



RCC

The Dublin Rape
Crisis Centre

Annual Report
2016

Preventing and healing the trauma
of rape and sexual abuse

Key Services Provided by the DRCC

- National 24-Hour Helpline 1800 77 88 88
- 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 Outreach Counselling Service
- Tallaght Outreach Counselling Service
- 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
- Campaigning, lobbying and awareness raising
- Research and statistics

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Chairperson's Report



On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Dublin Rape Crisis Centre, it gives me great pleasure to present the Centre's 2016 Annual Report. Our mission as an organisation is to prevent the harm and heal the trauma of rape, sexual abuse and all forms of sexual violence. Throughout this report, readers will be able to see the various ways in which we support the victims of sexual violence, their families and supporters and many others who work on front line services and so meet those impacted by sexual violence. We do that through phone support, face-to-face counselling and through training and education

This report gives an account of our work in 2016. As it shows, we understand how sexual violence is presenting in Ireland today and about how it is being addressed through our work. We note, for instance, that while there was a huge demand for all the services of the DRCC in 2016, sexual violence in adulthood stood out as a particular concern.

Our figures alone will never substitute for thorough, nationwide data. Yet again, the Dublin Rape Crisis Centre calls for a comprehensive study of the nature and prevalence of sexual violence in Ireland today. The last such study, the SAVI report, was published in 2002, in a very different Ireland. Neither Government nor advocates against sexual violence like ourselves can properly address how to combat rape and sexual abuse in today's Ireland without hard facts. Government has been contemplating such research for far too long. The research should be undertaken immediately.

Data alone will not combat the pervasive and pernicious evil of rape and sexual abuse. For that, our society needs to confront the fact that such violence exists and work out how to eliminate all tolerance of it. People, young and old, have to think through what we know to be true: sexual contact without consent is sexual abuse. Sex without consent is rape. Where sexual abuse and rape happen, they are crimes committed against victims who have rights.

Chairperson's Report

These are the facts. Our education and training as well as our policy and communications work in 2016 worked to build wide societal knowledge about the harm and danger done when our society in general and those in authority in particular tolerate or turn a blind eye to sexual violence, or make it difficult to report or to prosecute. We will continue to press these messages in the future.

As a Board, we acknowledge and are grateful for the state funding that assists us in providing services to many victims of the trauma of sexual violence and in our prevention work. We have pointed out – and must do so again – that while we are pleased that the relentless cuts to our funding have stopped, and we had a small increase in state funding in 2016, we are still unable to meet the need for therapy services or to do adequate prevention or advice work. Proper funding of these services is a state obligation and we will continue to discuss the concept of adequate funding with them. We are immensely grateful too to all our other funders without whom we would not be able to do as much as we did in 2016. Those who ran benefits for us, who took part in events, who rattled flag boxes, who donated directly or to the flag boxes, our foundation grants – all of these were essential and allowed us to help victims of sexual violence who otherwise would not be helped.

On behalf of the Board, I want to acknowledge the magnificent work done by our staff and volunteers. They have given more than their due, bringing enormous expertise, experience and energy to the work, recognising the importance and the urgency of what we do.

Without volunteers, without the staff, without the funding, the Centre would not exist, leaving thousands of people without the information, education and support they need. We are deeply grateful to the many committed people who help us deliver our mission.

Ann Marie Gill
Chairperson of the Board

Chief Executive's Report



Our most visible work at the Dublin Rape Crisis Centre is with those who contact us for support. It is a great credit to those who have contributed to our Centre and rape crisis centres across the country that the pain, grief and harm caused by sexual violence is now widely recognised. So too is the need for adequate access to therapy and support to help heal and improve the quality of life of survivors of sexual violence.

We are pleased to have provided non-judgmental, confidential support through our National 24-Hour Helpline to 12,388 people in 2016. This would not have been possible without the dedicated staff who run the Helpline or without the commitment of 99 trained volunteers, who, between them, ensure that there is a Helpline available for all who need it, day or night, every day of the year.

While the telephone line is often the first point of contact with the DRCC, many of our clients also require therapy to help them build stronger, better lives. Our therapists worked with 495 women and men in 2016 who encountered abuse of power in a wide variety of circumstances and I would like to thank them for their unwavering commitment to our clients.

Sexual violence is always an abuse of power because it is always non-consensual. We work to heal, but it is important that we prevent the harm in the first place wherever possible.

Our education team continued to provide training to build the capacity of others to prevent and cope with the consequences of sexual violence. The report highlights some of the frontline services that received tailored training to equip them to do their jobs. Dealing with the victims of sexual violence can be very difficult for therapists so our 12-day, in-depth training course was also rolled out for professionals in 2016, along with myriad other courses.

Education is essential for challenging the tolerance of sexual violence in our society. We are increasingly aware of the need for our BodyRight programme for school students, as well as our awareness raising #AskConsent social

Chief Executive's Report

media campaign. #AskConsent was the key focus for our campaign during the international 16 Days of Action Against Violence against Women where on one day 130 people engaged in our 'Tweetathon' giving us their understanding of the meaning of consent. We have included some of these tweets in our report.

In 2016, the Supreme Court confirmed that sexual intercourse without consent is rape. This has prompted us to seek from the Oireachtas the inclusion of a clear definition of consent in the Criminal Law (Sexual Offences) Bill and this report prompts me now to thank politicians and public servants for their courtesy and attention to our submissions in the course of 2016.

I want to acknowledge the hard work, passion and dedication of our committed and expert staff throughout the year. Their stamina and energy is often tested, but never fails. I also wish to extend sincere thanks to my Chairperson, Ann Marie Gill, and all the Board for their support and assistance to me and our team.

Together, board, volunteers, staff, funders, we will continue to work to accomplish our key objectives: providing healing and support to the victims of sexual violence; ensuring the rights of those victims in their journey through the justice system and working to eliminate the tolerance of sexual violence in our society.

Noeline Blackwell
Chief Executive Officer

Key Figures 2016



Clinical Services OVERVIEW

In 2016, a suite of comprehensive and interlinked clinical and volunteer services was provided by the DRCC to victims of sexual violence and childhood sexual abuse. From the first contact with the Centre, survivors of sexual violence are supported by our staff and trained volunteers on the National 24-Hour Helpline, through counselling, at the Sexual Assault Treatment Unit (SATU), while reporting to Gardaí, and at court. The following report aims to provide an overview and analysis of the key statistics and trends relating to these services in 2016.

NATIONAL 24-HOUR HELPLINE STATISTICS

Helpline Calls	10,872
Email, text and social media contacts	1,516
Number of Helpline contacts	12,388

There were 3,579 calls specifically relating to adult rape, an increase of 24%. Both the dramatic increase in number and the disturbing nature of the attacks were noted by Helpline staff and volunteers throughout the year.

The wraparound services for victims provided by DRCC's Volunteer Services included responding to the Helpline outside of office hours, accompanying 262 victims presenting to the SATU at the Rotunda Hospital, and accompaniment services at Garda Stations, at court, and at tribunals for asylum-seekers.

The increase in the number of Helpline calls relating to adult sexual violence translated into huge demand for new face-to-face counselling appointments with our clinical team of professional, accredited and experienced therapists. Victims of recent rape or sexual assault are always prioritised in terms of accessing crisis counselling. Our therapists worked with 495 clients, of which 293 were new to the DRCC. Among new clients, 68% had experienced sexual violence in adulthood while 32% had experienced childhood sexual abuse.

Of the 198 new clients who were victims of rape or sexual assault, 149 had experienced recent rape or sexual assault, and 49 had experienced past rape/sexual assault.

Clinical Services OVERVIEW

In addition to the 3,456 appointments delivered on an individual basis in Leeson Street and in three outreach services (Coolock, Tallaght and the Dochas Women's Prison), 144 hours of group therapy were offered to 10 clients who are survivors of childhood sexual abuse.

While there was a huge demand for all the services of the DRCC, we experienced sexual violence in adulthood as an acute issue in 2016. It is vital that sufficient resources are available to meet the needs of so many who are seeking help in relation to recent and past sexual violence in adulthood, or the complex trauma of childhood sexual abuse.

Angela McCarthy
Head of Clinical Services



Clinical Services CLIENT THERAPY

Here at the DRCC, our therapists provide counselling for adult survivors of rape, sexual assault, sexual harassment and childhood sexual abuse. A core part of our service is providing both short- and long-term therapy to individuals who suffer the effects of recent or historic acts of sexual violence. This is the core of our work at the Centre, as sexual violence not only causes pain and injury, it also has a wide-ranging impact on family, friends and all of society.

Our therapists are committed to providing a non-judgmental, compassionate and high quality service to all of our clients. All clinical work provided by our therapists at the DRCC is informed by current international research and practice, in the area of interpersonal trauma, specifically Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and Complex PTSD. We believe that healing is possible, and that the therapeutic relationship is the healing ground.



“It has been so lovely to have you with me on my journey of healing and recovery. You didn't just offer me therapy, you gave me a lot of nurturing. I will always be grateful for that and for showing me, and helping me to heal my wounded self. Thank you so much.”
DRCC CLIENT

2016 UPDATE

In 2016, we have noticed two worrying and perhaps interlinked trends: an increase in the levels of sexual pressure, coercion and violence; and a growing concern around consent and choice when it comes to sexual behaviour. This is particularly noticeable among many of our young clients, who have not received sufficient education around personal choice and informed consent. This can leave this client group particularly vulnerable to predators, though we have noticed this in older adults as well.

We believe that pornography and digital imagery appear to have influenced the level of sexual behaviour which is deemed to be appropriate or acceptable. We feel strongly that we need to continue to address the issue of informed consent and personal choice through public awareness campaigns and education in schools, colleges and social media. Responsibility for all acts of sexual violence – rape, sexual assault, sexual harassment and childhood sexual abuse – lies entirely with the perpetrator.

We have worked with many clients learning to trust and engage, reach goals, grow into themselves and move on with their lives, living in spite of their sexual trauma. While our work as therapists in the DRCC can be challenging, it is deeply rewarding and we hold all of our clients in the highest esteem for the courage and bravery they show, when working through their trauma.

KEY STATISTICS

293 New clients

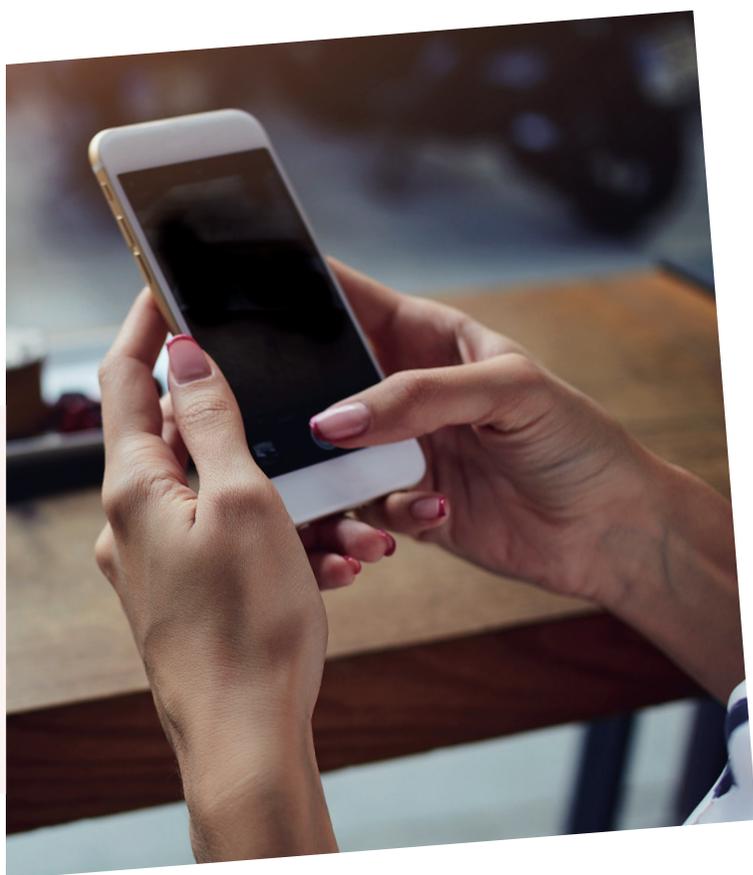
495 Clients attending face-to-face counselling

3,600 Hours of individual and group therapy delivered

Clinical Services TELEPHONE COUNSELLING

The Telephone Team operates the National 24-Hour Helpline, providing a listening and information service. We offer non-judgemental support allowing our callers space to make their own decisions. We endeavour to hold a confidential space for our callers where they feel empowered to explore feelings and consider how abuse may have impacted on their lives. Frequently, after talking with us callers gain clarity about how to proceed, sometimes deciding to engage with face-to-face counselling.

The National Helpline is often the first point of contact for survivors of rape or sexual abuse, and we are committed to making it a positive experience. Our work is important to the centre: we are a frontline service and as such we are the first to become aware of emerging trends, patterns of violence and changing societal norms. This information can be used to inform policy in the centre around client needs, and on a wider scale to address public concerns through press releases and input into new legislation.



2016 UPDATE

Our callers range from 15–80 years of age, and represent every gender. Having experienced a steady stream of calls over the last year, our waiting list for counselling has increased. While we do our best to facilitate access to counselling, this can be a difficult and frustrating reality for callers contacting us for help.

There has been a lot of outreach work undertaken regarding the definition of consent that has sparked a national conversation. The impact of this work has prompted people to phone the DRCC on realising that their capacity to

give consent has been reduced due to the influence of alcohol or drugs. Other worrying trends that have become apparent over the course of the year are an increase in violence experienced by many of our callers, and the fact that more than one person was involved in the assault upon them. While we know that it can be difficult to make that first call to our Helpline, our compassionate telephone counsellors are committed to helping our callers begin their healing journey.

KEY STATISTICS

12,388 Helpline Contacts

53.1% Calls relating to adult sexual violence

41.3% Calls relating to childhood sexual abuse

5.6% Details of abuse not disclosed

“I picked the phone up so many times to talk with you, but did not know what to say.”

CALLER
MARCH 2016

“For many of our callers we never get to know what happens next for them, but knowing that, for that brief moment, they can feel safe, respected and heard keeps us going”

MICHELLE
TELEPHONE COUNSELLOR

“My biggest fear before calling was being believed, thank you for believing me.”

CALLER
DECEMBER 2016

Clinical Services VOLUNTEER SERVICES

Volunteer Services co-ordinates and manages the recruitment, training, assessment and supervision of all volunteers. DRCC volunteers demonstrate outstanding commitment to supporting survivors of sexual violence, completing 72 hours of intensive training, regular supervision and debriefing sessions as well as giving their time.

Our volunteers are trained to staff our National 24-Hour Helpline outside of office hours and at weekends and public holidays. Their commitment to providing this service ensures that, whenever someone calls for support, a trained volunteer is ready to listen and to provide information.

Our volunteers provide crucial accompaniment support to clients attending the Sexual Assault Treatment Unit (SATU), making a statement to Gardaí or attending court.

Our volunteers have access to 24-hour support from three accredited psycho-therapists who provide debriefing and guidance on difficult situations, ensuring our volunteers are never on their own when offering such critical support.

Finally, many of our volunteers go on to deliver outreach workshops for schools, community groups and third-level institutions, educating young people about the importance of consent and about the sharing of personal information or images online and via text.

The DRCC is extremely proud of our outstanding and dedicated volunteers, without whom we would be unable to provide around-the-clock service to survivors of rape, sexual assault or childhood sexual abuse.

2016 UPDATE

Our volunteers handled 5,585 (51.4%) of all calls to our National 24-Hour Helpline.

With this volume of calls, we can begin to see trends emerging each year.

In 2016, the following issues stood out in our debriefing and supervision sessions:

- An increase in online, sexualised bullying and harassment, including issues around sexting
- A sense of hopelessness around waiting lists for support and lack of mental health services available to survivors of sexual violence
- An increase in calls relating to consent and capacity to consent to sexual activity

KEY STATISTICS

99 Active volunteers

262 Accompaniments

37 Number of days accompanying survivors to Garda Station or to court



Volunteer Graduation
December 2016.

“I was so scared at having to relive what happened to me while making the statement I needed someone to literally hold my hand...and she did. It meant I could feel she was there—with me—all the time. I don't think I would have been able to do it on my own.”

SURVIVOR
ACCOMPANIED TO GIVE STATEMENT
TO THE GARDAÍ

“Joining the volunteers in the DRCC has been a great learning experience ... meeting other volunteers is one of the best things that I am glad to be involved in.”

ANGELA
VOLUNTEER

“When I think back to having to give my evidence, I was feeling panicky and overwhelmed...I couldn't think straight. She just brought me through the simple things...getting a cup of tea, going to the loo, getting a bit of fresh air when I thought I would pass out. I felt safe with her. I didn't have to try find anywhere on my own – she knew where everything was.”

SURVIVOR
ACCOMPANIED TO COURT

“I was very apprehensive starting training, but I shouldn't have been. The training provided is exactly what is needed to turn ordinary people with no experience, like myself, into crisis volunteers for the RCC. After nearly two years the skills I have learned in training and helping others will be skills I will continue to use when I have finished volunteering—from listening, minding my boundaries and looking after my mental wellbeing.”

ORNA
VOLUNTEER

AARON'S STORY

As a male survivor of childhood sexual abuse, I received the right support from the Dublin Rape Crisis Centre and it has changed my life. Prior to attending therapy, my feelings about the abuse were too painful for me to cope with. I tried to keep everything under a lid while going to college and starting in my first jobs but I had ongoing suicidal feelings and long-term problems with depression, panic and even alcoholism which I kept secret. Coming in the door was a huge step at the beginning, my first counsellor at DRCC was male and he helped me to trust men again and to understand the very deep impact the past abuse had and was still having on my life. During these times I used the DRCC helpline service frequently and this was a great support in between sessions.

I then started therapy with a female counsellor who I continue therapy with today. Trusting a new person with my story was a challenge at first but the kindness and support I get makes me always want to come back to therapy. It helps knowing that my counsellor is there to support my needs and at my pace. Although I am stronger in myself now, I still need therapy to deal with the challenges I face, especially in work situations, with family, in all relationships with intimacy. I can talk with my counsellor about anything and she is always an amazing support to me.

I attended group therapy for a time at DRCC where I met with other people who were dealing with sexual abuse and coping with life struggles too. People shared their stories and this helped me to feel safe and secure at a very deep level with other people. My abuse happened within my family, because of the bond in group therapy and the support from the counsellors there, I learned to overcome some of the deep feelings of shame I was experiencing. I can now be in a group or a meeting at work and not experience post traumatic stress symptoms.

DRCC held an art therapy workshop and that really helped me to release feelings which I was not yet able to identify or talk about. I have started to paint since and this helps me when I feel distressed at times.

Although I still face struggles, I now have experiences of survival and recovery too and not just abuse. That makes me so much stronger. The ongoing support from the DRCC means that I have a much better quality of life now. It is really important to know the DRCC is there, understanding and supporting me and the other victims of sexual abuse.

Life now seems possible!

Aaron (age 39)

Education and Training

The DRCC's vision is of a society that does not tolerate sexual violence. However sexual violence does occur, and children, men and women experience it. Our training for professionals and volunteers helps enhance participants' understanding of both the impact of sexual violence and how to effectively and sensitively meet the needs of service users while maintaining well-being of staff.

Because people who have experienced sexual violence live their lives in society, their well-being following this trauma is affected by how society responds to them and by how well it meets their needs. That is why the DRCC's Education and Training Department aims to change attitudes that can damage survivors and to enhance the capacity of services to meet the needs of victims as they go about their daily lives.

DRCC also has a strong commitment towards prevention of sexual violence. BodyRight, a Sexual Violence Awareness and Prevention Programme for Young People, has been developed by DRCC and we train school, youth organisation and other staff to facilitate the programme with young people.

2016 UPDATE

The Education & Training team delivered 75 courses to a wide range of audiences from across Ireland and beyond. Some of the highlights that have emerged include:

- Delivering specialised programmes for the Irish Prison Service for staff and support workers in the two women's prisons, as well as for the Irish Council for Prisoners Overseas, who provide support for Irish citizens imprisoned abroad as well as their families.
- Preparing student officers in third level colleges to support students affected by sexual violence, and to carry out awareness raising work around the issue of consent.
- Delivering workshops for the HSE and other professionals working with refugees and asylum seekers who have experienced trauma, including sexual violence.

Education and Training

- Training Consular staff for the Irish Department of Foreign Affairs and the British Commonwealth Office
- Delivering specialised training for those working with vulnerable groups, including migrants and persons experiencing homelessness
- Providing inputs for trainee Gardaí in the Garda Training College
- Providing specialist training for counsellors and psychotherapists and other mental health professionals
- Delivering workshops for state and voluntary organisations aimed at preventing and dealing with bullying and harassment in the workplace
- Developing a new training programme for the HSE, Managing for a Positive Workplace for All and delivering this on a pilot basis

Those who attended DRCC training came from a very wide range of professions including:

Gardaí

Teachers and Youth Workers

HR Managers

Domestic Violence Staff

Counsellors and Psychotherapists

HSE Staff

Addiction Workers

Childcare Workers

Consular Staff

Student Union Officers

Equality Officers

Prison Staff

Defence Forces

Helpline Staff

Social Workers

KEY STATISTICS

111 Training days

1,937 Participants

75 Courses delivered



Training Day for
Students' Union Officers 2016.

Education and Training

Feedback from Course Participants:

“Young people are really lost when it comes to consent and figuring out how to behave and how to protect themselves. The BodyRight programme will give me a really practical, structured, well thought out and appropriate way to raise and consider all of the issues with the very at risk young people I work with.”

YOUTH WORKER

“I feel better equipped to work safely with my clients who have been traumatised. I have a lot of additional practical skills and strategies to bring to the work. I have tried some out during the course and already the work with clients has been transformed.”

PSYCHOTHERAPIST

“You have no idea what is going to come through the door next, now I feel more prepared if a student tells me they have been raped and I know the DRCC is there if I need support or information to help me support them.”

STUDENT OFFICER

“I never understood what vicarious traumatisation meant, or that self-care was essential not optional. Now I do, and I can recognise the effect this work has had on me. I will be better at keeping myself well after this training (I hope!) .”

STAFF
WORKING WITH ASYLUM SEEKERS
AND REFUGEES

“Understanding what our clients have been through and that how they behave makes sense given the experiences they have had will hopefully help me to stay empathic and compassionate instead of getting fed up with them”

PRISON STAFF

The Education & Training department is extremely grateful to three of our funders: Cosc, The Community Foundation for Ireland, and ESB's Energy for Generations, whose support has enabled the DRCC to deliver tailored and impactful training for professionals working in a wide range of settings.

Policy and Communications

Sexual violence is among the most serious and personally devastating crimes against the person: victims are affected in profound and long-lasting ways, in every aspect of their lives. From a research and policy perspective, we use our knowledge and expertise to inform government, policy makers and wider society about sexual violence and how it impacts on people. We also want to articulate the voices of our callers and clients. We recognise that to achieve our mission of preventing and healing the trauma of rape and sexual abuse, we need to eliminate the tolerance of sexual violence in Irish society and support victims to vindicate their rights. This was the focus of many of our activities during 2016, in recommending improvements to systems, practices and legislation to protect and support victims.

2016 UPDATE

Throughout 2016 we monitored the progression of The Criminal Law (Sexual Offences) Bill through the Dáil and Seanad, lobbying throughout the year for the inclusion of a statutory definition of consent within that legislation. The Bill has the potential to minimise the trauma on victims of sexual violence giving evidence. When the legislation is fully enacted, the right of the accused to cross-examine a witness can be restricted and child witnesses will have more protection giving evidence in court. While these protection measures are very welcome,



DRCC staff launch 16 Days Campaign November 2016.



#AskConsent Campaign at DIT.

Policy and Communications

our submissions have focused on broadening them to include all victims of sexual violence. Notwithstanding some continuing gaps in victim protection, the legislation does include some wide ranging reforms of the law, including stronger sanctions aimed at protecting children from sexual exploitation, child pornography and online grooming.

As the year drew to a close, we welcomed the publication of The Criminal Justice (Victims of Crime) Bill, introducing for the first time statutory rights for a victim of crime. Under the Bill a victim of a crime has the right to receive information on the range of services and entitlements available to them within the criminal justice system. While we welcomed many of these provisions we also drew attention to other aspects of the Bill which still need improvement. In particular there needs to be more appropriate training for criminal justice officials who are dealing with victims. Ultimately for this Bill to be implemented effectively, to really have lasting transformative effect for all victims of crime, the Government must be committed to providing the necessary resources to implement these new laws.

Alongside our advocacy work to have consent included in the Sexual Offences Bill, we used the 16 Days of Violence against Women to engage the public in a discourse on consent. Over those 16 days we built on our previous #Ask Consent campaign to reinforce an understanding of what consent means. On 8 December, we held the first ever #AskConsent Tweetathon, asking people to tell us what consent means to them. We engaged 130 people, who tweeted about what consent means using our #AskConsent hashtag.



“#AskConsent because no means no. Never assume. You’re not taking away from the moment by communicating.”

CIARA

“Consent education needs to be taught to kids at a young age; by the time we get to college it’s far too late to be introducing it #AskConsent.”

JULIA

Policy and Communications

The resulting on-line dialogue affirmed our deeply held belief that where consent is at the core of all sexual activity, we can have a society that is more responsible, informed and respectful.

The number of media contacts increased from 253 to 273 over the previous year, with the DRCC approached by print, radio, television, online and documentary journalists for interviews and comments about our services, court cases and rulings, legislation, emerging issues relating to sexual violence, and statistics.

On many occasions throughout the year we networked with other non-governmental organisations, statutory bodies and civil society groups. The DRCC is a member of several organisations and is represented on a number of national forums, including the National Observatory on Violence against Women, the National Women's Council of Ireland, the Victims' Rights Alliance, the Children's Rights Alliance, the Equality Rights Alliance and Turn off the Red Light campaign. We worked with these groups to challenge attitudes and injustices, to inform policies in relation to how systems, standards and the law can all work better to protect people and to make our society safer and healthier for everyone.

“ #AskConsent is for me about respect, it's not just about sex, it's about all our interactions, just ask.”

JAN

“ #AskConsent means clear and open communication, enthusiasm and mutual respect. The absence of 'no' is not a 'yes.' ”

BLAIR

KEY STATISTICS

273 Media Contacts

14,002 Social Media Subscribers

Fundraising and Events

Our Fundraising and Events team aims to bridge the shortfall between the statutory funding received from Government—which covers our minimum running costs—and the cost of delivering our full range of services. We run an ambitious schedule of events every year in order to generate income required to maintain our high-quality services and programmes.

Since the Dublin Rape Crisis Centre was established in 1979, we have depended on the generosity and goodwill of the wider community, without whom we would not be able to maintain our services for survivors of rape and childhood sexual abuse or our education and research programmes. We greatly appreciate the support of all our benefactors and fundraising volunteers whose support has made such a difference to our work

The DRCC is proud to have the support of a growing number of corporate partners, who not only recognise sexual violence as one of the most frequent forms of trauma but also demonstrate outstanding leadership by working to eliminate its tolerance in society.

We are committed to demonstrating best practice and donor care by

- **Maintaining the highest standards of fundraising practice**
- **Providing accountability to our donors and the public**
- **Providing clarity and assurances about our organisation**

During the year other smaller community events took place which raised awareness as well as money.

KEY STATISTICS

9 Events
100+ Volunteer Fundraisers
€330,000 Raised to support DRCC services

Fundraising and Events

MAIN FUNDRAISING EVENTS 2016

- FEBRUARY Corporate Quiz
- MARCH Womankind Luncheon
- MAY Golf Classic
- JUNE VHI Women's Mini Marathon
- SEPTEMBER International Fashion Lunch
Royal Tara Golf Day
Christy Moore Benefit Concert
- OCTOBER Annual Bucket Collection
- DECEMBER Let's Do Lunch Campaign



Friends of the Dublin Rape Crisis Centre

We are always looking for committed volunteers to help with our fundraising. If you have new ideas we would be delighted to hear from you: maybe you would like to organise a new fundraiser in your own community, help us with our annual bucket collection; make a donation, or set up a monthly standing order. All gifts are greatly appreciated and help ensure that our clients receive the support they need.

If you are interested in supporting the work of the Dublin Rape Crisis Centre, please contact the Fundraising team at Fundraising@rcc.ie

Finance and Governance

The Dublin Rape Crisis Centre. A company limited by guarantee not having a share capital.

Income and Expenditure for the year ended 31st December 2016

	2016 €	2015 €
Income	1,685,182	1,634,048
Expenditure	(1,635,724)	(1,763,028)
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year from operating activities	49,458	(128,980)
Government grants amortised	15,960	15,960
Surplus/(Deficit) for year before interest and taxation	65,418	(113,020)
Interest receivable	8	2,251
Interest payable	(19,151)	(1,107)
Surplus/(Deficit) for year	46,275	(111,876)

Balance Sheet as at 31st December 2016

	2016 €	2015 €
Fixed Assets:		
Tangible assets	1,319,196	1,369,219
Current Assets:		
Cash at bank	347,159	222,114
Other receivables	10,269	16,367
	357,428	238,481
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year & deferred income	(207,574)	(149,790)
Net current assets	149,854	88,691
Total assets less current liabilities	1,469,050	1,457,910
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	(441,439)	(425,524)
Total net assets	1,027,611	1,032,386
Represented by:		
Restricted Funds	155,514	51,050
	872,097	981,336
Unrestricted Funds	1,027,611	1,032,386

Breakdown of Income 2016

FUNDING BODY	AMOUNT (€)
Client Contributions	62,570
Commission for the Support of Victims of Crime (Dept of Justice & Equality)	22,000
Community Foundation for Ireland (Education & Training)	3,243*
Cosc (Dept of Justice & Equality)	24,500
Digital Media Campaign	2,898
Donations	48,740
Education & Training Fees	98,380
ESB Energy for Generations (Education & Training)	2,500*
Fundraising & Events	329,627
Outreach (School Talks)	2,074
Tusla (HSE)	1,088,650
TOTAL	1,685,182

* 50% of grant received for 2016 activities; the balance will be presented in 2017 accounts.

Employee Salary Range

A total of 2 employees earned remuneration in excess of €70,000 per annum as follows:

NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES	2016
€85,000 to €100,000	1
€70,000 to €85,000	1

DRCC's remuneration package includes salary and employer pension contribution.

Remuneration of Board Members

Board members are not remunerated for their services to the company nor are any expenses reimbursed for travelling to/from board meetings.

Ann Marie Gill, DIRECTOR

Keith Herman, DIRECTOR

27 March 2017

Finance and Governance

Abridged 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 31 December 2016, 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 Act 2014. I have obtained all the information and explanations considered necessary for the purposes of my audit. In my opinion, proper books of accounts have been kept by the company. The financial statements are in agreement with the books of account.

Dermot J Keogh
FCA REGISTERED AUDITOR
11 May 2017

Members of the Board of Directors, in 2016

Ann Marie Gill (Chairperson)
Aibhlin McCrann
Carol Keane
Caroline Crowley
Cathy O'Donohoe
Grace O'Malley
Helen Jones
Keith Herman
Neasa Kane-Fine
Simon Pratt (to September 2016)

Finance and Governance

Statement of Guiding Principles for Fundraising

DRCC complies with the standards contained in the Statement, which was developed by ICTR (merged with Fundraising Ireland to become Charities Institute Ireland) to provide charities in Ireland with a code of best practice in fundraising. Our compliance with the Statement is demonstrated by the fact that the DRCC:

- Maintains the highest standards of fundraising practice
- Provides accountability to our donors and the public
- Provides clarity and assurances about our organisation

The Governance Code

The DRCC is compliant with the Code of Practice for Good Governance of Community, Voluntary and Charitable Organisations in Ireland (The Governance Code). In signing up to the Code, the DRCC commits to:

- Leading our organisation
- Exercising control over our organisation
- Demonstrating transparency and accountability
- Working effectively
- Behaving with integrity

Company and Charity Registration

The Dublin Rape Crisis Centre (DRCC) is a company limited by guarantee not having a share capital, registered CRO 147318.

DRCC holds charitable tax exemption from the Revenue Commissioners (CHY 8529) and is also registered with the Charities Regulatory Authority (RCN 20021078).

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.

Preventing and 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.



Dublin Rape Crisis Centre
McGonnell House
70 Lower Leeson Street
Dublin 2

National 24 Hour Helpline
1800 77 88 88

tel **01 661 4911**

fax **01 661 0873**

email **info@rcc.ie**

web **www.drcc.ie**

 www.facebook.com/dublinrapecrisiscentre

 [@DublinRCC](https://twitter.com/DublinRCC)

 www.youtube.com/user/DublinRapeCrisis

