

# Opening Doors Newsletter

## Spring Issue 2022



Pat Doyle, CEO, pictured with Sam Tsemberis, founder of Housing First, at the launch of the Housing First National Office in Dublin

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### Peter McVerry Trust Cycle 17th September 2022

2022 will mark the 33rd year of the Peter McVerry Trust Cycle and we hope that this year will be the biggest yet. With a number of distance options, there is one to suit all levels of cycling ability.

We've taken the great feedback on-board that we've gotten from our supporters who have taken part in years previous, so there will be a few changes to this year's event. Route and additional details will be announced in the coming weeks and months.

Register your interest at [pmvtrust.ie/cycle](https://pmvtrust.ie/cycle)  
today to get updates on the 2022  
Peter McVerry Trust Cycle - 17th September





## Welcome

Welcome to our Spring 2022 Opening Doors newsletter. With the arrival of spring and removal of Covid-19 restrictions, we're looking forward to a busy year of events. I'd like to take a quick moment to thank you all for your support over Christmas, you played a vital role in ensuring our services could continue to support people.

Our teams are delivering innovative projects across our services to help clients with all aspects of their lives. In our Carline Learning Centre, the Pathways to Employment programme will help our young students to develop key skills to retain employment or progress to further education and training.

In our Kerdiffstown House service, we've refurbished our commercial kitchen to offer culinary training to our clients and supply high quality food to our other services.

Our fundraising team is looking forward to a return to in-person events and 2022 will mark the 33rd year of the Peter McVerry Trust Cycle. Following excellent feedback from past

participants, we're changing things up with a new format. Instead of our traditional Dublin to Wexford route, the cycle will follow a loop path – starting and finishing in Dublin. Details to follow – watch this space.

Finally, over the last few months, there was a number of important milestones for housing in Ireland. I was privileged to be appointed to the Housing Commission in January to examine long-term housing policy and a proposed referendum on housing.

Last month, the Housing Agency launched the first Housing First National Office. It's an important milestone in the roll out of Housing First across Ireland and will ensure we can, with your support, give more people the key to their own door.

Pat Doyle, CEO.

## Peter McVerry Trust Graduate Programme 2022

Applications for our Graduate Programme 2022 are now open. The 12-month training programme offers graduates the opportunity to work across our services in Dublin, Kildare, Louth, Limerick and Galway.

The programme provides a structured professional development path and the opportunity to grow a long-term career with Peter McVerry Trust.

For more information, or to apply, visit our website.





# Inside Our Services

## Launch of Pathways to Employment programme

Our first Pathways to Employment programme kicked off in our Carline Learning Centre in February.

The programme is aimed at students aged 15 – 17 years old who have completed the Junior Cert and are seeking employment or further education and training opportunities.

The programme offers a range of modules and prepares young people for employment, provides them with experience and allows them to develop key skills to retain employment or progress to further education and training. At the end of the course, the students will have developed their skillsets and will have acquired key competencies required for entering the workplace.



## Kerdiffstown Kitchen Employment Project

The on-site kitchen at our Kerdiffstown House service in Naas, underwent a large refurbishment to bring it back into use as a fully-functioning, HACCP-approved, commercial kitchen.

The re-development of this facility will allow us to upskill and re-activate our client group. We will provide training and employment opportunities in the culinary and bakery industries, as well as in delivery driving.



**Construction of a new build apartment scheme of 12 apartments at Shaw Street, Dublin 2 began in March.**



**Peter McVerry Trust is now delivering social housing in Mayo, in partnership with Mayo County Council.**



**Stephen Kenny, manager of the Irish football team, launched our Christmas fundraising appeal in November.**



# Personal Stories

## Anna and Michael

**"We were desperate. Having a nonverbal autistic child is a challenge alone, let alone the stress of becoming homeless. We are extremely grateful to everyone involved in organising this house for us. We can now start to feel like a real family."**

Anna, Michael and their young son were supported by Peter McVerry Trust into their new home in Mayo ahead of Christmas 2021.



## Patrick

**"If you had a period, even one month, where you're not sure where you're going to spend your night, that can be traumatising. With the help of Peter McVerry Trust, all of that is now behind me. I have great peace of mind."**

At the end of 2021, Patrick was given the keys to his own home in Wicklow with the support of Peter McVerry Trust.



## Highlights of 2021

Despite the challenges of Covid-19 continuing into 2021, it was a year of milestones for Peter McVerry Trust.

January marked Peter McVerry Trust's 5-year anniversary working with Housing First and its founder, Dr Sam Tsemberis.

Minister for Housing, Darragh O'Brien TD, launched our Annual Report 2020 in May at our first ever new-build project, in Dublin. In the same month we launched our first rapid-build project in Limerick City while, in July, we launched our Strategic Plan 2021-26 at the opening of our Southern Regional Office in Cork City with An Taoiseach, Micheál Martin.

Most importantly, is the 10,000 plus unique individuals we supported across our services in 2021. This was only possible through your continued support.





# Fundraising

## Call for fundraising volunteers

Volunteering is a wonderful and important way to support Peter McVerry Trust. As we begin to see a return to fundraising events and collections, we are always grateful for your time and energy in supporting us.

Get in touch to find out more about how you can volunteer.



Following a €10,000 donation to our Christmas fundraising appeal, Tate further supported Peter McVerry Trust by donating 125 mixed fruit trees to our biodiversity garden at our Kerdiffstown House service.



## Boyne Valley Camino

The Boyne Valley Camino is a 25km looped walk in the heart of the Boyne Valley, just an hour north of Dublin. The area is rich in history and the walk, which starts and finishes in Drogheda, will challenge and inform you as you raise funds for Peter McVerry Trust.

This year's event will take place on Saturday, 23rd April.

## Lugnaquilla Mountain Trail

Standing at 925m, Lugnaquilla in Co. Wicklow, is the highest mountain in Ireland outside of Kerry. It's a challenging climb, but on a clear day, the views are spectacular.

This guided climb, which takes place on June 11th, will take approx. 8-10 hours, and is suitable for experienced walkers who want to challenge themselves in aid of Peter McVerry Trust.



## Corporate Partnerships

We're delighted to announce our new partnership with leading DIY, hardware and homeware group, Homevalue. The company will support us across a number of initiatives, including the supply of tools, materials, and resources at a national and local level, as well as with financial contributions and support from over 90 local Homevalue stores, throughout 2022.



## Leinster Rugby Charity Partnership

Leinster Rugby announced Peter McVerry Trust as its second charity partner of the 2021/22 season. For the month of December, Leinster Rugby lent its digital support to Peter McVerry Trust.

In addition to helping to raise the profile of Peter McVerry Trust, Life Style Sports, Leinster Rugby's official retail partner, came on board in association with adidas, to donate cold weather clothing to Peter McVerry Trust ahead of the winter months, which were delivered to our three Leinster-based offices.



## 2022 Events

April



Boyne Valley Camino

June



Lugnaquilla Mountain Trail

September



Peter McVerry Trust Cycle

October



Opening Doors Appeal

December



Christmas Carol Concert

In addition to the events and challenges listed above, why not consider taking part in one of the many events across the country in aid of Peter McVerry Trust, such as:

Hell & Back



Vhi WMM



Limerick Run



Cork Marathon



We would like to thank you sincerely for your continued support for the work of Peter McVerry Trust. Your generosity ensures that we can continue to support people as they leave homelessness behind.

Fundraising contact details:

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**Peter McVerry Trust**

Opening doors for homeless people

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