

ONE FAMILY

ANNUAL REVIEW 2013



One Family's Family Day Festival 2013



One Family believes in an Ireland where every family is cherished equally, and enjoys the social, financial and legal equality to create their own positive future.

Our Vision

One Family believes in an Ireland where every family is cherished equally and enjoys the social, financial and legal equality to create their own positive futures.

Our Mission

One Family is working to ensure a positive and equal future for all members of all one-parent families in Ireland – changing attitudes, services, policies and lives. Together with one-parent families, people sharing parenting and those working with them, we are committed to achieving equality and respect for all families.

In addition to striving for fundamental structural change, we support individual families as they parent through times of family, work and life change, and those experiencing a crisis pregnancy. We know that every family is unique, and so we work in a family-centered way to bring about better lives for parents and children.

Our Values

In One Family we work from a place of **respect** and **acceptance** of the parents, children and organisations that we come in contact with. We work with **compassion**, which means that we connect with others in a relationship of equals and we are completely **non-judgmental**. We believe that we can hold the **hope for the families** we work with, especially when they are unable to. We achieve this through **innovation, excellence, determination** and our **client-centered approach**.

One Family is an organisation of **great courage** as it has been from its foundation in 1972. We continue to work with **integrity** to ensure **equality** for all families in Ireland.

What Next

In 2014, One Family will continue to lobby around social welfare reform/cuts through **10 Solutions** particularly as over 53,000 people are being moved off the One-Parent Family Payment but services are not in place to support them into employment. We will work to influence the Children & Family Relationships Bill. We will campaign for Constitutional equality for all families and we will continue to seek the reinstatement of the One-Parent Family Tax Credit. The Child Contact Centre services from One Family will continue into mid-2014 and we will lobby hard on the need for the services not to close but to be expanded so that children and parents throughout Ireland can access them. We will re-develop our flagship Positive Parenting manual, launch new parenting services, and upgrade our IT and database systems.

Thank You

To all our volunteers, individual donors, corporate partners and government funders for helping us deliver all the services and campaigns that we do. Thanks for believing in our work and for playing your part in making Ireland a better place for a child in a one-parent family to grow up.

Donate

To donate, visit www.onefamily.ie and click on the donate button, or call our office at 01 662 9212 if you wish to set up a Direct Debit. Alternatively you can donate by mail, deliver cash or mail cheque donations to us at the address below, or donate directly to:

Bank of Ireland
Account No: 17 19 19 23
Sort Code: 90-00-17

Accounts

Our full audited accounts are available on www.onefamily.ie



One Family

Cherish House, 2 Lower Pembroke St, Dublin 2

Tel 01 662 9212 Fax 01 662 9096

askonefamily Lo-Call 1890 66 22 12

Email info@onefamily.ie Website www.onefamily.ie

Company No. 45364 Charity No. 6525



JOHN O'CONNELL
ONE FAMILY CHAIR

In 2013 One Family spent time focussing on governance and became fully compliant with the voluntary Governance Code. We welcomed two new Board members and said goodbye to two others. While our income improved slightly, we continued to keep a tight rein on expenditure.

We also continued to lobby against Budget 2012 with our **10 Solutions** campaign and had a major policy win with the introduction of the **Jobseeker's Transition Allowance**. We served on the Ministerial Advisory Committee on Employment supports; the Financial Inclusion Taskforce; and the Standard Bank Account Communications and Marketing Group. We participated and presented at the first EAPN Learning Forum in Estonia and were honoured to serve as a member of the **Irish Ministerial Delegation** at the Social Investment Conference in Leuven.

Our work on parenting supports continues as we play an important role in the all-island Special Interest Group on Supporting Parents in their Parenting and we represent the interests of one-parent families internationally at Eurochild. We also presented at several major international conferences: *Vulnerable Families: What Can Europe Do?* by COFACE/ICA, *Think Parents!* in the Netherlands and the National Healthy Parenting Council in Prague via the APERIO collaboration which the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs manages from the Czech Republic.

As always it is a pleasure to lead the Board of One Family and I would like to thank our funders, donors, supporters, volunteers, staff and everyone else who provides time and resources in helping us continue to be Ireland's leading organisation for one-parent families.



KAREN KIERNAN
ONE FAMILY CEO

Our pioneering work on **Child Contact Centres** continued throughout 2013 despite funding for these critical services coming to an end. We introduced several new parenting services including mediated parenting planning; a course for separated parents; and a support service for young people in care and after care in relation to pregnancy and parenting issues.

Our **Professional Development** training expanded with the addition of Regional Trainers and we continue to explore partnerships with third level providers.

We were delighted that even more professional volunteers joined our services team – in the **askonefamily** helpline, therapeutic services for children and in mentoring. Our service and policy partnerships expanded with the founding of the **All Families Matter** campaigning coalition.

Family Day 2013 was the biggest and brightest yet with 10,000 happy people celebrating family diversity in the Iveagh Gardens on 19 May with lots of additions to the programme including new performers and participating organisations.

We will continue to work for more positive policy changes for vulnerable families and we will continue to provide innovative services and leadership around one-parent and diverse family issues.

The volunteers, staff and Board of One Family are a privilege to work with and as always I would like to pay tribute to the families who put their trust in us.

One Family works under **Strategy 2013–2015** which is available on www.onefamily.ie. Annual workplans are devised for each service of the organisation based on the strategy and all staff members are monitored accordingly.

We organise our strategy into three ambitious objectives because by 2020 One Family will have achieved the following:

- 1 The Constitution and legislation will have recognised and afforded respect to all family forms and structures including one-parent families;
- 2 Poverty rates for one-parent families will be significantly lowered and will be comparable to that of the general population; and
- 3 One-parent families will be widely recognised, understood and celebrated as positive family forms.



ONE FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES IN 2013

askonefamily helpline

- One to one phone and in-person information sessions to members of one-parent families.
- Group information sessions on social welfare and back to work/education options.
- Email support and information
- Social media engagement with client queries.
- Website information hub.
- Social group.

Parenting & Childcare

- Childcare service and parent coaching.
- Parenting courses including *Positive Parenting* and *Family Communications*.
- *Parenting Post-Separation* course.
- Parent Mentoring.

Child Contact Centres

- Assessments, contact and family support services for high-conflict families delivered with Barnardos.

Counselling

- Crisis pregnancy 3-option counselling.
- Post-abortion counselling.
- Pregnancy and parenting support service for young people in care or aftercare.
- Solution-focused counselling.
- General counselling for adults and adolescents.
- Play and art therapy for children.

Welfare to Work

- *New Futures: Personal and Career Planning* accredited course and Keyworking.
- Career Clinics.
- One to one Career Advice.

Professional Development

- Programmes for professionals working with families including *Family Communications* and *Positive Parenting*
- Training for Positive Options Counsellors

THE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SERVICE RECRUITED NEW LOCAL TRAINERS IN THE WEST AND MIDLANDS, AND THE ONE FAMILY ACCREDITATION SYSTEM FOR MANUALISED TRAINING COURSES WAS DEVELOPED

VITAL CHILD CONTACT CENTRES WERE ABLE TO CONTINUE INTO 2014 FOR EXISTING CLIENTS

ABOUT ONE-PARENT FAMILIES IN IRELAND

- 1 in 8 people (over half a million) in Ireland live in a one-parent family.
- Those living in lone parent households experience the highest rates of deprivation and have the lowest disposable income of all households (EU-SILC 2012).
- The majority (58%) of lone parents are in the labour market and 43% are employed.
- 38% of parents on social welfare are now working part-time compared to 60% a few years ago.
- 92,326 people are receiving the One-Parent Family Payment (OFP) (2010).
- The percentage of younger recipients continues to fall as 1.5% are teen parents. 65.6% of recipients are aged over 30.
- In total, 53,533 recipients of the OFP will lose their entitlement to it between 2013 and 2015. They require childcare, family-friendly work, education, training and enough income to ensure work pays.

POLICY & LEGAL CHANGE STRATEGY

ESTABLISHED **ALL FAMILIES MATTER**. A COALITION OF IRISH NGOS, TO CAMPAIGN FOR CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGE ON DEFINING FAMILY. WWW.ALLFAMILIESMATTER.IE

2013
18 POLICY SUBMISSIONS
50% INCREASE FROM 2012

Policy papers completed on

- Commissioning: Welfare to Work Services
- Single Working Age payment
- Financial Inclusion

10 SOLUTIONS CAMPAIGN 1,000 EMAILS SENT BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO TDS SUPPORTING **10 SOLUTIONS**. OUR REVIEW AWARDED GOVERNMENT 'D FOR EFFORT BUT A LOT MORE TO DO'.

ONE FAMILY SUCCESSFULLY LOBBIED FOR THE INTRODUCTION OF THE **JOBSEEKER'S TRANSITION ALLOWANCE** THROUGH OUR 10 SOLUTIONS CAMPAIGN WHICH MEANS THAT LONE PARENTS MOVING FROM OFP DO NOT NOW HAVE TO BE AVAILABLE FOR FULL-TIME WORK UNTIL THEIR YOUNGEST CHILD IS AGED 14, RATHER THAN 7 AS WAS PREVIOUSLY IN PLACE.

FUNDING STRATEGY

2013
INCOME UP FROM €756,358
€762,678
EXPENDITURE UP FROM €719,862
€743,979

ATTITUDINAL CHANGE STRATEGY



10,000 HAPPY PEOPLE ATTENDED FAMILY DAY FESTIVAL 2013

- 5,000 Family Day Festival programmes distributed. www.familyday.ie
- Award-winning *Cherish All The Children* radio documentary produced for Today FM about the origins and evolution of Cherish/One Family.

COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGY

212 MEDIA INTERVIEWS AND MENTIONS
UP FROM 148 IN 2012

148% INCREASE IN SOCIAL MEDIA FOLLOWERS

95,084 UNIQUE VISITORS ACCESSED INFORMATION ON WWW.ONEFAMILY.IE

HOSTED **11** EVENTS

PRODUCED **12** PUBLICATIONS

SYSTEMS & PERSONNEL STRATEGY

- One Family became compliant with the Governance Code.
- One Family is fully committed to achieving the standards contained within the Statement of Guiding Principles for Fundraising.

PARTNERSHIP STRATEGY

- Represents interests of one-parent families on 15 boards and committees.
- Active service and policy partnerships with over 40 organisations.