

we are Barnardos

ANNUAL REVIEW 2005



message from President Mary McAleese

When you were little, what did you want to do when you grew up? (Orla, age 9)

I wanted to be a lawyer.

Mary McAleese President of Ireland

As Patron of Barnardos, I am very pleased to send my best wishes again this year. In the past twelve months you have once more earned our congratulations by all you have done for the young people you work with.

Childhood is short, but a childhood spent in want can seriously distort the life of the later adult. Your efforts, your skill and compassion, your devotion to the welfare of the young, have significantly helped very many young people cope with the overwhelming difficulties they can find themselves facing. Ireland is very lucky to have the energy and commitment of Barnardos assisting our youngsters to enrich their aspirations and to fulfil their potential.

I am honoured to be associated with the wonderful work of Barnardos. Your work is immensely valuable and I wish you every success in your future endeavours.

Mary McAleese President of Ireland

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chairman's statement

Declan, what's it like to be the big boss of Barnardos? I bet it's exciting! (Caroline, age 7)

It's cool. We don't have any big bosses here, 'cos we all work together. Working with kids and their families, so they can build better lives, is exciting work. We know we don't have all the answers, and it's my job as Chairman to keep reminding the team that "we don't know best". Kids know best, and so do their families.

Declan Ryan
Chairman

In 21st century Ireland we hear about the costs of things that, when I was growing up, didn't come with a price tag. Time is a commodity as never before; community is a luxury item and conversation is a text message – usually to say that you're running late. The new burdens of society are house prices, childcare and commuting.

It's hard to gauge where childhood in Ireland fits into this mix. For many children, Ireland could well be the best place in the world to be a child. But not for all. Every day Barnardos works with children and their families who struggle with poverty, who feel alienated and whose expectations are neutered through lack of access to the support networks they need to lift them out of the poverty trap.

The home environment is oftentimes chaotic; parents battle to make ends meet; any extra, unanticipated costs – such as a school trip or a new pair of shoes – can tilt the burden to an unmanageable level.

In 2005 Barnardos launched our new Strategy and outlined our mission and vision. It's a simple proposition - Barnardos' vision is an Ireland where childhood is valued and all children and young people are cherished equally. This is driven by our mission, which is to make Ireland the best place in the world to be a child – for every child. This is not an unreasonable aspiration. Economically we have the means; what we need is the political and social will.

Barnardos' work in 2005

In the past year Barnardos worked directly and indirectly with some 12,000 children and their families, operating across a network of over 30 community based centres in some of the most over-looked localities in Ireland. We also provided a range of national services, including: Barnardos' Bereavement Counselling for children; Guardian *ad Litem* – an independent voice to represent children's needs and wishes in the courts system; Origins – family tracing service for former industrial school residents; an adoption advice service; and we run the National Children's Resource Centre for parents and professionals working in the field of childcare.

arnardos review

As hard as we worked, we scratched the surface.

In 2005 one in seven children in Ireland lived in consistent poverty. That's 148,000 children who were robbed of the opportunities that every parent wants for their child.

Recognising that we do not have the capacity to directly help all the children who need our intervention, Barnardos established an Advocacy department in March 2005. Its function is to campaign for children's needs and influence the policies that affect children to ensure that they are accorded the same rights as any other citizen of the State.

Our Finances

Barnardos raised a record €17.5m in 2005, an increase of 8% on 2004. Statutory funding represented 60% and was allocated through the Health Service Executive and a number of government departments. The remainder was raised through our fundraising work and the support of trusts and foundations, notably Atlantic Philanthropies, with whom we continue to work closely to implement our Strategy, and the One Foundation.

Fundraising income for the year was €3.3m, secured through corporate fundraising, events, legacies, our shops network and through the generosity of individuals who supported our work.

Throughout the year, we also received a significant amount of benefit-in-kind whereby organisations and individuals provided their time and their expertise on a pro bono basis. We are indebted to the generosity of our supporters and to the tireless work of the Fundraising Board.

Our People

In July 2006 Harry Slowey will take over from me as the Chair of Barnardos' Board. I would like to take this opportunity to write a few words of thanks. Every time I walk into a Barnardos centre, the immediate feeling is of happiness, care and professionalism. This feeling makes me enormously proud to be a part of Barnardos and to be Irish. The needs of the children and families we work with are the solid focus of everything we do. Unfortunately, it is impossible to mention all our staff by name, but my experience over the last ten years is that all our Barnardos' staff and volunteers are a great example of unsung heroes. I genuinely thank you all for the kindness you provide to children in Ireland who need your support.

I have no doubt that our vision will become a reality. I believe this because every single Barnardos employee and volunteer is 100% committed to the work that we do. We have grown significantly in the past year to ensure that we are equipped to meet the target that we have set ourselves and we will not rest until Ireland is the best place in the world to be a child.

Childhood in the 21st century is no different to what it means to be a child at any other time. Love, security, warmth, food, play, school remain staple elements of a child's well-being. What is striking is the number of children who don't have their basic needs met and who are stripped of their rights as children. What is more shocking is that this is taking place at a time when, as a nation, we have never been wealthier.

Declan Ryan Chair, Barnardos Board

chief executive's statement



Fergus, are you as good at spelling as I am? (Seamus, age 10)

I'm pretty good at spelling, but I'm not nearly so good at sums. Thank goodness the team that manages the money we spend on services for children and families is much better at sums than I am!

Fergus Finlay
Chief Executive

2005 was a year of change, growth and consolidation for Barnardos.

It's not easy to do all three of those things at the same time, but we managed it, thanks to the commitment of a great team. The year saw the departure of a Chief Executive and the arrival of a new one. The outgoing Chief Executive, Owen Keenan, made an immense contribution to the lives of children and families through the work he did in building up Barnardos to be the largest charity dedicated to children in Ireland. As the incoming one, I've spent my first year learning, and being grateful that we have such an extraordinary team of people, willing and able to take on any challenge.

There are over three hundred of us who work in Barnardos in and around 30 projects all over the country. Every one of us is totally committed to one simple proposition – that Ireland can, and should be, the best place in the world to be a child. Through the children's services we provide, and through the fundraising we do, we aim to work with children and families, using our programmes to give them the best start we can, helping them to enjoy the best chances in life, and enabling them to make the best choices as they grow. The work involves dedication and skill, and our children's services teams have that in abundance. But what I have found most striking when visiting projects, is the mutual respect that exists between Barnardos people and the young people and families we work with.

We know, of course, that the scale of the challenge facing children and young people in Ireland is beyond the scope of any one organisation. The impact of poverty and disadvantage, especially in a country as rich as ours, is a continuing source of scandal. That's why, though the work of our Advocacy department, we sought last year to highlight the issues facing the one in seven children who live in poverty in Ireland. We couldn't have done that without the support and contribution of a great many people, from creative people in



Every one of us is totally committed to one simple proposition – that Ireland can, and should be, the best place in the world to be a child.



advertising agencies to a number of suppliers of advertising space, and I hope they too feel proud of the impact that campaign made. Budget 2006 contained a number of measures specifically aimed at alleviating child and family poverty. As the saying goes, there's (a lot) more to do, and we're determined to keep the issues of poverty and disadvantage on the agenda.

In times of real difficulty and trauma, our national services are there to help. Representing the interests of young people in challenging legal surroundings, helping with the hurt and pain of a bereavement, offering advice and support in situations around adoption, and a special service that helps the survivors of institutional abuse to trace their origins and often come to terms with the past – these are some of the less-publicised things we do. And we do them with the support and back-up of the National Children's Resource Centre, a part of the Barnardos service that is frequently praised by practitioners throughout the country for its accessibility and quality.

A great deal of our work is carried out in partnership with the Health Service Executive and other state agencies, and we're very grateful for that professional relationship. We have other strategic partnerships too with key philanthropic agencies, and they have enabled us to deepen the quality of service we provide. Our commitment is to secure better outcomes for children and families through our services, and to increase the number of families served, while retaining our well-established connections within communities and our ability to respond effectively to the needs presented to us. We couldn't

do that without the external support of the HSE and our philanthropic partners.

And we couldn't do it either without the efforts of a great fundraising and communications team. In common with many Irish charities, those efforts faced an extra challenge in 2005 as a result of overseas disasters. But the scale of support of the Irish people for our work has been unwavering, and we are deeply indebted to all the individuals and companies that made significant contributions to a better beginning for thousands of young people in Ireland.

I'm very grateful too to a very supportive Board, and especially a Chairman who puts his all into the work, and always insists that children come first in everything we do.

If there was one highlight for me in 2005, it was being asked to stand in last Christmas for a very busy Santa Claus in one of our projects (I don't know why they thought I might look the part, but there you are). I was only finally accepted after a fairly vigorous examination of my beard by one young lady, who had clearly been mandated by her colleagues to conduct an investigation. But once I passed the test ("It's all right, he has a real one!", she announced), she made herself my assistant, and we had a busy morning handing out presents to the widest-eyed group of youngsters in Dublin.

2006 is already shaping up to be just as exciting. Barnardos is committed to growing our ability to serve. Training, development and change are part of everyday life here, because every single one of us wants to ensure that we have a positive and enduring impact on the lives of the children we serve. And I'm already looking forward to next Christmas!

Fergus Finlay Chief Executive



advocacy



Norah, is it cool being on TV and radio and newspapers talking about children? (Paul, age ten)

Hi Paul, I'm far from cool when I'm getting ready to talk to journalists! Once I'm on the spot though, I forget all about me and concentrate on what needs to be said and who needs to hear it.

My job when talking to the media is to tell it like it is for children and young people and to say how things can be better.

It all helps towards Barnardos' aim to make sure every child has the best childhood possible.

Norah Gibbons

Director of Advocacy

Barnardos' Advocacy department was established in 2005 and we've taken our first steps to being an effective voice on children's issues in Ireland. The first few months of the new department have been filled with milestones, learnings, challenges and triumphs.

Our first milestone was setting up the Advocacy department to carry out our mission to engage with the public, political decision-makers and opinion-formers to bring about the changes needed to make Ireland the best place in the world to be a child.

Every day thousands of children are faced with the challenges posed by poverty and educational disadvantage. Others are struggling with the effects of alcohol and other substance abuse in their families. Still more are vulnerable because their rights are not being protected.

There is hope. We learned by working together that we can make a difference to the lives of these 21st century children. Our *Seven Steps to Ending Child Poverty* campaign was an example of this. Our challenge was to get across the reality of child poverty in Ireland today.

The result was a campaign endorsed across the political spectrum and debated in the Dáil. It motivated almost 1,000 people to call and e-mail politicians to voice their support for Barnardos' *Seven Steps to Ending Child Poverty*. Budget 2006 in turn brought some welcome relief to families struggling with poverty in their daily lives.

Other highlights included:

- our *Back to School* campaign, which called for the roll-out of the national books rental scheme;
- Barnardos was invited to make a presentation before the Joint Oireachtas Committee on the Constitution and the Family;
- we played a key role in the preparation of the Shadow Report on the UN Convention of the Rights of the Child;
- membership of the Irish Childcare Policy Network which advocates for children's interests to be at the heart of all childcare policy and services.

We look forward to continuing to engage the public and policy-makers to make changes in children's lives. In 2006 we will be focusing on highlighting the impact of educational disadvantage, and will continue to be a voice for the children whose voices are not being heard in today's Ireland.

Norah Gibbons Director of Advocacy



children's services



Suzanne, is it fun picking all the activities for Barnardos? (Emma, age 8)

Thank you very much for your question. Picking the activities for Barnardos is a job I really enjoy. It is not just me who picks the activities though. I work with a team of people around the country who help me to decide what kind of activities children and their families enjoy and find helpful. This year we also asked the children and families who work with Barnardos what they thought of our current activities and what other things they would like us to offer, so we hope to introduce some new services over the next few years. I hope that children and families who attend Barnardos will continue to benefit from the time they spend with us and to enjoy working with us. We really enjoy working with you!

Suzanne Connolly

Director of Children's Services

Barnardos' children's services went through a process of research and review throughout 2005, so that we can plan services that will meet the changing and challenging needs of the child in the 21st century. Building on the goals of our Strategy we took time to review our services and, most importantly, to ask the people who use our services – the children and families – what they thought about them.

Towards the end of 2005 we asked parents and children to fill in a questionnaire about our services, and we received responses from 179 adults and 169 children. The majority of parents are very satisfied with the services that Barnardos provides – especially with how the services meet the needs of their child and the time staff are able to spend with their children. A consistent theme was that many said that they would like the services to be available for longer or more often.

The children's responses showed that they liked outside activities, meeting and playing with friends and arts and crafts the best.

We also consulted further with parents, staff and professionals who refer families to Barnardos about our intensive services for parents and how effective these services are.

In 2005 parents told us that they valued the staff's approach – they said it was non-judgmental, friendly and warm. They also commented that the projects were homely and that they were always welcome. They felt that the services encouraged families to make their own decisions.

One parent commented that "I don't feel concerned about what my neighbours might say if I'm seen going into Barnardos." Another parent said, "I like that the service is approachable, human and focused on my family. I'm never told that 'she's in a meeting'."

We would not be able to conduct this research without our new teams that form a crucial part of our children's services. In 2005 we recruited and appointed a Service Design and Development team. Their role is to design and develop our services to ensure that Barnardos provides world class services to children, young people and families. They have also created a system for us to keep consistent records of all our work with children across our different projects.

We are also lucky to have a new Research department – again to contribute to Barnardos as a leader in design, implementation and evaluation of services. Learning from the projects and what works for us will also inform our advocacy campaigns.

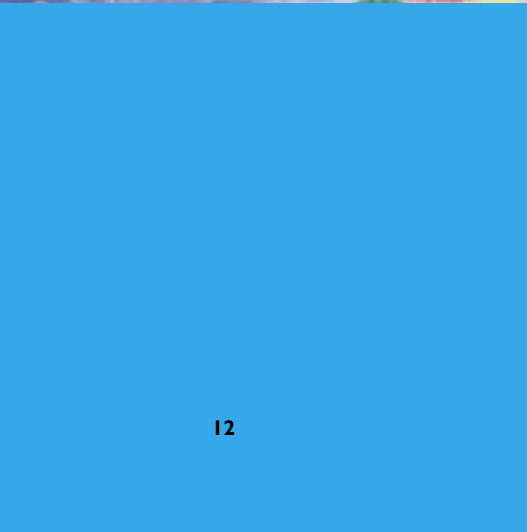
We look forward in 2006 to refocusing some of our existing services and implementing new innovative services. With the research and reflection of 2005 we will also be able to build on what works well for us, safe in the knowledge that this is based on what children and families have told us.

Suzanne Connolly Director of Children's Services





we are



Barnardos



we are Barnardos: our services

Barnardos offers a range of community based and national services aimed at supporting vulnerable children, young people and their families. Our learning from the work on the ground inspires and directs our advocacy work, and we continue to evaluate and research the impact of our work

on the people who use our services. Our advocacy aims to improve the lives of all children in Ireland and ensure that the voices of the most vulnerable members of society are heard, and their rights protected.

Family Support Services

A broad range of services to support families who are facing challenges.

Included in family support is early childhood services, parent and toddler groups, work to prevent early school leaving and individual support for children and their families.

Our services are broadly broken down into our “**Three Bests**”.

Best Start – for children from birth to age four

To support vulnerable babies and toddlers in their healthy development and in getting them ready to embark on education.

Best Chance – for children aged five to nine

Supporting children to improve their learning and development and to make the most of the opportunities offered by education.

Best Choice – for ten to 15 year olds

Helping vulnerable children make a successful transition from childhood to young adulthood and make informed life choices.



we are Barnardos

In addition to our community based services **Barnardos** provides a number of national services:

Adoption Advice Service

Offers advice and information on adoption.

Barnardos Bereavement Counselling

Provides counselling for children who have been bereaved and also training and support for adults who work with children.

Guardian ad Litem Service

An independent voice to represent children's needs and wishes in the courts system.

National Children's Resource Centre

Supports parents and professionals working in the childcare field, providing an information and library service, publications and training.

Origins

A family tracing service for former industrial school residents.

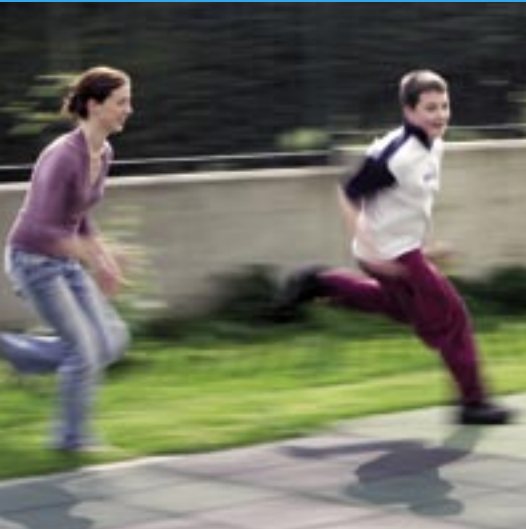


**we are Barnardos:
the child in the 21st century**

When we put together this Annual Review we asked a number of children from our Barnardos centre in Tullamore to give us a flavour of what it's like to be a child in the 21st century. This is what they said:



we are Barnardos



Q: What's it like being a child in the 21st Century?

A: It's fun being a child, 'cause grown ups don't get to go to fun places. But I've got little to play with where I live – there's no playground, and lots of rows. Dad says we will have to move, but I have tons of friends where I live.

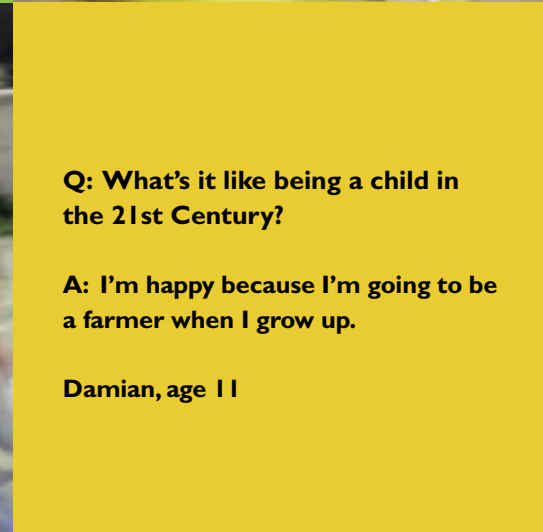
Jack, age 8



Q: What's it like being a child in the 21st Century?

A: I'm happy because I'm going to be a farmer when I grow up.

Damian, age 11





Q: What do you like about where you live?

A: I like where I live because it has lots of sports facilities like soccer, football and badminton – it's really quiet, not like the other estates down the road.

Robbie, age 10

Q: What do you like about where you live?

A: I like playing with my friends.

Kate, age 7



Q: What do you like about where you live?

A: I like that I have lots of friends, and there's a big green area.

Seamus, age 10



we are Barnardos

Q: What do you like about where you live?

A: I like the flowers and the trees. I like to pick flowers.

Ciara, age 8

Q: What don't you like about where you live?

A: There's lots of glass on the ground. The Gardaí keep coming to the estate.

Ciara, age 8



we are Barnardos

Q: What don't you like about where you live?

A: A dog. And people give out to me when I play soccer.

Chloe, age 9

Q: What don't you like about where you live?

A: Some people don't let me play with them.

Ciarán, age 7

Q: What don't you like about where you live?

A: People fight all the time where I live. I get really annoyed and I can't go to sleep because there's so much noise.

Patrick, age 9

Q: What don't you like about where you live?

A: There's big dogs. I'm afraid of strangers too.

Hassan, age 8

Q: What do you like about Barnardos?

A: My favourite thing about Barnardos is art.

Robbie, age 10

Q: If you had one wish, what would that be?

A: I'd like to stay in Barnardos all day!

Martina, age 9

Q: If you had one wish, what would that be?

A: I'd like to be rich!

Happiness, age 7

Q: What do you like about Barnardos?

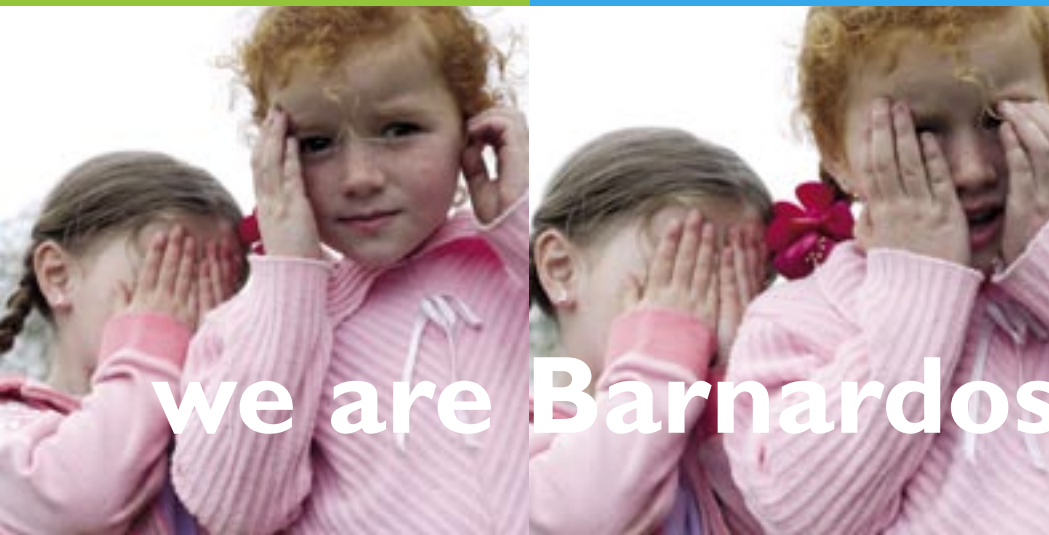
A: My favourite thing in Barnardos is games, the way the staff treat us and talking about feelings and stuff. I get really annoyed when I get angry and when my parents fight.

Denis, age 11

Q: If you had one wish, what would that be?

A: I wish my ma and da get back together, but I feel happy that they might get back together. My biggest wish for the future is that I want to be famous and I want my ma and da to get back together.

Seamus, age 10



we are Barnardos

Q: If you had one wish, what would that be?

A: I'd stay in school 'til 4th class. And I'd go to Disney Land.

Paul, age 7



our

we are Barnardos: our people

Barnardos works from over 30 locations across Ireland. In 2005, 321 staff worked in Barnardos – 171 full-time staff and 150 part-time employees.

The majority of our staff work in our national and community based children's services, working directly with the children and families who are most in need of our help.

Our Advocacy team is focused on profiling issues faced by the children and families with whom we work, with the aim of prioritising children's rights and needs in Ireland.

Barnardos' work is supported by our internal services, which include Communications, IT, Human Resources and Finance. In addition, our Fundraising team works hard to ensure that we secure the funding that is vital to continue providing our services.

In 2005 we conducted a staff survey which showed that employees are proud to work for Barnardos and have high levels of personal loyalty to the organisation. Our staff are highly motivated, focused on the impact of their critical work, and driven to provide a top-class service.

As well as our full and part-time employees, Barnardos' work is made possible by the on-going support of an army of volunteers. At the end of 2005, 180 volunteers had donated their time and their expertise. Volunteers were involved at all levels of Barnardos. The operation of our charity shops network, which raises critical funding to support our work, was made possible through the generosity of 75 volunteers throughout the year. Over 50 volunteers supported our children's services and all of our Board of Management are volunteers.

people

we are Barnardos: our people

Barnardos' Board

The support from Barnardos' Board is an invaluable contribution to the organisation, and we want to thank our Board for volunteering their experience, expertise and time to help us achieve Barnardos' vision.

Declan Ryan – Chair

Olivia O'Leary – Vice Chair

Mary Broughan – Treasurer

David Barnardo

Niamh Cleary

Owen Keenan

Michael Mortell

Michael Murray

Fintan O'Toole

Shalini Sinha

Harry Slowey

Owen Keenan joined Barnardos' Board in July 2005 after leaving the post of Chief Executive of Barnardos.



we are Barnardos: our people

Barnardos' Staff

Barnardos' staff are amongst the most highly trained and skilled professionals working in the child welfare sector. Their work requires a huge personal commitment and a deep understanding of the needs of the children and families with whom we work.

Barnardos has provided a pre-school and family support service on the largest Traveller site in South Dublin since 1986. The Barnardos centre is an oasis of colour and calm on a cramped site and provides services which include pre-school and after-school support for children up to the age of eight. Esther Pugh, who is the Barnardos Project Leader, offers an insight into the work of the team.

"Let's play going to the refuge." A little girl, aged three, picks up a bright play telephone. She tells a boy to say on the phone "I beg you, come back, I'm sorry, I promise I won't hit you." She says, "well I'm not coming back. I'm getting a barring order." After a while she says, "ok, I'll come back this time."

"This site and the living spaces are so small and contained that when something difficult happens it can build like a pressure cooker. Children pick up on this and act it out in their play. Our staff recognise this and can work through the issues with the child," says Esther.

"We are the only resource on the site and a first port of call. Although we are a child centre we help families link with other agencies, advocate on their behalf and help parents access essential services for their children – such as speech and language therapy and psychological services."

"The pace of the work is fast, and things change very quickly on the site. Barnardos is the only safe play space in the community and children are knocking down the door to come in."

The project supports children in their transition into national school and the feedback we receive is that the children who receive our support adapt much better. In working with the child through from pre-school to our after-school programmes, the child has a constant supporter in Barnardos who can pick up on any early warning signals when things aren't working out in school.

"We have small victories all the time. We might see a three year old child coming to our pre-school who is not talking. They are not properly toilet trained and are physically and emotionally delayed. At the end of the pre-school programme, the same child is ready to move on to school, is settling in well and developing normally."

**we are Barnardos:
our people**

We asked some of the children we work with in Tullamore to describe our people – this is what they came up with:

“THEY NEED A CLEVER BRAIN – to think of lots of ideas, games, activities and unusual stuff to do.”

“They’re GOOD TIME KEEPERS because they’re always there, always on time and never cancel meetings with us.”

“They have a BIG HEART and are caring and kind, someone we can trust.”

Barnardos employs over 320 staff across the country. The work is extremely varied but at all times is focused on the needs and rights of children all over Ireland.

“BIG EARS – so that they can listen and hear what is going on.”

“They have a BIG SMILE – they’re kind, funny and able to make us laugh.”

“They have FIT LEGS – you need lots of energy to keep up with us!”

“They need GLASSES OR GOOD EYESIGHT to be able to see everything that is happening.”

we are Barnardos: our people

Larry de Cléir is the Project Leader in the Barnardos Family Support Centre in Moyross, Limerick City. Barnardos has worked in the area since 1996 offering a wide range of family support services.

“Family Support is the umbrella that covers all the work that we do in this centre. We support families who are distressed in some way, by providing formal programmes and informal interventions, for example a listening ear, drop-in and advocacy. We believe that it is important that there is a service at the heart of the community where children and families feel that they can come for practical and emotional support.”

The service in Moyross, like the majority of Barnardos’ centres, is located in an area of significant unemployment, high incidence of poverty and early school leaving, where (despite having a high level of community spirit in general) some families can feel isolated and excluded. According to Larry, “We need to be empathic with the difficulties that the families we work with encounter on a day-to-day basis. Children are debilitated by many factors outside their control, for example they might have a parent in jail, alcoholism might be prevalent in their family, or their family might be involved in local disputes which the children are drawn into. It’s not about labelling children, it’s about standing up to the disadvantage and about giving hope.”

“I believe that our service can give children a sense of belonging. Children can simply see Barnardos as an enjoyable place. They know they can be a child in Barnardos and play in a safe space. This is important as many of the children might take on an adult role in their home – for example a seven year old might find himself or herself looking after a two year old. Barnardos is a place where they feel safe, where they receive support for their needs and where they can build a trusting relationship with a significant adult outside their home.”

Larry feels that the key skills required to carry out this work are creativity and tenacity. “We don’t give up easily. If we face a difficulty we may have to throw our plan out the window and try something different. No week is the same. It takes endurance and patience to build trust with children and their parents. It is challenging to be truly inclusive and not to just pay lip-service to that term. For a solution to work the family need to feel that they are part of the solution – and in doing this we cannot be too prescriptive.”



we are Barnardos: our people

Barnardos' Volunteers

In 2005 180 volunteers donated their time and expertise to Barnardos. Kevin Higgins, who has supported us for the past two years, gives an insight into what volunteering means to him and the impact that his work has. Kevin runs three shops and lives in South County Dublin and won National Volunteer of the Year in 2005 at Barnardos' annual Volunteer Awards.

Kevin Higgins decided to volunteer for Barnardos because, as the father of two, he felt that his family was fortunate - they had a stable life, access to education and healthy dinners on the table. He decided to give some of his time to children who don't have the opportunities his own children have.

"I had been thinking about volunteering for quite a while. I wanted to volunteer for an organisation that worked with children and I approached Barnardos. Once I'd passed the criteria with references and a Garda clearance I was welcomed with open arms."

Kevin gives two-and-a-half hours of his time every Thursday in Barnardos Youth Action Project in Tallaght which works with children who are at risk of dropping out of school early. "Sometimes it seems like I do so little. We play games, do artwork and we play outside. We take turns to cook a meal. That's the nicest part - just sitting down around a table, having a meal and having the time to chat. Many of these kids don't ever sit down with their families."

"My perception of the area I volunteer in has completely changed. You can't blame families for the difficulties they face. There is a failure in the system which has left parents with no jobs or services - their children don't know anything different. I talk to the kids about my life, my work and I hope I can be a role model. I'm not perfect and I've had to work hard to achieve what I have, but I want the kids to see if they value themselves and give education a go they can break the chain."

Volunteering has brought other things home to Kevin. He picks up ideas of what to do with his own children - for example art - and they also know that they are fortunate with what they have.

"I didn't realise before I started working with Barnardos how much emotional support Barnardos gives to children and their families. It's not about hand-outs, although that might be a perception out there."

"My reward is when I see the group of kids from the start of the year to the end of the year: I see how they've opened up and calmed down. How they sit at the table and work with you. I know it is a positive experience for the group, but I worry about what happens with the group once they leave Barnardos."

"I feel sad when my two-and-a-half hours are up. The kids are just so gorgeous - they've just been dealt a tough start."

Kevin's experiences reflect that of our many volunteers, who are crucial to ensuring that Barnardos can reach the children who are in need of our help.



fundraising



Ruth, who was your hero when you were little? (Janet, age 12)

It was my granddad, Janet. He made everything magic when we were kids so that everyday places were transformed into magical kingdoms and ordinary people became heroes and princesses! I loved going to his house the same way the children we work with love going to Barnardos – 'cause it was such a special place. I hope we in Barnardos can help make everyone's childhood a little bit magical!

Ruth Guy

Director of Fundraising and Marketing

2005 was an amazing year for Barnardos. The launch of our new Strategy in January united us in delivering our mission – to make Ireland the best place in the world to be a child.

However 2005 was also one of the most challenging years in terms of fundraising for domestic charities. The spotlight was focused on overseas disasters such as the South East Asian Tsunami, Niger, and the Pakistan Earthquake. The response was overwhelming and, in the public's mind, overseas appeals were so much more immediate and urgent than demands at home.

But what was most inspiring in 2005 was the support Barnardos received. Everyone we made contact with, from our strategic partners through to the public, responded in a way that meant 2005 ended on a high note.

We continued to receive on-going support from our corporate partners. Amongst them, the AIB Better Ireland programme continued to support children in accessing education. Throughout the month of May thousands of toddlers took on the DANONE BIG TODDLE FOR BARNARDOS challenge – making it our biggest fundraising event. Danone's sponsorship meant that all funds raised went directly to Barnardos. We also made new contacts and started building relationships with other companies who are helping us achieve our mission.

We continued to do on-street (face-to-face) fundraising and over 4,500 people took the informed decision to support Barnardos' work through a monthly direct debit. In November Barnardos joined forces with 2FM to run an appeal to get even more supporters on-board, which was hugely successful. Our existing supporters rallied behind us and responded to our appeals with overwhelming generosity.

our

All of this would not have been possible without the tremendous hard work, commitment and dedication of the Fundraising team – I would like to thank them for all they have done.

And there are others to thank: our Fundraising Board, chaired by Harry Slowey, is an amazingly committed and focused group of individuals who worked so hard to help us achieve our goal last year and I thank them most sincerely for all that hard work.

Our “Spirit of Christmas” event, held in Dublin castle, was the biggest and most successful ever, raising over €105,000. This was largely due to the dedication and commitment of our Spirit of Christmas committee – Anne Byrne, Sally Cooke and Sharon Griffin - who put together this event. I would like to thank each and every one of them for all they have achieved.

All this activity was supported and enhanced by an increased awareness of Barnardos through the work of our Communications department who worked extremely hard to ensure that Barnardos' profile was raised in the media and the public mind, telling our story and educating people about the need that exists in Ireland and the critical work we do in meeting that need.

This means that we can look back on 2005 as a landmark year for Barnardos. We have built a solid platform on which we can grow, develop and look to a future where Ireland is the best place in the world to be a child.

Ruth Guy Director of Fundraising and Marketing



funding and finances

fundraising board

2005 was a very challenging and exciting year for Barnardos. It marked the beginning of our new Strategy, to take us to 2016, aimed at making Ireland the best place in the world to be a child.

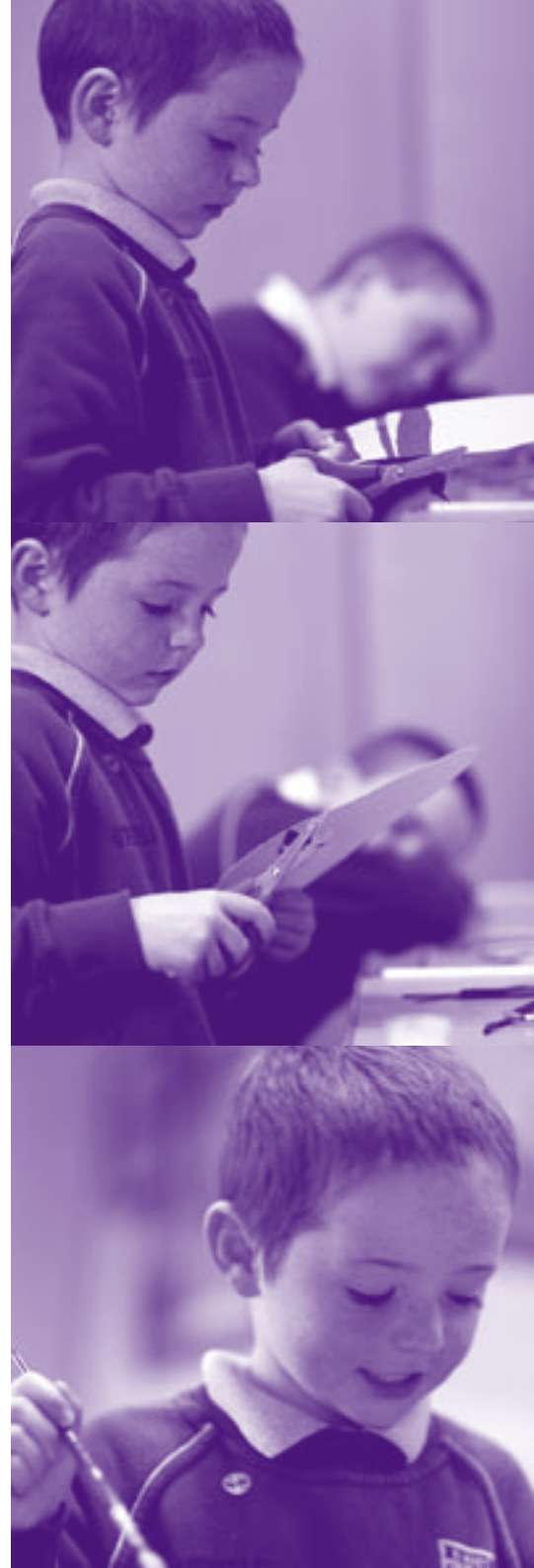
Last year saw domestic charities facing one of the toughest years in fundraising but, despite that, we in Barnardos succeeded in our goals. The Fundraising Board plays a vital role in supporting the Fundraising team and in helping to deliver the income so necessary to support the work of the services. I would like to thank all the members of the Fundraising Board for their commitment, focus and enthusiasm in helping Barnardos make a real and lasting difference to the lives of children in Ireland.

We face a challenging road ahead as we develop the organisation and deliver on our Strategy, but we are all clearly focused. Barnardos is here to make Ireland the best place in the world to be a child – it is that clear vision that keeps us all motivated. I am delighted to be involved with and look forward to continuing to work with Barnardos .

Harry Slowey Chair, Fundraising Board

Fundraising Board members

- Roy Barrett
- Martin Dobey
- Michael Dowling
- Paul McGowan
- Seamus O'Tighearnaigh



Barnardos shops

Barnardos' shops network continued to form an important part of our fundraising programme, as well as representing Barnardos on the high-streets across Ireland.

2005 was another successful year for the shops. Highlights included:

- the opening of a dedicated bridal suite in our shop in Dún Laoghaire, Dublin – a tranquil haven for brides-to-be where they can choose between brand new gowns at reduced prices;
- the refurbishment of our shop in Clondalkin, Dublin;
- the re-opening of our Barnardos shop in Liffey Street in Dublin city centre in time for Christmas;
- the growth of our Barnardos Brand New goods range, whereby new goods are donated for sale and distributed across our network of seven shops.
- another successful “glam night” in Carlow which raised substantial funds for the charity and brought the community – young and old – together to raise money for Barnardos.

Barnardos shops rely on the commitment of the many excellent and dedicated volunteers who give their time and energy to make our shops the success that they are. They are supported by the hard work and determination of our shop managers, our energetic van driver Eoin Healy and all the Community Employment staff who make the shops a reality.



our finances



Jacki, are you any good at sums? I like maths in school. (Kieran, age 10)

Knowing how to do maths is very important and useful in lots of ways. I like doing sums and I use my calculator to help me so that I don't get them wrong. Knowing how to do maths helps me to look after Barnardos' money very carefully so that we can spend it in the best way possible. Keep up the good work.

Jacki Conway

Acting Director of Internal Services

Barnardos raised a total income of €17.5m in 2005, an increase of 8% on 2004. 60% of our income came from statutory sources and 40% from a combination of fundraising, trusts, foundations & legacies and our seven charity shops.

2005 was a year of growth for Barnardos. We invested in our direct services for children and families and set up an Advocacy department dedicated to speaking out for children. In addition we also spent a lot of time ensuring that our internal services – such as IT, Human Resources and Finance department – function properly and that our systems serve the children and families we work with and also the people that work or volunteer for Barnardos. Total resources expended by the organisation amounted to €17m. Of this, we spent a total of 2% on management and administration.

We developed a number of initiatives in 2005 to improve the conditions of employment. These included work/life balance arrangements, stress management, conflict management, career planning and training in both management and technical skills. We are strongly committed to equality for all our staff and volunteers and our policies and procedures are in compliance with the requirements of equality legislation. The 2005 Health and Safety and Welfare at Work Act has imposed additional legal responsibilities on both management and staff. We reviewed the key health and safety risks in the organisation. From this review we have identified risks, and set health and safety objectives for the next three years. In 2005 we conducted workshops with all line managers and safety officers on the new Act.

In the past year we were able to invest in IT, funded primarily by our philanthropic partners. The aim is to ensure that we are using IT to best support us in doing business in an efficient and cost effective manner. We updated the Children's Services database so we can better analyse the need and outcomes from our services. We supplied better IT links to all of our projects, put in place an intranet to support internal communications and installed a new HR and payroll system. By providing the internal structures for the organisation to work in an effective and open manner we will be able to continue to innovate and provide better services for children and families. We are investing in Barnardos, so that Barnardos can continue to invest in children's futures.

Jacki Conway Acting Director of Internal Services

our finances explained

Barnardos' total income for the year end 31 December 2005 was €17.5m, a record for the organisation. Total expenditure was €17m, resulting in a surplus for the year:

88 cent of every €1 raised (excluding retail shops which are profit making) was spent on our work with children; 10 cent was spent on generating funds; and 2 cent on management and administration.

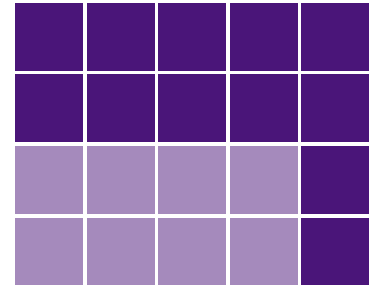
Attached is a summary of the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2005.

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 2005. The statutory financial statements, on which the auditors (Ernst & Young) expressed an unqualified opinion, have been filed with the Registrar of Companies following the Annual General Meeting.

The detailed auditors report and accounts are available to download from www.barnardos.ie or can be obtained from our national office.

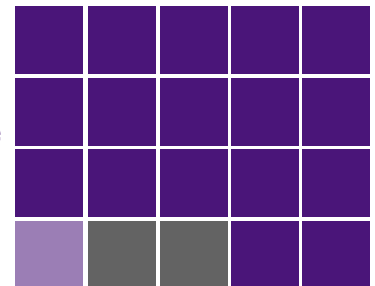
Income



Statutory 60%
Voluntary 40%

22% Trusts, Foundations and Legacies
12% Donations
5% Shops
1% Other

Expenditure



88% goes towards our work with children
10% on raising funds and communications*
2% on management and administration

*excludes shops which are profit-making

statement of financial activities for the year ended 31 December 2005

	2005 Unrestricted Funds	2005 Restricted Funds	2005 Total Funds	2004 Total Funds <small>(as restated)</small>
	€000s	€000s	€000s	€000s
INCOMING RESOURCES				
Donations, legacies & similar incoming resources	1,378	4,076	5,454	3,039
Activities in furtherance of the charity's objectives	-	9,565	9,565	8,986
Activities for generating funds	2,379	-	2,379	2,635
Investment income & interest	139	-	139	71
Other incoming resources	-	-	-	1,431
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES	3,896	13,641	17,537	16,162
Less : Cost of generating funds	2,293	-	2,293	1,550
Net incoming resources available for charitable application	1,603	13,641	15,244	14,612
CHARITABLE EXPENDITURE				
Costs of activities in furtherance of the charity's objectives	966	11,626	12,592	10,809
Support costs	129	1,536	1,665	1,088
Management & administration	31	371	402	298
Total charitable expenditure	1,126	13,533	14,659	12,195
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED	3,419	13,533	16,952	13,745
Net incoming resources before transfers	477	108	585	2,417
Transfer between funds	(447)	447	-	-
Net incoming resources after transfers	30	555	585	2,417

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities. The surplus for the year for Companies Act purposes was €0.6m (2004 surplus: €2.4m). Income of a non-recurring nature accounts for €2.4m of the surplus in 2004.

statement of total recognised gains and losses for the year ended 31 December 2005

	2005	2004 (as restated)
	€000s	€000s
Net incoming resources for the year	585	2,417
Actuarial gain/(loss) recognised on pension scheme	284	(235)
TOTAL RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES FOR THE YEAR	869	2,182

reconciliation of movement in reserves for the year ended 31 December 2005

	2005	2004 (as restated)
	€000s	€000s
NET INCOMING RESOURCES FOR THE YEAR	585	2,417
Actuarial gain/(loss) recognised on pension scheme	284	(235)
Total recognised gains and losses for the year	869	2,182
RESERVES AT THE BEGINNING OF THE YEAR		
As previously reported	7,063	4,549
Prior year adjustment	(1,140)	(808)
As restated	5,923	3,741
RESERVES AT THE END OF THE YEAR	6,792	5,923

balance sheet at 31 December 2005

	2005 €000s	2004 €000s
ASSETS EMPLOYED		
FIXED ASSETS		
Tangible assets	2,598	2,411
CURRENT ASSETS		
Investments	-	327
Debtors	1,585	2,400
Short-term deposits	5,614	3,611
Cash at bank	675	1,014
	7,874	7,352
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Creditors (amounts falling due within one year)	(2,920)	(2,700)
	4,954	4,652
NET CURRENT ASSETS		
PROVISION FOR LIABILITIES AND CHARGES		
Pension provision	(760)	(1,140)
NET ASSETS	6,792	5,923
REPRESENTED BY		
General fund	5,986	5,672
Restricted income fund	806	251
TOTAL FUNDS	6,792	5,923

Barnardos' vision is an Ireland where childhood is valued and all children and young people are cherished equally.

Barnardos' mission is to challenge and support families, communities, society and government to make Ireland the best place in the world to be a child, focusing specifically on children and young people whose well-being is under threat.

Designed by Marianne Lee. Photography by Patrick Bolger (except pg 31 – photography Jamie Saunders).
Thank you to all the children, parents and staff who contributed to this annual review.

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Barnardos supports children whose well-being is under threat, by working with them, their families and communities and by campaigning for the rights of children. Barnardos was established in Ireland in 1962 and is Ireland's leading independent children's charity.

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Registered charity number 6015