

Irish Progressive Association for Autism Company C.L.G.
(A Company Limited by Guarantee and Not Having a Share Capital)

Directors report
Year ended 31st December 2017

The directors present their annual report and the audited financial statements of the company for the financial year ended 31st December 2017.

Directors

The names of the persons who at any time during the financial year were directors of the company are as follows:

Eamonn O'Donovan
Paul McGuirk
Eoin Motherway

Paul McGuirk held the position of company secretary for the duration of the financial year.

Principal activities

The principal activity of the organisation continues to be the provision of support and services to children with autism and their families in Cork city and county from our operational base at the Shine Centre, Weston View, Ballinrea Road, Carrigaline, Co Cork. The organisation continues to provide direct services through a range of programmes:

- " Early Learning Unit
- " Building Blocks Educational Support Service.
- " PALS- Personal and Life Skills Programme.
- " Family Support Service.
- " Advocacy Service.
- " Helpline.
- " Parent Training & Workshops.
- " Project Development - Social Skills App Series/Autism Aware Project.
- " Autism Awareness Initiatives.
- " Website & Facebook.

During 2017 the organisation has continued to adhere to the Five Year Development Plan as agreed by the Board of Directors in 2015. All services and programmes remain at capacity and all targets for the 2017 Service Plan were achieved. All services remain free to the client at the point of delivery. As an organisation Shine remain in full compliance with our reporting obligations to the Revenue Commissions and Charities Regulatory Authority and the audit regimes of TUSLA, Dept of Special Education and the HSE.

The organisation is a registered charity with the Irish Revenue Commissioners (CHY 17702)
The organisation is registered with the Charities Regulatory Authority (Reg No 20066444)

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Directors report (continued)
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Development and performance

The financial position of the organisations remains robust with a strong cash and asset position at the end of the 2017 financial year. The organisation recorded a surplus in the 2017 financial year of € 131,510. The Board of Directors feel that it is important to clarify how this surplus was generated and outline the capital and other commitments on those funds in 2018. The organisation will commit € 30,000 of the funding donated by Boston Scientific to the development of an extension to the Shine Centre building. The extension will add two additional therapy rooms, a disabled bathroom to the building in 2018. The organisation is also committed to spending € 48,000 in funding received in late 2017 via the Community Foundation of Ireland to develop an informational portal for parents about autism in 2018. A total of € 78,000 has been ring fenced for these two projects in 2018. The Directors feel that these clarifications on spending in 2018 will give a more accurate picture of the organisation's surplus for 2017.

There have been no significant changes in the company's activities during the 2017 financial year. The financial position of the organisation remains robust with a strong cash and asset position at the end of 2017. The organisation recorded an operating surplus of € 131,510 for 2017 which reflects our continuing prudent approach to the management of the organisation's finances. In recognition of this our positive impact in the area of autism Shine was nominated as one of three finalists in the Cork Chamber's Non Profit Company of the Year in 2017.

Assets and liabilities and financial position

The total assets of the company have increased by € 121,768, the total liabilities have decreased by € 9,742, resulting in an increase in net assets of € 131,510.

Principal risks and uncertainties

The Board remains vigilant at all times but does not foresee any major risks or uncertainties for the year ahead. As an organisation we remain in close contact with our primary programme funders (Dept of Special Education & HSE Disability Services) to ensure that we continue to deliver effective programmes and services to our children and client families. Our internal governance policy is robust and our reputation remains strong within the state and corporate sectors. The organisation is in a strong financial position and will continue to manage its finances in a prudent manner to give it capacity to absorb any major income or expenditure issues that may arise.

Likely future developments

Planning permission has been secured and funding allocated to develop an extension to the Shine Centre building in Carrigaline, Co Cork. The extension will accommodate new Play Therapy and Life Skills rooms. The Board has agreed funding for two additional services in 2018 with a new Behavioural Support Service and a Coaching & Coaching Psychology to come on stream in mid 2018. With the support of our funding partner Bon Secours Hospital (Cork) Shine will also launch the third app in our Social Skills for Autism series in September 2018. The Social Skills Series achieved the milestone of 100,000 downloads in December 2017. Shine will also develop a new online portal called AutismAware in 2018 to support parents with practical information and skills in the area of autism. The new portal is expected to launch in July 2018. The organisation remains in contact with Government Departments, State Agencies and corporate and private funders to monitor opportunities to expand our service offering to our children and client families.

Results

The retained surplus for the financial year amounted to € 131,510 and this was transferred to reserves at the financial year end.

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Directors report (continued)
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Directors and secretary

The company is limited by guarantee and does not have any share capital. Therefore the directors and secretary who served during the year did not have a beneficial interest in the company. All directors serve in a voluntary capacity.

There were no changes in directorships or memberships between the year end and the date of signing the financial statements.

Accounting records

The measures taken by the directors to secure compliance with the requirements of section 281 to 285 of the Companies Act 2014 with regard to the keeping of accounting records are the implementation of necessary policies and procedures for recording transactions, the employment of competent accounting personal with appropriate expertise and the provision of adequate resources to the financial function. The accounting records of the company are maintained at the registered office.

Relevant audit information

In the case of each of the persons who are directors at the time this report is approved in accordance with section 332 of Companies Act 2014:

- so far as each director is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the company's statutory auditors are unaware, and
- each director has taken all the steps that he or she ought to have taken as a director in order to make himself or herself aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the company's statutory auditors are aware of that information.

Small company exemption

The entity has availed of the small companies exemption contained in the Companies Act 2014 with regard to the requirements for exclusion of certain information in the directors report.

Auditors

In accordance with section 383(2) of the Companies Act, 2014, the auditors, Brendan Murphy & Co., Chartered Accountants, will continue in office.

This report was approved by the board of directors on 21st May 2018 and signed on behalf of the board by:

Paul McGuirk
Director

Eoin Motherway
Director