



RCC

The Dublin Rape Crisis Centre



ANNUAL REPORT

2006



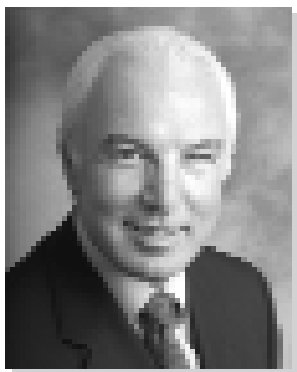
THE SPIRAL - SYMBOL OF THE DRCC

The single spiral is one of the oldest and most recorded geometric motifs prominent in Celtic artwork, and can be seen, for example, in the highly decorated stone carvings of Newgrange burial mound, whose burial chamber each year is illuminated by a single shaft of light during the winter solstice.

For many cultures, including the Celts, the single spiral symbolised the sun, and concepts of growth, expansion and cosmic energy. In our logo, its broken circularity mirrors the client's often difficult and indirect journey of growth towards a fuller, more satisfying life.

*“Healing the trauma of rape and sexual abuse” -
The spiral is the symbolic expression of our mission statement, and of our clients' unfolding individual journey from the darkness of sexual violence and abuse into the light, freedom and energy of healing.*

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I'M VERY PLEASED TO PRESENT the Dublin Rape Crisis Centre's (DRCC) Annual Report for 2006. Last year we celebrated the 25th anniversary of the establishment of the DRCC and noted the phenomenal progress that had been made over those 25 years in all aspects of healing the trauma of rape and sexual abuse. One year later, we can report further satisfactory progress in that regard, although with much more still to do. The CEO's report which follows this message clearly shows that despite all our progress, every day is still a battle against sexual crime and a campaign to get our society's structures and laws right.

As can be seen from the statistics later in this Report, there is an ever increasing need for our services. Therefore it is important that we expand them to enable us to move forward and meet these challenges head on. To do so we have to ensure that our core services are all present and correct, and functioning perfectly. This alone demands huge resources - both personnel and financial - to meet these needs. With the rising number of rapes and the increasing levels of violence, we have to continually and rapidly develop all of our functions and services. These developments include such things as new projects aimed at our burgeoning immigrant community with the attendant provision of translators for these communities, as well as physically and geographically extending our counselling services to cope with the expansion of the populated areas we cover.

For these reasons, not to mention problems caused by basic transport difficulties, we can't have all of our services based here in our Head Office. Whilst Leeson Street continues to be the hub of our activities, we now have outreach services being established in three other Centres – Tallaght, Coolock and Dóchas (the Women's Prison in Mountjoy).

Whilst our core business is healing the trauma of rape and sexual abuse, a vital part of our mission is education and training, and raising awareness of sexual crime. In 2006 we staged an unprecedented number of seminars and talks supported by new literature and brochures, to achieve our goals in these areas.

I mentioned financial resources earlier. We do receive financial support from the HSE and I would like to gratefully acknowledge that here. However, we would be unable to fully function were it not for our friends and benefactors who remain committed to supporting the efforts of the Fundraising Department of the Centre. In 2006, that Department turned in its best ever performance. I would therefore like to acknowledge and thank all those who continue to contribute in financial or practical ways to our fundraising successes.

To support the unabated growth in all aspects and elements of the Dublin Rape Crisis Centre, I'm delighted to report that we strengthened the Board during 2006 with the welcome addition of Eugene Davy and Maurice Johnston, as well as Ann Marie Nohl who joined us in early 2007. Already Eugene, Maurice and Ann Marie have proven their worth since taking their seats at the Board Room table and in particular their contributions towards legal guidance and fundraising issues have been most welcome. 2006 also saw the appointment of Ellen O'Malley-Dunlop as our new Chief Executive.

In conclusion I would like to sincerely thank my Board colleagues, Ellen and her team of Management and Staff, and our committed Volunteers for their hard work and dedication throughout the year. Their energy and enthusiasm are what made 2006 such a successful year for the Dublin Rape Crisis Centre. But the battle still rages.

BRENDAN SPRING
Chairman of the Board

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND CEO OF THE DRCC



L - R: Eugene Davy, Brendan Spring *Chairman*, Maurice Johnston, Ann Marie Nohl, Ellen O'Malley-Dunlop *CEO*, Audrey Conlon, Maud McKee, Graham Crisp, Anne Conlon *Vice Chair*, Germaine Morrissey.



2006 HAS BEEN A VERY BUSY YEAR for the Dublin Rape Crisis Centre (DRCC). When the law on Statutory Rape was struck down in May 2006, there was a dramatic and widespread public outcry which culminated in the White Flower March. As a result there was a huge surge of renewed interest in the whole area of rape and sexual assault. The Government appointed an All Party Committee in August to look at the laws pertaining to Child Protection and Children's Rights. The DRCC made a submission to the All Party Committee and consulted with the Minister for Children as well as other organisations involved in the area. Though this crisis was very serious and there was huge concern that convicted rapists would walk free as a result of the law being struck down, it also opened up the debate and gave us an opportunity to make good laws in relation to this very serious crime. In June the Government passed an interim Sexual Offences Act 2006. Early in 2007 the Government proposed amendments to the Constitution to facilitate new legislation but these amendments need further debate. The DRCC continues to lobby all political parties to give a firm commitment that this will be the first item on the agenda of the new Government.

In October the DRCC together with the Rape Crisis Network of Ireland (RCNI) and other Rape Crisis Centres, lobbied for the implementation of the recommendations of the Review of Sexual Assault Treatment Units (SATU) both in Dublin and around the country. There were serious gaps in the services being provided especially in the Midlands and West of the country because of the lack of units in these areas. People were having to travel huge distances in order to attend a SATU. This culminated in a meeting with Minister for Health and Children - Mary Harney. As a result of this meeting, Angela Fitzgerald from the Health Service Executive (HSE) was given the task of co-ordinating a steering committee to carry out the recommendations of the Review. Dr. Mary Holohan was seconded from the Rotunda Hospital to deliver on a number of the recommendations and Angela McCarthy, Head of Clinical Services (DRCC) and Susan Miner (RCNI) also joined the steering committee. This is a very positive move forward. As well as naming Mullingar as the host for the new Midland SATU, the new unit in Galway is also in the process of being set up. This will take the pressure off both Dublin and Cork units and will hopefully enable victims to come forward and report when they know they will not have to travel long distances to a SATU.

As we know from the SAVI Report (Sexual Abuse and Violence in Ireland), rape is one of the most under reported crimes in our jurisdiction. In October the DRCC concentrated its efforts and mounted a campaign, to raise awareness and to encourage people to come forward and to report. The campaign began at our Annual Fundraising Ball when we screened a video "Behind Closed Doors"

highlighting the prevalence of rape and sexual abuse in Ireland. The video was transformed into an advertisement for our Helpline, thanks to the generous contributions of Bill Felton and Taboo Films and the Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform. The advertisement was screened, courtesy of Carlton Screen Advertising, in 250 cinemas around the country from December 2006. The campaign also included awareness raising interviews both on National and Community Radio as well as Television.

The DRCC is very aware of the issues that still need to be addressed in order to continue the enormous task of eliminating the crimes of rape and sexual abuse in our society. Fewer people are coming forward to report in our current climate and this cannot be allowed to continue. As our 2006 statistics clearly indicate, the numbers of recent rapes are not diminishing but rising. The level of violence is increasing. We need to continue with our awareness raising campaigns and we need to endeavour to put in place preventative measures for stemming the growth of this crime. Education is one of the major keys to stopping the tide of rape and sexual abuse and yet our Education and Training Department is not funded by the HSE, as it is not seen as one of our “core” services. Surely this has to change!

We hope, that through our awareness raising campaigns, more people will be encouraged to come forward and report. This will send a clear message to perpetrators that they will not get away with these crimes any more. We hope to see a considerable increase in the numbers of cases getting to court and as a result, perpetrators getting appropriate sentences that fit the seriousness of these crimes. We also want people to know that it is possible to recover from the trauma of rape and sexual abuse and to live a full and healthy life.

The DRCC continues to work towards the elimination of all forms of violence against women. We work with, and are a member of the National Steering Committee on Violence Against Women which is Chaired by Minister Frank Fahey. We are also a member of The National Observatory on Violence Against Women. With the RCNI we specifically represent the area of sexual violence against women.

With the commitment of the excellent staff at the DRCC, psychotherapists, telephone counsellors, administration, fundraising, education and our volunteer services we continue to work towards healing the trauma of rape and sexual abuse that still haunts our society in Ireland. We hope that with the expansion of our services, the continuation of our awareness raising campaigns, and the work with the RCNI and other agencies, we continue the job of curbing this heinous crime in our society and one day the need for our services will be limited.

ELLEN O'MALLEY-DUNLOP
Chief Executive

Overview of Clinical Services 2006

2006 was a year in which many brave victims of sexual violence went public, to seek justice, or to criticise our criminal justice system, victims such as Mary Shannon and Cynthia Owen. Our CEO, Ellen O'Malley Dunlop, raised the profile of the DRCC and its concerns nationwide and was to the forefront throughout 2006 in the media, advocating for victims, urging reforms, making submissions to Government Departments and lobbying for change. The DRCC's Helpline number was published frequently following many TV and Radio programmes, and this, combined with our awareness raising advertisement, undoubtedly contributed to the striking increase in first-time calls to the Helpline in 2006.

Sadly, this was also a year in which, through counselling callers to the Helpline, supporting victims in the Sexual Assault Treatment Unit (SATU) and working with our clients in therapy, we became acutely aware of *the shocking increase* in the degree of sexual violence in our society, and this is reflected in our 2006 statistics for rape and sexual assault.

24 hour Crisis Helpline

Our Freephone Helpline (1800 778888) operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year. *There is always a counsellor at the other end of the line.*

In 2006, the Helpline dealt with **15,781** calls. 7189 of these calls were handled by staff telephone counsellors. In addition, our team of 50 trained volunteer telephone counsellors handled 8592 calls, supervised and supported by three Volunteer Co-ordinators.

12, 244 of the calls in 2006 were genuine counselling calls. This was on a par with the figure for 2005, which represented an increase of 13% on 2004 figures.

4266 of these calls were from first time callers, **up by 10.8 % on 2005.**

In addition, **3689** repeat calls were received in this period.

48.4% of calls to the helpline related to adult rape and **6.3%** related to adult sexual assault. Thus **54.7%** of calls related to rape and adult sexual assault, an increase of **3.5%** on the figures for 2005. **42.3%** of calls related to childhood sexual abuse.

The Volunteer Services Department

We saw a shocking increase in the number of accompaniments to the Sexual Assault Treatment Unit in 2006. The Centre's trained SATU volunteers accompany and support victims of sexual violence at the Sexual Assault Treatment Unit in the Rotunda Hospital. There was a sharp increase in the number of such accompaniments: from 263 in 2005 to **315** in 2006, an increase of 20%.

Counselling and Therapy Services

Eleven therapists offer crisis counselling and long-term therapy in the DRCC in Leeson Street in central Dublin, with outreach services in Coolock Civic Centre and the Dóchas Centre for female offenders.

617 clients were seen for face to face counselling in 2006, an increase of 2.7% on 2005 figures. Of these 88.3% were female and 11.7% were males.

3585 counselling sessions were delivered in 2006. 1242 sessions (35%) were crisis appointments for men and women who had experienced rape and sexual assault within the past twelve months. 65% (2343 sessions) were appointments for past rape, past sexual assault or past childhood sexual abuse which had occurred outside the previous twelve month period.

DRCC Outreach Counselling Services

DÓCHAS CENTRE

The Counselling and Psychotherapy Services section of the DRCC started a counselling service in the Dóchas Centre, a medium security prison unit located in Mountjoy, in 2005. The initiative was taken at the request of Kathleen McMahon, Governor of Dóchas Centre. A half day counselling service is offered once a week by one of our experienced Therapy Team Leaders. In 2006, **80 sessions** were offered, of which **57** were completed. This represents a 71% take up rate.

DRCC OUTREACH IN COOLOCK CIVIC CENTRE

The DRCC's Outreach Service moved premises to the Coolock Civic Centre in Bunratty Road in 2005. We also expanded the service, and now have two therapists working together two days a week. The take-up had been very encouraging. **543 sessions** were offered in 2006, of which 389 were completed, a take up rate of 72%.

This represents an **increase of 14.4%** on the 2005 figures.

New Initiative

DRCC OUTREACH TO MIGRANT COMMUNITIES

A new multicultural outreach project has been launched within the Volunteer Services Department of the DRCC. An Awareness Raising Outreach Co-ordinator has been appointed for a year, with funding from Pobal. The Co-ordinator plans to help raise awareness among migrant communities about the issues of sexual violence and abuse, their entitlement to services, and information on how to access them. Leaflets will be printed in five languages and presentations made to community groups to spread awareness, create dialogue and help raise access to relevant services. The rationale of the project includes **identifying barriers** to disclosure and accessing of services, and then sharing this information with *relevant services providers*.

Farewell and Thanks

This year, for the first time in our 26 years of existence, we lost one of our serving volunteers, Linda Howard, who died suddenly last February, to the inexpressible grief of her family, friends and her colleagues in the DRCC. To pay tribute to Linda's generosity of spirit and dedication as a volunteer, a commemoration ceremony for volunteers and staff will be held in the DRCC on her birthday in May 2007, and a tree will be planted to remember her by.

I would like to pay tribute to all our dedicated staff and volunteers, in particular our three receptionists who welcome and tend to our clients, the volunteers and staff who operate the Helpline, the SATU and Outreach Volunteers, our three Volunteer Co-ordinators, our new Awareness Raising Outreach Co-ordinator, and our therapists who provide a counselling service in Leeson St. and in Outreach services. Together, in 2006, we have done our best to implement the DRCC's mission statement: "Healing the trauma of rape and sexual abuse". We continue to draw inspiration from the courage and unique spirit of the callers to our Helpline and the clients of the DRCC.

ANGELA MCCARTHY
Head of Clinical Services



Key Services provided by the DRCC

- A 24-hour Freephone Helpline (1800 77 88 88)
- A Crisis Counselling Service for recent victims of rape and sexual assault
- Long-term therapy for adult victims of childhood sexual abuse and past sexual violence
- Coolock Outreach Counselling Service
- Dóchas Centre Counselling Service
- Medical Accompaniment to the Sexual Assault Treatment Unit
- Court Accompaniment
- Outreach Talks to Schools and Community Groups
- Training of professionals who work with victims of rape, sexual assault and sexual abuse in Ireland
- Training programmes on preventing and dealing with bullying, harassment and sexual harassment in the workplace
- Research and Statistics
- Campaigning and Advocacy

Education and Training Report

The Education and Training Department

The DRCC sees Education and Training as core aspects of its work. Education is an instrument of change and development. It is only as long held beliefs and attitudes about sexual violence are challenged and altered, and as myth and misinformation is replaced by accurate knowledge, that the societal setting in which sexual violence has thrived, and in which perpetrators have remained largely unchallenged and unpunished, will change.

DRCC's training for those professionals and volunteers who are providing services to people who have experienced sexual violence, enhances the value and relevance of these services. Given that over a quarter of the population of this country has experienced sexual violence, it is crucial that service providers are aware, informed and competent around these issues. For those providing services in certain sectors – for example in prisons, in addiction, in homelessness, in the mental health services – research shows that it is likely that a much higher proportion of the client group have experienced sexual violence and other forms of trauma.

DRCC sees the provision of training which supports staff and volunteers in meeting the needs of victims of sexual violence as a vital part of its work. DRCC is a specialist service provider and through training, shares its experience and specialist knowledge with other organisations.

Workshops at DRCC

Workshops are held in our training rooms at DRCC which are attended by individuals in various roles who want to develop their understanding and skills in the area of working with those who have experienced sexual violence. These range from introductory one day workshops on issues of child sexual abuse, rape and sexual assault, to a four day course for those in the role of counsellor or psychotherapist.

Awareness Raising among Young People

DRCC continued its campaign of awareness raising among young people, so as to alert them to the availability of support if they experience sexual violence. This saw us advertise our services in venues frequented by young people, such as pubs and clubs, as well as colleges and training organisations. Another aspect of the campaign was the training of student welfare officers and other students' union staff to equip them to be the first point of contact for students who have experienced sexual violence. We also applied for and received funding to develop and pilot an education and awareness raising programme in schools, aimed at Transition and Applied Leaving Certificate students, in 2007.



Post Graduate Certificate Course

Each year DRCC provides this in-depth 12 day course on "Issues in Sexual Violence: the Counselling Process" for those working or beginning to work as counsellors and psychotherapists and wanting to enhance their understanding and skills in working with issues of sexual violence. The course explores issues arising in working as a counsellor with adolescent and adult clients who have experienced child sexual abuse, rape, sexual assault and sexual harassment.

Training for organisations

We provide training programmes in response to requests from individual organisations or a group of organisations for training specific to their needs. We have provided training for many community and voluntary organisations, and for many agencies in the state health sector throughout Ireland.

Approach to Training

Our training is provided within a non-violent and careful ethos, and with respect for the existing knowledge and expertise of those who attend the training. We are aware that no matter how experienced the participant is in training, these are powerful and sensitive issues which can resonate quite deeply. Our approach is participative and experiential, but invitational and without pressure. Participants are encouraged and supported to take care towards themselves. This mirrors the approach to working with victims of trauma which we are advocating in our training.

Training of Gardai

DRCC trainers meet with every intake of student Gardai in the Garda Training College in Templemore to offer them an opportunity to develop their understanding of the issues that will be involved in their working with those who have experienced sexual violence. This involves a team of six trainers going to the Garda Training College four times a year for two days. The students have an opportunity to consider the beliefs and attitudes in society and within themselves around sexual violence and how these might affect a person who has had this experience. Guidelines are offered as to how best to support a victim through their contact with the policing and legal process.

In 2006 approximately 1,120 student Gardai attended seminars provided by DRCC in the Garda Training College. With the seminar, students are given a booklet containing information and guidelines to support them in working effectively and sensitively with victims of sexual violence.

Preventing and Dealing with Bullying, Harassment and Sexual Harassment in the Workplace

We provide a variety of seminars on the theme of Bullying, Harassment and Sexual Harassment in the Workplace. These seminars are provided for businesses, the state sector and community and voluntary organisations. Training is provided for staff, managers, human resources staff, equality officers, support contact people, and those who will investigate a complaint.

DRCC has a particular specialism in training for Support Contact Persons under Dignity at Work/ Bullying and Harassment policies. We also offer a consultancy service for organisations developing policies and procedures. Seminars are held at DRCC which individuals from different organisations can attend. In-house training is also provided, on request, for organisations. This training can be for management, staff or those in other key roles.

Funding for New Projects

Towards the end of 2006 we received funding from the Fund for the Integration of Legally Resident Immigrants to develop a training package and provide training for language interpreters in working sensitively and effectively in situations of sexual violence. This project will be undertaken in 2007.

We also received funding from the St. Stephen's Green Trust to provide subsidised training specifically for those working with people in homelessness, with ex-prisoners, those in addiction and people working in prostitution. This training will also be provided in 2007.

In 2006 DRCC provided 2,029 participant days of training.

LEONIE O'DOWD
Head of Education and Training

A Call for Sentencing Guidelines for Judges

The decision in March 2007 by Judge Carney to impose a suspended sentence on a man convicted of rape caused serious public concern. The victim in the case, Mary Shannon, very bravely disclosed her identity and spoke publicly of her distress at the outcome. She deserves immense praise and support from all of us for doing this. She has undoubtedly done a great service, by highlighting the need for greater clarity in terms of the principles which judges should apply in passing sentence for serious criminal cases.

The case also led some commentators to call for the introduction of mandatory or minimum sentences in rape cases. However, this might cause more problems than it would solve. It would result in cases that are not really alike being treated in exactly the same way and would mean the genuinely different circumstances of different individuals could not be taken into account. Rather than tying judges' hands in this way, I believe it would be better to give judges more guidance in how they may exercise their discretion.

The Irish approach to sentencing has traditionally been based upon the concept of judicial discretion. In respect of most criminal offences, legislation provides for the maximum sentence. Apart from that maximum, judges must give a sentence that is proportionate both to the gravity of the offence, and to the circumstances of the offender. The sentence given by judges is subject to appeal. The convicted person may appeal a sentence he or she believes is too severe. Since legislation was passed following the Lavinia Kerwick rape case in 1993, the Director of Public Prosecutions may also appeal a sentence on the grounds that it is 'unduly lenient'.

The problem is that few other guidelines are available to judges as to how their discretion should be exercised. On the positive side, this means that the particular circumstances of the offender may be taken into account by the sentencing judge. However, it also means that inconsistencies in sentence can arise as a result of the different approaches taken by individual judges. Where too many inconsistencies occur, people begin to distrust the sentencing process and may call for the introduction of mandatory sentences. However, such sentences may prevent the judge from imposing a sentence which genuinely reflects the seriousness of the crime, and may result in disproportionate penalties.

This problem is obvious from the US experience, where the catchphrase 'Three Strikes and You're Out' applies to laws in many states. For example, in

California courts must sentence offenders to 25 years' imprisonment without parole on their third felony conviction – whatever the nature of the felony committed. In one particularly notorious case, a man was sentenced to 25 years' imprisonment for stealing a slice of pizza. Commenting on this experience, one prison reform lobby group said that mandatory sentences are 'a denial of justice, reducing sentencing to a rubber stamp exercise.'

In a review of sentencing in Ireland in 1993, the Law Reform Commission recommended the introduction of non-statutory guidelines for judges, so that sentences would be consistent, and severity measured in proportion to the seriousness of the offending behaviour. This would depend on the degree of harm caused or risked by the offender, and his or her level of guilt or culpability. The Commission took the view that such an approach would be preferable to the introduction of further minimum or mandatory sentences.

To date, the Oireachtas has not taken up the challenge of developing sentencing guidelines for judges, despite this strong recommendation. Following the terrible experience of Mary Shannon, our legislators should now begin to develop such guidelines, rather than taking the more extreme step of introducing mandatory sentences. The use of mandatory penalties is and has always been controversial. Their effectiveness in preventing future offending is dubious. They should have no place in a legal system committed to the principle of proportionality, and a belief in the potential for rehabilitation of offenders. A structured sentencing policy, based on a system of guidelines designed to provide parameters for judges when sentencing, but without removing all judicial discretion, would be an infinitely preferable approach to the development of a proper sentencing policy in Ireland.

Finally, in the context of rape, it is worth remembering that despite Judge Carney's surprising decision, the Supreme Court gave guidance in another rape case, the 1988 Tiernan decision, that a rape conviction must generally warrant an 'immediate and substantial' custodial sentence. The majority of those imprisoned for rape are indeed sentenced for periods in excess of five years. Unfortunately, Ireland already has a very low rate of reporting in rape cases. It is to be hoped that the Carney decision will not deter too many other victims of rape from coming forward in future.

IVANA BACIK

Reid Professor of Criminal Law, Trinity College

A NOTE ON THE STATISTICS FOR 2006

Due to the nature of our work, detailed information was not gathered for all individuals who contacted the DRCC. The primary concern of the Centre is **to help callers and clients** and in many cases some or all of the detailed information on callers or clients was unavailable. The statistics below refer to the 12 month period from 1st January 2006 to 31st December 2006.

1

Contacts with the
24 hour Crisis Line
Jan 2006 – Dec 2006

Description of Calls

DESCRIPTION	2006
Total Counselling calls	15,781
*Total genuine counselling calls	12,244
First Time Callers	4,266
Repeat Calls	3,689
Information Calls	3,340
Calls with Details Undisclosed	605
Unrelated Counselling Calls	344

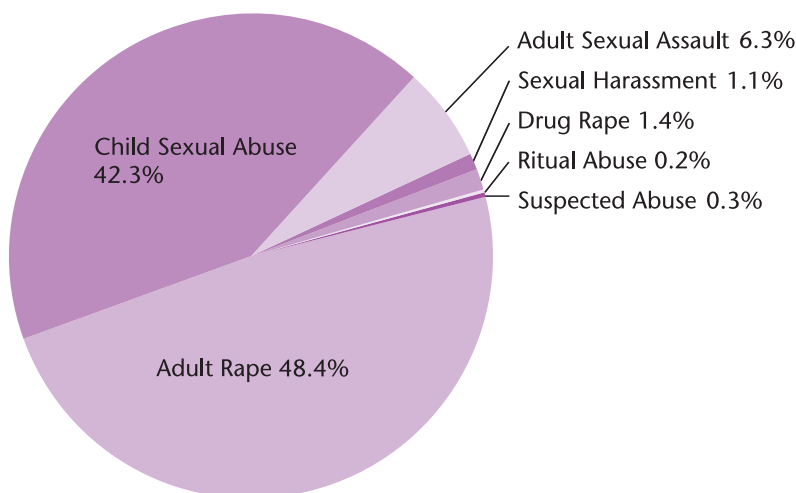
Total number of calls including education and training calls: **37,266**

* Total genuine counselling calls refers to the number of calls when hoax, hang-up, silent and obscene calls are subtracted from the total number of calls.

2

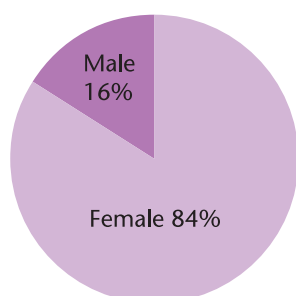
Contacts with the
24 hour Crisis Line
Jan 2006 – Dec 2006

Breakdown by Type of Abuse, where known



This table shows for all calls (first time and repeat calls) the type of abuse the caller experienced. 343 of the callers disclosed the fact that they experienced more than one type of abuse in their lives.

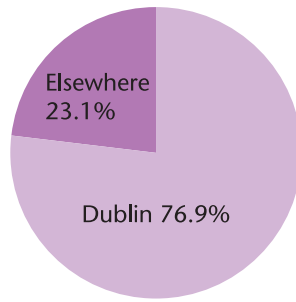
Gender of Caller, where known



3

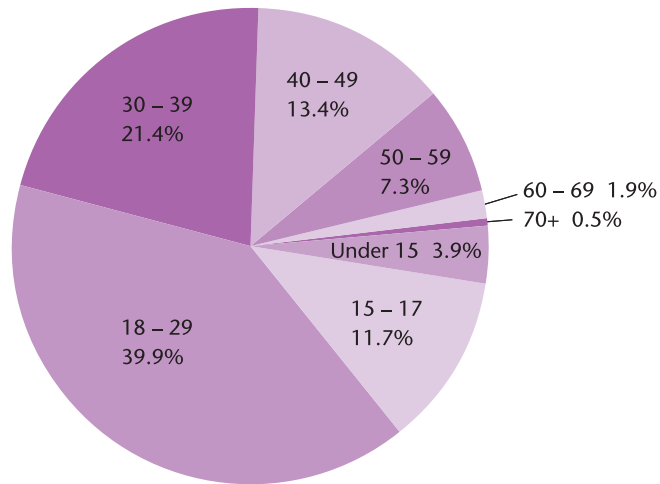
Contacts with the
24 hour Crisis Line
Jan 2006 – Dec 2006

**Breakdown by
Geographic Location**



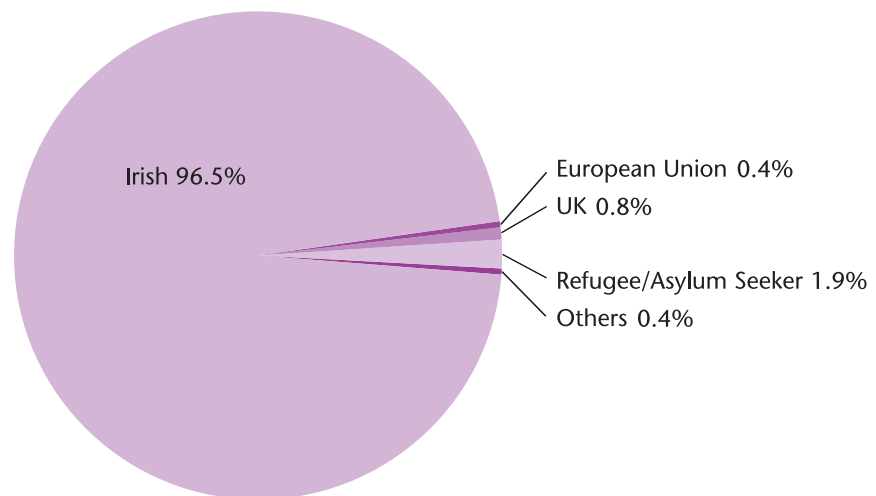
Note that in many cases, the location of the caller was not known.

**Breakdown by Age,
of victim**



Note that in many cases, the age of the caller was not known.

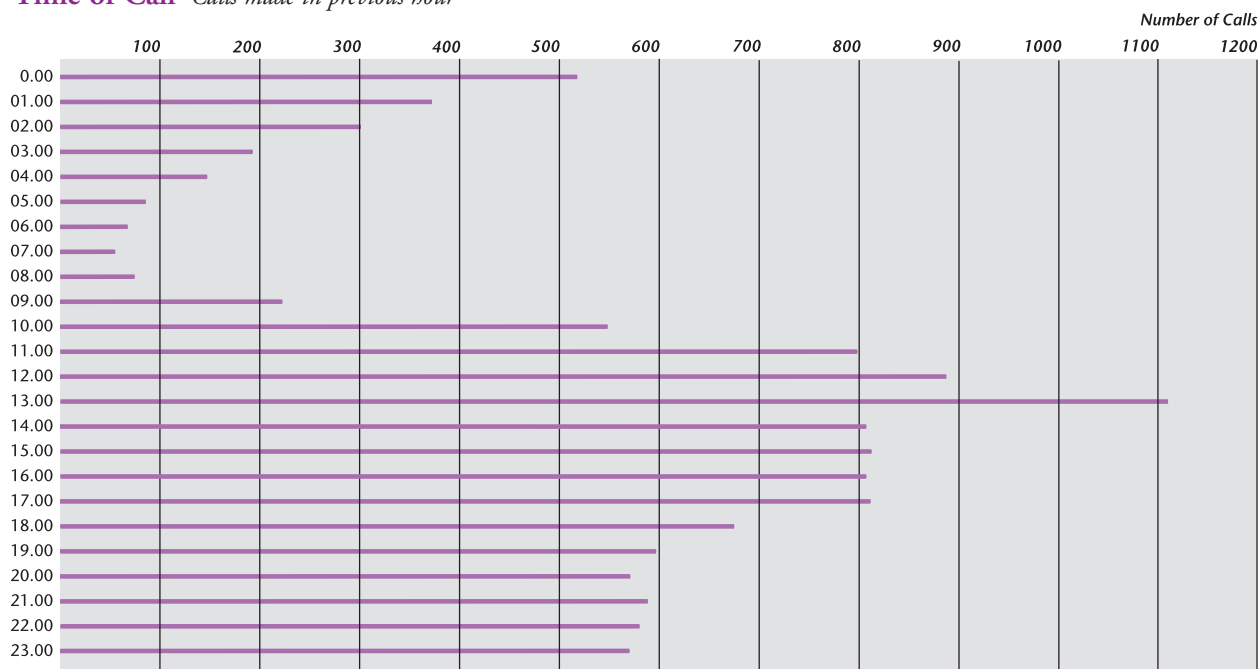
**Breakdown by Ethnic
Origin, where known**



4

Contacts with the 24 hour Crisis Line *Jan 2006 – Dec 2006*

Time of Call *Calls made in previous hour*



This table refers to the number of genuine counselling calls made to the DRCC by hour of call.

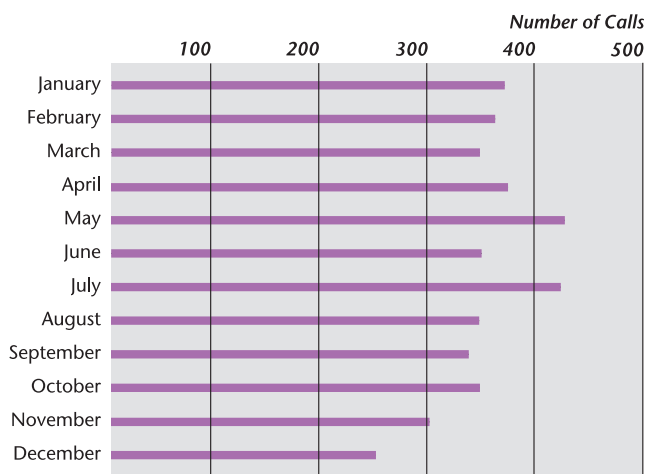
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Contacts with the 24 hour Crisis Line

Jan 2006 – Dec 2006

Month of Call

This graph shows the number of first time calls made to the DRCC by month.



6

Volunteer Services

Accompaniment to Sexual Assault Treatment Unit

In this period, our trained volunteers attended the Sexual Assault Treatment Unit with **315** victims from January 2006 to December 2006. In addition, our volunteers carried out 14 court accompaniments and 3 accompaniments to Garda Stations during that period.

Outreach Awareness Talks

Our trained Outreach Volunteers delivered 61 Outreach awareness talks, 43 in second level schools and 18 to community groups.

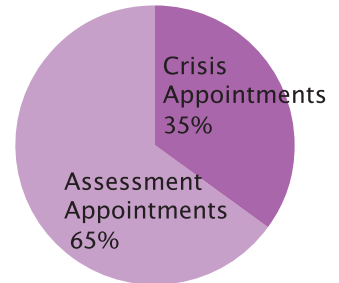
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Counselling and Psychotherapy Service
Jan 2006 – Dec 2006

Client Appointments Summary

Eleven therapists, working as two teams, offer a six-day counselling service from Monday to Saturday, in the DRCC on Leeson Street. In addition, two therapists offer 14 sessions per week in the Outreach Counselling Service in Coolock. A half-day service per week is also provided to the Dóchas Centre, at the national women's prison.

- A total of **4,838 individual appointments** were made available by the Therapy Team in 2006.
- Of the 3,585 completed sessions, **35% (1,242) were crisis appointments for men and women** who had experienced a recent rape or sexual assault i.e. within the previous 12 months.
- **65% (2,343) were assessment appointments** for past* rape and sexual assault, or past* childhood sexual abuse.
**Which occurred outside the previous 12 month period*
- In addition to the 3,585 individual therapy sessions, usually of one hour's duration, a total of **708 hours** of group therapy client hours were delivered in 2006.

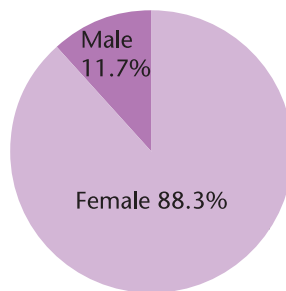


A total of 4293 individual and group client hours were delivered in 2006.

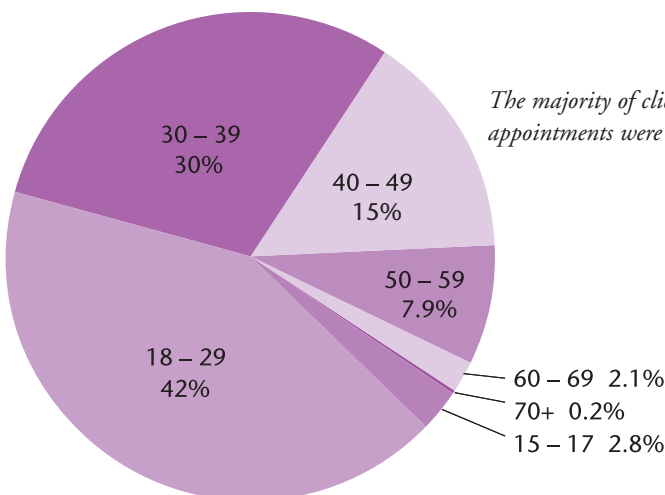
Number of Clients Seen in the DRCC
(including long term and crisis service)

CLIENTS	NUMBER
Number of clients seen	617

Gender of Client Using the Counselling Service



Age of Client using the counselling service, where known

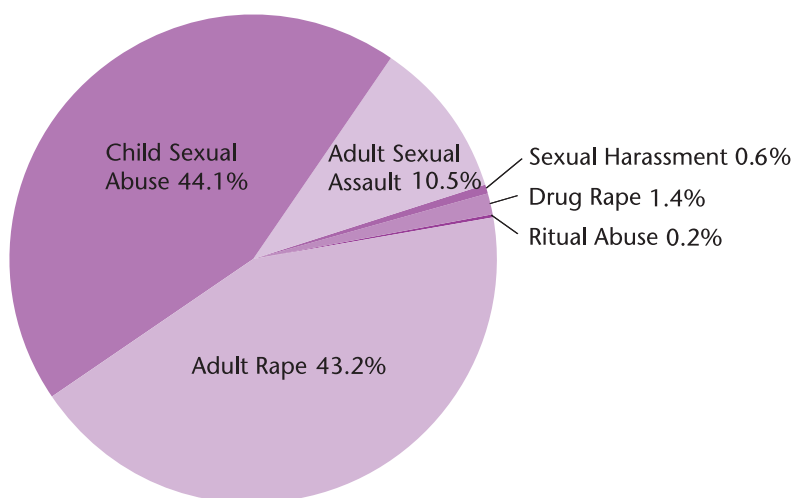


The majority of clients (72%) who took appointments were aged between 18 and 39.

8

Counselling and Psychotherapy Service
Jan 2006 – Dec 2006

Breakdown by Type of Abuse, where known



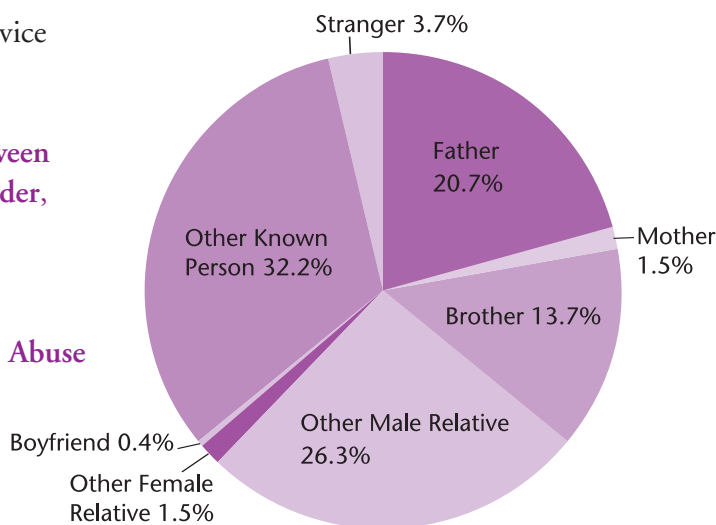
7.9% of clients disclosed that they experienced both adult rape and past child sexual abuse.

9

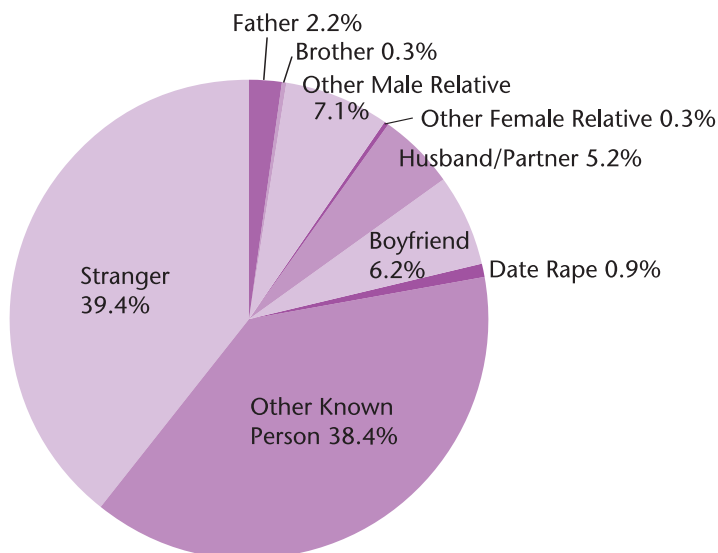
Counselling and Psychotherapy Service
Jan 2006 – Dec 2006

Relationship Between Victim and Offender, where known

Childhood Sexual Abuse



Adult Rape /Sexual Abuse



9 continued

Counselling and Psychotherapy Service
Jan 2006 – Dec 2006

Relationship Between Victim and Offender, where known

SUMMARY CONCLUSIONS FOR 2006

Child Sexual Abuse

34.4% of childhood sexual abuse cases took place at the hands of fathers and brothers, while another 26.3% were perpetrated by other male relatives. 3% was carried out by female relatives, including mothers. In addition, the majority of remaining childhood sexual abuse (32.2%) was perpetrated by other known persons, while the figure for strangers was 3.7%.

Adult Rape/Sexual Assault

39.4% of clients were raped or sexually assaulted by a stranger.

Husband, cohabiting partner or boyfriend accounted for 11.4% of these adult rapes. An additional 0.9% experienced date rape.

38.4% of clients were raped or sexually assaulted by other known persons.

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Counselling and Psychotherapy Service
Jan 2006 – Dec 2006

Pregnancy

Of the 257 female clients who were at risk of pregnancy after rape/sexual assault, 36 said they became pregnant.

OUTCOME OF PREGNANCIES	NUMBER
Became pregnant, baby kept	13
Became pregnant, baby fostered	1
Became pregnant, baby adopted	0
Became pregnant, pregnancy terminated	10
Became pregnant, miscarried	5
Became pregnant, outcome unknown	7

It is worth noting that many clients were not at risk of pregnancy for various reasons, including use of contraceptives, being beyond risk of pregnancy due to age, or being male, for example.

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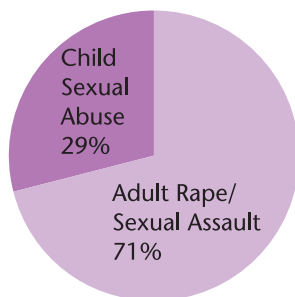
Counselling and Psychotherapy Service
Jan 2006 – Dec 2006

Statistics provided in this section relates to 396 clients who commenced therapy in the DRCC in 2006, where the reporting status was known. It is worth noting that reporting and convictions in this context refer to clients seen by our service in the year 2006, although the reports and convictions may have occurred in the previous years.

Reporting to Gardaí

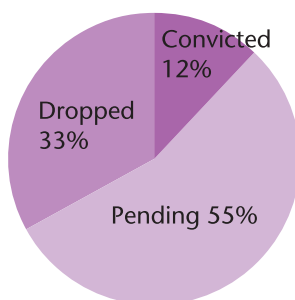
Of the 396 cases where the reporting status was known, 122 cases were reported to the Gardaí. 5 cases were tried, resulting in 5 convictions.

Cases Reported



Adult rape/sexual assault accounted for 71% of the 122 cases reported to the Gardaí, while child sexual abuse cases accounted for 29% of reports.

Outcome



Outcome information was known for 42 of the 122 cases reported, as in the diagram.

- 12% Convicted
- 55% Pending
- 33% Dropped

Percentage of all* cases reported to Gardaí: 31%

Percentage of total* CSA cases reported: 24%

Percentage of total* rape/sexual assault cases reported: 35%

*Refers to the 396 where reporting status known, 148 which related to childhood sexual abuse and 248 to adult rape and sexual assault.

Clients who experienced adult rape/sexual assault were more likely to report to the Gardaí than clients who had experienced childhood sexual abuse.

Factors Affecting Rape Reporting

Time interval

Recent rape/sexual assault cases reported	53%
Past rape/sexual assault reported	18%

Clients who sought help for recent rape or sexual assault were almost three times as likely to report to the Gardaí, than clients who had experienced past rape or sexual assault.

Victim / Offender relationship

Clients were more likely to report rape or sexual assault to the Gardaí if the assailant was a stranger rather than someone known to them.

Over 30% of clients raped or sexually assaulted by strangers reported to the Gardaí, while 6% of those raped or sexually assaulted by someone they knew reported.

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Counselling and Psychotherapy Service

Jan 2006 – Dec 2006

Group Therapy

Participation in group therapy or workshops is offered to clients who have been in one-to-one counselling for some time. Groups and workshops are normally facilitated by two staff therapists.

TYPE OF GROUP	HOURS PER SESSION	DURATION	PARTICIPANTS	TOTAL CLIENT GROUP THERAPY HOURS
CSA Process Group	3 hours	8 weeks	8 clients	192
Family Systems Workshops (1)	6 hours	1 day	7 clients	42
Family Systems Workshops (2)	6 hours	1 day	9 clients	54
Men's Group (1)	2.5 hours	12 sessions	9 clients	270
Men's Group (2)	2.5 hours	10 weeks	6 clients	150

A total of **708 hours of group therapy** were offered to 39 clients of the DRCC in 2006. In addition two therapists provided a half-day input on a Sex Offender Programme in Arbour Hill Prison in 2006 for 7 participants.

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Education and Training Department

Jan 2006 – Dec 2006

115 days of training were delivered

1750 professionals and volunteers took part in training programmes

2029 participant days were provided

The Education and Training Department provides training for professionals and volunteers on working with issues of child sexual abuse, the aftermath of rape and sexual assault, counselling skills and approaches and on preventing and dealing with bullying, harassment and sexual harassment in the workplace.

Participants in 2006 included counsellors, psychotherapists, Gardai, prison officers, youth workers, addiction staff, psychologists, refuge staff, staff of services for immigrants, staff of local authorities, teachers, staff in services for people in homelessness and student welfare officers.

DUBLIN RAPE CRISIS CENTRE LIMITED

A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE NOT HAVING A SHARE CAPITAL

Profit and Loss Account

for the year ended 31st December 2006

	2006 €	2005 €
INCOME	1,767,578	1,700,325
OVERHEADS	1,617,795	1,806,543
SURPLUS / -DEFICIT FOR THE YEAR	149,783	-106,219
GOVERNMENT GRANTS AMORTISED	16,012	16,012
	165,795	-90,207
BALANCE FORWARD AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	501,917	592,124
BALANCE FORWARD AT END OF YEAR	667,712	501,917

Anne Conlon, Director
 Brendan Spring, Director
 24th April 2007

Balance Sheet

as at 31st December 2006

	2006 €	2005 €
ASSETS EMPLOYED		
FIXED ASSETS		
Tangible assets	249,443	261,096
CURRENT ASSETS		
Prepaid expenses and receivables	1,125	1,125
Cash at bank	944,383	747,181
	945,508	748,306
CREDITORS		
(Amounts falling due within 1 year)	-332,393	-296,627
NET CURRENT ASSETS	613,115	451,679
TOTAL ASSETS LESS LIABILITIES	862,558	712,775
REPRESENTED BY:-		
GOVERNMENT GRANTS	194,846	210,858
SURPLUS ON PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT	667,712	501,917
	862,558	712,775

Anne Conlon, Director
 Brendan Spring, Director
 24th April 2007

DUBLIN RAPE CRISIS CENTRE LIMITED

A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE NOT HAVING A SHARE CAPITAL

Statement of Sources and Applications of Funds

for the year ended 31st December 2006

SOURCES / APPLICATIONS OF FUNDS	2006 €	2005 €
FUNDING OF ACTIVITIES		
Deficit for the year	165,795	-90,207
Add back: Items not involving the use of funds:-		
Depreciation	27,648	27,165
Government grant	-16,012	-16,012
	177,431	-79,054
PURCHASE OF FIXED ASSETS		
	-15,995	-8,394
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		
	161,436	-87,448
APPLIED AS FOLLOWS:-		
MOVEMENTS IN WORKING CAPITAL		
Movement in prepaid expenses & grants receivable	————	————
Movement in cash at bank	197,202	85,179
Movement in creditors	-35,766	-172,627
	161,436	-87,448

Anne Conlon, Director
 Brendan Spring, Director
 24th April 2007

Auditor's Report to the Members

I have audited the financial statements above and opposite in accordance with Auditing Standards.

In my opinion, the financial statements give a true and fair view of the statement of the company's affairs at 31st December 2006, and of its results and state of affairs for the year then ended, and give in the requisite manner the information required by the Companies Acts 1963 to 1990. I have obtained all the information and explanations considered necessary for the purposes of my audit. In my opinion proper books of account have been kept by the company. The financial statements are in agreement with the books of account.

Dermot J Keogh FCA
 REGISTERED AUDITOR
 24th April 2007

SUPPORT THE DRCC

Join one of our Volunteer Teams. We usually recruit for our volunteer teams twice a year. You can phone or email us for further information.

• • •

Join the *Friends of the Rape Crisis Centre* to help us organise our regular fundraising activities and explore new ideas and events. We are always looking for new and innovative ideas.

• • •

Make a donation, whether that's a one-off contribution or you prefer to set up a monthly standing order with your bank.

• • •

Support one of our regular events with some friends. Maybe some of the current fund-raising events appeal to you as corporate entertainment?

Give us a call at: 01 661 4911 or email us at: fundraising@rcc.ie

• • •

*We are here to listen –
Your help will make a difference to those who seek our services.*



The Dublin Rape Crisis Centre
70 Lower Leeson Street, Dublin 2

Telephone: 01 661 4911

Facsimile: 01 661 0873

E-mail: rcc@indigo.ie

Web: www.drcc.ie

Freephone 1800 77 88 88