

SUMMER 2023 NEWSLETTER



Children
In Hospital
Ireland (CIH)

CIH UPDATES

On July 1st, Margaret Burns retired as chairperson of the board of CIH. Margaret has been a board member since 2014 and has shown unwavering passion and commitment to Children in Hospital Ireland. Margaret's contributions have been invaluable and will undoubtedly continue to shape our organisation going forward. The CIH Team and members of the board would like to express their gratitude to Margaret for her remarkable contributions and wish her well as she embarks on a new chapter.

We are thrilled to announce the appointment of our new chairperson, Karen McAuley, effective July 1st 2023.

Karen brings a wealth of experience as Head of Policy with the Ombudsman for Children's Office (OCO) and previous work with the Children's Rights Alliance. She has been a member of the board since 2019 and we are delighted to have Karen champion the development of Children in Hospital Ireland.



SAVE THE DATE: 9TH SEPTEMBER 2023

Our AGM will take place on Saturday 9th of September 2023. Further details to follow.



NI Children's Health Coalition recently launched research on the hidden costs of having a child in hospital in Northern Ireland.

This report follows a similar format to the research we carried out in 2020 and the report from this, *Childhood Illness, Financial Stress*, and further highlights the need for government to provide better supports for families when they have a child in hospital.

You can view the report [here](#).

We've launched a new video about Children in Hospital Ireland. We'd love for you to share it across social media and help raise awareness about our work and the positive impact our volunteers have.

[WATCH VIDEO HERE](#)



COMING SOON!



The new Children In Hospital InformationHub will launch in the Autumn. This new website will provide information to help families prepare for inpatient or outpatient hospital care, know what to expect and where to find support for their child and family.

RECENT HIGHLIGHTS

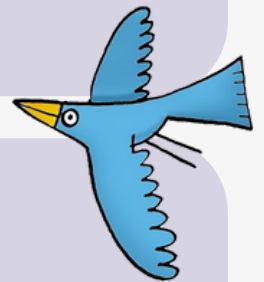
ANNUAL LECTURE

On May 2nd, in the wonderful venue of the Albert Theatre in the RCSI on St Stephen's Green, we welcomed Professor Lucy Bray as the keynote speaker for our Annual Lecture – Getting it Right First and Every Time.



The lecture and the following panel discussion and Q&A session, highlighted how everyone who is involved in supporting children and young people during medical tests or procedures, can learn new approaches to care which help to make that experience a more positive one. Having a positive experience of a test or procedure is a good outcome for everyone but more importantly, it also reduces the anxiety which a return visit to hospital might prompt.

View the full summary report [here](#).



DUBLIN LORD MAYOR'S CHARITY BALL

On May 13th 2023, the annual Lord Mayor's Charity Ball was held in aid of Children in Hospital, AsIAm and the Capuchin Day Centre.

We are delighted to have received €36,050 from the night!

We are so grateful to the Lord Mayor, the Round Room and everyone who supported us on the night.

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION DAY

On June 10th, we hosted our Volunteer Appreciation Day at the Richmond Barracks in Dublin.

It was so great to spend time with our new volunteers and some of our long-standing volunteers too! Thank you to everyone who came along.



SUPPORT US

Crayon Campaign

We have set a goal to raise €10,000 so we can supply enough ing packs for a year to children across 22 hospitals nationwide.

Our colouring packs consist of a box of crayons and colouring sheets and are a great distraction for a child who is sick in a ward or waiting for an outpatient appointment.

Help us reach our goal for 2023 and donate now or spread the word among your colleagues, friends or family.

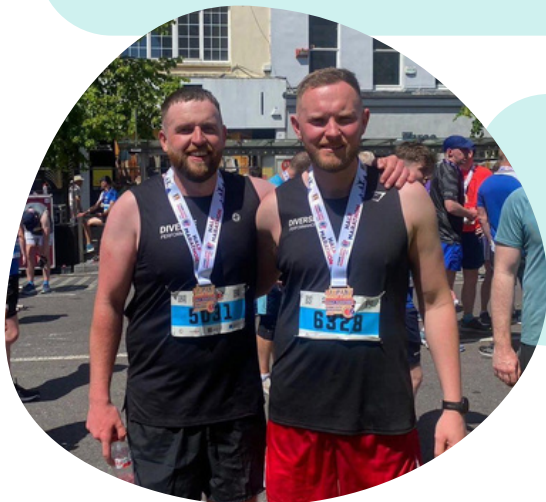
[Donation Link](#)

SHOUT OUT!

Our partners, Grant Thornton hosted our biggest packing day yet! In May, over 4,300 packs were created and distributed to 22 hospital nationwide. Including play packs, colouring packs and parent packs. These parent packs provide parents with essential self care items during their stay in hospital with their child.



In June, 100 Grant Thornton Interns also packed an additional 1,500 colouring and parent packs across their Cork and Dublin Offices. A huge thank you to all involved.



Joe Hegarty and Ian took part in the Cork City Marathon and raised over €1300 for CIH. We are so grateful for their support!

Another special shoutout to Osas who held a fundraiser on Africa Day during National Volunteer Week in support of CIH.



A big well done and thanks to the 5th Class in Kildare Place National School, Rathmines and St. Kevin's Girl's National School, Kilnamanagh for also creating play and colouring packs.

VHI MINI MARATHON

A huge thank you to everyone that took part in the VHI Mini Marathon last month. Almost €2,000 was raised for Children in Hospital Ireland.



TEAM NEWS

We'd like to welcome a new team member Lucie Blau who has joined us for the summer. Lucie is a student at Brandeis University in Waltham, Massachusetts where she is pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Health; Science, Society, and Policy and her Bachelor of Arts in Theatre Arts. Originally from New York, Lucie is very excited to be working at Children in Hospital Ireland this summer to explore the administrative and practical components of children's play for play's sake and family advocacy.



Our Volunteer Manager, Elizabeth will be out of office from June 30th and will return on the 4th of September. If you have any questions or queries please contact our volunteer coordinators:

Jessica Hurley - Jessica@childreninhospital.ie or 087 699 0950

Cat Mallin - Cat@childreninhospital.ie or 087 188 2579

For Child Protection queries, please contact Anna Gunning - Anna@childreninhospital.ie or 087 115 9256