



NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 9 - JULY 2021



CEO REPORT

Message from our CEO

I am delighted to have been appointed to the permanent role of CEO, and excited to have the opportunity to build on the strong foundations of the organisation to further expand our services and deliver best practice across our organisation.

This quarter was extremely busy for CIDP with the Boarding campus celebrating the end of school term. Staff worked hard to ensure a memorable schedule of events for our Boarders to take them into the summer months. We said goodbye to our 6th years and wish them success and happiness in their future endeavors.

Residents in St Joseph's House viewed and accepted some fabulous new homes and are looking forward to transitioning over the coming months. As restrictions ease service users in the community are able to carry out meaningful activities in their local communities.

We had a welcomed visit from HIQA who recognized all the hard work and effort of staff and service users over the last 6 months to make Riverside their home. Whilst we continue to enhance our services it is reassuring to know that we have the continued support of HIQA and are moving ever closer towards a best practice person centered model of support.

I would like to thank Chaplaincy for their continued commitment to providing supports to the Deaf Community.

Also a big thanks to all our staff and service users, Board members, Chairperson and Committee members for working together to make CIDP such a success story.

Tara McBreen

PROPERTY AND FACILITIES REPORT

Paul Ryder

Maintenance Team:

I would like to share my appreciation to Gerard O'Grady, Tiernan McGrath and Gerry Ward for all of the hard work that you put in and for going the extra mile into helping this organisation by delivering a good service to the boarders in boarding campus and service users in St. Joseph's House.

Trees:

In July 2018, I arranged an independent arboricultural survey to be carried out on the CIDP campus. As part of the survey, they inspected the condition of all trees on the CIDP campus including the mature Leyland Cypress trees that are located along the neighbour boundary wall of the Nephin Road. In response to neighbour complaints on the overgrowing of the trees and in line with health and safety, it was advised by an independent arboricultural that the best course of action was for CIDP to remove the trees over a period of time. We have now removed twelve large trees. We will continue to remove the remaining trees in line with our programme.

New nursing home development:

We continued to engage with the Esmonde Development Ltd and the works have now been successfully completed for the new nursing home. The new anticipated date for opening to the public is July 2021.

Boiler room in Deaf Village Ireland:

The repairs to the boiler room proved to be the most challenging process due to COVID-19 and a long dispute between adjustor loss and CIDP to agree the phase 2 of repairs and associated costs. Today, 93% of the repairs are completed and is expect full complete will be achieved by mid-July 2021.

Plan of 2nd half of 2021:

Over the next 6 months, facilities have a a busy schedule with a number of building upgrades and preparations of the community adaptations for people in St. Joseph's House.

HR REPORT

Mary Stringer

2021 has seen some changes to our senior management team.

In May we said goodbye to Lisa Moriarty who was the Head of Care for the boarding campus. However, after a successful recruitment process, we have appointed an external candidate Claire Bowe who will replace Lisa in July 2021. As part of the change to the community service we advertised for a Head of Adults Services. We are pleased to advise Linda Tierney was successfully appointed to this role. We wish Lisa the best of luck in her new role and welcome Claire and Linda to the senior management team.

As we move closer to the full transition into the community, we have had to restructure our staffing model. As a result a number of positions were made redundant. We were sad to say goodbye to four members of our nursing team, Angela Mabvaro, Iris Hadebe, Vinitha Varghese and Patience Sibaya. In June we also said goodbye to Head Chef Christian Wright. They will all be missed very much by service users and colleagues. We would like to extend congratulations to Gemma McDermott on the birth of her baby daughter Fiadh.

We are still working hard to ensure that all our staff, service users and boarders are protected from Covid 19. All staff who opted for the vaccine have now received their second vaccination.

This year is the 175th anniversary of CIDP. To mark this occasion we have established a working group to plan for events for a week long celebration to coincide with ISL awareness week. Details of these events will be made available at the end of July

ST JOSEPHS HOUSE & COMMUNITY SERVICE

Geraldine Gallagher

A major focus for SJH and Community service in recent months has been securing vaccines for service users. All service users have now received both vaccines, which should see the centre able to return to some degree of normality with respect to activities and visiting from family and friends. It has been a difficult time for some, with their personal and group routines coming to a halt over the last 18 months, however like the rest of the country, there is now a light at the end of the tunnel.

COVID also had an impact on other aspects of SJH and community, in that training was either not available or had to be carried out over Zoom. We are now seeing more of the required training opportunities opening up for staff which will be a major support for the service as a whole.

As in previous newsletters, I am pleased to be able to report that both SJH and the community service have remained COVID free throughout the pandemic. This is due to the diligence of both staff and service users who have followed all protocols as handed down by our public health service and the HSE. Without the commitment of all involved, the narrative around COVID could have been very different.

While COVID brought some challenges to SJH, staff have remained determined to make the last few months in the centre as positive a time as possible. They have supported residents

to take on new experiences including gardening, cooking including BBQ's. We have seen increased numbers taking part in art sessions, Some service users have taken on and are doing well with new technology; ZOOM, FaceTime and more use of mobile phones. The service users in the community have benefitted greatly from the training and dedication of community staff who have supported them in the use of technology which has allowed them to take part in day placement activities and training, family calls and mass to name a few, all of which will continue long after COVID has gone.

While this has been a challenging time for the service as a whole, we all feel we have made the most of opportunities that may not have been available pre-COVID.

As detailed in our last newsletter, SJH main building is now closed, and the service is operating in the Riverside and Woodlands areas. While this was a mammoth task for all involved, we are delighted with the new set up which is working very well. The number of service users still in the residential service has now reduced to ten with a number of service users expected to move to their own homes within the coming weeks and months.

We are happy to be able to report that we were successful in a grant application for iPads to promote social inclusion and these will be given to service users who don't already have one. Staff will provide training and this should ensure that service users have good communication with families and other service users.

For service users who will be transitioning out of the residential service over the coming months, I know everyone will join me in wishing them well in this new chapter of their lives.



Sadly we have said goodbye to some of our long term staff in the last few months, I would like to thank each one of them for the years of service they have given to SJH and wish them well in all future ventures.

We would like to welcome to the Team Segopodiso Matisididi, Thabani Mpofu and John Madu. we hope you settle in well in your new role.

We are also delighted to see two of our staff progress to new roles Seeta Manjeshwar has taken on the role of Team Leader and Thomas Bennett has taken on the role as Co-ordinator. We wish them both every success in the their new roles.

We look forward to the future as we embrace our full Transition to the community.



SERVICE USER

My Sister: 'Moving into the Community

It is hard to believe that it is nearly two years since Alice left SJH. It is also hard for me to remember that for the year before she found somewhere to move to I was waking up at night frantic and panicked about what would happen to my little sister who had been institutionalised all her life from age of three? How could she survive without the security and care provided of SJH?

When the HSE policy of decongregation became a fact- I thought -well what to do? I made the decision that it had to be made work and work well. Then began the many months even years of preparing Alice to move. She had spent thirtyfive years in SJH and was really happy there. She is a busy lady and very open to new ideas - especiallywhen they involve shopping! So she embraced the whole moving from SJH to her own new home enthusiastically.

However the whole process of decongregation was a worry to all the family. As a family representative on the steering group I was aware of similar concerns among other families - in one case the HSE policy being applied to SJH was described by a family member as 'JEXIT'. Also I was aware of initial reluctance among staff at SJH and their disbelief of it working at all. But when the program was put in action under the expert guidance of the project manager Tara and her able team on the steering group -along with the full support of CIDP -things began to take shape.

Alice was allocated excellent support - her Discovery Co-Ordinator Catherine was and is a person of great understanding - she and Alice gelled together. They worked diligently and managed to keep me in the loop too. I have the greatest respect for Catherine - a true professional. Many months of preparation, meetings between transition team and family identifying Alice's needs and wishes and of course finding a suitable home for Alice, followed. Alice decided to stay near where she knew best and was placed on the DLR social housing list. An apartment in Shankill was offered through Cluid.



One afternoon I got a phone call from Tara 'Catherine, are you sitting down? I have just inspected the most gorgeous apartment near to you and Bray which we have been offered for Alice - I would move into it myself!' Indeed it was and is today a wonderful home for Alice - in a mature community setting close to buses and shops. Also easy for her to access RehabCare in Bray where she attends a few times a week. Alice moved into her new home in October 2019 with huge excitement and tears of happiness among all of us. Thus began her new life.

With a competent support team in place Alice has taken control of her new independence. It has worked better than any of us could have wished. She shops for all her household needs, manages her washing and housework, cooks her meals (with staff to help her) and generally is 'houseproud'.

It took some time for her to adjust to having different rooms for her own use- like using the hallway coat stand and not her bedroom for outdoor wear and watching TV in her sitting room and not in her bed. Bit by bit the trappings of institutionalism are disappearing. She has replaced all the blinds in her apartment (bought online with help of Catherine again), painted a room with one of support team bought a food processor to make the Christmas cake for the family. But biggest of all is her 'office' complete with computer which has been a godsend throughout lockdown. Using the computer she has been able to link into Team classes from RehabCare. And probably has many more events and additions that I am not even aware of!

She has learned to communicate regularly using her smart DORO phone and WhatsApp. I get a video call every few days and I know she calls her brother and niece in US also. Support is there for her all the time. Three of her friends live in same apartment block so there is always someone about. She is very independent but is learning to ask for support when she needs it. Her team is organised by Angela Team Leader another person to whom I am eternally grateful, she keeps me in the loop and we are all part of Alice's WhatsApp support group.

Finally, this all could not have been achieved without CIDP and the project team and not least without the SJH staff many of whom have transferred to provide support for former residents of SJH.

The whole event of moving into the community for Alice and her family has changed the feared word 'decongregation' into a very beneficial 'adventure'.

Catherine Doran - sister of Alice Jackman

THE WHOLE EVENT OF MOVING INTO THE COMMUNITY FOR ALICE AND HER FAMILY HAS CHANGED THE FEARED WORD 'DECONGREGATION' INTO A VERY BENEFICIAL 'ADVENTURE'.

SERVICE USER

Mary & Adrian



We started our Discovery journey in 2018, we looked at areas in Dublin we would like to live in and types of accommodation we both preferred. When we had decided what we wanted we then made an application to the local council and were accepted to be on the housing list for that area.

We waited and finally in July 2019 we went to view an apartment in Cabra. We really liked the apartment, it was very modern, had everything we needed and had a lovely balcony for us to sit out on and a lovely garden area full of lush green plants for us to relax in.

We also met the manager of the complex and they told us more about the apartment and after some thought we accepted the offer to become tenants.

We signed a tenancy agreement in August 2019 and we got the keys to our new home. We were delighted to have our own home as a couple.

With support from our Discovery Co-Coordinator, we started planning what we needed for our apartment. We chose and purchased new flooring for the apartment, along with all the furniture and items we needed for our new home, and learned to work together to make decisions as a couple on how we wanted our new home to look.

We officially moved in January 2021 and have not looked back. We both enjoyed our time in St Joseph's House but we were very much looking forward to having our own home as a couple. Even though Covid-19 restrictions were still in place that caused many challenges, slowly we are becoming more involved in our community and we are happy in our new home. We are learning new things every day and are embracing our journey of Independent Living something we both have always wanted for a long time. We have a great support team that support us to manage our home. We are looking forward to getting out more and mingling with our neighbors and catching up with old friends.

Mary & Adrian

BOARDING SERVICE

Message to our Graduates:

We would like to say a huge congratulations to our eight girls and five boys who are graduating this year. Shauna Hamilton, Jade Visser, Gabrielle Coffey, Paulina Krikcukaite, Cheyanne O'Regan, Mukundi Mangara, Ciara Dunne and Abbey Guinane.

Matthew Visser, Darren Croghan, Harry Cunningham, Callum Carroll and Nyi Nyi Cooper. The year has come and gone so quickly and I can't believe it's over! You all worked so hard and made every day an adventure, and a pleasure to come to work. You all grew up so much this year and were all able to power through during a global pandemic! We are all extremely proud

You will all be so missed in boarding and we wish you the best of luck in your future! Please don't be strangers!

We would like to welcome back Ciara Duignan from maternity leave and congratulate her on the birth of her baby girl. In July we will be welcoming Claire Bowe as our new Head of Care. We would like to wish Claire the best of luck and look forward to meeting her. As we welcome a new Head of Care

we would like to wish our previous Head of Care Lisa Moriarty the best of luck in her new role. We appreciate all of Lisa's hard work over the years. Additionally, we will be saying goodbye to our staff member Lisa in September. Lisa will be leaving boarding however will be staying on in CIDP as a trainee counsellor to work with both the boarders and adults. Lisa will be missed by both boarding staff and boarders however we wish her the best of luck in her new role.

In June, we welcomed four new admissions into St Marys. They stayed with us for two days in order for them to familiarise themselves with boarding. Staff planned different activities for them such as; ice breaker activities with the staff, went for a walk to the park and enjoyed the zoo. We look forward to seeing them again in September.

We are delighted to announce that we have five new boarders joining us in St. Josephs in September. The new boarders were invited for three days to see and experience life in the Boarding Campus. One of our boarders did a beautiful and unique drawing at the entrance to the Boarding house to welcome our new boarders. This is a tangible sign of our aim to provide a home from home environment.

On Wednesday 9th June, boarders arrived and were given a tour of the building by staff, followed by questions and answers and settled for lunch. They participated in ice-breakers, dinner, a visit to the Phoenix Park where they played games. Later that evening they enjoyed watching a movie. The following day was another fun-filled day of activities including a visit to the Zoo. On their final day they had an arts and craft activity followed by questions and answers.

The boys seemed to have enjoyed their time with us and made new friends. We look forward to welcoming them back in September.

Staff from St. Marys helped out in St Joseph's House during the month of June. It was a great opportunity for St. Mary's staff to get to know both staff and service users. Furthermore a number of staff received their second vaccination. St Mary's staff will be all fully vaccinated soon.

An end of Year Sports day was organised in order to show staff appreciation for work well done through a tough year.



Matthew was only with us a short while and made a big impression on the other boarders. I know he will do well into the future as he has a great friendly chatty fun personality.

Darren was with us for quite a while and has seen a lot of changes in St Joseph's and likewise we have seen a lot of changes in Darren. He has grown up to be a great young adult who has a fun loving nature which I hope he holds on to!

Harry loves to hang out with his friends. He is lively and entertaining and he is very inclusive and patient of all the boarders. This will serve him well in the future.

Callum may have been with us the longest. We have seen Callum grow up into a fine young man who has the best, most infectious cheeky laugh and I hope he has many more laughs in whatever he chooses to do.

The house is spotless and organized thanks to **Nyi Nyi**. When he was on work experience, they rang to ask could they keep him! That shows how well Nyi Nyi will do when he leaves us.

Over all I would like to say they were a great bunch and it was my pleasure to get to know them They will be greatly missed and I hope they all keep in contact with each other and support each other and remember the time and experience they had growing up together in boarding.

I can only hope that the experience they have had with us was a good one that they can cherish for the rest of their lives.

Niall Ivory - Social Care Leader

THE ACTIVITIES COMMITTEES

had the opportunity to organise the leaving party for the graduates who had completed their leaving cert this year. We organised two different events, the first was a Sports Day and BBQ and was held on Wednesday 12th May 2021. They did not let the rainy weather get in their way. The Sports Day was a day full of competitiveness amongst all the boarders and staff! It consisted of three different teams and had to do various types of races. Some of them were challenges, for example, the crate game, whisper game and many more. Some of them were nostalgic, for example Egg and Spoon race and sack race. And some of them more modern and from tiktok! We organised a balloons release where each one of them have a balloon and had a moment with each other to make a wish or reflect on their positive memories before releasing the balloons to the sky. The leavers also enjoyed Nosecco and Mocktails which was kindly made by Ruth Kelly. They were delicious! They also received their yearbooks, which was created and put together by the whole team at St Mary's and St Joseph's boarding school. A student in sunflower designed the front cover and a student St. Joes designed the back cover. The event ended with a soaking wet water fight and a big skipping rope competition.

The second event was a post-graduation party on Thursday 13th May where the leavers got to enjoy the aesthetic doughnuts and Nosecco. Speeches were given by Lisa Moriarty (former Head of Care), Ashling Donegan (Care Manager) and team leaders. The leavers also received presents, graduation certificate and a key ring with the picture of them all, which was beautifully designed by Shauna Hathaway.



Both events were entirely successful and the leavers ended with great memories before their final days of boarding. We all want to wish the leavers the best of luck for the future and we can't wait to see what the future brings to them all.

As for other boarders, we wanted to have a little celebration for making it through this tough year with Coronavirus, lockdowns, restrictions and school closures. We organised another sports day and BBQ (Clodagh our chef made beautiful food assisted by Niall on the BBQ) event on Wednesday 26th May 2021 for the junior boys house, Sunflowers and Wild Chicks. The boarders enjoyed a range of games, such as three- legged race, shoulder tap game, tug of war and many more. Yellow team won the sports day with no surprise! The event ended with another water fight, water slide and a big skipping rope competition.

So on the behalf of the activities committee, we want to say a HUGE THANK YOU to all of you who participated and given support to make the multiple events so successful. From the cleaning crew, chefs, staff members, team leaders, Louise Sheerin, Alan Smyth and the management team, you all are the best!

Sara Kelly- Social Care Worker
Sinead Crean- Social Care Worker

MODEL OF CARE

Boarding is delighted to launch our new Model of Care. This has been in development for a while now- starting with consultations with our previous and current boarders, parents and staff and looking at different organization`s for inspiration. From the consultations, we agreed on the seven pillars which is the foundation of our works at Boarding- you can see the seven pillars illustrated below on the Model of Care visual.

We then set up a working group and the following staff were involved, Charlene Gannon, Joanne Chester, Lisa Kelly, Redmond O'Shea, Michelle McLaughlin and Ruth Kelly. We all met several times and discussed different ideas. We also delivered presentations to the boarders and we gathered their suggestions- it was important for us to get this feedback as the boarders are very much the centre of what we do at Boarding. We were impressed by the suggestions from the boarders- they are certainly a creative bunch! Their ideas varied from a butterfly- because a butterfly is also Deaf (did you know this)? - to a rainbow which represents diversity which is also an important aspect of our work.

On the basic of the boarders' feedback and our meetings, we created five drafts and asked the boarders to vote for their favorite design. The winning design was then sent to Luce Rogers, a Deaf illustrator, who then turned our design into a more refined and professional looking design. She did a fantastic job as you can see- you can find her on Instagram @luce_illustrates and she has illustrated for some books too. A fantastic Deaf role model for our boarders.

We also have a new website and brochure in the pipeline too. On the website, there will be an Irish Sign Language translation of the Model of Care. The management team at Boarding would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who is involved in creating the Model of Care and hope you like it as much as we do.

Ruth Kelly -
Social Care Leader



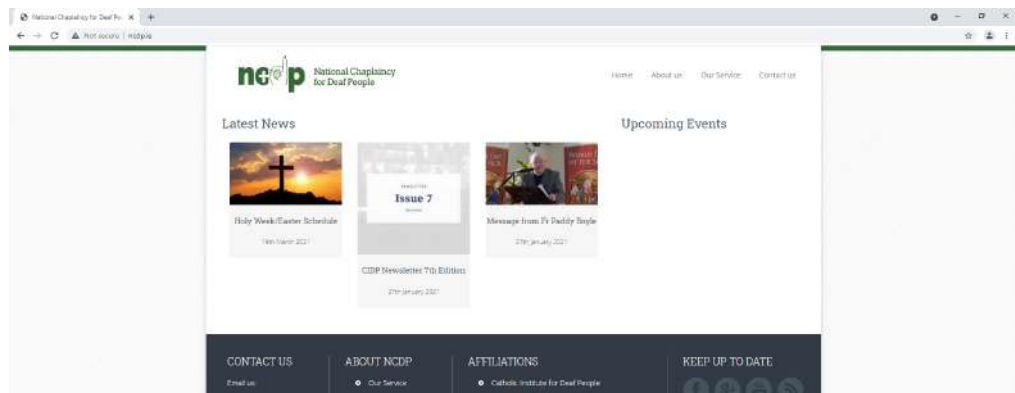


NATIONAL CHAPLAINCY FOR DEAF PEOPLE

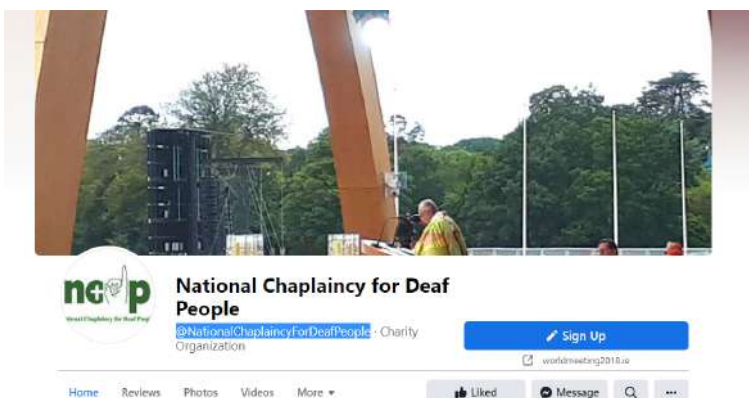
For the last year and a half, covid 19 has changed everyone's life, especially those who are Deaf and going through a difficult time. Assisting the Deaf as they transition through change in hospitals, care homes, and schools, as well as third level institutes. By providing spiritual care to those impacted by the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and to individuals experiencing personal crisis, injury, illness, life changes, or other areas of distress through the chaplaincy. International pandemics can be the most distressing and potentially lethal event that the Deaf community can encounter. Coming through a pandemic creates tough challenges, even more so for the Deaf, who are living in such difficult times. Providing interactions that will console them during this trying time is vital. This has created a unique bond with the Deaf, their families and their spiritual needs are paramount. A great deal of the tragedy, sadness, and sense of futility they may encounter is related to life and death issues.

We mourn the recent deaths of Ms. Andrea Purcell of County Limerick and Mrs. Angela Ball of Ennis, County Clare. We prayed for them, as well as their friends and family, during this difficult time.

John Patrick Doherty



www.ncdp.ie



 @NationalChaplaincyForDeafPeople

GRANTS

CIDP wins £1,000 Movement for Good award

We have successfully being awarded £1,000 from the Movement for Good award from Ecclesiastical Insurance Group, thanks to nominations from the public.

CIDP is one of 500 winners in specialist insurer Ecclesiastical's Movement for Good awards, which is giving £1million to charities this summer.

The money will be split between the boarding campus and St Joseph's House & Community services. It will be used to promote social inclusion and our service users will be invited to contribute to ideas on how this money should be allocated.

We would like to say massive thank to people who have nominated us for this award.



Here in Boarding, we not could possibly do without the help and support of our ancillary staff. They keep everything running smoothly and we could not function without them. To our invaluable Cleaning staff Brenda, Martina, Valerie & Roseanne, our Kitchen staff, Ann, Clodagh and Sean, to Paul in Maintenance and Gerry O'Grady, Gerry Ward, Tiernan and Charlie who helps to keep our gardens and buildings looking so well, a great big thank you and a special thanks to our nurse Sharon who looks after the boarders health so well and our admin staff Louise who we would all be lost without. Your hard work is much appreciated and never forgotten.

PJ Murray - Social Care Worker



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