Impact Report 2019

Helping to provide world-class patient care because of you



The Mater Foundation: helping to provide world-class patient care at The Mater Misercordiae University Hospital, because of you

Board of Directors:

Mr Neil Bannon (Chairperson) Prof Patrick Wall Ms Clodagh O'Brien Mr Harry McIntyre Mr Feargal Brennan Ms Orlaith Fortune Prof Padraic MacMathuna Ms Karen Herbert Mr John Fogarty (*Appointed 14th February 2019*) Mr Aidan O'Connell (*Appointed 12th September 2019*) Mr Alan Sharp (*Appointed 12th September 2019*)

Company Secretary: L&P Trustee Services Limited Company Number: 108518 Registered Office: 53-54 Eccles Street, Dublin 7 Charity Tax Number: CHY9768 Charity Registration Number: 20024505 Chief Executive Officer: Ms Mary Moorhead

Independent Auditors: Deloitte Ireland LLP Chartered Accountants & Statutory Audit Firm Deloitte & Touche House Earlsfort Terrace Dublin 2

Solicitors:

Mason Hayes & Curran South Bank House Barrow Street Dublin 4

Bankers:

Bank of Ireland Allied Irish Banks plc Permanent TSB Ulster Bank Ireland Limited

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Our Mission:

To inspire and enable financial support for The Mater Public Hospital, so that it can continue advancing care for every patient.

Our Vision:

Through our supporters and with The Mater Hospital, we strive for world-class care for every patient and each family who loves them.

Who we are

The Mater Foundation: We help to give every patient and every family who loves them, the very best of care at The Mater Hospital.

We exist to improve patient care at The Mater. As the official fundraising body of The Mater Misercordiae University Hospital we provide funding for state-of-the-art equipment helping to provide the best care possible for all who need it, we enhance hospital facilities to create a comfortable and caring environment, and we fund research that helps keep The Mater at the forefront of medical innovation.

None of this is possible without the commitment and dedication of our supporters. Thanks to you, 2019 has been a remarkable year:



Our Highlights 2019

3

€3.98 million

Total income generated in the year.





> 30,000

Supporters registered and took part in our campaigns



> 8,500

Fundraisers took part in the Foundation's Well-Being Challenges: 100 Miles in a Month or 10,000 Steps in a Day



€98k raised

To provide funding for specialised cardiology staff for the Family Health Screening Clinic



39% Increase in fundraising activity on the previous year



Robotic Assisted Surgery

€600k contribution in 2019 plus a €500k pledge for 2020 to purchase a state-of-the-art Da Vinci Xi robot costing €2.5m to transform The Mater's Robotic Surgical Programme



> 9,000

Donors supported our direct appeals and raffles

First Dementia-Friendly Ward created

Developed a dementiafriendly sitting room for St Anne's Ward



Ireland's leading adult hospital foundation

Building on three decades of philanthropic and fundraising generosity and support.

Thank you for your continued support of the Mater Foundation

Welcome from the Chairperson and Chief Executive

Helping to support world-class patient care, because of you.

This year, over 400,000 people attended The Mater Misercordiae University Hospital. For many people, attending hospital – whether for a short out-patients appointment, or a longer stay that could run into months – it can be a stressful and anxious experience. You are faced with unfamiliar surroundings; you don't know how things work; you may get good news, but you may also receive bad news. It can be an extremely worrying time.

The Mater Foundation exists to support every single one of those patients, giving every patient and every family who loves them, the very best of care at The Mater Hospital. Our role is to always put the patient first.

We do this by helping the hospital to fund life-saving equipment, we give research grants to change how patients are treated, we help build world-class facilities and we support families in their most difficult moments.

All of this is achieved entirely through donations from the public. 2019 was a remarkable year for the Mater Foundation, with over €3.98 million in income raised from our fundraising activities, an increase of 39% on last year's activities. This generosity meant that

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We know that our achievements in 2019 are only possible with the compassion, generosity and trust of every single person who has given their support. we were able to invest €2.2million for immediate use across a range of projects and priorities in the hospital to help advance patient care.

We were thrilled this year to be able to make a major contribution of €600,000 to the Hospital's Robotic Surgical Programme by supporting the purchase of the Da Vinci XI robot. The impact of this investment is extensive: for the first time a public hospital in Ireland can offer this advanced form of robotic assisted surgery to a broad spectrum of patients, at scale. Uniquely, since the robot's arrival at The Mater it has been used across six specialty surgical areas making it the first multidisciplinary robotic surgery provider in Europe and creating efficiencies for the hospital with savings of €1.3million per year. But the most profound impact is for the patients who benefit from equality of access to the best surgical practices, shorter hospital stays, significantly less pain, a lower risk of infection and blood loss and a quicker recovery period. The Foundation is extremely proud to help fund this programme and support transformational change in The Mater Hospital.

Similarly, we were able to provide €70,000 to fund a new ECMO Life Support. The Mater is the only adult hospital in Ireland which provides ECMO Life Support. Operating at the time with just four machines, it was essential after nearly 10 years of use to update some of this critical equipment. We are delighted to have been able to make this vital investment, supporting the medical teams in their life-saving work.

Another key project was to transform St Anne's Ward into The Mater Hospital's first dementia-friendly ward. While on the surface, this may just look like fresh paint and new furniture, the impact is far more profound. Painting the ward rooms bright colours and installing



Our role is to always put the patient first.

recognisable symbols of Dublin life, such as a Dublin bus stop and Clery's clock, act as stimulants for people with dementia, helping to trigger happy memories, causing joy and removing distress.

None of this is possible without the generosity of our supporters, who continue to position the Mater Foundation as Ireland's leading adult hospital foundation. Building on three decades of philanthropic and fundraising success, the support we receive from the general public enables us to act as a catalyst for change in public healthcare. Our warm thanks go to our corporate partners, community fundraisers, challenge participants and individual giving supporters who worked closely with us in 2019 and who so generously raised vital funds to support our hospital. Your continued kindness, support and compassion for our patients allows us to invest in the hospital where it is needed most and plan for the future. Your trust is paramount to the Mater Foundation, and that is why we are open and transparent in all of our activities. We are committed to upholding the Triple Lock standard of transparent reporting, good fundraising and good governance, ensuring that our supporters know exactly how their donations are put to work.

We sincerely thank our Voluntary Board of Directors for their continued dedication to the Mater Foundation in 2019. They have shared their guidance and support over the course of this year and have helped the Foundation to reach and exceed its fundraising goals on behalf of the hospital.

We would like to recognise and thank our dedicated, professional and passionate team within the Mater Foundation who work tirelessly and at a fast pace to deliver positive results.

Special thanks goes to the staff and management of The Mater Misericordiae University Hospital for their support and guidance throughout the year, working with us to demonstrate how best to help those who need it most.

Finally, thank you to all our supporters, volunteers and fundraisers across the country. We know that our achievements in 2019 are only possible with the compassion, generosity and trust of every single person who has given their support.

Mary Moorhead Chief Executive Neil Bannon Chairperson

THE MATER MISERICORDIAE UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL

Caring for the Nation since 1861

The Mater Hospital provides specialist services for:

- Heart Surgery
- Heart & Lung Transplants
- Spinal Injuries
- Family Heart Screening
- Cancer Care



> 400,000 Patient visits in 2019

> 223,000 Patients attended out-patient clinics

> 89,000 Patients treated in A&E





52

Number of **transplants** performed in The Mater Hospital in 2019 (Heart, Lung, Heart & Lung and Lung & Liver)



1,490 Represents the number

of **cancer diagnosis** in 2019



11,270 Elective Surgeries that took place in 2019



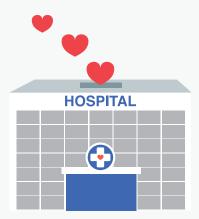
>100 Over 100 successful robotic surgical procedures were completed across six medical disciplines in 2019

Why we do it

Advancing care for every patient, every day

We work closely with the medical teams in The Mater to identify what patients need most, and we raise vital funds to improve care for patients and their families

Our Objectives:



FUNDING:

Raising vital life-saving funds to advance and improve patient care



STRATEGIC GRANT MAKING:

For medical equipment, patient facilities, clinical trials and specialist staff





Continue to diversify and expand our reach to help more people



How we do it:

The four pillars that guide us

- **1** Enhancing patient facilities and funding life-saving equipment
- 2 Supporting life-changing research and clinical trials
- 3 Investing in career advancement to attract, train and retain the highest quality staff
- **4** Providing grants, PhD and fellowship funding to specialist staff

Priorities and Performance



Support The Mater Hospital in enhancement and advancement of patient care

Raised almost €4million in fundraised income in 2019

Make a minimum of €1m available to the hospital to purchase equipment, enhance facilities, fund research, provide training and education for hospital staff and provide grants to specialist staff

Achieved and exceeded: €2.2m granted to help improve patient care at The Mater Hospital

Build a strong network across Ireland and develop a loyal supporter base for the Mater Foundation

Successful nationwide campaigns and appeals developed and implemented

Support The Mater Hospital in enhancing patient facilities and funding state-of-the-art equipment

Supported the €2.5m purchase of the Da Vinci XI robot for the Mater's Robotic Surgical Programme with a contribution of €600k provided by the Foundation in 2019 and €500k pledged for 2020, making a total commitment of €1.1m

€70,000 raised to help purchase a new ECMO Life Support





Provide funding for clinical trials and research

Funded the design, delivery and evaluation of the MedEx Pulmonary Hypertension Exercise Programme in conjunction with DCU

Invest in career advancement and training opportunities for medical staff

Funded training and education for healthcare professionals to ensure modern techniques and best practice across all areas of patient care

Support specialist staff with grants

Funded Oncology Research Registrar and a Cardiology Research fellow

Maintain the highest standards of governance and financial reporting

Commenced activity to achieve the fundraising Triple Lock Status through transparent reporting, good governance and good fundraising

Invest in growing our support for the future

Successfully introduced challenge campaigns, achieved 46% growth in Regular Giving and developed solid foundations for philanthropic giving

Our Impact

Our work improves patient care at The Mater.

Our supporters have made it possible for us to invest €2.2million this year. These funds are changing people's lives. They are helping to purchase vital medical equipment, fund specialist staff, ground-breaking research and clinical trials and provide hospital staff with education and training opportunities that improves patient care. All of this helps the 400,000+ patients who depend on The Mater Hospital each year, not just from Dublin city or the surrounding counties, but from across the entire country. It helps the patients. It helps their families. It ensures the very best of care for people at The Mater Hospital, when they need it.



€2.2 million

£

Total funding given in grants in the year to advance patient care in The Mater Misericordiae University Hospital.



€834,000

to support advancing facilities and providing state-of-the-art medical equipment



€409,000 in grants to fund specialist staff





€925,000

to help keep hospital staff at the forefront of medical care



€64,000 for research and clinical trials



>550 grants provided to the hospital and patient care projects

Spotlight on... Robotic Assisted Surgery

Improving patient lives through our investment in game-changing equipment

This year, thanks to the incredible generosity of Mater Foundation supporters we were able to accelerate the purchase of a robotic assisted surgery machine for The Mater Hospital, the Da Vinci XI robot.

With your help we raised €600,000 to secure the €2.5million state-of-the-art robot that is being used by six sub-specialties across the hospital including Gynaecology, Urology, Colorectal, Thoracic, ENT and Hepatobiliary.

One of only a few robots in Ireland, and the very first of its kind in a public hospital, robotic assisted surgery is game-changing for The Mater Hospital, and is the first multi-disciplinary robotic surgery provider in Europe.

The robot gives surgeons 3D vision: the highly magnified cameras can access areas that would normally only be accessible through invasive openings and the robotic arms can be controlled with high precision making even the most complex surgeries more achievable. The impact is significant; patients benefit from a shorter stay in hospital, reduced pain and discomfort, a faster recovery time and return to normal activities. In addition to patient benefits, the robotics programme has created efficiencies, with savings of €1.3million generated in the first year.



Training the next generation of surgeons

As a teaching hospital and an Advanced Surgical Training Centre, it is vital that The Mater Hospital is able to continue to train and retain high quality staff. By investing in the robotic assisted surgery programme, not only can we offer patients high precision surgery, but we are able to continue to invest in staff, keeping The Mater at the forefront of medical innovation.



CO Today's students are tomorrow's registrars. You can't stand still... you have to invest in the future.

Mr Bill Boyd, Consultant Gynaecologist and Lead Surgeon, The Mater Hospital's Robotic Surgical Programme

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It was a brilliant way of doing the operation, using modern technology.

Betty McNally

Betty McNally,

benefitted from minimally invasive surgery through robotics, with fantastic results.

Betty had been feeling well with no obvious signs that anything was wrong, except for one small spot of blood that she mentioned to her GP in passing. The GP decided to investigate and following tests, Betty was diagnosed with endometrial cancer.

Betty needed a hysterectomy to treat the cancer. Normally, that would be a highly invasive surgery requiring a large opening, four to six days in hospital plus a lengthy period of home recovery. Through the incredible advancements in surgery enabled by the robotics programme, Betty was able to have a robotic laparoscopic hysterectomy at The Mater Misercordiae University Hospital. With just six small incisions made across her waist, the hysterectomy was completed, and all traces of the cancer removed.

After just two days, Betty was able to go home from hospital. The small incisions healed quickly and there was no need to have any stitches removed. Betty went on to have a full recovery. She didn't require any chemotherapy or radiotherapy and continues to have regular check-ups at The Mater.

Spotlight on... St Anne's Ward, new dementia-friendly sitting room

The power of conversation

St. Anne's Ward is a Specialist Geriatric Ward run by nurse Mary Duffy. This year, the Mater Foundation worked with Mary and her team to make the ward dementia-friendly.

The Mater Foundation was able to fund work to have the ward painted, with each room in a bright colour and iconic symbols of Dublin – Clerys' clock, pictures of the Phoenix Park and a Dublin bus stop installed in the ward. What sounds like simple decoration in fact has a much more profound significance.

The bright colours and memorable features of Dublin create conversation; they stimulate memories. For someone with dementia, their short-term memory is gone but they often remember the past. For many patients on St. Anne's ward, they will have met their husbands and wives under the clock at Clerys going on a date; they will have walked through the Phoenix Park; the bright colours will spark a memory of the past and they are easier to recognise than a room number.

People with dementia can often become distressed but starting a conversation that stimulates a memory can be a distraction, it can calm people and make them happier without staff having to use pharmacological interventions, which is better for patients.

Additionally, the Foundation has also provided a specialist piece of equipment called a 'Magic Table' to help trigger cognitive activity, and upgraded the bathroom to a wet room facility that helps maintain patient's dignity while being cared for.

As a Specialist Geriatric Ward, Mary and her highly skilled team specialise in caring for people over the age of 70. The eldest patient cared for was 107! Mary's focus is to ensure that people are given the time they need and they are able to divert any behaviour that could be distressing to patients. Mary told us about the impact of the re-design of the Ward and how powerful simple additions to the ward have been:

One lady who has dementia came out of her room. We were trying to help her, but there was no way she would go back into her room. But she spotted the Dublin Bus stop we have. So, she sat down there for a little while. One of the team, John, came out and said,

"How are you doing? Where are you going?".

"Oh", she says, "I'm waiting to go home".

"Alright. Have you been waiting long?"

"Well not really, the bus hasn't arrived, but I think I'll go off to the dances, will you come with me?".

Now, she had been sitting there for forty-five minutes to an hour and we left her sitting there. John said to her:

"Well, I'll tell you what, if you go into your room and we'll make the phone call and then we'll head off to the dance".

Now she went in willingly, nobody tried to force her to go back in. We gave her time sitting there, she wasn't interfering with anybody, and when she was ready, she went back into her room and was quite content. There was no other issue.

For patients with cognitive issues who are confused or if they have delirium, having something from the past can rekindle a beautiful memory that will engage them, relax them, reassure them.

The Mater Foundation

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It has brought joy and delight and it's happy... It creates conversation, which is great when you are talking to patients with dementia.

Mary Duffy

Spotlight on... The Family Heart Screening Clinic

The Mater set up the Family Heart Screening Clinic in 2007 with the purpose of identifying families in Ireland with a life-threatening genetic heart condition that could put the young people in that family, or future generations, at risk of dying suddenly.

Over the last 12 years since its establishment, the Clinic has seen 1,800 families who have been identified with genetic heart conditions.

Once diagnosed, a family can be monitored, often while fit and well as outpatients. For those who are highest risk, an implantable cardiac defibrillator can be fitted. If the person goes into cardiac arrest, the defibrillator shocks them back to life. This is a life-saving preventative measure.

The Mater Foundation continues to play a vital role in funding the work of the Family Heart Screening Clinic.

Funding the Future

The Mater Foundation is proud to fund a Cardiology Research Fellow investigating Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy (HCM) – the condition that affects Seaghan, whose story you will read about on the next page.

Through the support of the Foundation for the Fellowship, The Mater Hospital is able to develop dedicated focus to understanding more about HCM and its prevalence across Ireland.

HCM is the leading cause of sudden adult death in the world. It is a structural heart muscle problem that is genetically inherited. It affects around one in 500 people.

The difficulty with HCM is that often the first time the condition presents itself is through the sudden death of a perfectly fit and healthy young person, causing devastating consequences.

The dedicated staff at The Mater Hospital are working to better understand the disease, how it affects people across Ireland and to develop better ways to diagnose and treat the condition.



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My heart condition gave me these experiences. And because of it I've been a part of something special.

Seaghan Kearney

Seaghan Kearney

was a fit and healthy young man, carrying a hidden heart condition that only came to light the day his heart stopped on a football pitch.

Clinically dead for almost five minutes, Seaghan's cardiac arrest was almost fatal – the use of a defibrillator saved his life. He was diagnosed with Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy: an enlargement of his heart muscle that caused an electric fault in his body.

Seaghan no longer plays competitive sport and continues to receive care in The Mater Hospital's Family Heart Screening Clinic. He has gone on to marry his childhood sweetheart and become father to Ollie. Seaghan credits his heart condition for spurning a lot of positive changes in his life, one of which is becoming a part of the management team for Dublin football. A maths teacher by profession, Seaghan developed a statistics programme for many successful teams, including the Dublin senior footballers.

Spotlight on... ECMO Life Support

The ECMO – Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation – is a life support machine. It takes over the breathing function for patients with severe lung failure, heart failure, transplant patients, and trauma patients. It is used to help keep patients alive when the support of a ventilator isn't enough, and is also used to help give a patient's heart and lungs time to heal.

The Mater is the only adult hospital in Ireland providing ECMO Life Support. But until this year, the machines the hospital were using were almost 10 years old and urgently needed to be replaced.

Through the generosity of the Mater Foundation's supporters we were delighted to be able to fund the purchase of a new ECMO Life Support for \in 70,000. This is a vital investment enabling the hospital to continue its life-saving work, helping patients from across the country who need the specialist care and support that only they can provide.

Gemma Willis

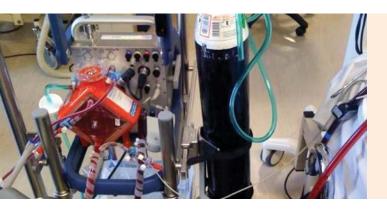
knows first-hand the importance of the ECMO after it was used to save her life.

Three years ago, aged just 21, Gemma was involved in an horrific and life-changing car accident. She was critically III and doctors didn't know if she would survive. To give her the best chance, Gemma was put into an induced coma and transferred to The Mater Hospital for specialist care:

Gemma remained in a coma in The Mater Hospital's ICU (Intensive Care Unit) for six weeks and during that time underwent ten surgeries in a bid to save her life. Through all of these surgeries the only thing keeping Gemma alive was the life-support machine that was breathing for here the ECMO.

Incredibly, and against the odds, Gemma pulled through Following her injuries from the accident, Gemma is paralysed from the waist down and the damage to her right leg was so severe that it had to be amputated along with part of her left foot. But through her own tenacity and with the care and support of the teams at The Mater, after nine long months Gemma was able to go nome and start rebuilding her life.

Gemma has been given a second chance at life thanks to the ECMO. She has had to make some adjustments but has been able to return to work in the hotel where she worked before the accident, and has returned to her passion for baking, making wedding and birthday cakes for friends.



These machines are the difference between life and death for a critically ill patient who is fighting for their life.

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Every breath I take today is only possible because of the life-support machine that kept me alive during those crucial weeks after my accident.

Gemma Willis

Governance and Compliance

Structure and Governance

The Mater Foundation is a registered charity and a company limited by guarantee, incorporated and registered as a charity in August 1985. The Mater Foundation is totally autonomous and is not a subsidiary of The Mater Misericordiae University Hospital. The Foundation is governed by its constitution.

Board of Directors

The Mater Foundation is governed by a board of Directors (council members) who serve in a voluntary capacity. The Board consists of no less than seven directors and no more than eleven. The Directors, all of whom are non-executive, are drawn from diverse backgrounds and bring a broad range of experience and skill to the Council. The Board of Management of The Mater Misericordiae University Hospital shall be invited to nominate two people to be Directors of the Foundation. The Company secretary also sits on the board but has no voting rights.

The members of the Board cannot, under the governing documents, receive remuneration for services to the Foundation and may only be reimbursed for incidental expenses claimed. There were no expenses paid to any Directors in the period.

The board met 5 times during the year (the quorum for board meetings is three Directors with attendance and eligibility as follows):

| Directors/ Members | Board Meeting Attendance (Requirements) |
|--|---|
| Mr Neil Bannon (Chairperson) | 5 (5) |
| Prof Patrick Wall | 3 (5) |
| Ms Clodagh O'Brien | 3 (5) |
| Mr Harry McIntyre | 5 (5) |
| Mr Feargal Brennan | 2 (5) |
| Ms Orlaith Fortune | 3 (5) |
| Prof Padraic Mac Mathuna | 3 (5) |
| Ms Karen Herbert | 3 (5) |
| Mr John Fogarty Appointed 14 Feb 2019 | 3 (4) |
| Mr Aidan O'Connell Appointed 12 Sept 2019 | 0 (1) |
| Mr Alan Sharp Appointed 12 Sept 2019 | 1 (1) |

To support the Board there are a number of sub-committees, each of which have a clearly defined Terms of Reference, chaired by a Board Director and include subject matter experts where appropriate. These committees include the Finance & Audit Committee and the Governance & HR Committee. Each subcommittee is made up of at least three Directors and they meet at least four times a year.



Compliance

Governance and transparency are highly important to us. We have measures in place to make sure we are compliant in every aspect of our work and we provide all staff with ongoing training in these areas.

We adhere to the Charities Regulator Guiding Principles of Fundraising actively demonstrating openness, transparency and integrity to our beneficiaries and donors by operating under three principles:

- Transparent reporting The Foundation prepares a trustee's annual report and financial statements in full compliance with the Charity SORP (Standard of Reporting Practice under FRS102) and makes them easily available to the public on our website.
- Governance The Board has formally adopted and is publicly signed up to the Governance code for the Community and Voluntary Organisations since early 2015. The Foundation's performance against the Code is reviewed annually by the Board to ensure the Foundation holds itself accountable to the standards set and is in compliance with the Code.
- Good Fundraising The Foundation implemented all the requirements for the Statement of Guiding Principles of Fundraising in 2011 and continually reviews its performance against these principles.

This year we have started work to achieve fundraising 'Triple Lock' status, upholding the highest principles of transparent reporting, strong governance and ethical fundraising.

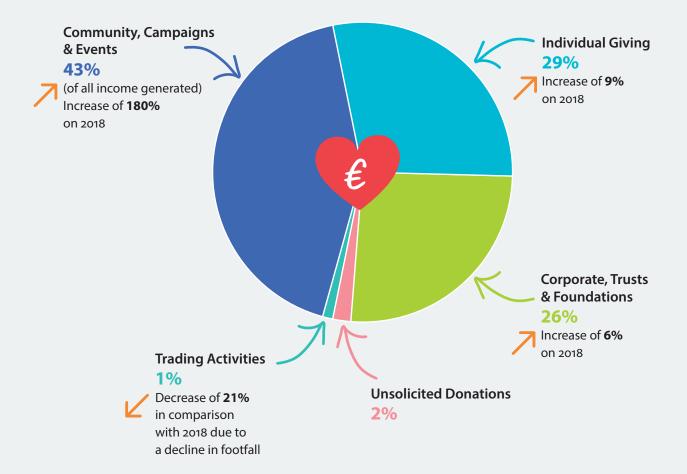
Financial Review

Our dedicated supporters have raised an incredible €3.98million in 2019; that's 39% higher than 2018.

We are extremely grateful for the committed and continued support.

How much we raised in 2019: €3.98million

How we generate funds:



In 2019, the Mater Foundation invested €2.2million in The Mater Misericordiae University Hospital

What we fund: How we put your money to work



€834,000 Advancing facilities and providing state-of-the-art medical equipment 38%



€409,000 Funding for grants and specialist staff 18%



To help keep hospital staff at the forefront of medical care through education and training 41%



Summary of Financial Statements

Income & Expenditure 2019

| | 2019 | 2018 |
|--------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| | € | € |
| INCOME | | |
| Fundraising | 3,938,196 | 2,809,421 |
| Other trading activities | 41,030 | 51,697 |
| Income from investments | 4,398 | 2 |
| | 3,983,624 | 2,861,120 |
| EXPENDITURE | | |
| Raising funds | 1,629,902 | 1,432,261 |
| Charitable activities | 2,232,942 | 1,618,415 |
| Other trading activities | 44,870 | 48,820 |
| | 3,907,714 | 3,099,496 |

Balance Sheet 2019

| | 2019 € | 2018 € |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| CURRENT & FIXED ASSETS | | |
| Fixed assets | 8,364 | 7,665 |
| Current assets | 3,518,376 | 3,435,267 |
| CURRENT LIABILITIES | | |
| Creditors | 310,933 | 303,035 |
| Net assets | 3,215,807 | 3,139,897 |

Why I Support the Mater Foundation

Hilary Prentice

Hilary was diagnosed with three primary cancers: lung, kidney and bladder, all within a few months of each other. The tumour on her left kidney was removed via robotic assisted surgery performed by Mr Nick Hegarty, Consultant Urologist at The Mater Private.

The robotic assisted surgery meant that Hilary only had a few small wounds rather than a large and invasive incision and she benefitted greatly from the quicker recovery time. Following her experience, Hilary felt passionately that everyone should be able to access the benefits of robotics and raised over €100,000 towards the purchase of a robot for The Mater Public Hospital.

"



I have this huge belief in equality of access to medical care, that's my mantra... So if I've had access to a robotic machine, I want everybody to have access to a robotic machine.

Thanks to the incredible support of people like Hilary and companies such as Atlantic Dawn and Hilton Foods we have been able to help The Mater make robotic assisted surgery widely available.

Gerry Carmody

In 2014 at the age of just 57, Gerry suffered a stroke and was admitted to The Mater Hospital for two and a half weeks.

Gerry lost the use of the right side of his body. Suddenly simple tasks like having a shower, shaving, tying the buttons on his shirt, lifting a cup of tea, were impossible.

But with the help of The Mater's Early Support Discharge Team, Gerry was able to return home and after eight weeks of support at home, was soon back to normal, having regained 95% use of his arm and leg.

In support of the care that Gerry received, and to keep active, in recent years Gerry has been volunteering for the Mater Foundation. Twice a week he comes into the Foundation's office to help the fundraising team with materials and thank you letters to supporters. He has become one of the team and provides invaluable help to the Foundation.

I want to sincerely thank every nurse and doctor that looked after me in The Mater. Volunteering for the Foundation is one way that I can give back and show my gratitude.



We are so grateful to everyone who has supported us over the last year: to all the fundraisers, companies, trusts and foundations, individuals and volunteers who have given their support, time and care; **thank you**.



Helping to provide world class patient care, because of you



Advancing care for every patient, every day

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Charity Registration Number: 20024505 Charity Tax Number: CHY9768