

**Report of the Trustees
for the year ended 31 March 2023**

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and activities

The Charity's purpose is as set out in the Company's Memorandum and Articles of Association and may be summarised as:

To advance in Ireland and elsewhere the evangelical Christian faith, especially amongst children and young people by various methods and means of religious teaching

The following are key elements of the programme to achieve this objective:

1. To reach, evangelise and teach unreached children
2. To follow-up and disciple Christian children and see them established in local churches
3. To train teachers in the Lord's work
4. To distribute relevant literature
5. To encourage the Christian public to get involved in the work of Child Evangelism Fellowship in Ireland and overseas

Public benefit

In setting our objectives and planning our activities for the year the Trustees have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland's guidance on public benefit to ensure that the activities have helped to achieve the Charity's purposes and provide a benefit to the beneficiaries.

- a) The direct benefits which flow from purpose 1 include children and young people understanding that God loves them and that He died for them and wants to save their eternal souls and give them abundant life today.
- b) The direct benefits which flow from purpose 2 include encouraging children and young people who have of their own free will accepted Christ as Saviour to attend and get involved in local fellowships of like precious faith.
- c) The direct benefits which flow from purpose 3 include young people and adults better equipped with leadership skills trained in the presentation of the gospel within Child Care guidelines
- d) The direct benefits which flow from purpose 4 include giving people a clear understanding of the gospel and what CEF does
- e) The direct benefits which flow from purpose 5 include young people and adults of their own free will deciding to serve the Lord through the auspices of CEF

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OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The Culture of Child Evangelism Fellowship

The Importance of Godly Leadership at Every Level

Spiritual leadership is the highest form of authority. The men and women who lead must have a personal heart for God in order to be able to discern the will of God and lead the ministry effectively. Regardless of the skill of a leader, if he or she lacks a heart for God, the work will be eroded at its very foundation.

The Importance of the Spiritual Welfare of our Workers

It is vital that we are never satisfied to simply teach our staff the methods of how to reach children and how to train others to do so, but we must purposefully invest in the spiritual lives of our staff. When CEF staff are men and women who are primarily driven by passion for God and His glory and have a clear call from the Lord, the work will prosper. If we keep our focus on God and on His calling, then we will be sustained in times of challenge.

The Importance of Prayer as Our Foundation

It is not the work we do, the meetings we hold or the decisions we make that bring the greatest advances in the work; it is the time spent before the throne of God in prayer, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that brings power, labourers and resources into the ministry.

The Importance of Evangelising Children

There is no limit to the number of organisations that do many good things that are important to boys and girls in need. We are thankful for them and believe that God uses them to help hurting children. CEF, however, has been called by God to make it our highest priority to present the Gospel so children may be saved and discipled in God's Word. We must keep to our call.

The Importance of a Clear and Biblical Presentation of the Gospel

The fact that a young child can comprehend the simple message of salvation and become a child of God is the foundational principle of CEF. Everything else that we do is based upon this fact. The good news of Jesus Christ is the power of God unto salvation. We must present it clearly and accurately.

The Importance of a Commitment to Excellence, for the Glory of God

Every aspect of the work, no matter how big or small, has significance. This includes the training we conduct, the materials we produce, the facilities we use and the way we present ourselves. In every area we must strive for excellence to the glory of God!

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ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

Structure:

Board of Trustees - The Board of Trustees continue to encourage and advise the National Directors in their responsible position. The Board meet along with the Directors monthly, on ten months of the year. They also include an extra full day programme to enable more in-depth discussion on crucial matters. The Board seek to ensure the skills and gifting required to cover all practical aspects of CEF ministry are covered within their number. They are kept aware of any potential new members with the necessary skill sets to enhance the profile of the members experience. Mr Philip Beattie resigned from the Board of Trustees, effective from 1st September 2023.

Leadership - continues to outline the guidelines for CEF ministry and encourages all field workers to operate within these structures. The emphasis is placed upon each area worker building a ministry which involves local volunteers and enhances local church outreach to children through envisioning, training, and equipping. The current leadership structure is under review by the Board of Trustees and various styles are being debated and thought through. The Board of Trustees have identified and announced who will succeed the current Directors when they retire from their position.

We have been encouraged through extraordinary ministries being tried or conducted by some of our on-field workers. Examples of this are the Lego themed clubs for which nationally we purchased a large quantity of Lego material. This material has been widely used and enjoyed by many children throughout Ireland. It is an amazing attractant, and our on-field workers often present a talk with a theme connected to the Lego task.

The "Crossfire Not Ashamed" outreach has been well enjoyed by numerous children. Several large screen televisions, gaming consoles and games are used for this ministry, and upon invitation they are transported to various destinations, (youth clubs, church clubs, community groups, uniformed Christian ethos organisations, schools) where young people and parents can be instructed in the safe use of this highly popular medium. Of course, the young people get to play the games also.

On-line ministry was developed during the pandemic and is still available for continued use. We have received oral reports that on-line material has enabled children to be reached in areas where we have no full-time worker/s.

Ministry Departments - The ministry department leaders meet regularly with the leadership to discuss the on-going ministry and to seek means of developing the work to enable more children to be brought into contact with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. All aspects of ministry are discussed, prayed over, and planned as we seek to increase the scope of ministry throughout the island of Ireland. This group seeks to set the tone for ministry in Ireland and ensure we are adapting and remain relevant to the society we are seeking to minister to. This year we added an on-field worker to this group to ensure the front-line workers were represented.

The departments are

- o Education - responsible for training of workers, volunteers, and casting vision for ministry to children.
- o Multimedia - responsible for developing resource material, writing and design of such. We have employed a part-time graphic designer to assist our current team as the workload for this department has increased.
- o Safeguarding - responsible for policies and implementation of such to protect children, workers, volunteers and ensure safe practices are enacted.
- o Youth Challenge - developing and maintaining ministry to teenagers and young adults.
- o National Office - hub of the ministry, supporting all field work practically and financially.
- o Rep of Ireland - seeking to establish existing work and develop ministry in lower half of the Republic of Ireland through attending conferences, contacting church leaders, and offering CEF services.
- o Ministry Development - forward planning and thinking while seeking to adapt to the changing generations and needs to enable the vision of 'Every Child' having the opportunity to hear the Gospel of Jesus Christ to be achieved.
- o On-field representative

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National Office - The national office is the central and vital hub of CEF ministry in Ireland with a small staff performing an exceptional amount of work to support those in direct ministry, and others, with all they require to maintain the ministry God has led them into. The office building is the focal point for numerous and various meetings. It also provides us with a visual representation to the Christian and general public. It serves as a home for two other departments, safeguarding and multimedia.

We have redesigned the resource department of the building to enable our material to be presented in a modern and easily accessible fashion. This has been well received by the public who use our resources to reach the young people with the Gospel. A 'welcome' area has been created where visitors can relax and peruse the material on display.

The national office also comprises our finance office. One member has returned from maternity leave on a part-time basis, but we are pleased to report the employee who covered the maternity leave is remaining with us on a permanent basis. Their hours will be divided between the finance office and assisting the Office Manager.

Area Ministry - Historically CEF have divided Northern Ireland into several areas, with the local authority boundaries being used for general guidelines. This means we have 15 local areas in Northern Ireland where currently there are four areas without a worker, but we are encouraged by the local committees continuing to oversee the ministry, one with assistance from a worker who is currently our Safeguarding appointee.

The four areas in Northern Ireland which have active local committees but no full-time worker are, East Belfast, Mid-Antrim, Mid-Ulster, and Fermanagh. We seek to make the need for full-time worker/s known to the Christian public while praying God will supply new personnel for these gaps.

Generally, in the Republic of Ireland we follow the county guidelines regarding geographical areas, but we are prepared to make exceptions for large cities. At present we have workers in N & S Dublin. We also have two families based in Co. Cork, one as the area workers and one responsible for promoting the ministry in the lower half of the Republic of Ireland. The areas occupied at present are listed below.

N Dublin
S Dublin
Cavan
Cork
Wexford
Monaghan
Donegal (no worker but an active local committee)

As we seek to develop and expand the ministry in the Republic of Ireland, we continue to promote the need for six Target Counties:

- Roscommon
- Louth
- Kildare
- Kilkenny
- Waterford
- Limerick

These counties have been carefully and prayerfully selected with a few reasons in mind. Previously there may have been an established ministry in the county, some ministry may be on-going through a local church or believer, or the county borders an existing thriving work. We seek to promote to the Christian public the need for ministry in these counties and whenever possible conduct a summer outreach into the areas. On-line ministry enabled us to reach into at least one of these target counties.

The counties where historically we had workers are listed below. We also desire new workers for these counties.

- Donegal
- Sligo
- Mayo
- Galway
- Westmeath
- Waterford & Limerick are included in the target county list

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Local Committees - CEF Ireland is founded on volunteer assistance and all area worker/s are encouraged to form and establish a volunteer local committee. This committee is responsible for the local area work, and they meet monthly along with the worker/s to oversee the ministry.

The Leadership team seek to visit all local committees twice annually and this proves to be very helpful in consolidating relationships. Representatives from the local committees are asked to attend a full members meeting in May and the AGM in November.

Missionary Deputation - This ensures all those serving within the mission in the Republic of Ireland and abroad can present their ministry to the Christian public. Each of those on deputation is allocated two areas and the local committee appoint a representative to seek and organise meetings for the worker to present their ministry in their allocated period. We have appointed one of our workers to oversee this vital aspect of ministry.

Leadership seeks to maintain contact with those working outside the island of Ireland, to encourage, support and provide pastoral care for them. There are several workers in Europe who benefit from prayer and financial support through believers in Ireland. Many of these workers also participate in the deputation programme overseen by CEF of Ireland, usually on a three-year cycle.

Inter-mission Partnerships -

We are continuing to meet with other mission agencies and seek to host round table discussions over coffee and scones. Through this we seek to garner resources and where possible share mission exhibition opportunities and fellowship. This has enabled us to form strong relationships with a few organisations and open discussion with others. We also invite other organisations to represent themselves and share in public conferences we conduct.

Children's Ministry Leadership Course

The CMLC in Seaview Camp and Conference Centre in Autumn 2022 was a blessing to all who attended and to the mission in Ireland and further afield. We have two new workers in training as a result of this course. We are planning and looking forward to another course in Autumn 2024.

5 PILLARS FOR MINISTRY:

1. DIRECT MINISTRY:

Good News Clubs

Traditionally these are a core ministry of CEF and conducted in the autumn/winter months, Good News Clubs are held weekly on average for one hour in homes, churches, schools and community centres and they remain one of our most effective methods of evangelising and discipling children, thus seeking to fulfil our aims and objectives.

Since the foundation of CEF in Ireland in 1950 this ministry has been constant but with a vastly changed society from when these clubs commenced, there has been a steady move from home-based to community centres, schools, and churches. It is also very noticeable that the average age of those attending club is decreasing at an alarming rate.

We encourage our workers to envision church leaders of the benefit of this ministry and exhort them through their local church to become actively involved in regular ministry to children outside of their normal congregation. This would enable the church to take on the responsibility of discipling children who attend and consequently build relationships with families in their area and benefit their church.

Volunteers are vital to maintaining Good News Clubs and it is essential for all local workers to recruit, encourage and befriend those who step up to the challenge of reaching children through a Good News Club. We are thankful for all the volunteers who commit to making themselves available to enable the children to be evangelised and disciplined on a regular basis. Often, we are informed of adults who first became followers of the Lord Jesus Christ while attending a Good News Club. We find that parents who previously attended a Good News Club are more amenable to their children attending a club, even if they as parents are not believers in Jesus Christ themselves.

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Youth Challenge

This is another key ministry and is designed as a means of progress for young people to graduate from Good News Club to Junior then Senior Youth Challenge. Our Youth Challenge Department leader encourages and assists in any local area where they seek to develop this ministry. Traditionally we have divided the teenagers into two age groups 12 -15, 16+, with ministry and topics presented at a suitable level for these age groups.

Many young people who come through Youth Challenge attend our residential training courses which are designed to equip those who are going to be involved in outreach to young people, whether that be with CEF or their local church. These courses are conducted in our two camp/conference centres, Seaview in Kilkeel Co. Down and Oceanview in Rosstown Co. Donegal. A further course for junior leaders is held in a church hall in Kilkeel, Co. Down.

The national 'Retreat' camp in Athlone, Republic of Ireland is for older teenagers and those in their early twenties. This is now 'fixed' on the calendar and one of the blessings is it provides a venue for young Christians to fellowship together and encourage one another in their day-to-day walk with God. This is a blessing especially to those who do not have many Christian friends of their own age. This year again there were over 100 young people in attendance.

Due to demand and our centre being available our Youth Challenge leader was able to conduct an extra Teens Camp in Seaview, Co. Down. 200 young people attended these two weeks of 'Teen Camp'

A major encouragement to all of us in leadership has been seeing our new worker, who joined the Youth Challenge team last year, develop in their gifting and being a blessing to the young people and the team leader. This worker along with several other full-time workers grew up through the Youth Challenge programme. This demonstrates the value of this ministry.

Camps

This summer we had 36 camps conducted throughout Ireland by CEF, two of which were non-residential. We know this to be one of our most effective ministries and one which campers and leaders alike look forward to. This ministry enables young people to not only hear the Gospel being taught, but to see it modelled and lived out in the lives of the leaders. We describe this as 'Proclamation' and 'Demonstration'.

We are thankful for each and every volunteer who sacrificially gives up a week, or more, of their holidays to assist in the camps. The camps simply could not operate without these individuals, and we trust they will return annually as the years progress, as experienced leaders are essential to the smooth running of a camp and demonstrating to new leaders the commitment and work ethic required.

School Classes and Assemblies

We are thankful for many Principals who are willing and indeed desirous to have CEF local workers back in school teaching the children in their care.

Local schools were contacted as usual prior to Christmas 2022 and offered the child friendly calendar our Multimedia Department annually produce. This calendar is produced in English and Irish language and is completely designed in-house with 60,000 being freely distributed. We trust this will help build and cement trustful relationships with school principals.

5-Day Clubs

These clubs, conducted in the summer months and in the open air, remain one of our core ministries enabling children from all backgrounds to hear the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The clubs are often conducted in local housing areas where there appears to be little contact with the Gospel. Local workers endeavour to send teams back to the same areas each summer as this builds relationships with children and parents. This creates an element of trust within the community, and often assures acceptance enabling the team to share the Gospel message.

This programme is dependent upon volunteers many of whom come through the training weeks we conduct, but it is also amazing to see how many volunteers return annually to assist in this form of outreach. Some of the teams fall under the name of Christian Youth in Action (CYIA) and many even spend the week in a residential environment. Other teams are formatted by local churches and the ministry is conducted by the church as they see the benefit of reaching into their community.

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The clubs are very simplistic in their programme, some games/activities, singing, teaching a Bible verse and lesson, followed by a quiz. God still blesses these outreaches and young people who may have never heard a clear presentation of the Gospel are able to hear, and for this we thank God. It is encouraging to these teams to see the joy expressed by the children when the team arrives and to receive thanks from parents for taking the time with their children.

One of our workers sought to encourage attendance through developing sports activity-based clubs. They were encouraged by the interest and participation of the children and plan to offer the same type of club to local schools during the academic year.

One of the 'newer' difficulties encountered has been seeking permission from management committees of estates to conduct the club on a green space. Sometimes this can be overcome if a local resident is willing to grant permission for the club to be held on their premises, e.g. garden or garage if raining.

Holiday Bible Clubs (HBC)

Summer presents opportunities to spend quality time with the children and many churches seek to do so through conducting Holiday Bible Clubs. We, as a mission, are passionate about reaching the children but we also seek to partner with the local church as they reach into their communities. We seek to resource, train, and equip the local church to reach the unreached children on their own doorstep.

Often our workers will conduct a club for the church, especially if the church is limited in resources and manpower. We have received verbal thanks from some smaller churches with an elderly congregation who have been encouraged to see their premises used to reach the children of the area. Other churches with greater resources desire to see their own members develop their gifts, and so they may request HBC material from us to conduct their own club. This frees up our workers to probe into other areas of their region to seek venues for HBCs for children living there.

2. EQUIPPING:

The Multimedia Department regularly meet together along with on-field workers to discuss the current material and discover the need for development of new lesson series, songs, or other visualised resources. They seek to supply good quality outreach tracts/booklets for use seasonally e.g. Christmas, Easter and summer holidays. There are now available new booklets to encourage children to share the Gospel with other children. We trust this ministry will grow and children can become evangelists to their friends and peers.

The department also ensure the resource centre in the National Office is stocked with evangelistic and discipling lessons, songs, and teaching aids for the use of the general Christian public. The four-year Good News Club curriculum for general sale is proving to be a popular resource for churches to use with the children in their care.

The department continues to be led by a part-time worker who has many years of experience in CEF ministry. This department is one which affects all aspects of our ministry, and we are encouraged to have gifted individuals working within it. Due to demand for material development we appointed a part-time graphic designer to assist the team.

3. SUPPORTING:

Our regular donor base is consistent, and we are encouraged by how God has supplied all the financial needs for another year. The core of our support is supplied through local Christians supporting the local ministry or an individual worker/missionary they have taken an interest in. We thank God for the faithfulness of each of our financial supporters.

An important area of support is prayer and we have been seeking to encourage as much prayer support as possible. We conduct two special weeks of prayer throughout the year, Spring & Autumn and the Multimedia department produce a prayer book with workers/missionaries' requests and photographs.

A few of the trusts in Northern Ireland are coordinating to help to meet the financial shortfall that exists for workers in Europe. They collaborate with representation of European leadership and are extremely generous and supportive to the on-field workers in mainland Europe, thus enabling them to continue reaching the children with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. They launched a financial support scheme whereby they would supplement any new donation received by 50%. This has proved beneficial; to some of our area workers and missionaries

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4. SHARING:

We continue to share about CEF ministry with the Christian public as is possible. This is conducted through social media, print media, deputation meetings, conferences, mail shots and visitation. Each local area is responsible for promoting the local work, national and international, as they are able to. It is noticeable where regular promotional meetings are conducted the area tends to prosper financially and in ministry.

The two main national opportunities for sharing are through our Easter Conference and the Autumn Conference. At Easter we have a three-day conference in Portrush; for our workers it is residential, and the public are welcome to attend all of the meetings. The numbers attending is usually between two and three hundred at each of the sessions.

This year the Autumn conference is an evening meeting which usually attracts around 200 people. This provides us with the opportunity to report and present the ministry and vitally share the needs that exist.

The National Newsletter has been redesigned this year as we seek to use it to inform and promote ministry. We endeavour to provide readers with detailed articles on ministry within Ireland and a world view perspective on CEF informing readers of individual workers in other countries. It is our desire to inform the Christian public of the size and scope of CEF ministry, with a direct focus on the needs that exist in the European countries and among European workers. A large financial shortfall exists in Europe and we, by God's grace, have been able to assist through undesignated financial donations in helping to meet that need. (SEE UNDER SUPPORTING)

We are fully aware that today's generation use social media to explore their interests, so we have been encouraged by the staff member appointed last year who has been refreshing and updating our media outlets on a regular basis. We have been receiving good feedback on this, especially from the younger believers. We pray this will be a means that God uses to challenge believers to become actively involved in ministry, either part or full time. We believe this to be an essential means of communication in making the ministry known among the public and especially to the younger generation.

The 'Equip' conference was once again conducted in Dublin and was a resounding success. This was well attended, and we again invited several other mission organisations to display their resources and speak of the opportunities they provide to evangelise young people. We are seeking to make this a regular annual date on the calendar.

5. TRAINING:

This area of ministry comes under our Education Department, and we have seen training expand throughout all Ireland with courses being conducted by our members over the whole island. Training has a two-fold purpose:

1. To equip the local church to reach and teach children the truths of the Bible;
2. While conducting training, demonstrate the opportunities CEF provide for individual believers to be active in reaching the children in a full-time capacity

CEF ministry is founded on volunteers, and it is essential they are well trained and taught to better enable them to share the Gospel. Our vision is that every child in Ireland should have the opportunity to hear the Gospel of Jesus Christ, therefore it is vital to train as many volunteers as possible. This is especially relevant in the Republic of Ireland where we have less full-time workers and are desirous for volunteers to be recruited, equipped and sent out.

God has said in the scriptures "I will build my church' and this training is an excellent means of equipping the local church to participate in bringing this to pass by reaching into their communities with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

There are several courses available ranging from a bespoke series of classes for an individual church to a 30-hour Teaching Children Effectively Course. Courses specifically for certain age groups are also available and both youth and pre-school courses have been conducted successfully. Many of our workers are trained to be able to offer and conduct all the courses available. The Education Department continues to develop on-line courses as this often enables individuals to participate who could not do so for geographical reasons.

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Summer 2023 Ministry Statistics

Ministry	No. held 2023	Children Reached in 2023
5-Day Clubs (excl CYIA)	105	2676
5-Day Clubs - CYIA	49	637
4-Day Clubs	90	2927
3-Day Clubs	35	1918
2-Day Clubs	15	2756
1-Day Club	6	197
Children's Camps	16	815
Inters Camps	14	598
Senior 16+Camps	4	308
Non-residential Camps	2	32
HBCs (workers taught in)	41	1525
HBCs (church run)	45	2541
TOTALS	424	16975

In this time frame CEF of Ireland have had the privilege of reaching thousands of children and young people with the Gospel. We are thankful that even in difficult times and changing attitudes CEF of Ireland continue to achieve their aims and objectives of evangelising and discipling the young people.

We are thankful for each one who encountered the Gospel message through one of our workers, and the numbers reached has risen from the Covid period and is continuing to do so as the after-effects of Covid decrease. In all our ministries the safety and welfare of the children is high on our priority list. We seek to ensure that all volunteers are vetted and approved prior to conducting any ministry with CEF of Ireland.

DEPARTMENT LEADER REPORTS

Safeguarding Report

The past year has been extremely busy as ministry reopens after the Covid pandemic. There had been concern about safeguarding issues as things reopened but thankfully the issues were not as many as anticipated. Because of the two years of relative inactivity there has been an increase demand for the necessary Access NI and Garda Vetting checks. The major encouragement was the high number of requests for volunteer checks for our ministry in the Republic of Ireland. As we project forward, we forecast that this will level off but we are thankful that we have so many volunteers wishing to engage with our ministry. We are also thankful that accidents and incidents were at a very low level. For that we are truly thankful.

Multi-media Report

The Multimedia Department continues to produce resources which equip CEF workers and volunteers. The material for most of our main ministries is in a four-year cycle. However, this year 'The Wordless Book' series of lessons, which goes with our 'Mission: Possible' Holiday Bible Club pack, was updated.

One of our new graphic designers has illustrated several new evangelistic booklets which are distributed at key seasons of the year. Fifteen thousand 'Happy St. Patrick's Day' booklets were distributed at parades and other celebrations, and several thousand 'Love' booklets were printed for use during Easter and the summer months. We plan to print a new 'Joy' booklet for Christmas 2023.

Our workers enjoy teaching Religious Education classes and speaking in school assemblies and are therefore delighted to give the children a calendar each year. The 2024 edition is called 'Animal Appetites' and approximately 60,000 of these will be given to school children.

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Another area of our work is promoting events and producing material to inform our prayer and financial supporters. This year our 'National Newsletter' and 'Daily Prayer Guide', which are produced in conjunction with the National Office, both received a new look.

Youth Challenge Report

One of the key goals in Youth Challenge is to highlight the need for our young people to be involved in reaching out to children. To train and equip them to do this, and then to provide opportunities for them to do so. Along with the opportunities across Ireland we have our 'Momentum' programme which enables teams to go and help CEF work in other parts of the world.

This summer teams of young people went to Scotland, Macedonia, Moldova, Poland, and Jamaica to work alongside other CEF ministries. There they helped with camp ministry for teens and children, Holiday Bible Clubs, 5-Day Clubs, and worked alongside local churches. This helped to develop existing work and establish new ones. Through this many children heard the gospel for the first time, and the young people were blessed and encouraged in their own faith.

Republic of Ireland Report

School's ministry programme consists of direct classroom teaching on a weekly basis. We have the privilege of teaching in 16 / 18 classes weekly. At special times of the year, we have access into some extra schools. During the calendar year we can conduct GNCs, 5DCs, HBCs and summer camps.

As part of our summer ministry, I have been leading the Summer Outreach Training Course in Oceanview camp centre, Rosstown for many years, teaching, planning the programme and contacting many young people. It is a joy to teach these young people and challenge them to become involved in their own local areas. This summer we had young people from several different counties, Donegal, West Meath, Louth, Down, Cavan, Limerick, Dublin, Wicklow, Wexford, Kerry, and Cork.

We seek to share the vision of CEF with several churches in different counties and it has been encouraging to see some churches ordering different materials and others seeking to run new children's clubs.

National Office Report

The National Office team continues to provide the central administration required for the efficient running of the organisation. This includes, but is not limited to: design, printing and collating of material for promotion, training, and evangelising; receiving, processing, and acknowledging financial gifts; processing payroll; providing HR, insurance, data protection, IT and logistical support to local workers, committees and volunteers; and interaction with members of the public who visit our National Office and/or Resource Shop.

The staff team, although small, work diligently to fulfil these various functions in a way that is both cost-effective and reflects our Christian values. In response to the increasing workload of the National Office, an extra member of staff was added to the finance office.

Ministry Development Report

Over the past year, ministry development has been particularly focussed on a) social media and online promotion, and b) updating the Resources Shop (in terms of physical décor, product range and presentation, product availability, and postage efficiency). Both of these endeavours have been successful, with increased engagement across all online platforms, and a completely refurbished shop with extended product range and sales and postage to the Republic of Ireland now available.

Northern Ireland

We have four areas without full-time local workers, East Belfast, Fermanagh, Mid-Ulster & Mid-Antrim but the local committees are seeking to maintain ministry to the best of their ability. It is our prayer that the Lord would supply workers for all our areas.

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FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

The results for the financial year ended 31 March 2023 are fully set out in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) on page 19. The Total Incoming Resources was £2,809,788 (2022 £2,821,222) and the Total Resources Expended was £2,762,165 (2022 £2,215,586) resulting in Net Incoming Resources of £47,623 (2022 £605,635).

The Balance on Unrestricted Funds at 31 March 2023 was £3,476,082 (2022 £3,568,822) and is largely made up of the Property Capital Account of £3,258,889.(2022 £3,265,425). The Balance on Restricted Funds at 31 March 2023 was £1,404,612 (2022 £1,264,249) and most of this is contained within the closing bank balance and investments at the year end.

Reserves policy

The income of the Charity is considered stable and the risks associated with any significant reduction in income is regarded as unlikely. The trustees are satisfied that the level of reserves as stated in the accounts will ensure, that in the event of a significant decrease in funding, that they will be able to continue the Charity's current activities. It is the policy of this charity to hold adequate reserves in relation to its running costs, including employee costs. It is monitored on a regular basis.

Going concern

After making appropriate enquires, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing financial statements.

PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS

National ministry (2023/2024)

The mission and vision of CEF needs to be shared with the Christian public to enable the ministry to be conducted. Evangelise, Disciple, Establish, remains our mission and our vision is 'Every Child, Every County, Every Day'.

The workers and staff are also encouraged to inform the Christian public of the international breadth of CEF and the fact CEF is a worldwide mission, the largest children's mission in the world. We are endeavouring to promote the financial needs of our European colleagues through the 'Shortfall' project and inform the Christian public how they can assist in enabling the children of Europe to hear the Gospel.

Our vision as stated above remains Every Child, Every County, Every Day. The Board of Trustees & Leadership have been very encouraged by all who work with CEF of Ireland, in any capacity, but we realise the essential need for more full-time workers with us in Ireland.

The National Directors conduct a visitation programme of the local workers in Ireland and have asked each worker to endeavour to organise a promotional meeting to share the vision of reaching the children. The aim of sharing the vision is the recruitment of new workers.

SEAVIEW CAMP AND CONFERENCE CENTRE

Seaview Camp and Conference Centre continues to be extensively used. We continue to engage with the contractors regarding completing all the 'snags' that exist.

OCEANVIEW CAMP CENTRE

We continue to oversee the refurbishment of the centre in Rosstown, Co. Donegal. We have been encouraged through support received from volunteers who have provided finance, material, personal skills, and time. There are in progress a few tasks which leadership trust will enhance the centre to church organisations.

EMPLOYMENT

All staff under the authority of CEF of Ireland and working in Northern Ireland are now classed as employees. We continue to review this situation for those working in the Republic of Ireland and Northern-Irish based European workers.

**Report of the Trustees
for the year ended 31 March 2023**

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

Governing document

Child Evangelism Fellowship of Ireland is a company limited by guarantee, governed by the Memorandum and Articles of Association. It is registered in Northern Ireland (Registration Number NI 622619) and has obtained charitable status with The Charity Commission for Northern Ireland (Reference Number NIC 100984). The organisation is also recognised as a Charity by H M Revenue and Customs (NI 00311). It is also registered with the Charities Regulator in the Republic of Ireland (RCN 20201509).

The Directors of the company are also the Trustees of the Charity. The following Directors have held office during the year: -

Mr Mark Conroy (Chairman)

Mr John McCormick (Vice Chairman)

Miss Jean Porte (Treasurer)

Mrs Roberta Hamilton (Secretary)

Mr Clyde Cromie

Miss Janice Elliott

Mr Timothy McKee

Mr John Parsons

Mr Ken Rainey

Mrs Linsey Farrell

Mr James Martin

Mrs Ashley Robinson

Mr Gareth McBeth

Mr Phillip Beattie (resigned 31 August 2023)

Mr John Parsons, Mrs Roberta Hamilton, Mr John McCormick, Mr Gareth McBeth and Mr Timothy McKee retired by rotation and offered themselves for re-election. Whilst the Directors have legal responsibility for the company, the National Directors are responsible for the day-to-day operations and report to the Board monthly.

Trustee Induction and Training

We continue to monitor training requirements for Trustees and conduct refresher courses when required. All Trustees are aware of their requirement for training, the individual and collective responsibility they have.

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees (who are also the directors of Child Evangelism Fellowship Of Ireland for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) including Financial Reporting Standard 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland".

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Report of the Trustees
for the year ended 31 March 2023

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES - continued

In so far as the trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditors are unaware; and
- the trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.

AUDITORS

The auditors, McIlveen Howard Limited, will be proposed for re-appointment at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 15/11/23 and signed on its behalf by:

R Hamilton

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Mrs R Hamilton - Trustee