

A. Address



This Annual Report covers the period from January 1st to December 31st 2010. The Report presents an overview of the services provided by

the Association in 2010 and highlights some activities and notable achievements. It also highlights some issues that continue to cause concern to the Directors, staff, our service users and families.

New Services:

During 2010 the Association provided new day services in Killarney, Listowel and Cahirciveen. I am pleased that the Association again succeeded, through working in partnership with the Health Services Executive, in securing sufficient funds to provide a full day service for all school-leavers referred to us for a service in 2010.

Brook Lodge in Listowel opened as a residential and respite breaks service for people with an Intellectual Disability and Autism during 2010. Brook Lodge is our first service specifically for adults with an Intellectual Disability and Autism and is a great benefit to those availing of it and to their families. I would like to acknowledge funding for emergencies and additional respite received from the HSE in 2010.

We opened a Rehabilitative Training (Life Skills Training) in Listowel and Cahirciveen and extended our Community Programme in Killarney in 2010. All these programmes continue to work well and provide excellent training and



employment opportunities to 40 people. You can read all about these and all our services in this Annual Report.

Annual Accounts:

The Annual Accounts show an operating deficit of €141,791 for 2010 compared with €72,008 for 2009. The increase in our operating deficit resulted from a cut of 5% in funding from the Health Services Executive and increased non-pay costs due to inflation and exceptional items. Throughout 2010 we continued to target savings in both pay and non-pay costs throughout all our services. I would like to commend management, staff and families for their co-operation in what was again a very challenging year.

Unfortunately cost savings do come at a price. Our priority was to maintain services and employment at 2009 levels and while this was achieved there was inevitably some curtailment in the range of activities and programmes in 2010. We did however respond to emergencies as they arose.

Personal Outcomes models of supports were introduced throughout our services in 2010 resulting in more personalised activities and outcomes for our service users.

Service Reports:

In this Annual Report you will find reports from all our services as well as the annual accounts for 2010. The Report is designed to give the reader a good insight into what our Association does and an opportunity to hear directly from our staff, service users and our voluntary supporters. The Board is very proud of the services provided by the Association and is equally proud and very appreciative of the quality and dedication of our staff whose commitment to our service users is very evident in the care, training and supports offered day in day out.

Directors:

I am delighted to welcome Paul Pierse, Hugh Ryan and Jim Sheehy who were co-opted onto the Board in 2010.

I would like to thank all the Directors for their commitment and support throughout the past year and for their regular attendance at Board Meetings.

Acknowledgements:

I would like to acknowledge the great work done by our Branch officers and members and the many individuals and groups at home and abroad who raise money and support us in so many ways. Without their support we would not be able to maintain existing services nor develop new ones.

I would particularly like to thank everyone who supported the Ring of Kerry Cycle, the North Kerry Walk and the Marian Players Pantomime in Rathmore. All these events were a great success.

I would also like to thank our Chief Executive and Management Team, Centre Managers and staff, our professional support staff and the staff of the HSE and other Statutory Agencies with whom the Association works closely every day for their professionalism and commitment to high standards. The Directors will continue to work in partnership with our management and staff to address the many challenges that 2011 will inevitably bring and strive to provide the best possible service for all our service users and their families.

Finally I would like to extend sympathy to the families and relatives of all those connected with the Association who passed away during 2010

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Elish Perryman".

ELISH PERRYMAN
Chairperson