

FUNDRAISING

2003 was another strong year for fundraising, achieving income of €2.9 million. Our strength is due in part to enduring and committed partnerships with some of Ireland's leading companies. Special thanks go to AIB whose long-term investment is allowing us to make real change to the lives of children across the country through the Better Ireland Programme. I would also like to thank Danone who supported our inaugural DANONE BIG TODDLE FOR BARNARDOS which proved a huge hit with over 400 crèches around the country.

2003 also saw the first prestigious Spirit of Christmas event held in historic Farnleigh, where leading names from the worlds of politics, art, music and literature captured the Christmas mood for over 200 guests in a magical performance. Finally, I would like to thank our Fundraising Board and Committees for their incredible support and commitment - and a special thanks to the many individual donors whose continued generous support makes such a difference to our work.

Alana Kirk, Director of Fundraising and Communications

Children First Appeal



MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT McALEESE

As Patron of Barnardos, it gives me great pleasure to send warm greetings to everyone involved in the great work of the organisation over the past year.

It is said that "what is engraved in childhood, is engraved in stone". Through your work you understand how important it is, therefore, that we respond to the needs of children in this increasingly complex world. They are, after all, the adults of tomorrow and the shapers of tomorrow's world and through your commitment and dedication you have ensured that our children are equipped to face life's challenges and seize the opportunities that life will present to them.

I congratulate you on your many achievements and wish you every success for the future. May you continue to be faithful to the great work of tender care which you undertake for the fragile gift of childhood.

Mary McAleese, President of Ireland

NOVEMBER 2003 we welcomed our Patron, President Mary McAleese, to the Youth Action Project in Bawnlea, Tallaght where she met with a group of eight-year-old boys. After helping them roll the pastry for an apple tart and receiving a piece of artwork from the boys, she met with parents and staff. The Youth Action Project is aimed at children who are at risk of leaving school early and works closely with the schools in the local area.



the President



One small step for a toddler...



Every child matters...

Barnardos
EVERY CHILDHOOD LASTS A LIFETIME

annual review 2003/2004

SEPTEMBER 2003

The TGI Friday's/Leisureplex 'Children First Appeal' raised €35,000 for two Barnardos toy libraries. Pictured are Owen Keenan and Gráinne Burke, Barnardos with Liz Kelly, Marketing Manager TGI Friday's/Leisureplex.

OUR FINANCES EXPLAINED

Barnardos' total income for the year ended 31 December 2003 was €12.7m, a record for the organisation and an increase of 12% on 2002. Total expenditure was €12.7m, resulting in a small deficit of €16k for the year.

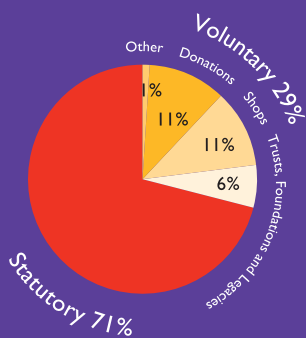
92.5 cent of every €1 spent (excluding retail shops which are profit-making) was spent on our work with children, 5 cent was spent on generating funds and 2.5 cent on management and administration.

Attached is a summary of the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2003. For more detailed information, copies of the Directors Report and Audited Accounts can be obtained from our national office.

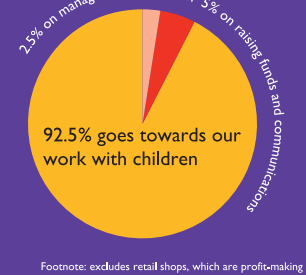
Mary Broughan, Honorary Treasurer

The Statement of Financial Activities and Balance Sheet have been extracted from the statutory financial statements of Barnardos Republic of Ireland Limited for the year ended 31 December 2003. The statutory financial statements, on which the auditors (Ernst & Young) expressed an unqualified audit opinion will be filed with the Registrar of Companies following the Annual General Meeting.

INCOME



EXPENDITURE



For a full set of Barnardos' accounts please contact

Barnardos, National Office, Christchurch Square, Dublin 8
T: 01-453 03 55 E: info@barnardos.ie
You can also download the full accounts from www.barnardos.ie

PATRON

President Mary McAleese, President of Ireland

MEMBERS OF BARNARDOS BOARD

Declan Ryan, Chair
Olivia O'Leary, Vice Chair
Mary Broughan, Honorary Treasurer
Leslie Andrews
David Barnardo
Niamh Cleary
Michael Mortell
Michael Murray
Fintan O'Toole
Shalini Sinha

We would like to thank Kenneth Milne, who retired from the Board in 2003, for his continued contribution to and support of Barnardos from the very start, having joined Barnardos Council in 1989 when Barnardos became an independent Irish charity.



STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES for the year ended 31 December 2003

	2003 Unrestricted Funds €000's	2003 Restricted Funds €000's	2003 Total Funds €000's	2002 Total €000's
INCOMING RESOURCES				
Donations, legacies & similar incoming resources	1,140	731	1,871	2,287
Activities in furtherance of the charity's objectives	544	7,923	8,467	6,387
Activities for generating funds	2,171	0	2,171	2,383
Investment income & interest	40	0	40	42
Other incoming resources	162	0	162	297
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES	4,057	8,654	12,711	11,396
Less: Cost of generating funds	1,659	0	1,659	1,479
Net incoming resources available for charitable application	2,398	8,654	11,052	9,917
CHARITABLE EXPENDITURE				
Costs of activities in furtherance of the objectives of the charity	867	9,143	10,010	8,241
Support costs	45	742	787	752
Management & administration	16	255	271	368
TOTAL CHARITABLE EXPENDITURE	928	10,140	11,068	9,361
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED	2,587	10,140	12,727	10,840
Net incoming resources/(resources) expended before transfers	1,470	(1,486)	(16)	556
Transfer between funds	(1,320)	1,320	0	0
Net incoming resources/(resources) expended after transfers	150	(166)	(16)	556
Total funds brought forward	4,110	455	4,565	4,009
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	4,260	289	4,549	4,565

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities. The deficit for the year for Companies Act purposes was €16k (2002 surplus: €556k). Realised gains on disposal of a fixed asset of €125k are included in other incoming resources.

BALANCE SHEET at 31 December 2003

	2003 €000's	2002 €000's
ASSETS EMPLOYED		
FIXED ASSETS		
Tangible assets	2,278	2,620
CURRENT ASSETS		
Debtors	2,003	1,180
Short term deposit	2,282	1,438
Cash at bank	0	362
	4,285	2,980
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Creditors (amounts falling due within one year)	(2,014)	(1,035)
NET CURRENT ASSETS	2,271	1,945
NET ASSETS	4,549	4,565
REPRESENTED BY		
General fund	4,260	4,110
Restricted income fund	289	455
TOTAL FUNDS	4,549	4,565

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Please continue to support Barnardos' work by:

- Supporting our advocacy campaigns
- Becoming a regular donor
- Participating in or organising a fundraising event
- Volunteering your skills and time
- Shopping in or donating to any of Barnardos' shops

For more information please contact:

Barnardos, Christchurch Square, Dublin 8
T: 353 - 1 - 453 03 55 F: 353 - 1 - 453 03 00
E: info@barnardos.ie W: www.barnardos.ie
Lo Call: 1850 222 300

Registered Charity Number: 6015

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REVIEW

Families are so important to children they're at the heart of all of Barnardos' work. While our focus is very firmly on children's rights and needs we believe in the centrality of the family in their lives.

That's why many of Barnardos' services are broadly described as family support services. We're convinced of the importance of helping families to stay together and to deal with the causes of any difficulties they may be experiencing.

Research and experience tell us how important it is for children to get a really good start in life so we place a heavy emphasis on proven, quality programmes for children. We involve parents as much as possible to strengthen the impact of this work as well as offering specific supports to the parents themselves. All families need support at some stage, but some need more intensive intervention, perhaps for longer periods.

We were very pleased to have actively participated in the UN International Year of the Family in 1994. Now, ten years on, we are continuing to promote the importance of family in children's lives. And while we can celebrate much progress in the past ten years, we are all too conscious that the struggles of many families continue.

National policies can have a major impact on the lives of children and families so Barnardos sees this as a vital area of our advocacy programme. We are determined to do everything we can, both in our services and our advocacy, to continue to strengthen families and enhance policies and provision, in the interests of children and young people.

Owen Keenan, Chief Executive

Barnardos
EVERY CHILDHOOD LASTS A LIFETIME

OUR BARNARDOS

We are Aaron, Dylan and Megan and we live in Waterford city. We come from a large(ish) family of 8 boys and 2 girls (oh, and the grown ups – can't forget them!). It doesn't feel that big (well most of the time!) as we all get on and have fun together. Except Mam says "there's always too much noise". It's great to have so many people around to help you with your homework. If you need to feel secure there is so much protection on offer; as Megan says "there's so much choice with all my brothers, where do you start?" We racked our brains to think of things we didn't like and we came up with NOTHING, although if pushed we'd like "a bigger house and a car would be useful", and Dylan says "he would appreciate 1,000 euros so he can go to watch Man Utd play". Megan thinks "the money would be better spent on 69 kittens". BUT that's life in our family – we can never agree!

We love attending our Barnardos Groups and Easter camps – yippe! Summer Camps on the way! The leaders always find something new, fun and interesting for us to do and learn. Aaron feels that since he completed a booklet on activities in the community, he's discovered hidden talents and who knows? – a future career in TV could be beckoning. Dylan feels torn between the fun he has with cookery "I can now make perfect pancakes and sensational smoothies" or a special flair for all things artistic. Decisions! Decisions! Megan says "I love trying everything but my favourites are playing traditional games and playing in the playground".

In fact, we love going to Barnardos so much that we don't like going home "but don't tell Mam or else she'll want to come too and that will really cramp our style. Us kids need our space too!"

Love Aaron (11yrs), Dylan (9yrs) and Megan (7yrs)

VOLUNTEERS

"There are two reasons that I volunteer for Barnardos," says Abigél Sheridan who volunteers for the Origins – Information and Tracing Service. "First is that I want to give something back to the community, and also I have stopped working because I am pregnant and have some time now which I might not have when the baby is born!"

Originally from Hungary, Abigél has lived in Ireland for six years and is married to an Irish man. They have one son who is three years old and another baby due this summer.

Abigél was looking for a place to volunteer where she could use her office and computer skills to support a charity. Abigél was asked to join the team at Origins – Information and Tracing Service at Barnardos' National Office. The Origins service supports adults who spent part of their childhood in industrial schools to find their records and tracing their families.

"It was a complete shock to see what had happened to the people using the service, and it showed me a side of Ireland that I wasn't aware of before. I've been supporting the information counsellors with researching information to help them cut back the waiting list," Abigél said.

"I love working with the Origins team – there is a great atmosphere. I find it amazing how appreciated my work has been and the staff show their appreciation every day which makes the time I give so enjoyable and successful."

OCTOBER 2003 Barnardos presented their volunteers with special awards at a ceremony attended by Jim Bartley (Bela) and Tom Jordan (Charlie) from RTÉ's Fair City, in Chief O'Neill's in Dublin. New for this year was the 'Helping Hands' awards – sponsored by Softech – which rewarded young people who have made an outstanding contribution to their community through volunteering. Pictured are the overall national volunteer award winners Mary Purcell, Volunteer Champion of the Year, Carlow Project, and Caroline Cooke, Volunteer of the Year, Millbrook Project, Dublin.

JENNIFER'S STORY

Karen was homeless when Jennifer was born. Jennifer went into foster care for the first time aged two. Karen eventually got a flat, and Jennifer returned to live with her. Karen had two more children. She was often sick. Jennifer, at six, had to look after her baby brother and sister. They never had money and she remembers being hungry all the time. Jennifer and her brother and sister were taken into care. Jennifer is now in a long-term community care placement, which has been constructed around her needs. She still has many difficulties but is starting to work on building a future for herself.

My name is Jennifer and I have been in the care of the system since I was two years old. I am writing to say how I feel about children and young people in care today.

I believe the children and young people are our future, and that they deserve every chance in life. The most important thing needed in a child's life is to feel safe and secure, to have food, love and warmth and to feel that there is somebody out there who will listen to these kids. And that's when the role of the guardian comes in. I have a guardian and she's done brilliant work over the years with me and I have appreciated the way she's been there for me too.

DOES EVERY CHILD MATTER IN IRELAND TODAY?

Barnardos exists to ensure that children's rights are promoted and their needs are met. It is not acceptable that in Ireland of the early 21st century, not every child matters, nor do children as a whole matter enough. Children have a right to reach their full potential, but there are many barriers in reaching this goal. Poverty, isolation, leaving school early, lack of opportunity, alcohol and drug misuse – even lack of adequate play and recreational facilities for children and young people means that children's needs are not fully met.

Children need their families, so supporting families is a key part of the work we do. Many of the families that we work with face the challenges of poverty, poor mental or physical health and social isolation. Some are affected by bereavement, domestic violence or drug and alcohol addiction.

We work together with families to build on their own strengths, to build up resilience and help manage the challenges in their lives. We offer hope, where sometimes hope has been lost.

Because we can only work with a fraction of the families and children that need our support we continue to advocate for change that will benefit all children and families in Ireland.

In the past year Barnardos has continued to speak out for children, young people and families in Ireland. We believe that our experience of working with children and families give us the insights to bring the issues that we see daily to a wider audience.

The past year has seen a number of positive policy developments that affect children and families. The Department of Social and Family Affairs organised Family Fora to get a picture of the family in Ireland today. We have also seen the appointment of an Ombudsman for Children and the establishment of the Family Support Agency.

However, there are many areas where children are still vulnerable and left behind. In May 2004 Barnardos wrapped up the two-year 'Every Child Matters' campaign with a seminar discussing the changes in the three areas covered and – most importantly – what still needs to be done to make Ireland the best place in the world to grow up in. The 'Every Child Matters' campaign – launched in 2002 – aimed to raise awareness of the realities of children's lives in Ireland today looking at parental pressure, alcohol misuse and child poverty.

Although the formal part of the campaign is over, we intend to continue to advocate on these and other issues that affect children in today's Ireland.

Our experiences in childhood – positive and negative – colour our futures. We believe that intervening early, before a problem has grown out of hand, is better for the individual child, the family and for society as a whole. Every childhood lasts a lifetime, so help us continue to make a difference.

Every young person has a voice but there are some people that listen but don't understand. Society is hard enough on young people and some times life's not fair. People just don't understand the difficulties of ones problems when they can't express how they're feeling inside themselves.

Like others I have experienced trauma in my life too and it hurts inside. Even though it's hard to accept, you have to be tough and strong. But miracles in time will happen and good things can come. I have written this because it's important for children and young people to have a voice in their life. I feel my voice is very important.

I'll sign off now, and I hope you will understand my voice – think of the kids' future and that they have rights too.

Jennifer

Barnardos' Beacon Guardian *ad Litem* service – appointed by the court - represent the best interest of children in family law proceedings. For more information on this service contact beacon@barnardos.ie

REVIEW OF THE YEAR

JULY 2003

Mr Tim O'Malley TD, Minister of State at the Department of Health and Children, officially opened the newly renovated premises in Southhill, Limerick which also marked the expansion of the services to also include Ballinacurra/Weston.

SEPTEMBER 2003

RTÉ journalist Sharon Ní Bheoláin and her daughter Faye helped launch the 'Guide to Books for 0-5 Year Olds' by Barnardos and Cow&Gate. This free guide, written by Barnardos' Pre-school Worker Barbara Ryan, lists some of the best publications even for baby bookworms! This was just one of the many new publications from the National Children's Resource Centre. Others included the new and improved journal *ChildLinks*, guides to summer activities in the Cork and Limerick area, *After School+ A Practice Guide for Providers* and *Our Children First* – a free guide for parents on the national child protection guidelines.

SEPTEMBER 2003

The final phase of the 'Every Child Matters' campaign was launched in September and focused on child poverty. The campaign 'Children Living Without' included a multimedia advertising campaign and a new report based on case studies of the many families still experiencing poverty in today's Ireland.

DECEMBER 2003

Deputy Mayor of Waterford, Seamus Ryan, hands over the keys to the refurbished bungalow at the Barnardos Family Support Project in Ballybeg, Waterford to Una Conroy from the project. With the help of Waterford City Council and the AIB Better Ireland Programme an adjacent alleyway and derelict bungalow have been redeveloped to provide larger indoor and outdoor space for group activities.

DECEMBER 2003

AIB supported us at Christmas by asking their customers to bring new toys to their branches – over 3,000 toys were collected for Barnardos! The AIB Better Ireland Programme continues to provide funding for 12 Barnardos projects including after school and breakfast clubs, parenting programmes and self development programmes. Pictured at the launch of the AIB Toy Appeal are Donal Forde, Chief Executive AIB, Daniel Manning and Fair City star Clelia Murphy.

FEBRUARY 2004

Margaret Acton, Project Leader of the Teenage Parents Support Project, Jordan Spence meet Minister for Children, Brian Lenihan TD, when he visited Barnardos in Tallaght to meet teenage parents who are being supported to return to education.

MAY 2004

One small step for a toddler – one giant step for Barnardos. The DANONE BIG TODDLE FOR BARNARDOS is a brand new fundraising event for Barnardos. It has captured the imagination of crèches and pre-schools around the country and over 10,000 toddlers took part in sponsored toddles all around the country. The event was sponsored by DANONE, which means that all the money raised from the event will go directly to Barnardos. Each registered group received a fun, FREE, toddler pack and the reports back are hugely positive. Next year we'll do it again so for more information check out www.thebigtoddle.ie.

MAY 2004

Minister for Defence, Mr Michael Smith TD, officially opened the newly renovated Barnardos Family Support and Day Care Service in Thurles. The project had been based in a number of temporary premises since 1998, and has finally been settled in custom made premises thanks to a combination of funding from private donations and public funding.



Sharon + Faye



We got a new house!



Thank you AIB



The minister visits Tallaght



Mary made us jump for joy

