISSION

Peter McVerry Trust is committed to reducing homelessness and the harm caused by drug misuse and social disadvantage. Peter McVerry Trust provides low-threshold entry services, primarily to younger persons with complex needs, and offers pathways out of homelessness based on the principles of the Housing First model and within a framework that is based on equal opportunities, dignity and respect.

OUR AIMS

- 🚩 To target those most marginalised in society and offer a safe, challenging and supportive environment through our service provision.
- 🚩 To treat participants with warmth and respect and actively encourage them to be involved in all aspects of their own support plan.
- 🚩 To offer a comprehensive prevention package of support to reduce the likelihood of homelessness to those leaving care, those leaving treatment, those leaving prison or other institutions and those whose accommodation is vulnerable.
- 🚩 To offer a comprehensive package of support that will provide the best opportunity possible for them and assist them in planning a pathway out of homelessness or drug use, or if they continue to use drugs, to assist them towards some level of stabilisation in order to live a life of dignity, with respect and opportunity.
- 🚩 To assist each person to re-establish himself or herself in the community and move towards greater independence.

OUR VALUES

- ★ We endeavour to respond warmly, flexibly and rapidly to participants' needs.
- ★ We endeavour to operate a non-judgmental approach to participants.
- ★ We endeavour to hold an unconditional, positive regard for all participants.
- ★ We recognise that each person has individual personal needs.
- ★ We respect each individual's personal choice and responsibility.
- ★ We recognise that each person is unique in their own right.
- ★ We recognise the ability of each person to bring about change.
- ★ We recognise the importance of respect for young people to enhance such changes.
- ★ We recognise the importance of trustful relationships and the time it takes to build such relationships.
- ★ We recognise the importance of confidentiality.
- ★ We commit to maintaining service provision to clients, irrespective of their choices, actions or behaviours.
- ★ We endeavour to achieve the best possible value for money in the delivery of services.



“

I never thought I'd have my own apartment and I'm being honest with you. I didn't think I'd live to see 40. My whole life just changed.

- Ger

”



GER'S STORY

Ger has known Fr Peter McVerry since he was a teenager and has been receiving support from Peter and Peter McVerry Trust for over 25 years. Ger is now living in his own apartment in the private rental sector and is supported on an on-going basis by Peter McVerry Trust's Housing with Support Service.

"Four years ago I was in the thick of mayhem, taking anything. I was in the thick of it and I was only after losing my father. I was minding him for the 12 days prior to his passing and I wouldn't change it for the world, I had a great time for them 12 days, I know it's weird saying that but we had some funny times. My father was suffering but he didn't say anything to me, I never used to think anything of it, only afterwards, unfortunately. My father was suffering but he didn't say anything to me. Unfortunately, I think his death is what snapped me out of it.

If you don't want to be homeless, do something about it. I know it's hard but once you stick at it and you stick at it. Who would ever think, I never thought I'd have my own apartment and I'm being honest with you. I didn't think I'd live to see 40. I don't know. My whole life just changed. It was like I just woke up one morning and a switch came on and I just started changing, and I started doing education talks to teenagers in the Open Access Service. I like to talk to kids who are in the heart of the mayhem, on drugs and what leads in to drugs and what's the circle of drugs, that's what it all boils down to.

Every week it got to the stage I started writing out how many landlords I rang, I was going into 18, 14 places, going to view and you're going in and you can't even stretch your full arms and that's the width of your home, 8, 9 feet long. You're looking at your appliances and your telly was going to be on a chair at the back of your door so that means your door won't open so that's why I hung out and hung out and hung out and hung out and hung out and hung out and got this place.

To have them keys, as I said to the taxi man the day I got them keys, "Do you know what, pal? I'm after winning the lotto." He looked at me and said, "What do you mean?" I said, "See them keys? They're mine, that's now my gaff. I'm after being homeless for a certain length of time. Now I know where my head is sleeping tonight, now I know where I'm going, do you know what I mean?" Since then it just came on and came on and came on, thank God.

"I'm just glad I have my little home, I'm happy, and I'm starting a new relationship and everything is happy."

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Paddy was housed by Peter McVerry Trust in December 2015. You can read more about our housing services on page 15.



In 2015, Peter McVerry Trust faced enormous challenges as the organisation continued to respond to the needs of people in, or at risk of, homelessness. The need to adapt to the unique set of supports required by every individual together with extensive work to increase capacity across every service pillar meant that 2015 was a particularly busy year for the charity.

An area that saw great progress being made was in housing delivery. As an organisation that is committed to a Housing First model of tackling homelessness, 2015 was a watershed year in Peter McVerry Trust's development as a provider of social housing to vulnerable households. I was particularly pleased to see a significant increase in the number of housing projects delivered by Peter McVerry Trust, a number of which have been highlighted in this report.

The annual report also sets out the significant increase in individuals supported in our prevention, homeless and drug treatment services as well as continued service development in our U18s residential services. The report also gives a special focus to Peter McVerry Trust's new homeless Youth Café which has quickly established itself as an important hub for service users to access a multitude of supports at a single site. In the first 6 months of operation 750 unique individuals have accessed the service.

In 2015, the founder, Fr Peter McVerry, continued to receive due recognition of his unstinting work on the frontline, his advocacy for those who continue to be marginalised and his work to help so many people realise their rights. Fr McVerry received a numerous awards and was particularly pleased to receive the French Human Rights Award from the French Ambassador to Ireland, Jean-Pierre Thébault.

On behalf of Peter McVerry Trust I would like to take the opportunity to recognise the valuable support we receive from the multitude of statutory and voluntary agencies. The partnership approach is one which this organisation places great importance on as we set out to achieve our goal of tackling homelessness, drug misuse and social disadvantage.

On behalf of the organisation I take this opportunity to extend sincerest sympathies to the family of Ivan Hammond (RIP) who passed away in June 2016 and was a member of our Board of Directors for a number of years.

I would like to acknowledge the incredibly important work of Peter McVerry Trust's Board of Directors who help guide and govern all that we do as an organisation. I would like to pay tribute and place on record my sincere thanks for the work of our outgoing Chair and Treasurer, James O'Higgins and Liam Connellan respectively. I would like to also wish our new Chair and Treasurer, Rod Ensor and Peter Birthistle who were elected in June 2015 the very best in their new roles.

I would also like to express my thanks and appreciation to all staff, volunteers, donors and supporters. Finally, I wish to recognise the thousands of people supported by this organisation in 2015 and the inspiration that they offer to all of us in Peter McVerry Trust as they endeavour to overcome the very difficult challenges that they face in life.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Pat Doyle'.

Pat Doyle
CEO

I began the foreword for the Annual Report 2014 by saying: *"In over 35 years of working with homeless people, I have never seen the situation as bad as it is today."*

I spoke too soon! 2015 was much worse. The number of homeless individuals increased by 26%, families in homelessness increased by 90% and the number of children in homelessness was up by 83%. The increases, in my opinion, show the problem of homelessness is now out of control.

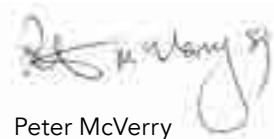
These are only the numbers who have registered as homeless. Many more will not register as they do not want the stigma of being homeless to be attached to them. Many people think that if someone becomes homeless, there "must be something wrong with them." They are blamed for the predicament of homelessness which they find themselves in. Some choose to sleep on friends' floors (until they wear out their welcome!), and are generally refused any social welfare payments as they cannot provide a verifiable address. This group includes those (often young or just out of care) who find homeless hostels intimidating and frightening places to sleep, and those who do not wish to live in a drug-filled environment. The number of homeless people "sofa-surfing" is, by definition, unknown but anecdotally certainly numbers many hundreds at least.

Parents who have registered their families as homeless talk about the "shame" that they feel at being homeless, they are often labelled as "bad parents", who have "failed their children." Their children will not admit to living in homeless emergency accommodation as they face being jeered and shunned by their schoolmates. To avoid this stigma, many families find alternatives to registering as homeless – some split up, with the father taking some of the children and going to live with his parents, the mother taking the rest of the children and going to live with her parents. Other families have put their children into voluntary care.

Peter McVerry Trust is committed to helping to alleviate this crisis, as far as our resources allow. During 2015, we opened a further 26 apartments where we can offer homeless people accommodation for life and enable them to exit homelessness for good. This brings the number of apartments we had at year end to 132 and we have plans to open a further 50 apartments in 2016. While we have traditionally worked with single homeless people, we opened 12 apartments for families, to try and respond in some small way to the crisis which families are facing. We added 57 extra emergency beds to get more people off the street. We opened a Youth Café which offers homeless people the use of computers to try to access private rented accommodation, along with advice, full Irish breakfasts two days a week, lunch one day a week and a variety of educational programmes in the evenings. We also opened a homeless information and advice service on behalf of Kildare County Council.

However, we are swimming against the tide, as the number of homeless people and families continues to increase faster than all the agencies working with and for homeless people can respond.

The only sustainable solution to homelessness is to provide social housing, that is housing which is managed and controlled by the Local Authorities or some State agency. The reliance on the private sector in the past to provide social housing is largely responsible for the crisis we are now in; relying on the private sector to get us out of this crisis seems contradictory. Given that 15 county councils built no social housing in 2014 or 2015, the need for a radical change in policy and thinking is essential. We can only live in hope.



Peter McVerry
Founder



OUR SERVICES

In 2015, Peter McVerry Trust continued to develop service provision in line with the presenting needs of people at risk of, or already experiencing, homelessness. The charity's service provision included work to prevent homelessness, to provide housing and, where neither of these were available to provide emergency accommodation. The organisation also continued to make available drug treatment options to those in addiction and to provide safe residential accommodation to children under eighteen including aftercare accommodation and supports to those who are leaving residential care.

The organisation worked with

4,705

unique individuals across its services in 2015.

Many individuals accessed more than one service and a number of individuals who were provided with residential accommodation also accessed drug stabilisation, detox and accommodation finder services. When the service provision across all services was taken into account, services were provided to 8,427 participants marking an increase of 89% on the previous year.

Services were provided to 8,427 participants marking an increase of 89% on the previous year.

While Peter McVerry Trust's commitment to a Housing First approach to tackling homelessness requires that it seeks to secure independent housing options for those who are homeless, its humanitarian response to rough sleeping has seen it continue to provide emergency accommodation and support those in insecure accommodation to prevent them becoming homeless.



The number of placements in Peter McVerry Trust's emergency accommodation increased by 88% from 2014 to 2015 to meet the increasing demand during the year.

This increase was primarily due to an increase in the provision of emergency nightly beds which see a high turnover of those accessing these beds. The provision of emergency accommodation alone, however, is not the solution to homelessness and the charity sees this as a necessary but insufficient

OUR SERVICES

PREVENTION



HOUSING



HOMELESSNESS



DRUG TREATMENT



U18S





The number of participants supported in housing by Peter McVerry Trust in 2015 saw an increase of 40% on 2014.

intervention to address homelessness. Providing each homeless person with a key to their own door with ongoing support from Peter McVerry Trust's staff is the preferred intervention and, to this end, the organisation continues to explore a range of avenues to increase its housing stock.

HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION SERVICES

Open Access and Streets to Home Support Services

The first point of contact for many young people with Peter McVerry Trust is the Open Access and Streets to Home Support Services located on Upper Sherrard Street, Dublin 1. The Open Access service, run by Fr Peter McVerry for many years, is a drop-in centre offering ongoing support, advice and advocacy for those at risk of homelessness. The service also provides access to food and drinks, storage, IT, laundry and washing facilities.

In 2015, these services provided support to 1,461 individuals, an increase of 38% on 2014.

Housing Sustainment

Throughout 2015, pressure continued to grow on those who are living in rented accommodation with the threat of rent increases and eviction. Peter McVerry Trust intervened directly with landlords to prevent households losing their accommodation. A number of cases saw the charity intervene to keep an individual, who had formerly been homeless, in their rental accommodation. In these instances, landlords were seeking to push rents up far beyond rent supplement limits.



Prevention Through Education

Peter McVerry Trust recognises the fundamental importance of education and recognises the inadequate provisions that exist to support young people in many disadvantaged communities achieve their full potential. The organisation currently provides financial supports by way of evidence based interventions for schools and educational projects. Such interventions are designed to help young people from severely disadvantaged communities achieve their full potential by providing pathways to further education, training and employment. To date, Peter McVerry Trust's supports have targeted communities with a significant link to homelessness, drug misuse and social disadvantage. This work will see further expansion in the coming years.

PETER MCVERRY TRUST'S HOMELESS YOUTH CAFÉ

Peter McVerry Trust's Homeless Youth Café was officially opened by Dr Niall Muldoon, the Ombudsman for Children, on 6th October 2015. The day service currently operates Monday to Friday with extended opening hours on Monday and Wednesday evenings. Since opening, the service has hosted a regular Wednesday morning Big Breakfast with this being extended in November 2015 to also include a Friday morning Big Breakfast and a Monday afternoon lunch.

The service's evening sessions are for participants of Peter McVerry Trust's drug free accommodation services and younger service participants with each group having individual evenings. These sessions are led by staff with the support of a rostered cycle of 20 volunteers from Clongowes Union. A range of teas and coffees, soft drinks and hot food and snacks are available on these evenings, and each week different activities are arranged including live music and table quizzes as well as occasional special guests.

The service also operates as a base for outreach clinics whereby participants are met off-site in other services with a view to assessing need and arranging follow-up appointments in the Youth Café. This strategy has brought additional participants into the service that might otherwise not have availed of the supports available.

Ultimately, Peter McVerry Trust hopes to develop this service to a point where it operates mornings, afternoons and evenings throughout the week, with active involvement from participants, providing a safe place to socialise and seek support for young people in, or at risk of homelessness.



Musician Grainne Hunt with Dublin Senior Footballers Dean Rock, Tomas Brady and Eoghan O Gara who visited the Youth Café in November 2015.

HOUSING SERVICES

The most appropriate response to homelessness is to provide each person with a key to their own door and Peter McVerry Trust continues to strive to help each individual realise their right to a home. To this end, the provision of high quality housing continues to be a key objective of Peter McVerry Trust.

In 2015, the charity substantially grew its housing services. Peter McVerry Trust continued to increase its Housing with Supports provision through a variety of measures including new housing projects, increased staff resources to support those moved on to independent living by Peter McVerry Trust and help to secure long term accommodation options for those in homelessness. Central to this strategy is the energy dedicated to expanding the organisation's stock of high quality homes to enable people in our services to exit homelessness. Our efforts to secure private rental accommodation also continued in 2015 within a rental market characterised by an undersupply of appropriate units and private market rent levels significantly above what is affordable for people dependent on financial supports.

Housing Units

Peter McVerry Trust has been an approved housing body since 1991 and it continues to develop its housing stock in order to provide homes to young people in homelessness. In 2015 the charity successfully launched a number of significant housing projects across the Dublin region. In July, a scheme of six units were launched in Pim Street; in October a

further scheme of eight housing units were launched in Clare Lane and in December an additional project realising 12 housing units were launched at Hogan's Court. These schemes, together with other units secured by Peter McVerry Trust in 2015, provided the most appropriate response to those without a home, namely housing. Peter McVerry Trust's housing programme operates on a scattered site model that ensures that the percentage of its housing units in any given area is low. This approach results in improved outcomes for new tenants and better integration into their local communities.

Accommodation Finders Team

The Accommodation Finders Team provide crucial supports to participants across Peter McVerry Trust's services in identifying and securing appropriate accommodation options for people. Participants are supported to identify suitable housing options and, through advice and advocacy, assisted in securing Rent Supplement or Housing Assistance Payment (HAP). In 2015, there was a need to secure exceptional payments above the relevant rent supplement and HAP rates, demonstrating the lack of available affordable accommodation within the rates set by the Government.

The Accommodation Finders Team built on successful relations with landlords and estate agents to allow for speedier access to accommodation, however, with high needs meeting very low levels of housing supply this continued to prove very challenging.





Emma, one of the first resident's to move into Pim Street.

In July 2015, Peter McVerry Trust launched a scheme of six apartments at Pim Street, Dublin 8. The units were formally opened by Lord Mayor of Dublin, Críona Ní Dhálaigh.

The block of former local authority voids, underwent major renovation and refurbishment works following a donation of €100,000 by Saint-Gobain Ireland.

The 6 units are fully occupied and the tenants receive support from Peter McVerry Trust's Housing With Supports Service.

Project Partners: Saint-Gobain Ireland, Dublin City Council, Fitzgerald Kavanagh and Partners Architects and Peter McVerry Trust.



Patrick, the first resident to move into the newly renovated Clare Lane apartments.

In October 2015, the Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government, Alan Kelly TD formally opened a scheme of eight apartments for Peter McVerry Trust at Clare Lane, Dublin 2.

The publicly owned units were identified as part of a review of available State properties that could be used to respond to the social housing shortage. The units had been empty for a considerable period of time.

The mix of one and two bed units underwent extensive refurbishment to provide high quality accommodation for persons exiting homelessness. All units are fully occupied.

Project Partners: Housing Agency, OPW, Dublin City Council, Fitzgerald Kavanagh and Partners Architects and Peter McVerry Trust.



Pat Doyle (CEO, Peter McVerry Trust), Aisling (New Resident) and Michael Stone (President, CIF)

In a major CSR partnership the Construction Industry Federation, its members and supporters joined with Peter McVerry Trust to renovate a block of 12 former local authority voids at Hogan Court, Dublin 2.

The units required major renovation works and the CIF members and supporters through direct contributions, expertise, labour and materials completed the scheme in 12 weeks.

The project also included enhancements to the local environs through partnership with local residents, CIF and Dublin City Council.

Project partners: Construction Industry Federation, Dublin City Council, Fitzgerald Kavanagh and Partners Architects and Peter McVerry Trust.

HOUSING WITH SUPPORTS

Peter McVerry Trust provides a range of high quality, professional services through our Housing with Supports service, based on the principles of the Housing First model.

The model provides a range of services to individuals to facilitate their journey into mainstream society, addressing their diverse range of needs along the way.

As an approved housing provider, Peter McVerry Trust is also working to increase its housing provision which will in turn help offer increased housing options and strengthen our Housing with Support service.

HOUSING FIRST – INSTITUTIONAL DISCHARGE

For a number of years, the organisation has operated a Housing First project for people exiting custody. This project provides housing units and intensive support to participants leaving hospital, custody or other institutional settings.

Many of this group have complex support needs including mental and physical health issues, drug and alcohol related issues, offending behaviour and challenging behaviour issues.

Peter McVerry Trust ensures that where tenancies for this group become unsustainable in one location, transfers to alternative units are facilitated and that staff support endures throughout any such transition. Accommodation is provided across the Greater Dublin Area.

HOUSING FIRST - YOUTH

Peter McVerry Trust is currently rolling out a Housing First approach for young people in or at immediate risk of homelessness.

As an organisation that works predominantly with young, single people and operates four U18s residential services Peter McVerry Trust is keen to ensure that suitable and sustainable housing options are made available to young people.

The charity commits a number of ring fenced housing units and operates a Housing First approach to meet the needs of this vulnerable cohort.

FOCUS IRELAND PETER MCVERRY TRUST HOUSING FIRST REGIONAL SERVICE

In October 2014, Peter McVerry Trust together with Focus Ireland won the contract to provide a Housing First Service on behalf of the Dublin Region Homeless Executive.

The new Housing First Service is provided throughout the Dublin region to include: Dublin City Council, South Dublin County Council, Fingal County Council and Dún Laoghaire – Rathdown County Council.

In 2015 this service engaged 1,736 individuals on the streets of Dublin and was supporting 55 former rough sleepers in their own apartments at year end.



HOMELESS SERVICES

The need for homeless services increased significantly from January through to December 2015. As a response to the growing need Peter McVerry Trust added 57 new beds to its capacity in 2015. This included the provision of a family emergency accommodation service providing accommodation for 12 households / families. In 2015 this service provided emergency accommodation to 25 children and 14 adults.

In total, Peter McVerry Trust's emergency homeless accommodation services provided 3,847 residential placements in 2015. Peter McVerry Trust supported 171 people to exit homelessness from its homeless and other residential services.

Rough Sleepers

In Kildare Peter McVerry Trust operates the 'Out of Hours Information & Advice Freephone Number' on behalf of Kildare County Council. This service operates 7 days per week and until 9pm weekdays and between 12pm-5pmat weekends. This new service which operated from September received 35 calls involving 47 individuals, with 14 in need of, and provided with,

immediate emergency accommodation. The service ensures that individuals provided with emergency accommodation are supported to engage with Kildare County Councils' Housing and Homeless Section in order to receive the appropriate supports.

In Dublin, Peter McVerry Trust offers supports to rough sleepers primarily through its Open Access Service which provides laundry, shower, food, clothing and IT facilities. Additionally, the Housing First Street Intake Team and the Intensive Case Management Team engage with rough sleepers and former sleepers across the four Dublin local authorities. This service included the provision of a transport and liaison service, which was provided to ensure that rough sleepers were transported to allocated beds in Dublin city centre from mid-December.

Emergency Accommodation Services

In 2015, the organisation's emergency homeless accommodation services provided 3,847 residential placements to homeless persons across four local authority areas. Capacity of emergency homeless beds increased by 23% with an addition of 57 emergency beds to Peter McVerry Trust's emergency homeless accommodation services.

Three new emergency accommodation services were opened in 2015. An 11 bed emergency accommodation service was opened in September in Phibsboro in Dublin. Two services opened in December, an 18 bed service in the city centre was opened to provide accommodation during the cold weather months. The second service, on the northside of Dublin, opened in mid-December providing family emergency accommodation for 12 families. This family emergency accommodation service

opened on mid December 2015 and was able to provide accommodation to 25 children and the parents (14 adults) over the Christmas period and beyond.

Increased service provision in emergency accommodation saw the need to enhance provision of supports for those in emergency accommodation as they progressed out of homelessness. To this end Peter McVerry Trust opened a number of local services where participants moved from emergency accommodation to semi-independent apartments within the community. In January 2015, the first such service was opened in South Dublin accommodating up to 9 participants across three apartments with on-site staff support. A similar step down service was commenced in Kildare with the addition of two apartments providing onward accommodation for up to four participants as they moved from the emergency accommodation service in Newbridge.

To meet increased demand during the period of the cold weather initiative Peter McVerry Trust added 18 additional beds. This brought the organisation's cold weather capacity to 59 beds for Winter 2015. This extra capacity was delivered in partnership with Focus Ireland and ensured exceptional placements were made available.





ANTHONY'S STORY

"My name is Anthony and I've been homeless since I was about 17. I was couch hopping from friends to friends but it just got to the stage where I ended up just having nowhere to go so going homeless was the only thing possible. I moved up to St Catherine's Foyer and everything completely changed. I got a medical card sorted straight away, ID sorted straight away, through the services I got an apprenticeship plastering and just people my own age.

I think the challenges people have in here moving on to their own accommodation is the age and when people see that you're coming from a hostel it's kind of like, the first thing you think of is drugs. Drugs, that's the first thing you automatically think. I've walked down the road and people have said, "Where do you live? Oh St Catherine's Foyer, you're homeless." Yeah, and

just the reaction of looking clean and having a job, and not being on drugs, it just doesn't compute with them. That as well, just stereotypes, anyone who lives in a hostel is on drugs or has convicted charges. I've never got charged once in my life, I've never got arrested, there's people in here I know that have never got arrested before and just the age as well, landlords they won't really want to take on someone that's only, like 19, between 19 and 24. It's just they think you're either too immature. If you haven't got a job, you're going to be told no. If you're not doing anything you're going to be told no. It's really hard to find somewhere to live."

At the time of interview Anthony had recently taken up an apprenticeship position in the construction sector.

VERA'S STORY

"My name is Vera and at the moment I'm in Peter McVerry Trust's step down accommodation in Newbridge. I was staying in the hostel from August to December, at the time I rang the free phone number and then I managed to get into the hostel. I was a bit nervous and upset because of what happened to me, it took a while for it to sink in, that I was homeless. Compared to where I was this time last year, I had my own home, I do think back. It is a lot to take in. I was going grand in my life and then all of sudden it stopped..... It can happen to anyone.

The residents up the in hostel are lovely, nice people and everyone does their own thing. When I arrived I stayed in a room with another girl. We became good friends and get on really well and now we share a room in the step down accommodation as well.

I came down here to the step down accommodation in the first week of December. It's different down here to the hostel because you have your own independence and you can get yourself back on track again. You feel more relaxed and at ease, you can go out and walk up the town and get your own bits in. You can come back cook and relax, read a book, I love reading. It's very different to the hostel.

At the moment I'm looking for my own apartment, I've been viewing properties and it's been hard especially in the last couple of months. I'm out there looking with the support of the staff and my key worker, hopefully I'll be able to get somewhere, please God, touch wood!

For me at the moment, I'm just trying to get myself focused on what I need to do, which is find my own place."



JOE'S STORY

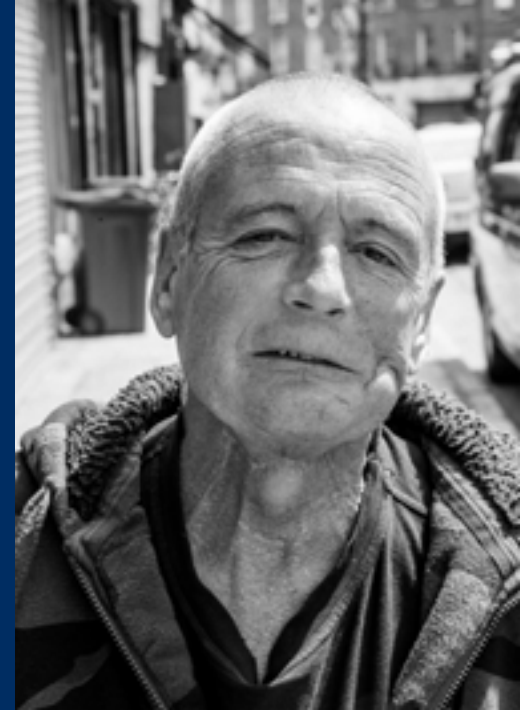
"I'm originally from Ireland. I lived in Australia most of my life and I came back from Australia in 2005 because my father was diagnosed with cancer to spend time with him in his last few years. I decided to stay here (in Ireland) then but in 2013 I got a phone call from Australia that one of my children in Australia had committed suicide, I had to go back to Australia, for the sake of my younger son, he actually found him, I was back in Australia for thirteen months and I came back to Ireland for the birth of my first grandchild, and just after that I was diagnosed with cancer 12 months ago and had my faced removed basically.

It was when I came out of hospital, I basically had nowhere to live, I've got sisters and stuff here but they're married and have children, I mean, I couldn't burden me on them, you know, they didn't have any room for me anyway. You can't live on someone's couch in their sitting room, can you? So I just did my own thing. A friend of mine, I asked for his garden shed, just a regular brick shed with a tin roof I said, "Do you mind if I stick a bed in there and a desk and a lamp and stuff? I'll paint it up," he said, "No, no, no grand." So that's where I was staying, in a shed, and a social worker, I was rather sick at the time, a social worker came to see me and she said, " Joe, you're going to die here. This is winter, there's moisture dripping off the roof and stuff, and freezing cold, you're going to die here, I have to get you out of here." Basically, that's how I ended up in the Peter McVerry Trust. She made contact with social workers and Peter McVerry Trust, and I was invited to come and stay with you, which is just as well because I was extremely ill at the time and I probably wouldn't be here if I didn't get taken into Peter McVerry Trust. I was bedridden for about three weeks, couldn't eat, couldn't even drink water hardly and the staff out there at Avoca

House, tremendous, absolutely very professional, very well trained and what they've done for me was above and beyond the call of duty, beyond what they should do with people and I'm very impressed with it.

I was in Avoca house for just on seven months and I was well enough so they transferred me to basically a half way place between getting your own place, which I'm really, really trying to do, and it's a lovely little one bedroom apartment, absolutely lovely, it's well furnished, spotless clean, modern, clean, big TV, it's brilliant and I am actively trying, I've been on to the council so many times, and I might get special treatment because I have cancer but I am actively looking, I mean, I must be on my twentieth real estate agent now that I've given emails and phone numbers and stuff to and they all promise me that if anything comes up in your price range we will definitely ring you.

I just keep ringing, nobody rings you back. It's very hard to get something in my price range and I have to have ready access to the hospital, you know, I can't be out in the middle of the country somewhere when I have to be in the hospital at nine o'clock so it has to be on a bus route or a train route, I have to have access to the hospital. Maybe that's why it's a bit more difficult for me looking for housing because I need to be able to get in and out of hospital but maybe not so often then after next Wednesday, I'll hopefully be in remission."



DRUG TREATMENT SERVICES

Peter McVerry Trust provides a number of drug treatment services and supports. Across all participants supported by Peter McVerry Trust in 2015, 81% had a current or past history of drug misuse. The stabilisation, detox and drug free accommodation services outlined below play a critical role in providing treatment supports to people engaged in drug misuse.

Residential Community Detox Service

In 2015, the Residential Community Detox service provided support to 78 individuals admitted to the service seeking support to detox from methadone or to participate in the residential cannabis cessation programme. The cannabis cessation programme was initiated in 2013 as a response to the increasing number of young people in particular presenting to its services expressing concerns about the impact that cannabis use was having on their lives.



JODIE'S STORY

"My name is Jodie and my GP put me in contact with Peter McVerry Trust. I'd been at him for a while to do a detox but he wasn't into it, he was my mam and dad's GP as well, and kept trying to talk me out of it but I kept going back and I wanted to do it because I was 21 years on the methadone so I kept pushing it with him.

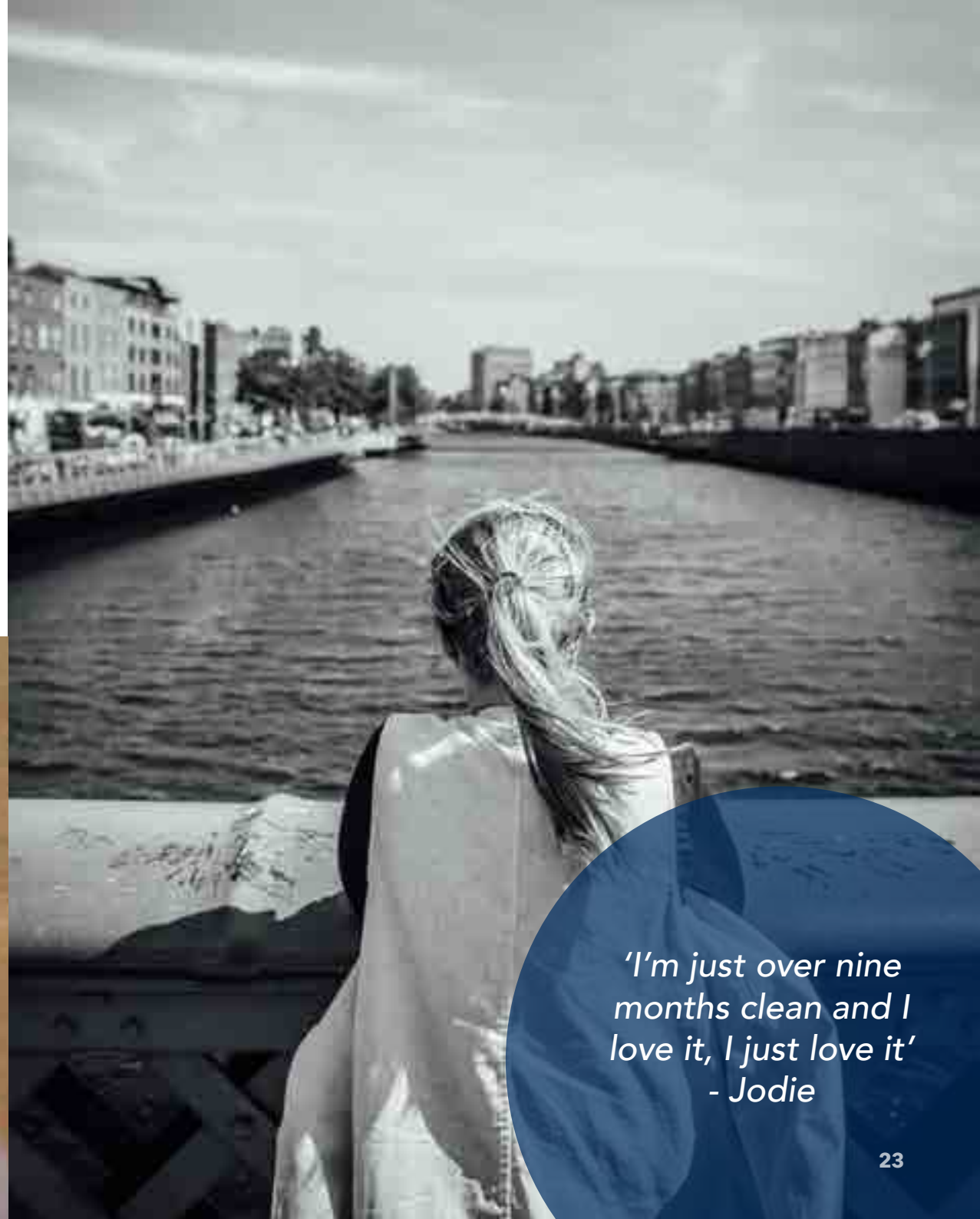
Because I went in to the Detox on 40 mls, I just had to do five weeks and they reduced me five mls every three days so I had three weeks of reduction and then two weeks clean. We did horticulture for two hours every day, we had a relapse prevention group every day, we got involved in the cooking and the keeping of the house, and the staff there were amazing, they were always there when you needed anything. With regards to the physical, medical side of it, it was actually a lot easier than I had built up. I expected it to be horrendous, I expected to be so ill, but it wasn't as bad as I thought. The way it was run, it wasn't like a medical detox at all, it was just like living in a home with others, just doing what you had to do, kept busy throughout the day, there were a few tantrums here and there but I had a great experience. I really did.

I went into the detox in early August and I got out at the beginning of September. It was tough going in because my son was 11 months and my daughter was 9, and he was turning 1 while I was in there and he started walking at the same time so I missed both of those milestones but it was worth it.

It's just the freedom of it, you know, I'm heading off on holidays now in a few weeks and I don't have to worry about getting my prescription, getting a doctor's note. The freedom of not having to base my life around doctor's appointments, chemists and scripts. It's really amazing and it was the best

thing I have ever done. I was so scared to do it. This is my first time clean in 21 years, I never even contemplated it before, it was just not even a possibility for me. I'm just over nine months clean and I love it, I just love it.

I hadn't been employed in ten years after I had my daughter in 2005, I took ten years maternity leave! I'm on a day programme now as well I do that two days a week and I work three days a week. My old employers they just rang me and they were like, "Jodie are you ready to come back to work?" and I was like, "Yeah" so I'm doing 20 hours a week in the solicitors which is great, it's great for me."



'I'm just over nine months clean and I love it, I just love it'
- Jodie

Stabilisation and Recovery Services

Peter McVerry Trust continues to offer stabilisation and recovery services providing a safe and stable environment for young people over 18 years of age wishing to stabilise problematic drug use. Participants engage in psycho-educational and process groups to enhance drug and health awareness against a backdrop of ongoing peer and one-to-one support.

In 2015 Peter McVerry Trust's stabilisation services provided supports to 767 individuals an increase of 162% in service activity on 2014.

This very significant increase resulted from a targeted drive to offer stabilisation clinics across all of Peter McVerry Trust's emergency homeless services. This initiative involved stabilisation staff presenting to each homeless accommodation service to meet with residents and provide on-site intervention in respect of drug or alcohol related issues.

Residential Drug Free Aftercare Service

The Residential Aftercare Service aims to provide a safe, stable and healthy environment to support participants in preparing for a drug-free life. The service bridges the gaps for individuals undergoing the difficult transition to treatment and from treatment towards a sustainable drug free lifestyle.

Residents from the Drug Free Aftercare programme also access Peter McVerry Trust's Youth Café service as part of their recovery programme on Monday evenings. This space provides an invaluable safe and supportive social space for residents to relax and make use of the café's facilities.

A total of 56 people were provided with accommodation placements in 2015 via the organisation's drug free aftercare service.



"I was living on my own and I was using a lot, I was getting to the stage where I wasn't even enjoying it and then I rang my key worker up one day and said, "Can you come up? I need to have a talk with you." She came up to me and I said, "Look, I need help, I need to get off these drugs because it's going to be the death of me." I had a daughter and stuff like that at the time. So, they referred me into here (Peter McVerry Trust's Stabilisation Service) and I got a keyworker here and started doing a lot of work.

I was going into the detox for cannabis but it was still slipping up with other drugs, I could stay off them and then coming closer to it I was slipping. So, I went into the detox then, I lasted about two weeks in the detox. I left because I was being aggressive coming off the drugs and stuff like that, thought I knew it all. I said, "I'm two weeks off this, I can do this," and I realised to myself I couldn't, once I came out of there I got straight back on the phone to the key worker. I started coming back in here again, I was coming in every day, I started to slip again. I was going into meetings for treatment and doing assessments and all. Coming in here every day and getting the help that I need and stuff like that. I didn't really go back near the grass but I was slipping up with other drugs after, out of the detox but then eventually after a while, I think it was about February, I think it was the second of February or something, I went into High Park, I didn't think I was going to be able to do it, I thought treatment was going to be easy to be honest with you, but no, it wasn't, it was a lot of hard work and a lot of doing that I had to do when I got in there. A lot of key worker sessions, a lot of groups, you don't really have time to think but it's what you put into treatment is what you'll get out of it. Then I did my fourteen weeks in there, if I

didn't do my fourteen weeks I was coming out to nothing, you know, I was going to lose my girlfriend, I was going to lose my kid. My second week in treatment I found out I was having another kid so it kind of gave me more motivation to go on, I need to do this, I need to sort myself out and I did, I lasted the fourteen weeks in there. When I came out, staff from Peter McVerry Trust picked me up, told where I was going, I got a drug free house. I'm still living there at the minute. It's unbelievable. To think that two years ago from where I was to where I'm after coming to now, it's brilliant, and I would honestly say that if it wasn't for the help of the stabilisation service and getting me where I was and what I needed I never would have done it. It's a lot my work as well but for them as well, they're just brilliant. A lot of gratitude can go out to Peter McVerry Trust and I would advise anybody that wants to sort their life out to start linking in with here because this really does work because I never thought that this was going to work when I first started doing it and now look at me, I'm seven months clean and stuff like that. It's brilliant.

I'm in drug free accommodation, I'm meeting with staff at a house every week and you're giving them your urines, breathalyser and, honestly, the help that they give you is unbelievable because without the help that you get from the staff in recovery, because it's very hard to do it on your own, but coming out into a drug free environment, it's kind of hard to explain it, you kind of get that feeling that this is the life that I want to live, I don't want to be going around stoned everyday, which I could do, what's the point like, you know? It's not really the life I wanted to live anymore and even when you're in the house and you're having a problem, you ring up the staff and they'll support you, they'll come out to you."



MARTIN'S STORY

"I've been coming here for a couple of months, its brilliant getting all the help I need and I'm now looking to get into a treatment programme because I've a few bad habits that I need to get addressed.

I would never have done anything like this before, but since I've been coming here I'm better. My keyworker has been brilliant; she is like a second mother the amount of support she gives me. Because of coming here I'm a totally different person, how I get on with my kids, and everyone.

I get support around my housing, my drug issues, how to cope, learning lots of life skills about how to manage my relationships with different people. If I hadn't gotten this place I dunno what I'd be at, probably still messing round. I always thought I was ok, I never thought my drug use was a problem. But since I've been coming here I can see it was a problem, and my key worker and all the staff here are great, they go out of their way to help.

It took me 2-3 sessions to open up, I don't feel I have to hold back I can tell my key worker anything. If you had of spoken to me 6 months ago and spoke to me today, you'd realise how far I've come you wouldn't think it's the same person.

My life has changed incredibly since I came here and got the help."



U18S RESIDENTIAL ACCOMMODATION

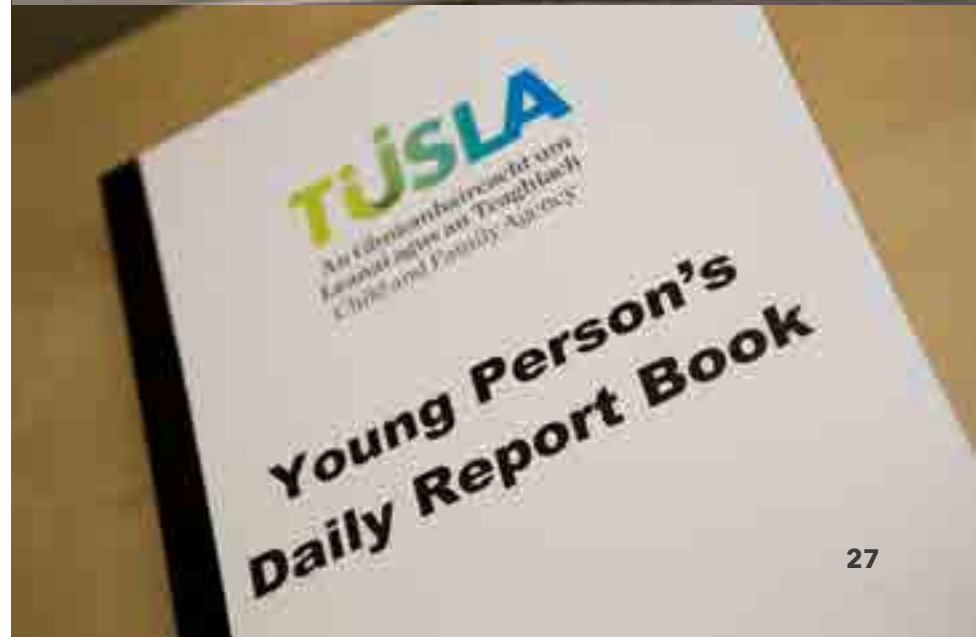
The first service to be operated by Fr McVerry was a hostel for homeless boys between the ages of 12-16. Since then, Peter McVerry Trust has specialised in providing care and supports to young people and the charity provided residential care and support to U18s across four residential centres in the greater Dublin area during 2015.

Peter McVerry Trust's Under 18s residential accommodation service at Tabor House achieved registration from TUSLA's Registration and Inspection Services in March 2015.

In 2015, Peter McVerry Trust's U18's Services provided 25 residential placements and aftercare support was offered to a further 31 young people who have moved on from our care. The aftercare supports offered by Peter McVerry Trust provides an important support to young people who often have a lack of alternative support networks. The supports ensure young people can make a successful transition to designated move on options, thus reducing the risk of adult homelessness.

Housing & Aftercare

Peter McVerry Trust ring-fences units of accommodation for young people leaving its U18 services in order to provide sustainable housing pathways for this particularly vulnerable group. This is in addition to step down units co-located with our U18s services. These semi-independent apartments offer young people the opportunity to build independent living skills while having access to immediate support from Peter McVerry Trust staff.



Peter McVerry Trust engaged with a wide variety of Ministers, Government Departments and stakeholders on issues such as housing, homelessness, drug treatment, as well as youth and children's services. The organisation also had a very strong media presence throughout 2015 across national and regional media platforms. The organisation continues to be a recognised and respected voice on issues including homelessness, drug misuse and social disadvantage with both the CEO and Founder frequently contributing to media coverage of these issues.

Audit of Vacant Buildings and Introduction of an Unused Floors Initiative

The issue of vacant and underused buildings in urban areas was raised by Peter McVerry Trust with key actors including the Department of Environment, Community and Local Government and Dublin City Council. Since October 2014, Peter McVerry Trust has campaigned to bring attention to the issue of vacant and underused buildings in private ownership as a means to releasing much needed residential stock.

In 2015, the organisation called for the relevant agencies to undertake an audit of buildings in urban areas to gauge the exact potential that existed. Peter McVerry Trust believed that, much like the large number of local authority voids returned to use, an aggressive approach to empty homes in private ownership could generate significant output for all sectors of the housing system.

Presentation to the Joint Committee on Education and Social Protection

In April 2015, Peter McVerry Trust wrote to Joanna Tuffy TD, Chair of the Joint Committee on Education

and Social Protection requesting that the Committee analyse the decision by the Department of Social Protection not to increase rent supplement rates. Peter McVerry Trust was subsequently invited by the Committee to present its views on the matter and the evidence it had that supported increased rates of rent supplement.

Peter McVerry Trust set out a comprehensive breakdown of the benefits of increasing the rates of rent supplement, and the added benefit of introducing legislative measures to link rents to the consumer price index. The organisation set out how increased rates of rent supplement in a pilot scheme in Dublin had increased the number of tenancies secured in the private rental sector for persons exiting homelessness. Peter McVerry Trust also stressed that raising rates of rent supplement would allow people to retain their accommodation in light of rapidly rising rents thus preventing new cases of homelessness.

Submission to the Joint Committee on Justice, Defence and Equality

In August 2015, Peter McVerry Trust made a submission to the Joint Committee on Justice, Defence and Equality as it prepared its report on 'Harm Reducing and Rehabilitative approach to possession of small amounts of illegal drugs'. Peter McVerry Trust supported the Committee's review of the current approach to drug misuse and the opportunity to move the debate to a more health centred space.

Peter's McVerry Trust's submission included a call to decriminalise drugs, to treat addiction as a health issue rather than a criminal justice issue and to recognise that investment in both community





and residential drug treatment services would offer significant savings to the State in terms of reduced costs for court proceedings and prison sentences.

Peter McVerry Trust welcomed the Committee's report and its recommendations published in November 2015 as a progressive step towards a more health centred approach to the issue of drug misuse in Irish society.

Pre – Budget Submission

Peter McVerry Trust published its first pre-budget submission in September 2015. The document outlined 24 actions across a wide range of areas including a mix of short and medium term initiatives. The document was launched by Fr Peter McVerry and CEO Pat Doyle CEO at Buswells Hotel, Dublin 2.

French Human Rights Award

Fr Peter McVerry was awarded the French Human Rights Award by the French Ambassador, HE Jean-Pierre Thébault. The embassy made the award in recognition of Fr McVerry's work to alleviate poverty and fight homelessness in Ireland.

Ambassador Thébault said the award was made to Fr McVerry "For his commitment in helping those most in need, Peter McVerry embodies the values of equality, fraternity and social justice defended in the 1789 French Declaration of Human Rights and the Citizen."

Website and Social Media

Peter McVerry Trust experienced another very strong year of online media growth in 2015. Visits to the organisations primary website www.pmvtrust.ie grew by 34% in 2015, with Facebook and Twitter accounts growing by 75% and 57% respectively.

The organisation also continued to develop new educational content and materials to inform and challenge public discourse on homelessness. A short 15 minute documentary was produced in summer 2015 which covered the Pim Street housing project. The video spent a significant number of months following the works and the lives of two young people who moved from homelessness into the new apartments. The video had been viewed over 75,000 times by year end and was developed with funding from Saint-Gobain Ireland.

FUNDRAISING

In 2015, Peter McVerry Trust's supporters helped raise €6 million in voluntary income, the largest annual amount raised since the charity was founded in 1983. This €6 million includes restricted funding for capital projects. Peter McVerry Trust would like to acknowledge the contributions of all donors and supporters throughout the year, and the vital role they have played in providing the services outlined in this annual report.

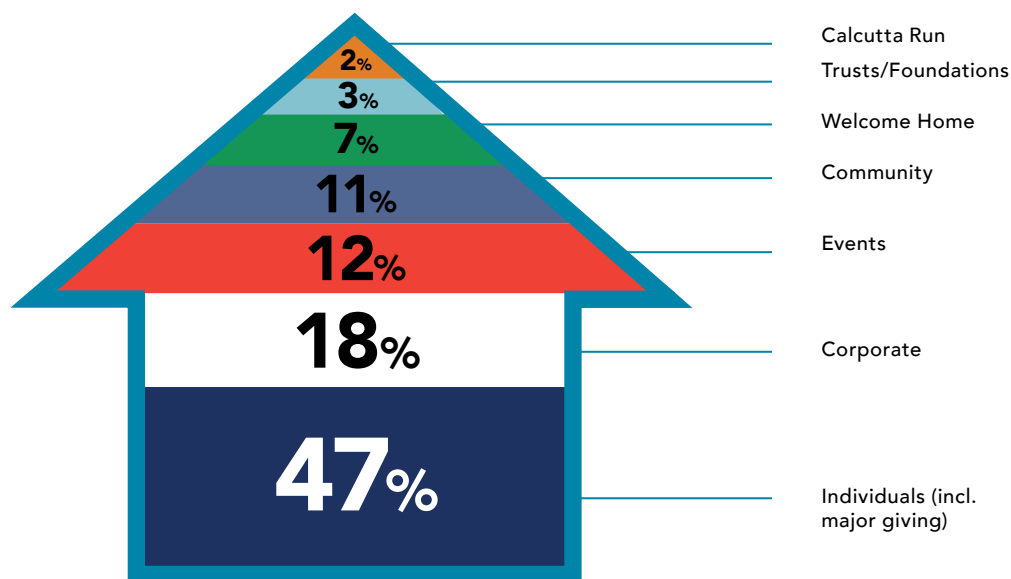
Individuals

Individual donors contributed €1.8 million to Peter McVerry Trust in 2015, an increase of 28% on 2014. Individual donations continue to be the single largest donor segment with major donors included accounted for 47% of the organisations voluntary income.

Calcutta Run & Welcome Home

Peter McVerry Trust has benefitted for many years from two very dedicated voluntary committees who help organise the annual Calcutta Run, the Wexford Cycle and Welcome Home Golf Classic. In 2015, these two voluntary groups organised fundraisers which saw well in excess of 1,000 people take part in running, cycling and golfing events in aid of Peter McVerry Trust.

FUNDRAISING SOURCES BY SECTOR 2015 (UNRESTRICTED FUNDRAISING)



Community & Volunteers

Peter McVerry Trust has a large network of volunteers and a range of community supporters who continue to organise events and activities that help to raise vital funds in various locations across the country. The individuals and groups organise fundraisers, collections and volunteer at Peter McVerry Trust's fundraising activities.

In 2015, the organisation engaged with schools and colleges across Ireland, speaking at over 30 schools in Kildare and Dublin alone. Peter McVerry Trust also continued its annual presence at the Young Social Innovators.

Corporate

Over 150 staff from across our corporate supporters took part in employee volunteer days at Peter McVerry Trust's services. These groups participated in activities that included decorating, landscaping, preparing new homes for tenants, and developing new areas and amenities for the horticulture programme at the Residential Community Detox.

Peter McVerry Trust would like to acknowledge the support of A&L Goodbody, the Law Society of Ireland, Saint-Gobain, Construction Industry Federation, Dublin Chamber of Commerce, ESB Electric Aid, KBC, Ernst & Young, StreetSmart, Clontarf Castle Hotel and the Gaiety Theatre to name but a few.

Opening Doors Appeal

Our annual Opening Doors Appeal continued to grow and engage individuals, community groups and businesses. In 2015 the appeal saw the return of events such as the Fr Peter McVerry Rugby Cup, which was won by Clongowes College.

Christmas Generosity

Peter McVerry Trust received significant financial support towards the end of the year. This allowed the organisation to rapidly respond to the needs of people experiencing homelessness during the winter months, providing extra support and emergency accommodation.

The annual corporate appeal at Christmas generated an extraordinary €350,000, and Peter McVerry Trust also received multiple gifts of hampers, household items, and children's toys to distribute to those accessing Peter McVerry Trust's services.



HUMAN RESOURCES

Peter McVerry Trust's Human Resources (HR) team supports and upholds the strategic objectives of Peter McVerry Trust by ensuring that our employees are engaged, motivated and can respond to the changing needs of participants.

The HR team is committed to providing professional and timely services to the management team and staff of Peter McVerry Trust in relation to training and development, employee engagement, reward and recognition as well as general employee supports. All supports and interventions are underpinned by the ethos of Peter McVerry Trust as well as best practice HR management and compliance with the employment legislation framework.

Headcount for 2015

A year on year comparison shows that in 2015, whole-time equivalent (WTE) core staff grew by almost 25%. The HR team anticipate that this level of headcount growth will continue for the foreseeable future and thus core WTE headcount will be close to 230 by the end of 2016 in line with service expansion and the needs of people accessing those services and supports.

During 2015 Peter McVerry Trust prioritised the filling of senior positions within the organisation. For example, three Director level positions were filled; National Director of Services, Director of Fundraising and Director of Human Resources. Eleven Team Leaders/Social Care Leaders were appointed either to backfill vacancies or fill new positions. Two Acting Social Care Managers were also appointed. This represents an important first phase of a frontline succession plan for the organisation.

Peter McVerry Trust currently operates a policy of initially hiring staff onto our relief panel and following a rigorous interview process offering fixed term contracts to suitably qualified and experienced relief workers. In addition, the organisation plans to implement a strategy of 'cluster relief' in 2016; whereby highly skilled relief staff with full-time availability would initially work across a cluster of services depending on where the need arises.

Graduate Recruitment Programme

Peter McVerry Trust's graduate recruitment programme operated for the second year in 2015 and resulted in fifteen newly qualified social care workers joining our staff team. The programme has been very successful in hiring high calibre graduates and in building links with third level education centres. Entrants on the programme are spread across Peter McVerry Trust's services. The programme will be repeated in 2016.

HEADCOUNT 2015

On 31st December 2015, Peter McVerry Trust had 183 whole-time equivalent core staff and a further 115 staff on its relief panel.

183



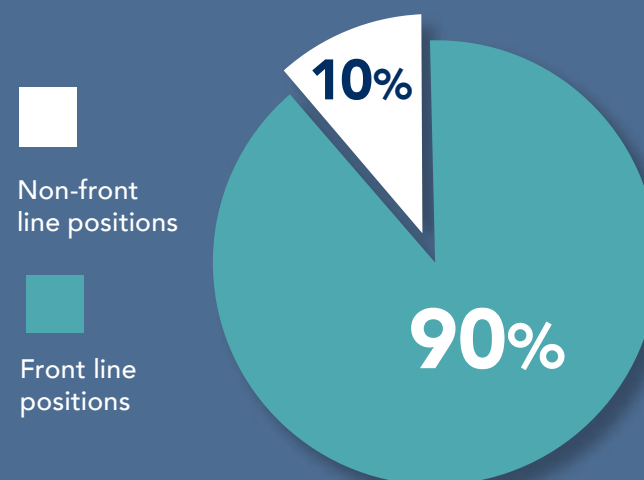
Whole-time staff

115



Relief panel

Of these staff 90% were in front line positions and 10% were in non-frontline head office positions.





Training and Development

In 2015, our staff experienced a marked increase in the volume, variety and depth of training and development programmes. In total there were 686.5 days training in 2015 and each staff member received, on average, at least two day's training. The number of training days increased by 45% from 2014 figures.

All staff undertook training on Peter McVerry Trust's newly rolled out Operational and HR handbook. Training courses were reviewed and, in many cases, upgraded to ensure a high level of skills development and value for money.

In 2015, seven of our staff graduated from the Dublin City University Certificate in Homeless Prevention and Intervention bringing the total number of staff who have attended this programme to date to 45. Ten of our staff also benefited from our educational assistance and study leave programme which supported them with their ongoing professional studies.

HR Policies and Employee Relations

A fully updated and upgraded suite of Operational Policies and Procedures were implemented in Peter McVerry Trust during October 2015 and a series of training workshops run for Managers and Team Leaders, and then for all staff. The policies include operational areas such as participants' charter and inclusion policies, case management, child protection, risk assessments and on the HR side; Fair Treatment of staff policies, Code of Conduct, Attendance,

Taking Leave and Employee Support

Measures to pro-actively manage sick leave have been implemented, for example enhanced systems and communications with staff. Sick leave levels were reduced from 3.3 % in 2014 to 2.6% in 2015.

The HR team worked closely with services staff and managers to build upon the high levels of satisfaction within the organisation in respect of management and employee relations. They will continue to work in partnership with the management and staff to ensure the effective implementation of the strategic plan.

Corporate Governance Structures

Peter McVerry Trust is committed to maintaining the highest standards of Corporate Governance. We believe that setting and maintaining these high standards is a key element in demonstrating accountability to all stakeholders, funders and supporters. It also ensures that we continue to provide the highest quality service to those in our care.

Our Board comprises of 10 directors with backgrounds in business, finance, law, social inclusion, health and pastoral care. Fr Peter McVerry is a founding company director and holds the office of company secretary.

All directors are voluntary and receive no remuneration. This includes the founder Fr Peter McVerry who receives no salary, expenses or allowances, nor ever has, for his continued and valuable contribution to Peter McVerry Trust and its challenge to reduce homelessness.

The Board meets a minimum of 6 times per year and holds its AGM annually each summer. It has overall responsibility to ensure that the governance of the organisation is in line with best practice and that all operational functions meet all requirements under current legislation, charitable and company law and health and safety standards. Accordingly, the Board mandates the CEO to bring before it an annual health and safety statement and annual risk audit for its approval and to carry out regular reviews of all policies and procedures. There are 3 committees that also report directly to the Board on a regular basis. These are:

- Audit and Finance
- Remuneration
- Research and Services

The Audit and Finance Committee meets seven times per year. The Research and Services Committee also meets seven times per year.

The Remuneration Committee meets twice per year and its members are all Peter McVerry Trust Board of Directors. They are Peter Birthistle (Chair and also Chair of the Audit & Finance Committee), Rod Ensor (Chair of the Peter McVerry Trust), Liam Connellan, & Jim O'Higgins all Directors of Peter McVerry Trust.

Accounts and Audits

The Board views the financial governance of Peter McVerry Trust as one of its central functions and has a strict code of practice in relation to all fundraising practices and all income and expenditure within Peter McVerry Trust. The Board also produced a financial procedures manual and corporate governance document both of which are reviewed annually.

Peter McVerry Trust publishes its accounts on an annual basis and makes annual returns to the Company Registration Office (CRO). The charity's accounts and financial reports also comply with the principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP), a legal standard for UK charities which leading Irish charities adopt in the absence of similar legal requirements in Ireland. We also comply with the Statement of Guiding Principles for Fundraising created by the organisation Irish Charities Tax Research ICTR.

The Board of Directors appointed Donal Ryan and Associates, 34 Manor Street, Dublin 7 as auditors of Peter McVerry Trust for 2015. Further to our own auditing



procedures Peter McVerry Trust is also subject to periodic and random audits by external organisations such as local authorities and other state agencies from which we receive funding. Peter McVerry Trust has a number of service level agreements with several Government Departments and is required to make quarterly and annual returns for funding received.

Peter McVerry Trust is a company limited by guarantee Registration Number 98934, the Charity Registration Number is 20015282 and the Revenue CHY number is CHY7256.

Operational Standards

Several of the operational functions of Peter McVerry Trust have additional standards that must be met in order to run approved services. Peter McVerry Trust currently holds clinical governance approval from the HSE for its addiction services and approval from TUSLA's Childcare Inspectorate for its residential childcare facilities. It also measures itself against Children First legislation, Putting People First Standards and QUADS.

Financial Review

The results for the year are set out on page 37. Against the backdrop of a difficult economic climate and insecurities over funding, it has continued to be difficult to plan or develop services. Nevertheless the company, with the aid of sound financial management and the support of both its staff and volunteers generated a very satisfactory financial outcome.

Sinking Fund

In order to ensure that the Peter McVerry Trust meets all its obligations under the Housing Agency Regulatory Code and to ensure future sustainability of our housing stock, the Board of Peter McVerry Trust approved a sinking fund. This fund came into effect in January 2015.

Principal Funding Sources

Aside from the grant income received from statutory sources, the principal funding sources for the charity are currently by way of donations and fundraising from members of the public and corporate sponsorship.

Investment Policy

Aside from retaining a prudent amount in reserves each year most of the charity's funds are to be spent in the short term so there are few funds for long term investment. Having considered the options available, the Management Committee invest whatever amount that it has available on term deposits.

Reserves Policy

In line with best practice in accounting and reporting by charities, the Board of Directors have adopted the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) which requires a charity to state its reserves policy within its annual report. The Board have examined the charity's requirements for reserves in light of the main risks to the organisation and also making allowance for the charity's ability to respond quickly to any crisis situations that may arise without the need to wait for third party funding.

The board have established a policy whereby the unrestricted funds not committed or invested in tangible fixed assets held by the charity should be at least 13 weeks of the budgeted future annual expenditure. This is in line with minimum recommended levels for the sector. The reserves are needed to meet the working capital requirements of the charity, to deal with emergency situations and to fund the expansion of the charities services going forward. The Board of Directors are confident that at this level they would be able to continue the current activities of the charity in the event of a significant drop in funding while allowing time to raise other funding while at the same time not

holding excessive reserves that would unnecessarily limit the amount spent on current charitable activities.

The Board have developed the reserves policy to assist in strategic planning, to inform a balanced budget process and to inform the risk management process by identifying any uncertainty in future income streams. Events after the Balance Sheet Date
There have been no significant events affecting the company since the year end.

Funds held as Custodian Trustee on behalf of others. The charity or its trustees do not hold any funds or other assets by way of a custodian arrangement.

Books of Account

The measures taken by the directors to ensure compliance with the requirements of Section 202, Companies Act, 1990, regarding proper books of account are the implementation of necessary policies and procedures for recording transactions, the employment of competent accounting personnel and appropriate expertise and the provision of adequate resources to the financial function. The books of account of the company are maintained at the Registered Office.

Auditors

The auditors, Donal Ryan & Associates, will continue in office in accordance with the provisions of Section 160(2) of the Companies Act, 1963.

This report was approved by the Board on 23/06/2016.

ACCOUNTS

INCOME

Peter McVerry Trust Self-Generated Fund
State Funding
Total Funding

NOTES

(1)

€4,634,493

€8,819,241

€13,453,734

NOTES:

(1) The Self-Generated funding received includes Fundraising, Rents Received, Deposit Interest and other non-state funding.

(2) Revenue Reserves represent reserves available to fund the day to day running of the Peter McVerry Trust. They are made up of general reserves which are not designated for specific purposes and designated reserves in line with our approved reserves policy.

(3) Capital reserves represents funding received from donors and the State for the acquisition and refurbishment of properties. The reserves are made up of designated and restricted reserves. They also include Peter McVerry Trust's sinking fund established in January 2015 in line with the requirements of the Voluntary Regulation Code for Approved Housing Bodies.

EXPENDITURE

Total Operating Costs

€13,451,618

Operating Surplus

€2,116

RESERVES

Revenue Reserves

(2)

€2,674,959

Capital and Sinking Fund Reserves

(3)

€6,291,956

TOTAL RESERVES

€8,966,915



Peter McVerry Trust would like to acknowledge the support of the organisations listed below for enabling us to provide the wide range of supports and services offered throughout 2015.

Clongowes Union
Community Foundation for Ireland
Department of Environment, Community and Local Government
Department of Justice
Dublin City Council
Dublin Region Homeless Executive
Fingal County Council
Ireland Funds
Irish Probation Service
JP McManus Benevolent Fund
Kildare County Council
Limerick County Council
South Dublin County Council
Health Service Executive
Pobal
Regional Drug Task Forces
TUSLA

Peter McVerry Trust would also like to thank and acknowledge the wide range of businesses, individuals, and community based organisations, educational groups and others who contributed to our work throughout 2015.

Photography:
Graham Seely of Gansee Films

Photography: Graham Seely, Gansee Films
Design: Kate O Moore - Maker Design



Opening doors for
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