

CRA 20070670

# you<sup>th</sup> in crisis


Annual Report 2016  
and Financial Statements

29th August 2017

**YSPI** Youth  
Suicide  
Prevention  
Ireland

# YOUTH IN CRISIS

Annual Report 2016



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# YOUTH IN CRISIS

Annual Report 2016

## Youth Suicide Prevention Ireland

As at 31<sup>st</sup> October 2016

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Yvonne Higgins (Secretary)

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Anthony Philpott (Chief Executive)

Alan McKelvie (Administrator)

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Taxbright Audit Services

9-10 Village Centre

Lucan

Co Dublin

### Insurers

Wexford Insurance Brokers

Mains Street

Wexford

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## Foreword from the Chairman

As Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Youth Suicide Prevention Ireland I wanted to add a foreword to this Annual Report on behalf of the Trustees.

As Trustees we are responsible for the proper management and oversight of the charity, and one of our most important responsibilities is to ensure that the funds that members of the public, businesses and schools are so generous in donating are used for the purpose intended, which is to prevent youth self-harm and suicide in Ireland. Our most important function as Trustees is financial oversight and in 2015 we requested that the Board of Management find a way to integrate all the records of the charity, financial and charitable, into a system where the Trustees, who are spread around the country, could have day to day access to bank records, donation information and management accounts.

I would like to thank Alan and Tony for the amazing work they have achieved in the last 12 months in this regard as they, and their volunteers, have managed to get all of our financial records going back to 2013 into QuickBooks Online and reconciled. The Trustees can now see bank balances, budgets, spend on programmes, expenditure and many other financial indicators in real time.

I would also like to thank Alan and Tony for also managing to digitise all our records from 2014 onwards so that the Trustees now have access to an online information system, which they have called BARRY after our mascot, which has registers for donors, fundraisers, school visits, child protection, general contacts and up to the minute statistics on FreeText usage, school visits and much more.

It has been a tough year for charities due to various scandals, particularly financial ones. This has again damaged the reputation of charities and made it more difficult to raise funds. We welcome the work of the Charities Regulator and The Trustees have been working on making YSPI as transparent and open as possible within the limits of client confidentiality and data protection. As part of that transparency our audited annual accounts are included in this Annual Report as well as detailed reporting on our programmes and their outcomes. The Trustees have signed up to the *Statement for Guiding Principles for Fundraising* as well as creating a Donors' Charter which was adopted by the Board. We continue to be members of the Wheel who are an amazing positive voice for the charity sector.

Since 2014 the Trustees have been redirecting the efforts of the charity into our Schools Programme and we are delighted with the way that programme has taken off. In 2016 we also developed and implemented our Child Protection Policy which are the standards that the Trustees require our facilitators and volunteers to work to at all times.

I would, finally, like to thank our administration team, our facilitators, our donors, fundraisers and volunteers without who we could not have weathered the various storms that have come our way in the last few years.

Thank you all.

  
**Nelius Enright, Chairman**

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## Message from the Chief Executive

2016 has been a year of consolidation for us. As a result of being named UCD Student Unions' Charity of the Year, as well as coming into the 2016 financial year with healthy reserves, we took the opportunity to internally restructure our activities.

We have totally focussed our resources and efforts onto our Four Steps to Help Programme for Schools so the various parts of our services have been brought together under that single programme which is now a tightly integrated mental health awareness and suicide prevention programme.

The Programme now allows us to provide integrated services to our clients and constituents at reduced costs to the charity. We can focus on providing high quality services for schools, colleges and youth organisations either on an "as required" basis or through regularly scheduled provision.

We have never received a euro in public money in all the time we have been working for the young people of Ireland. All our funding comes from personal supporters so we understand the trust they put in us because we know if we don't live up to that trust there will be no state agency there to bail us out. It costs us just 19c per €1 to run the charity so 81c or 81% of funds we receive are available to fund lifesaving programmes like the Four Steps to Help for Schools.

- Our Trustees are all volunteers.
- Our Trustees receive no salary or compensation of any kind for their time and service.
- Our Trustees are entirely independent, they are not related to each other in any way.
- Our Trustees do not have charity credit cards or any kind of direct access to charity funds but they have total access 24/7 to the charity's financial records and books so they can assure themselves that your donations are being spent properly.
- The charity does not own or lease any property or motor vehicles.
- The charity has no mortgages, leases or outstanding debts of any kind.
- The charity keeps cash reserves of 10% of annual income in case of emergencies.
- The charity has only two staff, both are trained facilitators who provide the National School Visits Programme around the country. They get paid around €25,000 per year each.
- The charity also pays for a certified accountant to keep our accounts, and separate independent auditors to check our accounts are complete and accurate.

On behalf of all of us at Youth Suicide Prevention Ireland I would like to thank you for your continued help, support and belief over the last 12 months.

Best wishes



**Anthony Philpott**  
Chief Executive

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**Youth Suicide Prevention Ireland works exclusively with young people ages 12 -22 to raise awareness of youth suicide. We work with schools, colleges and youth groups to provide youth suicide prevention services which are all provided under the Four Steps to Help Programme for Schools.**

Youth Suicide Prevention Ireland is already working with secondary schools in most counties to raise awareness of the youth suicide crisis in Ireland and provide suicide prevention workshops for students through our Integrated School Visits Programme. The programme has been running since 2012. We visited around 130 secondary schools and provided classroom based awareness and prevention training face to face with about 18,000 students in 2015-16.

## Youth in Crisis, an overview of 2016



Youth Suicide Prevention Ireland has facilitators going to visit secondary schools all around the country. As a result of these visits we get a lot of first-hand information about the reality of suicide, and particularly youth suicide, in Ireland today.

### Under Reporting

Following from our Suicide Prevention Survey in 2015 we conducted another survey in 2016. Both

surveys showed that there is considerable under-reporting of suicides. In towns where people know the actual circumstances of a death by suicide the actual death is usually reported as accidental. In some cases, this is necessary as most life insurance policies will not pay out in the event of death by suicide.

In other cases, the family cannot or will not face the social consequences of a suicide where they might be seen as bad parents, or worse, as the cause of the suicide.

### Social Media

We get a lot of feedback from teachers and guidance counsellors about having our programme in schools. There is still a view among some principals and boards of management that the students in their school don't know anything about suicide as there hasn't been one in the area recently.

This is touchingly naïve, but so dangerous, as most of their students have access to, and in some cases are addicted to, social media. Students, and young people in general, are extremely tech-savvy and they share remarkable amounts of personal information through social media. It has got to a stage now where the larger and more socially responsible social media networks are providing report buttons to notify a moderation team if they are concerned about the tone, nature or content of an online friend's posts.



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To assume that young people are ignorant of suicide, what it is, how it happens, or why it happens, is doing them a disservice. There is so much misinformation out there online that it is vital that young people have access to correct information on mental health awareness and particularly suicide prevention.

## Media and Entertainment

Again, as adults we have become oblivious to much of the content of media and entertainment programming. The viewing habits of young people have changed so dramatically in the last few years that many parents are left behind, and unaware of the material that is openly available to their children on Netflix, YouTube, Vimeo or any of the other streaming video providers.

The point is that where before the family sat round the television and parents had some idea of what their children were watching, now it is almost impossible for parents to supervise viewing habits, especially as young people can find their way around most age-restriction settings.

Suicide is a common programming theme these days, in soap operas, dramas, movies. Virtually every student we have talked to knows what a suicide bomber is; they know that this person has killed themselves to make a political point, or further a terrorist cause. And yet somehow parents and teachers don't see any link between a suicide bomber in Iraq and a 10-year-old hanging themselves in their barn, perhaps because as adults we tend to rationalise and look for deeper meanings and motivations. Young people, on the other hand, generally see these as the same, a suicide.



A young child sitting having their dinner in front of the evening news is going to be exposed to the concepts of suicide and, again, it is much better that they learn about prevention and not glorification.

## Acquired Information

As most parents and teachers know, sometimes to their cost, young people have excellent hearing and a tendency to reproduce what they hear at the wrong time and often in the wrong place. Young people learn about many things in life through discussion, peer knowledge, online sources and many other ways.

---

*The son of the doctor overhears his mother talking about someone killing themselves, the son tells his friends about what he overheard, his friends decide to find out more and do a google search; and immediate overload of information.*

---

Like many things in life, such as information about sex and reproduction, young people need to know that they can talk to their parents about things that are bothering them. Dismissive parents can be a significant factor in loss of youth self-worth, depression and potentially suicidal thoughts. They need to know that they can turn to an authoritative figure in their lives who can tell them the real story, a role most often delegated to teachers.

## Risk Factors

There are a number of risk factors associated with youth mental health and particular with suicidal thoughts. The most usual ones are related to traumatic events:

- Losing the family home;
- Losing a loved one or parent;
- Undiagnosed mental health conditions;
- Loss of a beloved pet;
- Arrival of a new baby;
- Parental divorce or remarriage;
- Moving to a new location;
- Starting at a new school;

However, there are also a range of newer and in many ways more insidious risks that parents and teachers might not be aware of, or not fully comprehend.

### *Social Media and cyber-bullying*

One of the reasons frequently given by young persons who harm themselves is social exclusion by peers or indeed overt bullying. Traditionally, this took the form of either physical aggression or a form of relational victimisation whereby a young person was in some way excluded or teased. With the dramatic increase in communication technologies, the means by which this can be perpetrated have increased, in a way which is extremely difficult to monitor.

Under the umbrella term of cyber bullying come a variety of forms of victimisation which include the use of mobile telephones and computers.

These include abusive messages, spreading rumours, posting photographs either via mobile phone or on social network sites. A further and sinister development is the filming of physical aggression perpetrated on the young person and its transmission to others.

It is extremely difficult to police these forms of communication, in many ways because the technological awareness of teenagers is often far ahead of that of their parents.

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In addition, while previously there was just one telephone in a house, and nobody would dare ring after 9.00 p.m. or so, young people with mobile phones or computer access can be busy



communicating well into the early hours, when others are asleep. One of the dreadful consequences of being the victim of such bullying is the fact that 'nowhere is safe'. While previously one knew where to avoid, the sense of vulnerability as a consequence of being cyber bullied is much greater.

It is extremely important that young people learn both how to protect themselves and also to report victimisation of others. What can appear to be a "prank" or "teasing" can be highly distressing and has certainly led to numerous episodes of self-harm, and indeed worse.

## *Fame culture*

One of the recent trends that caught up many young people is reality tv, and the idea that anyone can not only have their 15 minutes of fame, but make a career from it. There has always been a need for young people to look up to and admire their idols such as footballers, GAA stars, musicians and actors. Beatle-mania and the boyband craze of the 80s and 90s are some recent and rather embarrassing examples for some of us.

However, a more worrying trend has developed in recent years. One of our counsellors recently worked with a 15-year-old girl whose cousin had died by suicide. The young girl had also attempted suicide but was unsuccessful. Her reasoning was that she had seen the amazing turn-out for her cousin's funeral, the grief, the school friends all attending, and she decided that she wanted that celebrity too. The fact that she would be dead and not there to experience the celebrity seemed to have totally passed her by.

## *Development of hotspots*

Suicide clusters are also a recent phenomenon, and cause tremendous concern. With the mushrooming of reality television has come a level of exhibitionism which was previously not in evidence. It has led to a situation where many vulnerable young people lay bare their innermost thoughts and emotions for an audience, particularly when distressed.

When one adds to this the possibility of networking with other like-minded individuals on the internet, one can see very clearly how suicide clusters can form. While there are still a number of extremely worrying situations where friends will engage in some sort of suicide pact, the geographical dispersal of those involved in internet-based suicide clusters makes it extremely difficult to penetrate and to prevent.

Again, as with cyber bullying, because of the technological awareness of teenagers compared with most adults, the only way of monitoring such situations is by being able to address these topics in a very open way where young people are not blamed for the sites they frequent, in order that they can feel safe to disclose things that particularly concern them.

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It is also true that, albeit rarely, clusters can develop in a single geographic location. It tends to be among a disaffected peer group, and it is often facilitated by drug and alcohol use. It is certainly the case that, with any situation where a young person dies by suicide, the level of suspicion must be high that others may be considering the same thing. In such situations, one finds that groups of youths tend to cluster together, and it feels as if adults are excluded.

Nonetheless, what does often happen is that, while teenagers may not talk to adults about their feelings, they certainly may talk about others within their group, and by networking together, a group of concerned adults (including teachers, parents, youth leaders etc.) can build up quite a detailed picture of the various levels of vulnerability within the group.

Furthermore, in the wake of such bad news, a sense of unresolved loss in others may often be triggered, and therefore the index of suspicion among others, not intimately connected with

the core group, must still be high. In such situations, the National Education Psychology Service has a very coherent plan for how best to manage a situation within a school setting, and schools or other Youth organisations are often well advised to seek outside advice on how to manage such situations.



It is a time of intense vulnerability and anxiety, particularly among adults. The tendency for young people to idealise the deceased is very common, and, because one is always so reluctant to speak ill of the dead, it is very difficult to challenge. In time, such intense feelings diminish, but vigilance must remain high for those who continue to show depressive features.

## *Sexual overload*

Sexual overload is again a relatively new phenomenon. In earlier generations young people heard about sex through their friends, or older brothers or cousins. There were the odd “dirty magazine” around. Girls were introduced to the start of their periods by their mothers, aunts, cousins or older friends. The introduction to sex was usually gentle, phased and experimental.

What we now find when we talk with young people is that they are overloaded with sexual imagery, stimuluses and impressions from a very young age through TV, online and, often, by access to adult materials. The result is often that these young people are overwhelmed with adult imagery and feelings without either the emotional or physical development to cope. It comes at them in a rush, full-on, rather than at a slower, measured pace which can be more easily assimilated, understood and experienced.

## *Domestic & Educational pressures*

Although domestic and educational pressure is not a new risk factor, in recent years the level of pressure bearing down on young people has increased significantly over previous generations.

Divorce and separation have eroded the stability, albeit artificial, of many Irish households. The certainty of the family structure has become less and less relevant, and with that loss of relevancy is a loss of security for young people. Domestic violence, sexual and physical abuse

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of young people, alcohol and drug dependency, have all become part of everyday life even if it is only portrayed on the favoured soap opera of the household.

In educational terms the pressure to succeed has also been increasing, often coming from the students themselves. A number of students have told our facilitators of the pressure they feel under to do well in Leaving Certificate get a good college placement and get a good degree “or I might have to leave Ireland and my family to find work”. There is a significant spike in the use of our FreeText service around the Exam period and during the CAO process, with young people looking for assistance and support while they work through the stress of this intense period in their lives.

## The Four Steps to Help Programme



The talks we present are based on our own “Four Steps to Help Programme” which is designed to increase awareness of suicide prevention and to provide information on the support and resources available to anyone who is concerned about suicide or is concerned about a friend or family member.

The Four Steps to Help Programme for Schools focuses on providing simple, factual guidance for suicide awareness and prevention. The programme emphasises:

- the importance of awareness of sudden changes in behaviour in friends, family or acquaintances;
- Understanding how to recognise the suicide warning signs, as well as signs of other mental health issues;
- promotion of ‘active listening’, giving simple listening skills and exercises which can be used in everyday situations;
- emphasis on making appropriate family members or other adults aware of concerns so that action can be taken;
- Practical information on dealing with a crisis situation and how to respond.

We all need to know and understand that there is always someone that we can turn to in our life and talk about the issues facing us without fear of rejection if we are prepared to take the first step. What is much more challenging is being prepared to take that first step for someone else; to face possible rejection or ridicule by being prepared to use the Four Step Programme to potentially save a life.

## The Four Steps to Help – Step by Step

The Four Steps to Help Programme is a simple introduction to suicide prevention and mental health awareness information designed for young people. The talks focus on four steps:

① **Watching** ② **Showing** ③ **Asking** ④ **Helping**.

### Step 1: Watching

This step focusses on raising awareness of the suicide warning signs and encouraging participants to watch out for sudden behaviour changes in their friends and family members.

### Step 2: Showing

This step focusses on showing friends and family members that they can discuss any concerns with their friend or sibling, and they can turn to parents and trusted adults for support and advice. This step introduces the Active Listening skillset and provides techniques and examples.

### Step 3: Asking

This step focuses on simple techniques for asking someone how they are feeling and encouraging them to feel safe to talk about their concerns. In this step we build on the techniques introduced in step 2.

### Step 4: Helping

This step provides guidance on how to help someone you are concerned about and focusses on getting assistance from a trusted adult or directly from a medical professional. This step also introduces a crisis scenario and provides information on how to deal with the need to get immediate assistance. This step links to the YSPI FreeText Crisis Information service.



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## Charitable Activities 2016

### The Four Steps to Help Programme

The Four Steps to Help Programme for schools is a fully integrated suicide awareness and prevention programme designed for use with ages 16+. It is now the only national suicide prevention programme that is age appropriate for use in schools. It can also be used by colleges and youth groups.

Youth Suicide Prevention Ireland is already working with secondary schools in most counties to raise awareness of the youth suicide crisis in Ireland and provide suicide prevention workshops for students through our Integrated School Visits Programme. The programme has been running since 2012. We visited around 130 secondary schools and provided classroom based awareness and prevention training face to face with about 18,000 students in 2015-16. So far in 2016-17 we have 52 new schools in our programme and we are working to achieve our goal for over 28,000 face to face student sessions.

We are delighted that the programme creators and developers have agreed to exclusively licence the programme to the charity for another three years free of charge.

#### **The Four Steps to Help Programme is made up of:**

##### *School Visits Programme*

Our School Visits Programme provides trained facilitators who visit secondary schools by invitation. The facilitators provide classroom based presentations to transition, fifth and sixth years. Each student is provided with a 24-page booklet which details suicide awareness and prevention information relevant to their age. We provide these presentations and support materials free of charge to the schools. We have standing invitations from around 45 schools to return every year to present the programme to their new transition years.

##### *FreeText Suicide Prevention Information Service*

Feedback from students that we meet and talk with in schools highlighted the difficulty in getting suicide prevention and helpline information late at night or when out socialising especially if they have no internet access or phone credit.

Our response was to develop the FreeText Information Service. Anyone can text HELP to 50015 free of charge and receive a list of helplines and support information by text within one minute.

##### *Teachers' Resource Packs*

Working with teachers and other suicide prevention organisations we have developed a Teachers' Manual which builds on the classroom presentations that we provide within the School Visits Programme.

The Teachers' Manual provides background information on the causes of youth suicide and self-harm as well as statistics provided by the Central Statistics Office. This is then developed into a series of seven lesson plans with worksheets and handouts that teachers can use as part

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of a mental health module or project. There is also a test that can be used to bring the whole lesson cycle together. The Teachers' Manual is provided free of charge to participating schools.

## *Secondary Teachers' Handbook*

We have also developed a Teachers' Handbook which provides specialised information on crisis management, staff training and legal procedures for Secondary teachers.

## *Exam Support Training*

In 2016 we are offering exam support courses in schools and colleges specifically designed to identify and help reduce extreme stress in 6<sup>th</sup> year secondary and final year university students. The incidence of youth suicide increases dramatically during exam season and this is mostly due to fear of failure and inability to deal with stress.

## Education Resource Centres

As part of our strategic review in 2015 we identified seven counties as areas which have unusually high risk indicators for youth self-harm and suicide. We decided that a vital area for the charity was also to provide training and support for teachers, lecturers, Gardaí, youth workers & organisers and GAA volunteers & coaches.

The centres will also organise workshops around their counties for parents and anyone who would like to find out more about mental health awareness and particularly youth suicide prevention. The centre will also provide drop-in facilities and a counselling referral service for parents concerned about their children's behaviour.

We are opening our first Education Resource Centre in Killarney in January 2017 which will provide specialist mental health awareness and recognition training for primary and secondary teachers, youth workers, GAA and sports staff from each counties' schools.

Further centres will be opened in Limerick and Galway during 2017 with centres following in Roscommon, Cavan, Leitrim and Carlow by 2018.





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## Programme Outcomes

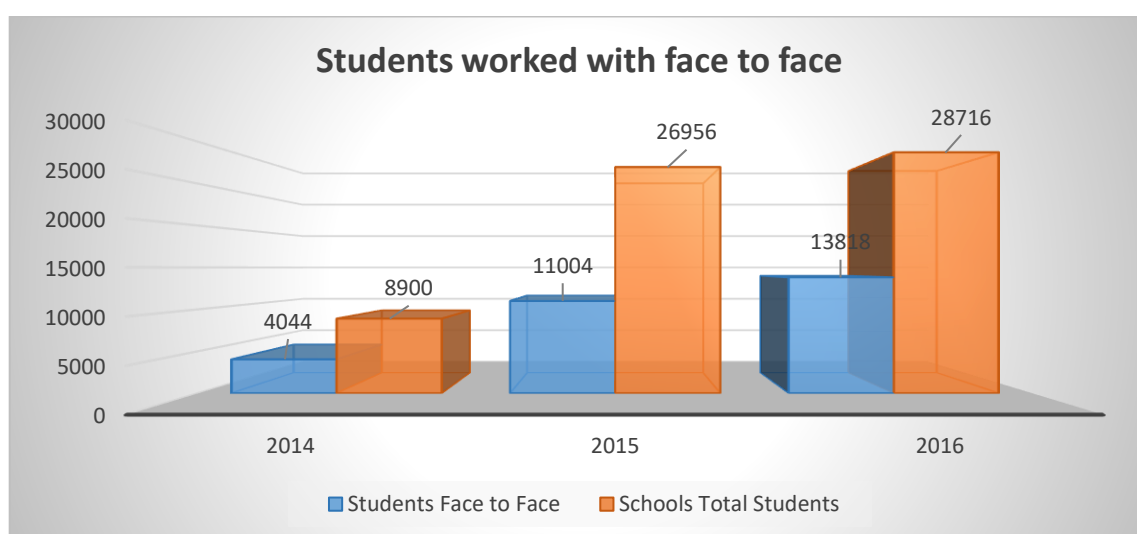
We are publishing detailed statistics of how our programmes have been working during 2016 for the first time. Our staff and volunteers have spent 8 months compiling all our data and records and transferring them to a central Information system. We also took the opportunity to move all our accounts information to QuickBooks Online which provides the Trustees and management with up to the minute financial reports and budgeting/target information.

### School Visits Programme 2016

2016 was really the year when our Schools Programme came together. For September 2015 our facilitator had finished revising the Programme so that it formed a coherent system for schools where teachers could build on our talks with worksheets and lesson plans, a teacher training handbook and our FreeText service to provide crisis support.

We visited 52 schools in 2016, a 24% increase on 2015, bringing the number of schools using the Four Steps to Help system to 109. We also increased our number of visits per week by 25% over 2015 and the number of classes taught per visit was up by 28%. We averaged 2 classes per visit in 2016, up from 1.92 classes in 2015.

Year	Schools Visited	School Weeks	Visits per Week	TY Classes	5thclasses	6th Classes	Total Classes	Classes per Visit
2014	15	30	0.5	13	11	10	34	2.27
2015	39	30	1.3	34	24	17	75	1.92
2016	52	30	1.7	47	34	23	104	2.00

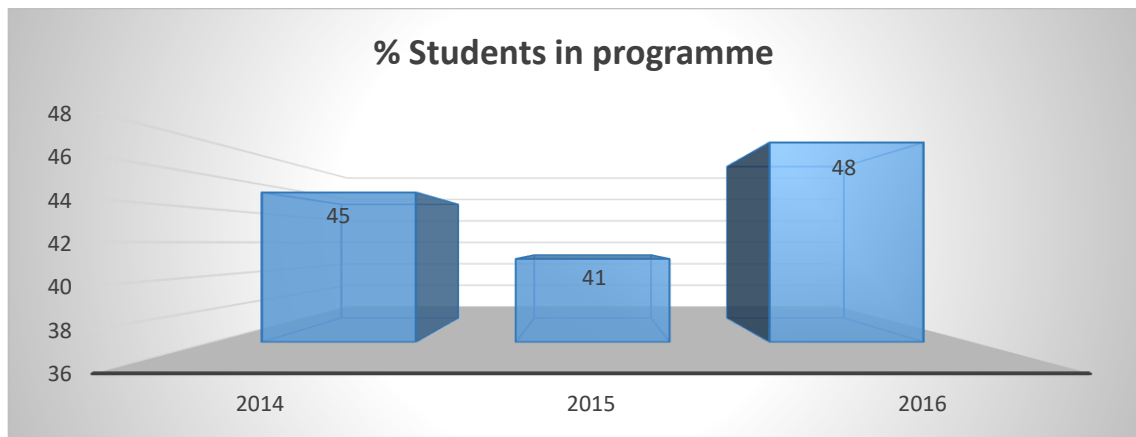


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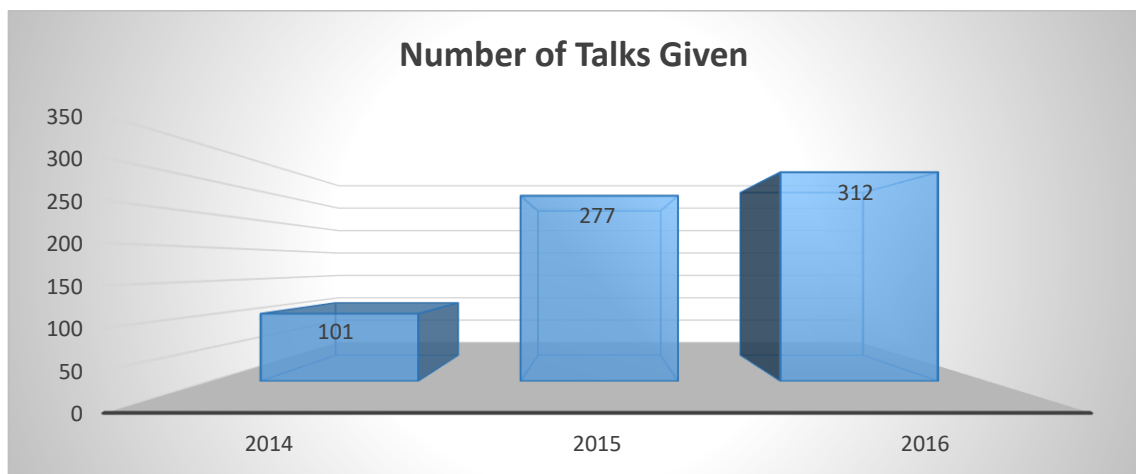
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Our facilitators worked directly with just under 14,000 students during 2016 out of a total school population of 29,000, which means that 48% of the school population in participating schools was directly trained in our programme. This is a 7% increase on 2015.

We are very pleased to see the percentage of the school population that is being facilitated rising as it allows our facilitators to meet and work with more students directly.



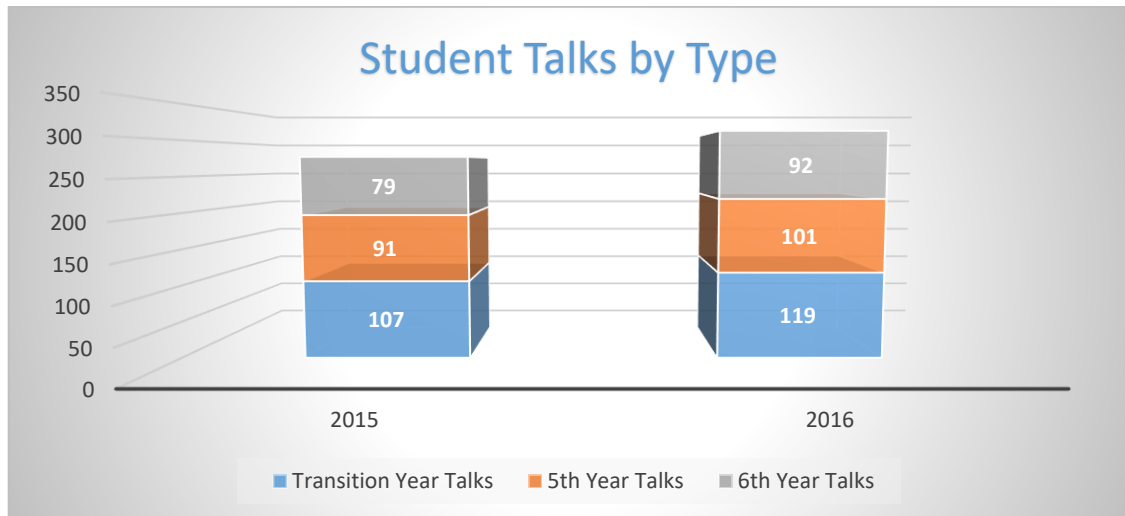
As we were able to increase the number of school visits in 2016 by 24% we were also able to increase the number of talks our facilitators were able to provide. In 2016 we provided 312 talks, an increase of 11% over 2015 but a 68% increase over 2014 when the programme first started.



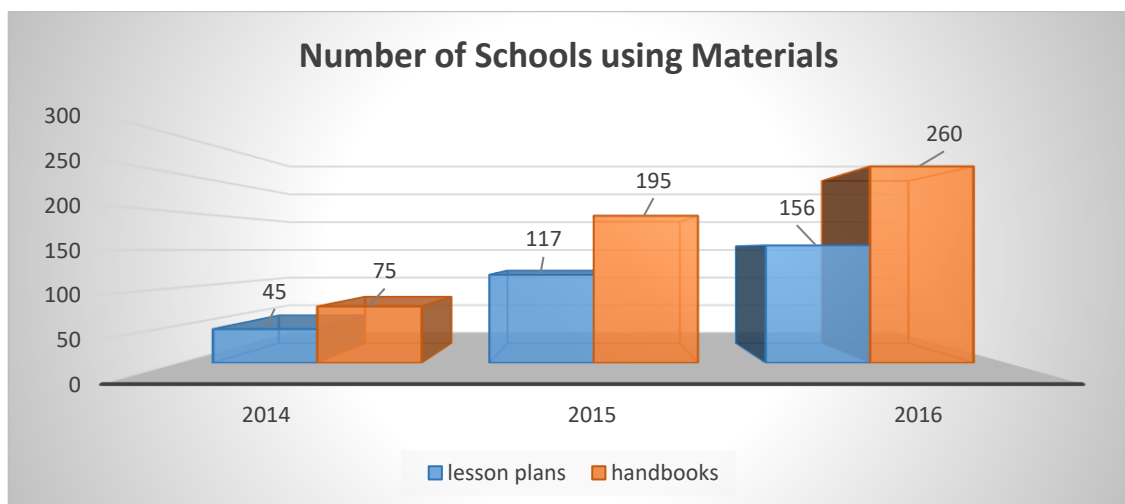
Year	TY Students	5th Students	6th Year	Total Students	Total School Size	% Students Met	Talks Given
2014	1,820	1,120	1,104	4,044	8,900	45%	101
2015	5,465	3,211	2,328	11,004	26,956	41%	277
2016	7,111	4,111	2,596	13,818	28,716	48%	312

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Many schools are now integrating our programmes into a Mental Health Awareness Week which brings together many different strands of mental health, wellness and healthy lifestyles. As a result more schools have brought their 6<sup>th</sup> Years into the programme so we have seen a year on year increase of 6<sup>th</sup> years from 17 in 2015 to 25 in 2016, an increase of 32%.

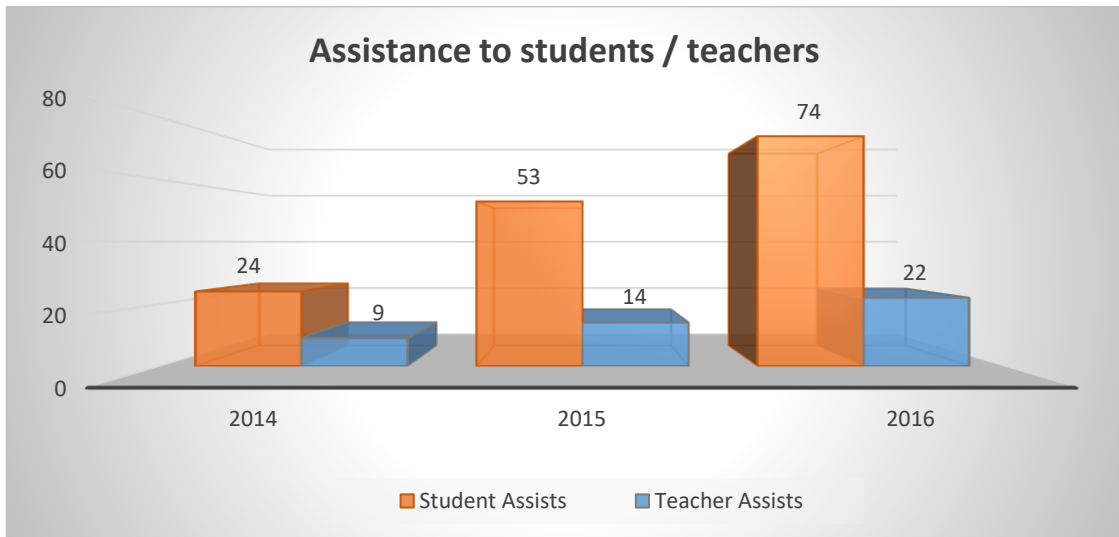


There has also been an increase in the number of schools who have requested materials from the charity. The use of lesson plans has increased from 117 in 2015 to 156, a 25% increase. The number of schools requesting the use of our Teachers' Handbook increased from 195 to 260 in 2016.

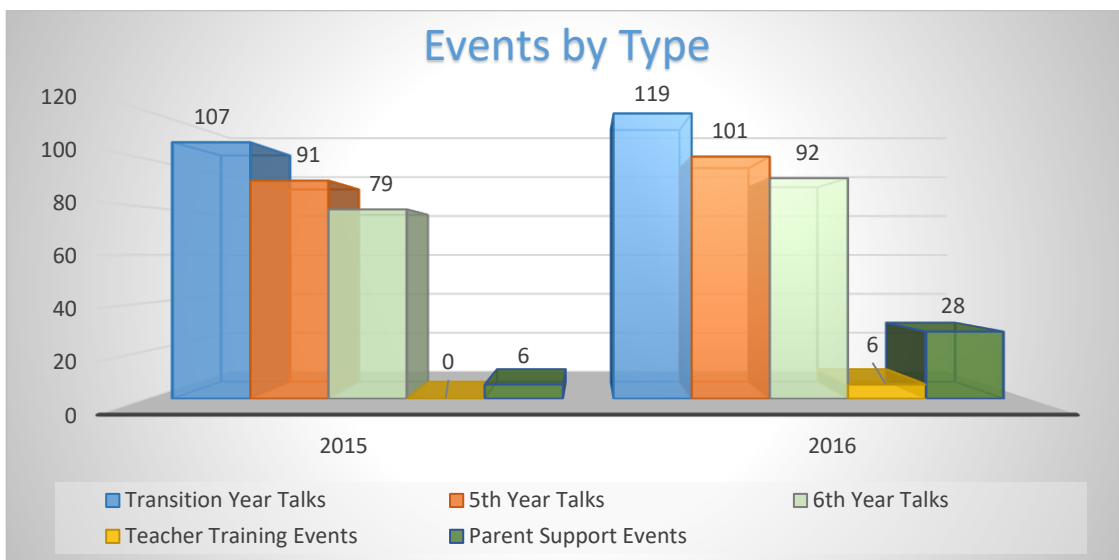
In the course of school visits our facilitators are often asked by guidance counsellors or principals to talk, in more detail, with students or teachers about youth suicide and youth suicide prevention. These sessions would be much more detailed and focussed on the causes, statistics and trends rather than the generalised material in the talks. These sessions provide valuable insight into the impact of suicide on young people and those who teach them.

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As a review of 2016 we have categorised the events in the School Visits Programme by type but this excludes the FreeText service which will be covered separately. The Trustees feel that the programme has made great strides in the number of schools taking part, and the fact that so many schools who would not allow us access to their students previously are now contacting the charity to book visits.



We would like to pay a special tribute to our facilitators who travel the country providing talks on behalf of the charity. Our primary facilitator, Alan, has attended all 109 school visits over three years, and Tony, who acts as the Child Protection Facilitator, has attended 63 visits as well as holding outreach events around the country.

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Year	Primary Facilitator	CPP Facilitator	Teacher Attended	Facilitator Issues	CPP Issues	Feedback Score
2014	15	12	3	0	0	91%
2015	39	20	19	0	0	89%
2016	52	31	21	0	0	95%

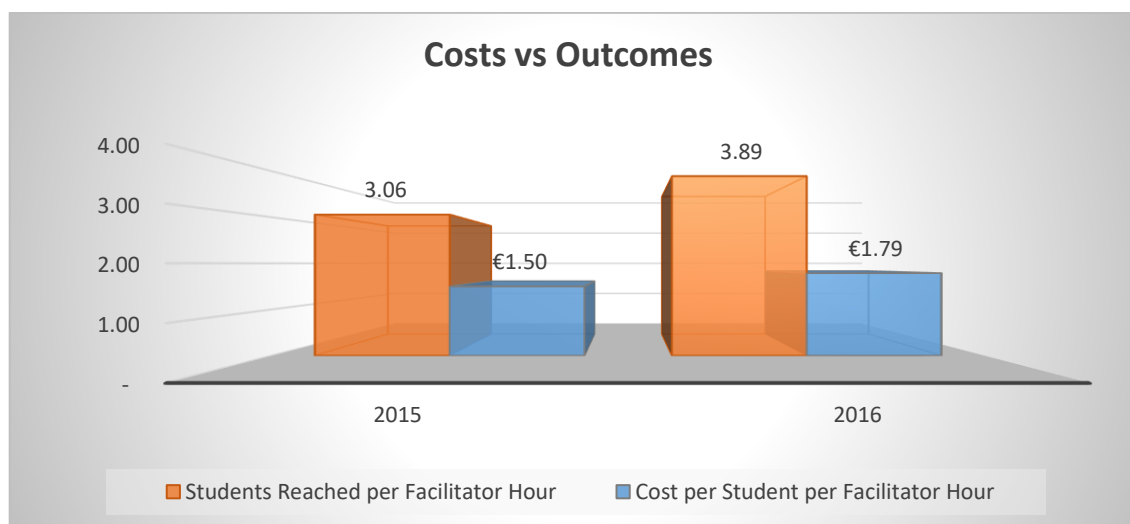
In the last three years we have had no negative issues have been raised with us by schools about our facilitators, but there has been plenty of praise and thanks, much of which can be seen on our Facebook page. We have also had no Child Protection Policy issues raised with our facilitators.

One of the things we ask schools to do is give us feedback on our programme and facilitators. we are delighted to be able to report a 95% satisfaction rating in our feedback responses.

### School Visits 2016 – Financial Outcomes

We feel that it is vital to show the financial outcomes of the programme as well as the benefits. With a view to transparency and the public’s right to know how their donations are spent in this section we will look at the financing of the programme.

The total spend on the School Visits Programme was €86,000 in 2016, up 14% on 2015’s €74,000 spend. We employ two full-time facilitators on salaries of €25,000 per year before tax. Including Employers’ PRSI and other taxes the total cost per facilitator is around €29,800 per annum.



Each facilitator works around 1,800 hours per year which averages around €14.00 per hour. Facilitators are not paid for travel time but the charity covers the cost of the facilitators’ travel, subsistence and accommodation which must be approved by the Board of Trustees.

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In 2016 there was a slight increase in the cost to the charity per student per facilitator hour from €1.50 in 2015 to €1.79 in 2016. However the number of students trained per facilitator hour increased from 3.06 students in 2015 to 3.89 students in 2016, an increase of 21% while costs increased by only 16%.

The costs of the school visits programme also include printing of the student packs we give to each student being trained. In 2015 we distributed 8,250 packs and in 2016 we distributed around 11,370 at a cost of around €1.00 per pack. Teachers' pack cost around €11.00 per pack as they included an 80 page set of lesson plans and a 30 page handbook. We distributed around 260 teacher packs in 2016. The total costs of printing was around €15,300 for 2016.

We also distributed awareness packs to all 864 secondary schools and colleges with posters, leaflets and awareness materials at a cost of €3.00 per pack plus €2.00 postage. Total cost for 2016 was €4,320.

Total spend on the School Visits Programme is:

Facilitator Salaries	€50,000
Employment Taxes	€12,800
Student Packs	€11,370
Teacher Packs	€2,800
Awareness Packs	€4,320
Facilitator Expenses	€2,710
	-----
	€84,000

There was a €2,000 surplus in funding over expenses for 2016.

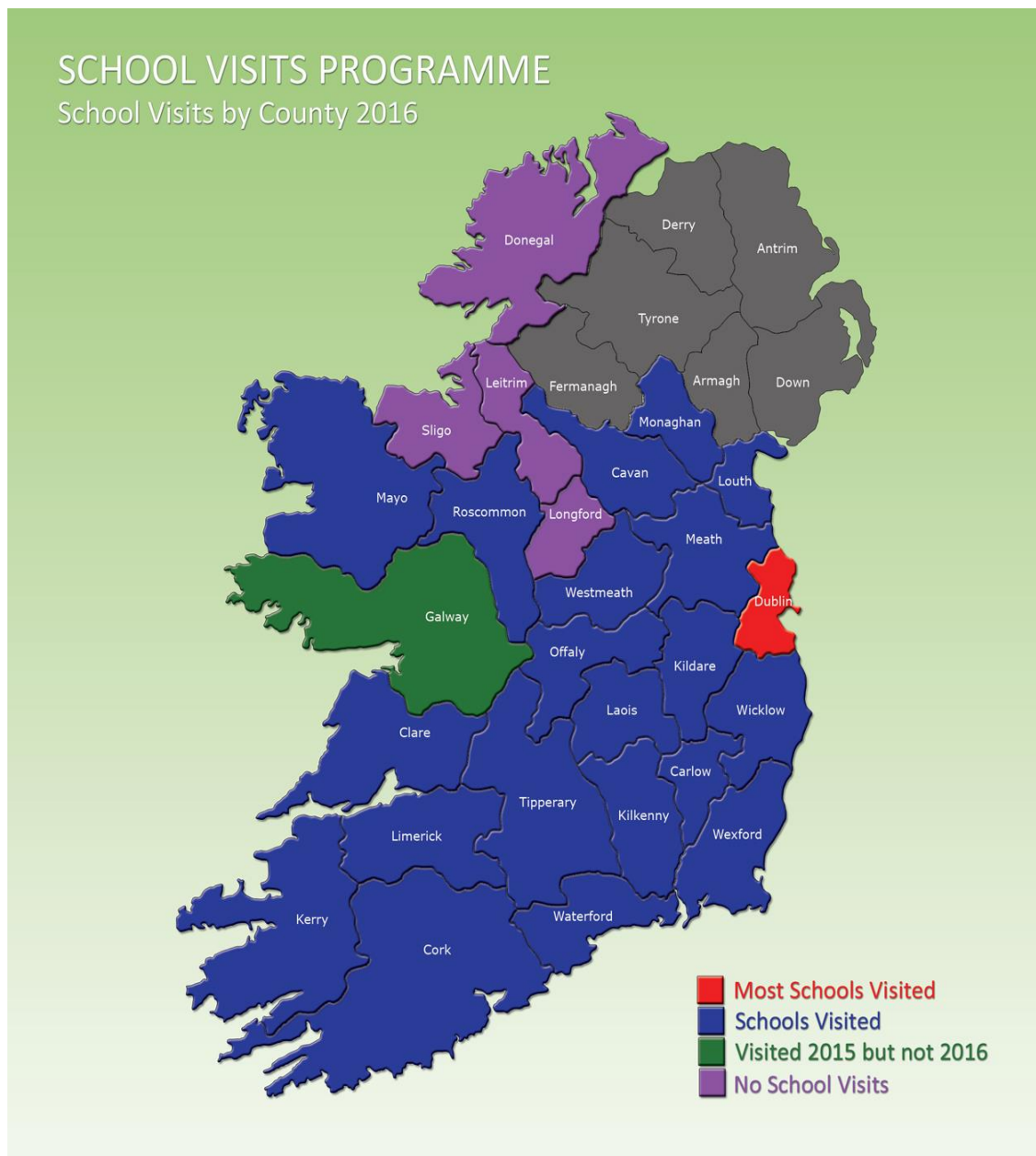


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## School Visits 2016 – Programme Distribution

We are asked by schools all over the country to come and work with their students but for reasons of logistics and scheduling we are only able to book around 65% of the schools looking to take part in the programme.



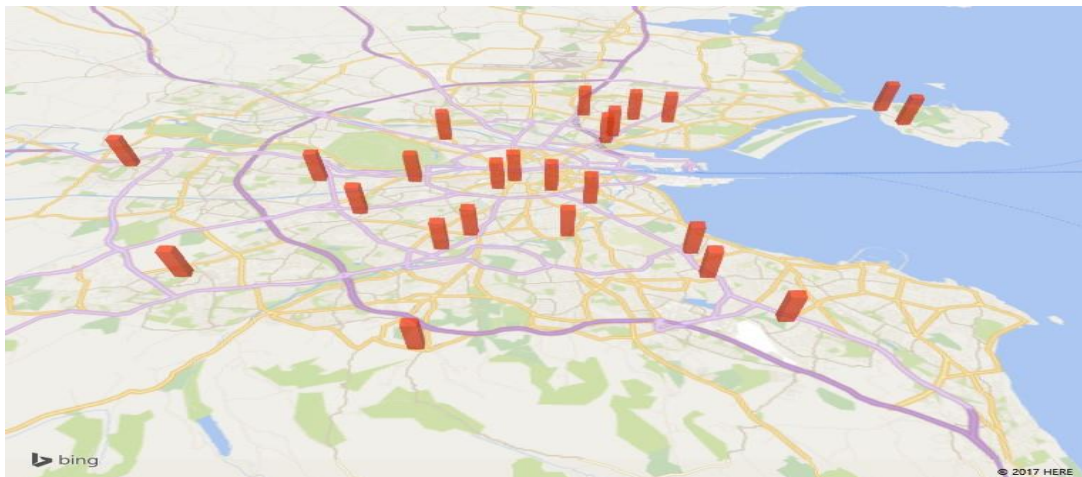
We were able to deliver our Schools programme to 21 of the 26 counties which is one less than 2015 as we didn't visit Galway for any school talks in 2016, although we did have outreach events. We will be focussing on the west and north-west in 2017 to try and get into schools in those counties which are most resistant to youth suicide prevention programmes in their schools. Dublin was once again the most visited county in 2016.

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In 2016 we visited schools in the locations shown on the map above. The largest concentration of the schools visited were in County Dublin, then Cork and Kilkenny.



The map above shows the County Dublin schools we visited in 2016 including three Dublin schools that we have visited every year the programme has been running.

The county breakdown for 2016 was as follows:

County	% of Visits	County	% of Visits
Dublin	21.84%	Westmeath	3.45%
Cork	9.20%	Monaghan	2.30%
Kilkenny	8.05%	Mayo	2.30%
Limerick	6.90%	Tipperary	2.30%
Wicklow	6.90%	Cavan	1.15%
Wexford	5.75%	Meath	1.15%
Carlow	4.60%	Roscommon	1.15%
Kerry	4.60%	Offaly	1.15%
Kildare	3.45%	Waterford	1.15%
Louth	3.45%	Sligo	1.15%
Laois	3.45%		
Clare	3.45%		
Waterford	1.18%		



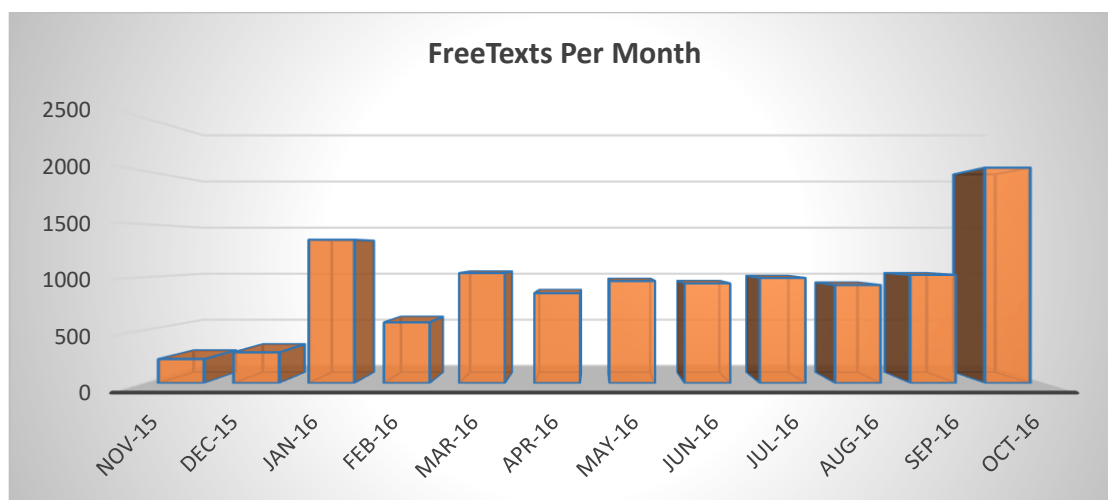
# YOUTH IN CRISIS

## Annual Report 2016

### School Visits 2016 – FreeText Crisis Service

We began actively promoting our FreeText Crisis Information Service (FCIS) in January 2015 with a poster campaign to all schools and colleges as well as a well-targeted social media campaign on Facebook and Instagram.

By integrating the FCIS into the Schools Programme our facilitators were able to increase awareness of the FCIS to our core demographic, 16-20 students. Because the FCIS is not age restricted we were also able to engage with schools to raise awareness of the service with the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> years.



The net result was a dramatic increase in use of the service from January 2016 onwards. The directors and staff of Neon SMS in Cork, the providers of our FCIS, very kindly made us their Charity of the Year for 2016. As a result the day to day costs of the service were sponsored which allowed us to really promote the service without budgetary constraints.

An update to Neon SMS's software also allowed much more detailed reporting on HELP texts received and outgoing Crisis Response texts. Our figures are based on HELP texts received by the system.

As you can see from the figures we were averaging around 1000 unique HELP texts per month, which are texts that originate from a particular mobile number and duplicates have been removed as some numbers repeat frequently.

Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct
2015	2015	2016	2016	2016	2016	2016	2016	2016	2016	2016	2016
228	291	1354	574	1039	849	964	942	993	926	1022	2030

We are often asked when do most HELP texts arrive and we have been able to do statistical analysis on our text data to find out how many texts are received per hour averaged out over 12 months.

# YOUTH IN CRISIS

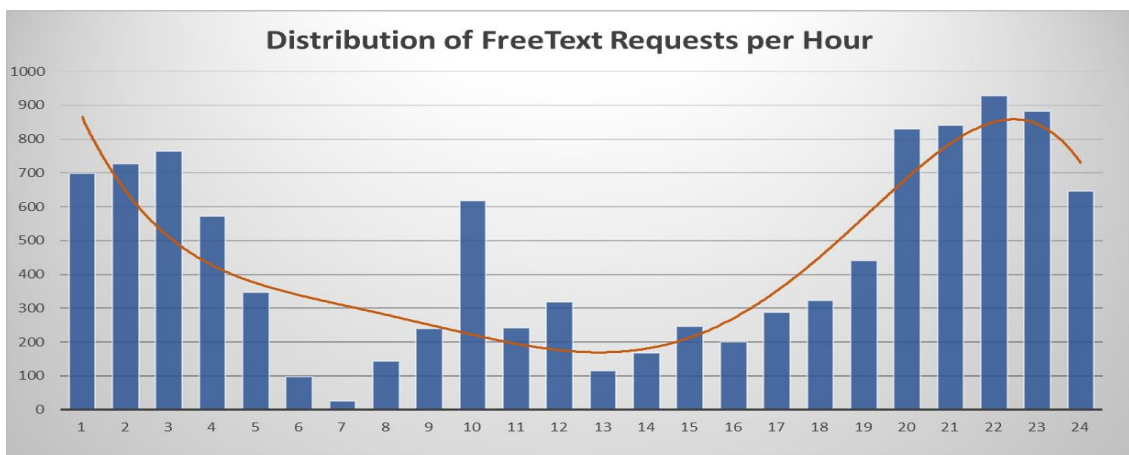
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Hour	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Texts	699	726	763	572	347	98	26	142	239	617	241	319
% Total	6.53	6.79	7.13	5.35	3.24	0.92	0.24	1.33	2.23	5.77	2.25	2.98

Hour	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Texts	115	168	246	201	288	322	441	830	841	929	883	645
% Total	1.07	1.57	2.30	1.88	2.69	3.01	4.12	7.76	7.86	8.68	8.25	6.03

The peak period for sending HELP texts is between 7pm and 10pm with 32.5% of all texts received during this period. In the period from 7pm to 2am 59% of all texts are received. Our conclusion is that the FCIS serves as a night-time resource when most other sources of information are closed or difficult to find.



The table below shows how the number of FreeTexts per day has increased during the year from an average of 8 per day in November 2015 to an average of 67 in October 2016.

Year	Month	FreeTexts Per Month	FreeTexts Per Day
2015	11	228	8
2015	12	291	10
2016	1	1354	45
2016	2	574	19
2016	3	1039	34
2016	4	849	28
2016	5	964	32
2016	6	942	31
2016	7	993	33
2016	8	926	30
2016	9	1022	34
2016	10	2030	67

# YOUTH IN CRISIS

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## Outreach & Awareness Events

It was a busy year for outreach and awareness events around the country. Our thanks to Tony Philpott for running 86 Outreach events during the year.

### Outreach Events

In 2016 we concentrated on small towns around the country with populations of around 1000-2000, particularly in rural areas. 41 of the outreach events were in Munster as this reduced our travel costs. In 2017 we intend to concentrate on the midlands and western counties.

Number of Events	Event Type	County	Facilitator
18	Outreach Event	Co Cork	Tony Philpott
13	Outreach Event	Co Kerry	Tony Philpott
10	Outreach Event	Co Tipperary	Tony Philpott
9	Outreach Event	Co Offaly	Tony Philpott
7	Outreach Event	Co Waterford	Tony Philpott
7	Outreach Event	Co Wicklow	Tony Philpott
6	Four Steps to Help Talk	Co Dublin	Alan McKelvie
6	Mentor Group	Co Dublin	Alan McKelvie
5	Outreach Event	Co Kildare	Tony Philpott
5	Outreach Event	Co Wexford	Tony Philpott
3	Outreach Event	Co Sligo	Tony Philpott
3	Outreach Event	Co Laois	Tony Philpott
3	Outreach Event	Co Carlow	Tony Philpott
2	Outreach Event	Co Galway	Tony Philpott
2	Four Steps to Help Talk	Co Cork	Alan McKelvie
2	Mentor Group	Co Cork	Alan McKelvie
1	Outreach Event	Dublin	Tony Philpott
1	Four Steps to Help Talk	Co Westmeath	Alan McKelvie
1	Four Steps to Help Talk	Co Carlow	Alan McKelvie
1	Four Steps to Help Talk	Co Wicklow	Alan McKelvie
1	Four Steps to Help Talk	Co Kilkenny	Alan McKelvie
1	Four Steps to Help Talk	Co Kildare	Alan McKelvie
1	Four Steps to Help Talk	Co Tipperary	Alan McKelvie
1	Mentor Group	Co Westmeath	Alan McKelvie
1	Mentor Group	Co Carlow	Alan McKelvie
1	Mentor Group	Co Wicklow	Alan McKelvie
1	Mentor Group	Co Kilkenny	Alan McKelvie
1	Mentor Group	Co Kildare	Alan McKelvie
1	Mentor Group	Co Tipperary	Alan McKelvie

The outreach events are small events, usually a table in a post office or supermarket door where we can distribute leaflets and provide assistance to parents and students. They do also provide us with an opportunity to get insight data into suicides in the locality,

### Four Steps to Help Talks

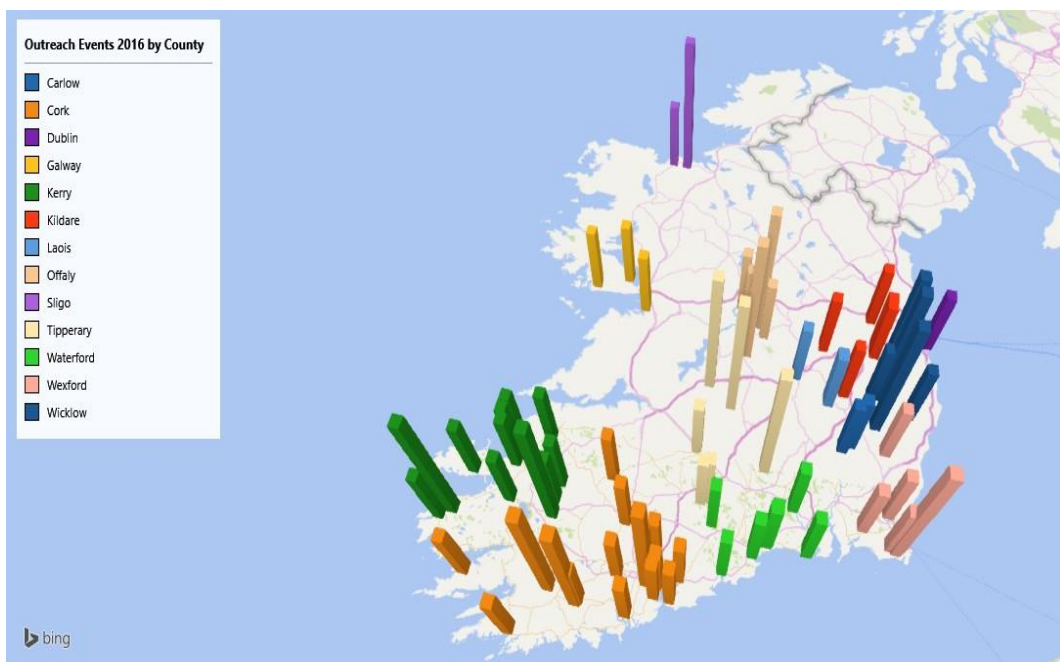
The Four Steps to Help talks are community based events, usually at the request of Garda Community Liaisons or Community Outreach workers. They provide an overview of youth suicide and inform the attendees on warnings signs, intervention techniques and assistance resources. They are usually well attended as they are community driven.

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Map showing the distribution of 2016 Outreach Events



Map showing the distribution of 2016 Outreach Events by County

## Parent Support Events – Mentor Groups

The Mentor Groups were set up by Alan McKelvie as part of the School Visits Programme where parents and teachers can meet with Alan prior to a school visit to discuss the programme, how they can integrate the programme into the school, and how parents can go on to assist their children should they enter a crisis of whatever kind.

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Most of the Mentor Groups were reasonably well attended with an average of 6 persons. This would be higher than average for a school promoted event, which are notorious for their low turnout.

### Facilitation Recruitment Events

During the summer of 2016 we held a number of free training courses for teachers, youth group organisers and charity staff in how to facilitate the Four Steps to Help Programme in their schools and organisations. We are particularly keen to train facilitators who are fluent Irish speakers so the Four Steps to Help Programme can be presented in Gaeltacht schools and Irish Colleges as Gaeilge.

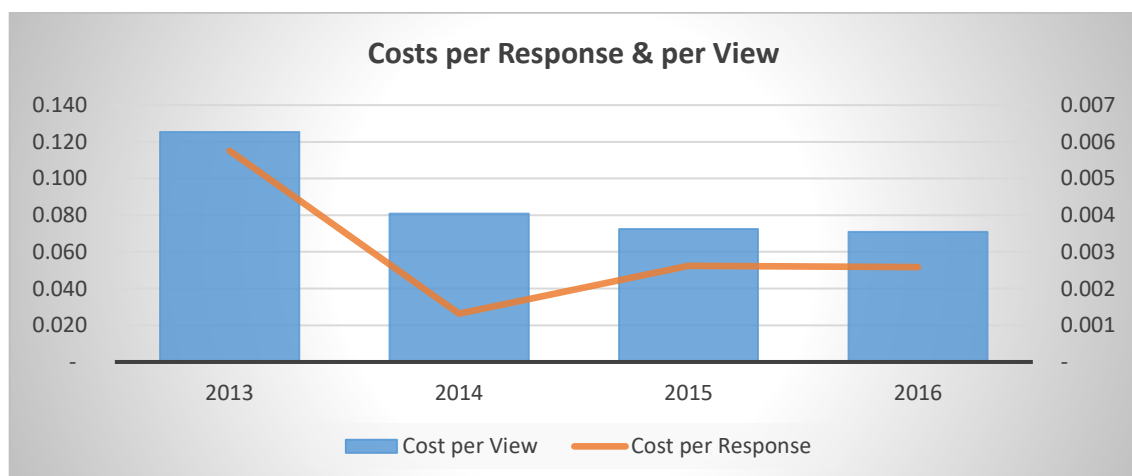
### Child Protection Implementation Training

We have adopted a very robust Child Protection Policy as we are sending facilitators into situations where they may be one on one with a teenager. All our new facilitators are Garda-vetted and shadowed during their induction phase in schools. References are taken as well as detailed personal histories.

## Social Media

It has become ever more clear to us that social media for us, like every other organisation or business, is now absolutely vital to getting our message to our target constituents.

We have been working to increase our social media presence but reduce our costs and this policy is now starting to bear fruit. We have again improved the number of views for posts we have put on Facebook from 7,000,000 in 2015 to 11,000,000 in 2016. We still have some way to go to reach our 2014 high of 16,000,000 but we will achieve that in 2017.



On average we have been spending around €4,300 per year on raising awareness of our programmes, particularly the FreeText service to ages 13-22. Since 2013 the precision for

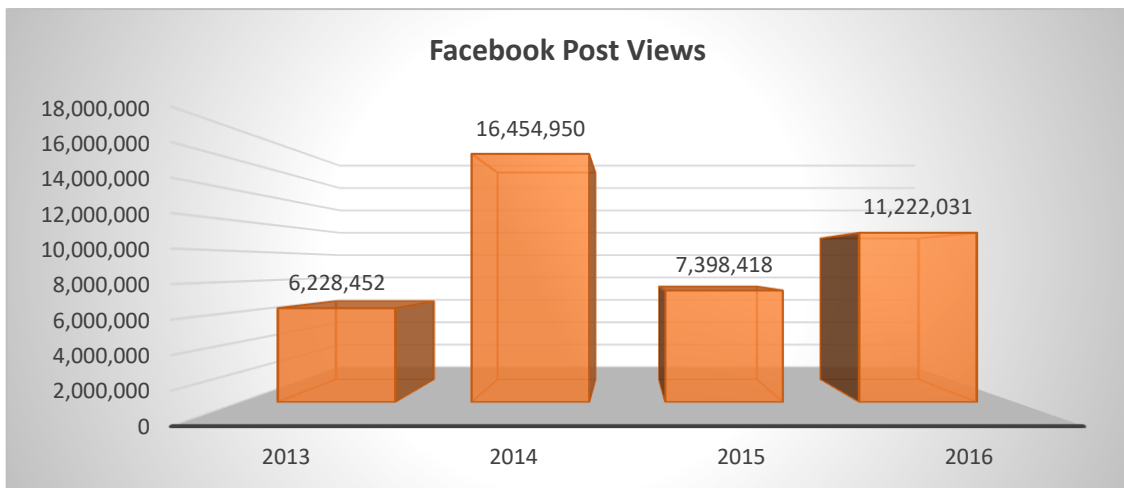
# YOUTH IN CRISIS

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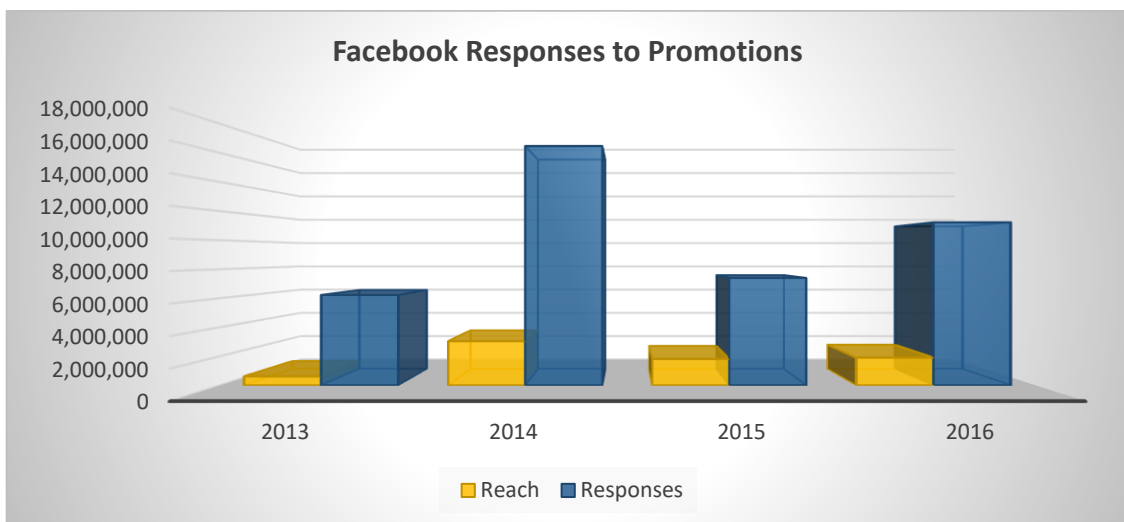
reaching our target demographic via Facebook has been improving. In 2013 we spent €3,600 to achieve 29,000 youth engagements at a cost of 12.5 cent per engagement. In 2016 we spent €5,000 to reach 70,000 young people at a cost of 0.071 cent which is a 43% cost reduction.

Year	Youth Response	Page Views	Spend	Cost per Response	Cost per View
2013	28,673	624,692	€3,595	€0.125	€0.006
2014	49,598	3,048,037	€4,013	€0.081	€0.001
2015	65,902	1,818,725	€4,771	€0.072	€0.003
2016	69,785	1,913,823	€4,944	€0.071	€0.003

The number of page views, the number of our target demographic who viewed our page rose from 625,000 in 2013 to 1,900,000 in 2016 which is a 204% increase with the cost per page view reducing from 0.006 cent in 2013 to 0.003 cent in 2016, a 50% decrease.



The number of impressions of sponsored posts and awareness promotions increased from 7,000,000 in 2015 to 11,000,000 in 2016, a 57% increase. We are aiming for a 45% increase in 2017 will bring us back to 2014 levels.



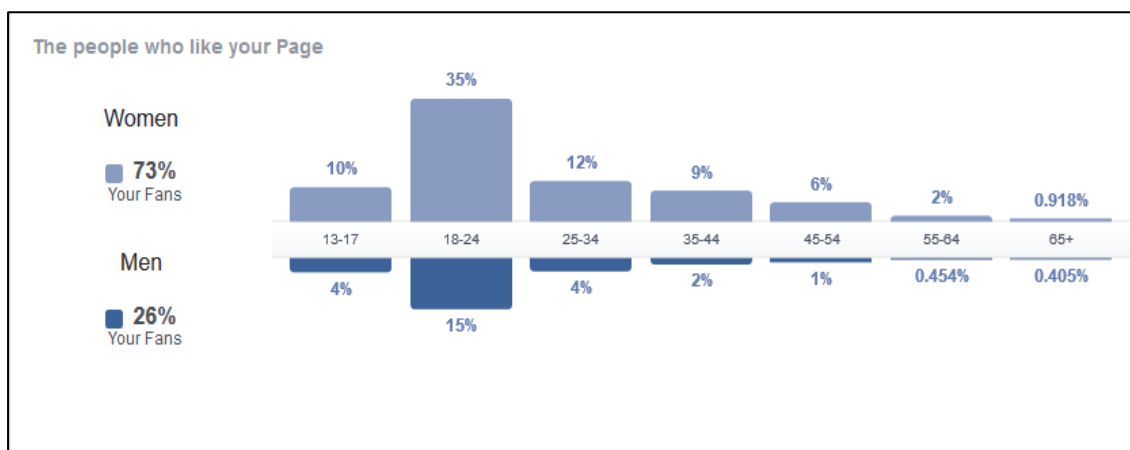
# YOUTH IN CRISIS

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For the first time Facebook have been able to provide detailed information on where we are reaching within Ireland. This is now enabling us to target counties where our reach is weakest to improve response results and reach.

City	Reach	City	Reach	City	Reach
Dublin, Dublin	108,031	Tralee, Kerry	1,575	Ballincollig, County Cork	699
Cork, County Cork	13,138	Port Laoise, County Laois	1,552	Carrigaline, County Cork	699
Galway, Galway	11,137	Letterkenny, Donegal	1,237	Longford, County Longford	670
Kildare, Kildare	10,623	Clonmel, County Tipperary	1,222	Shannon, County Clare	594
Limerick, Limerick	10,619	Ennis, County Clare	1,203	Ashbourne, County Meath	562
Wexford, Wexford	6,392	Athlone, County Westmeath	1,135	Westport, County Mayo	533
Waterford, Waterford	5,683	Mullingar, County Westmeath	1,123	Monaghan, County Monaghan	532
Wicklow, Wicklow	5,631	Killarney, Kerry	937	Portarlinton, County Laois	524
Kilkenny, Kilkenny	4,277	Tullamore, County Offaly	865	Cashel, County Tipperary	522
Sligo, Sligo	3,119	Ballina, County Mayo	838	Bandon, County Cork	479
Carlow, Carlow	2,990	Cobh, County Cork	812	Tipperary, County Tipperary	474
Cavan, Cavan	2,775	Thurles, County Tipperary	810	Mountmellick, County Laois	469
Roscommon, Roscommon	1,835	Castlebar, County Mayo	793	Fermoy, County Cork	467
Dundalk, County Louth	1,790	Mallow, County Cork	788		
Drogheda, County Louth	1,749	Midleton, County Cork	711		
Navan, County Meath	1,698	Nenagh, County Tipperary	704		

The demographics of those who like our Facebook page is always interesting. Once again 73% of our fans are women with 35% being between 18-24. Only 26% of our fans are men with the largest percentage, 15%, being in the 18-24 range again. A target for 2017 will be to improve the gender balance and reach more of the 13-17 age group.



## Programme Development 2017

### Four Steps to Help Programme

Our development plans for 2017 are basically to build on the progress and momentum built up in 2016.

1. Retain the schools already in the programme. For schools where we have already worked with the 4<sup>th</sup>/TY, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> years we are recommending that we work with each new TY/4<sup>th</sup> year. The programme is age appropriate to 16+ so fits into the TY cycle perfectly.
2. We want to add new schools to the programme as funding allows. As most of the schools already in the programme will only need their TY classes integrated into the programme this will reduce the number of talks required, freeing up facilitator time.
3. Reducing costs is always an important consideration. Our fixed costs in terms of salaries, taxes, insurance and fees remain the same. However we are hoping to reduce travel and subsistence costs. Moving the charity to a CLG model will reduce costs considerably as we will only have one insurance bill covering all our charity activities.
4. By recruiting volunteer facilitators we are hoping to reduce our expenditure on travel in particular. The problems around volunteer facilitators remain insurance cover, particularly liability insurance, and Garda Vetting.
5. Improve our social media impressions and reach, but also to increase our Twitter, Instagram and LinkedIn following. We will do this by recruiting a volunteer Social Media Coordinator.

### Primary Schools Programme – Development Project

The aim of this project is to work with teachers and appropriate stakeholders to develop an age appropriate programme based on the Four Steps to Help Programme for primary school use. The project is focussing on providing a programme that can be facilitated by our own trained facilitators, or by teachers themselves. The Age Profile would be Primary school students ages 10 upwards

YSPI has facilitators going to visit schools all around the country. As a result of these visits we get a lot of first-hand information about the reality of suicide, and one of the most worrying issues that keeps coming up in the age of those dying by suicide or attempting suicide. We have first-hand knowledge of children as young as 9 years old dying by suicide.

Our view is that we cannot pretend this issue doesn't exist and we need to start developing methodologies to assist teachers and parents of young children to ensure that the children know, really know, that they can turn to a teacher or parent who will listen and help that child



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to overcome the emotional or physical pressures they are under that might make suicide an option.

## Secondary Schools Programme Development

We are going to use 2017 to bed the programme down and make sure that it is fully integrated and continues to work within the Government's new framework for mental health in the curriculum.

All programmes of this type are works in progress and our facilitators constantly 'tweak' the programme to make it more accessible and relevant.

## Schools & Colleges Mental Health Network

We are working to develop a new mental health awareness network with the Irish Union of Students (IUS) and the Irish Secondary-Level Students Union (ISSU) where we would provide expert suicide prevention information through our Advisory Board.

## Exam Support Training

In 2016-17 we are offering exam support courses in schools and colleges specifically designed to identify and help reduce extreme stress in 6<sup>th</sup> year secondary and final year university students. The incidence of youth suicide increases dramatically during exam season and this is mostly due to fear of failure and inability to deal with stress.

## Students against Suicide Initiative 2017

Students against Suicide is our National Awareness and Solidarity Campaign for 2017. We are already working with University College Dublin Students' Union and we will be extending the initiative to University College Cork, Cork Institute of Technology, Limerick Institute of Technology, Tralee Institute of Technology, University of Limerick, Athlone Institute of Technology, NUI Galway and Galway-Mayo Institute of Technology in Spring 2017 with awareness events, student programmes and media events.



Students from across the country contact us daily asking why more isn't being done about youth suicide specifically. YSPI's Schools Programme will reach around 24,000 students in schools and colleges across the country during 2017 but we don't receive a cent from the government. We want 2017 to be our year of awareness, our year of solidarity with the families, friends and fellow students of those young people who have died by suicide.

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Students against Suicide is focussed on:

- More funding for youth specific suicide prevention programmes that actually reach the people who need them, young people.
- Funding for a national online Youth Counselling Service so that young people in rural areas can get counselling and support more easily and quickly.
- Recognition that the official statistics are only telling part of the story, that the story on the ground is very different.
- Accepting that all the other crises that affect young people, homelessness, financial pressures, lack of opportunities, deprivation, bullying & harassment, they all lead back to an increased risk of suicide.

## Free2Talk Programme

When we go to schools we are often asked by students, "How do I know I can talk about my problems to .....?" and it is most often their parents or a sibling that they want to talk to but they're afraid of being rejected.

By joining the Free2Talk Campaign we will be encouraging participants to wear our special wristband or have our Free2Talk keyring so that their friends, children and other members of their family, team mates, co-workers etc know that they can approach the participant and talk.

One of the most important aspects of mental health awareness and particularly suicide prevention to allow people to talk. Just being allowed to talk, being listened to, can often be enough to stop someone from making bad decisions.



## Certificate in Mental Health Awareness & Suicide Prevention

Now that the Four Steps Programme is an integrated training programme we are working to produce an online version of the programme where students and members of the public can work through the Programme online and gain certificates for each level achieved.

The draft course is a work in progress but is available for viewing and commenting at <http://fourstepstohelp.teachable.com/p/the-four-steps-to-help-programme/>

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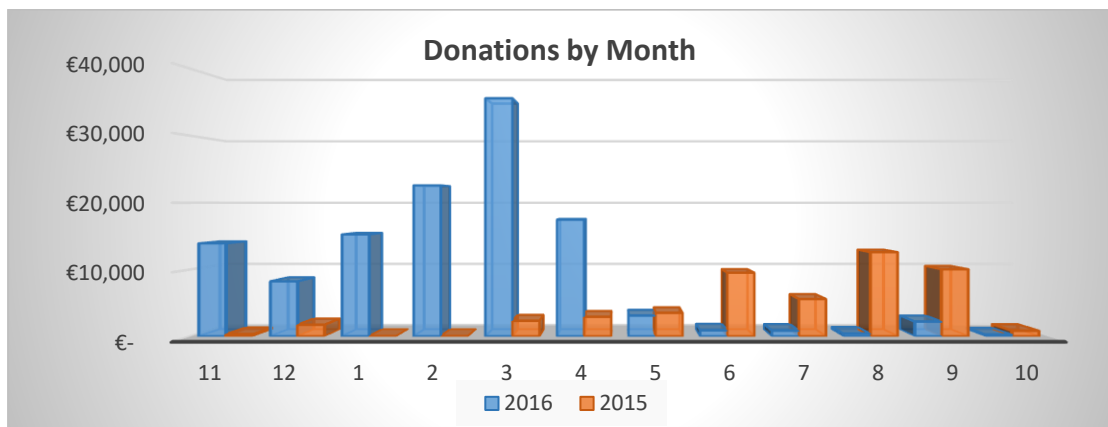
## Charity Finances

### Charity Income

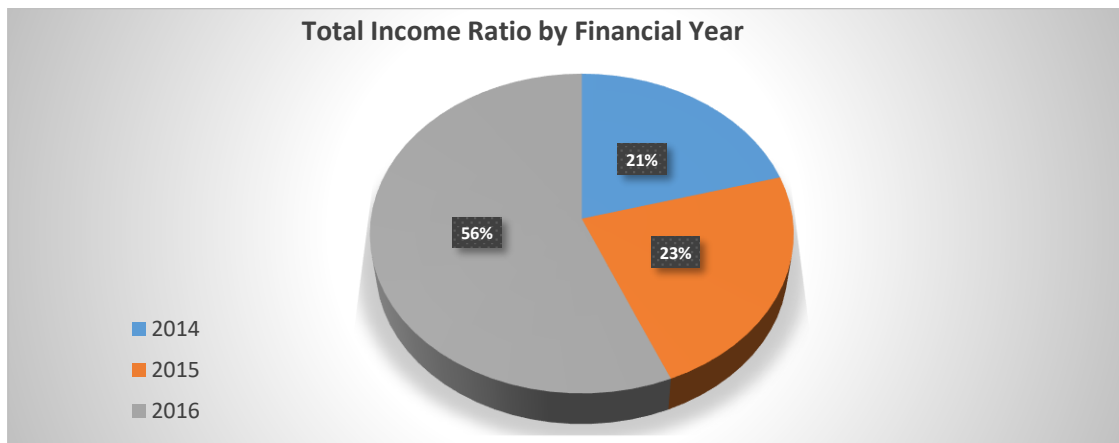
Income for 2016 was substantially higher than anticipated at €204,553 as a result of the charity being named Charity of the Year by UCD Students' Union. By holding a mass skydive event UCDSU were able to raise a net sum of over €70,000 for the charity in just under 6 months.

As UCDSU wanted all funds raised to be channelled directly to the charity so that they could have a fully transparent fundraising campaign the flip-side for the charity was that we had to pay the skydive fees on behalf of UCDSU, which skewed our income figures at the start of 2016 financial year.

As can be seen for the graph below most of our income arrived between November 2015 and April 2016 but we created budgets for each programme to ensure that our cash flow was unaffected.



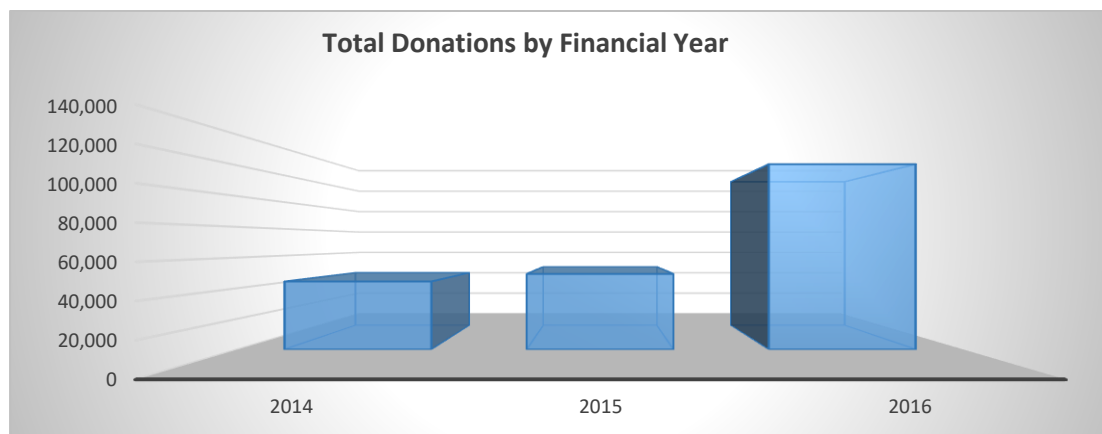
Although our income was significantly higher in 2016 over the previous two financial years this was offset by the skydive fees we paid for UCDSU which reduced our actual working income by around €52,000 to just over €70,000. This is still a 47% increase over 2015.



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We would like to express their gratitude to the UCDSU executive for 2016 and particularly to the UCDSU research officer, David Burns, who was amazing to work with as he is so organised.



## Charitable Expenditure

In line with the increase in income we were able to increase expenditure on our charitable activities in 2016.

	Note	2016 €	2015 €
<b>Income</b>	3		
Income receivable		50,000	50,000
Fundraising & Sponsorship		154,553	74,471
		<u>204,553</u>	<u>124,471</u>
<b>Charitable Expenditure</b>			
Cost of Fundraising	-	63,879	3,908
Suicide prevention outreach	-	19,235	11,152
Online services & support			945
National School Visits Programme	-	84,539	73,360
		<u>167,653</u>	<u>89,365</u>

Please note the special circumstances regarding fundraising costs in 2016 made above in regard to the UCDSU fundraising.

Spending on Outreach programmes and events was increased by 1800% to €15,033 from €835 in 2015. Education spending reduced by 68% as this programme has now been included in the School Visits Programme. Online service and support have now been included in the Outreach programme. The School Visits Programme budget increased by 14% to €84,539 from €73,360 in 2015.

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## Administrative Expenditure

Administrative expenditure was increased in 2016 by one-off relocation costs due to our lease on our office in Blackpool, Cork being terminated as the premises were being sold by our landlords.

We decided that it would be better to take much less expensive premises in Killarney, Co Kerry as our administrator was now based there. Our new office at 59 High Street, Killarney has a rent of €100 per week thanks to the generosity of our new landlord. It is big enough to provide training facilities and administration space. We have an option of expanding into another office for conversion to a drop-in centre.

Insurance costs increased in 2016 to €1,463 from €1,274 in 2015 due to general increases in premiums. There was a 70% increase in computer bureau costs, which are one-off costs, which covered IT development, changes to our accounting system to make them much more easily accessible to the Trustees and upgrades to our information system to make us compliant with the new Data Protection regime which now includes charities.

### Administrative expenses

Rent payable	-	3,132	-	1,452
Insurance	-	1,463	-	1,274
Computer bureau costs	-	5,335	-	1,268
Light and heat	-	18	-	-
Cleaning	-	272	-	-
Printing, postage and stationery	-	4,849	-	879
Telephone	-	2,737	-	19
Storage	-	1,033	-	942
Accountancy fees	-	1,230	-	1,968
Auditors remuneration	-	4,551	-	-
Bank charges	-	4,673	-	2,558
General expenses	-	1,064	-	1,536
Subscriptions	-	453	-	-
Depreciation of tangible assets	-	2,254	-	1,445
	-	<b>33,064</b>	-	<b>13,341</b>

Rent and rates increased due to having to pay deposits on our new office as well as rent in advance. These are one-off costs and will be refunded at the conclusion of our lease. Bank charges were reduced by 27% due to renegotiating our fee schedule but the new accounting protocol FRS102 now requires merchant fees to be included in bank charges. There was small increase in postage and printing due to a poster campaign to school that over-ran its budget when An Post increased their postal rates.

17% of our administration expenses (€5,781) arise from accounting and auditing fees which have significantly increased this year due to regulatory obligations on the charity and the auditors.

# YOUTH IN CRISIS

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## Administrative Overhead

The unfortunate side-effect of the increase in fundraising administration and the costs of relocation means that for the first time in six years our cost of administration, the administrative overhead has increased.

Our administrative overhead in 2015 was 11% or 11c for each €1 donated. In 2016 this increased by 5% to 16% meaning that for every €1 donated 84c was spent on our charity work. We expect this to reduce back to 10-11% in 2017 as one-off costs will be cleared.

## Costs of Fundraising

The cost of fundraising excluding the skydive fees only increased by 12.5% over 2015 which was mostly due to having to purchase larger quantities of t-shirts and wristbands for the Schools Programme.

## Cash Collections

We did not operate or participate in ANY cash collections in 2016.

## Youth Suicide Prevention Ireland Publications Ltd

The Trustees formed Youth Suicide Prevention Ireland Publications Ltd in December 2014 so that the School Visits Programme could be operated from a limited liability company as this reduced the cost of public liability and professional indemnity insurance that the charity would have to pay to protect itself against any legal issues arising.

The company's financial year is not aligned with the charity and so runs from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2016 to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016 but for simplicity we have shown full year figures for the company although there is some overlap with the charity's 2017 financial year.

In 2016 the company received funding from the charity of €58,104, paid from the School Visit Programme budget, to cover the salaries and taxes for the facilitators and the insurance cover for the company to operate.

The company received an additional €3,216 in external funding which brought the company's total income to €62,816. The company had expenditure of €63,824 which left the company with a small deficit of €1,008 which was offset against a surplus from 2015.

The company spent €50,026 on the facilitators' salaries and €12,803 in employment taxes bringing the total employment costs to €62,829. €995 was spent on insurance and fees.

There was a slight under-reporting of the company's tax liabilities in the 2015 Annual Report which has been corrected in the 2016 financial statements.

The directors have decided that the company's 2016 financial statements will be audited by the charity's auditors although there is no requirement to do so. The directors felt that auditing the books of the company was important as it would confirm that funding was used appropriately and responsibly, and that the governance of the company was open and transparent, even though the company is legally required to publish accounts already by the Companies Registration Office.

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The directors have appointed TaxBright Limited of Lucan, Co Dublin to act for the Board of Directors in this matter.

A breakdown of the company's financial position for 2016 is shown below:

	<b>2016</b>
	<b>€</b>
<b>Administrative expenses</b>	
Wages and salaries	2,000
Directors remuneration	62,197
Employer's PRSI contributions	6,252
Insurance	840
Computer bureau costs	89
Auditors remuneration	1,845
Bank charges	67
Outstanding Transfer	5,400
General expenses	1
	<u>78,689</u>
Transfer Income	<u>64,474</u>
	<u>64,474</u>
Operating loss	<u>-14,215</u>
Loss on ordinary activities before taxation	<u><u>-14,215</u></u>

## Financial Statements

The financial statements of the charity for 2016 are reported in this annual report and also reported separately. They include the:

- Trustees' Report
- Auditors' Report
- Profit & Loss Account
- Balance Sheet
- Notes on the accounts

### Charity Accountants

The Board of Management re-appointed David O'Sullivan and Company of Frankfield, Cork City as accountants to the charity for 2016. The accountants prepared the books and financial statements for auditing.

The accountants again recommended that the structure of the company as part of a charitable trust was no longer suitable due to changes in the reporting requirements for charitable bodies; and that the Trustees' plans to change the structure to a Company Limited by Guarantee (CLG) should be implemented as soon as possible so that everything will in place, with approval from Revenue, so that the changeover can take place with effect from 1st November 2016.

### Charity Auditors

The Board of Trustees have retained the services of Taxbright Limited, 9-10 Village Green, Lucan, Co Dublin to act as statutory auditors for the charity in 2016. The role of the auditors is to check the financial statements prepared by the accountant and report to the Board of Trustees on the financial position of the charity and the accuracy of the book-keeping and financial systems.

### Auditors Findings

The Auditor's Report for the 2016 Financial Year was unqualified and the charitable trust remains a viable charitable body.

The Auditors reported that the scope of the audit was extensive and covered our financial systems as well as the books and financial records. In the auditors' opinion the books, records and systems give a true and fair view of the charity's financial position; and that they have been properly prepared and maintained by us. The auditor's report is attached in the following pages.



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## Trustees' Report

The trustees present the audited financial statements of the charitable trust for the financial year ended 31 October 2016.

### Trustees

The names of the persons who at any time during the financial year were trustees of the charitable trust are as follows:

**Yvonne Higgins**

**Marje Farrell**

**Nelius Enright**

**Alan Redmond**

### Principal activities

The principal activity of the charity is that of community assistance by promotion of health and provision of educational programmes to schools, colleges and universities.

This is the first year in which the statutory financial statements of the charitable trust have been prepared under Financial Reporting Standard 102 – 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the policies applied under the entity's previous accounting framework are not materially different to those under FRS 102 and have not impacted on the balance sheet, equity or profit or loss.

### Principal risks and uncertainties

Through prudent management of the costs the Trustees aim at ensuring sufficient funding is available to meet debts as these fall due. Charity is highly dependent on continuous support of the public and is proactive in their approach to innovative ideas and fundraising activities to ensure continuity of financial support.

### Events after the end of the reporting period

There were no post balance sheet events.

### Research and development

There was no research and development in the period.

### Accounting records

The measures taken by the trustees to secure compliance with the requirements of sections 281 to 285 of the Companies Act 2014 with regard to the keeping of accounting records are the implementation of necessary policies and procedures for recording transactions, the employment of competent accounting personnel with appropriate expertise and the provision of adequate resources to the financial function. The accounting records of the charitable trust are located at .

### Relevant audit information

In the case of each of the persons who are trustees at the time this report is approved in accordance with section 332 of Companies Act 2014:

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so far as each trustee is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable trust's statutory auditors are unaware, and each trustee has taken all the steps that he or she ought to have taken as a trustee in order to make himself or herself aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charitable trust's statutory auditors are aware of that information.

## **Taxation Status**

The entity has been granted charitable status by the Revenue Commissioners under charity reference number CHY 18438.

## **Auditors**

David O'Sullivan & Co resigned as auditors due to the business transferring to Taxbright Limited. The trustees appointed Taxbright Limited to fill the casual vacancy. In accordance with Sections 380 and 385 of the Companies Act 2014, they will continue in office.

This report was approved by the board of trustees on 12 September 2017 and signed on behalf of the board by

Nelius Enright  
Chairman

Yvonne Higgins  
Secretary

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## Trustees' Report

We have audited the financial statements of Youth Suicide Prevention Ireland for the year ended 31 October 2016 which comprise the profit and loss account, statement of income and retained earnings, balance sheet, statement of cash flows and related notes. The relevant financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is the Companies Act 2014 and FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland issued by the Financial Reporting Council and promulgated by the Institute of Certified Public Accountants in Ireland.

This report is made solely to the charitable trust's members, as a body in accordance with section 391 of the Companies Act 2014. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable trust's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable trust and the charitable trust's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

### **Respective responsibilities of directors and auditor**

As explained more fully in the trustees responsibilities statement, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view and otherwise comply with the Companies Act 2014. Our responsibility is to audit and express an opinion on the financial statements in accordance with Irish law and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards require us to comply with the Auditing Practices Board's (APB's) Ethical Standards for Auditors, including "APB Ethical Standard - Provisions Available for Small Entities (Revised)", in the circumstances set out in Note 10 to the financial statements.

### **Scope of the audit of the financial statements**

An audit involves obtaining evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of: whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the charitable trust's circumstances and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed; the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the trustees; and the overall presentation of the financial statements. In addition, we read all the financial and non-financial information in the trustees report to identify material inconsistencies with the audited financial statements and to identify any information that is apparently materially incorrect based on, or materially inconsistent with, the knowledge acquired by us in the course of performing the audit. If we become aware of any apparent material misstatements or inconsistencies we consider the implications for our report.

### **Opinion on financial statements**

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities and financial position of the charitable trust as at 31 October 2016 and of its surplus for the year then ended; and

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- have been properly prepared in accordance with the relevant reporting framework and, in particular the requirements of the Companies Act 2014.

## **Emphasis of matter**

In forming our opinion, which is not qualified, we have considered the adequacy of the disclosures contained in Note 2 to the Financial Statements concerning the charitable trust's ability to continue as a going concern and these conditions indicate the existence of a material uncertainty which may cast doubt about the charitable trust's ability to continue as a going concern. The financial statements do not include the adjustments that would result if the charitable trust was unable to continue as a going concern.

## **Matters on which we are required to report by the Companies Act 2014**

- We have obtained all the information and explanations which we consider necessary for the purposes of our audit.
- In our opinion the accounting records of the charitable trust were sufficient to permit the financial statements to be readily and properly audited.
- The financial statements are in agreement with the accounting records.
- In our opinion the information given in the trustees report is consistent with the financial statements.

## **Matters on which we are required to report by exception**

We have nothing to report in respect of our obligation under the Companies Act 2014 to report to you if, in our opinion, the disclosures of directors remuneration and transactions specified by sections 305 to 312 of the Act are not made.

## **Other Matters**

The financial statements of Youth Suicide Prevention Ireland for the year ended 31 October 2015 were audited by David O'Sullivan & Co. who issued an unqualified auditors' report on 14 June 2016.

## ***Michael Wheatley CPA, FCCA***

For and on behalf of  
Taxbright Limited  
Certified Public Accountants & Statutory Audit Firm (CP8434)  
9 | 1 O Village Centre  
Lucan Road  
Lucan  
Dublin

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## Trustees Responsibilities Statement

The trustees are responsible for preparing the trustees report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable Irish law and regulations.

Irish charity law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under the law, the trustees have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with Companies Act 2014 and FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" issued by the Financial Reporting Council, and promulgated by the Institute of Certified Public Accountants in Ireland. Under charitable trust law, the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities and financial position of the charitable trust as at the financial year end date and of the profit or loss of the charitable trust for the financial year and otherwise comply with the Companies Act 2014.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently,
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent: and
- state whether the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards, identify those standards, and note the effect and the reasons for any material departure from those standards.

The trustees are responsible for ensuring that the charitable trust keeps or causes to be kept adequate accounting records which correctly explain and record the transactions of the charitable trust, enable at any time the assets, liabilities, financial position and profit or loss of the charitable trust to be determined with reasonable accuracy, enable them to ensure that the financial statements and trustees report comply with the Companies Act 2014 and enable the financial statements to be audited. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable trust and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

### **Trustees declaration on audited financial statements**

In relation to the statutory financial statements:

- The trustees approve these financial statements and confirm that they are responsible for them, including selecting the appropriate accounting policies, applying them consistently, and making, on a reasonable and prudent basis, the judgements underlying them. They have prepared on the going concern basis on the grounds that the charitable trust will continue in business.
- The trustees confirm that they have made available to Taxbright Limited (CP8434), Certified Public Accountants & Statutory Audit Firm, all the charitable trust's accounting records and provided all the information necessary for the compilation of the financial statements.

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The trustees confirm that to the best of their knowledge and belief, the accounting records reflect all the transactions of the charitable trust for the year ended 31 October 2016

This statement was approved by the board of trustees on 12<sup>th</sup> September 2017 and signed on behalf of the board by:

Nelius Enright  
Chairman

Yvonne Higgins  
Secretary

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## Profit & Loss Account

	Note	2016 €	2015 €
<b>Income</b>	3		
Income receivable		50,000	50,000
Fundraising & Sponsorship		154,553	74,471
		<u>204,553</u>	<u>124,471</u>
<b>Charitable Expenditure</b>			
Cost of Fundraising	-	63,879	3,908
Suicide prevention outreach	-	19,235	11,152
Online services & support			945
National School Visits Programme	-	84,539	73,360
		<u>167,653</u>	<u>89,365</u>
Gross Surplus		36,900	35,106
Gross Surplus percentage		18%	28%
<b>Administrative expenses</b>			
Rent payable	-	3,132	1,452
Insurance	-	1,463	1,274
Computer bureau costs	-	5,335	1,268
Light and heat	-	18	-
Cleaning	-	272	-
Printing, postage and stationery	-	4,849	879
Telephone	-	2,737	19
Storage	-	1,033	942
Accountancy fees	-	1,230	1,968
Auditors remuneration	-	4,551	-
Bank charges	-	4,673	2,558
General expenses	-	1,064	1,536
Subscriptions	-	453	-
Depreciation of tangible assets	-	2,254	1,445
		<u>33,064</u>	<u>13,341</u>
Operating Surplus	4	<b>3,836</b>	<b>21,765</b>
Operating Surplus percentage		<b>2%</b>	<b>18%</b>
Surplus from ordinary activities		<u><b>3,836</b></u>	<u><b>21,765</b></u>

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## Balance Sheet

		2016		2015	
	Note	€	€	€	€
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Tangible assets	5	<u>4,712</u>	4,712	<u>2,926</u>	2,926
<b>Current assets</b>					
Debtors	6	50.4		-	
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>5,773</u>		<u>48,239</u>	
		56,173		48,239	
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	8	<u>(9,622)</u>		<u>(3,738)</u>	
<b>Net current assets</b>			<u>46,551</u>		<u>44,501</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			<u>51,263</u>		<u>47,427</u>
<b>Net assets</b>			<u><u>51,263</u></u>		<u><u>47,427</u></u>
<b>Capital and reserves</b>					
Profit and loss account			<u>51,263</u>		<u>47,427</u>
<b>Trustee Funds</b>			<u><u>51,263</u></u>		<u><u>47,427</u></u>

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees on 12 September 2017 and signed on behalf of the board by

Nelius Enright  
Chairman

Yvonne Higgins  
Secretary

Anthony Philpott  
Chief Executive



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## Notes on the accounts

### 1. Statement of compliance

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102, 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland'.

### 2. Accounting policies

#### Basis of preparation

The financial statements are prepared in Euro, which is the functional currency of the entity.

The Statutory financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and comply with the accounting standards issued by the Financial Reporting Council, specifically Financial Reporting Standard 102 - 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland'(FRS 102). This is the second year in which the financial statements have been prepared under FRS 102.

#### Going concern

Through prudent management the trustees feel the entity can continue to operate as a going concern provided donations continue to be available. The trustees while confident of future prospects acknowledge current economic climate and continued dependency on public donations indicates a material uncertainty which may cast a doubt over the charitable trust's ability to continue as a going concern.

#### Transition to FRS 102

The entity transitioned from previous Irish GAAP to FRS 102 as at 1 November 2014. Details of how FRS 102 has affected the reported financial position and financial performance is given in note 11.

#### Income

This comprises income earned from fundraising events and trading activities to raise funds for the charity.

#### Tangible assets

Tangible assets are initially recorded at cost, and are subsequently stated at cost less any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses.

Any tangible assets carried at revalued amounts are recorded at the fair value at the date of revaluation less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

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An increase in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of a revaluation, is recognised in other comprehensive income and accumulated in capital and reserves, except to the extent it reverses a revaluation decrease of the same asset previously recognised in profit or loss. A decrease in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of revaluation is recognised in other comprehensive income to the extent of any previously recognised revaluation increase accumulated in capital and reserves in respect of that asset. Where a revaluation decrease exceeds the accumulated revaluation gains accumulated in capital and reserves in respect of that asset, the excess shall be recognised in profit or loss.

## **Depreciation**

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost or valuation of an asset, less its residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset as follows:

Fittings fixtures and equipment - 20% straight line

If there is an indication that there has been a significant change in depreciation rate, useful life or residual value of tangible assets, the depreciation is revised prospectively to reflect the new estimates.

## **Impairment**

A review for indicators of impairment is carried out at each reporting date, with the recoverable amount being estimated where such indicators exist. Where the carrying value exceeds the recoverable amount, the asset is impaired accordingly. Prior impairments are also reviewed for possible reversal at each reporting date.

When it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of an individual asset, an estimate is made of the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs. The cash-generating unit is the smallest identifiable group of assets that includes the asset and generates cash inflows that are largely independent of the cash inflows from other assets or groups of assets.

## **Financial instruments**

A financial asset or a financial liability is recognised only when the charitable trust becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the transaction price, unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where it is recognised at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Debt instruments are subsequently measured at amortised cost.

Where investments in non-convertible preference shares and non-puttable ordinary shares or preference shares are publicly traded or their fair value can otherwise be measured reliably, the investment is subsequently measured at fair value with changes in fair value recognised in profit or loss. All other such investments are subsequently measured at cost less impairment.

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Other financial instruments, including derivatives, are initially recognised at fair value, unless payment for an asset is deferred beyond normal business terms or financed at a rate of interest that is not a market rate, in which case the asset is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Other financial instruments are subsequently measured at fair value, with any changes recognised in profit or loss, with the exception of hedging instruments in a designated hedging relationship.

Financial assets that are measured at cost or amortised cost are reviewed for objective evidence of impairment at the end of each reporting date. If there is objective evidence of impairment, an impairment loss is recognised in profit or loss immediately.

For all equity instruments regardless of significance, and other financial assets that are individually significant, these are assessed individually for impairment. Other financial assets or either assessed individually or grouped on the basis of similar credit risk characteristics.

Any reversals of impairment are recognised in profit or loss immediately, to the extent that the reversal does not result in a carrying amount of the financial asset that exceeds what the carrying amount would have been had the impairment not previously been recognised.

### 3. Turnover

Income from trading activities includes income earned from fundraising events and corporate sponsorship activities to raise funds for the charity.

### 4. Operating Surplus

Operating surplus is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2016	2015
	€	€
Depreciation of tangible assets	2,254	1,445
Fees payable for the audit of the financial statements	4,551	

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## 5. Tangible assets

	Fixtures, fittings and equipment €	Total €
Cost		
At 1 November 2015	7,227	7,227
Additions	<u>4,040</u>	<u>4,040</u>
At 31 October 2016	<u><u>11,267</u></u>	<u><u>11,267</u></u>
Depreciation		
At 1 November 2015	4,301	4,301
Charge for the financial year	<u>2,254</u>	<u>2,254</u>
At 31 October 2016	<u><u>6,555</u></u>	<u><u>6,555</u></u>
Carrying amount		
At 31 October 2016	<u><u>4,712</u></u>	<u><u>4,712</u></u>

	Fixtures, fittings and equipment €	Total €
Cost		
At 1 November 2014	7,227	7,227
Additions	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
At 31 October 2015	<u><u>7,227</u></u>	<u><u>7,227</u></u>
Depreciation		
At 1 November 2014	4,301	4,301
Charge for the financial year	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
At 31 October 2015	<u><u>4,301</u></u>	<u><u>4,301</u></u>
Carrying amount		
At 31 October 2015	<u><u>2,926</u></u>	<u><u>2,926</u></u>

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6	Debtors	2016	2015
		€	€
	Trade debtors	50,000	-
	Other debtors	400	-
		<u>50,400</u>	<u>-</u>
7	Cash and cash equivalents	2016	2015
		€	€
	Cash at bank and in hand	5,773	48,239
	Bank overdrafts	-1,873	-1,770
		<u>3,900</u>	<u>46,469</u>
8	Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	2016	2015
		€	€
	Bank loans and overdrafts	1,873	1,770
	Accruals	7,749	1,968
		<u>9,622</u>	<u>3,738</u>

9. **Events after the end of the reporting period**

There were no post balance sheet events.

10. **Ethical standards**

In common with many other companies of our size and nature, we use our auditor to assist with preparation of the financial statements.

11. **Transition to FRS 102**

These are the first financial statements that comply with FRS 102. The charitable trust transitioned to FRS 102 on 1 November 2014.

**Reconciliation of equity**

No transitional adjustments were required.

**Reconciliation of profit or loss for the financial year**

No transitional adjustments were required.

12. **Approval of financial statements**

The board of trustees approved these financial statements for issue on 12 September 2017.

## Charity Governance

### Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees as at 31<sup>st</sup> October 2016 were:

Nelius Enright (Chairperson)  
Yvonne Higgins (Secretary)  
Alan Redmond  
Marje Farrell

### Board of Management

The Board of Management as at 31<sup>st</sup> October 2016 were:

Anthony Philpott (Chief Executive)  
Alan McKelvie (Administrator)

### Move to new company structure

At the instructions of the Trustees a new Company Limited by Guarantee (CLG) was formed on 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2016. Youth Suicide Prevention Ireland Outreach CLG is now registered with the Companies Registration Office but remains dormant.

The CLG structure has many advantages for charities as the level of public information available through the Companies Registration Office is much more comprehensive than is available through the Charities Regulator. The company accounts must be audited and published within 8 months of the financial year end.

The CLG structure also provides limited liability for the directors which means that we can wind up our service company, YSPI Publications Limited, and move the staff from that company into the CLG company. This will be much better for reporting purposes and will also significantly reduce costs such as insurance and accounting / legal fees.

The Trustees requested permission to move the assets of the charitable trust into the new company structure in November 2015 but we are still awaiting permission.

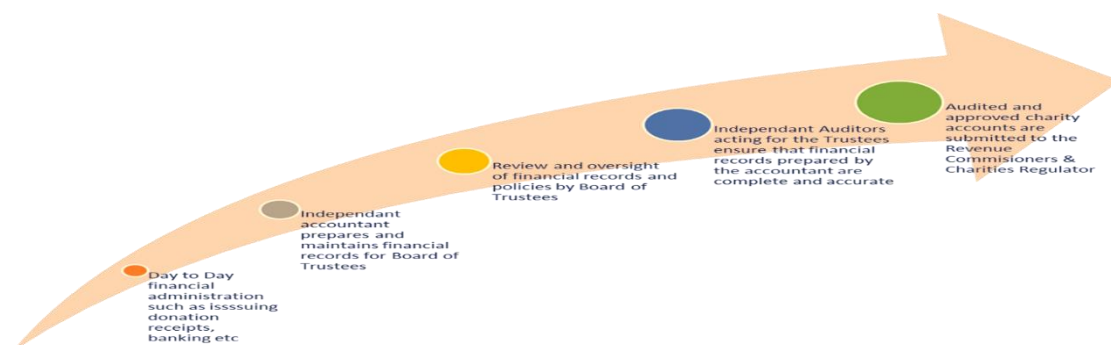
### Financial Controls

Any spending of charity funds requires the approval of at least two separate signatories. All spending must be authorised and recorded in detail. The charities' financial records are maintained by an independent chartered accountant. The Trustees retain the services of different accountants to act as independent auditors to audit the financial records and prepare accounts each year. This provides two levels of independent scrutiny of the charities' financial affairs.

The charities' audited financial statements are submitted to the Revenue Commissioners each year. As from 2016 we will also be required to submit our Financial Statements to the Charities Regulator. We publish our accounts on our website each year along with our Annual Report.

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## Fundraising

YSPI receives no state funding of any type. We fund our programmes through a mixture of personal donations, fundraising events such as sponsored fasts or skydives, corporate sponsorship and bequests. For example this year YSPI has been lucky enough to be UCD Student Union's Charity of the Year.

All funds that we receive are deposited directly into the charity bank accounts. All donors are issued with receipts for the donations and we keep a Donation Register which shows all funds received and deposited. 93% of our funding in 2016 was received online and the remainder was received as cheques or direct deposits to our bank accounts.

## Administration Costs of the charity

The charity still has a low cost of administration although it did increase in 2016. The cost of administration is how much money it costs to run the charity as a percentage of income. YSPI currently spends 16% of its income on running the charity so 84c out of every €1 we receive is spent on the charities' suicide prevention programmes.

## Employees of the Charity

YSPI only employs two members of staff. These are both trained facilitators who run our National School Visits Programme and the other suicide prevention programmes such as the Youth Counselling Service and the Four Steps Programme for Schools. Our facilitators work full-time for the charity and receive a salary of €25,000 per year. For more details see our Financial Outcomes section on page 5.

Since the start of the 2016 School year our facilitators have visited 52 schools and worked face to face with around 14,000 students.

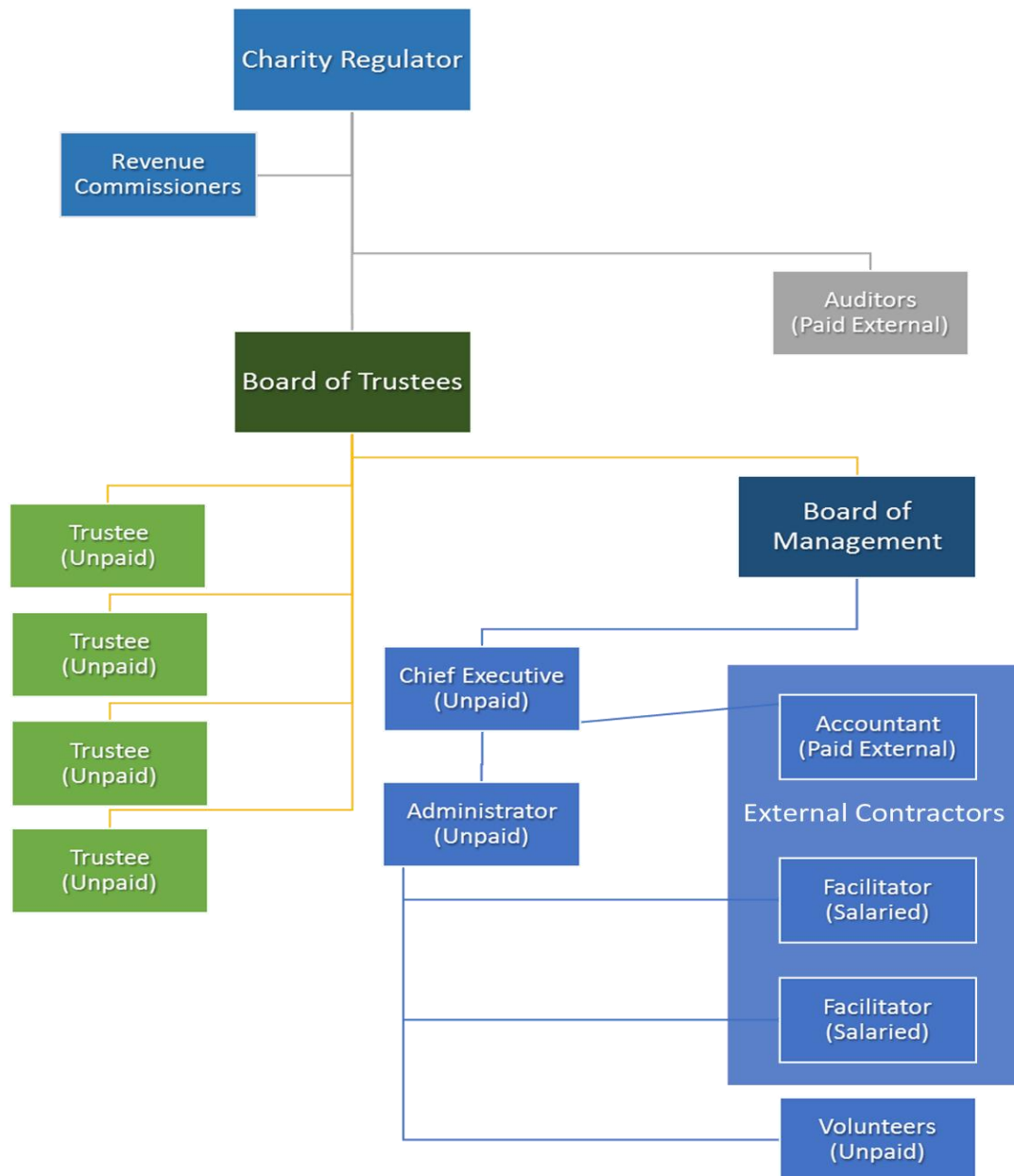
## Charity Volunteers

YSPI has around 60 volunteers who work with us regularly and help us with promoting our services, getting information to schools, colleges and youth groups and assisting with fundraising.

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## Governance Structure





# YOUTH IN CRISIS

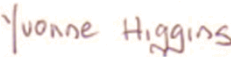
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## Approval and Certification

Approved for publication by the Board of Trustees of Youth Suicide Prevention Ireland.

We the undersigned certify that to the best of our knowledge this Annual Report is a true and accurate representation of the financial position and charitable activities of the charity on 31<sup>st</sup> October 2016 and for the 2016 financial year.

  
Chairman

  
Secretary

  
Chief Executive

Signed and sealed this 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2017



## Appendix A – Donors’ Charter

As a charity seeking donations from the public we, the Trustees of Youth Suicide Prevention Ireland, aim to comply with the ICTR Statement of Guiding Principles for Fundraising

Our pledge is to treat all our donors with respect, honesty and openness.

We commit to being accountable and transparent so that donors and prospective donors can have full confidence in Youth Suicide Prevention Ireland.

We promise we will effectively apply your gifts to us for their intended purposes.

We commit that you, our donors and prospective donors, will:

- Be informed of the organisation’s mission, and of the way the organisation intends to use donated resources.
- Be informed of the identity of those serving on the organisation’s governing board, and that the board will exercise prudent judgement in its stewardship responsibilities.
- Have access to the organisation’s most recent financial statements.
- Be assured your gifts will be used for the purposes for which they were given.
- Receive appropriate acknowledgement and recognition.
- Be assured that information about your donation is handled with respect and with confidentiality to the extent provided by law.
- Expect that all relationships with individuals representing the charity will be dealt with professionally.
- Be informed whether those seeking donations are volunteers, employees of the organisation or hired third party agents.
- Have easily available the agreed procedures for making and responding to complaints.
- Have the opportunity for any names to be deleted from mailing lists and to be informed if the organisation intends to share the mailing lists with third parties.
- Receive prompt, truthful and forthright answers to questions you might have of the organisation.

If you have any feedback about our Donor Charter, positive or negative, please contact us so we can assist you as quickly as possible.

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## Appendix B – Child Protection Policy

The Board of Trustees of Youth Suicide Prevention Ireland recognises that child protection and welfare considerations permeate all aspects of our work and must be reflected in all of the charity's policies, practices and activities.

Accordingly the Board of Management of Youth Suicide Prevention Ireland has agreed the following child protection policy:

1. The Board of Management has adopted and will implement fully and without modification the *Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools* as part of this overall child protection policy.
2. The Designated Liaison Person (DLP) is *Mr Alan McKelvie*
3. The Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DLP) is *Mr Tony Philpott*.

In its policies, practices and activities, Youth Suicide Prevention Ireland will adhere to the following principles of best practice in child protection and welfare:

### **The Charity will:**

- recognise that the protection and welfare of children is of paramount importance, regardless of all other considerations;
- fully co-operate with the relevant statutory authorities in relation to child protection and welfare matters
- adopt safe practices to minimise the possibility of harm or accidents happening to children and protect workers from the necessity to take unnecessary risks that may leave themselves open to accusations of abuse or neglect;
- develop a practice of openness with students and encourage parental involvement in the awareness and prevention education of their children; and
- fully respect confidentiality requirements in dealing with child protection matters.

The charity will also adhere to the above principles in relation to any adults we work with having special vulnerabilities.

### **In practice this will mean:**

1. schools or organisations where students are aged below 18 years of age must provide a teacher, teaching assistant or appropriately qualified person to supervise each class that our facilitators work with;
2. if schools or organisations cannot provide class supervision we must be notified of this in advance so that we can provide a second team member to work with the facilitator;
3. if our facilitators find themselves alone with students under 18 years of age they will either:
  - a. immediately open the class door to allow viewing access, or;
  - b. withdraw from the class until additional supervision arrives.

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4. all our facilitators and volunteers who visit schools or youth organisations must have cleared appropriate vetting procedures such as the Garda Vetting Process, or at a minimum be engaged in the process of achieving vetting clearance;
5. in accordance with the principles of our awareness and prevention programmes, should a facilitator or volunteer come into possession of information regarding the welfare of a student, or be advised of information leading our representative to believe that a young person is at risk, they will immediately inform a member of the school staff, confidentially, of the information that may have come into their possession.
6. *If a facilitator or other representative of the charity is made aware of, or sees for themselves, any action, activity or behaviour which might lead to damage or harm to the mental or physical well-being of a young person **they will** bring this matter to the immediate attention of the School Principal or an appropriate available manager or a HSE Social Worker **and a member of An Garda Síochána.***

The Board has ensured that, in relation to child protection, the necessary policies, protocols and practices as appropriate are in place in respect of all aspects of the charity's life including the following:

- Recruitment Procedures – Volunteers and Facilitators working with young people
- The *Code of Behaviour* of Youth Suicide Prevention Ireland
- The *Health and Safety Policy* of Youth Suicide Prevention Ireland
- Work Experience programmes
- Data Protection

This policy has been made available to all Charity volunteers and workers and is readily accessible to schools and parents through our website or by post on request. A copy of this policy will be made available to schools we work with as part of the School Visits Introductory Pack.

This policy will be reviewed by the Board of Management once a year. The date of the next review will be in *November 2017*.