The Community Foundation for Northern Ireland

connecting people who care with causes that matter

Annual Report 2016 – 2017
Chair’s Foreword

My first full year as Chair of the Community Foundation for Northern Ireland has been a year of unbelievable change and significant progress.

Sitting as we are, an independent charitable foundation, connecting people who care with causes that matter, there is much evidence that we have been able to help communities in need, drive social change and help change lives, through impactful grantmaking, research, strategic partnerships and delivering innovative programmes.

The list of programmes and donations made by the Foundation this year, and the impact they have made has been amazing, and we are committed to continuing that work as we begin to plan for some of our larger funds such as the Big Lottery funded Space & Place Programme coming to an end.

We have in recent months been challenging ourselves to do more, using Vital Signs to listen to the needs of our communities and to leverage our resources to support innovation and change.

The Brexit vote is one of the biggest decisions in our history. We have a clear plan, ensuring we continue asking communities what they need, and planning our giving to meet that need. We have a clear plan, ensuring we continue asking communities what they need, and planning our giving to meet that need. We have a clear plan, ensuring we continue asking communities what they need, and planning our giving to meet that need.

The Foundation supports bespoke giving and provides philanthropic advice, it is a trusted, secure means through which donors choose how, when and where to give, and we provide a range of management and grantmaking services for charitable funds. This year we have had many more conversations about how we can better connect people to the causes that they care about. I am pleased to report that we have enjoyed a good level of success at doing this and have plans for this to continue over the years ahead.

At a time when our political institutions have struggled to get going, the Foundation realises that in the political vacuum it is communities that struggle. We have increased our efforts to reach those most in need and have been focusing on supporting a wide range of vulnerable communities including destitute asylum seekers, older people and people with disabilities and women.

There is always more to do and we continue to develop Vital Signs as a means of engaging our beneficiaries as we work together to understand the challenges that they face and the solutions that can help them.

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With new funds from private donors established or ready to be launched at year end; this is very encouraging and the beginning of us as a Foundation, reaping the benefits of a greater focus on fund development and encouraging generosity for communities across NI.

In support of these developments, we appointed the key role of Philanthropy Director during the year and I am delighted that Siofra Healy joined us in October 2016 in this position.

Fund development for the Human Rights Fund continued to be an important focus, and we were delighted with the support received from Sigrid Rausing, Porticus, the Legal Education Fund, and the ongoing support of Atlantic Philanthropies.

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Twaddell and Woodvale Residents Association received funding for core costs and programme work from the International Fund for Ireland’s Peace Impact Programme which is delivered by Community Foundation staff. The Association says that the funding they received has helped create a more vibrant community which is now going through a transformation having previously been affected by a long-standing parade dispute.

"The funding we received is a dream come true for our organisation, and we know that together with the community we can help relieve the anxiety and stress that families with Autism Spectrum Disorder face daily."

Homeplus NI, a Belfast based charity working with homeless people received £10,000 from the Community Foundation’s New Beginning’s Fund in 2016 towards its work with refugees and asylum seekers.

"In Northern Ireland we have been behind the eight ball when it comes to philanthropy, but it is getting talked about more and more and it is definitely growing which is fantastic."

Flourish NI is a charity which provides support to survivors of human trafficking in Northern Ireland. It was awarded £500 from the Community Foundation’s Staff and Trustees Fund. Flourish works with clients from all age groups, and from many parts of the world with the youngest person being in their 20’s and the oldest in their 60’s.

"Peace building across communities, support for women and support for minority groups are just some of the types of projects which the Ann McGeeaney Trust supports."

Grantee - Helping Hands, Space & Place Programme

Donor - Mervyn McCall, McCall Foundation

Grantee - Flourish NI - Staff and Trustees Fund

Donor Story > Ann McGeeaney Trust

Poverty £146,986

Economy and Work £86,137

Education and Skills £80,264

Health and Wellbeing £1,749,581

Environment £25,634

Civic Engagement £3,134,423

Housing and Homelessness £6,430

Community Safety £60,585

Arts, Culture and Heritage £221,986

Grant Breakdown Total Awarded in FY 16-17: £5,512,026*

INCOME
Donations £92,069
Funding Received £4,486,814
Investment Income £349,878
Total Income £4,929,201

EXPENDITURE
Grants £2,022,764
Programme Development and Support £1,499,822
Fundraising and Communications £235,154
Governance £17,015
Total Expenditure £3,774,755

* Grants approved during the period totalled £5,512,026
LIST OF FUNDS & SUPPORTERS

Acorn Fund
Ann McGeeney Trust
Brockaghboy Community Benefit Fund
Building Change Trust
Carnhill Community Benefit Fund
Carrickatane Community Benefit Fund
Cloonty Community Benefit Fund
Comic Relief Grants
Community Arts Fund
Corby Knowe Community Benefit Fund
Cregganconroe Community Benefit Fund
Crockagarron Community Benefit Fund
Curryfree Community Benefit Fund
David Ervine Fund
Dunbeg Community Benefit Fund
Dungannon Community Trust
Dunmore Community Benefit Fund
Energia 3 Windfarms Community Benefit Fund
Energia Crighshane Community Benefit Fund
Energia Longmountain Community Benefit Fund
Global Learning Project
Hope for More Foundation
Inishative Community Benefit Fund
Killaire Trust
Localgiving
Magilligan Fund
McCall Foundation
Mike Moloney Fund
Monnaboy Community Benefit Fund
New Beginnings Fund
Older People’s Fund
One Small Step Fund
Patron’s Fund
Peace Impact Programme
Pears Foundation
Raj Darsha Fund
RJ Hunter Fund
Royal London Foundation
Santander Community Solutions
Social Justice Grants
Space and Place Programme
Sport Relief Community Cash
Staff Trustee Fund
Telecommunity Fund
Thomas Devlin Fund
Thornog Community Benefit Fund
Ulster People’s College Fund
Women’s Fund for NI
Youthbank International

Thanks to all our fund holders, supporters, grantees, sponsors and partners during 2016/17

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