



LauraLynn

IRELAND'S CHILDREN'S HOSPICE

ANNUAL REPORT & CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

2024





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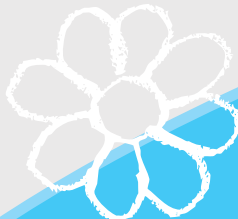
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A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIR AND CEO



REFLECTING ON A YEAR OF GROWTH, RESILIENCE, AND COMMUNITY



Dear Supporters and Friends,

As we look back on an extraordinary 2024, we are filled with immense pride and gratitude for the incredible strides LauraLynn has made. Our story this year is one of growth, resilience, and unwavering community support. In a year marked by significant external challenges and opportunities, we have continued to thrive and expand our impact, thanks to our dedicated team and the generous support of our funders, donors and volunteers.

2024 was a year of remarkable external developments that influenced the charitable sector. The global economic landscape presented both challenges and opportunities for growth and fundraising. Rising inflation and economic uncertainty impacted many households, yet the unwavering generosity of our supporters ensured that LauraLynn could continue to provide essential services to children and families in need. The general election year in Ireland brought an added dimension of advocacy and engagement to our work, as we successfully championed the inclusion of children's palliative care in the national Programme for Government. This achievement is a testament to the power of collective action and the dedication of our LauraLynn community.



Our new strategic plan, "Advancing our Vision: Extending our Community of Care 2024-2028," set the tone for the year, guiding our goals and initiatives. We focused on enhancing care services, expanding outreach, and ensuring sustainability. One of our most significant achievements was the record number of new referrals for our children's hospice service and the total number of children and families supported throughout the year. We appointed a new Community Assistant Director of Nursing and fully operationalised our Ballinasloe hub, extending our support to families in Galway, Mayo, Sligo, Roscommon, Clare, and North Tipperary. Additionally, the renovations of the LauraLynn House bedroom area created a more efficient and aesthetically pleasing space for both children and the nursing team.

Our Children's Disability Respite Service, Hazel House, saw significant improvements, we commenced a review of the pathways for accessing our respite support and our annual review process commenced. The refurbishment of the accommodation and sensory play areas has enhanced the experience for the growing number of children attending the service. Meanwhile, the de-congregation of our Adult Disability Residential Service, Willow View, focused on increasing social and community participation for residents. An upgrade to the Willow View kitchen has provided more opportunities for residents to prepare and enjoy meals in their own home.

Research and development remained top priorities, with our work showcased nationally and internationally. We presented at major conferences, hosted a Hospice Research and Education Day, and launched bereavement training modules for parents and professionals. Our efforts were recognised with a commendation in the HSE Excellence Awards' Innovation and Service Delivery category.

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A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIR AND CEO

Throughout the year, we celebrated numerous highlights, from gratitude campaigns and festive parades to milestone birthdays and special events. Our gratitude campaign, launched to mark Thank You Day, expressed heartfelt appreciation to our families, volunteers, funders, supporters, suppliers, and staff. Celebrations like the St. Patrick's Day Parade, Halloween Parade, and the 13th Birthday of the hospice brought joy and a sense of community to LauraLynn. We also celebrated the milestone birthday of our founder, Jane McKenna, and held Long Service Awards to honor the dedication of our staff and volunteers.

Fundraising was a cornerstone of our operations, with initiatives that significantly contributed to our ability to provide essential services. The LauraLynn 24 Hour Treadmill Challenge, launched in May as part of Children's Hospice Week, garnered remarkable participation and support, setting the stage for its expansion in 2025. Supporters organised a variety of community events, including bake sales, golf days, icy dips, marathons, and 100-a-day press-up challenges. These events not only raised significant funds but also fostered a sense of community and increased awareness about LauraLynn's services. Corporate partnerships and generous gifts in wills provided substantial financial support for our initiatives.

Our team grew significantly in 2024, attracting skilled professionals across various departments. We successfully recruited experienced paediatric nurses and launched the LauraLynn Nurse Graduate Programme to offer two newly registered children's nurses the opportunity to take on a two-year graduate nurse programme in Autumn 2024. Our volunteers as always played a vital role in LauraLynn this year, with Karen O'Connor winning the Christine Buckley Volunteer of the Year Award, a testament to her outstanding contribution and dedication to LauraLynn and and that of all our many volunteers.

During Children's Hospice Week and Palliative Care Week, LauraLynn intensified our awareness raising activities. A notable effort was a cinema and online advertising campaign, featuring LauraLynn families and set to Bradley Marshall's hit "Perfect for Me." This campaign aimed to raise awareness and funds, reaching a wide audience and highlighting the impact of LauraLynn's work.

At LauraLynn, we take the trust placed in us by our many stakeholders very seriously. Under the leadership of our dedicated Board of Directors, we operated to the Triple Lock standard of good governance and maintained compliance with all required standards. This commitment to transparency and accountability helped build trust with our donors and supporters, ensuring that their contributions are used effectively and responsibly.

In summary, 2024 was a year filled with activity, joy, celebration, and achievement. We reached more children and families than ever before, and we are determined to continue this momentum into 2025 and beyond. We extend our heartfelt thanks to every inspiring family, hardworking staff member, incredible volunteer, amazing ambassador, selfless fundraiser, and generous supporter for their invaluable contributions to LauraLynn.

Together, we are creating a brighter, more compassionate future for children and families in Ireland.

Sandra O'Malley
Chair of the Board

Kerry McLaverty
Chief Executive Officer



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CARING FOR THE CHILD, SUPPORTING THE FAMILY

At LauraLynn, children's hospice care is more than medical support—it's about embracing the whole family with compassion, understanding, and tailored care. For children with life-limiting conditions, every moment matters.

Our care is holistic and lifelong, designed to meet the evolving needs of each child while also supporting those who love and care for them most.

Because at LauraLynn, we know that when we care for the child, we must also support the family—throughout their journey. Families like Amelia's, who shared their story for our Children's Hospice Week campaign.



Click Here
to watch the video





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Services in LauraLynn's Community of Care

LauraLynn Hospice
Children's Hospice and Palliative Care Service

Hazel House
Children's Disability Respite Service

Willow View
Adult Disability Residential Service

LauraLynn
IRELAND'S CHILDREN'S HOSPICE

€2.3m

Statutory core funding for our Hospice Service

Heartfelt thanks
to LauraLynn supporters and
22,900 donors in 2024

21

New team members bringing the total staff to 200

€9.4m
Donated to LauraLynn

108

Volunteers actively involved in supporting our work across 12 different roles

€14.9 million

The total cost of operating LauraLynn services 2024

1,920
Number of children with palliative care needs

up to 740
of whom are classified as 'unstable, deteriorating or at end-of-life'

79.5m

Total media coverage reach
(print, broadcast & online)



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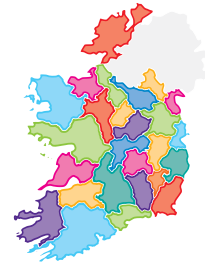
HOSPICE SERVICE 2024 AT A GLANCE

1

LauraLynn is the only
Children's Hospice in Ireland

26

Children from every
county in Ireland attended
LauraLynn this year



8

Children's Palliative Care Clinical
Nurse Specialists in LauraLynn.



325



Families received a total of
2,612
targeted interventions from
the Family Support Team,
including Music Therapy,
Play Therapy, Talk Therapy,

328

Children and families
received our LauraLynn in
the Community Service –
availing of **3,227** home visits



191

families experienced
bereavement within
the last three years.



670

Families in our Hospice
Community of Care

360

Children
accessing
services with
their families

389

families availed
of bereavement
care, support and
activities



119

New referrals accepted
to the Hospice Service

161

Average number of families
supported each month



6

Children and their
families made
LauraLynn
Oscars Award
winning movies



Click here
to see our
Oscars video

DISABILITY SERVICE 2024 AT A GLANCE

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6 Adults residents in
Willow View

3 3

Age of
residents:

Youngest

28

Oldest

44



24

Respite nights on average provided to
Hazel House
families

5

Individual children's
respite bedrooms

9

New children joined
our children's disability
respite service



49
Children and
families availed
of respite in
Hazel House



13

Trained volunteers
support the
Willow View
team

including

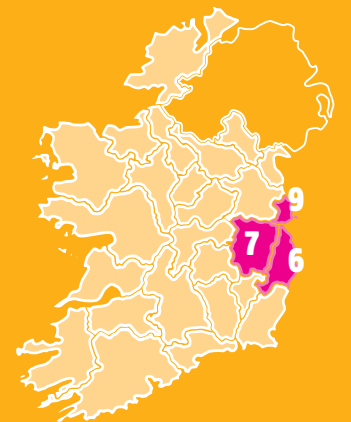
4

dedicated
Buddies

HSE Areas

CH06
CH07
CH09

are served by
Hazel House





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WHO WE ARE

VISION



Children and their families have the care and support they need, at all stages of their journey.

MISSION



To take a leading role in improving the quality of life of those in our care, by delivering specialist care and support that is accessible and equitable.

Our mission will be underpinned by Advocacy, Research and Education. It will be achieved through collaboration with our healthcare colleagues, statutory bodies, donors and funders, and the children and families in our care.

WHAT IS THE LAURALYNN COMMUNITY OF CARE?

The LauraLynn Community of Care includes all strands of its services (LauraLynn Hospice Service and LauraLynn Disability Service) as well as the staff, volunteers, funders and supporters.

The philosophy of the LauraLynn Community of Care is centred around the provision of exemplar, holistic specialist care, within a dynamic culture of compassion, collaboration and excellence.





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WHO WE ARE

OUR VALUES



COMPASSION

Kindness
Love
Hope

We hold those in our care at the centre of everything we do.

.....

We are caring and inclusive, treating everyone with compassion, respect and dignity.

.....

We pay attention to the 'little things' because they really matter.



COLLABORATION

Teamwork
Leadership
Honesty

We listen and seek to understand the needs of our service users and their families.

.....

We work together and support each other as best we can.

.....

We work collaboratively with others, building strong partnerships.



EXCELLENCE

Love of Learning
Judgement
Leadership

We try to always do better.

.....

We strive to develop our learnings and improve our skills.

.....

We raise the bar through initiative, innovation and evidence.

Our Values are underpinned with Character Strengths of:

We bring our values to life at LauraLynn through our behaviours:





OUR STORY

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LauraLynn, Ireland's Children's Hospice, originally known as The Children's Sunshine Home, dates back to the 1920s. Founded by Dr Ella Webb, a pioneering paediatrician in Dublin, alongside a group of philanthropists, it provided medical care within a residential setting for Dublin's tenement children suffering from acute rickets, enabling full recovery. Since then, the organisation has consistently addressed emerging children's healthcare needs both locally and nationally.

With acute rickets becoming less prevalent, The Children's Sunshine Home shifted focus to children with primary tuberculosis and pre and post-operative congenital heart disease. By the early 1970s, the need for long-term care for children with profound intellectual disabilities emerged, and CSH adapted to meet this demand with HSE funding.

Advancements in medical knowledge revealed the necessity for specialised care for children with life-limiting conditions. This led to the 2005 launch of the Children's Sunshine Home Hospice Project, supporting the physical, emotional, social, and spiritual well-being of children and their families.

In 2006, The Children's Sunshine Home merged with the LauraLynn Children's Hospice Foundation, established by Jane and Brendan McKenna after the tragic deaths of their daughters, Laura (aged 4) and Lynn (aged 15). The merger aimed to maximise fundraising initiatives and establish Ireland's first children's hospice.

Following the merger, the organisation was officially named LauraLynn, Ireland's Children's Hospice. In September 2011, LauraLynn House – the first children's hospice – was inaugurated by the then President of Ireland, Mary McAleese. This modern, award-winning healthcare facility featured eight palliative care beds and four family accommodation units, primarily funded by voluntary contributions and the efforts of the McKennas. Today, LauraLynn remains Ireland's ONLY children's hospice, offering a comprehensive range of services to support children with life-limiting conditions and their families. Care is delivered by an interdisciplinary team of professionals. Expansion since 2022 has brought care closer to home for families in Munster and Connacht. LauraLynn also advances children's palliative care and standards in Ireland through research, advocacy, and education.

LauraLynn's Disability Services, registered with HIQA, include Willow View, an adult residential service, and Hazel House, a respite service for the Greater Dublin area. These services provide individualised care for children and adolescents with complex disabilities and medical needs, as well as adults with intellectual disabilities.

As part of the 'Building a Community of Care Strategic Plan 2019-2023', the adult disability residential service was found to contravene national policy and legislation, failing to meet the rights of residents as per the UN Convention for Human Rights for Persons with Disability. Since 2023, a transformation process is underway to address these issues and support residents in transitioning to alternative services that better meet their rights, needs, will and preferences. Day-to-day operations continue as normal.

The history of LauraLynn, Ireland's Children's Hospice, is one of continuous growth and dedication to providing specialised care for children with complex medical and disability needs and their families. From its origins as the Children's Sunshine Home to its merger with the LauraLynn Children's Hospice Foundation, the organisation has evolved into a pioneering entity committed to enhancing the lives of children and families facing challenging circumstances.





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THE STORIES OF OUR VISIONARY FOUNDERS

Ella Webb and the Overend Sisters

Dr. Ella Webb graduated from the Royal University of Ireland in 1899 and later earned her doctorate in medicine from Vienna. She championed women's entry into medicine, becoming the first female student to achieve first place in the final medical examinations.

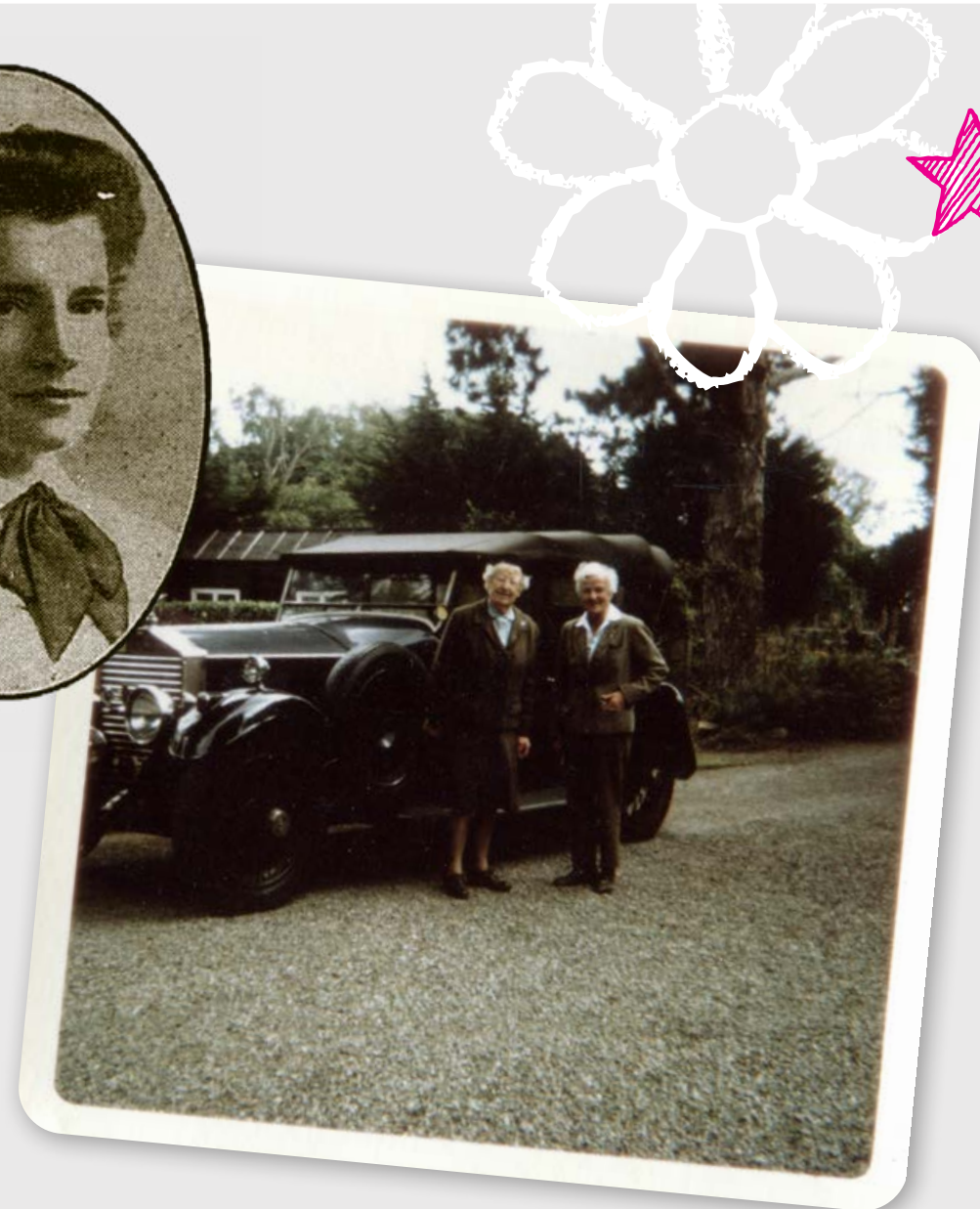
Webb was a pioneering physician, who recognised the critical importance of children's health. She was a compassionate advocate for children's health and envisioned a holistic approach to healing, going beyond mere treatment.

In 1925, Dr. Webb collaborated with the Overend sisters, Letitia and Naomi, to co-found the Children's Sunshine Home for Convalescents in Stillorgan, Dublin.

The Overend sisters, of Airfield in Dundrum, Dublin, were courageous and independent women of their time. Famous for their love of automobiles, Letitia and Naomi worked tirelessly to alleviate the deprivation and suffering of children, particularly those affected by poverty in city slums. They were involved in various health-related initiatives, promoting public health and preventive care.

Dr. Webb's work at the Sunshine Home initially focused on treating children with rickets, a condition caused by vitamin D deficiency. Her vision extended beyond immediate recovery to long-term well-being.

These visionary women transcended their roles, addressing complex medical issues with compassion, determination, and foresight. Their impact continues to inspire generations, reminding us that courage and vision can transform healthcare and society.



THE STORIES OF OUR VISIONARY FOUNDERS

Jane & Brendan McKenna

Jane McKenna is the other visionary force of LauraLynn. Jane, along with her husband Brendan, tragically lost their two beloved daughters in less than two years, Laura aged four in 1999 and Lynn aged 15 in 2001. This heart-wrenching loss ignited a fire in Jane and Brendan and set them on a remarkable journey that would forever change the landscape of care for children with palliative needs in Ireland.

Recognising the need for specialised care and support for children with palliative needs and their families, Jane and Brendan established a foundation in their daughter's name and campaigned tirelessly to establish Ireland's first children's hospice. Having raised €5 million between 2002 and 2007, the foundation merged with The Children's Sunshine Home in 2006 and LauraLynn, Ireland's Children's Hospice was born.

In 2011, Jane and Brendan's dream of a home-from-home hospice for children became a reality when the doors of LauraLynn House opened. The couple continued to work in a voluntary capacity with the hospice helping to promote and fundraise for operational costs until August 2016, when they both retired from their public role in order to have time to pursue personal interests. However, they are still an important part of the ethos and story of the organisation that bears the names of their beautiful daughters.

To date, more than 875 children and their families have been given hope, care, and support on their journey thanks to Jane and Brendan's courage, resilience and love for their daughters.



OUR JOURNEY

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Dr Ella Webb, founder of The Children's Sunshine Home in Stillorgan, a convalescent home for tenement children with rickets.



The foundation stone laid in 1952 by Dr. J. Ryan, Minister for Health, on a new site donated by the Overend family of Airfield.



Long-term residential care commenced for profoundly disabled children.



The Children's Sunshine Home and The LauraLynn Foundation join forces to fundraise and build a dedicated hospice for children.



Hazel House opens to extend children's disability respite care service.



Mary McAleese, President of Ireland, opens LauraLynn House which was followed by the rebranding of all our children's disability and hospice services under LauraLynn, Ireland's Children's Hospice.



LauraLynn At Home commenced in two HSE regions, providing hospice care for children and their families in their own home.



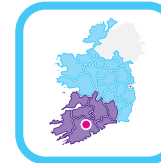
Growing a Community of Care Strategic Plan 2019-2023 commences.



Virtual Children's Hospice launched in response to the Covid-19 pandemic.



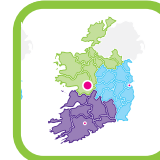
Hazel House opens to extend children's disability respite care service.



LauraLynn establishes new hospice Community Team hub in Mallow, expanding care in the home to Cork and Kerry.



Discovery review completed for Willow View service and Transforming Lives initiative commenced.



LauraLynn opens a Community Team hub in Ballinasloe, bringing care into homes in the West, Northwest and Midlands

1923

1950s

1970s

2005

2010

2011

2014

2019

2020

2021

2022

2023

2024



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Directors

Sandra O'Malley (Chair)
Jacinta Quigley (Vice-Chair)
Kevin Keating
Paul Kerrigan
Angie Kinane (Resigned January 2024)
Patricia Lawler
Dr. Fiona McElligott
Tony McPoland (Resigned September 2024)
Dr. Regina McQuillan
Kevin Murphy
Deirdre O'Connor
Aidan Power (Appointed March 2024)
Olivia Rigney (Appointed June 2024)

Company Secretary

Katie Devlin

Registered Office & Business Address

Leopardstown Road
Foxrock
Dublin
D18 X063

Registration Numbers

Charity Tax Number: **CHY2633**
Charity Registration Number: **20003289**
Company Registration Number: **107248**

Solicitors

Hayes Solicitors
Lavery House
Earlsfort Terrace
Dublin 2

Bankers

Allied Irish Bank plc
Sandyford
Dublin 18

Auditors

Forvis Mazars
Chartered Accountants
& Statutory Audit Firm
Harcourt Centre, Block 3
Harcourt Road
Dublin 2



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DIRECTORS' REPORT



The directors present this report,
together with the audited consolidated
financial statements, for the year
ended 31 December 2024.





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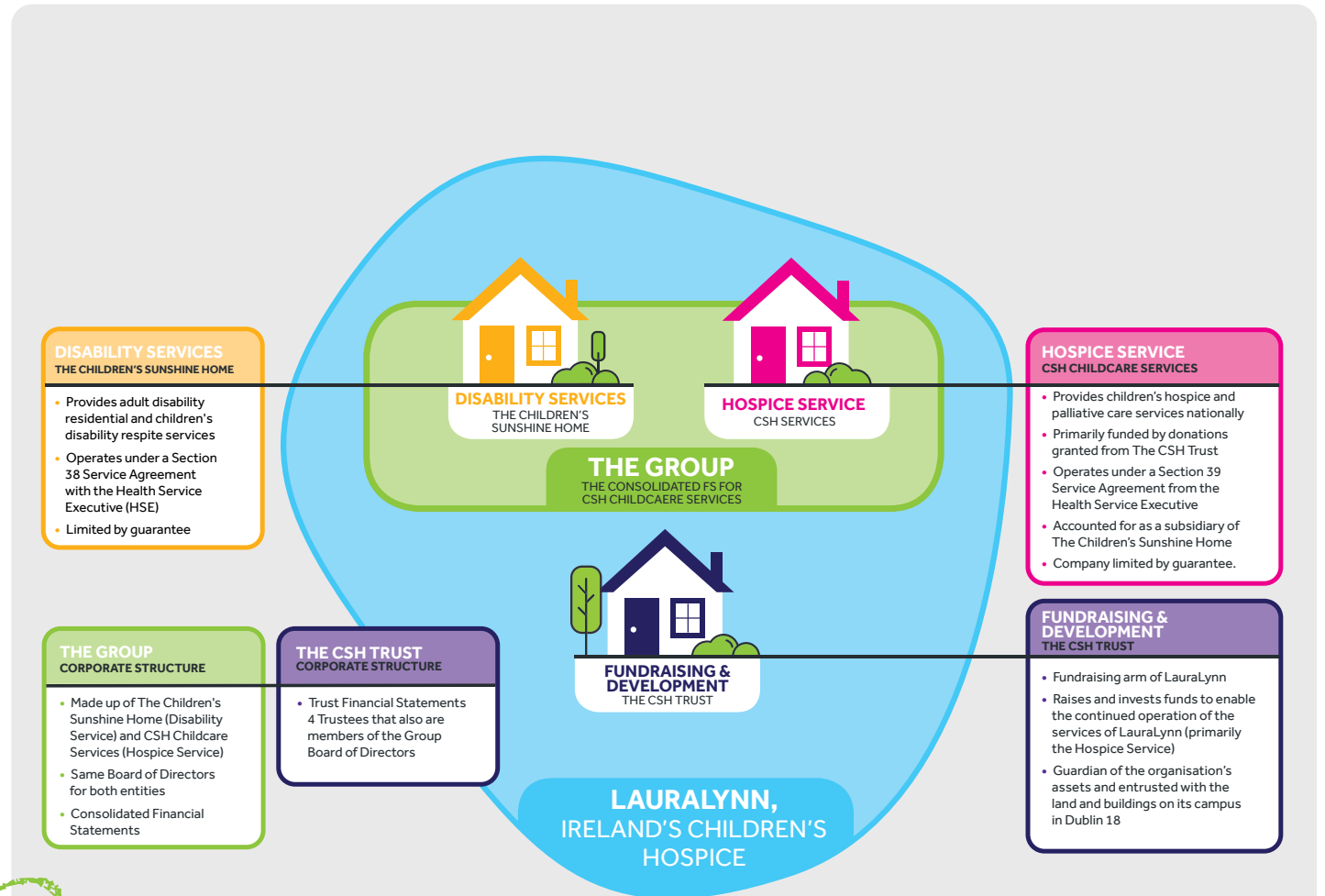
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PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

LauraLynn Ireland's Children's Hospice (LauraLynn) is comprised of three distinct entities, all of which are registered charities: The Children's Sunshine Home, CSH Childcare Services and The Children's Sunshine Home Trust.

Both The Children's Sunshine Home and CSH Childcare Services companies are limited by guarantee. The services provided by The Children's Sunshine Home and CSH Childcare Services are run from the organisation's campus on Leopardstown Road, Foxrock, Dublin 18 as well as our Regional Hubs in Mallow and Ballinasloe, and the financial results of these two companies comprise the consolidated financial statements. Details of the services provided by The Children's Sunshine Home and CSH Childcare Services (the Group) are as follows:





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PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES



The Children's Sunshine Home (Disability Service)

The Children's Sunshine Home (the 'Disability Service') provides care and support to children and adults with intellectual disabilities. This was originally overseen by The Children's Sunshine Home Trust until the establishment of The Children's Sunshine Home in 1985.

In 2024, the Disability Service offered respite services to children with medical complexity and severe neurological impairment, as well as residential care for six adults with severe to profound disabilities who have been in the care of The Children's Sunshine Home since they were children. The Disability Service is operated under a Section 38 Service Agreement with the Health Service Executive (HSE). Consequently, the main source of funding for this service is the HSE.



CSH Childcare Services (Hospice Service)

CSH Childcare Services (the 'Hospice Service') provides specialist high quality short break stays, in-home support, crisis care, symptom management, end-of-life care and bereavement support to children with life-limiting conditions and palliative care needs, as well as support for their families. All of the care is provided free of charge to families.

The main source of funding for the hospice service is The Children's Sunshine Home Trust through its fundraising activities. In 2024, LauraLynn received €2.3m core State funding for its hospice services under a Section 39 Service Agreement with the HSE.

Subsidiary

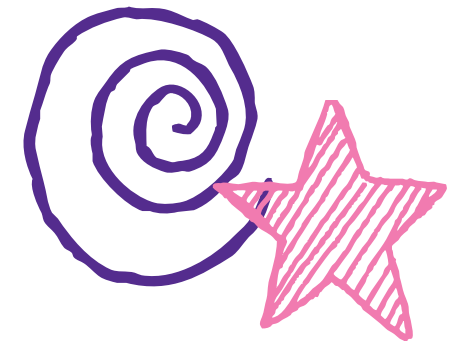
CSH Childcare Services is accounted for as a subsidiary of The Children's Sunshine Home who controls the composition of its Board of Directors. Additional information is provided in note 9 to the consolidated financial statements.



The Children's Sunshine Home Trust

The Children's Sunshine Home Trust (the 'Trust') was founded in 1925 and its primary objective was to provide care for sick children. Today, the Trust raises and invests funds to enable the continued operation of the services of LauraLynn. The trustees act as guardians of the organisation's assets and are entrusted with the land and buildings on its campus on Leopardstown Road, Foxrock, Dublin 18.

The Trust does not form part of the consolidated financial statements. Further information regarding The Children's Sunshine Home Trust is included in its Trustees' Reports and Financial Statements, which are available on the LauraLynn website: www.lauralynn.ie



OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

LauraLynn's Disability Service

The Disability Service has been operating since 1925 and was overseen by the Trust until the establishment of The Children's Sunshine Home in 1985. Today, it comprises of the following:

- **Willow View** – a residential care service that is currently home to six adults with complex intellectual disabilities who have been in the care of The Children's Sunshine Home since they were children; and
- **Hazel House** – a respite care service for children with medical complexity and severe neurological impairment.

The service strives to provide a homely setting that promotes the privacy, dignity and safety of each child and adult. The Disability Service is a Health Information and Quality Authority (HIQA) registered Designated Centre for Persons (Children and Adults). Care is person-centred and based on HIQA's Key Principles. In line with public policy, new referrals for residential care are no longer accepted. However, the Board is committed to caring for those currently residing in the service, supporting them to realise their ambitions and fulfil their potential.



LauraLynn's Hospice Service

Following a strategic review in 2002-2004, the Trust decided to focus on addressing the needs of children requiring palliative care and established The Children's Sunshine Home Hospice Project to fundraise for a children's hospice building. In 2005, it joined forces with The LauraLynn Foundation (which ceased trading on 15 June 2005), which had been established by Jane and Brendan McKenna, who also saw the need for respite and specialist care for children with life-limiting conditions following their own personal experience with the deaths of their two daughters, Laura and Lynn.

CSH Childcare Services was established in 2011, with the purpose-built LauraLynn House opening in September of that year on the Trust's campus in Leopardstown. LauraLynn Hospice is the only children's hospice in the Republic of Ireland, providing specialist palliative care and supports to children with life-limiting conditions (aged 0-17 years) and their families from across Ireland.

The service focuses on enhancing quality of life, which includes physical comfort and wellbeing, as well as the emotional, social and spiritual aspects of care of the family; supporting all members of the family from the point of diagnosis to end-of-life, and throughout bereavement, with a range of nursing, practical, emotional and medical care. Care is evidence-based and provided by an interdisciplinary team of health and social care professionals in the hospice, the family home, hospital or community setting, depending on the family's preference and the location and medical needs of the child.

LauraLynn is committed to extending hospice services to more children and families who need specialised care and support. From an advocacy perspective, along with several key stakeholders, LauraLynn is actively engaged in ongoing discussions with the Department of Health and the HSE to progress the children's palliative care agenda.

Staffing

The staffing complement for both services consists of non-clinical management and administrators working alongside a range of medical and nursing and allied healthcare professionals who deliver frontline care.





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OUR STRATEGY

Strategy

At the start of this year, we embarked on the first year of our ambitious new Strategic Plan – Advancing our Vision: Extending our Community of Care (2024-2028). To shape this plan, our Executive Management Team conducted a thorough policy review and SWOT analysis, ensuring our strategy aligns with the sector's evolving needs. We engaged extensively with our stakeholders through site visits, meetings, teleconferences, surveys, and workshops to understand current and future system needs and opportunities.

The themes of Equity, Access, Quality, and Collaboration form the foundation of our six strategic ambitions for the next five years. These ambitions will ensure that, with a renewed commitment to our purpose, LauraLynn can leverage its core strengths while building additional capacity and capability to expand our support for children and families across Ireland. With financial sustainability as our cornerstone, advocacy, research, and education will play a more prominent role in our extended portfolio.

STRATEGIC ENABLERS

To ensure that we can support our ongoing service delivery and future growth, we are committed to continue investing in four, foundational strategic enablers

1 People & Culture



- **Support** staff with the required competencies, continuous professional development and leadership opportunities.
- **Enhance** our organisational culture to ensure the recruitment and retention of the best possible staff and volunteers within the sector.
- **Grow** our diversity and inclusion.
- **Build** on our wellbeing focus.

2 Good Governance



- **Ensure** all practices and operations are underpinned by good governance including:
 - statutory and regulatory compliance;
 - accreditation of services;
 - management of risk; and
 - promotion of sustainability and positive social impact.

3 Resources & Capability



- **Maintain and Develop** our campus, facilities and equipment to ensure they are fit-for-purpose, and of a quality and specification to provide the highest standards of service for our families and staff.

4 Innovation



- **Establish** an Innovation Environment across the organisation to help improve the way we operate and deliver our service.
- **Collaborate** with key stakeholders on innovation initiatives and encourage knowledge exchange.
- **Be Digital First** and embrace technological developments.



OUR STRATEGY

STRATEGIC THEMES



EQUITY

Care and support is offered in an equitable manner.



ACCESS

Care and support is readily available.



QUALITY

Care and support is always of the highest quality and standard.



COLLABORATION

Care and support is delivered in collaboration with children, families and all our stakeholders.

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STRATEGIC AMBITIONS 2024-2028

1

2

3

4

5

6

LauraLynn's strategic ambitions for the next five years are as follows:

- 1 Provide an exemplary Children's Hospice Service that is equitable and accessible.
- 2 Maximise the impact of our Children's Disability Respite Service.
- 3 Successfully support the residents of Willow View to transition to specialist adult disability community service provider(s) that can meet their rights, needs, will and preferences.
- 4 Drive standards of care through conducting and supporting research and further education, in collaboration with third level institutions, academics, clinicians, research bodies and through public patient involvement.
- 5 Advocate to ensure children and their families can access the cohesive, responsive, specialist care and support they need at all stages of their journey.
- 6 Ensure a sustainable financial model to support ongoing service delivery and future growth.

Each of the following sections
will update you on our strategic
progress over the last 12 months.



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HOSPICE SERVICES



LauraLynn's hospice service provides specialised palliative care to children with life-limiting conditions across Ireland, along with comprehensive support for their families. Part funded by the HSE under a Section 39 service agreement and predominantly reliant on fundraising through the Children's Sunshine Home Trust, we achieved significant milestones in 2024.

WHO DOES LAURALYNN CARE FOR?

LauraLynn welcomes referrals from anywhere in Ireland and anyone —medical, nursing, health and social care professionals, as well as parents and family members - can make a referral to LauraLynn directly. There are set criteria to help decide if LauraLynn is an appropriate service for a child.

To be accepted the child must:

- be under 18 at time of referral.
- have a medically diagnosed life-limiting condition (or diagnosed with a condition in the antenatal period) as per the Together for Short Lives categories.
- have identified palliative care needs.
- have a strong possibility of dying before the age of 18.



Click here to find about **LauraLynn House** and what it's like to work here

THE HOSPICE CARE TEAM

The Hospice Care Team in LauraLynn is made up of individuals from a variety of professional backgrounds to ensure the care provided is holistic, responsive and of a high quality.

CLINICAL & NURSING TEAM

- Nurse Managers
- Clinical Nurse Specialists
- Staff Nurses
- Health Care Assistants
- Nursery Nurses
- Hospice Doctors
- Consultant Paediatrician
- GP
- Pharmacist

FAMILY SUPPORT TEAM

- | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| • Family Support Coordinator | • Music Therapist |
| • Occupational Therapist | • Bereavement Coordinator |
| • Psychologist | • Play Therapist |
| • Dietician | • Activities Coordinator |
| • Speech and Language Therapist | • Creative Art Coordinator |
| • Physiotherapist | |

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HOSPICE SERVICES

Model of Care

In 2024, we continued to implement our Model of Care, ensuring that the right family and child received the right care, in the right location, at the right time, by the right team. Our five pillars of care — Direct Care, Family Support, Symptom Management, End-of-Life Care, and Bereavement Support — were extended closer to children's homes. This approach allowed us to support more children and families than ever before, both in LauraLynn House and in the community. The Model of Care is designed to be flexible and responsive, adapting to the unique needs of each family and ensuring that they receive comprehensive and compassionate support.



Click here to find out more about how our **Family Support Team** works.

Right Child



Pillars of care



Click here to meet **Community Nurse Daniel**, and learn more about our care in the family home.

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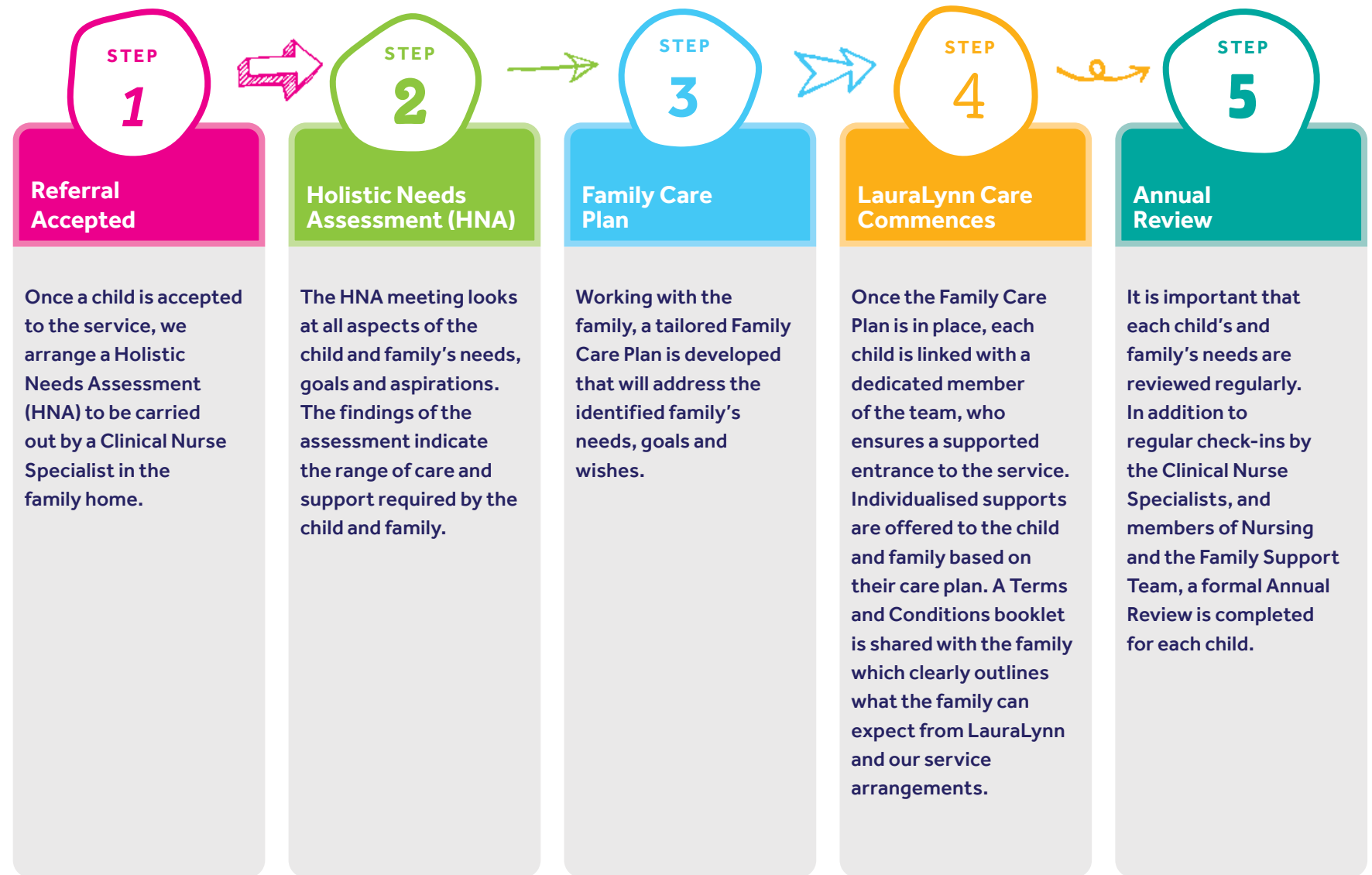
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WHAT HAPPENS WHEN A REFERRAL TO LAURALYNN IS ACCEPTED?





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HOSPICE SERVICES

Direct Care

Our hospice community of care expanded significantly in 2024, and in line with our Strategic Ambition, we increased access and equity to services, reaching a total of 670 families. Throughout the year, 360 children received care and support from LauraLynn, marking our busiest year to date. This growth reflects our commitment to extending our reach and providing essential services to more families in need. We received a record 139 referrals, accepting 119 children. By the second half of the year, we were collectively supporting an average of 186 families each month, a substantial increase on 2023. This increase in referrals and overall number of families supported, highlights the growing recognition of our services and the trust placed in us by families and healthcare professionals.

The team at LauraLynn House provided care for 179 children and their families, with a total of 575 admissions during the year. This represents the highest number of families ever supported in one year at LauraLynn House. The dedication and expertise of our staff have been instrumental in achieving this milestone.

Significant renovations were completed in LauraLynn House, enhancing the environment for both children and staff. Improvements included an expanded outdoor play space, a new TV zone, a library, neurodiversity-friendly paint colours and lighting in the bedroom area, and a new nurse's station and office space. These enhancements have improved both the functionality and aesthetics of the hospice, creating a more welcoming and supportive environment for families.

The hospice hosted a variety of events and celebrations throughout the year, including a St. Patrick's Day parade, Halloween parade, Family Fun Day, Light Up LauraLynn, and four Family Camps. These events created a vibrant and supportive environment, allowing families to come together and celebrate special occasions. LauraLynn also held several bereavement events, such as the annual Memorial Service, annual Memorial

Walk, and a bereavement Coffee Morning for Ballinasloe bereaved parents, as part of the continuum of care that LauraLynn offers. In recognition of the increased number and importance of child and family events, in 2024 we recruited our first Family Events Coordinator.

Clinical and Family Support

The Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS) in Children's Palliative Care Team continued to grow, with two LauraLynn CNSs now working across Children's Health Ireland (CHI) and LauraLynn as well as a CHI CNS working in LauraLynn each week, supporting children and families nationally.

The team continued to collaborate with Children's Health Ireland and regional paediatric units to build on existing supports for children and families. This collaboration has been crucial in maintaining the high standard of care that LauraLynn is known for.

The Family Support Team continued to grow, providing support to 325 families with a total of 2,612 targeted interventions. These interventions included a range of services designed to meet the unique needs of each family. Our volunteer practical support in the home programme expanded with five volunteers providing practical support to families at the end of 2024. The Family Support Team based in Mallow led a new initiative of running sibling days for children who have a sibling with a palliative care needs. These groups ran during school holidays and will continue in 2025, expanding into other regions. Virtual music groups were introduced, based on feedback from parents. The toddler group offered parents the opportunity to meet other families virtually from the comfort of home, with no risk of exposure to transmissible illness, which is extremely important for parents of medically unstable toddlers. The teen group ran in the late afternoon to accommodate school attendance. Parents of teens also attended to facilitate participation and reported that they enjoyed meeting other parents of teens with palliative care needs.

Our community teams expanded their reach in 2024, with the opening of a new regional team in Ballinasloe and the re-establishment of the Dublin team. This expansion allowed us to support 328 families with a total of 3,227 visits. In addition to providing targeted nursing care in the home, the community team facilitated six Play and Stay sessions, offering children the opportunity to engage in fun activities and parents the chance to connect with each other for peer support. These sessions have been well-received and have helped to strengthen the sense of community among the families we support.

Bereavement Support

Sadly, 68 children supported by LauraLynn passed away in 2024, bringing the total number of bereaved families supported by LauraLynn to 389 by the end of the year. Of these, 191 families experienced bereavement within the last three years. Our Bereavement Support services were expanded to include the development of two eLearning programmes, created in consultation with bereaved parents. In 2024, we implemented our three-year bereavement pathway with a programme of targeted supports, including bereavement groups for newly bereaved parents and parents in the second year of bereavement. These groups were run in a hybrid format, allowing families across the country the option of attending virtually or in person. These programmes, along with individual targeted support, provided valuable resources for families navigating their grief. The comprehensive bereavement support we offer is a testament to our commitment to providing ongoing care and support to families during their most challenging times.

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HOSPICE SERVICES

HOSPICE COMMUNITY OF CARE 2024

This is our Hospice Community of Care and includes the following:

- Active Children and their Families
- Active Bereaved Families
- Non-Active Bereaved Families





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Key Figures for 2021-2024

	2024	2023	2022	2021
 Community of care	670	575	481	376
 Referrals Received	139	100	128	51
 Referrals Accepted	119	94	122	49
 Average number of families supported each month	161	128	96	83
 Total number of children supported over the year	360	310	291	208
 Children availing of LauraLynn House	179	166	147	115
 Families supported in the community	328	232	289	39
 Total admissions to LauraLynn House	575	541	477	363
 Total community visits	3,227	2,143	1,243	380
 Total number of deaths	68	58	67	31



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FAMILY HIGHLIGHTS





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HOSPICE SERVICE PRIORITIES FOR 2025

- **Further Develop the Model of Care:** We aim to further develop our Model of Care to reflect the ongoing expansion and development of our services. This will involve refining our approach to ensure that we continue to meet the evolving needs of the families we support.
- **Explore Pop-Up Hospice Model:** We will scope out the development of a pop-up hospice model to provide out-of-home care closer to families' homes. This innovative approach will help us reach more families and provide flexible, accessible care.
- **Maximise Inpatient Capacity:** We plan to maximise inpatient capacity and occupancy in LauraLynn House to meet the growing demand for our services. This will involve optimising our resources and ensuring that we can accommodate more families in need.
- **Develop Neonatal Palliative Care Supports:** We will focus on developing specialised supports for neonatal palliative care. This will include training for staff and the development of tailored care plans to meet the unique needs of neonates and their families.
- **Recruit a Consultant Paediatrician:** We aim to recruit a Consultant Paediatrician and expand our Medical Model to enhance the quality of care provided. This will strengthen our clinical team and ensure that we continue to provide expert care to the children we support.
- **Implement the 0-3 Month Pathway of Post-Death Support:** We will ensure that every family who wants LauraLynn bereavement care has access to support within the first three months post-death. This will help to ensure equity of access to bereavement care and provide timely support to families during their initial period of grief.

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DISABILITY SERVICES



Hazel House

Hazel House is our disability respite service for children with medical complexity and severe neurological impairment, serving the Greater Dublin areas of HSE CHO 6, 7, and 9. Our mission is to support families by providing planned respite breaks throughout the year, allowing children to engage in new opportunities and experiences with their peers while their families recharge. In addition to planned respite, we offer Crisis Respite for emergencies, such as when the main carer becomes unwell and no other care options are available.

DISABILITY SERVICE TEAM

The Disability Care Team, supporting Hazel House and Willow View, is made up of individuals from a variety of:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| • Nurse Managers | • Family Liaison & Respite Coordinator |
| • Staff Nurses | |
| • Health Care Assistants | • Recreation & Activity Coordinator |
| • Nursery Nurses | • Social Recreational Support Worker |
| • GP | |
| • Physiotherapist | • Transforming Lives Lead |
| • Speech and Language Therapist | |
| • Dietician | |

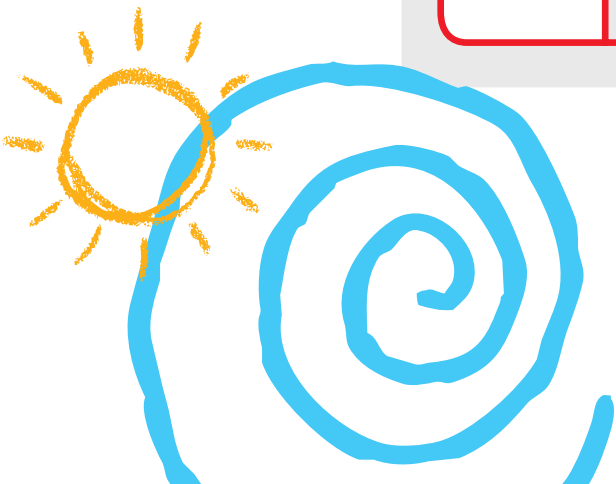
In 2024, the Family Liaison and Respite Coordinator led the development of a comprehensive Model of Care. This initiative began with a thorough review and update of the Eligibility, Admission, and Discharge Policy to ensure that referrals and admissions are handled professionally, sensitively, and promptly, based on fair and transparent criteria. A review process was also initiated for each child to ensure that the service continues to meet their needs and those of their families.

During an announced HIQA inspection in July 2024, inspectors observed that Hazel House was bright and designed to meet the assessed needs of the children who accessed breaks there. Inspectors spoke with a parent whose child was in respite at the time, who expressed satisfaction with the care provided, noting good communication and well-planned visits.

The 2024 team learning and development day focused on enhancing the child's experience during respite. Training included activities and play, and a parent shared her lived experience of caring for a child with medical complexity and severe neurological impairment, highlighting the challenges of juggling life at home, healthcare workers in the home, and entrusting the care of her child to the team at Hazel House.



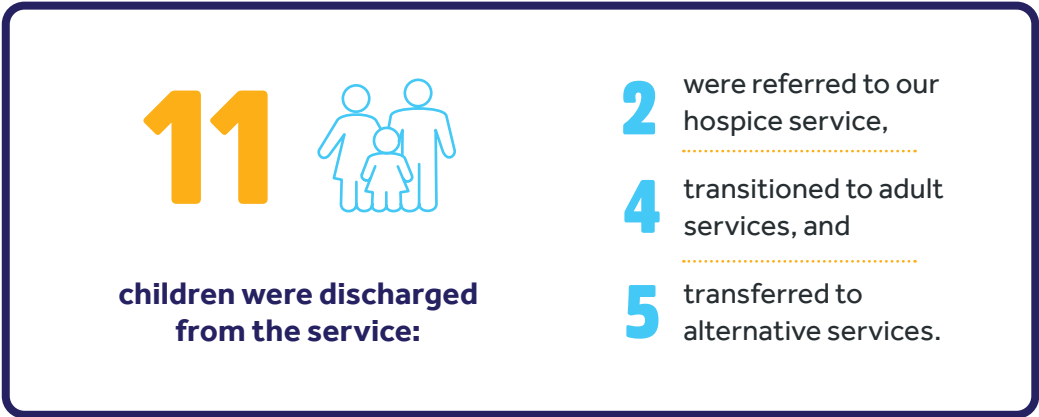
Click here to find about Hazel House and what it's like to work here



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DISABILITY SERVICES

Key Information for 2024



Key Figures for 2021-2024

Hazel House	2024	2023	2022	2021
Total number of children availing of respite	49	47	52	48
Total number of respite nights	1,191	1,064	1,052	1,108
Referrals received	22	18	14	20
Referrals accepted	9	8	5	8
Total number of children discharged	11	9	6	0



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HAZEL HOUSE PRIORITIES FOR 2025

- Complete the Model of Care for respite for children with medical complexity and severe neurological impairment in consultation with key stakeholders.
- Expand the catchment area of our Children's Disability Respite Service in line with HSE revised regions.
- Commence upgrades to the kitchen and living room area to enhance choice and recreational opportunities.

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Willow View

Willow View is our disability residential care service, home to six adults (three women and three men) with severe to profound intellectual and physical disabilities who have lived in The Children's Sunshine Home since childhood.

In 2024, our focus was on supporting residents, their families, and staff in adjusting to plans for transitioning each person to a new home and an alternate service that better supports their will and preference. The Transforming Lives project emphasised identifying and building on each person's strengths, fostering relationships with families to keep them involved and informed, and supporting continuous professional development for staff.

A Decongregation Committee was established in 2024, chaired by the HSE National Disability Team's National Lead for Decongregation. The committee's focus is to ensure the successful transition of the six residents to new service providers in a planned and timely manner. It includes a family representative, advocates from the National Advocacy Service, and the Willow View Transforming Lives Project Lead. During 2024, the committee agreed on terms of reference and communication channels, commenced multi-disciplinary assessments for each individual, and began researching available and suitable properties/sites in the locality.

In July 2024, a HIQA-announced inspection acknowledged the team's efforts in providing person-centred and rights-informed care. However, the design and layout of Willow View was not in line with best practices for upholding residents' rights, as the adults did not have access to cooking facilities, and there were several administration offices within their home. Renovations completed in 2024 provided a new kitchen, supporting increased choice and access to cooking facilities. Inspectors also met with some family members of residents, who spoke positively about the quality of care, noting that their loved ones were well looked after, safe, and familiar with the staff team.

The team Learning and Development Day focused on building staff competency in Social Role Valorisation, which aims to enhance the social roles of people with disabilities. The day included sharing experiences from another service provider on supporting people to move from residential settings into homes with supports to live good lives, and an interactive session with the National Advocacy Service on their role in supporting residents to identify their will and preference in accordance with best international practices.



WILLOW VIEW PRIORITIES FOR 2025

- Ensure the successful transition of the six residents to new service providers through the De-congregation Steering Committee.
- Support residents in continuing to enjoy life and engage with their community, creating a vision for their present and future.
- Complete multi-disciplinary assessments for all residents to inform their needs, will, and preferences.
- Support families and staff through the transition process, ensuring they remain central to the journey.



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2024 was an exciting year for staff and volunteers at LauraLynn as it signalled the start of our ambitious five year strategic plan for 2024–2028. A key component of this new strategic plan is our commitment to grow and reach more children and families in need of our services. We recognise that extending our community of care across the country will require additional skilled and committed staff. Attracting and retaining talented individuals was a priority throughout 2024. By December, we had conducted 51 individual job competitions to fill various positions across the organisation.

Central to successfully recruiting and retaining the right people is ensuring a positive and compassionate culture exists across the organisation. This is why People and Culture were identified as key strategic enablers under the new strategic plan. Our organisational culture is underpinned by three cherished values: compassion, collaboration and excellence.



Education, Learning, and Development

Education, learning, and development have always been integral to the culture at LauraLynn. 2024 was another busy year in this regard, with several notable achievements:

- **Conferences:** LauraLynn was represented at national and international conferences with five platform presentations and 26 poster presentations.
- **Academic Achievements:** One staff member graduated with a Master's Degree, and four others earned Postgraduate Diplomas in Health Sciences.
- **Study Days and Team Days:** Organised for clinical staff in both disability services and hospice services.
- **Clinical Foundation Programme and Induction:** 19 new staff in the children's palliative care service and 7 in the disability service completed our Clinical Foundation Programme.
- **Workshops for Healthcare Assistants:** Two workshops were specifically designed for our Care Assistants.
- **Student Facilitation:** LauraLynn facilitated 29 undergraduate and 13 postgraduate students across both hospice and disability services.
- **Core Competency Programme:** Implemented module four – interpersonal Communications, with 24 staff members participating.
- **Dignity at Work Training:** 26 heads of departments and line managers attended a training course on Dignity at Work.
- **Professional Diplomas:** Two staff members completed professional diplomas from University College Dublin (UCD).
- **One-to-One Coaching:** 14 staff members availed of one-to-one coaching provided by qualified and experienced external coaches.

Staff Health and Wellbeing

Staff health and wellbeing are crucial aspects of the culture at LauraLynn. To reinforce our commitment, we incorporated staff health and wellbeing into the job description of a newly recruited specialist in occupational health and staff wellbeing. The LauraLynn wellbeing committee had a busy year organising various events and providing information and support on a range of issues. These included World Cancer Day, Pride Month, International Women's Day and Men's Day, World Suicide Prevention Day, a step challenge, cooking demonstrations, tea parties, a summer BBQ, Pregnancy and Infant Loss Awareness Day, and mindfulness sessions.





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PEOPLE

Staff and Volunteer Appreciation

Our staff and volunteers form the fabric of LauraLynn. Their continued commitment, dedication, and loyalty are inspiring and hugely appreciated. It is important to let these valued groups know just how appreciated they are.

In January, we participated in National Thank You Day to express our gratitude. A more formal appreciation event was held in August, where our longer-serving colleagues were awarded a metal badge or a personally inscribed glass plaque in recognition of their long service and loyalty. The awards were presented by our much-valued LauraLynn ambassadors Muireann O'Connell and Garry Ringrose, and our Chair of the Board, Sandra O'Malley.



Staff Engagement

Feedback from staff and a review of HR metrics in 2024 indicated that our efforts to promote a positive, compassionate, and supportive culture at LauraLynn are yielding strong staff satisfaction ratings and lower turnover rates.

The 2024 staff satisfaction survey focused on diversity, inclusion, wellbeing, and staff benefits. Results showed that 93% of respondents enjoyed their job overall, 76% felt there is a positive culture at LauraLynn, and 93% believed LauraLynn is a welcoming organisation. To address internal communications, identified as an area for improvement in the 2023 survey, we implemented several initiatives in 2024. These included a bi-monthly informal online staff get together and a monthly staff newsletter. Satisfaction rates with internal communications increased from 49% to 65% following these initiatives.

Despite the challenge of attracting and retaining talented staff in a fully employed Irish economy, our focus on organisational culture helped reduce staff turnover to 6% in 2024, down from 7% in 2023. This is the lowest turnover rate in at least the last 10 years, compared to an estimated average turnover of 13% in the voluntary and charity sector, as reported by The Wheel. Sickness absence remained unchanged at 5.1%.

Our focus on culture, education, learning and development, wellbeing, and staff appreciation was acknowledged in 2024 when LauraLynn was shortlisted for the Charities Institute Ireland Excellence Awards in the "Employer Excellence" category.

PRIORITIES FOR 2025

- Work began in 2024 on creating a diversity and inclusion strategy for the organisation. Staff feedback through surveys and focus group sessions informed the development of this strategy and action plan. Implementation of the identified actions will begin in early 2025.
- Maintaining and growing the compassionate culture at LauraLynn will continue to be a priority. In collaboration with the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (RCSI), we will develop and implement a compassionate leadership and workplace programme across several teams.



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PEOPLE

Volunteer Programme

2024 was a successful year for our volunteer programme, marked by significant growth and impact. A key highlight was Karen O'Connor winning the prestigious Christine Buckley award as Ireland's Volunteer of the Year. We recruited our first volunteers in Ballinasloe and Mallow, who took on vehicle support and administration roles. Additionally, we recruited volunteers in Wexford and Cork as Fundraising Representatives, who attended local cheque collections and gave talks about LauraLynn and our fundraising initiatives.

The Practical Home Support volunteer role expanded to a team of seven volunteers, recruited via Volunteer Ireland and the iVol system. These volunteers provide essential support to families in their homes. We also introduced a new volunteer role to support our Legacy Through Arts Programme. Two volunteers assist monthly with creating meaningful packs for children and families to celebrate special occasions throughout the year.

We improved communication with a weekly email to all volunteers, including LauraLynn news, volunteer requests, thank you's, special dates, and a 'get to know' section featuring fun and interesting questions about one volunteer each week. This has reduced the volume of emails and helped build stronger connections among volunteers.

Our bi-monthly social hubs provided opportunities for volunteers to engage and socialise. These gatherings were crucial for fostering a sense of community, especially for new volunteers and those in lone roles. We celebrated events like Volunteer Week and Karen O'Connor's award during these hubs.

Implemented programme evaluations to evaluate and review the volunteer programme, allowing us to identify strengths and areas for improvement. A comprehensive 2025 volunteer evaluation is being developed and will be distributed to all active volunteers in the coming weeks.

Volunteer fleeces were introduced which have been positively received. These uniforms help distinguish volunteers, raise awareness of our cause, and foster pride and stronger relationships between families, staff, and volunteers. Our Volunteer Coordinator attended events and courses with the Institute of Volunteer Leadership, including a visit to the Criminal Courts of Justice to engage with the Victim Support at Court volunteer programme.



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Karen O'Connor

Since joining LauraLynn in 2016, Karen O'Connor has been a committed member of our volunteer team, bringing unwavering dedication and heart to everything she does. From expertly managing donor data and preparing campaign materials to family events, mentoring young volunteers and reading to children in the hospice, Karen's impact is felt across every corner of our organisation. Her recognition as the Christine Buckley Volunteer of the Year 2024 is a testament to Karen's compassion, professionalism, and the joy she brings to the LauraLynn community. We are proud and grateful to have Karen as part of our team.

“

This place is full of joy. Everyone is so welcoming – and they always have time for a quick chat, even though it's so busy.

My favourite part of the day is story time with the children. It's so lovely getting to sit down and have one-on-one time with them. If you could see the children's faces when I'm reading, you'd understand why I volunteer.

Karen O'Connor,
Volunteer

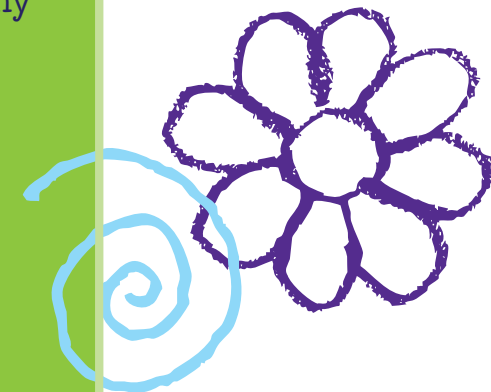
ACHIEVEMENTS

Christine Buckley Award

Karen O'Connor was named Ireland's Volunteer of the Year, a prestigious accolade recognising her exceptional contributions.

Volunteer Statistics

We ended 2024 with 100 active volunteers in 12 different roles, comprising 30 male and 70 female volunteers. Throughout the year, 108 volunteers generously provided over 3,950 hours of service.



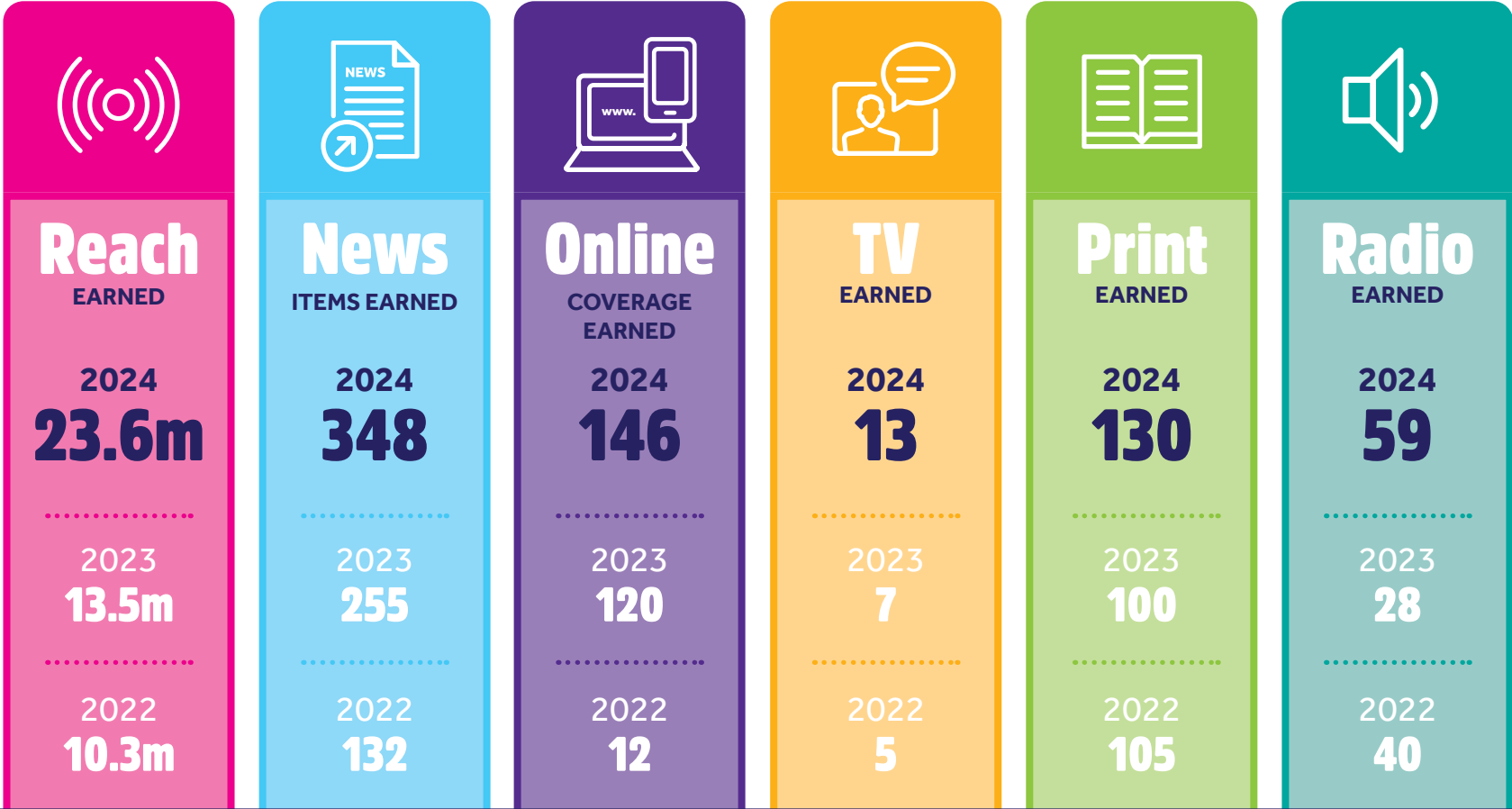
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ADVOCACY & AWARENESS

In 2024, we achieved significant milestones and faced notable challenges in increasing understanding of LauraLynn among key internal and external audiences. Our efforts were crucial in advancing our mission, raising awareness about our services, and engaging with the broader community, including families, staff, volunteers, policymakers, healthcare professionals (HCPs), donors, and supporters.

One of our primary goals was to raise awareness of who we are and what we do. We significantly increased earned media coverage by 75% and digital presence through targeted campaigns on social media platforms, podcasts, and online ads. Traditional advertising efforts included radio spots, cinema ads, and prominent placements on public transportation routes. These efforts broadened our reach, engaging a wider audience and enhancing public awareness of LauraLynn’s mission and services.

Key PR Statistics



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ADVOCACY & AWARENESS

Social Media Reach



Facebook

2022	2023	2024
FOLLOWERS		
59.4k	60.2k	62.3k
NEW FOLLOWERS		
3.7k	0.8k	2.1k
IMPRESSIONS		
33.9m	27.6m	24.6m
ENGAGEMENT		
81.8k	274.7k	112.8k



X

2022	2023	2024
FOLLOWERS		
11.3k	11.3k	11.5k
NEW FOLLOWERS		
0.1k	-0.04k	333.9k
IMPRESSIONS		
204.5k	333.9k	28.4m
ENGAGEMENT		
5.8k	4.6k	12.3k



Instagram

2022	2023	2024
FOLLOWERS		
13k	15.8k	18.6k
NEW FOLLOWERS		
2.4k	2.7k	2.8k
IMPRESSIONS		
670k	683.9k	1.2m
ENGAGEMENT		
29.5k	38.3k	38.5k



LinkedIn

2022	2023	2024
FOLLOWERS		
7.3k	9.6k	10.6k
NEW FOLLOWERS		
0.98k	2.2k	1.1k
IMPRESSIONS		
223.8k	301.8k	243.8k
ENGAGEMENT		
10k	10k	8.9k



TikTok

2022	2023	2024
FOLLOWERS		
25	0.7k	1.3k
NEW FOLLOWERS		
N/A	0.6k	0.1k
IMPRESSIONS		
N/A	210.1k	1.4m
ENGAGEMENT		
N/A	2k	3.2k

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ADVOCACY & AWARENESS

Communications and Advocacy

We are committed to being evidence-led in our communications and advocacy. The findings of our family perspectives survey revealed the significant impact of caring for a child with palliative care needs on families and relationships. These insights informed our advocacy and support services, helping us address the needs of families more effectively.

Children's Hospice Week

Children's Hospice Week built strongly on our family survey. Under the theme "Caring for the Child... Supporting the Family," we organised various activities and media engagements. The week featured our first-ever 24 Hour Treadmill Challenge and extensive media coverage, significantly raising awareness about the continuous care provided by families and the importance of our services.

Palliative Care Week

During Palliative Care Week, we supported the theme "You, Me and Palliative Care," emphasising the importance of palliative care in creating a network of support. Our participation included launching a new graduate programme and bereavement resource, furthering our commitment to comprehensive care.

Impacts of Caring Survey





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ADVOCACY & AWARENESS

Advocacy

Our advocacy work included a pre-budget submission and a grassroots general election campaign seeking the development of a new policy and sustainable funding for the hospice. These efforts raised awareness among policymakers and the public about the critical need for sustainable funding and support for children's hospice services. We were delighted to see full cross-party support for our issues and the following commitment in the new Programme for Government:

This Government is committed to enhancing palliative care services to provide the best end-of-life and bereavement support for patients, families, and carers. This Government will:

- Continue to invest in palliative care to achieve full national coverage of hospice and community services.
- Develop a new national policy on palliative care for children and increase funding to children's hospice care.

Ambassador Programme and Celebrity Supporters

Our ambassador programme and celebrity supporters played a crucial role in raising our profile and engaging the public. We are very grateful to our wonderful LauraLynn Ambassadors - Ray D'Arcy, Garry Ringrose, Jenny McCarthy, Fiona Coghlan, and Padraig O'Hora - as well as Miriam O'Callaghan, Bundee Aki, Lyra, David Gillick, Muireann O'Connell, Jordi Murphy, Lea Heart, and Rory O'Connor for supporting us this year. Their visits brought joy to the children and families and helped in fundraising and spreading our message more effectively.

Family Involvement

We are hugely thankful to the families who were actively involved in our storytelling and fundraising activities, generously sharing their experiences to highlight the impact of our services. This approach fostered a deeper connection with our supporters and provided a platform for families to share their journeys, enhancing our advocacy efforts.

Internal Communication

Internal communication remained a priority, with the introduction of the LauraLynn Times monthly e-newsletter and "News & Brews" online updates. These initiatives improved internal communication, fostering a sense of community and keeping everyone updated on our activities and achievements.

Challenges

The year was not without its challenges. Navigating the rapidly evolving digital landscape required increasing work and adaptation to new platforms and trends. Securing sustainable funding remained a constant challenge, necessitating increased advocacy and engagement with policymakers. Balancing the communication needs of our diverse stakeholders, including families, healthcare professionals, and donors, required careful consideration and strategic planning.

The charity landscape in Ireland is complex and crowded, with more than 11,000 registered charities vying for public attention and support. Growing brand recognition is essential to meeting our fundraising targets and establishing our expanding community services in Munster and Connaught. Our efforts to boost brand recognition included consistent visual branding, powerful storytelling, and engaging content across multiple channels. These strategies helped differentiate LauraLynn from other charities and reinforced our identity in the minds of our supporters, which now lies at 61% (up from 60% in 2023). Irish Charity Engagement Monitor July 2024, nfp Research

PRIORITIES FOR 2025

Our goals for 2025 are aligned with our strategic priorities outlined in the "Advancing our Vision: Extending our Community of Care" plan. Key goals include:

- Establish a stronger presence in Munster and Connaught, supporting our growing services in Cork and Ballinasloe and broadening our supporter base.
- Increase public awareness and support for LauraLynn, ensuring we can meet our fundraising targets and sustain our services. Continue to invest in brand recognition strategies, leveraging digital and traditional media to reach a broader audience.
- Continue efforts to secure sustainable funding and influence children's palliative care policy changes promised in the Programme for Government. Build on grassroots engagement and continue pre-budget submissions.
- Enhance internal communication strategies to keep staff, service users, and volunteers informed and engaged. Expand our e-newsletter and "News & Brews" updates to ensure alignment with our mission and activities.

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“

LauraLynn is such a special place to be, to see the amazing work that all the staff do here, and you see the difference it makes on the children’s lives and the enjoyment they get out of it. And a lot of families are in really tough positions, but seeing the support that it gives them, it’s powerful and it’s one of the happiest places here in LauraLynn.

Garry Ringrose,
LauraLynn Ambassador

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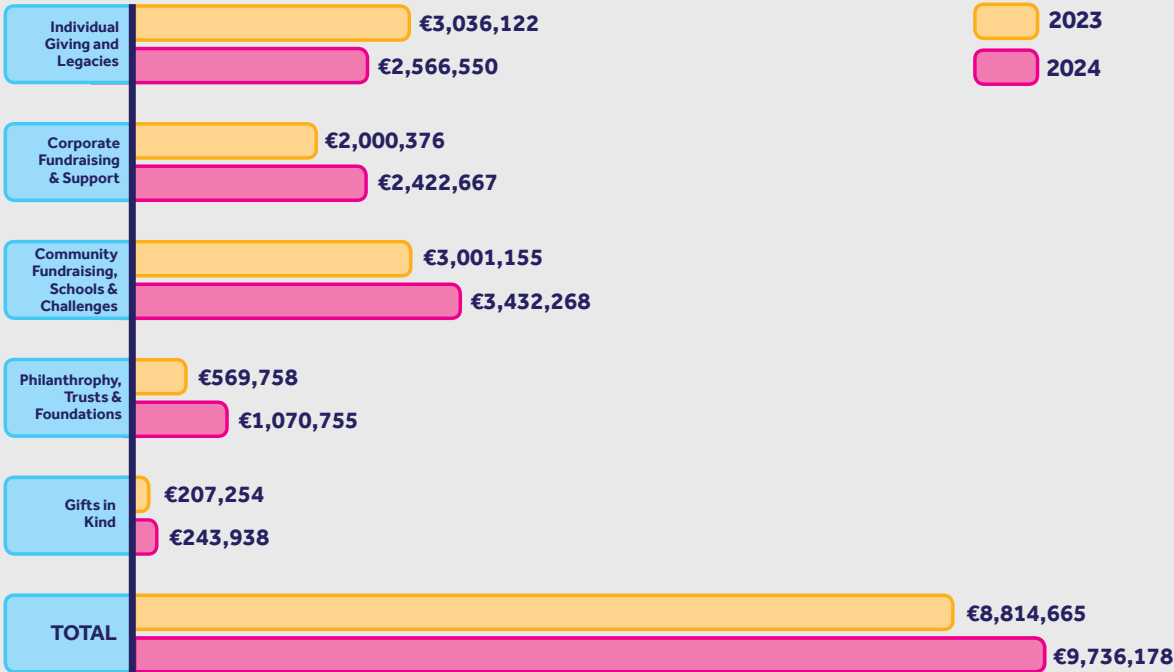
FUNDRAISING

LauraLynn, through The Children’s Sunshine Home Trust, continues to raise vital income from individuals, companies, organisations, and community fundraisers to support the operation of LauraLynn’s Hospice Service. This service is crucial in providing care and support to some of the most vulnerable children and families in Ireland.



2024 was another remarkable year for fundraising, and we were once again overwhelmed by the incredible generosity of our supporters, both existing and new. Thanks to their unwavering support, LauraLynn raised a total of €9.7m in 2024 (€8.8m in 2023). We are truly grateful to everyone who participated in our events, took on challenges, or donated through their companies or personally. Your contributions make a significant difference in the lives of the children and families we serve.

FIGURE 1 — How LauraLynn Raised Funds in 2023 and 2024





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FUNDRAISING

Individual Giving

Individual giving generated

€2.4m in 2024

(€2.0m in 2023).

With the continued support of our generous monthly givers, our 2024 regular income increased to €1.4m. We had another year of success in recruiting monthly supporters, through our Face-to-Face recruitment campaign, our organic signups and testing of online recruitment ads on the META platform. Additionally, we had a very positive phone campaign with just under half of our donors agreeing to increase their regular donations during the call.

Income from generous cash donations to our various activities, including our spring appeal, raffle, newsletter and wedding favours generated €0.9m for LauraLynn. Supporters responded strongly to our spring appeal containing the Duggan family's message to "support another family like theirs at home". Both supporters and members of the public alike were enamoured with pictures of baby Jack in his Kerry jersey and the story of his journey on Facebook.

Our annual "Making Memories" newsletter clearly resonated with our supporters with a heartfelt article thanking them for 13 years helping to make magical memories at LauraLynn. LauraLynn's Christmas appeal, led by the Gibson O'Gara family, enjoyed an overwhelming response to Mum Sarah's promise to Martin that his light would never go out. In addition to Out of Home and Radio advertising, the family recorded an impactful video which was received very positively online, helping us reach new audiences. Advertising extended to the Irish Independent, the Irish Times, RTE and other digital platforms.

The raffle continues to be a favourite with 4,000 LauraLynn supporters returning tickets to be in with a chance to win a cash prize. We continue to engage with an agency to call and thank our supporters, while also harnessing their consent to continue raffle recruitment by phone, the very foundation for its success.

The potential for tax rebate on individual gifts over €250 increases year-on-year. We submitted to Revenue for a total rebate value of €0.2m in December and expect a strong return.



Click here to see our
Christmas Appeal video
Martin's Story





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Click here to watch
highlights of our
**24 hour Treadmill
Challenge**

Corporate Support

Corporate fundraising generated

€2.4m in 2024

(€2.0m in 2023).

Corporate fundraising continued to grow for LauraLynn in 2024. Through a mix of new corporate partners, strengthening our ongoing relationships, and many new companies organising their own events, we saw a significant increase in both participation and donations from the business community across Ireland.

Corporate volunteering featured regularly in 2024 with a number of LauraLynn partners spending the day at the hospice. From helping with grounds maintenance, painting themed windows and planting new shrubs, these days help us to connect with our partners and show the real impact of their support.

A key highlight was the introduction of our brand-new signature event, LauraLynn's 24 Hour Treadmill Challenge, which brought together corporate teams from various industries along with members of the LauraLynn community, to support our mission. The enthusiasm of each participant on the day was so heart-warming and helped to raise crucial funds, while also allowing to foster deeper engagement with these wonderful groups.

Our Corporate Partners and business donor community joined us for our first Corporate Business Breakfast. We shared our new 5-year Strategy (2024–2028) with them and had an interesting panel discussion about the impact LauraLynn makes with their support. Our speakers included a LauraLynn parent, corporate partners, as well as LauraLynn staff and Board. Other activity included another wonderful night at the LauraLynn Heroes Ball which raised a whopping €147k.

Legacy Income

Legacy income generated

€0.2m in 2024

(€0.9m in 2023).

We would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to those who have pledged to or left a legacy gift in their will. This important and growing group of supporters, ensure that our vision continues for future generations, creating lasting impact and opportunities for the children and families we care for and support. These thoughtful contributions are a testament to the values we all share. We are profoundly thankful to all who have remembered LauraLynn in their will.

Major Donors, Trusts and Foundations

Major Donors, Trusts and Foundations generated

€1.1m in 2024

(€0.6m in 2023).

Reflecting on the past year, we are deeply grateful to the many trusts, foundations, and major donors for their unwavering and growing support. This support enabled LauraLynn to reach new heights in 2024, whether through expanding our services or enhancing our impact across Ireland. Some notable foundations and trusts set the stage for us to be able to bring further strategic developments over the coming years. We are excited to continue this journey with such wonderful supporters who have and continue to make the provision of an exemplary children's hospice possible through their generosity.



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FUNDRAISING

Cover-More's partnership with LauraLynn in 2024 was a heartwarming journey for all involved. The cause resonated deeply with Cover-More and the dedication of its staff showed that even a small team can be very creative in raising funds and awareness, while having a lot of fun, and uniting in their enthusiasm to make a big impact.

The funds raised supported essential services, showcasing the power of corporate collaboration. Partnerships like these boost employee engagement, strengthen company culture, and demonstrate a genuine commitment to social responsibility.

Their diverse range of activities included raffles, bake sales, making and selling Christmas cards, The LauraLynn 24-hour treadmill challenge, a Halloween social night, a hike in Glendalough and an epic cycle from Mizen to Malin by one of the staff members with a very close connection to LauraLynn, supported generously by his colleagues and family. The year wrapped up with volunteering at the hospice and utilising parent company Z Zurich Foundation's matched giving programme to maximise donations.



Cover-More EUROPE

“

Volunteering at the LauraLynn Children's Hospice was a mix of emotions for me. At first, it felt like a sad place, knowing the struggles the children and families face. But after spending the day there, I saw how much love and care the staff give to the kids and their families. It's truly inspiring. I also spent the day painting alongside colleagues from different departments. It was a nice way to connect with them, and we had fun together. It was a day that made me reflect but also filled me with warmth and hope

I am so grateful to have been a part of such a wonderful day, it was just the most wholesome and uplifting experience. All the staff at LauraLynn were so generous with their time and made us feel so welcome. It was very insightful to see the range of services they provide and seeing where the donations go has certainly motivated me to keep looking for ways to get involved and do more. Thank you to everyone that was there for making it so much fun, brilliant way to kick off the festive season.

I really enjoyed the day in LauraLynn. I was unsure what to expect but I knew it was something I wanted to take part in. Being a mam with young children, I felt it was something I wanted to do and especially this time of the year. LauraLynn is an incredible place with incredible people, the warmth and love of each and every person there is amazing. To experience it with 12 of my work friends was amazing. We had tears and laughter throughout the day! My heart was so full leaving. Thank to everyone who participated, it was the best day!

Cover-More staff members

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Community Fundraising

Community Fundraising brought in
€3.4m overall in 2024
(€3.0m in 2023).

In 2024, support from schools and creches across Ireland soared, raising €0.3m, up from €0.2m in 2023. Our new Go Green Day campaign for St. Patrick's Day raised €15k, and we're excited to expand it in 2025. Hero Day also had its best year yet, bringing in over €77k, up from €66k in 2023, and was featured on RTE News2Day for the second year running. Additional funds came from fun runs, raffles, Halloween and Christmas events, and non-uniform days. We are incredibly grateful for the continued support from children, teachers, and childcare workers across Ireland.

2024 has been another incredible year for community fundraising nationally, with our supporters raising a remarkable €1.7m through various events. Our Locks of Love for LauraLynn campaign continues to be a standout success, with participants from all over Ireland taking part. Not only has this initiative generated vital funds, but it has also raised significant awareness for LauraLynn, capturing attention in the media and the hearts of many. Our golf fundraising events also performed exceptionally well this year raising €152k (2023: €106k).



We are particularly grateful to the many loyal fundraisers who have organised their own events on our behalf. These individuals have raised a phenomenal €865k through a wide range of activities, including vehicle fundraisers, sales, Christmas events, ladies' lunches, music performances, and so much more.

In 2024, our challenges and marathons saw significant growth, raising over €1.4 million. We ran six month-long virtual challenges with skipping emerging as the standout activity. Building on the success of the "100 Skips a Day in April" challenge, we brought it back for "100 Skips a Day in September." This initiative saw over 12,000 participants, collectively raising more than €0.6m. In 2024, we launched the 24-Hour Treadmill Challenge as part of Children's Hospice Week. This high-energy event brought together over 500 participants, each stepping up to take on 30-minute treadmill slots at LauraLynn. Thanks to their incredible dedication and support, the event raised over €80k. We ended the year with growth in our Christmas Jumper Day campaign fundraising and reach. The overall campaign raised an incredible €118k with a strong performance from our partners and business donors contributing towards that total.





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BIG SPLASH FOR LITTLE HEROES

This event has taken place in Ballygarrett, Co. Wexford for LauraLynn the past 3 years and has raised approximately €170,000. Peter & Jean Kenny are the main organisers, this is their story:

I always wanted to do a fundraiser for LauraLynn. In 2020, I took up sea swimming and a friend of mine sent me the link to "Dip In For LauraLynn". I decided to take part with my two daughters, Anna and Dearbhaile. We were thrilled to raise €3,500 without too much effort.

That got me thinking that if I got a few more volunteers to take part, we could raise a lot more money. That's where we came up with the idea of the 'Big Splash for Little Heroes'.

I set about getting as many volunteers as possible and together we could fundraise and pool it all together and have a large sum of money that we could donate to LauraLynn, that would make a difference to the children and their families. In my mind it's like a bus heading towards LauraLynn and people can hop on and hop off, contributing and fundraising as much as they are comfortable with but still being part of a great cause.

It's a privilege to be part of a community in Wexford, south Wicklow and beyond, where we rally together to help those less fortunate than ourselves. Without the volunteers and donors, none of this could be possible.

Since 2022, we're raised approximately €170,000 for LauraLynn families. We are confident that the money is put to good use, and we can see from our visits to LauraLynn that a lot of thought goes into providing care for the families.

I want to say a special thanks to my wonderful wife, Jean. She does an incredible amount of work with this event. It's a real team effort.

Peter Kenny

€170,000
RAISED
IN THE LAST 3 YEARS



Peter Kenny now volunteers for LauraLynn as a representative in Wexford since 2024. He attends cheque presentations on our behalf and continues to show his commitment and dedication to the children and families in LauraLynn all year round.



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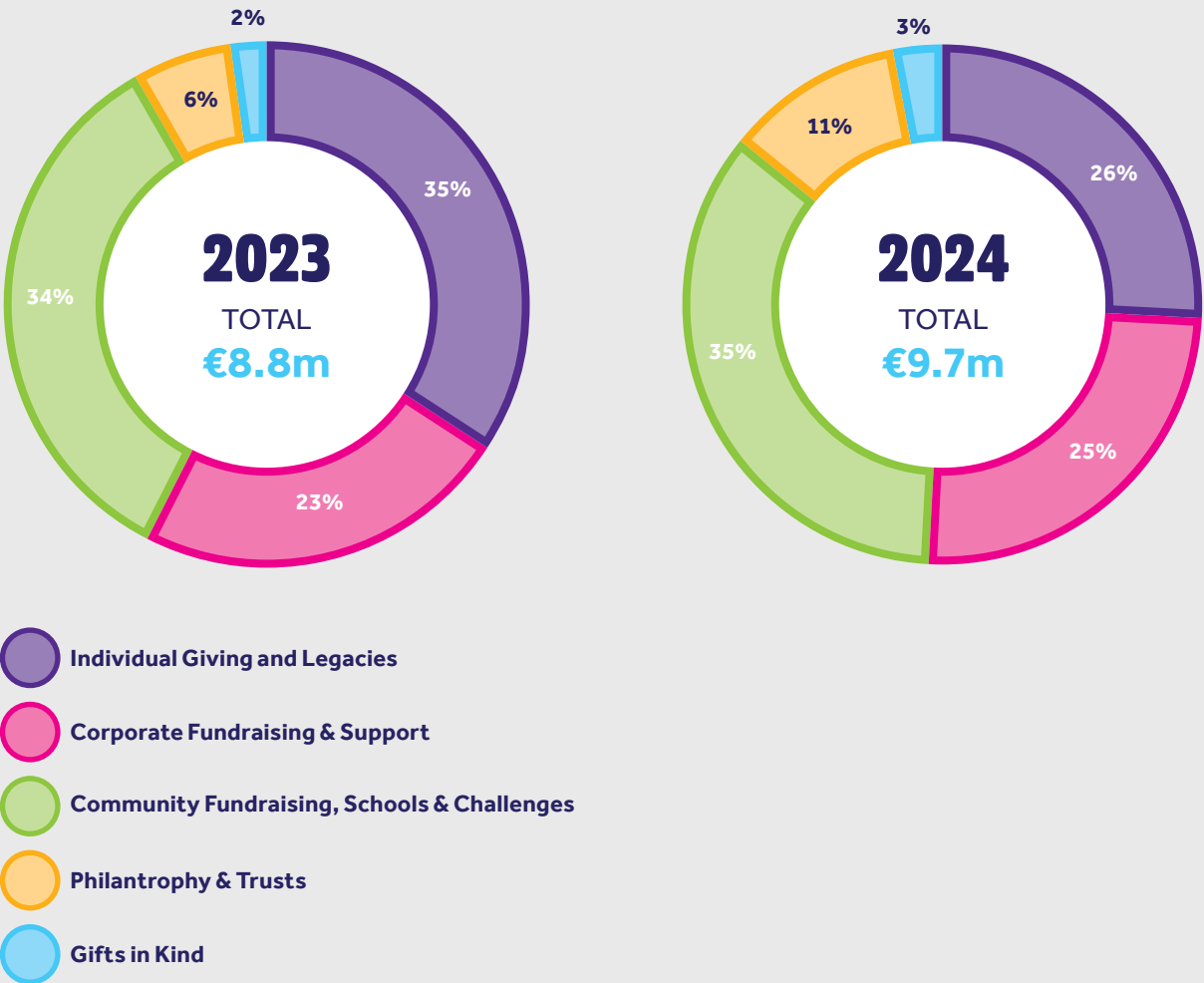
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FUNDRAISING

FIGURE 2 — How LauraLynn Raised Funds in 2023 and 2024 as a percentage of the total



PRIORITIES FOR 2025

- By enhancing donor care through personalised communication and targeted engagement strategies, we aim to significantly boost donor retention rates. This will be achieved by leveraging advanced segmentation techniques and comprehensive donor analytics to better understand and meet the unique needs and preferences of each donor.
- Continue to adopt a pro-active approach to fundraising that delivers sustainable income growth by identifying new funding opportunities, engaging with potential donors through personalised outreach, leveraging data analytics to optimise fundraising strategies.
- Focus on building our legacy fundraising capability by developing a comprehensive strategy that includes creating compelling marketing materials that highlight the impact of legacy gifts and providing personalised stewardship to ensure donors feel valued and appreciated.

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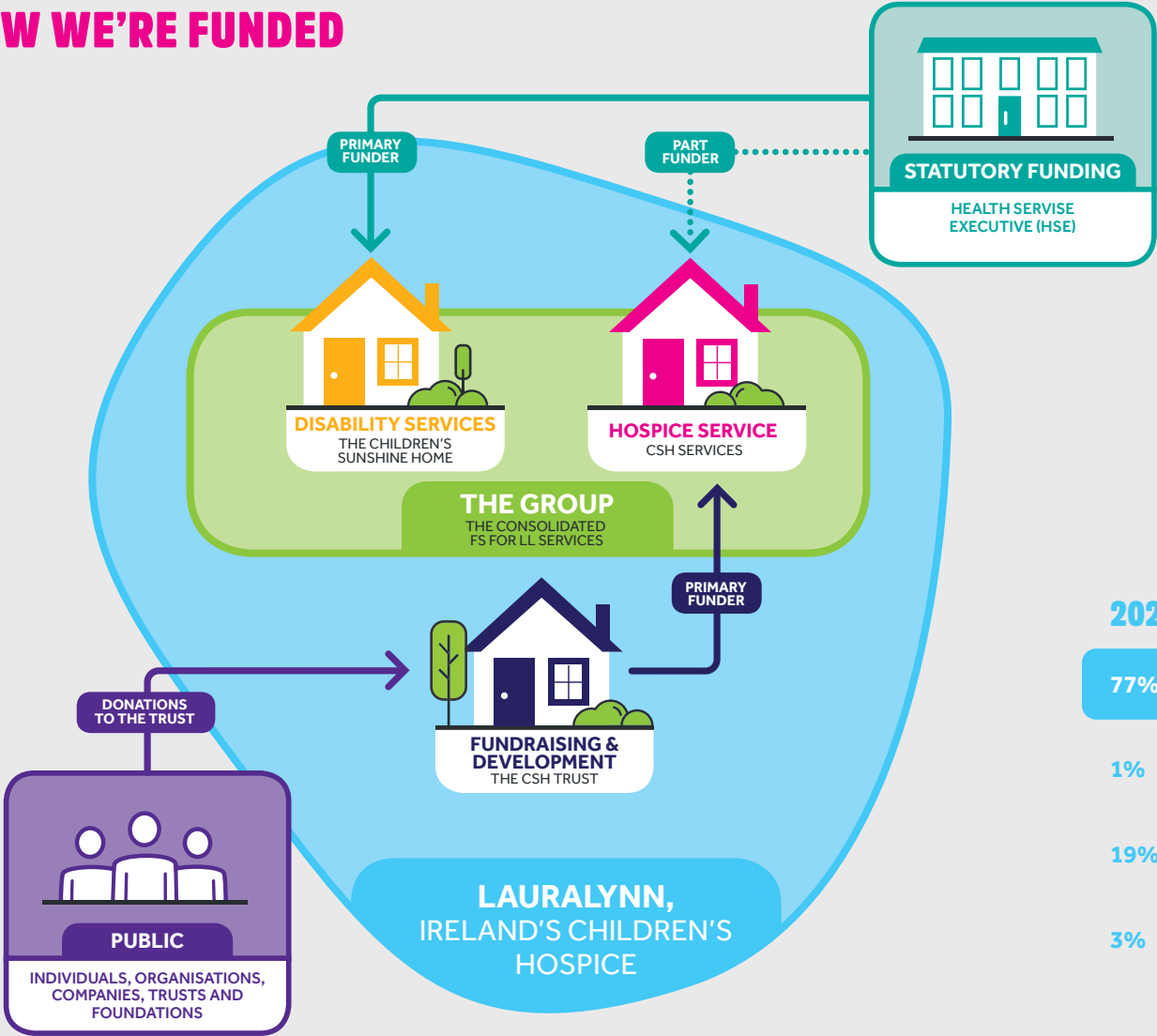
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OUR FUNDING

HOW WE'RE FUNDED



HOW WE SPEND OUR MONEY

2023

77%

1%

19%

3%

Service Provision

Governance

Fundraising

Sustainable income generation

2024

76%

1%

20%

3%

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The consolidated financial statements comprise the results of The Children’s Sunshine Home and CSH Childcare Services, together they are known as ‘the Group’. CSH Childcare Services is accounted for as a subsidiary of The Children’s Sunshine Home which controls the composition of its Board of Directors.

The consolidated statement of financial activities for the financial year ended 31 December 2024 and the consolidated balance sheet at that date are set out on [pages 76 and 77](#), respectively. The net income for the financial year, after depreciation, amounted to €67,911 (2023: €144,115).

Income

The main sources of income are funding from the HSE under a Section 38 Service Agreement for The Children’s Sunshine Home, from The Children’s Sunshine Home Trust, and from the HSE under a Section 39 Service Agreement for CSH Childcare Services. Overall Group income has increased by €5.5m or 58% from €9.5m in 2020 to €15.0m in 2024. This reflects the increased level of investment required to support the volume of services that need to be provided, and to support the strategic expansion of the hospice services.

TABLE 2

Group Income Since 2020



	2020 €000's	2021 €000's	2022 €000's	2023 €000's	2024 €000's
Charitable Activities:					
Revenue Grant from HSE	4,726	5,847	6,641	6,763	6,954
Hospital Services Maintenance Income	132	76	49	49	36
Superannuation Deductions	177	193	197	226	238
Subtotal	5,035	6,116	6,887	7,038	7,228
Funding from The Children’s Sunshine Home Trust	4,284	3,329	4,206	5,912	7,514
Miscellaneous Income	75	100	73	77	61
Revenue/ Capital Grants	—	—	—	—	—
Gifts in Kind	109	242	344	207	204
Total Income	9,503	9,787	11,510	13,234	15,007



Click here to go [page 17](#) for further information on LauraLynn’s entities

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Charitable Activities

Income received from charitable activities has increased by €2.2m or 44% from €5.0m in 2020 to €7.2m in 2024.

This is mainly as a result of annual recurring funding received from the HSE to CSH Childcare Services from 2021 onwards for its hospice services under a Section 39 Service Level Agreement.

Table 3 below provides details of the income received by LauraLynn overall in 2023 and 2024, incorporating the results of the three entities: The Children's Sunshine Home, CSH Childcare Services and The Children's Sunshine Home Trust. Funding between entities (The Children's Sunshine Home Trust to CSH Childcare Services) is excluded from the table below.

TABLE 3
LauraLynn Income 2023 and 2024



	2023 €000's	2024 €000's
Charitable Activities	7,038	7,228
Fundraised Income	8,607	9,492
Other Income	177	292
Gifts in Kind	207	204
Total Income	16,030	17,216

Expenditure

Overall Group expenditure has increased by €6m or 68% from €8.9m in 2020 to €14.9m in 2024 mainly due to the strategic expansion of the hospice service.

TABLE 4
Group Expenditure Since 2020



	2020 €000's	2021 €000's	2022 €000's	2023 €000's	2024 €000's
Charitable Activities:					
Direct Care Pay	4,574	5,201	5,852	6,813	7,957
Support Costs Pay - Other	1,841	2,020	2,360	2,554	2,748
Support Costs Pay - Fundraising Services	984	1,138	1,232	1,480	1,658
Support Costs - Non Pay	1,366	1,499	1,704	2,025	2,368
Depreciation	18	17	17	11	3
Subtotal	8,784	9,874	11,167	12,883	14,735
Value of Gifts in Kind expended	109	243	344	207	204
Total Expenditure	8,893	10,117	11,510	13,090	14,939

It cost the Group €14.9m in 2024 to operate the hospice and disability services, an increase of €1.9m or 14% on 2023 costs of €13.1m.

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Table 5 below provides details of LauraLynn’s overall expenditure in 2023 and 2024, incorporating the results of the three entities: The Children’s Sunshine Home, CSH Childcare Services and The Children’s Sunshine Home Trust. Funding between entities (The Children’s Sunshine Home Trust to CSH Childcare Services) is excluded from the table below.

TABLE 5
LauraLynn Expenditure 2023 and 2024

	2023 €000's	2024 €000's
Charitable Activities		
Direct Care Pay	6,813	7,957
Support Costs Pay - Other	2,554	2,748
Support Costs Pay - Fundraising Services	1,480	1,658
Support Costs - Non Pay	2,289	2,654
Depreciation & Amortisation	506	511
Subtotal	13,642	15,529
Expenditure on Raising Funds	1,788	1,820
Value of Gifts in Kind expended	207	204
Total Expenditure	15,637	17,553
<i>Total Expenditure</i>	<i>15,131</i>	<i>17,041</i>
<i>(excluding: depreciation and amortisation)</i>		



Funding

The HSE Revenue Grant is provided to fund the disability service for the children and young adults who avail of the respite and residential services under a Section 38 Service Level Agreement. The HSE continues to acknowledge that due to the essential nature of the hospice service, some of the nursing and direct care disability resources were applied to support that service. The HSE has indicated their continued commitment and in 2024 LauraLynn received €2.3m (2023: €2.3m) annual core funding for its hospice services under a Section 39 Service Level Agreement.

The Trust relies primarily on fundraising from the general public, to enable it to provide funding for the hospice service. LauraLynn recognises that the on-going support of the HSE and the goodwill of the general public are essential to maintaining its services. The directors are ever mindful of the trust that the general public place in them and are committed to ensuring that the governance and practices remain of the highest standards.

Funds Employed and Financial Position

LauraLynn’s reserves are considered on an ‘organisation wide’ basis being The Children’s Sunshine Home, CSH Childcare Services and The Children’s Sunshine Home Trust.

TABLE 6
LauraLynn Reserves 2023 and 2024

	2023 €000's	2024 €000's
Reserves:		
The Children’s Sunshine Home	413	481
CSH Childcare Services	295	295
The Children’s Sunshine Home Trust	34,210	33,993
Total Reserves	34,918	34,769
Further analysed below:		
Tangible fixed assets	14,155	14,052
Intangible fixed assets	65	79
Investments	4,687	4,821
Cash	16,775	16,490
Net Current Liabilities	(765)	(672)
Total Reserves	34,918	34,769





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LauraLynn Reserves Policy – The Children's Sunshine Home Trust

The purpose of the Reserves Policy of The Children's Sunshine Home Trust is to:

- a Ensure the stability of the services provided by LauraLynn Ireland's Children's Hospice (LauraLynn), and to allow it to fulfil its mission statement;
- b Give confidence to stakeholders that the charity's finances are being managed and to also provide an indicator of future funding needs; and
- c Support the care of sick adults and children with life-limiting conditions by the provision of funding to the Children's Sunshine Home and CSH Childcare Services.

It is the Trust's policy to retain sufficient funds to safeguard the continuity of both the hospice and disability services, to enable LauraLynn to deliver its Strategy 2024-2028 and to also ensure that it can manage financial, governance and operational risk.

The minimum level of free cash reserves required to be held is an amount equivalent to 12 months budgeted operating costs less the core Statutory funding received in the prior year, which equates to approximately €13.5m. Where balances arise at the end of the year in excess of the minimum level of reserves, these are generally utilised in the upcoming financial year and to ensure the delivery of the current strategic plan.

The Trust is dependent on voluntary contributions from the public for the continued funding of CSH Childcare Services for the hospice service. If all funding streams were to be withdrawn, both by the public and the HSE, the net current assets of €15.1m would enable both the disability and hospice services to continue for 1 year at the current level of spend.

The Board has reviewed the balance sheet of the Group, including reserves. With the continued support of the HSE and the Trust, the Board are confident that they can continue in operation into the foreseeable future.

2024 was another strong year for fundraising income, largely due to some exceptional individual donations and campaigns and the continued generosity of LauraLynn donors. Along with the statutory core State funding received by the LauraLynn hospice service of €2.3m equivalent to approximately 23% of current annual operating costs of the hospice (2023: 28%), the Board now acknowledges the Trust's stronger financial standing, allowing a revised approach to cash reserves management to be adopted.

The Trust reviews the level of funds held periodically. The last review was carried out in December 2024 in conjunction with the approval of the 2025 budget. At that time, it was agreed that the level of funds held was appropriate to ensure continuity of the services. Looking to 2025 and beyond, the Board has deemed that best use of its financial resources requires both the progression and acceleration of LauraLynn's strategic plan, in particular its goal to expand and enhance LauraLynn's community of care. Increased expansion through the provision of two community team hubs, Mallow & Ballinasloe, and further expansion of the Dublin campus will generate an increased funding requirement on an ongoing annual basis to support the additional pay and associated service delivery costs. It is for this purpose that the reserves will be initially used.

LauraLynn Investment Policy – The Children's Sunshine Home Trust

The Trust seeks to produce the best financial return within an acceptable level of risk. As assets are expected to be spent over the next three to five years, capital preservation is of paramount importance. The primary mechanism for meeting this objective is to invest in alternative low risk investments, spreading the total invested and limiting the amount invested with any individual financial institution. These financial institutions are reviewed by the trustees on a periodic basis. The levels of these deposits are monitored to ensure that the Trust has sufficient liquid funds to meet operational cash flow and planned capital expenditure requirements.



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Going Concern

At the balance sheet date, the Group had net current assets of €766,852 (2023: €695,994). The Group is dependent on the HSE and the Trust to continue to fund its operations.

In assessing that the financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis, the directors have given due consideration to further cost savings, value improvement, fundraising initiatives and strategic planning. In addition, there are regular discussions with the HSE regarding the level of funding being provided to The Children's Sunshine Home and also funding for CSH Childcare Services.

In 2024, LauraLynn received €2.3m core State funding for its hospice services. As this equates to approximately 23% of the current annual operating costs (2023: 28%), CSH Childcare Services will continue to be dependent on voluntary contributions from the Trust, for the continued funding of the hospice service. All of the hospice care is provided free of charge to families. The trustees have indicated their willingness to continue to support the service.

Based on the results for the year, the year-end financial position, the approved 2025 budget, and the committed State funding from the HSE for both the disability and hospice services, the directors believe that the Group has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, the directors continue to adopt the 'going concern' basis in preparing the financial statements. Additional information is provided in note 1 in the financial statements.

Subsequent Events after the Balance Sheet Date

There have been no significant events affecting the Group since the financial year end.

Risk

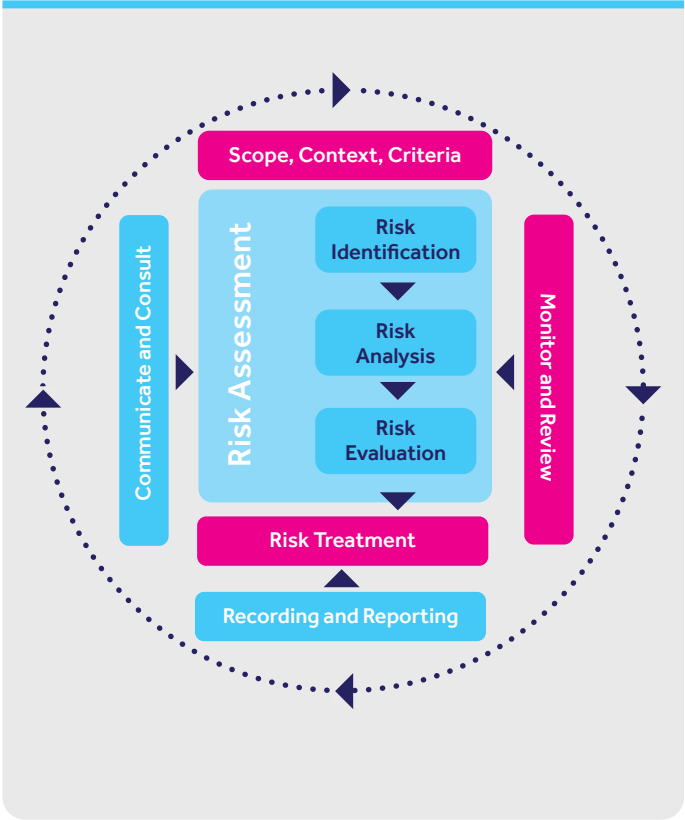
LauraLynn's activities expose it to a number of risks, including financial risk, operational risk and reputational risk. Risk registers are maintained which identify key risks, and the controls that have been put in place to mitigate and manage these risks. Risks are monitored on an ongoing basis and reported on regularly throughout the year at Board, Board Sub-Committee and Executive Management Team meetings.

Risk Management

Risk is the effect of uncertainty on an individual's or service's objectives. It is any condition, circumstance, event or threat which may impact the achievement of objectives and/or have a significant impact on the day-to-day operations. This also includes failing to maximise any opportunity that would help the service meet its objectives (HSE 2023).

The process of risk management in LauraLynn, Ireland's Children's Hospice, involves a cycle of identifying risks, evaluating their potential likelihood and consequences and determining the most effective methods of responding to them (i.e. of reducing the chances of them occurring and reducing the impact if they do occur). The risk management cycle is completed by a system of regular monitoring and reporting (HIQA, 2014).

DIAGRAM 2:
 HSE's Risk Management Process (2024)



FINANCIAL REVIEW & RISK MANAGEMENT

Risk Assessments

Risk assessments are carried out on governance, service planning, delivery and care provision activities in line with the HSE Risk Management Framework. Each child and adult in the hospice and disability services have risk assessments in place to ensure the service identify any risks and implement control measures identified to keep them safe.

The management and escalation process for risks are as follows:

INTERNAL:

Low Risks (Ratings 1 – 5):

- Managed locally by managers (support from QRS department).
- Included on the organisational risk register.

Medium Risks (Ratings 6 – 12):

- Risks rated at 9 or greater are referred to the local QRS Committee (LQRS).
- Decision to manage at local level with support from QRS Dept or escalate to QRS Committee for governance review.
- Included on the local risk register and possible escalation to the corporate risk register.

High Risks (Ratings 15 - 25):

- If rated 15 or greater (15-25) the risk shall be included on the corporate risk register.
- Escalated to the Quality, Safety and Risk Committee and Board of Directors.

EXTERNAL

Where there is a risk which requires action from the HSE, the risk is escalated to the Risk Manager (Dublin South East)/Head of Service for ADD or Disability Services, Community Healthcare Organisation 6 (CHO6). The HSE has to accept the risk in order for it to be included on the HSE Risk Register.

If an incident occurs within the Disability Service, we follow our Incident reporting policy and are required to report these to the State Claims Agency under NIMS (National Incident Management System).

Risk Registers

Risk registers provide managers with a high-level overview of the service's risks and risk status at a particular point in time and becomes a dynamic tool for the monitoring of actions to be taken to mitigate those risks. LauraLynn manages its Risk Registers through a cloud based all-in-one integrated software system that streamlines risk and compliance monitoring.

Each executive manager is responsible for a designated risk portfolio. They are accountable for updating and monitoring their area and implementing any necessary additional actions. The Quality, Safety and Risk Manager reviews, updates, and monitors the Risk Registers as needed, with a minimum frequency of quarterly.

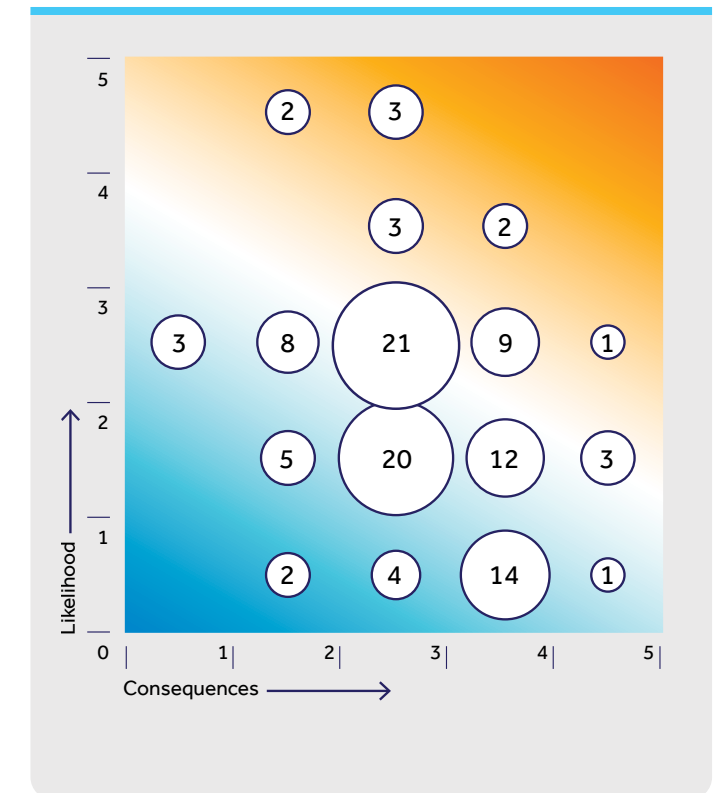
The corporate risk register is a standing agenda item at both the Quality, Safety and Risk Committee and Board of Directors meetings, which take place on a bi-monthly basis. A report is produced and presented, detailing the organisation's high risks (15 - 25), any new updates including control measures and any additional measures required.

There are a total of 118 documented risks identified through 16 Portfolios, which cover but are not limited to clinical services, legal & regulatory, technology, economic and operational risks. There were new risks incorporated with the addition of new reporting data points and the expansion of our Service.

Diagram 3 (below) provides an overview of the risk register post control heat map which visually represents the identified organisational risks helping us prioritise and manage them effectively.

DIAGRAM 3:

Risk Register Post-Control Heat Map



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LauraLynn’s activities expose it to a number of risks including financial risk, operational risk and reputational risk:

Financial risk

LauraLynn is dependent on voluntary contributions from the Trust, for the continued funding of the hospice service (CSH Childcare Services). In turn, the Trustees are very much dependent on the generosity of businesses and the public.

They remain vigilant with regards to the management and governance of both Trust assets and funds, and the management and use of the funds provided by it. There is a dependence on the HSE for short, medium and long term funding of the disability service (The Children’s Sunshine Home). There is a reasonable expectation that such funding will continue.

Operational Risk

The main operational risks centre on the consistent delivery of the quality of services provided to people in need of LauraLynn’s care, for both the individual and the staff. These risks are addressed through appropriate systems and controls, and reviewed on a regular basis.

Reputational Risk

As is the case with many other charities, LauraLynn’s principal risk is reputational damage. LauraLynn functions as a healthcare organisation and therefore clinical risk is a prime area that could impact its reputation. Clinical risk is overseen by quality, risk and safety governance structures, which monitors and manages the disability and palliative care services, including clinical governance, clinical audit and infection control. Additionally, failure to comply with applicable legislation, regulations and standards across a wide range of compliance areas could result in penalties, reputational harm and damage to relationships with clients, funders and donors.

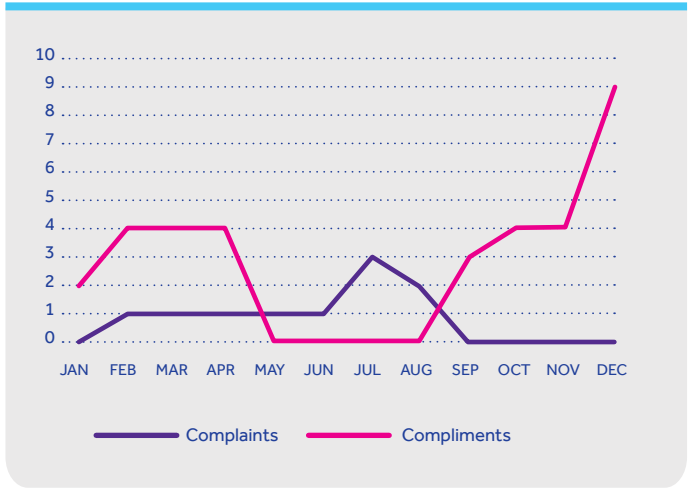
To mitigate this risk LauraLynn is a ‘Triple Lock Member’ of Charities Institute Ireland. ‘Triple Lock Membership’ provides assurances with regard to ethical fundraising, transparent reporting under Charities SORP (Statement of Recommended Practice) (FRS 102) and the principles of good governance.

Complaints and Compliments

The organisation has an effective and comprehensive system in place for individuals to provide feedback. LauraLynn welcomes and encourages feedback from the people who access our service and commits to learning from the information it receives and to use the learning to inform continuous quality improvements in our service.

LauraLynn also has a legal responsibility to ensure that there is a system in place to record and investigate any feedback that is critical of the service and requires a response; this is dealt through the the Complaints and Feedback Policy. LauraLynn is committed to ensuring that service users, their families and members of the public are aware of their rights throughout the complaints process.

DIAGRAM 4:
Complaints v Compliments 2024



Hospice Accreditation

We have continued partnering with CHKS to complete our second accreditation programme which commenced in July 2024. The accreditation process involves a thorough review of existing processes and systems, identifying areas for improvement by implementing these improvements to increase efficient operations, better performance, and higher quality outcomes.

By undertaking our second programme, the organisation demonstrates its proactive approach to mitigating risks and ensuring adherence to all relevant regulations and guidelines.



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STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE & MANAGEMENT

Governing Document

Both The Children's Sunshine Home and CSH Childcare Services companies are limited by guarantee with no share capital. The Board and relevant Board Sub-Committees have been established in line with the Memorandum and Articles of Association.

Subsidiary

CSH Childcare Services is accounted for as a subsidiary of The Children's Sunshine Home which controls the composition of its Board of Directors.

Directors, Secretary and Management

The Children's Sunshine Home and CSH Childcare Services companies are governed by the same Board of Directors, who are all volunteers. The trustees of the Children's Sunshine Home Trust are also Board members of The Children's Sunshine Home and CSH Childcare Services. The trustees have no beneficial interest in either The Children's Sunshine Home or its subsidiary, CSH Childcare Services.

The Board is ultimately responsible for governance, strategic direction, ethos and values. Additionally, the Board is responsible for ensuring that the organisation operates an appropriate system of financial control and complies with relevant laws and regulations.

The Board is supported by a Board Sub-Committee structure that deals effectively with specific aspects of the organisation's business and is chaired by a director. These committees consist of people who are experts in these areas and have relevant qualifications and experience. Each committee has clearly defined Terms of Reference. Members of the Executive Management Team attend the Sub-Committee meetings as required and report on their areas of expertise.

The directors and secretary, who served at any time during the financial year except as noted for appointments and resignations, were as follows:

Directors:

Sandra O'Malley (Chair)

Jacinta Quigley (Vice-Chair)

Tony McPoland (Resigned September 2024)

Kevin Keating

Paul Kerrigan

Angie Kinane (Resigned January 2024)

Patricia Lawler

Dr. Fiona McElligott

Deirdre O'Connor

Aidan Power (Appointed March 2024)

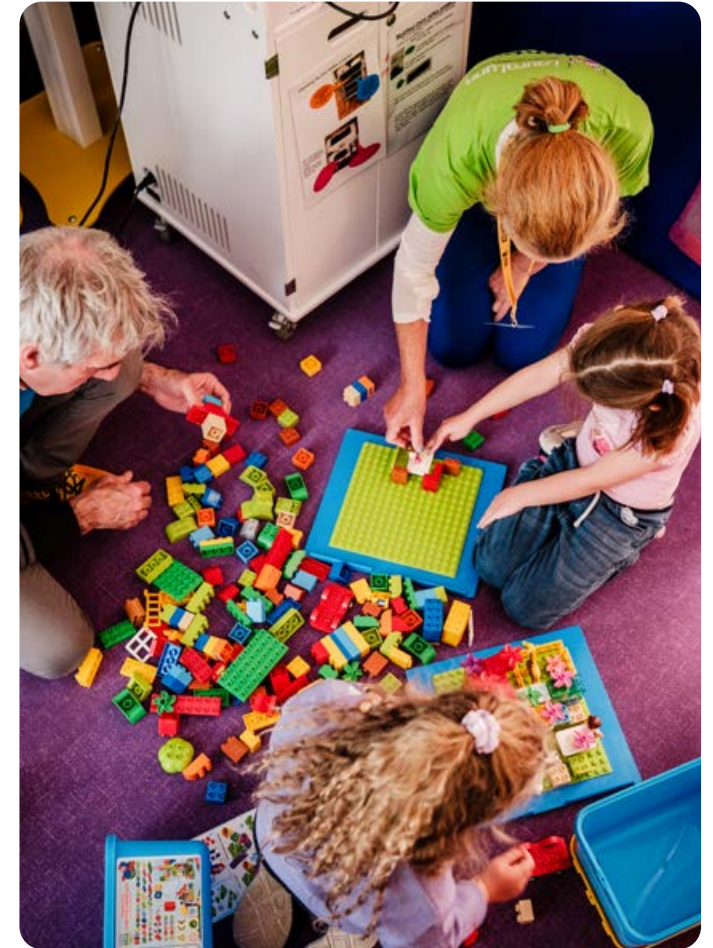
Kevin Murphy

Dr. Regina McQuillan

Olivia Rigney (Appointed June 2024)

Company Secretary:

Katie Devlin





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Executive Management Team:



Kerry McLaverty
Chief Executive Officer



Anne-Marie Carroll
Director of Nursing



Bernie Chapman
Quality, Risk and
Safety Manager



Bevan Ritchie
Head of Operations



Dr Joanne Balfe
Consultant Paediatrician



Katie Devlin
Head of Finance



Lauri Cryan
Head of Human
Resources



Sarah Meagher
Head of Fundraising



Sarah O'Callaghan
Head of Marketing and
Communications



Siobhan Reilly
Executive Assistant

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE & MANAGEMENT

Chief Executive Officer

The Board delegates operational responsibility for the day-to-day running of the services to the CEO. As Head of the Service, the CEO is accountable to the Board, but is not a member of the Board.

The Board appoints a CEO, recruited in accordance with the Public Service Management (Recruitment and Appointments) Act 2004. Appointment of the CEO is approved by the Board as supported by the Nominations, Remuneration and Corporate Governance Board Sub-Committee.



Recruitment, Induction and Training of Board Members

Board and Board Sub-Committee Members

The Board, through the Nominations, Remuneration and Corporate Governance Board Sub-Committee, reviews its membership on a constant basis and ensures that vacancies are filled in a timely fashion and with the required skillset. An agreed recruitment process is followed which includes meeting with the Chairman of the Board, the CEO and/or Chair of the Nominations, Remuneration and Corporate Governance Board Sub-Committee.

Board and Board Sub-Committee members of LauraLynn are then co-opted by the Board following recommendation from the Nominations, Remuneration and Corporate Governance Committee in accordance with its Memorandum and Articles of Association and then approved at the following AGM. Each director is appointed for a period of three years and is eligible for re-appointment for two further consecutive three-year periods (maximum tenure: nine years).

The Board Sub-Committee structure is reviewed every three years by the Board. Internal reviews of the Board are carried out annually and external board reviews are carried out every three years. The results of the reviews are communicated to the Board and any recommendations subsequently implemented.

Chairperson & Deputy Chairperson

The Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson are appointed by the Board. The appointment is for a period not exceeding three years and at the end of that term, may be reappointed for a further maximum term of three years (maximum tenure: six years).

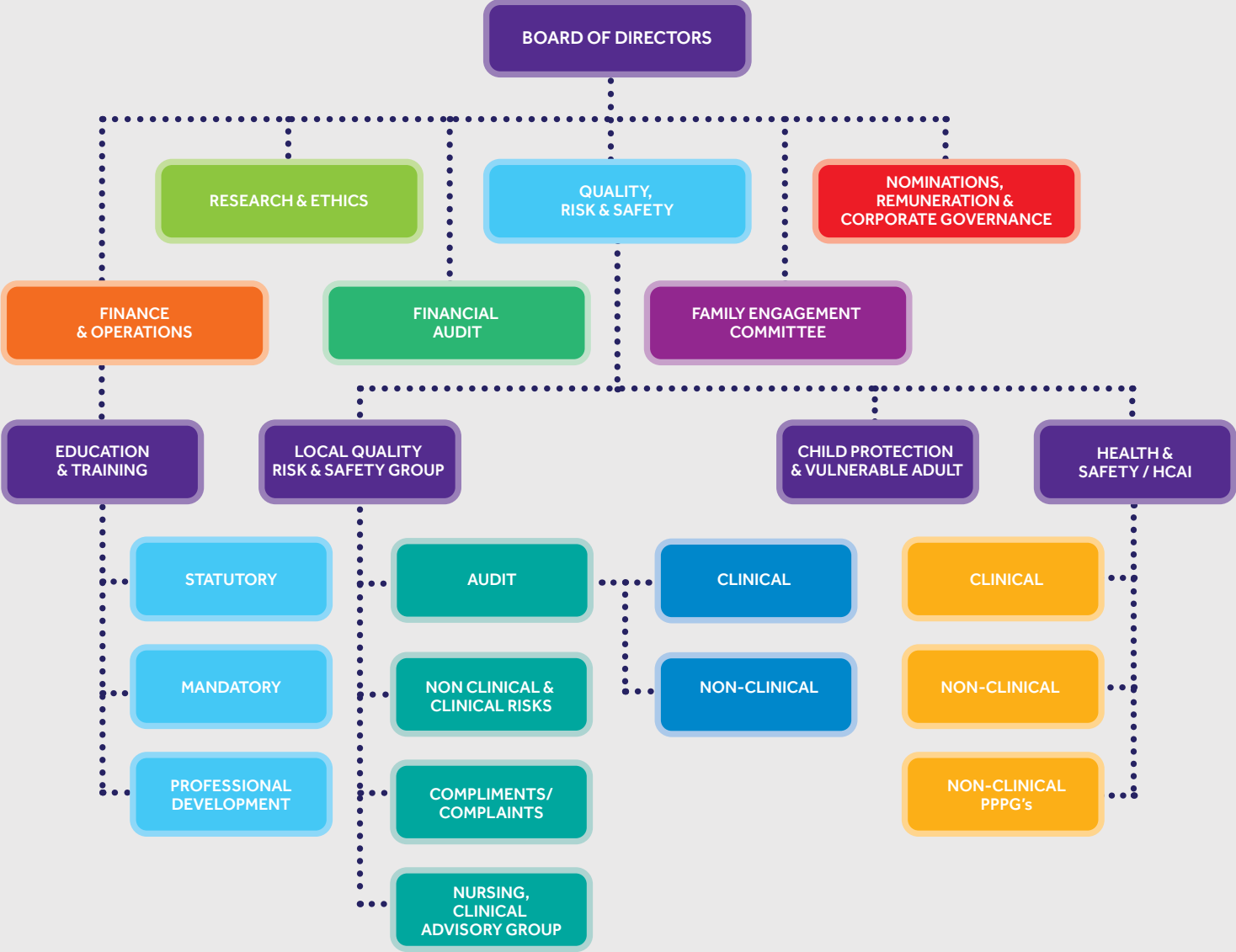
Induction and Training

All new Board Members are inducted into the organisation by the CEO, receiving a Board Handbook which includes the Code of Conduct for Board Members and a Conflict of Interest Policy.

All Board members are also given a full tour of the facilities and the opportunity to meet the Executive Management Team and staff across the organisation.

Every Board Meeting commences with a request for expressions of conflict of interest. Subsequent training for all Board members takes place as and when the need arises, particularly in relation to new laws and regulations.

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Board Sub-Committees

The Board sub-committees are as follows:

- **The Family Engagement Sub-Committee** provides an effective representative body for families, guardians and carers to communicate effectively with the Board of Directors and Staff. Having regard to the best interests of children, young adults and families in each strand of the organisation, this sub-committee develops communications from the Board of Directors and Staff to Families. It aims to develop and foster communication within the 'Family Groups' and to articulate and put forward suggestions, issues, concerns etc. for the improvement of the service in an open and constructive forum.

Chairperson: Kevin Murphy (Board Member)

- **The Finance and Operations Sub-Committee** is responsible for ensuring that the organisation is meeting its operational and financial targets as determined by the Board; developing the overall plans and budgets for the various operational divisions that are represented at committee meetings; and ensuring the successful delivery of services and special projects as allocated to budget holders by the Board. In addition, it monitors service activities including bed occupancy, referrals, HR statistics (for example, recruitment, retention and absenteeism) and fundraising activities.

Chairperson: Kevin Keating (Board Member)

- **The Financial Audit Sub-Committee** assists the Board in discharging its responsibility in ensuring the organisation adopts, maintains and applies appropriate and accurate accounting and financial reporting processes and procedures; facilitating the independence of the external audit process and addressing issues arising from the internal and external audit process; and ensuring that the organisation maintains effective risk management processes relating to the organisation's management of financial risks, prevention of corruption and waste and the system of internal control.

Chairperson: Olivia Rigney (Board Member)

- **The Nominations, Remuneration and Corporate Governance Sub-Committee** monitors and reviews the structure and composition of the Board. It deals with matters of Board succession, disciplinary issues at a senior executive level of the organisation, ensuring that remuneration for employees is in keeping with the service's Finance Management Policy and the requirements under HSE Compliance and Good Governance.

Chairperson: Patricia Lawler (Board Member)

- **The Quality, Risk and Safety Board Sub-Committee** oversees key aspects of the risk management process to ensure that the organisation adheres to policies and procedures governing care delivery; has stringent procedures in place for the recruitment of staff and volunteers and audits clinical practice to ensure compliance with the organisation's processes. It also oversees the work of the Child Protection and Vulnerable Adult Team who are dedicated to managing any reported issues and implementation of policies; and investigates and resolves issues which arise from the Complaints, Compliments and Feedback Team.

Chairperson: Paul Kerrigan (Board Member)

- **The Research and Ethics Sub-Committee** ensures that research is conducted according to best practice and maintains ethical standards of practice in research. It protects and preserves the subjects' rights and ensures that the practice of fully informed consent is observed. It provides reassurance to the public and outside bodies that high ethical standards are maintained.

Chairperson: Patricia Lawler (Board Member)

- **The Trustees** are responsible for overseeing the management of LauraLynn's assets (land, buildings and financial) on behalf of the service. Four Trustees are appointed from among the serving Board members. The Trustees meet separately to the Board three times per year.

Trustees: Sandra O'Malley, Kevin Keating, Angie Kinane, Tony McPoland, Jacinta Quigley and Kevin Murphy

Chairperson: Sandra O'Malley (Trustee)

From time to time, the Board will establish dedicated subgroups of the Board to focus on specific strategic objectives or projects. These groups will harness the respective skillsets of the Board members to support members of the Executive Management Team in achieving specific objectives. Two such working groups are in place:

- 1 **Transforming Lives / Discovery Project Sub-group** – established to support and guide the Executive Management Team in the completion of the transforming lives project for the residents of the Willow View adult disability service to transition to a new service provider.
- 2 **Strategy Sub-group** – established to support the CEO and Executive Management Team in monitoring and reporting on strategic objectives to the Board in order to facilitate effective discussion at Board meetings. This subgroup will also support and guide the planning process that will initiate the development of the new organisational strategic plan (2024-2028).



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Board and Board Sub-Committee Meetings

The Board and the Board Sub-Committees met on several occasions in 2024. Attendance by each board member at these meetings is set out in Table 6. No Family Engagement Committee meetings were held during the year as the committee terms of reference and committee structure were under review.

TABLE 6:

Board and Board Sub-Committees meetings attendance during 2024

	Board	Family Engagement	Finance & Operations	Financial Audit	Nominations & Corporate Governance	Quality, Risk & Safety	Research & Ethics	Trustees
Number of Meetings	6	—	6	3	3	6	2	3
Sandra O'Malley	5					6		2
Jacinta Quigley	5		6					2
Kevin Keating	6		6					3
Paul Kerrigan	5				3	6		
Patricia Lawler	5				3		2	
Dr. Fiona McElligott	6					5		
Tony McPoland	3 (3)			2 (2)	2 (2)			1 (2)
Dr. Regina McQuillan	5							
Kevin Murphy	6	—						2 (2)
Deirdre O'Connor	6		4					
Aidan Power	5 (5)							
Olivia Rigney	3 (3)			3				
Katie Devlin (Co. Sec)	6		6	3	3			3
Tony Golden (Ext)	—			3				

Note: The Research & Ethics Committee meetings depend on receipt of applications.



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Board Profiles

Sandra O'Malley



Sandra O'Malley is a healthcare consultant with a background in medical law and healthcare risk management. She is an experienced healthcare lawyer having previously practised in defence medical malpractice and having been Head of Legal Affairs of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland. Sandra works with healthcare clients delivering consultancy services and training in relation to healthcare risk management. As an executive coach and emotional intelligence assessor, she also delivers coaching and mentoring services.

Patricia Lawler



Patricia Lawler qualified as a nurse at St Vincent's Hospital and set up Scope Clinical Research Ltd. a Contract Clinical Research Organisation in April 1993. Patricia is currently the Managing Director at Scope, an experienced professional with over 25 years' experience in providing clinical research and training services in Ireland, the UK and Europe. Patricia is a member of the Institute of Directors (IoD) obtaining a Certificate in Company Direction IoD 2016 (Hons) and a Diploma in Company Direction IoD 2016.

Kevin Keating



Kevin Keating is a financial consultant. He is a chartered accountant who has worked directly in the financial services industry for over 28 years. He retired from Goodbody Stockbrokers at the end of 2016, having worked in Goodbody as a Director of Corporate Finance since 1996. Kevin joined the Board of LauraLynn in November 2017 and was appointed as a Trustee of the Children's Sunshine Home Trust in 2022.

Jacinta Quigley



Jacinta Quigley is the Director of EMEA Partner Business Operations at Microsoft. In this role, she enables partners in their operations with Microsoft, delivering on landing change with these partners, driving process optimisation and operationalising go-to market strategies. Since joining Microsoft in 2001, Jacinta held a number of roles across engineering, business management, supply chain and operations. She is a big advocate for diversity and inclusion and is the sponsor for the newly formed women@microsoftireland employee resource group. Prior to joining Microsoft, Jacinta worked as a consultant with Accenture for three years. She has a master's degree in Business Studies and a post-graduate diploma in IT both from Dublin City University. Jacinta joined the board in 2020.

Kevin Murphy



Kevin Murphy is a volunteer with LauraLynn for more than 20 years. He initially joined The Children's Sunshine Home as a volunteer with the adult residential Disability Service and since then has volunteered in a range of operations and activities programmes. He is part of our reading programme, events team and also spent time working with our fundraising team promoting the service through school visits. Professionally, Kevin has a background in Commercial Sales & Marketing, having spent the last 36 years involved in the Irish Chemical & Pharmaceutical industry. He joined the Board of LauraLynn in August 2020 and was appointed as a Trustee of the Children's Sunshine Home Trust in 2024.

Dr. Fiona McElligott



Dr. Fiona McElligott is a Consultant in Paediatric Palliative Medicine (PPM) to Children's Health Ireland at Temple Street, with liaison in reach to The Rotunda Hospital. She completed a Diploma in Paediatric Palliative Care in 2012, prior to pursuing sub-speciality GRID training in PPM in Yorkshire, UK. Prior to returning to Ireland, Fiona worked as a consultant in PPM in the National Health Service (UK), in association with Martin House Hospice for Children and Young People and Bluebellwood Children's Hospice. She was an executive member of the Yorkshire and Humber Children's Palliative Care Network as well as chair of its Education Subgroup. Fiona is also a member of the Strategic Advisory Committee on Children's Palliative Care. She joined the Board in 2019.



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Deirdre O'Connor



Deirdre O'Connor is a Chartered Urban Planner and has an MSc in Property Economics. She is an experienced planner advising on complex planning, sustainable development, legal, commercial, and environmental issues that have a bearing on property assets and on opportunities for property development. Deirdre is currently the Head of Planning and Deputy Chief Commercial Officer at the National Asset Management Agency (NAMA). She previously worked in planning consultancy as owner/director of a busy planning practice and served on the Board of Cluid Housing. Deirdre is a member of the Institute of Directors, is a Chartered Member of the Royal Town Planning Institute, and a Corporate Member of the Irish Planning Institute. She joined the Board in 2022.

Paul Kerrigan



Paul Kerrigan is General Counsel and Chief Risk Officer at Deloitte Ireland. In his role with Deloitte, Paul is responsible for Deloitte's legal and risk frameworks, data privacy and confidentiality, and corporate governance among other areas. He is a solicitor with over 15 years' experience in law firms and international and Irish businesses. He joined the Board in 2022.

Dr. Regina McQuillan



Dr. Regina McQuillan qualified from University College Dublin in 1985 and is working as a palliative medicine consultant at Beaumont Hospital and St Francis Hospice since 1996. She is interested in palliative care for disadvantaged groups, including people with intellectual disability, travellers and people experiencing homelessness. Regina is also involved in education, including medical students and postgraduate clinical staff. She is interested in medical ethics and has a MA in Ethics from Dublin City University and also holds an Advanced Diploma in Medical Law from Kings Inns. She joined the Board in 2023.

Olivia Rigney



Olivia Rigney is a Fellow of Chartered Accountants Ireland. She completed her training in PwC. Over the course of her career she has held a variety of senior financial positions, the last of which being Chief Financial Officer of PhoneWatch. She is currently on the board of a HSE funded non-profit organisation which provides mental health and intellectual disability support services. Olivia joined the Board of LauraLynn in 2024 having previously served as an external member on its Financial Audit Committee.

Aidan Power



Aidan Power has led marketing, communications, corporate affairs, and sustainability for retail and financial services over a 20-year career. As Director of Marketing, Communications, and Corporate Affairs for KBC Bank, he built and protected the brand in Ireland, setting the brand's future vision during significant change and was the country lead for KBC Group, engaging at a European level. In February 2024, Aidan became Tourism Ireland's Director of Central Marketing, responsible for global marketing strategy, communications, and content development. Previously, he held senior roles at EBS Building Society and Musgraves and was a board member of the Advertising Standards Authority of Ireland and Enactus Ireland. Aidan joined the Board of LauraLynn in 2024.

Remuneration of Directors

All directors are non-executive, receive no remuneration for their services, are drawn from diverse backgrounds, and possess a wide range of skills and experience. They give their time and advice freely, as volunteers, and although they are entitled to reimbursement for vouched expenses, no such claims have been made in 2024.



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Transparency and Accountability

In LauraLynn, credibility depends on public trust, so it is important that the commitment and trust of donors, funders and the public is taken very seriously, and business is conducted with the highest levels of accountability and transparency.

The Children's Sunshine Home and CSH Childcare Services are compliant with the Charities Regulatory Authority Charities Governance Code. They comply with the Guidelines for Charitable Organisations on Fundraising from the Public issued by the Charities Regulatory Authority and adhere to the data protection laws including the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR).

They are also fully compliant with the obligations of the National Vetting Bureau (Children and Vulnerable Persons) Act 2012 and apply Child Protection policies, based on the Children First Act 2015 and Children First Guidelines 2017, as well as Adult Vulnerability policies, best practice recruitment policies and procedures.

In addition to the annual statutory audit provided by Forvis Mazars, the internal audit function is outsourced to Crowe by the Financial Audit Committee to provide further independent and objective assurance of the financial procedures and practices of the organisation. The Board is satisfied that no incidence of financial mismanagement has occurred and remain vigilant with regard to this.

Accountability and transparency are vital in everything we do. This report incorporates requirements as outlined in the Statement of Recommended Practice for Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102). LauraLynn is committed to and compliant with the "Charities Institute Ireland" triple lock standards of transparent reporting, good fundraising and governance and has adopted the Guidelines for Charitable Organisations on Fundraising from the Public and the Charity SORP (Standard of Reporting Practice under FRS102). LauraLynn has also fully implemented the Charities Regulatory Authority Charities Governance Code.

Information Relevant to Employee Matters

Staff safety, health and wellbeing is governed by employment legislation and health and safety standards. LauraLynn takes its duty of care for staff seriously by ensuring the necessary steps are taken to ensure compliance with the health and safety standards including the adoption of a safety statement.

LauraLynn communicates and consults regularly with all employees on matters relating to the organisation's performance and on other issues affecting them. Employees are encouraged to get actively involved by providing feedback via questionnaires, focus group sessions and team meetings.

LauraLynn's Human Resources policies ensure that:

- Staff members receive information and training on safe work practices, infection control, child protection, medication storage and administration, and the reporting of incidents, accidents and near misses.
- External Occupational Health supports for staff are available as required including access to a confidential 24/7/365 counselling service via the LauraLynn Employee Assistance Programme (EAP). There are also designated Support Contact People under the Dignity at Work policy that staff can avail of.
- Members of staff are debriefed following a traumatic incident or where staff members are exposed to a stressful situation.
- All members of staff are paid in accordance with HSE pay scales with the exception of the CEO and some senior members of the Fundraising and Marketing and Communications teams who are paid in line with current market rates.

Information Relevant to Environmental Matters

LauraLynn is dedicated to environmental sustainability and has implemented various measures to minimise its carbon footprint. Here is an overview of our efforts:

In 2024, we initiated our Green Campus Strategy to educate, encourage, and assist all staff, volunteers, service users, and visitors in contributing to a greener campus and beyond. We engaged a sustainability consultant for a comprehensive campus review to identify opportunities to reduce our carbon footprint and enhance energy efficiency.

Our new Catering Services Contractor is committed to including catering waste in our sustainability efforts. We strive to incorporate sustainability and green initiatives in all our procurement and tendering processes.

We planted a new 20-foot Christmas tree to replace the annual cut tree, reducing the carbon footprint associated with cutting and transporting a tree each year. Our compost bays produced approximately one tonne of compost during the year. Donated bulbs were planted throughout the site to attract pollinators. We created a new herb and vegetable garden to engage with our service users and provide fresh produce for our restaurant.

We completed the replacement of all five boilers with newer, more efficient models, estimated to be 10% more efficient than the previous units. Various office spaces had their windows replaced with A-rated double-glazed units, resulting in improved heat retention. Our photovoltaic (PV) solar panels produced a total yield of 19.26 MWh.



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We continue to focus on maximising the fuel efficiency of the LauraLynn vehicle fleet. All leased vehicles are now petrol hybrids, which are approximately 42.86% more fuel-efficient than their petrol counterparts. In 2024, we received a donation of a fully electric vehicle (EV) Hyundai Kona, used by the Dublin-based community team. The EV is charged on-site and has a range of 280 km, delivering approximately €700 in annual fuel savings.

In line with mandatory requirements, we continue to report to the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) on our Section 38 Disability Service energy usage as we work towards the 2030 Climate Action Targets.

In 2025, we plan to fully engage all staff, service users, and other stakeholders with our Green Campus Strategy and complete our site sustainability review. These initiatives highlight LauraLynn's dedication to sustainability and reducing our environmental impact.

Public Benefit

LauraLynn meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102 as an organisation whose primary objective is to provide care and services to children with palliative care needs and complex disabilities, and a home for adults with complex disabilities.

Lobbying and Political Contributions

There were no political contributions in 2024 (2023: Nil), and as a result no disclosures are required under the Electoral Act, 1997. As required under the Regulation of Lobbying Act 2015, LauraLynn records all lobbying activity and communications engaged in with the Designated Public Officials (DPOs). It has made all the returns and submissions required by the Act.

Accounting Records

The measures that the directors have taken to secure compliance with the requirements of Sections 281 to 285 of the Companies Act 2014, with regard to the keeping of accounting records, are the employment of appropriately qualified accounting personnel and the maintenance of computerised accounting systems. The group's accounting records are maintained at the group's registered office at Leopardstown Road, Foxrock, Dublin 18.

Disclosure of Information to Auditors

In the case of each of the persons who are directors at the time the Directors' Report and Financial Statements are approved:

- a So far as the director is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the group's auditors are unaware; and
- b Each director has taken all steps that ought to have been taken by the director in order to make himself/herself aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the group's auditors are aware of that information.

Auditors

The auditors, Forvis Mazars, Chartered Accountants and Statutory Audit Firm have expressed their willingness to continue in office in accordance with the provision of Section 383(2) of the Companies Act 2014.

Approved by the Board and signed on its behalf by:

Sandra O'Malley

Sandra O'Malley
Director

Kevin Keating

Kevin Keating
Director

Date: 8th April 2025



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DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES STATEMENT

The directors are responsible for preparing the Directors' Report and the financial statements in accordance with the Companies Act 2014 and the applicable regulations.

Irish company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under the law, the directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with FRS 102 the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland ("relevant financial reporting framework").

Under company law, the directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities and financial position of the company as at the financial year end date and of the statement of financial activities of the company for the financial year and otherwise comply with the Companies Act 2014.

In preparing those financial statements, the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies for the Parent Company and the Group financial statements and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the applicable accounting standards, identify those standards, and note the effect and the reasons for any material departure from those standards; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

- The directors are responsible for ensuring that the company keeps or causes to be kept adequate accounting records which correctly explain and record the transactions of the company, enable at any time the assets, liabilities and financial position of the company to be determined with reasonable accuracy, enable them to ensure that the financial statements and Directors' Report comply with the Companies Act 2014 and enable the financial statements to be audited. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The directors are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the company's website.

Approved by the Board and signed on its behalf by:

Sandra O'Malley
Director

Kevin Keating
Director

Date: 8th April 2025



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AUDITORS REPORT

Independent auditor's report to the members of The Children's Sunshine Home

Report on the audit of the financial statements

Opinion

We have audited the consolidated financial statements of The Children's Sunshine Home for the year ended 31 December 2024 which comprise the Company Statement of Financial Activities, Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities, Company Balance Sheet, Consolidated Balance Sheet, Company Statement of Cash Flows, Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows and the notes to the financial statements, including the summary of significant accounting policies set out in note 1. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is Irish Law and FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland issued in the United Kingdom by the Financial Reporting Council (FRS 102).

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities and financial position of the company as at 31 December 2024 and of its result for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland; and
- have been properly prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2014.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (Ireland) (ISAs (Ireland)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report.

We are independent of the Company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of financial statements in Ireland, including the Ethical Standard for Auditors (Ireland) issued by the Irish Auditing and Accounting Supervisory Authority (IAASA), and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the Company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the directors with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The directors are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.



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Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2014

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit, we report that:

- the information given in the directors' report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements;
- the directors' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements;
- the accounting records of the Company were sufficient to permit the financial statements to be readily and properly audited; and
- the financial statements are in agreement with the accounting records.

We have obtained all the information and explanations which, to the best of our knowledge and belief, are necessary for the purposes of our audit.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

Based on the knowledge and understanding of the Company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified any material misstatements in the directors' report.

The Companies Act 2014 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion, the requirements of any of Sections 305 to 312 of the Act, which relate to disclosures of directors' remuneration and transactions are not complied with by the Company. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Respective responsibilities

Responsibilities of directors for the financial statements

As explained more fully in the directors' responsibilities statement set out on [page 70](#), the directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the applicable financial reporting framework that give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the directors are responsible for assessing the Company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Company or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (Ireland) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Irish Auditing and Accounting Supervisory Authority's website at: http://www.iaasa.ie/getmedia/b2389013-1cf6-458b-9b8f-a98202dc9c3a/Description_of_auditors_responsibilities_for_audit.pdf. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

The purpose of our audit work and to whom we owe our responsibilities

Our report is made solely to the Company's members, as a body, in accordance with Section 391 of the Companies Act 2014. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Company and the Company's members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Aedin Morkan
for and on behalf of
Forvis Mazars Chartered Accountants & Statutory Audit Firm
Harcourt Centre
Block 3
Harcourt Road
Dublin 2

Date: 15 April 2025



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COMPANY STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

(Including An Income And Expenditure Account)

For the financial year ended 31 December 2024

	Notes	2024 Restricted Funds €	2024 Unrestricted Funds €	2024 Total €	2023 Restricted Funds €	2023 Unrestricted Funds €	2023 Total €
Income from:							
Charitable activities	4	4,928,112	—	4,928,112	4,702,733	—	4,702,733
Other trading activities	5	1,103	10,043	11,146	1,946	18,995	20,941
Total Income		4,929,215	10,043	4,939,258	4,704,679	18,995	4,723,674
Expenditure on:							
Charitable activities	6	4,861,304	10,043	4,871,347	4,560,565	18,995	4,579,559
Total Expenditure		4,861,304	10,043	4,871,347	4,560,565	18,995	4,579,559
Net Income		67,911	—	67,911	144,115	—	144,115
Net movement in funds		67,911	—	67,911	144,115	—	144,115
Reconciliation of funds:							
Total funds brought forward		413,328	—	413,328	269,213	—	269,213
Total funds carried forward	13	481,239	—	481,239	413,328	—	413,328

There are no other recognised gains or losses other than those listed above.
All income and expenditure derives from continuing activities.

Foreign currency exchange rate differences are zero.

The notes on  pages 80 to 109 form part of these financial statements.



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CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

(Including An Income And Expenditure Account)

For the financial year ended 31 December 2024

	Notes	2024 Restricted Funds €	2024 Unrestricted Funds €	2024 Total €	2023 Restricted Funds €	2023 Unrestricted Funds €	2023 Total €
Income from:							
Donations and legacies	3	7,693,365	24,200	7,717,565	6,082,243	37,201	6,119,444
Charitable activities	4	7,228,112	—	7,228,112	7,038,133	—	7,038,133
Other trading activities	5	32,988	28,041	61,029	23,814	52,856	76,670
Total Income		14,954,465	52,241	15,006,706	13,144,190	90,057	13,234,247
Expenditure on:							
Charitable activities	6	14,706,816	28,041	14,734,857	12,830,022	52,856	12,882,878
Value of gifts in kind expended		203,938	—	203,938	207,254	—	207,254
Total Expenditure		14,910,754	28,041	14,938,795	13,037,276	52,856	13,090,132
Net Income		43,711	24,200	67,911	106,914	37,201	144,115
Net movement in funds		43,711	24,200	67,911	106,914	37,201	144,115
Reconciliation of funds:							
Total funds brought forward		437,528	270,324	707,852	330,614	233,123	563,737
Total funds carried forward	13	481,239	294,524	775,763	437,528	270,324	707,852

There are no other recognised gains or losses other than those listed above.
All income and expenditure derives from continuing activities.

Foreign currency exchange rate differences are zero.

The notes on  pages 80 to 109 form part of these financial statements.



COMPANY BALANCE SHEET

As at 31 December 2024

	Notes	2024 €	2023 €
Fixed Assets			
Tangible assets	10	2,604	4,091
Current Assets			
Debtors	11	413,292	548,346
Cash at bank and in hand		691,928	535,035
		1,105,220	1,083,381
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	12	(626,585)	(674,144)
Net Current Assets		478,635	409,237
Net Assets		481,239	413,328
Represented By:			
Restricted funds	13	481,239	413,328
Unrestricted funds	13	—	—
Total Charity Funds		481,239	413,328

The notes on  pages 80 to 109 form part of these financial statements.

The statutory financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Directors and signed on its behalf by:

Sandra O'Malley
Director

Kevin Keating
Director

Date: 8 April 2025

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CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET

As at 31 December 2024

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	Notes	2024 €	2023 €
Fixed Assets			
Tangible assets	10	8,911	11,858
Current Assets			
Debtors	11	1,202,175	1,069,158
Cash at bank and in hand		832,205	1,058,402
		2,034,380	2,127,560
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	12	(1,267,528)	(1,431,566)
Net Current Assets		766,852	695,994
Net Assets		775,763	707,852
Represented By:			
Restricted funds	13	481,239	437,528
Unrestricted funds	13	294,524	270,324
Total Charity Funds		775,763	707,852

The notes on  pages 80 to 109 form part of these financial statements.

The statutory financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Directors and signed on its behalf by:

Sandra O'Malley
Director

Kevin Keating
Director

Date: 8 April 2025



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COMPANY STATEMENT OF CASHFLOWS

For the financial year ended 31 December 2024

	Notes	2024 €	2023 €
Net cash provided by operating activities	14	156,893	323,688
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		156,893	323,688
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of fixed assets		—	—
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of financial year		535,035	211,347
Cash and cash equivalents at end of financial year		691,928	535,035

The notes on  pages 80 to 109 form part of these financial statements.



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CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASHFLOWS

For the financial year ended 31 December 2024

	Notes	2024 €	2023 €
Net cash used in operating activities	14	(226,197)	(535,217)
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of fixed assets	10	—	—
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		(226,197)	(535,217)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of financial year		1,058,402	1,593,619
Cash and cash equivalents at end of financial year		832,205	1,058,402

The notes on  pages 80 to 109 form part of these financial statements.



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1. Accounting Policies

General Information

The Children's Sunshine Home is a public benefit entity incorporated in Ireland under the Companies Act 2014. The address of the registered office is Leopardstown Road, Foxrock, Dublin 18.

The objectives of the company are charitable in nature and it has been granted charitable tax exemption by the Revenue Commissioners (Charity number CHY 2633) and is registered with the Charities Regulatory Authority (CRA number 20003289). The nature of the company's operations and its principal activities are set out in the Directors' Report on  pages 16 to 68.

The company and its subsidiary are limited by guarantee and have no share capital. In accordance with Section 1180(8) of the Companies Act 2014, the company is exempt from including the word "Limited" in its name.

LauraLynn Ireland's Children's Hospice (LauraLynn) is comprised of three distinct entities, all of which are registered charities: The Children's Sunshine Home, CSH Childcare Services and The Children's Sunshine Home Trust.

The Children's Sunshine Home (the 'Disability Service') provides care and support to children and adults with intellectual disabilities.

CSH Childcare Services (the 'Hospice Service') provides specialist high quality short break stays, in-home support, crisis care, symptom management, end-of-life care and bereavement support to children with life-limiting conditions and palliative care needs, as well as support for their families.

The Children's Sunshine Home Trust (the 'Trust') was founded in 1925 and its primary objective was to provide care for sick children. Today, the Trust raises and invests funds to enable the continued operation of the services of LauraLynn. The trustees act as guardians of the organisation's assets and are entrusted with the land and buildings on its campus on Leopardstown Road, Foxrock, Dublin 18.

The Trust does not form part of the consolidated financial statements. Further information regarding The Children's Sunshine Home Trust is included in its Trustees' Reports and Financial Statements, which are available on the LauraLynn website: www.lauralynn.ie.



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1. Accounting Policies (continued)

Basis of Preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the going concern basis and in accordance with the historical cost convention. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is the Companies Act 2014, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" issued by the Financial Reporting Council and the Statement of Recommended Practice (Charities SORP (FRS102)) as published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales, the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland and the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator which are recognised by the UK Financial Reporting Council (FRC) as the appropriate body to issue SORPs for the charity sector in the UK. Financial reporting in line with SORP is considered best practice for charities in Ireland.

The financial statements are presented in Euro €.

Statement of Compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2014. These financial statements also comply with the Statement of Recommended Practice (Charities SORP FRS 102) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities".

Basis of Consolidation

The consolidated financial statements incorporate the financial statements of the company and its subsidiary undertaking for the financial year ended 31 December 2024. CSH Childcare Services is accounted for a subsidiary undertaking as the Board of The Children's Sunshine Home has the power to appoint and control the Board of CSH Childcare Services.

Going Concern

The financial statements have been prepared on the going concern basis.

In assessing that the financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis, the directors have given due consideration to further cost savings, value improvement, fundraising initiatives and strategic planning. In addition, there are regular discussions with the HSE regarding the level of funding being provided to The Children's Sunshine Home and also funding for CSH Childcare Services.



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1. Accounting Policies (continued)

Going Concern (continued)

The company is dependent on the HSE to provide adequate funding to enable it to fund its services. The HSE has not given any indication that it will withdraw its financial support from the company for the foreseeable future and has continued to provide funding for 2024. The HSE has indicated that funding will be available during 2025 at a similar level to that of 2024.

The company's subsidiary, CSH Childcare Services, is primarily dependent on voluntary contributions from The Children's Sunshine Home Trust for the continued funding of the hospice service. The trustees have advised the Board that they intend to continue to support the service for the foreseeable future. Additionally, the HSE have committed to provide annual funding under a Section 39 Service Agreement.

Income Recognition

Income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities in accordance with Charities SORP which is based on three criteria being met, which are entitlement, measurement and probability.

- i The Revenue Grants received and receivable from the HSE are accounted for on the basis of the allocated amount notified by the HSE for that financial year.
- ii Funding received from the Children's Sunshine Home Trust is recognised when receivable.
- iii Hospital Services Maintenance income comprises income from patients directly, and from the HSE, and is recognised at the time the services are provided.
- iv Superannuation contributions from staff are recognised when the deduction is made.
- v Gifts in Kind which are received from donors and used in the service are included in the financial statements in the period in which they are received or when the service is performed. They are valued at the cost the company would be reasonably expected to pay in an arm's length transaction and accounted for at valuation. In accordance with Charities SORP, volunteer time is not recognised in the financial statements.
- vi Capital Grants received are recognised as restricted income in the financial year and the depreciation on the related capital asset is charged against the restricted capital fund.
- vii Revenue Grants received are recognised when the company has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred.
- viii Income from all other sources is recognised when received.



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1. Accounting Policies (continued)

Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised when there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs incurred in undertaking the various activities which are performed for the benefit of the Group's beneficiaries including those support costs and costs relating to the charity apportioned to charitable activities.

Allocation of Support Costs

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Support costs include back office costs, finance, personnel, payroll and governance costs which support the charity's programmes and activities. The basis on which support costs have been allocated is set out in note 6.

Governance costs are defined as costs related to the general running of the Group as opposed to the direct management functions inherent in generating funds, and include audit and accountancy, legal and professional fees.

Funds of the Charity

All transactions of the company have been recorded and reported as income into or expenditure from funds of the charity which are classified as 'restricted' or 'unrestricted'.

Restricted Funds

Income is restricted where by the donor or grant making institution has specified that it must be used for a particular purpose or where it has been raised for a particular purpose. All other income is treated as unrestricted. Expenditure is treated as being made out of restricted funds to the extent that it meets the criteria specified by the donor or grant making institution.

Unrestricted Funds

All other income is treated as unrestricted. Unrestricted funds represent amounts which are expendable at the discretion of the Board of Directors in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.



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1. Accounting Policies (continued)

Foreign Currency

The functional currency of The Children's Sunshine Home is considered to be Euro (€) because that is the currency of the primary economic environment in which the company operates.

Transactions in foreign currency are recorded at the rate ruling at the date of the transaction. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated at the rate of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date. All differences are taken to the Statement of Financial Activities.

Tangible Fixed Assets

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any allowance for impairment. Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets at rates calculated to write off the cost or valuation, less estimated residual value, of each asset on a straight-line basis over its estimated useful life, as follows:

Buildings	—	50 years
Motor Vehicles	—	5 years
Equipment	—	5 years

Residual value represents the estimated amount which would currently be obtained from disposal of an asset, after deducting estimated costs of disposal, if the asset were already of the age and in the condition estimated at the end of its estimated useful life.

Building improvements are depreciated based on the remaining useful life of buildings at the time the building improvements are made.

Impairment of Assets

Assets other than those measured at fair value, are assessed for indicators of impairment at each balance sheet date. If there is objective evidence of impairment, an impairment loss is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities as described below.

An asset is impaired where there is objective evidence that, as a result of one or more events that occurred after initial recognition, the estimated recoverable value of the asset has been reduced to below its carrying amount. The recoverable amount of an asset is the higher of its fair value less costs to sell and its value in use.



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1. Accounting Policies (continued)

Impairment of Assets (continued)

Where indicators exist for a decrease in impairment loss, the prior impairment loss is tested to determine reversal. An impairment loss is reversed on an individual impaired asset to the extent that the revised recoverable value does not lead to a revised carrying amount higher than the carrying value had no impairment been recognised.

Prepayments

Prepayments are expenses paid in advance and recorded as assets before these are utilised. Prepayments are apportioned over the period covered by the payment and charged to the Statement of Financial Activities when incurred. Prepayments that are expected to be realised no more than 12 months after the reporting period are classified as current assets. Otherwise, these are classified as non current assets.

Financial Instruments

The company only holds basic financial instruments and has chosen to adopt Section 11 of FRS 102 in respect of financial instruments. Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the company becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument. Financial liabilities are classified according to the substance of the contractual arrangements entered into.

Financial assets and liabilities

All financial assets and liabilities are initially measured at transaction price (including transaction costs), unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction. If an arrangement constitutes a finance transaction, the financial asset or financial liability is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument. Financial assets include debtors and cash at bank and in hand. Financial liabilities include creditors (excluding PAYE/PRSI).

Financial assets are derecognised when and only when a) the contractual rights to the cash flows from the financial assets expire or are settled, b) the company transfers to another party substantially all of the risks and rewards of ownership of the financial asset, or c) the company, despite having retained some significant risks and rewards of ownership, has transferred control of the asset to another party and the other party has the practical ability to sell the asset in its entirety to an unrelated third party and is able to exercise the ability unilaterally and without needing to impose additional restrictions on the transfer.



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1. Accounting Policies (continued)

Financial Instruments (continued)

Financial liabilities are derecognised only when the obligation specified in the contract is discharged, cancelled or expires.

Balances that are classified as payable or receivable within one year on initial recognition are measured at the undiscounted amount of the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received, net of impairment.

Taxation

Both the company and its subsidiary have been granted charitable tax exempt status by the Revenue Commissioners and therefore no provision for Corporation tax is required.

The Children's Sunshine Home: CHY number 2633

CSH Childcare Services: CHY number 20245

Pensions

Defined Benefit Schemes

Nominated Health Agencies Superannuation Scheme (NHASS)

The company administers a defined benefit pension scheme in respect of employees eligible for inclusion under the Nominated Health Agencies Superannuation Scheme (NHASS) operated by the HSE. The scheme is administered and funded by the Department of Health and Children. The company acts as an agent in the operation of the scheme and does not contribute financially to the scheme.

Contributions are received from eligible employees only. By agreement with the HSE and the Department of Health and Children, pension contributions received may be offset against pension payments made and the surplus or deficit each financial year forms part of the funding for the company.

Costs arising from the payment of entitlements under the scheme as well as refunds to former employees are treated as expenses in the financial statements. The directors are of the understanding that the company has no responsibility for any liability that falls due as a result of any potential under-funding of the scheme. Refunds of contributions paid are charged to the income and expenditure account when notification is received from the Department of Health and Children to make a payment to an employee who is leaving the scheme.

No provision has been made in respect of the accrued benefits payable to current or former employees (see ➞ note 16, 'Pension Commitments').



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1. Accounting Policies (continued)

Pensions (continued)

Single Public Service Pension Scheme ('SPSPS')

The Public Service (Single Scheme and Other Provision) Act 2012 introduced the new Single Public Service Pension Scheme ('SPSPS') which commenced with effect from 1 January 2013. All new staff members to the company, who are new entrants to the Public Sector, on or after 1 January 2013 are members of the Single Scheme. In line with the guidance of this scheme, all employee contributions are paid over to the State pension account and not included in the Statement of Financial Activities. The Department of Public Expenditure and Reform ('DPER') is responsible for the SPSPS and under the Public Service Pensions (Single Scheme and Other Provision) Act 2012, Section 44 (1) (b), payments arising under this Single Scheme to retiring employees shall be paid from funds provided by the Oireachtas for that purpose.

Defined Contribution Scheme

The subsidiary company, CSH Childcare Services, has established a defined contribution pension scheme and the assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the company in an independently administered fund. The annual contributions payable are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities (see note 16, 'Pension Commitments').

Employee benefits

The costs of short-term employee benefits are recognised as a liability and an expense.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the Company is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.



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2. Critical Accounting Judgements and Key Sources of Estimation Uncertainty

In the application of the company's accounting policies, which are described in note 1, the directors are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

Estimating useful lives of tangible fixed assets:

The Company reviews annually the estimated useful lives of tangible fixed assets based on the asset's expected utilisation, market demands and future technological development. It is possible that the factors mentioned may change in the future, which could cause a change in estimated useful lives.

There were no changes in the estimated useful lives of tangible fixed assets during 2024. The net book value of tangible fixed assets as at 31 December 2024 is €8,911 (2023: €11,858).

The following are the critical judgements that the directors have made in the process of applying the accounting policies and that have the most significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements.

Pensions

Nominated Health Agencies Superannuation Scheme (NHASS)

Certain employees participate in the Nominated Health Agencies Superannuation Scheme (NHASS) operated by the HSE. The NHASS is a scheme which is administered and funded by the Minister for Health and Children. In the judgement of the directors, the funds required to pay current pension liabilities, under the NHASS, as they arise will continue to be provided by the Department of Health and Children. Therefore, they believe that it is not necessary for the financial statements to make provision for the net assets/liabilities at the balance sheet date in respect of pension entitlements accrued to that date by the employees of the company, nor the disclosure requirements of the Charities SORP (FRS102). See  note 16 for further details.



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2. Critical Accounting Judgements and Key Sources of Estimation Uncertainty (continued)

Pensions (continued)
Single Public Service Pension Scheme ('SPSPS')
The NHASS closed to new members with effect from 31 December 2012. With effect from 1 January 2013 a new scheme – the Single Public Service Pension Scheme (SPSPS) commenced. Pension contributions under this scheme are remitted to the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform. The directors are of the understanding that the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform ("DPER") is responsible for this Single Scheme and payments arising under this scheme to retiring employees are payable by the state. They also believe that it is not necessary for the financial statements to make provision for the net assets/liabilities at the balance sheet date in respect of pension entitlements accrued to that date by the employees of the company nor the disclosure requirements of FRS 102.

3. Donations and Legacies

Company
The company was not directly in receipt of any income from donations and legacies in either the financial year or the preceding year.

Group	Restricted €	Unrestricted €	2024 Total €	2023 Total €
Funding from The Children's Sunshine Home Trust (note 17)	7,489,427	24,200	7,513,627	5,912,190
Value of gifts in kind received	203,938	—	203,938	207,254
	7,693,365	24,200	7,717,565	6,119,444

The source of all income received was the Republic of Ireland.



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4. Income from Charitable Activities

Company

	Restricted €	Unrestricted €	2024 Total €	2023 Total €
HSE Revenue Grants	4,653,604	—	4,653,604	4,427,868
Hospital services maintenance income	36,034	—	36,034	49,284
Superannuation deductions	238,474	—	238,474	225,581
	4,928,112	—	4,928,112	4,702,733

Group

	Restricted €	Unrestricted €	2024 Total €	2023 Total €
HSE Revenue Grants	6,953,604	—	6,953,604	6,763,268
Hospital services maintenance income	36,034	—	36,034	49,284
Superannuation deductions	238,474	—	238,474	225,581
	7,228,112	—	7,228,112	7,038,133

The source of all income received was the Republic of Ireland.

The terms and conditions of funding received under Department of Public Expenditure and Reform circular 13/2014 are complied with.

The State's investment is protected and will not be used as security for any other activity without prior consultation with the HSE. The Company is compliant with the Circular 44/2006 "Tax Clearance Procedures Grants, Subsidies and Similar Type Payments".

HSE Revenue Grants received were a Section 38 grant of €4,653,604 (2023: €4,427,868) and a Section 39 grant of €2,300,000 (2023: €2,335,400).

The Section 38 grant was for the purpose of providing respite and residential care to children and adults with complex disabilities in The Children's Sunshine Home (Disability Service).

The Section 39 Grant was for the purpose of maintaining palliative care services for children.



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5. Income from Other Trading Activities

Company

	Restricted €	Unrestricted €	2024 Total €	2023 Total €
Canteen receipts	—	10,043	10,043	18,995
Miscellaneous income*	1,103	—	1,103	1,946
	1,103	10,043	11,146	20,941

Group

	Restricted €	Unrestricted €	2024 Total €	2023 Total €
Canteen receipts	—	28,041	28,041	52,856
Miscellaneous income*	32,988	—	32,988	23,814
	32,988	28,041	61,029	76,670

*Miscellaneous income mainly relates to a reclaim of VAT, education funding from the University of Limerick and pension refunds.

The source of all income received was the Republic of Ireland.



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6. Expenditure on Charitable Activities

Company

Activity:

Adult Disability Services

Children's Disability Services

Children's Palliative Care

Direct Care Pay Costs €	Support Costs €	2024 Total €
1,187,861	476,389	1,664,250
895,779	967,212	1,862,991
1,043,854	300,252	1,344,106
3,127,494	1,743,853	4,871,347

Analysis of Support Costs:

Pay Costs:

Management and Administration

Support

Retired employees*

Adult Disability Services €	Children's Disability Services €	Children's Palliative Care €	2024 Total €
98,175	199,324	258,103	555,602
47,669	96,783	42,149	186,601
91,922	186,629	—	278,551
146,778	298,003	—	444,781
30,537	61,999	—	92,536
30,631	62,191	—	92,822
3,947	8,014	—	11,961
26,239	53,272	—	79,511
491	997	—	1,488
476,389	967,212	300,252	1,743,853

*Payments to retired employees includes any pension lump sum payments paid in the period (note 7).

Where costs are not directly attributable to an individual service, the shared cost is allocated between the activities on the basis of the time spent for pay costs and the utilisation of maintenance and overhead related expenditure by activities.



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6. Expenditure on Charitable Activities (continued)

Company

	Direct Care Pay Costs €	Support Costs €	2023 Total €
Activity:			
Adult Disability Services	1,092,779	451,587	1,544,366
Children's Disability Services	857,001	916,862	1,773,863
Children's Palliative Care	992,108	269,222	1,261,330
	2,941,888	1,637,671	4,579,559

Analysis of Support Costs:

	Adult Disability Services €	Children's Disability Services €	Children's Palliative Care €	2023 Total €
Pay Costs:				
Management and Administration	92,420	187,643	242,399	522,462
Support	50,317	102,158	26,823	179,298
Retired employees	85,903	174,411	—	260,314
Non Pay Costs:				
Governance and Overhead Costs	135,534	275,175	—	410,709
Drugs and Medical Equipment	29,443	59,778	—	89,221
Catering and Catering Supplies	32,480	65,944	—	98,423
Education and Training	4,908	9,964	—	14,872
Maintenance	20,092	40,792	—	60,884
Depreciation	491	997	—	1,488
	451,587	916,862	269,222	1,637,671



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6. Expenditure on Charitable Activities (continued)

Group

Activity:

Adult Disability Services

Children's Disability Services

Children's Palliative Care

Direct Care Pay Costs €	Support Costs €	2024 Total €
1,370,376	1,350,128	2,720,504
1,217,341	2,597,853	3,815,194
5,369,498	2,829,661	8,199,159
7,957,215	6,777,642	14,734,857

Analysis of Support Costs:

Pay Costs:

Management and Administration

Support

Retired employees*

Non Pay Costs:

Governance and Overhead Costs

Drugs and Medical Equipment

Catering and Catering Supplies

Education and Training

Maintenance

Depreciation

Adult Disability Services €	Children's Disability Services €	Children's Palliative Care €	2024 Total €
420,917	711,274	2,766,079	3,898,270
54,746	111,151	63,582	229,479
91,922	186,629	—	278,551
516,004	1,047,644	—	1,563,648
72,449	147,093	—	219,542
91,112	184,986	—	276,098
28,730	58,331	—	87,061
73,275	148,770	—	222,045
973	1,975	—	2,948
1,350,128	2,597,853	2,829,661	6,777,642

*Payments to retired employees include any pension lump sum payments paid in the period (note 7).

Where costs are not directly attributable to an individual service, the shared cost is allocated between the activities on the basis of the time spent for pay costs and the utilisation of maintenance and overhead related expenditure by activities.



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6. Expenditure on Charitable Activities (continued)

Group

	Direct Care Pay Costs €	Support Costs €	2023 Total €
Activity:			
Adult Disability Services	1,323,611	708,639	2,032,250
Children's Disability Services	1,102,989	1,338,833	2,441,822
Children's Palliative Care	4,386,639	4,022,167	8,408,806
	6,813,239	6,069,639	12,882,878

Analysis of Support Costs:

	Adult Disability Services €	Children's Disability Services €	Children's Palliative Care €	2023 Total €
Pay Costs:				
Management and Administration	343,905	598,311	2,618,040	3,560,256
Support	55,884	113,461	43,693	213,038
Retired employees	85,903	174,411	—	260,314
Non Pay Costs:				
Governance and Overhead Costs	135,534	275,175	934,886	1,345,595
Drugs and Medical Equipment	29,443	59,778	71,042	160,263
Catering and Catering Supplies	32,480	65,944	187,517	285,940
Education and Training	4,908	9,964	62,172	77,045
Maintenance	20,092	40,792	95,550	156,433
Depreciation	491	997	9,267	10,755
	708,639	1,338,833	4,022,167	6,069,639



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7. Employees and Remuneration

The average number of persons employed by the group during the financial year was 212 (2023: 190) and is analysed into the following categories:

Company	2024 No.	2023 No.
Management and administration	8	9
Clinical	48	48
Support	3	3
Fundraising	—	—
Pensioners	21	19
	80	79

Group	2024 No.	2023 No.
Management and administration	44	41
Clinical	126	111
Support	4	4
Fundraising	17	15
Pensioners	21	19
	212	190



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7. Employees and Remuneration (continued)

Staff Costs Comprise:

Company

	2024 €	2023 €
Wages and salaries	3,506,836	3,298,062
Social welfare costs	362,861	345,586
Pensioners	265,934	250,104
Pension lump sum	12,617	10,210
	4,148,248	3,903,962

Group

	2024 €	2023 €
Wages and salaries	10,520,844	9,244,671
Social welfare costs	1,097,611	954,278
Retirement benefit costs	466,510	387,584
Pensioners	265,934	250,104
Pension lump sum	12,617	10,210
	12,363,516	10,846,847

Staff costs stated above were treated as an expense of the group in the financial year.

No amount was capitalised into assets. Included in staff costs is €387,643 (2023:

€411,752) which was paid for the provision of direct care in relation to staff on external contracts / secondment to LauraLynn.



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7. Employees and Remuneration (continued)

Key management compensation

Key management includes directors and members of the executive team. The total remuneration for key management personnel including employer pension contributions and employer's PRSI for the financial year is shown below.

	2024 €	2023 €
Directors	—	—
Executive team	901,652	817,827
Total key management compensation	901,652	817,827

There were no emoluments paid to the directors in either year.

Payments made to the CEO during 2024 was a total of €168,412 (2023: €133,260) plus pension contributions of €10,614 (2023: €8,400). Figures are inclusive of Employer's PRSI.



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7. Employees and Remuneration (continued)

Employee benefits exceeding €60,000

The number of employees whose total employee benefits (including basic pay, allowances, overtime, night duty, weekends, on-call, arrears and excluding employer PRSI, employer pension costs) for the reporting period fell within each band of €10,000 from €60,000 upwards are as follows:

Company	2024 No.	2023 No.
Between €60,001 and €70,000	7	4
Between €70,001 and €80,000	8	8
Between €80,001 and €90,000	3	5
Between €90,001 and €100,000	5	2
	23	19

Group	2024 No.	2023 No.
Between €60,001 and €70,000	26	16
Between €70,001 and €80,000	17	16
Between €80,001 and €90,000	6	5
Between €90,001 and €100,000	7	4
Between €100,001 and €110,000	—	1
Between €110,001 and €120,000	1	1
	57	43



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8. Net Income

Company

The net income for the financial year is stated after charging the following:

	2024 €	2023 €
Depreciation (note 10)	1,488	1,488
Auditor's remuneration for audit of financial statements	10,284	8,488

Group

The net income for the financial year is stated after charging the following:

	2024 €	2023 €
Depreciation (note 10)	2,947	10,755
Auditor's remuneration for audit of financial statements	20,567	16,730

9. Subsidiary

Company

CSH Childcare Services, a company limited by guarantee not having a share capital was incorporated on 13 October 2011. CSH Childcare Services is accounted for as a subsidiary undertaking as the Board of The Children's Sunshine Home has the power to appoint and control the Board of CSH Childcare Services.

Details in respect of CSH Childcare Services are set out below:

Name of registered office	—	CSH Childcare Services
Country of Incorporation	—	Ireland
Principal Activity	—	Operation of a Children's Hospice

Results for the Year

	2024 €	2023 €
Net movement in funds (after depreciation)	—	—
Net assets	294,524	294,524



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10. Fixed Assets

Group & Company

Cost:

At 1 January 2024

Additions

At 31 December 2024

Depreciation:

At 1 January 2024

Charge for financial year

At 31 December 2024

Net Book Values:

At 31 December 2024

At 31 December 2023

	CSH Childcare Services (Subsidiary) Building Improvements €	CSH Childcare Services (Subsidiary) Equipment €	CSH Childcare Services (Subsidiary) Motor Vehicles €	Children's Sunshine Home (Company) Equipment €	Group Total €
At 1 January 2024	7,517	6,554	111,945	14,450	140,466
Additions	—	—	—	—	—
At 31 December 2024	7,517	6,554	111,945	14,450	140,466
At 1 January 2024	1,717	4,588	111,945	10,358	128,608
Charge for financial year	148	1,311	—	1,488	2,947
At 31 December 2024	1,865	5,899	111,945	11,846	131,555
At 31 December 2024	5,652	655	—	2,604	8,911
At 31 December 2023	5,801	1,966	—	4,091	11,858

The campus land and buildings remain outside of the company in the ownership of The Children's Sunshine Home Trust.



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11. Debtors

Amounts falling due within one year:

	Group 2024 €	Group 2023 €	Company 2024 €	Company 2023 €
HSE	235,472	346,052	235,472	346,052
The Children's Sunshine Home Trust (note 17)	869,151	636,312	94,210	131,489
Prepayments	66,504	58,701	66,504	58,701
Debtors	31,048	28,093	17,106	12,104
Provision for Doubtful Debtors	—	—	—	—
	1,202,175	1,069,158	413,292	548,346

All debtors are due within one year. All trade debtors are due within the company's normal terms, which is 30 days. Trade debtors are shown net of impairment in respect of doubtful debts.

12. Creditors

Amounts falling due within one year:

	Group 2024 €	Group 2023 €	Company 2024 €	Company 2023 €
Trade creditors	184,973	157,830	184,973	157,830
HSE	—	125,000	—	—
Deferred Income (see below)	196,814	196,814	144,314	144,314
Accruals	582,450	688,926	200,152	275,468
PAYE/PRSI	303,291	262,996	97,146	96,532
	1,267,528	1,431,566	626,585	674,144

The repayment terms of trade creditors vary between on demand and ninety days. No interest is payable on trade creditors. Tax and social insurance are subject to the terms of the relevant legislation. Interest accrues on late payment. No interest was due at the financial year end date. The terms of the accruals are based on the underlying contracts. Other amounts included within creditors not covered by specific note disclosures are unsecured, interest free and repayable on demand.



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12. Creditors (continued)

Deferred Income:

	Group 2024 €	Group 2023 €	Company 2024 €	Company 2023 €
At 1st January	196,814	—	144,314	—
Credited to Statement of Financial Activities	—	—	—	—
Deferred during the year	—	196,814	—	144,314
At 31st December	196,814	196,814	144,314	144,314

13. Funds of the Charity

Company — current year

Restricted

	Opening balance 1 January 2024 €	Income 2024 €	Expenditure 2024 €	Closing balance 31 December 2024 €
Adult Disability Services	1,348,663	1,626,641	(1,664,250)	1,311,054
Children's Disability Services	6,774,435	3,302,574	(1,862,991)	8,214,018
Children's Palliative Care	(7,709,770)	-	(1,334,063)	(9,043,833)
	413,328	4,929,215	(4,861,304)	481,239

Unrestricted

General fund	—	10,043	(10,043)	—
Total	413,328	4,939,258	(4,871,347)	481,239

Analysis of charity net assets between funds:

	Restricted Funds 2024 €	Restricted Funds 2023 €
Tangible fixed assets	2,604	4,091
Current assets	1,105,220	1,083,381
Current liabilities	(626,585)	(674,144)
	481,239	413,328



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13. Funds of the Charity (continued)

Company — prior year

	Opening balance 1 January 2023 €	Income 2023 €	Expenditure 2023 €	Closing balance 31 December 2023 €
Restricted				
Adult Disability Services	1,340,485	1,552,544	(1,544,366)	1,348,663
Children's Disability Services	5,396,163	3,152,135	(1,773,863)	6,774,435
Children's Palliative Care	(6,467,435)	—	(1,242,335)	(7,709,770)
	269,213	4,704,679	(4,560,564)	413,328
Unrestricted				
General fund	—	18,995	(18,995)	—
Total	269,213	4,723,674	(4,579,559)	413,328

Group — current year

	Opening balance 1 January 2024 €	Income 2024 €	Expenditure 2024 €	Closing balance 31 December 2024 €
Restricted				
Adult Disability Services	(442,789)	1,626,641	(2,720,504)	(1,536,651)
Children's Disability Services	3,801,973	3,302,574	(3,815,194)	3,289,353
Children's Palliative Care	(2,921,656)	9,821,311	(8,171,118)	(1,271,463)
Gifts in kind	—	203,938	(203,938)	—
	437,529	14,954,465	(14,910,754)	481,239
Unrestricted				
General fund	270,324	52,241	(28,041)	294,524
Total	707,853	15,006,706	(14,938,795)	775,763



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13. Funds of the Charity (continued)

Analysis of charity net assets between funds:

	Unrestricted Funds 2024 €	Restricted Funds 2024 €	Restricted Funds 2023 €
Tangible fixed assets	—	8,911	11,858
Current assets	294,524	1,739,856	1,857,236
Current liabilities	—	(1,267,528)	(1,431,566)
Total	294,524	481,238	437,528

Group — prior year

	Opening balance 1 January 2023 €	Income 2023 €	Expenditure 2023 €	Closing balance 31 December 2023 €
Restricted				
Adult Disability Services	36,917	1,552,544	(2,032,250)	(442,789)
Children's Disability Services	3,091,661	3,152,135	(2,441,822)	3,801,973
Children's Palliative Care	(2,797,964)	8,232,257	(8,355,950)	(2,921,657)
Gifts in kind	—	207,254	(207,254)	—
	330,614	13,144,190	(13,037,276)	437,529
Unrestricted				
General fund	233,123	90,057	(52,856)	270,324
Total	563,737	13,234,247	(13,090,132)	707,853



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14. Note to the Statement of Cash Flows

Company

	2024 €	2023 €
Net income for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)	67,911	144,115
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation	1,488	1,488
Decrease in debtors	135,053	230,994
Increase in creditors (amounts falling due within 1 year)	(47,559)	(52,909)
Net cash provided by operating activities	156,893	323,688

Group

	2024 €	2023 €
Net income for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)	67,911	144,115
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation	2,947	10,755
Increase in debtors	(133,017)	(705,891)
(Decrease)/Increase in creditors (amounts falling due within 1 year)	(164,038)	15,804
Net cash used in operating activities	(226,197)	(535,217)

15. Contingent Liability

A contingent liability of €154,340 (2023: €192,925) exists in respect of the Pobal Grant which becomes repayable if certain conditions, as set out in the agreements, are not adhered to. The most significant of these conditions relates to cessation of services by The Children's Sunshine Home. The services must be maintained and protected for a period of at least seventeen years after the date of payment of the grant, failing which all grant monies or part thereof may be repayable. The contingency period reduces each year by 1/17 of the total amount received. The total amount of the grant and the related expenditure has been credited and debited, respectively, to the income and expenditure account in the year of receipt.



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16. Pension Commitments

Defined benefit schemes

Nominated Health Agencies Superannuation Scheme (NHASS)

The financial statements do not include pension liabilities and assets to those staff who are members of the Nominated Health Agencies Superannuation Scheme (NHASS), operated by the Department of Health and Children, as required by Financial Reporting standard 102, 'Employee Benefits' (FRS102). The majority of staff members employed by the Children's Sunshine Home are members of the NHASS scheme which the directors believe to be underwritten by the Minister for Health and Children.

By agreement with the HSE and the Department of Health and Children the pension contributions received may be offset against pension payments made and the surplus or deficit of contributions each financial year forms part of the funding of the company. The directors are of the understanding that the company has no responsibility for any liability that falls due as a result of any potential under-funding of the Scheme.

For the financial year ended 31 December 2024 €238,474 (2023: €225,581) was retained and treated as income and €278,551 (2023: €260,314) was paid to pensioners (including pension lump sums).

Single Public Service Pension Scheme ('SPSPS')

The Single Public Service Pension Scheme (SPSPS) applies to all employees who are joining the public sector as new entrants from January 2013. In line with the guidance of this scheme, all employee contributions are paid over to the state pension account and not included in the income and expenditure account. The Department of Public Expenditure and Reform ('DPER') is responsible for the SPSPS and under the Public Service Pensions (Single Scheme and Other Provisions) Act 2012, Section 44(1) (b), payments arising under this Single Scheme to retiring employees shall be paid from funds provided by the Oireachtas for that purpose.

Defined contribution scheme

The subsidiary company operates a contributory defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the company in an independently administered fund. The contributions charged to the Statement of Financial Activities by the company during the financial year amounted to €466,510 (2023: €387,584). There were no amounts payable at financial year end (2023: € Nil).



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17. Related Party Transactions

The Children’s Sunshine Home Trust (the ‘Trust’) was established to support the development of facilities at The Children’s Sunshine Home and subsequently CSH Childcare Services.

In order to meet the demand for the level of services provided by the Group, financial support for the provision of the hospice services is provided by the Trust with the support of donors and volunteers.

The four trustees of the Trust are also directors of The Children’s Sunshine Home and CSH Childcare Services. They have no beneficial interest in either of the companies and receive no remuneration.

In 2024 the Trust transferred funds of €7,513,627 (2023: €5,912,190) to CSH Childcare Services.

CSH Childcare Services is a wholly owned subsidiary of The Children’s Sunshine Home.

During the financial year, funds are initially transferred to The Children’s Sunshine Home for CSH Childcare Services. Balances at the year-end represent expenses paid or payable by the Trust not yet transferred to CSH Childcare Services or The Children’s Sunshine Home. At the year end, the following amounts were outstanding:

	Group 2024 €	Group 2023 €	Company 2024 €	Company 2023 €
Due from the The Children's Sunshine Home Trust	869,151	636,312	94,210	131,489
	869,151	636,312	94,210	131,489



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18. Financial Instruments

	Group 2024 €	Group 2023 €	Company 2024 €	Company 2023 €
Financial assets				
<i>Measured as undiscounted amounts receivable:</i>				
HSE (note 11)	235,472	346,052	235,472	346,052
The Children's Sunshine Home Trust (note 11)	869,151	636,312	94,210	131,489
Debtors (note 11)	31,048	28,093	17,106	12,104
Cash at bank and in hand	832,205	1,058,402	691,928	535,035
	1,967,876	2,068,859	1,038,715	1,024,680
Financial liabilities				
<i>Measured as undiscounted amounts payable:</i>				
Trade creditors (note 12)	184,973	157,830	184,973	157,830
Accruals (note 12)	582,450	688,926	200,152	275,468
	767,423	846,756	385,125	433,298

19. Post Balance Sheet Events

There have been no significant events affecting the Group since the financial year end.

20. Approval of the Financial Statements

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors on 8 April 2025.



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