



Opening doors  
for 40 YEARS

[pmvtrust.ie/40](https://pmvtrust.ie/40)

Please donate and help us to deliver **400 homes** this year for people in need across Ireland

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### Fr Peter McVerry honoured in Limerick

Fr Peter McVerry was awarded the McAuley Medal by Mary Immaculate College in December. The medal was presented by President Higgins, in recognition of his social justice activism.

Professor Eugene Wall, President of Mary Immaculate College, said, "Some individuals have the power to make an extraordinary and lasting difference in the lives of others, Fr Peter McVerry is one of those individuals."



# Welcome

Welcome to the Spring 2023 Opening Doors newsletter. As many of you may already know, after much consideration, I decided to step down as CEO of Peter McVerry Trust in January. At the end of May, after 18 years of service, I will finish up in the role and this is my last message to all of you, our valued supporters.

I have been extremely privileged to be the CEO of Peter McVerry Trust since 2005. The role is one that I am proud to have held and it has been an absolutely fantastic experience to work alongside Fr Peter McVerry, the participants, staff and the Chairpersons and the wider members of the Board of Directors and Committee members. My plan now is to return to my original work in the sector which will see me work on a one to one basis with clients.

When I first took on the role of CEO of the Trust in 2005, under the direction of the Board three key objectives were agreed: firstly, to maintain what Peter had created; secondly, to ensure organisational sustainability; and thirdly, to ensure we had the appropriate governance standards to respond effectively to current and future need in respect of our participant group.

Those objectives are now largely met with the Trust today managing 1,097 homeless beds, 107 addiction beds, 47 children's residential care beds, and in relation to housing we are managing 589 Housing First tenancies and 1,100 homes. All of this is to the credit of the founder, the Board, the senior management team, and all our dedicated staff. It is also a credit to you, our donors, who have placed your trust in us, year after year.

I feel the time is right for both me and the organisation to take this step. The charity has a highly experienced and hugely committed Senior Management Team working under a diverse and broad ranging Board of Directors and our Chair Deirdre-Ann Barr.

Throughout this edition of the newsletter, the outstanding work of the organisation is evident – from delivering innovative regeneration projects to winning an 'Excellent in Healthcare Management' award.

Before I sign off – I have one final ask of you all. 2023 marks 40 years of Peter McVerry Trust supporting people in need. We have worked with tens of thousands of people over that period. Now, we ask you to support our 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary appeal and help us to deliver 400 new homes in 2023. Your donation will help us to provide more homes to people impacted by homelessness across the country. Below you'll find more information about the campaign and how to donate.

I would like to say a final and very heartfelt thank you to you all – thank you for sticking with Peter McVerry Trust and please stay with the charity in the future.

Beir bua agus beannacht,



Pat Doyle,  
CEO

## Donate today to support our 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Campaign

2023 marks 40 years since Fr Peter McVerry founded Peter McVerry Trust. Over the last four decades, the charity has supported tens of thousands of people impacted by homelessness across Ireland.

Now, we need your help to deliver 400 new homes for people in need in 2023. Donate today at [pmvtrust.ie/40](https://pmvtrust.ie/40) or call 01 823 0776.



 Peter  
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Trust

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# Inside Our Services

## Minister for Housing launches project in Limerick

In February we commenced work on our latest regeneration project in Limerick City. The new project will see the redevelopment of the former Office of Public Works building at 2-3 Lower Mallow Street, into 12 single-bed apartments for people on the local social housing waiting list.

Minister for Housing Darragh O'Brien was in attendance to officially commence work on the project which has been made possible thanks to the charity's partnership with Limerick City and County Council.

Peter McVerry Trust currently manages over 113 homes in Limerick city and county and will shortly launch the first 14 homes in our modular home project in Delmege Park, Moyross.



## Opening of Western Regional Office in Tuam

Just before Christmas we opened our new Western Regional Office in Tuam. The office was officially opened by Galway East TD and Minister of State for Disability, Anne Rabbitte.

In 2022 we started to deliver dedicated employment support, Activation First, for tenants in the west of Ireland. Activation First builds on the principles of Housing First by supporting people to both sustain their tenancies in their new home and supporting them to become engaged in their communities.

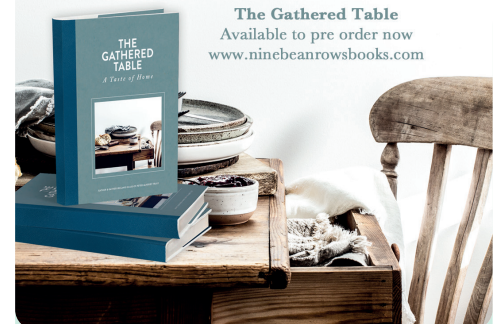


At the Irish Healthcare Awards 2022, Peter McVerry Trust secured the 'Excellent in Healthcare Management' award for our organisation's extensive and urgent response to Covid-19.



In December, we moved 65 people impacted by homelessness into fully furnished homes of their own across Ireland, just in time for Christmas.

## Make room at your table!



The Gathered Table  
Available to pre order now  
[www.ninebeanrowsbooks.com](http://www.ninebeanrowsbooks.com)

Gather & Gather have created a brilliant new cookbook to raise much needed funds for Peter McVerry Trust. The book is available to purchase at [ninebeanrowsbooks.com](http://ninebeanrowsbooks.com)



# Personal Stories



## Martin

**"I don't know where I would be without the help and support of Peter McVerry Trust. It has changed my life – the staff saved my life really.**

**"It's upwards and onwards for me now!"**

With the support of Peter McVerry Trust, Martin overcame addiction and moved from our Drug Free Aftercare Accommodation Service into his own home in Dublin.

## Holly

**"I came in here and I barely spoke. Somehow they had me leaving here as chatty as I am and I sang at the graduation. The staff are so friendly and the resources are great – I had help from the therapist here and that was amazing."**

Holly graduated from our PMVT Learning Centre - Carline after being bullied in mainstream education. She is now completing a Legal Secretary PLC course.



## Valentin and family

**"For eight months, we had no place to call a true home and lived in emergency accommodation. I truly appreciate all the work Peter McVerry Trust has done to find my family a new place we can call our own."**

With the support of Peter McVerry Trust, Valentin and his family moved into their own home in Galway after living in emergency accommodation for eight months.

## Tackling digital inequality with Sky

Ireland's first 'Sky Up Digital Hub' was launched in our young person's service in Dublin as part of our Sky Ireland partnership. The 'Sky Up' programme is a new initiative that aims to help up-skill 250,000 people across Ireland and the UK by providing them with technology, connectivity and training.

Our specialised homeless accommodation service in Dublin provides 35 young people with a safe and secure home whilst they transition into adulthood.

The Sky Up Digital Hub will help these young people access education and training opportunities online – enabling them to up-skill and eventually progress on to live independent lives.





# Fundraising

## Pathways to Employment

The Coca-Cola Thank You Fund awarded €10,000 to expand our 'Pathways to employment' programme, aimed at young people experiencing homelessness.

This funding will support participants in securing accredited qualifications, building their confidence to advance to further education and apprenticeships.



**Just Eat's Winter Campaign donates €163,000 to support our work across Ireland.**

## Belvedere Sleep Out

After an absence of two years, Belvedere College SJ students took to the streets in December for their annual sleep-out. The aim was to raise a record amount for charities that work with people impacted by homelessness. Thanks to the dedication and drive of the students, the 39<sup>th</sup> Annual Sleep-Out raised a record breaking €300,000! Our sincere thanks to all involved, as Peter McVerry Trust received €120,000 towards our vital work.

## Island by Ceadogán

Handmade artisan rugmakers Ceadogán organised an exciting project called 'Island' in January. Bringing together twelve of Ireland's leading artists, who each created a unique one-off rug, which were auctioned by Whyte's Auctioneers for Peter McVerry Trust.

Thanks to Conor and Martina, and all the artists for raising €80,000 to support our work.



## St Andrew's PTA Charity Lunch

The students at St Andrew's College, Booterstown, Dublin nominated Peter McVerry Trust to be one of two beneficiaries of the PTA's charity lunch. The event hosted by Newstalk's Dr Ciara Kelly raised €54,000. Fr Peter spoke on homelessness in Ireland and how we are responding to assist individuals and families who are impacted.







## Limerick Business Breakfast

In February, we welcomed over 380 people to the Castletroy Park Hotel, for the 5<sup>th</sup> annual Limerick Business Breakfast. Speakers were Caroline Currid, a Performance Psychologist who has worked with Limerick Senior Hurling team and Munster Rugby, as well as Fr Peter McVerry, who spoke of some of his experiences over the past 40 years, and how PMVT continues to focus on long term housing to end homelessness.

Thanks to Pat McDonagh, So Hotels, Michael O'Dwyer and the Limerick Business Community for their continued support of this event.

## Fundraising Events 2023



### Calcutta Run – The Legal Fundraiser - 25th Anniversary Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> May

This year, the Calcutta Run celebrates its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The event has raised €5 million to date and has helped thousands of young people impacted by homelessness since its inception in 1999. This year, the aim is to raise €300,000 for PMVT and The Hope Foundation. The 5/10k walk or run starts from Blackhall Place through Phoenix Park. Registration is now open.



### Peter McVerry Trust launches new cycle route Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> September

We're introducing an exciting new loop cycle route, starting and finishing at Leopardstown racecourse. Take on the challenge of cycling 120km across the stunning Wicklow mountains to help raise funds for people experiencing homelessness. Sign up today, and encourage your family, friends and colleagues to get on their bikes!



### Long Walk Home Series Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> April – Cooley Mountains | Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> June – Djouce Mountain

Join us for our Long Walk Home Series in the Cooley Mountains in Louth on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> April or the Djouce Mountains in Wicklow on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> June. Both locations are a haven for hillwalkers - spectacular views guaranteed. Sign up today!



### Camino de Santiago 25<sup>th</sup> August – 1<sup>st</sup> September

Join Peter McVerry Trust to walk the last 100km of the Camino Portugues from Tui to Santiago de Compostela. Create unforgettable memories whilst raising vital funds for our work by walking through the Galician countryside and exploring historic towns over six days.

Email: [info@pmvtrust.ie](mailto:info@pmvtrust.ie)  
Website: [www.pmvtrust.ie](http://www.pmvtrust.ie)  
Tel: +353 (0)1 823 0776



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

CLG 98934  
RCN 20015282  
CHY 7256

