



The
Community Foundation
for Northern Ireland



ANNUAL REPORT

2014-2015

Foreword by the Chairman

This is my final foreword for the Community Foundation Annual Report. I have been privileged to have been a Trustee and Chair of CFNI for around 9 years and to have played a part in addressing the needs of the voiceless and disadvantaged in our community.

This past year has been one of significant change. Avila Kilmurray our Director for 20 years has moved to work on a global stage building and sustaining the work of Foundations world wide. Her work with CFNI was recognised locally, nationally and internationally and we are delighted that Avila continues her association with us in helping to build the Human Rights Fund.

The Human Rights Fund is one of the areas of the Foundation's work that I am most encouraged about - established with the generous support of Atlantic Philanthropies, over the next ten years, their contribution along with ours will help ensure the protection of the human rights that are a fundamental part of the Good Friday Agreement.

Some significant development programmes have come to an end over the past year and the Community Foundation will ensure that the policy and delivery experience will influence ongoing and future work, particularly in relation to isolated communities and ex prisoners.

The ending of those programmes has also meant the departure of some long serving staff. In particular I would like to mention

Monina O'Prey and Ciaran de Baroid for their long and loyal service to the Community Foundation. Both have been amazing in their work for communities in Northern Ireland and we will miss them.

Andrew McCracken succeeded Avila as Chief Executive last year and did so at a time of great change. Andrew has managed that change with sensitivity and professionalism and I wish him every success for the future. Andrew will be joined by Maeve Monaghan as Chair and I know she and Andrew will make a great team in the exciting years ahead.

On a very sad note, at the beginning of 2015, one of our Trustees, Murna Crozier, passed away after a long illness. Murna was a board member for over five years and played a full and active role in the governance and direction of the Community Foundation. Even when her health was deteriorating, she continued to attend meetings and as always her contributions were thoughtful and incisive. Murna continues to be greatly missed by all her friends and colleagues.

I would like to thank all the staff in CFNI for their unfailing support to me and the Board of Trustees over the last year. People make an organisation and the staff in CFNI are truly great.

Finally, thanks to all the Trustees who have provided much support since 2008. All have been extraordinarily generous with their time and have worked tirelessly for communities here.



Tony McCusker
Chairman, Community Foundation for Northern Ireland

Chief Executive's Report

There's lots of amazing things happening in our community that you don't normally get to see. The privilege of joining the Community Foundation for Northern Ireland as its Chief Executive has been gaining a window into some of those things; and recognising the responsibility that comes with my role to nurture the transformational work that is happening in communities across our country, and to be a champion for individuals who are pursuing that work, often at significant cost to themselves.

Whether that's the instructor volunteering her time to teach people affected by disability how to sail; the mum stepping out to lead her community to address the divisive issues of the past; or the community group mobilising the physical transformation of their housing estate; my first year in this role has reminded me that Northern Ireland is full of ordinary people who are making a difference. I've seen how the Foundation has unlocked potential through the grants we have made, large and small, but more importantly by coming alongside and walking with people.

It's also introduced me to the idea of a Community Foundation - an institution independent of the local government and

beyond party politics; built on voluntary contributions from the community; caring about the most marginalised and vulnerable in society. Community Foundations encourage a culture of giving based on relationships – as opposed to transactions – from local people and those who have left the community. They are a vehicle to connect communities to a bigger structure that allows them to learn from others doing similar work, to share and be supported, and to feel the strength of people joining forces.

I'm proud to be part of our local Community Foundation with its' amazing history and reputation, grateful to my predecessor, Dr Avila Kilmurray, for the legacy she left, and proud to be part of the global network of more than 1800 community foundations.

We're immensely appreciative of those who contribute to the community through us and to the staff, trustees and panel members whose wisdom, enthusiasm and perseverance make the Foundation what it is.

And finally, on behalf of all the staff and trustees, our thanks go to Tony McCusker who has served the Foundation outstandingly as Trustee and Chair.



Andrew McCracken
Chief Executive, Community Foundation for Northern Ireland

Impacting on the Community

A small selection of projects that are making a positive impact on people's lives

The Brain Injury Foundation

The Brain Injury Foundation is an excellent example of a voluntary organisation that is supporting people who are attempting to rebuild their lives following brain injury.

Established in 2012, the Foundation is enabling people who have acquired a brain injury and their families and carers to continue to be involved in community life and to draw support and inspiration from others in similar circumstances.

Supported by the Space and Place Programme*, the Community Foundation and our Programme Partners were able to assist the Brain Injury Foundation in addressing the isolation and marginalisation that people with brain injuries often experience.

With funding from Space and Place, the Brain Injury Foundation purchased and transformed a former school building into a thriving centre for people who have survived brain injuries. Along with their carers and family members, they are able to enjoy the support and companionship of other brain injury survivors and through the activities in the centre to be involved in activities in their local communities.

*Space and Place is a £15 million BIG Northern Ireland Lottery Funded programme which seeks to provide opportunities for local communities to come together to identify a shared vision for their area and work together to deliver it. The Programme is delivered via a consortium including CNFI (Lead Partner); Groundwork NI; Northern Ireland Environment Link; Northern Ireland Housing Executive; Rural Community Network (NI) and the Public Health Agency.



'Riding the Ocean Waves'

Sailing for disabled people has blossomed in recent years.

Established in 2001, Belfast Lough Sailability offers mobility, freedom, fun and independence through sailing to disabled people of all ages and in 2014, received a grant from the Telecommunity Fund, via the Community Foundation.

The group has 55 user groups and special schools that use their facilities from across the island of Ireland, and about 150 members. One of these is the Lighthouse Trust summer school, which provides an 8 week education programme in Donaghadee for children with cerebral palsy.

Joan Bruton, the Lighthouse Trust founder and secretary said *"for the kids in wheelchairs, they love the feeling of the wind through their hair," and having access to "a normal activity."*

Belfast Lough Sailability also provides opportunities for people with a range of other disabilities to sail independently. On a busy night the group has as many as 80 people sailing on Belfast Lough.

In part due to the CFNI's support and largely because of the dedication of its members, BLS has developed an outstanding reputation in the sailing community. Last year the club came second in the Kinsale President's Cup Sailability championship, and the club was instrumental in bringing another championship race to Northern Ireland in August of this year.

Blazing a Trail

Donna Marie Duddy, or "Wee DM" as she is known, is a Derry / Londonderry based 'rapper'. Born with cerebral palsy, she refuses to view her disability as an insurmountable obstacle.

Last year her talent and determination was recognised by one of our funds, the Acorn Fund, which via the Paul Hamlyn Foundation, awarded her an Inspire Bursary for £3,000. The bursaries were established to help talented, creative young people with disabilities pursue their artistic dreams.

"I've always been interested in words", said Donna Marie. "I suppose it's because I can't write, verbal skills are really important."

Drawing attention away from perceived differences between disabled and non-disabled people is a major theme for her as well.

"I want to be an artist who has a disability, not a disabled artist." She quotes a line from one of her songs: "I have CP but it don't have me," adding, "Cerebral palsy doesn't define me. I'm a human being as well as having a disability."

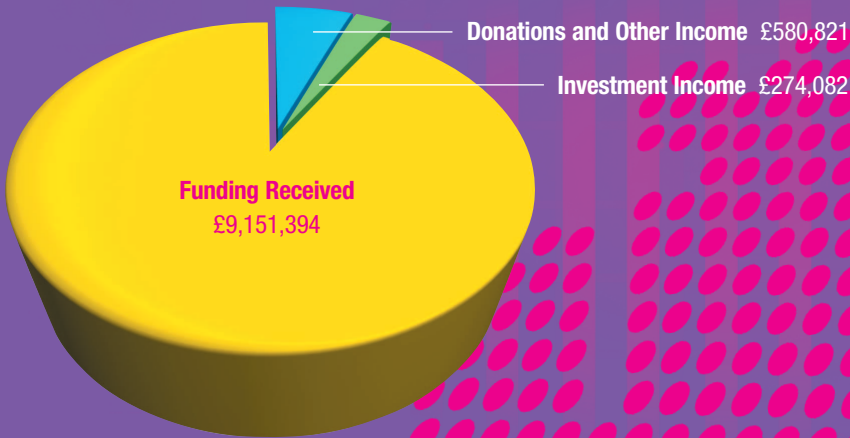


Horn of Africa People's Aid NI

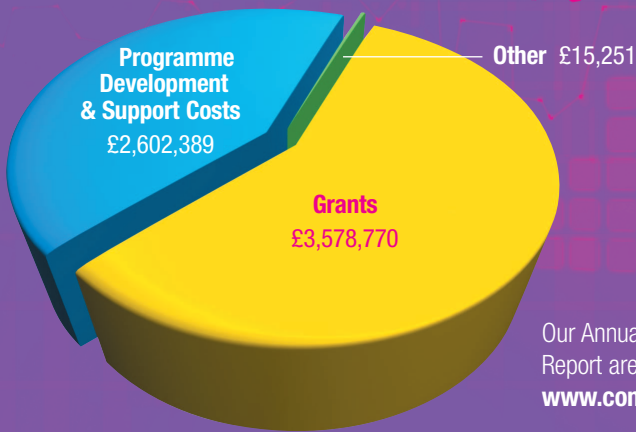
Horn of Africa People's Aid Northern Ireland (HAPANI) was formed by people from the Horn of Africa in Northern Ireland and residents in their new communities to support other migrants and refugees seeking a better life in Northern Ireland. In 2014, it was awarded a Comic Relief Community Cash grant of £1,000 for a sports project for young people in Belfast, including those whose parents had come from Horn of Africa seeking asylum. Over 10 weeks, the young people had football and basketball coaching, played matches and learned tips on healthy living. The young people reported feeling more connected to each other, and enjoyed the opportunities for socialising, staying fit and learning a new sport. HAPANI have continued the project with small contributions from the young people who were keen to keep playing.

Summary Statement for Year Ended 31 March 2015

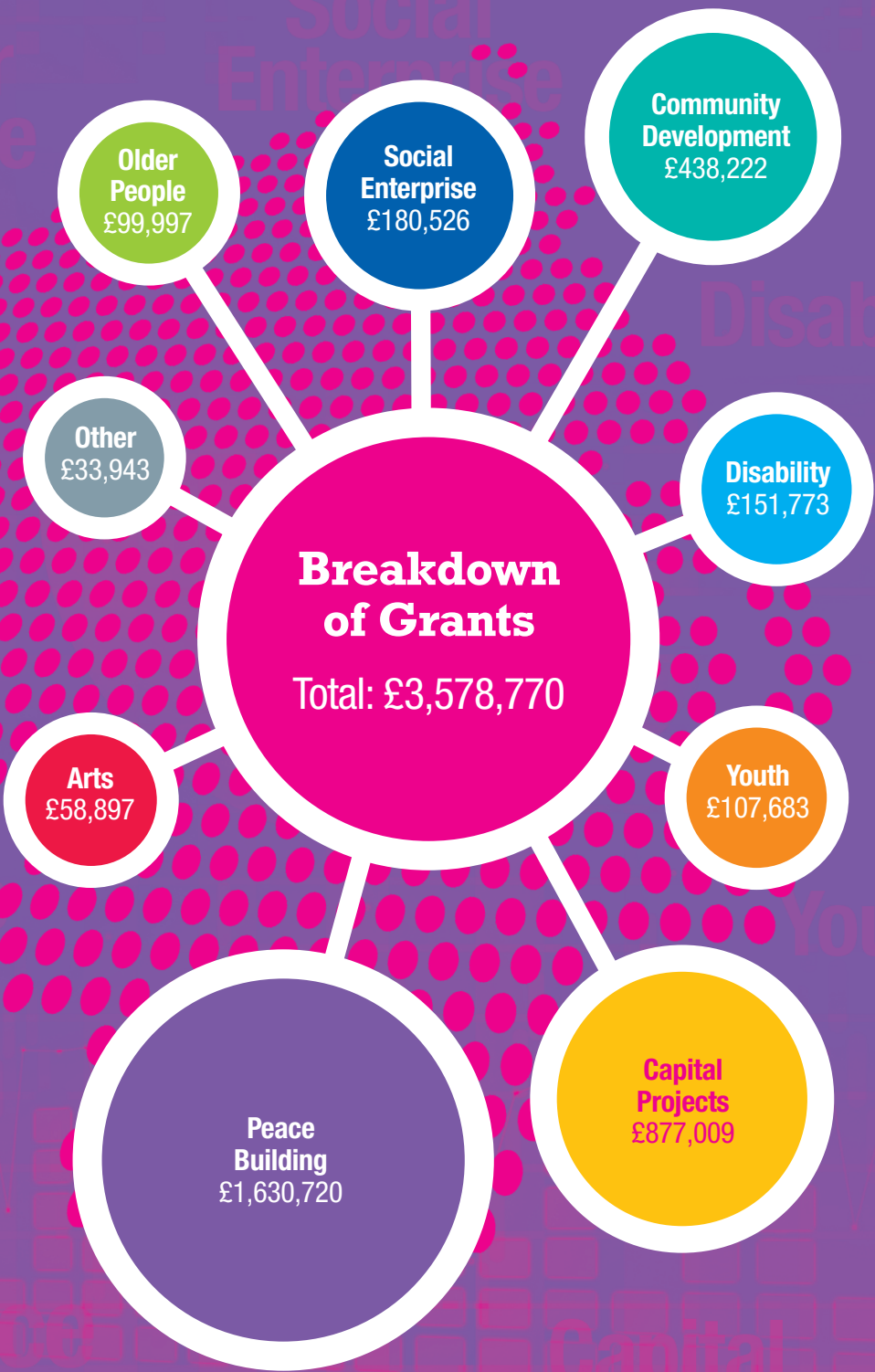
Income	£
Donations and Other Income	580,821
Funding Received	9,151,394
Investment Income	274,082
Total Income	10,006,297



Expenditure	£
Grants	3,578,770
Programme Development and Support Costs	2,602,389
Other	15,251
Total Expenditure	6,196,410



Our Annual Accounts and Trustees Report are available on our website, www.communityfoundationni.org



Board of Trustees 2014-15

- Tony McCusker Chair
- Joe McKnight Vice-Chair
- Les Allamby
- Fred Bass
- Maurna Crozier (Deceased January 2015)
- Geraldine Donaghy
- Brian Dougherty
- Jenny Ebbage*
- Rosalie Flanagan
- Niamh Goggin

- John Healy
 - Bernadette Lavery
 - Conal McFeely*
 - Carmel O'Connor
 - Dawn Purvis
 - Colin Stutt*
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- Rosalie Flanagan Chair
 - Geraldine Donaghy
 - Stewart Johnston

Finance Committee

- Joe McKnight Chair
 - Les Allamby
 - Fred Bass
 - Niamh Goggin
 - Colin Stutt*
- ### Grant-making Committee
- Fred Bass Chair
 - Les Allamby*
 - Trevor Boyle

- Maurna Crozier (Deceased January 2015)
 - Geraldine Donaghy
 - Brian Dougherty
 - Marie Grattan
 - Eddie Lynch
 - Felicity McCartney
 - Carmel O'Connor
 - Karina Pieterston
 - Hilary Sidwell*
 - Monica Wilson
- * Denotes members who left during the year.

Donors and Funders 2014-15

Funders 2014-15

Comic Relief/Sport Relief
Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust
Special EU Programmes Body
The Atlantic Philanthropies
The BIG Lottery Fund
The Building Change Trust Limited
The CS Mott Foundation
The Department of Foreign Affairs
The International Fund for Ireland

The Paul Hamlyn Foundation
The Public Health Agency
The Santander Foundation
YEPP

Donors 2014-15

We would like to express our sincere thanks and appreciation to all our donors who have generously supported our work during the past year.



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