

**FAMILYLIFE FOUNDATION**

**UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**31 MARCH 2024**

**CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER: NI102151**

Harvey & Co  
Accountancy Services Limited  
5 Willowbank Road  
Millbrook  
Larne  
Co Antrim  
BT40 2SF

**FAMILYLIFE FOUNDATION**  
**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

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The Trustees present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024.

**Reference and administrative details**

**Registered Charity name:** Familylife Foundation

**Charity Registration number:** NIC102151

**Principal Office:** Duncairn Manse  
Duncairn Avenue  
Belfast  
BT14 6BP

**The Trustees:** Prof Chris Shaw - Chair  
Tommy Stewart  
Geoff Moore

**Independent examiner** Janice Blair  
Harvey & Co Ltd.  
5 Willowbank Road  
Larne  
BT40 2SF

**Structure, Governance, and management:**

Familylife Foundation is a charity registered with the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland. Its operations are governed by a Trust Deed. There are 3 Trustees named above who, under the Chair, Professor Chris Shaw, oversee the charity's activities and decide how it will achieve its objectives.

The Executive Director continued to develop the work of the charity. Mr Geoffrey Kerr's secondment from the charity 174 Trust on a part time basis was agreed for another year, which included the whole of this accounting period. An agreement was made that Familylife Foundation would continue to pay 174 Trust for the time they released Mr Kerr to work on behalf of the charity.

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#### **Objectives and activities**

Familylife Foundation is a non-denominational Christian charity that focuses on demonstrating Christ's love by addressing issues that impact family life. Issues such as: families living with disabled children & providing care, families dealing with children who are in same sex relationships, the impact of ill health on family life particularly that related to cancer and those who suffer from it directly, and/or impacted by it within family settings. We organise meetings to provide support to people suffering with cancer and its associated treatments. We organise and establish support groups throughout the area of benefit for people affected by family issues, particularly that relating to cancer, and work in partnership with churches from all denominations to provide facilities for these support groups to meet.

#### **Public Benefit Statement**

The Trustees of Familylife Foundation recognise the public benefit requirement outlined by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland. The direct benefits which flow from the charity's activities are as follows:

1. To promote the Christian faith in the area of benefit:

Public benefit: The direct benefit that flow from this purpose include the advancement of the Christian faith, which offers hope, provides prayer, care, and support primarily to those individuals and families affected by cancer in some form or other. These beneficiaries find relief from their need by reason of age, ill-health, family breakdown, and education, by engaging in the many opportunities which are available in our support groups which are safe, hospitable, and welcoming spaces.

A private benefit to trustees may arise from the opportunity to speak at meetings but this would be incidental and necessary to promote the work of the charity.

2. Relieve suffering, sickness and distress among the inhabitants and families of the area of benefit without distinction of age, sex, political or religious or other opinion and to offer Christian counselling and advice to people in need in the area of benefit:

Public Benefit: The direct benefits that flow from this purpose include the provision of the following activities: - a series of support groups throughout the area of benefit, individual pastoral care, family pastoral support and group support; conferences with health professionals on relevant issues for cancer sufferers & those affected by family members suffering with cancer issues. The operation of these activities is a demonstration of non-denominational Christian service to the community. The beneficiaries of this purpose are people living throughout Northern Ireland. For an individual person who is diagnosed with cancer the fear of the unknown is initially immense, and the support and care given by others who have previously went through similar situations can be extremely worthwhile. An individual would benefit from private pastoral care, or by the support provided through participating in a support group. Attending conferences where professionals from the health sector talk about the issues, physical and otherwise, providing information and advice on living with cancer, and cancer treatment. A private benefit flowing from this purpose is that gained by a trustee who may incidentally have a family member who would be able to avail of these services through the same opportunity as the public. There is no harm flowing from our purposes.

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##### **Achievements and performance**

During this year Familylife Foundation continued to deliver activities with personal contact. The Executive Director & his wife, as well as the Family-Care-in-Cancer Coordinator and his wife, worked on a hybrid basis dealing with supporting families on a remote basis as well as meeting in person.

The Family Care in Cancer Coordinator, Geoff Moore decided to retire in June 2023, and we wish to put on record our deepest and sincerest thanks for all his work over many years to serve those people who have been impacted by cancer. Geoff and his wife Margaret are held in the highest regard by the hundreds of people who they have sensitively pastored & supported. They were presented with a gift at the dinner in June.

Geoff remains on the Board of Trustees.

The Cancer support groups meeting in Newtownards, Glenmachan, and Ballymena, continued to ensure that those dealing with the aftermath of treatments & bereavement were supported with prayer, encouragement & practical care. In June we had over 70 people attend a celebration & thanksgiving dinner in Tullyglass House Hotel in Galgorm. This proved to be very popular allowing people to re-connect with others across the different groups enjoying fellowship and fun over a beautiful carvery lunch.

With Geoff Moore retiring from the leadership of the Ballymena group, we took some time to find someone to take over and eventually also relocated the group to meet in Ballymena Elim church.

We continued to offer support to struggling families on the issues of, bereavement, grief, loneliness, and other family related issues.

We also wish to note our deepest thanks to every volunteer who gives of their time, energy, commitment, and financial support in serving those in need. Without them it would be impossible to do as much as we do.

The opportunity for the Executive Director to speak at church services and other church group settings continued in a small capacity. He also had several meetings with Pastors' & church leaders to talk about the work of the charity and the issues being faced by many Christian families. This is still an area of potential to develop further throughout the next year. During February & March 2024 there were no appointments for the executive Director as he was in hospital for major surgery.

He was asked to participate in the Elim Academy autumn 2023 series of lectures which addressed the area of sexual identity & the church. This was a 10-week course and provided the opportunity to share with a wide range of people from across the UK via the virtual platform.

##### **Financial review**

The charity relies completely on fundraising and voluntary donations from individuals, churches, and Trusts/Foundations. In the current financial year, the Statement of Financial Activities shows a small surplus/deficit, again thanks to ongoing support from the public and donations from the Ardbarron Trust who donated £6,000 and the TBF & KL Thompson Trust who donated £6,500.

The results show a deficit for the year of £7,319 (2023 – Deficit £2,824).

Reserves at the year-end stood at £8,422 (2023 - £15,741)

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**Reserves Policy**

While the trustees are conscious that under the present agreement our annual target for income generated is £25,000, they know the demand for support within the charity sector is extremely competitive. They are very aware of the ongoing need to raise funds and to maintain a small reserve also.

**Plans for future periods**

We intend to build on the strengths of our board of Trustees, adding further new professional expertise, and seeking to raise funds to enable us to appoint the Executive Director on a full-time basis to promote and manage the operations of the charity.

The need for supporting families through their struggles is increasing rapidly, and God willing, we will continue to see the work of Familylife Foundation play a role in meeting some of these needs in the year ahead.

The trustees' annual report was approved on 12 December 2024 and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:



Prof. Chris Shaw – Appointed Chair  
Trustee