

Annual Report 2016

The heart of the Mater is you.





*We count
on you,
so they can
count on us.*

The Mater Foundation is dedicated to supporting the Mater Misericordiae University Hospital to give every patient, and every family that loves them, the best possible care.

Thank you for your generosity so that we can continue to put every patient first.

Making it count

It can be the smallest gesture, or the warmest smile that can transform a difficult experience. Every single time I meet patients and their families, I am struck by the power of resilience and kindness. We count on you to help us provide the care that so many people need to make them better, and we are as accountable to you, as the hospital is to each and every patient.

At the Mater Foundation, we have spent much of this year focussing on ensuring our governance and donor care procedures are the best they can be. We are on course to become fully compliant with national and international guidelines including the Statements on Recommended Practices (SORP) and the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), and already adhere to their principles. The Mater Foundation has long called for, and welcomes, the regulation of the charity sector, and we will continue to work closely with the Charity Regulatory Authority and Register of Charities to ensure the phased implementation of the Charities Act 2009 within our organisation. We are committed to a fully transparent and accountable system, and outline our Donor Charter at the end of this report.

We would like to thank our Board, who have volunteered so much of their time and expertise this year to help us drive forward our mission every day.

One of the most wonderful families I've had the pleasure of meeting in recent years are the Marees from Co. Meath. They have raised an incredible €334,000 in the name of their son and brother Ciarán, who passed away from a rare form of cancer at just 25. Despite the tragedy of losing Ciarán, the family is dedicated to raising funds to invest in cancer education, research, and treatment, so other families don't have to go through the pain of losing a loved one. Their support, and that of their local community, has been truly inspirational.



Mary Moorhead, Chief Executive, and Declan McCourt, Chairperson, meet with hospital staff.

We wish we could take every one of you into the hospital to meet the people whose lives are changed because of the contribution you have made. From the peace of a family room to face and digest challenging news, to being able to screen family members for potentially fatal inherited cardiac conditions, from providing a vital ultrasound scanner, to post-acute care services, we see every day the power of your support.

The total income raised in 2016 was €3,030,891, which was down 8% from 2015; however, this was primarily due to a once off donation of €250,000 in that year. Our public donations increased by 4.48%, which is incredible, and as a result we were able to grant €1.8 million to the Mater Hospital. In certain cases, it is not always possible to immediately grant funds raised as some may be designated for particular projects or restricted for a specific area. Restricted hospital funds can cover research and staff training, meaning the drawdown of these can be time sensitive due to the timing around projects, particularly research initiatives.

We count on so many individuals, companies, trusts, and foundations to support The Mater Hospital, and help it deliver and advance patient care every day, and we are so grateful for your generosity, support and belief in us. Thank you.

Mary Moorhead
Chief Executive

Declan McCourt
Chairperson

Impact of Your Support in 2016

We counted on you, and you delivered



Tests being carried out in the Family Heart Screening Clinic.

At the heart of the Mater is early diagnosis and prevention

Every week a family in Ireland suffers the tragedy of losing a loved one under 35 to an unidentified inherited heart condition. The Mater's Family Heart Screening Clinic provides an essential national service for families at-risk of these potentially fatal conditions, such as Sudden Arrhythmic Death Syndrome (SADS) and Long QT Syndrome, and is dependent on the Mater Foundation to keep this vital screening going. We granted €177,733 to the Family Heart Screening Clinic in 2016, which tested 1,414 people, including 59 children under 14 years of age. Without your support, this would not be possible. In 2016 the Family Heart Screening Clinic also began screening children as young as 8, so that entire families, just like the Byrnes opposite, can now be screened together. We are also extremely grateful for the continued support of The Ireland Funds, who have helped to significantly improve the level of care offered by the clinic.



The Respiratory Department's ultrasound scanner in use.

Breathing life into recovery

The role of exercise in post-op recovery is crucial, improving cardiovascular fitness, and muscle and physical function, while it also reduces respiratory complications and the risk of blood clots. Your support enabled us to grant €2,419 to purchase 7 exercise bikes for the National Heart and Lung Transplant Unit to aid post-transplant rehabilitation. We also provided funding for the training and education of transplant unit staff. Both of these grants will make a significant difference to patients' recovery, meaning they can return home quicker and in the best health possible.

Seeing is knowing

The Respiratory Department urgently needed an ultrasound scanner for use as a bedside imaging tool to aid timely diagnosis and treatment of patients. The Mater Foundation granted €23,800 raised by the Mater Hospital Charity Shop for this scanner, which is used to diagnose a variety of respiratory conditions, allowing instant and real-time non-invasive diagnostic potential. Previously patients were referred to the Radiology Department, which often meant longer waiting times for cancer patients.

We count on you to protect precious hearts

"Left undiagnosed and untreated, my children's hearts were ticking time bombs."



Brendan Byrne with his daughter Laura, who in 2016 became the first child to be screened at the Family Heart Screening Clinic.

Finding out I had a hidden heart condition wasn't easy. But discovering this potential killer could also affect my four children was devastating. But we were lucky. Thanks to the screening available at The Mater's Family Heart Screening Clinic, we found out before it was too late. Sadly, for families from all over Ireland that's exactly when they discover a ticking time bomb in their midst.

My daughter Laura and her brother Charlie were the first children to ever undergo screening at the Family Heart Screening Clinic at The Mater Hospital. In fact, all four of my children were screened there, including Mark & Kevin. Unfortunately, three out of the four were diagnosed with Long QT Syndrome, the same life-threatening condition that I have. I dread to think of what could have happened if this had gone undetected, because their hearts could have stopped at any moment.

Laura puts on a brave face, but early on we noticed she doesn't like anyone to see her taking her medication. Her best friends know about her condition but she keeps it all very quiet. She's frightened.

But knowing that she has Long QT is critical because it was only then that doctors could have taken the steps necessary to prevent her heart from stopping. Since she was diagnosed, Laura's school has had a defibrillator fitted which is crucial if anything were to happen to her.

We know the amazing medical team at the Family Heart Screening Clinic are doing everything in their power to ensure my children and I live long and happy lives. We can't change the diagnosis of Long QT, but we can treat it. My children can have normal lives, and they can dance and play sport. And I can have peace of mind knowing that everything possible is being done to protect their precious hearts.

Brendan Byrne

How we counted on you

Without you, none of this would happen. In yet another challenging year we raised an amazing €3,030,891, once again, a testament to the trust, generosity and support you give to us. And just as the hospital is a community of patients, family and staff, so our supporters are a community of donors and friends.



Kathryn Thomas, TV Presenter, and Dr Joe Galvin, Consultant Cardiologist at the Mater Hospital, launch our 2016 Heart Appeal.

6
volunteers
running the Mater
Foundation stand in
the hospital

9
volunteers
helping to raise funds
in the Mater Hospital
Charity Shop

102
community
fundraising
events

Over
300
fundraising through
challenge events

20,000
active fundraising
supporters

Raising funds, raising the quality of care

Gifts in Wills

€50,567

Leaving a lasting impact on the lives of others is a wonderful way to support our work, and we appreciate all donations left to us in wills.

Direct Marketing

€372,421

One of the most cost effective ways for us to raise money is people making regular direct debit donations and responding to mailings. Combined with our Heart Badge appeal and raffles, this income is vital to the ongoing support we provide to the hospital.

Fundraising Events & Campaigns

€552,613

Thank you to every single person who took part in one of our many events and campaigns that not only raise funds but also creates awareness about threatening illnesses.

Major Donation

€85,706

We are truly grateful for the support of major donors, as their donations enable us to deliver even more improvements to patient care in the Mater Hospital.

Trusts and Corporate Donations

€1,039,323

We appreciate the incredible support from businesses and companies, especially the employees who support our work through sponsorship, donations, and fundraising.

General Donations

€201,527

The generosity of friends who leave us donations without even being asked is so vital to our ability to ensure we always improve the patient experience.

Community Fundraising

€457,385

We cannot praise enough the dedicated volunteers who run events in their local community to raise vital funds for our work.

Charity Shop

€71,600

Our Dorset Street shop is a vibrant hub of activity, run by Sr Gerard Egan and her volunteers, raising funds to improve patient care.

Other

€199,749

We also earn some additional income from bank interest and other activities that contribute to our total income for the year.

Summary of Financial Statements

Income and Expenditure 2016

	2016	2015
Income	€	€
Public Donations	2,153,551	2,142,926
Legacies	50,567	7,268
Fundraising Appeals	747,762	1,048,277
Mater Hospital Charity Shop	71,600	82,218
Bank Interest	7,411	16,281
	3,030,891	3,296,970
Expenditure		
Mater Hospital Grants	1,798,086	1,935,641
Charitable Activities Support Costs	66,236	66,360
Charity Shop	50,248	46,387
Costs of Generating Funds	1,153,004	1,204,047
Governance	26,344	26,220
	3,093,918	3,278,655

Balance Sheet

	2016	2015
Current & Fixed Assets	€	€
Fixed Assets	207,375	677,496
Current Assets	3,464,442	3,220,442
Current Liabilities		
Creditors	-77,149	-268,220
Net Assets	3,748,966	4,166,158

**Our current assets of over €3m include funds raised from our main appeals which are ear marked for on-going projects in the hospital and largely for the accounts we hold on behalf of wards and departments. These funds are committed and will be spent once sufficient funds are raised to meet the identified needs.*

How funds were invested



Seven exercise bikes for the rehabilitation of heart and lung transplant patients were funded by our supporters.

In 2016, The Mater Foundation granted almost €1.8million to support and fund specific projects within the Mater Public Hospital in a variety of ways. Thanks to your support, we have been able to provide the following:



Healthcare – €280,192

In exceptional cases, we provide grants to fund specialist nurses, doctors and other healthcare professionals that can advance patient care in a way that wouldn't happen otherwise.



Research & Education – €785,200

Prevention is always a better option than needing treatment, and so we support research, staff training, and education to ensure the best possible outcomes for our patients.



Medical Equipment – €132,728

To ensure patients receive cutting edge medical interventions, we continually fund essential world-class equipment.



Enhancing Patient Care – €599,966

We know that every patient is a person first, and so we invest in ways to support The Mater Hospital not only achieve medical excellence, but excellent patient care.

Impact of your support

We know that every patient is a person who is loved

Every patient belongs to a family

Many families spend long hours in the hospital with relatives who are dying or seriously ill. Family rooms offer a dedicated space for privacy during this difficult time. In 2016, one new Family Room and one Family Suite were opened on acute care wards in The Mater Hospital, bringing the total number of this vital facility to 10. Families have expressed just how much it means to them to have privacy and comfort at such a sensitive and difficult time.

Continuous care



The Snoezelen equipment will greatly reduce agitation for dementia patients in the Post-Acute Care Services Unit.

The Mater Hospital is an acute hospital which specialises in treating patients who have urgent, short-term medical needs, and who sometimes reach a point of being medically stable but not ready to go home or to a nursing home. Three Mater Post-Acute Care Services (PACS) units are located in Fairview in Dublin, managed and staffed by the Mater Hospital, where they provide a specialised support to patients and their family until they can be discharged. In 2016, we granted €6,082 raised by the Mater Hospital Charity Shop to purchase Snoezelen equipment which helps to reduce agitation and anxiety. As 50% of patients in the PACS units have dementia, this equipment is vital to ensure the best care possible.

BreastHealth Mater

In 2016 we continued to fund the Family History and Genetics service in BreastHealth Mater, which cares for families who have a family history of cancer and possibly a genetic risk of developing cancer. We were very proud to support an awareness raising event around breast reconstruction for women who have undergone a single or double mastectomy, and are considering plastic surgery.

The Gathering Around Cancer

Now in its fifth year, we are proud to support this conference, which is co-chaired by Professor John McCaffrey, Consultant Medical Oncologist at The Mater Hospital. This annual event offers an opportunity for Irish healthcare professionals involved in many aspects of cancer care, at home and abroad, to gather in Dublin to gain up-to-date knowledge on oncology care. We also provided funding for the Cancer Clinical Trials Unit in the hospital, where over 1,500 patients have participated, with some people experiencing life-saving treatment.



The Mater Foundation is dedicated to funding innovative research initiatives in the Mater Hospital.

Breathing Easy

Daragh's Story



Daragh Kenny, who received a lifesaving double lung transplant in The Mater Hospital.

People say to me, 'Hey, you're back to normal,' but this is ten times better than normal. This is the best I've ever been in my life.

Living with cystic fibrosis means a daily struggle to breathe, and in my early twenties, things got so bad I was on oxygen 24/7. I even had to take my oxygen tank to the bathroom when I got out of bed. It was frightening, and I knew my only hope of survival was a double lung transplant.

Breathing and rigorous activity have always been hard for me, and the older I got, the worse it became. But I was also just a normal young man. My passion was drumming and I played in a band. Drumming is pretty strenuous though, and often it became too hard to play. Frustratingly, just as I was feeling my worst, my band was offered a tour in Germany, but my doctors said I was too ill to fly. Undeterred, and knowing how much it meant to me, my dad drove me all the way over in his campervan, and we did the whole tour in it. It was brilliant – the best thing I've ever done. But it really took its toll and I was often on the verge of collapsing each night and barely got through the tour. When I got home, I knew I had to give up the band. It was the hardest thing I've ever had to do.

I was put on a double-lung transplant list and for over a year and a half I barely left the house. I was in my early twenties and all I could do was lie on the sofa, and wait. But then I got the call.

After being hospitalised so many times for chest infections, the transplant itself went like clockwork and I was back on Facebook 48 hours later telling everyone how I felt. It was incredible. I felt the difference immediately. Suddenly I could breathe! A month later I formed a new band.

These days I play in several bands and gig regularly, and do all the things people my age do. Last year I was even able to fly to New York, having once thought I'd never be able to board a plane again.

I still have cystic fibrosis and always will, but I feel the best I've ever felt in my life, thanks to the transplant team at The Mater. I couldn't say enough good things about them or the amazing people who give their support. I can lead a normal life now thanks to all of them.

Daragh Kenny

Thinking of tomorrow

Due to the enormous demands and pressures that are put on the healthcare system, patients and staff of The Mater Hospital count on us more and more to provide and support vital equipment and services. Future needs have already been identified for the coming year.



The Mater Hospital is engaged in groundbreaking research that greatly improves the outcome of treatment for cancer patients.



Over 11,500 surgeries take place in the Mater Hospital each year.

These include:

- The Family Heart Screening Clinic marks 10 years of lifesaving screening in 2017, and we need to fund a new ECHO heart imaging machine to provide clearer pictures of the heart and improve the screening of children, whose hearts are smaller and abnormalities more difficult to detect.
- We are committed to developing facilities that improve End of Life Care, and family rooms are integral to this. We are planning to fund rooms in the Cardiothoracic High-Dependency Unit and the Coronary Care Unit.
- We are fundraising to support the purchase of cardiology equipment to be used in the treatment of patients who have suffered a serious cardiac incident.
- The Mater Foundation is looking to refurbish the Rheumatology Department's four out-patient clinic rooms, to improve access for patients and their comfort during visits to the department.
- For complex surgeries such as heart and lung transplants, it's essential the surgeons have effective equipment that allows them to carry out operations safely and efficiently. The Mater Foundation is planning to purchase new theatre lights that allow the surgeons to do just this.
- We are dedicated to supporting innovative research that has the potential to save lives now, and in the future. We hope to continue supporting the Cancer Clinical Trials Unit that will offer treatment that ensures The Mater Hospital stays at the forefront of medical science.
- In our mission to support cancer patient care, The Mater Foundation plans to fund new electric beds, recliners, and syringe pumps for the Cancer Unit, to ensure the highest level of care is provided to patients.

A Huge Thank You

We count on so many people to generate life-changing funds for The Mater Hospital.



It takes a community of care to make a difference on every ward and in every department of the hospital.

We are inspired every day. From patients and their families who face challenges with such courage, to the staff who bring passion to their work, we see the human side of the Mater Hospital all the time.

Our supporters give so much of themselves to help others, from organising fundraising events in their community, to running marathons and mini-marathons, and taking part in cycling challenges,

amongst so many other ways to support. So too, our volunteers who give freely of their time on the Mater Foundation stand in the hospital, those in the Mater Hospital Charity Shop on Dorset St, and more who sell heart badges and fundraise during our Heart Appeal, deserve the biggest of thanks.

Thank you all for supporting the Mater Foundation.

Thank you.

The Heart of the Mater...is You



“ I want to thank you for everything you are doing to help patients at The Mater feel as comfortable as they can, and receive the very best care while they are there. The amazing generosity of kind people like you has helped us achieve so much. As well as the big things like lifesaving equipment, it is also the little things that mean so much to patients. As you can imagine, patients often can miss out of the celebrations and important events in their lives. But thanks to your support, we can make the little things mean the most. Like a birthday cake or a little gift. I see the difference you make every single day.

”

— Áine Cahir
Cancer Nurse, The Mater Hospital

Donor Charter

Our promise to you...



Some of our supporters upon reaching the end of the Mizen2Malin Charity Cycle in 2016.

The Mater Foundation is committed at all times to treating its donors and supporters with the highest level of care and respect. We have developed a Donor Charter to assure all our supporters and potential donors of our commitment to honesty, openness and transparency.

We are enthusiastic signatories of the Statement of Guiding Principles of Fundraising, and abide by their guidelines at all times. For the full Donor Charter, please go to **www.materfoundation.ie**.

We promise you that your donation will be used for the purpose intended, and that all general donations or any surplus in specific appeals will be used in advancing our priorities of patient care in the Mater Hospital.

We strive to keep administrative and fundraising costs to a minimum, and are open about who is sitting on the Foundation's governing board, and that the board will exercise prudent judgment in its stewardship responsibilities.

Recently published financial accounts are available to everyone, as are all agreed procedures for making and responding to complaints.

Your right to privacy will be respected, including your right to have your details deleted from our donor database if requested and to know that there is full compliance with the Data Protection Acts. You will receive appropriate acknowledgment, recognition, and publicity for your donation in consultation with you, while also respecting anonymity if requested. You will also be kept informed of the impact of your support and the Mater Foundation's evolving needs and priorities.

We appreciate your support that comes from individuals, groups and businesses. It is not enough that we uphold what is expected of us by law; we intend to do our very best to provide the best services and to show the utmost respect to our donors.

If you would like to discuss any aspect of this charter or other matters concerning fundraising activity at the Mater Foundation, please contact:

Mary Moorhead – Chief Executive or

Tom Hickey – Head of Fundraising & Communications

Both can be reached on (01) 830 3482

“

I was diagnosed on a Monday and started chemo on the Wednesday. The next day I shaved my head. The tumour was taken out but there were still some cancer cells left. In the 6 week break before the radiation, I did my Leaving Cert. I passed and am studying to be a nurse... being in the Mater gave me such admiration for them.

”

— Sarah O'Neill



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the **Mater**
Foundation
Advancing care for every patient, every day