



**TO BE ALIVE  
IS TO BE  
VULNERABLE**

st. stephen's green trust  
ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2015

# ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

**The Trust presents its Directors' report and audited financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2015.**

## **Directors at 31st December 2015**

Stephen Rourke, Chair

Sr Maria McGuinness, RSM

Donal O'Brien

Fr Mike Drennan, SJ

Dearbhail McDonald (appointed 24 June 2015)

Dr Niamh Hourigan (appointed 30th January 2015 / resigned 20th November 2015)

## **Staff**

Grants & Development Director: Orla O'Neill

Acting Grants & Development Director (July/Dec 2015): Moira McCarthy

Travellers in Prison Initiative Coordinator: Anne Costello

Travellers in Prison Initiative Programme Officer (April/Nov 2015): David Joyce

Darndale Belcamp Community Grantwriter: Freda Keeshan

Administrator (July/Dec 2015): Fiona Sloan

Accountant: Dáithí O Maolchoille

**Registered Office:** 75 Weston Park, Dublin 14

**CRA Number:** 20026547

**Chy Number:** 10449

**Company Number:** 447527

**Auditors:** CD Mullock & Company, Chartered Accountants,  
Statutory Audit Firm, Estuary House, New St, Malahide, Co Dublin

**Bankers:** Bank of Ireland, 2 College Green, Dublin 2

**Investment Managers:** Davy, Davy House, 49 Dawson St, Dublin 2

## chairpersons report



It gives me great pleasure to present the 2015 Annual Report of St Stephen's Green Trust. In 2015, SSGT developed and grew as we increased our grantgiving capacity, as we partnered with new funders, as we employed new workers for the Travellers in Prison Initiative and as we provided practical and meaningful responses to the circumstances of people living in very difficult situations in Ireland (e.g. homeless people, prisoners/offenders, Travellers, people living in Direct Provision Centres). SSGT has always aimed to focus our resources on those people in Ireland who are most vulnerable and most marginalised and to assist us in this process we commission a piece of research every 5-6 years to inform our grantgiving and help ensure that our grantgiving is targeting those issues/groups which could benefit most from the levels of grant available through SSGT. Brian Harvey did this research for SSGT in 2014 (his Scoping/ Research Report can be accessed on the SSGT website).

In 2015 the SSGT Trustees are particularly pleased with progress that we have made in relation to three initiatives which have progressed significantly during 2015. Firstly we set up the Travellers in Prison Initiative (TPI) which aims to address the disproportionately high representation of Travellers within Irish prisons (although only comprising 0.6% of the overall population of the Republic of Ireland, Travellers constitute approximately 15% of male prisoners and 22% of female prisoners). The TPI is setting up a range of strategies and actions which will increase the number of Travellers accessing prison based rehabilitation and developmental services, which will establish pre-

release and post-release supports for Traveller prisoners and their families and which will hopefully reduce levels of recidivism and the number of Travellers in Irish prisons. In 2015 we also developed our Direct Provision Centres Grants Programme in conjunction with the various Provinces of the Sisters of Mercy and through this Grants Programme SSGT is supporting activities for children and young people living in 25 Direct Provision Centres across Ireland. A total of 619 children and young people benefited from this Grants Programme in 2015.

The third initiative developed through the SSGT in 2015 has been the Refugee Support Grants Programme for Ireland. Perhaps the single largest global issue and problem in 2015 related to the numbers of refugees, asylum seekers and other displaced people.

Hundreds of thousands of people have been displaced through war and civil unrest in many European, Asian and African countries and there has been a refugee crisis in a number of other transit and destination countries. This situation is of significant concern to Porticus, one of our main funders and SSGT was asked to consider what needs to happen in Ireland in relation to the ever deepening refugee crisis across Europe. SSGT produced our own analysis of the refugee situation in Ireland (and this formed the basis for an approval of €125,000 per year for 3 years to assist a number of groups in Ireland which are working with refugees and asylum seekers - comprising asylum seekers already living in Direct Provision Centres and the 4,000 new refugees and

## chairpersons report (cont'd)

asylum seekers who will be arriving in Ireland as part of Ireland's contribution to international arrangements and agreements).

It is evident that SSGT has been at the cutting edge of many of the main issues and challenges within contemporary Ireland - issues around homelessness, Travellers, refugees, dealing with the post conflict situation in Northern Ireland. SSGT believes that independent philanthropic organisations such as SSGT and other foundations can bring a new energy and new perspective to these issues. We have the flexibility and the capacity to do things and to support projects which government and statutory agencies either cannot do or will not do - for reasons relating to the lack of any precedent for particular projects and initiatives, to the absence of any suitable or appropriate funding stream or budget line for certain projects and perhaps because some of the groups and organisations setting up projects are critical of government actions or inaction in relation to various issues and problems. Given the important and catalytic role to be performed by independent foundations such as SSGT we are most concerned about the decline in the number of foundations in Ireland with the two largest foundations (The Atlantic Philanthropies and The One Foundation) having ceased or due to cease their grantgiving in Ireland over the next few years.

In this context SSGT will endeavour to support any initiatives which will grow and expand philanthropy in Ireland. We were one of the founding members of the Irish Funders Forum (which later became Philanthropy Ireland) and we have approved grants aimed at growing the philanthropic sector. SSGT clearly perceive new and additional foundations in Ireland to be complementary to our work rather than posing any type of threat or competition. At present we do not have any evidence of emerging foundations which can replace the sort of funding provide by The Atlantic Philanthropies and The One Foundation over the last decade. It is most important that new foundations are set up and SSGT believes that there is considerable potential in the establishment of corporate foundations (such as those set up by Vodafone and National Toll Roads). SSGT will continue with others to try and identify opportunities and ways in which the philanthropic sector in Ireland can be developed further so that there is a diversity of funding possibilities for groups

and organisations within the community and voluntary sector and that there is not an over reliance on public/ governmental money (and an associated fear of being too critical of government in case funding from government and statutory agencies is reduced or cut completely).

The Trustees of SSGT would like to take this opportunity to thank Orla O'Neill, the Grants and Development Director of SSGT, for the outstanding contributions which she continues to make to the development and growth of SSGT. In 2015 Orla went on a six month sabbatical to Kenya with her family and we are most grateful to Moira McCarthy and to Fiona Sloan who took on a number of important roles for SSGT during the period of Orla's absence between July 2015 and December 2015. I would also like to thank Ann Costello and David Joyce for the contributions which they have made in 2015 to the Travellers in Prison Initiative. Thanks to my fellow Trustees for their ongoing commitment to SSGT. I would like to express particular thanks to Dr Niamh Hourigan who resigned as a Trustee in 2015 and to welcome Dearbhail McDonald who joined the Trustees in 2015.

Finally I wish to commend our funding partners for the financial contributions which they have made to the work of SSGT in 2015 and for the trust which they have placed in us to utilise their funds in an effective and professional manner. We believe that we are making positive moves in relation to a number of important aspects of Irish life, especially for those who are most vulnerable and most marginalised. We are pleased that Porticus, the Daughters of the Cross of Liege, the Oblates of Mary Immaculate, the Discalced Carmelites, the Sisters of Mercy, the Irish Prison Service, the Irish Probation Service, HSE, Community Foundation of Ireland and Northside Partnership are all now funding partners for SSGT both in relation to the General Grants Programme and to the more focused Grants Programmes. We look forward to consolidating and growing these funding partnerships over the next few years both with our existing partners and potential new funding partners who will be able to identify the benefits of routing some of their work/mission and some of their funding through an independent and professional grantgiving foundation such as SSGT.

**Stephen Rourke April 2016**

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## our aims, objectives and values

st. stephen's green trust is a charitable foundation which respects human dignity and is committed to identifying and responding to issues of social injustice in Ireland.

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### This is done by:

- Providing grants to organisations addressing issues which lead to inequalities.
- Supporting organisations to effect positive social change at a range of levels and using a variety of tools.
- Using the learning to influence positive social change.
- Being attentive to the current context.
- Being flexible in funding strategies to ensure the Trust focuses on the areas of greatest need.
- Taking calculated risks which allows new thinking to emerge, supports new ways of working, while achieving maximum impact from the limited resources.

### In order to do this, Trustees commit to:

- Sound analysis of the causes of inequalities, the effects of inequality on people and of the structural and institutional drivers of social injustice.
- Translating this analysis into an effective formulation of goals and objectives to inform our work. The strategies and tools we use as grant makers will be guided by this analysis and commitment.
- Reflecting on the impact of our grants and the effectiveness and success of our work.

**Between 2014 and 2018, Trustees have agreed six primary aims to give effect to the mission of responding to particular inequalities which exist in Ireland.**

1. Support the development of Traveller men and implement the Travellers in Prison Initiative.
2. Support strategies which improve the lives and life chances of prisoners / ex-prisoners and their families.
3. Support strategies to improve the lives of asylum-seeker children and families in direct provision centres.
4. Continue to manage the Darndale Belcamp Grant Programme (until 2015) and seek to extend the Grantwriter Initiative to 2017.
5. Be flexible in funding so the Trust can support organisations seeking to address the root causes of inequalities in Ireland, particularly as they relate to areas of particular interest to St Stephen's Green Trust. This will include broader approaches to rethinking the framework for engagement between the State and civil society so that user voice and social analysis of root causes will contribute to an evidential approach to policy development.
6. Support new thinking and approaches to the problem of homelessness in Ireland, with a particular focus on tackling homelessness outside of Dublin.

**A number of related aims support the primary aims.**

7. Collaboration with other Trusts, Foundations and organisations to enhance our ability to achieve our primary aims.
8. Share knowledge in a strategic way which drives the impact of our grantees' work.
9. Continue to improve our granting practice and ensure grant programmes are relevant, challenging and make an impact in the grants focus areas.
10. Be an exemplar charitable foundation which reaches a high level of governance and upholds our stated values and commitment to the people with whom we work.

**As part of the aim to be an exemplar foundation, Trustees reaffirmed the Trust's core values during a strategic review in February 2014, facilitated by Brian Harvey. These are:**

- **Respect & Solidarity:** We respect the dignity of the communities with which we work. We will learn from and listen to what they have to say to us. We work in partnership with grantees and communities they serve. We believe better outcomes are achieved if we look to the communities for leadership and support their ownership of the work we help fund.
- **Accountability & Transparency:** We are accountable to a range of stakeholders for our stewardship including our funders and the people whose lives we are aiming to improve. We will hold ourselves accountable by setting high standards and by how we assess our impact. This includes learning from failure, both our own and others. We are committed to being open about how and why we do things, and will adhere to the highest possible standards of governance.
- **Integrity:** We are committed to doing what is right and will hold ourselves to the highest standards of honesty and ethical behaviour.
- **Partnership:** We recognise our mission can only be achieved in partnership with other individuals and organisations and we place a high value on collaboration. We will be creative in the use of our limited resources and take calculated risks to have maximum impact.



## structure, governance and management

St Stephen's Green Trust is a registered charity with the Charities Regulatory Authority - CRA Number 20026547. It also holds a Revenue Charity number: CHY10449. It was incorporated as a company limited by guarantee on 1st January 2008 under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and it is governed under its Articles of Association.

The Trust was set up in 1992 under a deed of trust and support from Porticus, the family foundation of the Dutch family, the Brenninkmeyers. They decided to use the Trust as a vehicle to support organisations working across Ireland. They remain a key funder.

Since 2003, the Trust has established relationships with a range of other donors including the Daughters of the Cross of Liege, the Discalced Carmelites, the Oblate Fathers and the four Provinces of the Sisters of Mercy. The full list of donors is included in our Summarised Financial Statements.

New Trustees are appointed by existing Trustees and two new Trustees were appointed in 2015, Niamh Hourigan was appointed on 30 January 2015 but unfortunately had to resign on 20 November 2015 due to work commitments. Dearbhail McDonald was appointed on 24 June 2015. Trustee meetings are held at least three times a year and Trustees agree the broad strategy and areas of activity for the Trust, including consideration of grant making, investment, reserves and risk management

policies and performance. The day to day administration of grants and the processing and handling of applications prior to consideration by Trustees and/or the relevant subcommittee is designated to the Grants & Development Director.

A Grants subcommittee makes recommendations for funding applications under a specific threshold. Trustees fully assess all other applications. The Grants subcommittee members are Stephen Rourke, Sr Maria McGuinness and Orla O'Neill. All Trustees give their time freely and no Trustee remuneration is paid. Details of Trustee expenses and related party transactions are disclosed in the accounts, which amounts to €NIL for 2015.

The Trust is a member of The Wheel which provides much helpful information on good practice, changes on the law affecting charities and acts as an authoritative lobby with the government and regulators. The Trust is no longer a member of Philanthropy Ireland but continues to liaise with fellow foundations on sectoral issues and joint grantmaking. The Trust does not have a public office and in 2015 had 2 Administrative staff and 3 Programme staff on part-time contracts to a total of 2.7 whole-time equivalents.

*St Stephen's Green Trust: Back (l-r): Stephen Rourke, Chair; Donal O'Brien, Trustee; Fr Mike Drennan, Trustee; Dáithí O'Maolchoille, Company Secretary; Front (l-r): Niamh Hourigan, Trustee; Jane Leek, Porticus UK; Sr Maria McGuinness, Trustee; Fr Vincent O'Hara, Discalced Carmelites; Orla O'Neill, Grants & Development Director.*

# risk management and grant making policy

## Risk management

The Trustees have considered the major risks to which the charity is exposed and have reviewed those risks and established systems and procedures to manage those risks. The Trustees consider variability of investment returns to constitute the charity's major financial risk and have a close relationship with the investment managers, Davy. A medium risk level is deemed to be most suitable for the Trust's investments and several meetings a year are held with the company to oversee this approach.

The major operational risk is the extent to which the grants awarded make an impact on the intended beneficiaries. An enhanced approach to reflection and evaluation of learning has been undertaken by the Trust in the last few years and this is expected to continue and develop. The Trust also takes care with its assessment of grant applications; ensuring successful applicants have a track record, demonstrate effectiveness and a minimum level of governance.

## Grant making policy

As part of its policy to periodically reflect on areas of funding, the Trust commissioned Brian Harvey to undertake a strategic review of the Trust's grant making in 2014 and to make recommendations on the areas of greatest need for the next five years. This comprehensive document which details the situation of some of the most vulnerable groups in Ireland today provided valuable information for Trustees in developing a plan. Brian Harvey's document is available on the Trust's website. The findings and recommendations informed the Strategic Plan 2014-2018 available on the Trust's website and outlined below.

The Trust also tries to maintain flexibility to be able to respond to emerging needs. In November 2015 Porticus agreed to support a new Refugee Support Grants

Programme focused on assisting refugees to integrate in Ireland. This programme will be rolled out in the second half of 2016. In the final quarter of each year the Trustees agree grant focus areas and criteria for accepting applications for the following year. An effort is made to ensure this information is accessible to all organisations. Grant criteria are disseminated through Funding Point (The Wheel), Avelink and NICVA's GrantTracker website in Northern Ireland.

Application forms, criteria and application deadlines are available on the Trust's website. Potential applicants are encouraged to speak with Orla O'Neill in advance of making an application to ensure it fits the criteria for funding. The grant application review process seeks to establish whether funding a particular organisation or project is likely to be effective in terms of achieving impact. Therefore grant applications are assessed on the basis of whether it includes a policy element; develops fresh thinking and analysis of issues; addresses 'harder', critical issues; builds individual or organisational leadership; prompts invention and analysis; builds institutional linkages and leaves some form of legacy, however small. Applicants are not expected to meet all these criteria.

The process for application assessment and timeframe for decision making is set out in the grant information on the website. A two-step process is now in place for the General Grant Scheme whereby applications are shortlisted for a full assessment within two weeks of the application deadline. Therefore the bulk of unsuccessful applicants have a decision within two weeks. Shortlisting of applications is not a guarantee of funding and more detailed information on the application is sought before a final decision is made, which may take another six weeks. A technical assistance grant is available to low capacity

organisations to help develop funding proposals. The grant can be used to develop grant applications for the Trust and other funding organisations and in general must meet all other criteria.

The Trust has a policy of seeking reports from organisations in receipt of grants when the money has been spent normally a year following grant allocation. From this information the Trust writes up overall impact reports. Strategic grant programmes generally have a formative evaluative approach which documents the learning of grantees on an ongoing basis. The purpose is to learn from the work of grantees and to help organisations reflect on the project, whether it changed from the original intentions and if so, why. In addition, gathering information from grantees allows the Trust to reflect on the efficiency and effectiveness of its grant making approaches and process and overall outcomes.



Workshops with Travellers in Irish Prisons



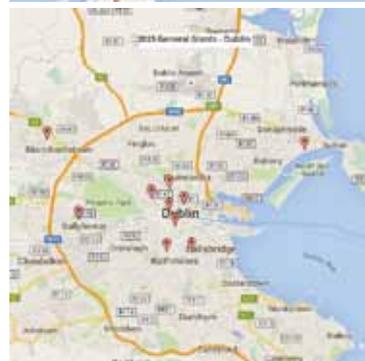
# 2015 outcomes

The Trust made direct grants of €365,000 to beneficiaries in 2015, compared to €450,700 in 2014. However, €79,000 was also spent on the Travellers in Prison Initiative, a directly-managed grant programme, meaning overall grants levels were similar to last year. Grants were made under 4 different programmes: **1) General Grants;** **2) Direct Provision Centres;** **3) Travellers in Prison Initiative** and **4) Darndale Belcamp.**

## 1. General Grants Programme €244,630

The Trust made grants to 36 organisations of €244,630 in one grant round with funding from Porticus. Eight grants were made to organisations working with prisoners / ex-prisoners and their families. Fifteen grants were made to Traveller organisations, of which two were also focused on work with prisoners. A further five grants were made to organisations working on housing and homelessness issues. Of the 36 organisations funded, four were for work in Northern Ireland, in the area of prisoners/ex-prisoners and their families and work with Travellers.

Nine of the 36 grants were part of a multi-annual grant reflecting a new strategy of allowing organisations the opportunity to demonstrate what works over a longer period, so they can more easily measure progress before seeking mainstream funding. All multi-annual grants are subject to a satisfactory report for the previous year and a detailed plan for the following year. Organisations are expected to seek alternative sources of funding as the project continues and so amounts awarded in the second and third year reduce.



# grants made under the general grants programme 2015

Organisation	Town	Pfoject	Grant
1. Mental Health Reform	Dublin	3 Year project to support a group of clients from Dublin Simon Community to advocate for better mental health services	€14,000
2. Carbery Housing Association Ltd.	Skibbereen	Phase 2 of the Mortgages to Rent project	€5,000
3. Galway Diocesan Youth Services	Galway	Towards costs of feasibility study on UK model to prevent youth homelessnes	€3,900
4. Sons of Divine Providence	Dublin	Costs of project manager for housing project	€3,800
5. Safe Home Ireland	Westport	Cost of providing outreach support visits to returned older Irish emigrants	€1,500
<b>TOTAL GRANTS MADE TO 5 ORGANISATIONS WORKING ON HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS</b>			<b>€28,200</b>
6. Bedford Row Family Project	Limerick	Explore the impact of the service on families of prisoners and ex-prisoners	€15,000
7. Dialogue for Diversity	Armagh	Year 2 of a 3 year grant for volunteer and other expenses working with prisoners	€8,000
8. ADD NI	Belfast	2-year grant for therapeutic programme for young offenders	€7,000
9. Fighting Words Creative Writing Centre	Dublin	Writing project with people in detention centres	€6,000
10. Helping Hands Belfast	Belfast	Core costs for exprisoners organisation	€6,000
11. Matt Talbot Community Trust	Ballyfermot	The Mind/Body programme for exprisoners	€3,500
12. Treo Port Lairge Ltd	Waterford	Towards costs of bike mechanics training the trainer qualifications for two staff.	€2,780
13. IPRT	Dublin	Towards costs of fundraising plan	€1,500
<b>TOTAL GRANTS MADE TO 8 PRISONER/EXPRISONERS ORGANISATIONS</b>			<b>€49,780</b>

# general grants programme 2015 (continued)

Organisation	Town	Details	2014 Grant
14. Navan Travellers Workshops Ltd	Navan	Year 2 Traveller Prison Links Programme in Wheatfield	€15,000
15. Waterford Travellers	Waterford	Year 2 Men's Sheds pilot project	€15,000
16. Offaly Traveller Movement	Tullamore	An analysis of the issue of Traveller homelessness in a rural context	€12,500
17. Sligo Traveller Support Group	Sligo	Loughan House Open Door project	€12,000
18. Cavan Traveller Movement	Cavan	Year 2 grant for Men's Shed Pilot Project	€8,900
19. Travellers of North Cork	Cork	2yr grant for Men's Health Development Project	€8,000
20. Leitrim County Childcare Committee	Leitrim	3yr grant for a Child and Parent collaboration on literacy improvement with the Traveller Community	€7,500
21. Community Restorative Justice	Newry	Mediation project working with Travellers	€5,000
22. TravAct	Dublin	Programme on building resilience aimed at engaging Traveller men	€5,000
23. Blanchardstown Travellers Development Group	Dublin	Integrated leadership, Board and Community Development Project	€3,290
24. Traveller Counselling Support Network	Dublin	Core costs	€3,000
25. Raheen CDP	Enniscorthy	Engaging with young Travellers in the process of recording their memories and experiences.	€2,500
26. Shannon Family Resource	Shannon	Shannon Traveller Horse Project	€1,560
27. Kilkenny Traveller Community Movement	Kilkenny	Project to support management of Kilkenny Horse Project	€1,200
28. Longford County Childcare Committee	Longford	Design and develop literary resource for Traveller children in pre-schools	€600
<b>TOTAL GRANTS MADE TO 15 TRAVELLER ORGANISATIONS</b>			<b>€101,050</b>

<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Town</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>2014 Grant</b>
29. Holy Ghost Fathers	Dublin	Refurbishment at Holy Cross Church School, Pakistan: donor-advised grant	€34,000
30. Irish Deaf Society	Dublin	2 year grant - advocacy training and development	€12,500
31. Chaplaincy Service at DIT	Dublin	Pastoral Care & Spiritual Support Facility for students and staff	€4,000
32. Community Work Ireland	Galway	Phase two of process to examine the effects of the State's procurement policy on community development.	€4,000
33. Moyross Community Enterprise Centre	Limerick	Feasibility study for establishing community shop in Moyross	€3,800
34. Dublin Inner City Community Co-op Society	Dublin	Administrative support for the Co-op	€3,750
35. Partners in Faith	Dublin	Producing materials for workshops	€2,500
36. Irish Deaf Society	Dublin	Planning Grant to develop application to SSGT	€1,050
<b>TOTAL GRANTS MADE TO 8 OTHER ORGANISATIONS</b>			<b>€65,600</b>
<b>TOTAL GRANTS MADE</b>			<b>€244,630</b>

## 2. Direct Provision Centre Grants

The Trust continued a grant programme to provide funding for activities for children living in Direct Provision Centres. The 2014 Brian Harvey scoping document identified asylum seeker families and children living under Direct Provision as one of the most vulnerable groups in Ireland at risk of poverty and social exclusion.

In 2015 the Trust was able to extend the programme to two grant rounds due to extra donations received from the four Mercy provinces. The programme is now funded by the investments of the Daughters of the Cross and donations from the Solidarity Trusts of Mercy South, South Central, West and Northern Provinces.

*“Thank you Martina for taking us to the swimming, Carrick United Camp, Tennis camp, Davis Camp, beach and bouncy castle. We all had a lot of fun this summer. Thank you very much and God bless you. You are the best manager. We all love you. xxxx” , L (9 yrs old and born into Direct Provision)*

The grants focused on giving children access to after-school activities or community sports or arts activities. There were two grant rounds - Spring and Autumn 2015 - and applications were sought from local community organisations already working with Family Direct Provision Centres of which there are 25 scattered throughout the country. The objective is to fund activities that take the children out of the Direct Provision Centres to participate in sporting, dance and arts activities with their peers in their local community. However in some isolated Centres the Trust allowed a more flexible approach due to the dearth of easily accessible community activities.

Lack of, or the high cost of transport remains a huge barrier to participation. 619 children will benefit from the €88,289 allocated in grants to 16 organisations around the country. Grant reports were received from most organisations and results are overwhelmingly positive. Some of the feedback from recipient organisations included the following:

*“When are we going to get swimming tickets?” Repeated over a few days by a four-year old. “What do they do in the Girls’ Brigade, because I might like to go.” Asked at one of the clinics by a five year old on her own. “Can I go to the soccer summer camp again?” asked by a ten year old boy after really enjoying himself. “Could my daughter go to speech and drama?” Asked by the mother of a five year old girl keen to improve her daughter’s English. “We don’t want to go to the IT for the athletics*

*because it is too far and it is too cold.” Told by 2 parents.*

*“The grant was of an exceptional value to its beneficiaries – children of asylum seekers. Near to 80 children in the Centre benefitted from the grant. For most of them it was an introduction into new activity, connection with mainstream society, making friends outside of school or Centre, developing a sense of being a part of local life and community. As a result of being part of dancing classes several children took part in community events in the town – performed dancing at the town Festivals. Cost of swimming lessons in schools is prohibitive for asylum seekers parents. Children asylum seekers are often left out, which deepens an apparent disadvantage and sense of deprivation for this group. The grant enabled children from 2 primary schools to attend swimming lessons and created positive outcomes.”*

*“For some families it was their first opportunity to take part in activities with other children in the community. Feeling ‘part’ rather than ‘apart’ has had an impact on self-esteem.”*

*“The children felt cherished that they could attend activities, the same as their friends in school. Parents felt they were, at last, able to respond to their children’s wishes.”*

*“All the children in the Centre took part and this had a very beneficial knock on effect in bringing the parents into the community. The pool was close enough for the children to walk to it. The parents brought the children to the pool and stayed at the poolside while the lessons took place. This is probably the only activity at which this has happened and it is a step in the right direction for the families who live here. Now most of the children know what level they are at in swimming and continue to ask for the lessons.”*

*“Has been very beneficial. In-centre activities helped the children integrate with each other as they are often from very different cultures. The children are participating in the town’s St Patrick’s Day Parade. We also hired the local cinema to show a film so the children could invite their school friends and it also included a meal.”*

*“Thank you very much for giving A a place in hip hop. She is so fantastic and loves dancing. It has really improved her confidence and integrates freely without being shy. Her dance teacher say she can be a professional dancer.”*

# Direct Provision Centre Grants 2015

Local Organisation	Centre	Grant	Children
Clonakilty Friends of Asylum Seekers	Clonakilty Lodge	€2,600	30
Cork City Partnership	Kinsale Road Accom. Centre	€7,440	31
Croi na Gaillimhe	Eglinton, Salthill, Galway	€8,685	57
Cultúr	Mosney Accomodation Centre	€4,500	15
Diversity Sligo	Globe House, Chapel Hill, Sligo	€2,320	35
Doras Luimni	Knockalisheen Centre, Clare	€6,256	61
Integrate Carrick	Bridgewater House, Carrick on Suir	€3,380	27
Killarney Asylum Seekers Initiative	Atlas House, Killarney	€1,440	12
Integration and Support Unit	Atlantic House, Tramore	€2,530	14
Integration and Support Unit	Ocean View House, Tramore	€1,328	10
Mayo Intercultural Action	The Old Convent, Ballyhaunis	€2,500	65
Monaghan Immigrant	St Patricks Accommodation Centre€	€10,500	30
South Dublin Co. Partnership	Tower Accommodation Centre	€5,916	60
Tralee International Resource Centre	Johnston Marina Hotel € Dingle Road Tralee	€4,876	35
Wallaroo Playschool Child and Family Project	Ashbourne House, Co. Cork	€4,390	37
Waterford Immigration Network	Birchwood House DP, Ballytruckle, Waterford.	€7,178	26
Westmeath Community Development Ltd	Athlone Accommodation Centre	€12,4200	57

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**TOTAL**

**€88,289**

**619 CHILDREN  
WILL BENEFIT**

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### 3. Travellers in Prison Initiative

The Travellers in Prison Initiative (TPI) is a response to the particular needs and circumstances of Travellers within the 14 prisons in the Republic of Ireland and within the Central Mental Hospital. It is recognised that Travellers are significantly over-represented within the prison system. Although Travellers only account for 0.6% of the overall population in the Republic of Ireland they account for 22% of the female prison population and 15% of the male prison population (source: Irish Prison Service).

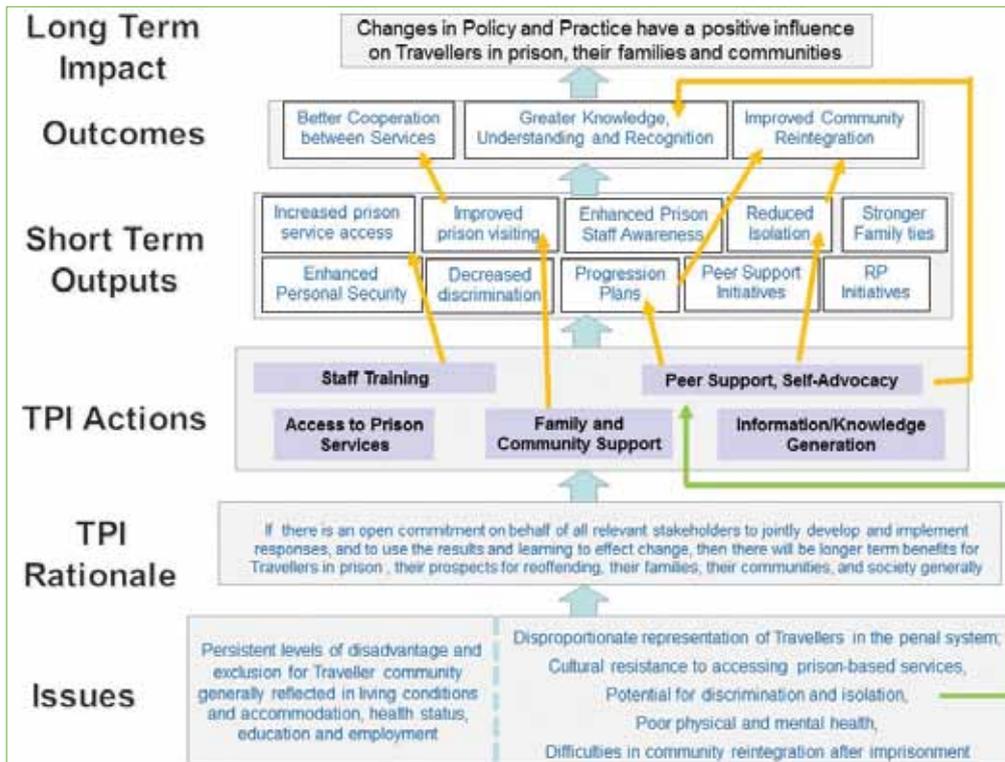
The TPI programme was developed during the second half of 2014 and was informed by recommendations contained in the Irish Penal Reform Trust (IPRT) research report on ‘Travellers in the Irish Prison System’ produced in May 2014, which provides a useful insight into the challenges and difficulties being experienced by Travellers within Irish prisons.

The Trust recruited a TPI Programme Co-ordinator in March 2015. Following a rigorous interview process a decision was taken to recruit two part-time staff members instead of a full-time co-ordinator. The successful applicants were David Joyce (Programme Officer) and Anne Costello (Programme Co-ordinator). David resigned in November 2015 to pursue other career options. The SSGT have allocated a sum of €70,000 per year for a 3 year period. Matched funding of €30,000 per annum is being provided by the Irish Prison Service / Probation Service for the budgeted overall cost of €100,000 per annum to implement the initiative.

In 2015 the HSE Social Inclusion Unit provided funding of €10,000 to undertake research into the situation and experience of Traveller women in prison and this work is ongoing. Some of the organisations funded under the General Grants Programme to work with Travellers in prison in Wheatfield, Limerick, Midlands, Castlereagh and Loughan House are also participating in the work of the TPI. The TPI has a budget of €15,000 per annum for small project grants and research projects that demonstrate a capacity to contribute to the TPI goals.

A Steering Group was established in January 2015 to oversee the development and progression of the TPI between 2015 and 2018. The function of the Steering Group is to provide advice and guidance and to identify opportunities for greater co-ordination and co-operation in relation to the issue of Travellers within Irish prisons. It is recognised there are a large number of organisations and agencies working within Irish prisons and it is anticipated TPI will improve the co-ordination and delivery of these services to Travellers in Irish prisons. Steering Group members include representatives from statutory and non-statutory national and local Traveller and non-Traveller organisations. In 2015 the members were:

John Paul Collins-	Pavee Point
Ray Murray-	Irish Prison Service
Sarah Jane Kavanagh-	ProbationService
DeirdreMalone-	IPRT
Damien Walshe-	ITM
Michael McDonagh-	Navan Travellers
John O’Sullivan-	Mincéirs Whiden
Catherine Morley-	Exchange House
Thomas McCann-	Traveller Counselling Service
Diane Nurse-	HSE Social Inclusion Unit
Stephen Rourke-	SSGT
Orla O’Neill-	SSGT
Sandra McDonagh-	National Travellers Women’s Forum



Evaluation: Nexus Research was appointed as external evaluators and they are applying a Theory of Change model in their evaluation approach.

## Progress

Over the initial months of the project, staff focused primarily on gaining an insight/understanding of the IPS, Probation Service, in-reach services – structures, stakeholders, policies, practices, possibilities and constraints. Relationships were built with key stakeholders to raise awareness about the TPI and to explore possibilities to work collaboratively. Through this exploratory process staff have gained an insight into some of the challenges involved in bringing about change and identified actions with the potential to address these challenges, taking into account the likelihood of commitment from key stakeholders, as well as practical constraints that may have emerged.

Some of the more important challenges experienced in the initial phase have related to the following key issues:

- **Data Collection and Monitoring** – using a short survey sent to prison Governors, it was ascertained a

recently-introduced ethnic identifier in Irish prisons was problematic. It was clear a significant number of Travellers in prison are not identified as such under the IPS ethnic data collection process. Consequently, there is a gap in knowledge about the situation and needs of Travellers in prison. TPI highlighted the issue to senior staff in the IPS and will now work in partnership with the IPS and Pavee Point to overcome the barriers to effective data collection. The first stage in this process is to pilot the delivery of intensive training with staff in two prisons initially and then seek to mainstream the learning throughout the IPS and Probation service.

- **Traveller women in Prison** – TPI identified a gap in research on the experiences of Traveller women prior to imprisonment, accessing services in prison and post-release experiences. It made a successful application to the IPS Research and Ethics Dept.

## 3.Travellers in Prison Initiative Progress (cont'd)

to conduct interviews with Traveller women in prison to gain an insight into a) the pathways into prison for Traveller women and b) their experiences of prison services.

The research process will include desk research, semi-formal interviews with Traveller women in prison and ex-prisoners (individual and group meetings) and interviews/meetings with service providers and key decision makers. The information from the research process will be used to inform policy and practice in Traveller organisations, community and voluntary sector and within IPS and Probation service. The report will be published in 2016.

- **Travellers' access to and outcomes from prison-based services and re-integration supports** - anecdotal evidence indicates there is a disproportionately low uptake of prison based services amongst Travellers in prison. Through informal interviews the following issues have been identified as possible barriers - literacy issues, negative perceptions of education based on past experiences, security and personal safety issues as well as the issue of prisoners' personal motivation. Moreover, service providers don't appear to receive specific training on delivering Traveller inclusive services.

Accurate data collection mechanisms will provide useful information on Travellers access to and uptake of services in prison. The TPI in partnership with the Traveller Counselling Service delivered a workshop on providing a 'Traveller Inclusive Psychological Service' to IPS psychologists, providing a useful opportunity for IPS staff to better understand Traveller culture and how their service could be adapted to provide a more inclusive service. The IPS psychology services agreed to explore the possibility of piloting a preventative mental health initiative, to include stress reduction for a group of Travellers in Castlerea prison.

- **The TPI have developed an 'Equality Mainstreaming Toolkit' to support service providers deliver a culturally inclusive service.** The TPI will work with Traveller organisations and service providers to deliver workshops on equality mainstreaming.

- **Culturally appropriate family support** - TPI have drafted a culturally appropriate family support toolkit, informed by Traveller organisations and steering group members. This will be disseminated in partnership with the Irish Traveller Movement during 2016.

- **Development of initiatives to promote peer support and advocacy amongst Travellers in prison** - TPI is supporting a number of Traveller organisations to establish Traveller peer-support groups in prisons, including supporting the Meath Travellers working in Wheatfield, Laois Travellers Support Group working in the Midlands Prison.

- **The TPI developed a newsletter containing information about peer support, prison services and relevant news about the Traveller community for Travellers in prison.** The inaugural Christmas edition was disseminated to all prisons in December 2015. Newsletters will be produced every three months. Work is ongoing to ensure there are opportunities for Travellers in prison to contribute to future editions.

- **Network of Traveller organisations working with Travellers in Prison - TPI has established a network of Traveller organisations currently engaged in work with Travellers in prison and/or their families.** The purpose of the network is to create opportunities to share learning, problem solve and promote good practice. Invitations will be extended to Traveller organisations who may be interested in beginning to engage in work with Travellers in prison and other stakeholders.



Anne Costello TPI co-ordinator

## 4. Darndale Belcamp Oblate Grant Programme

2015 was the final year of the Darndale Belcamp Oblate Grant Programme which was in operation between 2006-2015. About €1,100,000 was given in grants over the 10 year period and a final impact report will be published later in 2016.

The Grant Programme awarded €61,000 to 10 organisations and initiatives in 2015 including several which were joint applications. In this final year of the grant

programme the Trust continued the recommendations from the Grant Programme evaluation to fund activities which: a) involved collaboration among two or more local organisations seeking to meet the needs of the local community as expressed in the evaluation and community survey; b) projects which strengthened the capacity of organisations and c) projects which allowed the organisation to strengthen relationships with key funders.

Organisation	Project Detail	Grant
Grantwriter	Core Costs	€12,000
Our Lady Immaculate Junior National School	Joint application with the OLI Senior school for Orchestra and after school activities	€10,000
Darndale Park Renewal Group	Refurbishment of playground, matched funded by Dublin City Council	€10,000
Darndale Belcamp Village Centre	Golden Years Senior Centre fully wheelchair accessible patio area for Centre	€6,000
Sphere 17 Regional Youth Service	Summer Buzz 2015, collaboration between Sphere 17 and New Life Centre to deliver Summer Programme to young people.	€5,500
Darndale Belcamp Childcare Centre	Team building and website for Centre	€5,000
The Dales Drugs Project	Strategic Plan	€5,000
RASP Ltd Laneview Learning Centre	Refurbishment of new premises	€3,500
Darndale Junior Football Club	Core costs	€3,200
St Francis Moatview Football Club	Core costs	€800
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>€61,000</b>

## Darndale Belcamp 2015 (cont'd)

### Community Grantwriter

The Stephen's Green Trust established a community grantwriter role in 2007 to support all Darndale Belcamp community and voluntary organisations. This part-time contract role was initially funded by the Oblates Grant Programme. In 2015, the Oblate grant was supplemented by the Community Foundation of Ireland (€4,000) and the Northside Partnership (€4,000) to deliver this community financial, funding and governance support service to local organisations.

Early in 2016 we surveyed organisations which had benefitted from the services of the Grantwriter and once again found the bespoke service offered in the form of guidance around funding available and developing an approach to funders was viewed very favourably. A large majority of respondents found the support very valuable and most said it led to funding which would not have otherwise been received.

*"Letting us know what grants are available and the time line for application has been really helpful and we have received grants we would not otherwise have accessed"*

*"The community grant writer programme has linked us with grants that otherwise we may not have been aware of. By having a person to talk to it has meant we can ensure that we only apply for grants that are best suited to our organisations needs instead of wasting valuable time applying for ones that don't match our needs or that we don't match in terms of criteria. It has also been a good way to link the various community groups and support them in collaborative work as a neutral person. It is a wonderful support, thank you"*

#### Community Grantwriter

The Community Grantwriters (Moira Mc Carthy Jan/June and Freda Keeshan Sept/Dec) focussed on accessing grants and fundraising opportunities during

2015. Securing grants in an increasingly challenging environment is difficult. Of nearly 50 applications made by the organisations 52% were successful with relatively low levels of input from the Community Grantwriter. The Grantwriter provided more intensive support and time to a further 16 applications and 63% of these applications were successful.

While it is difficult to directly attribute the success of the organisations getting grants to the support of the Grantwriter, it is estimated over €200,000 in grants and donations were received with Moira or Freda's support. Support was also provided to fundraising activities carried out by local organisations, with some significant successes with support given to the Darndale Childcare Centre. An event with companies in the aircraft leasing sector raised over €48,000. The Centre was also selected as one of 3 charities to be part of a one day triathlon event with Sporting Proud, raising in excess of €30,000. This event will be held again in 2016 and the Childcare centre has been selected to participate again, an expression of great confidence in this organisation.

The Grantwriter provided support to a group of local residents, fishing enthusiasts and the football club to improve Darndale Park. This was supported with a grant of €10,000 from the SSGT fund. After some early difficulties in meaningful collaboration with Dublin City Council, there are now regular meetings of local residents and clubs, public representatives, and officials from both the Parks and Community sections of the Council and significant progress has been made. DCC matched the SSGT grant with €40,000 towards improvement of the playground. The Grantwriter provided administrative support to Darndale Arts week held in June 2015. A grant of €2,000 was secured from Dublin City Council Arts Office for the first time. The schools and creches in Darndale held events throughout the week and the

children and young adults were particularly enthusiastic about the activities. The community and open events were held over two days. Another significant area of work was the provision of support to local organisations around the requirements of the Charity Regulation Authority.



*Children from OLI Junior School Darndale participating in after school activities*

# Operational Plan 2015

## Summary of achievements in 2015

Strategic Goals	Planned activities 2015	Outcomes
1. Support the development of Traveller men and implement the Travellers in Prison Initiative.	Development of the TPI Initiative. General Grant Programme 2015	TPI Steering Group and Staff appointed. TPI evaluator appointed using Theory of Change approach and operational plan developed with first actions completed (see Nexus Interim Report  Over €100,000 in grants made to Traveller organisations
2. Support strategies which improve the lives and life chances of prisoners / ex-prisoners and their families.	General Grant Programme 2015	Almost €50,000 in grants to 8 organisations working with prisoners / ex-prisoners and their families. Projects funded included support for employment progression routes; Prison links workers, through-the-gate supports and family support.
3. Support strategies to improve the lives of asylum-seeker children and families in direct provision centres.	Direct Provision Grant Programme 2015	Two grant rounds were administered in 2015 to a total of €88,000 to 16 organisations working with 620 children.
4. Continue to manage the Darndale Belcamp Grant Programme.	Final Grant round 2015  Continue work of Grantwriter  Community Grantwriter to be sustained for a three year period.	The Grant Programme awarded €61,000 to 10 organisations and initiatives in 2015. Grantwriter supported applications at various levels which brought in almost €200,000 to the community.  Funding proposals to sustain the Grantwriter role for a further 3 years agreed with the Northside Partnership, Oblate Congregation and Community Foundation.
5. Be flexible in our funding so we can support organisations seeking to address the root causes of inequalities in Ireland, particularly as they relate to our areas of particular interest.	Be responsive to opportunities which support this aim, including making small grants and collaborating with other organisations.	Due to the Grants & Development Director being away for six months, there was limited activity under this strategy. We awarded a second grant to Community Work Ireland to continue the examination of the effects of the State's procurement policy on community development.

Strategic Goals	Planned activities 2015	Outcomes
<p>6. Support new thinking and approaches to the problem of homelessness in Ireland, with a particular focus on tackling homelessness outside of Dublin.</p>	<p>Be responsive to proposals which implement this aim, including having it as part of the General Grants Scheme 2015</p>	<p>€28,000 was granted to five organisations to work in a number of areas including a feasibility study on Nightstop - a UK model which takes an innovative approach to supporting young people who require emergency accommodation.</p>
<p>7. Collaboration with other Trusts, Foundations and organisations to enhance our ability to achieve our primary aims.</p>	<p>Networking with other funders in pursuit of the primary aims on an ongoing basis</p>	<p>Due to the limited activity in the second half of the year, this aim was not achieved to a great extent in 2015.</p>
<p>8. Share our knowledge in a strategic way which drives the impact of our grantees' work.</p>	<p>There were no plans in 2015 in this area.</p>	
<p>9. Continue to improve our granting practice and ensure our grant programmes are relevant, challenging and make an impact in our grants focus areas.</p>	<p>Continue the development of feedback opportunities for grantees</p>	<p>Short surveys were administered to get grantee feedback for the General Grant Programme and the Darndale Belcamp Grant Programme. Grant reports have a section asking grantees to give their opinion on whether process meets their needs – some suggestions made have been implemented.</p>
<p>10. Be an exemplar charitable foundation which reaches a high level of good governance and upholds our stated values and commitment to the people with whom we work.</p>	<p>New Directors to be appointed</p>	<p>Two new Directors were appointed in 2015 – unfortunately one had to step down late in the year due to work commitments.</p>

# St Stephens Green Trust

(COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE AND NOT HAVING A SHARE CAPITAL)  
75 WESTON PARK, CHURCHTOWN, DUBLIN 14

## Summarised Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2015

The financial information has been extracted from  
St Stephen's Green Trust Financial Statements  
for the year ended 31 December 2015 which  
were approved by the Trustees on 30th January 2016.

# Income and Expenditure

## 2015

<b>Income</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>
€	€	€
Porticus	283,264	412,293
Oblates	59,469	53,465
Investment income from Daughters of the Cross Fund	43,329	38,960
Discalced Carmelites	55,000	15,000
Mercy Southern Province	15,000	24,000
Mercy South Central Province	5,600	0
Mercy Northern Province	12,000	0
Mercy Western Province	8,000	0
Children's Rights Alliance	579	0
Health Service Executive	3,000	0
Irish Prison Service	30,000	0
Community Foundation of Ireland	4,000	0
Northside Partnership	3,500	0
	<hr/> 522,741	<hr/> 543,718
Interest earned	53	26
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>522,794</b>	<b>543,744</b>
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
<b>Expenditure</b>		
<b>Charitable activities:</b>		
Grants to beneficiaries	365,056	450,718
TPI	79,16	0
General Grant Scheme	411	410
Darndale Belcamp Programme	254	669
Survivors' Programme	522	2,634
Travellers in Prison Initiative	509	940
<b>Total Expenditure on Charitable Activities</b>	<b>445,915</b>	<b>455,371</b>
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
<b>Administration &amp; Support expenses:</b>		
Staffing costs	60,361	59,981
Office Costs	4,823	5,046
Governance	2,067	6,657
Audit Fee	1,845	1,845
	<hr/> 69,096	<hr/> 73,529
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>515,011</b>	<b>528,900</b>
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
Net incoming resources before other recognised gains and losses	7,783	14,844
Net gains/losses on investment assets	108,511	208,378
Net movement in funds	116,294	223,222

# Summary Balance Sheet

## 2015

	2015 €	2014 €
Net Assets		
€	€	
Financial Assets	2,987,827	2,879,316
Current Assets	519,198	216,625
Current Liabilities	(505,451)	(210,661)
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>3,001,574</b>	<b>2,885,280</b>
<hr/>		
<b>Total Funds at 31st December 2015</b>	<b>3,001,574</b>	<b>2,885,280</b>
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