

Depaul Trust Ireland - Annual Report 2005



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Date

Title

Our Vision

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OUR VISION



Bank of Hope Limited - A place to call home

Pay

Everyone should have a
place to call home and a stake
in their community

or order

€

Date

Mr/Ms Generous



300672F

Cheque No.

Branch Name

Account No.

000001

11.687205T11

DEPAUL TRUSTS

ANNUAL REPORT 2010/11

Date

Title

Our Mission

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OUR MISSION

Date

Bank of Hope Limited - A place to call home

Pay To offer homeless and disadvantaged people the opportunity to fulfil their potential and make positive, informed choices about their future or order

€

Mr/Ms Generous



300672F

Cheque No.

Branch Name

Account No.

000002

11.687205T11

DEPAUL TRUSTS

ANNUAL REPORT 20105

Date

Title

Our Values

- We celebrate the potential of people
- We put our words into action
- We aim to take a wider role in civil society
- We believe in rights and responsibilities.

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Date

Title

CEO's Report

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Many of us will remember our first cheque book, the feeling that we were going places, the power! Many of us had opened our first bank account, finished college got our first job, the future looked good.

But what of those going nowhere, caught in a trap? What of those enslaved in that vicious cycle that is lack of education, lack of credit options, homelessness and often drug and alcohol dependency?

We at the Depaul Trust believe that homelessness, unemployment, addiction and mental health issues hold back our society from ever becoming whole and if we are to work towards a truly inclusive society then much needs to change.

2005 was an important year for us. We continued to deliver services in Dublin and we opened our first services in Northern Ireland, again working with some of the most marginalised in the province's first city – Belfast.

A cheque book represents a promise, a commitment to pay. At Government level there must remain a commitment to sustaining the safety net of services for those people on the margins of society. In 2005 the Depaul Trust offered 500 such people (up 26% on 2004 figures) an opportunity to move away from the street, from social exclusion.

Over the last decade Corporate Ireland has benefited from the Celtic Tiger. We are the envy of many throughout the world. At Depaul Trust we believe that there are many ways in which companies can commit to ensuring that social responsibilities are met. We have a strong volunteer programme, suitable for both individuals and company involvement. Skills placements are hugely valued but there is also the need to take out the cheque books and support the work of the Depaul Trust. A small fraction of a Corporate's net profit would make such a difference to the lives of those on the margins, those in need.

Date

Title

CEO's Report

CONTINUED

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Finally I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those people who supported the work of the Depaul Trust in 2005 on both sides of the border. To the staff in all of our centres who have worked tirelessly to ensure that those on the margins have a chance of a better life, a place to call home and a stake in their community.

*Patrick A. Doherty.***Patrick A. Doherty** - Chief Executive Officer

Date

Title

Chairman's
Report

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I would like to welcome you to Depaul Trust Ireland's fourth annual report. This is my first report as Chair and I feel very privileged to have this honour. Firstly, I thank my predecessor Paddy Murray for all his work over the first three years since Depaul Trust was established in Ireland. I hope that I can continue his effective stewardship and I am delighted that he continues to be involved in our work.

2005 was a busy and challenging year for the Depaul Trust. In addition to our ongoing services, we established new services, Drive Ahead and Stella Maris in Belfast and the Ballymun Outreach project in Dublin. I am continuously impressed with the standard of care and support that our staff, both paid and voluntary provide to the many men and women who cross our threshold or whose thresholds we cross. This caring nature is the bedrock of the Depaul culture. I thank all of the team for their professionalism and compassion over the year.

The focus of our efforts must always be the men and women who we meet on a daily basis in Dublin and Belfast. Their lives have been very difficult often from an early age. The Depaul Trust is committed to continue to provide a good service to them and where needed to improve our current level of service. We continue to work with our stakeholders and partners to source more appropriate buildings and facilities for all our projects. It is also important that we work with our partners to seek systemic change. If we do not do this then the lives of many homeless people in Dublin and Belfast will be endangered and undervalued into the future.

We are ever thankful for the support that we receive on both sides of the border. In particular we thank the Homeless Agency, Depts of Environment, Health and Justice and Ballymun Regeneration Ltd in the Republic of Ireland and the NIHE and BLSP for their support in Northern Ireland. Their continued support keeps our services going and also allows new services to emerge as in the case of our new service in Ballymun.

Date

Title

Chairman's
Report

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Homelessness continues to be a significant issue in our society. We have a constant need for expertise and resources to better our existing projects and start new projects. We continue to seek multi annual funding and ask that our stakeholders continue to honour commitments to our services. We ask those individuals and commercial organisations that have benefited so much from the Celtic Tiger economy to continue their support and if possible consider increasing their commitment to those less well off. The corporate Ireland cheque book and skill bank is vast and one that we at the Depaul Trust would welcome.

Again thanks for your support and I hope you enjoy reading our little cheque book.



Herbert C Graham



Date

Title

Our Services

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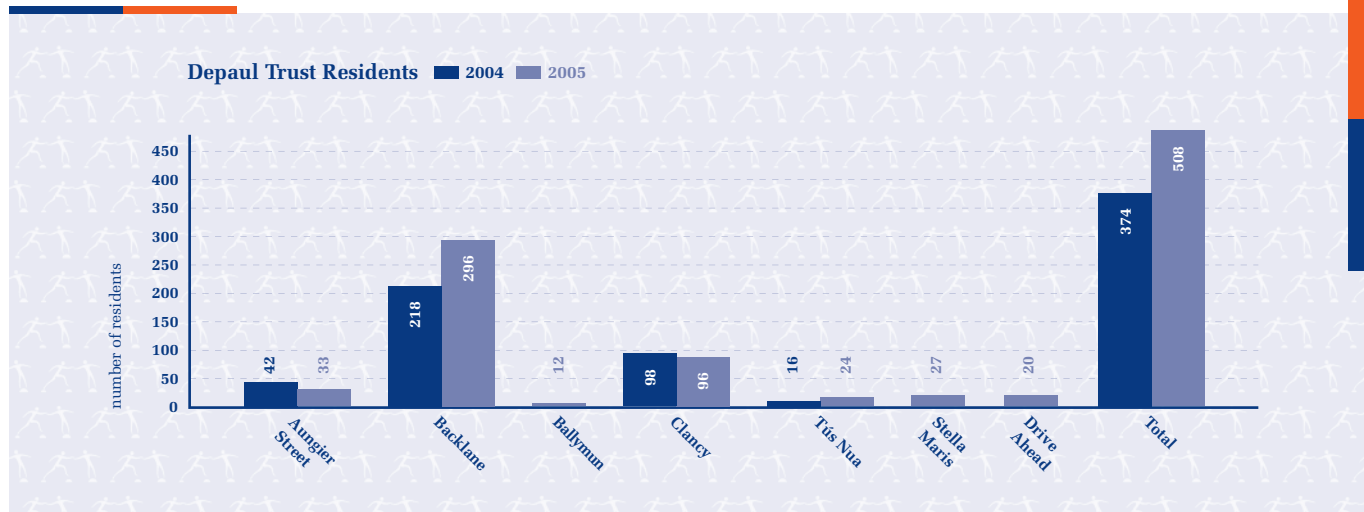
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OUR SERVICES



Date

Title

Our Services

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Aungier Street

Aungier Street Emergency Shelter was opened in December 2002 in Central Dublin, as a direct response to the recognised need for a project focusing on long term street drinkers for whom rehabilitation may no longer be a possibility. As the first of its kind in the Republic of Ireland, it offers care and support for those who are primarily excluded from existing services.

Based on a model of harm reduction, Aungier Street is home to 23 men and women, whose life on the streets, and alcoholism has caused serious physical and mental health issues. By providing access to welfare services, health care and a high standard of specialist support the project aims to limit further damage to the health of its service users and assist in averting future dangers.

During 2005, of the 33 people presented as homeless to Aungier Street, 9 were women and 24 men. Depaul Trust staff and

volunteers have continued to work with service users on developing individually based care plans, which offer advice on areas such as life skills, budgeting and detox access. In addition the project has devised a programme of holistic and alternative therapies to assist in providing care and comfort.

Sadly during 2005 several of those residing at Aungier Street died. While their passing was a time of great sadness for their family, friends and all at Depaul Trust, we are pleased that the organisation was in a position to offer shelter and support to them in their last days and prevent them dying alone on a street.

Date

Title

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Date

Title

Our Services

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Back Lane Hostel

Back Lane was built in 1915 by the Society of St Vincent de Paul to accommodate homeless men in the Dublin area. Based in Christchurch, the project is now managed by Depaul Trust Ireland and delivers direct access emergency shelter to 74 homeless men over the age of 26.

Although some service users do stay for long periods of time, the project primarily offers short term accommodation and support. Back Lane adopts aspects of the dual principles of harm reduction and low threshold working. Offering full board single bedrooms, access to a communal games room, library and television lounge, the project provides a comfortable alternative to the streets and doorways.

During 2005 the staff and volunteers of Back Lane have continued to provide support, advice and care to those who reside at the

project. This support is provided through a system of individually appointed key workers, who with the service user devise specific care plans to meet their immediate and long term needs. These plans, which are monitored and reviewed on a regular basis, cover such areas as health care, welfare services, budgeting skills, advice on resettlement and mental/physical support planning.

Of the 296 men accommodated by the project in 2005, a substantial increase from that of 218 in 2004, a large percentage have moved on to more suitable long term housing, although access to move-on accommodation, as experienced in all our projects, continues to be a problem.

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Date

Title

Our Services

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Clancy Nightshelter

In February 2002 Clancy Low Threshold Shelter opened in Central Dublin to provide emergency accommodation for rough sleepers aged between 18 and 35. Established due to recognition of a gap in provision for this age range in Dublin, this project provides for those whose drug and alcohol related issues deem them unsuitable for conventional hostel settings.

The project works on the basis of a nightshelter, opening in the early evening 7 days a week and providing accommodation, a hot meal and breakfast. In recent years the period of opening has been gradually extended to allow for greater support. Each service user also has access to showering facilities, a common room and a locker for personal belongings.

As with our other projects those working within the nightshelter provide assistance in accessing medical and

specialist services such as those dealing with mental health issues or substance misuse.

During 2005 of those accommodated in Clancy Nightshelter 87 were male and 9 female, this is similar to that of 2004. For all those making use of this service there is a dedicated key worker who links with each service user to provide advice, assistance, guidance on access to day centres and weekly medical clinic.

As in all of our projects staff and volunteers have worked with service users on a number of social activities. These have included regular cinema trips and the development of a library. For those in the project these activities can be the closest thing many will have to a conventional social life and make a welcome break from the monotony of street life.

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Date

Title

Our Services

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Tús Nua

Tús Nua is a project dedicated to women leaving prison. Based on a need recognised through research into the instances of recently released prisoners re-offending, the project was established to assist in the transition to independent living for women prisoners with no fixed abode.

The project works with single women between the ages of 18 and 65 leaving Dochas prison who have been identified as homeless or at risk of becoming so. Working directly with a specific key worker the women are permitted to stay within the project for up to 12 months, where they develop practical and life skills and take the time and space to adapt to life in the community.

During 2005 the project has developed its services further, adapting and evolving naturally to the needs of those residing there. Not only has the number of those taking up residency in the

project increased by 100% since 2004, to a total of 24 women, but 2005 has also seen the emergence of group work as a successful tool in responding to the needs of the women. Sessions have included 'making connections', 'co-dependant relationships', 'conflict resolution', 'surviving domestic violence' and 'yoga'.

Opportunities provided for supporting service users in developing independent living skills at Tús Nua have proven successful in 2005, with one third of those who resided at the project attending a preparation programme for education and employment and two thirds attending the in-house programme. These programmes, combined with continual support from staff and volunteers within the project, will provide for a smoother and more structured transition to independence for the women presenting to us, and aim to prevent re-offending and repeat homelessness in the future.

Date

Title

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Date

Title

Our Services

CONTINUED

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Ballymun Case Management Team

Ballymun case management team is an exciting pilot project which started in November 2005. Based in an area of Dublin recognised as one where significant need for support services exists, the team aims to work directly with people affected by alcohol misuse and its related mental, physical, social and economic issues. Working under the model of harm reduction through outreach work (floating support) the case management team work with service users who have been, or are in danger of becoming, excluded from existing local services due to the challenging behaviour that can accompany alcoholism.

By undertaking individual needs assessments of the service user and their families, the team offer assistance on a range of areas, such as life skills, tenancy sustainment, healthcare and linking with other relevant service providers.

The Ballymun case management team, during their first six weeks in operation in 2005, established links with 12 individuals. It is hoped to acquire longer term funding for this programme to ensure a sustained approach to providing this service.

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Title

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Date

Title

Our Services

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Medical Services

Depaul Trust Ireland recognises that many service users within their projects have a number of health related issues. These may include those related to primary health care, mental health and/or substance misuse issues. Many of these services users have difficulty accessing mainstream health services and as a result Depaul Trust, funded by the Homeless Agency and the Health Board, provides a peripatetic medical service.

Based in Back Lane but with the remit to hold weekly health clinics around all projects, the medical service offers one-to-one healthcare to all service users. In addition to this, a large part of the medical service also provides support and advice to project staff liaising with healthcare and other related services within the city.

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Title

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Date

Title

Our Services

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Stella Maris - Low Threshold Project

Opened in September 2005, in conjunction with BIH Housing Association, this exciting new project in Belfast remains the first of its kind in Northern Ireland. Commissioned by the Northern Ireland Housing Executive, the project offers support and shelter to long term street drinkers.

Similarly to Aungier Street in Dublin, Stella Maris is based on the dual principles of harm reduction and low threshold working. Providing care and advice, three meals daily, and access to health care and other specialist services the project aims to provide its 23 male and female residents with a degree of dignity and support throughout their time in residence. For many this project may be their only home in years, or the last place to call home in their declining health.

Service users are appointed a key worker with whom a care and support plan is devised. This will be individually specific and

will enable careful monitoring and assessment of health, mental wellbeing and lifestyle of each person. Included in this plan will be life skills, budgeting, drink harm reduction, detox access and health and mental health support. Specialist support is also made available by external services from GP's and nurses.

During its first year the project has harnessed a holistic approach to supporting residents. By providing art and music therapy, gardening classes and regular outings the staff ensure service users are provided with stimulating daily activities.

Although in many cases resettlement may be difficult, as with all our projects when facing this ongoing issue, staff provide support in accessing the opportunities which are open to them, ensuring all options other than a return to the streets are explored in depth.

Date

Title

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Date

Title

Our Services

CONTINUED

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Drive Ahead

Depaul Trust first began this innovative training programme in London over 10 years ago. Designed to provide pre-employment and life skills training to unemployed and marginalised young people, the programme is based on extensive local and international research carried out amongst young people themselves.

Operating in Belfast from March 2005 the ten week course focus's on encouraging young people who have not previously fulfilled their full potential via mainstream education/training to engage with services.

Working in all communities within North Belfast the programme provides opportunities for development in IT and CV skills, first aid for work, life skills, and motor maintenance. This training is focused around the acquisition of motor vehicle and fork lift truck driving licences.

All of which not only increase confidence and self esteem but greatly improve employability.

Aimed at both males and females aged between 18 and 30 the programme has been running throughout 2005 and into 2006. With the completion of four successful programmes, involving 38 young people, the project has a 99% success rate.

In addition, a weekly drop in centre for those who have completed the programme in the past ensures that their development will continue with peer support and advice on future projects.

Date

Title

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Date

Title

Volunteers

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Volunteer Programme

Within the values of the work of Depaul Trust Ireland lies a holistic approach to each individual with whom we work. This involves providing emotional support in addition to physical and practical services. It is within this structure of support that the work of our volunteer programme is vital.

The volunteer programme was established to enable local individuals to become involved with the work of the organisation. The programme aims to develop the skills of the volunteer whilst simultaneously enabling Depaul Trust to offer a more multifaceted approach to our service.

Also adding an exciting dimension to the volunteer programme in 2005 was our involvement in the European Voluntary Service scheme. This scheme offers the opportunity for young people to volunteer abroad. This year it enabled 3 of our volunteers, who

had previously used our services, to experience working and living in Austria. In addition we currently host 10 EVS volunteers within our Dublin and Belfast services.

Throughout 2005 the programme has developed substantially with activities such as; cultural evenings, women and men's hours, quiz nights and bingo.

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Title

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Date

Title

New in
2006

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Transferring of Atlantic House - supported accommodation for families

In April 2006 the Society of St.Vincent de Paul transferred the ownership of Atlantic House family residential centre in North Belfast to Depaul Trust Ireland. This project, run in partnership with Newington Housing Association, offers emergency accommodation to families experiencing homelessness. Service users range from expectant mothers to two parent families who receive support and advice on accessing essential services, guidance on life skills and advice on re-integration into the community.

Community Befriending Pilot Programme

Support is a vital component in the successful resettlement of service users into the community. For many service users who move on to their own accommodation, issues of isolation have been shown to hinder their ability to sustain independence.

The Depaul Trust and the Society of St Vincent de Paul have recognised this problem and have established a pilot volunteer support programme. This programme is designed to carry forward the services which are offered within projects to those moving on to independent living.

In addition the formation of a social network providing coffee mornings, cinema trips and day outings makes the difficult transition to independent living smoother and thus more sustainable.

South Dublin

In anticipation of our new services in James Street opening in 2007, the Homeless Agency and Dublin City Council have provided a temporary house for four of the most critically ill service users from Aungier Street.

Date

Title

In Development

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West Belfast

It is proposed to further advance and develop services provided to those experiencing homelessness by expanding the area of support into West Belfast. Both these areas have considerable numbers of displaced or homeless individuals and families. In response to this, in autumn 2007 Depaul Trust NI, in partnership with BIH Housing Association and the Northern Ireland Housing Executive, propose to open two new specifically designed residential centres.

Dublin***James Street***

It is with great pleasure that we saw the erection of a crane to begin the construction of our James Street project. It is anticipated that this service which is based on the principles of long term, low threshold support, will open in June 2007.

Other

The Depaul Trust over the last year has been approached by other service providers and government bodies to undertake services for the most marginalised in society. We continue to be dedicated to developing such work.

Date

Title

Snapshot
Survey April
2005

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So this is life?

Banking is something quite natural for all of us. We open a bank account; we deposit funds, pay bills, set up direct debits and write cheques. All these are quite normal daily activities for the vast majority of people in Ireland. However, for those experiencing homelessness activities such as these can be extremely difficult and stressful. Can you imagine attempting to open a bank account today with no fixed address? How do you deposit funds with no money?

A snap shot of our service users over one week in April demonstrates the similarities and differences between standard life experiences of those Depaul Trust assist on a daily basis and others in Irish society.

The survey explored with all service users of Depaul Trust Ireland a range of topics from educational attainment to

employment history. Some of these findings are shown over the next two pages.

Date

Title

Snapshot -
Survey April
2005

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DEPAUL TRUST

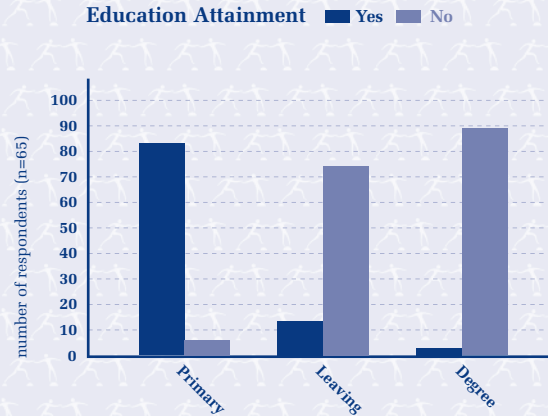
ANNUAL REPORT 2005

SNAPSHOT SURVEY APRIL 2005 CONT.

Education

Access to education in early life often opens other doors to us in later life. Many of the people accessing the services of the Depaul Trust, for a variety of reasons, have found completing second and third level education extremely difficult. Although 95% of service users surveyed finished primary school, less than 49.2% made it to Junior Cert, and only 23.1% completed secondary school.

Education Attainment



Date

Title

Snapshot
Survey April
2005

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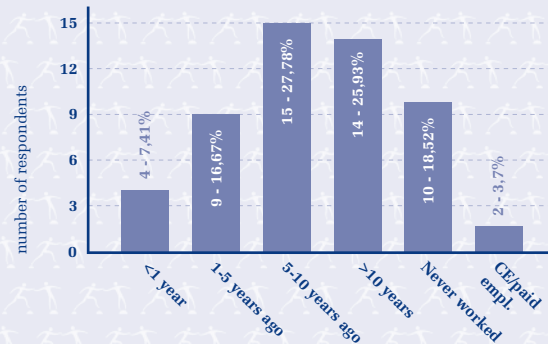
SNAPSHOT SURVEY
APRIL 2005 CONT.

Employment

Work and our profession quite often define who we are as people and our abilities to live the lives we desire. However, for those with whom Depaul Trust works this may often be an area where there is a considerable void.

Of those surveyed on this issue only 7.4% had managed to acquire a job within the previous year, whilst 16.7% had worked within the preceding five year. A further study showed that 25.9% had not worked for more than 10 years and 18.5% had never been employed.

When did you last work?



Date _____

Title _____

Accounts 2005
- Invest

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Bank of Hope Limited - A place to call home

Pay Towards investment in a or order
future for those whose potential has
yet to be fulfilled

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Mr/Ms Generous



300672F

Cheque No.

Branch Name

Account No.

Date

Title

Treasurer's
Report

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The year 2005 has been very challenging for Depaul Trust in Ireland. We have completed our 4th year in existence in the RoI and our first year (part) in NI. Overall we have been able to confirm a surplus between the two companies. In the RoI incoming resources increased in 2005 by 6.6% to €4.2 million. However an increase in statutory income of 8.3% was partly offset by a 47% reduction in donations and fundraising income. Our main funders continue to be the Homeless Agency and the Probations Service. This increase in income was fully utilised to meet additional staff costs arising from both an increase in employees and annual pay awards. Our people are key to all our services and we continue to rely on their enthusiasm, professionalism and commitment to maintain and deliver the high standard of service we aspire to. Expenditure increased in RoI by 9.5% to €4.2m and this resulted in a small deficit for the year of €8K. Our central service function continues to be both an integral part and a cost effective method of delivering our services. It continues to be disappointing that these costs are not fully recovered from our funders and we have again

had to rely on donations from our founders and key sponsors to cover all our central service costs.

We are pleased to report that in our first period of operation in Northern Ireland we have been able to deliver a decent surplus. In achieving this objective we must express our considerable gratitude to the Northern Ireland Housing Executive and Belfast Local Strategy Partnership for making funding available to allow the Depaul Trust to undertake our services. We would also like to thank the Society of Saint Vincent De Paul for their support and assistance in our first year in the region.

In looking forward to 2006 Depaul Trust Northern Ireland will see significant growth in its services. Atlantic House is due to come under our management at the beginning of April. Although the funding for the pilot scheme for Drive Ahead Belfast is due to come to an end in June 06 we are hopeful of securing funding from other sources in order to ensure that this valuable service continues.

Date

Title

Treasurer's
Report

CONTINUED

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As a result of the small deficit for the year, our net assets have decreased to €287K. Cash flow remains a constant challenge and during the year we have had to rely heavily on our reserves to fund our day-to-day operations. We continue to work with our funders throughout 2006 to achieve a more timely payment cycle for services and look forward to reporting an improvement in this area in the coming year.

In looking forward to 2006 we intend to continue our efforts in establishing full funding for all our projects on a standalone basis and extending our sponsor network.



John O'Grady - Treasurer



Date

Title

Income &
Expenditure
Account For The
Year Ended 31st
December 2005
- Ireland

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THE DEPAUL TRUST
IRELAND LIMITED

Charity No. CHY1475

Approved on behalf of the board,



Laurence J. Tuomey
Secretary



John O'Grady
Treasurer

18 May 2006

	Unrestricted funds €	Restricted funds €	2005 €	2004 €
Incoming resources	4,175,899	20,000	4,195,899	3,935,798
Resources Expended				
Direct charitable expenditure	4,184,432	20,000	4,204,432	3,837,936
Total Resources Expended	4,184,432	20,000	4,204,432	3,837,936
Net incoming (deficit)/resources	(8,533)	-	(8,533)	97,862
Accumulated funds at beginning of year	295,904	-	295,904	198,042
Accumulated funds at end of year	287,371	-	287,371	295,904
Note of historical cost deficits and surpluses for the year ended 31st December 2005. Historical cost deficits and surpluses are the only such deficits and surpluses recognised by the company.				

Date

Title

Balance Sheet
As At 31st
December 2005
- Ireland

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THE DEPAUL TRUST
IRELAND LIMITED CONT.

Charity No. CHY1475

Approved on behalf of the board,



Laurence J. Tuomey
Secretary



John O'Grady
Treasurer

18 May 2006

	2005 €	2004 €
Fixed assets		
Tangible assets	36,585	29,085
Current assets		
Debtors: due within one year	662,853	305,932
Cash & bank balances	18,842	164,179
	<u>681,695</u>	<u>470,111</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	430,909	203,292
	<u>250,786</u>	<u>266,819</u>
Net current assets		
	<u>287,371</u>	<u>295,904</u>
Total net assets		
	<u>287,371</u>	<u>295,904</u>
Capital and reserves		
Revenue reserves	287,371	295,904
	<u>287,371</u>	<u>295,904</u>

Date

Title

Income &
Expenditure
Account For The
Year Ended 31st
December 2005
- Northern
Ireland

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	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2005 £	2004 £	Charity No. XR87991, subsidiary of Depaul Trust Ireland
Incoming resources	443,125	-	443,125	-	Approved on behalf of the board,
Resources Expended					
Direct charitable expenditure	389,640	-	389,640	-	
Total Resources Expended	389,640	-	389,640	-	Dr Frances Beagon
Net incoming resources	53,485	-	53,485	-	Dr Frances Beagon Secretary
Accumulated funds at beginning of period	-	-	-	-	
Transfer from Restricted to Unrestricted funds	-	-	-	-	Sister Nuala Kelly
Accumulated funds at end of year	53,485	-	53,485	-	Sr Nuala Kelly Treasurer
Note of historical cost deficits and surpluses for the period ended 31st December 2005.					18 May 2006

Date _____

Title _____

Balance Sheet
As At 31st
December 2005
- Northern
Ireland

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THE DEPAUL TRUST
NORTHERN IRELAND LIMITED CONT.

	2005 £	2004 £	Charity No. XR87991, subsidiary of Depaul Trust Ireland
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	36,975	-	Approved on behalf of the board,
Current assets			
Stocks and work in progress	-	-	
Debtors: due within one year	111,990	-	
Cash & bank balances	33,369	-	
	145,359		
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(128,849)	-	Dr Frances Beagon
Net current assets	16,510	-	Dr Frances Beagon Secretary
Total net assets	53,485	-	
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	-	-	Sister Nuala Kelly
	53,485		Sr Nuala Kelly Treasurer
Capital and reserves			
Revenue reserves	53,485	-	
	53,485	-	18 May 2006

Date

Title

Support

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BANK
OF HOPE

Bank of Hope Limited - A place to call home

Pay

Pay: Those nameless men and
women for whom even a signature
on a cheque is a lifetime away.

or order

Date

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Mr/Ms Generous



300672F

Cheque No.

Branch Name

Account No.

Date

Title

Taking Risks

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Taking Risks

Running a charity, like banking, is a risky business. Funds are changeable, budgets constantly need reassessing and financial demands are high. Yet you have to take the risk. Without stepping outside of financial security and stability it is impossible to make the difference to those for whom life itself is a daily risk.

By supporting Depaul Trust, through employee involvement, corporate events, direct donation, or support in kind government, individuals and corporate Ireland can help us reduce this risk. This support is critical to the continuation of existing provision and the development of new services for the many vulnerable and disadvantaged men, women and children who the Celtic Tiger passed by.

Date

Title

Donor Charter

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Donor Charter

Depaul Trust Ireland pledges to utilise all funds donated to the organisation in the continued effort to work with homeless and disadvantaged people, offering them the opportunity to fulfil their potential and move towards an independent and positive future.

Depaul Trust Ireland would like to thank all those organizations and individuals who contributed to our work in 2005.

- | | | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------|
| - Abhann Productions | - Dublin City Council | - J.P. McAdam | Housing Executive |
| - Ballymun Regeneration Ltd | - ESB | - J.P. McManus | - Peace II - Belfast Local |
| - Carroll Foods | - Hampton Convent | - Leargas (EVS) | Strategy Partnership |
| - Coca Cola | - Health Services Executive | - Liam Murray Chemists | - Probation Service |
| - C. Walsh | - Homeless Agency | - Newstalk 106 | - Scottish Benevolent Fund |
| - Dublin Bus | - Investing in Communities | - Northern Ireland | - Society of St Vincent de Paul |

Date

Title

Our Man
Eddie

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Eddie was one of the first residents to move into Stella Maris when it opened in September 2005. He had spent the previous three years living in a Belfast graveyard after the collapse of both his marriage and his family relationships through his problematic alcohol use.

He felt it was safer in the graveyard than on the street. He once said “it’s not the dead you’ve to be frightened of - it’s the living”. In those three years, the only bed Eddie slept in was a hospital bed, and even then only rarely. But thanks in part to the strong relationships built with local outreach workers he decided to come in off the streets when Stella Maris opened. Eddie was given his own room, with his own key, his own bed, furniture and bathroom. At first his self-esteem was so low that he did not believe that this could really be meant for him. He is enjoying and, we believe, benefiting from his occupancy in Stella Maris. Since engaging with the support services offered by Stella Maris, Eddie is healthier and drinking less.

He has personalised his room with the artworks he has created in our weekly art class. He takes part in an essential skills Literacy class and, at 40 years young, is enjoying learning how to read and write. Eddie, as well as other male residents, enjoys a relaxing facial massage after ‘Coronation Street’.

He especially relishes the quizzes and a good old sing-song. He has even begun to lead some of the other residents in a twice-weekly jog around the local area. His horizons have broadened in other ways too. Although Eddie is from a nationalist background, he is now amicably sharing his home with members from the unionist tradition; something he wouldn’t have considered possible three years ago. At Stella Maris we are proud to operate a mixed hostel in this divided city. We are also proud that a man such as Eddie, who for so long shunned any human contact, has adapted to re-engage once more. At Stella Maris our ethos is harm reduction. Eddie is a reminder that this approach works.

Date

Title

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REMEMBER!

Date

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Remember!

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Thanks for taking the time to read our annual report. Next time you take out your cheque book, think of us!





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