



ANNUAL REPORT 2016

Contents

About Us	3
KHF Trustees:.....	4
KHF Team:	6
Chairperson's Report	8
Background Information	10
KHF's Programme of Work 2016.....	13
Parenting Support Initiative (PSI).....	13
The Nurture Programme: Infant Health and Wellbeing (2015-2018).....	18
Other Key Areas of Work	20
KHF Strategic Grants 2016	22
Summarised Financial Statements 2016	23

About Us

Mission

The Katharine Howard Foundation (KHF) is an independent Foundation focused on improving the lives of young children and their families. The Foundation's work is underpinned by a commitment to equality and overcoming disadvantage and to promoting equality of opportunity for all children.

The Foundation's approach involves working with others in identifying needs, building on existing programmes, making grants and sharing the learning. KHF aims to contribute to the development of policy and practice, particularly in the early years and family support sectors.

Trustees:

David Kingston (Chairperson)
Eddie Shaw
Joan O'Flynn
Kieran Bristow
Dermot McCarthy
Maura Murphy

Legal and Financial:

Crawford Tipping F.C.A. – Auditor
Tilman Brewin Dolphin – Investment Managers

Staff:

Director - Noelle Spring
Administrator - Gina Allen
Finance Officer – Jane Tracey
Programme Manager - Francis Chance
Strategic Planning Support – Marguerite Hanratty

Contact Information

The Katharine Howard Foundation
7 Red Cow Lane
Smithfield
Dublin 7
T: 00353 1 6618963
E: info@khf.ie
W: www.khf.ie



[@KHFdn](https://twitter.com/KHFdn)



KHF Trustees:



David Kingston (Chairperson)

David Kingston has spent his working life in insurance, investment and pensions. Originally from Co. Derry, he went to university in England and qualified as an actuary in Scotland before moving to Dublin in 1968. He has a special interest in equality, particularly equality of opportunity. He has been a Trustee of the Katharine Howard Foundation since 1998 and holds the position of Chairperson since 2004. He is also a member of the Human Resources sub-committee.



Eddie Shaw

Eddie has worked at a senior level in the Financial Services sector where he held a number of Senior Executive positions for most of his working life. This has included general insurance and capital markets - fund management. From 1996 to 2005, Eddie was a member of the Board of the National Safety Council (Chairman from 2000 to 2005) and the High Level Group on Road Safety. Eddie is Head of Public Relations with a Communications Company since 2006. Eddie became a Trustee of the Katharine Howard Foundation in 2005. He is also a member of both the Finance and Investment sub-committee, and the Human Resources sub-committee.



Joan O'Flynn

Joan O'Flynn has wide ranging experience in social inclusion research, policy and practice gained through working in the community sector in Britain and in the civil and public service and voluntary sector in Ireland. Joan is currently the Ard Stiúthóir of the Camogie Association. Joan's former roles include Director of the National Advisory Committee on Drugs, Head of Communications and Public Education with the Combat Poverty Agency and National President of the Camogie Association. Joan became a Trustee of the Katharine Howard Foundation in May 2012. She is also a member of both the Implementation Support sub-committee and the Human Resources sub-committee.



Kieran Bristow

Kieran Bristow has worked his entire career in Financial Services including General Insurance, Life Assurance, Investment Management and as a Bank Treasurer. He has been a Trustee representative on a school board with specific responsibility for Finance. Kieran became a Trustee of the Katharine Howard Foundation in May 2012. He is also a member of the Finance and Investment sub-committee.



Dermot McCarthy

Dermot McCarthy is a former civil servant who worked in a range of government departments and was involved in a variety of areas of policy development and coordination, including anti-poverty strategy and local development. He has long been involved in voluntary and community organisations and serves on the boards of a number of voluntary and charitable bodies. Dermot became a Trustee of the Katharine Howard Foundation in February 2013. He is also a member of the Implementation Support sub-committee.



Maura Murphy

Maura is from County Wexford and trained as a nurse in the Mater Hospital, Dublin. She has worked for the Health Service Executive and Tusla (Child and Family Agency) for the past 36 years (she retired from Tusla at the end of 2015). She was employed as a Public Health Nurse in New Ross Health Centre for 10 years and was appointed as Preschool Services Officer in 1995. During the past number of years, Maura has completed a BSc. Honours in Psychology and an MA (Ed) in Lifelong Learning. She has been involved with many voluntary and statutory agencies in the development of Preschool services in county Wexford and was a former board member of Wexford County Childcare Committee. She is passionate about the needs and rights of children and their families and the promotion of excellent standards of care and education for preschool children.

KHF Team:



Noelle Spring, Director

Noelle has worked with KHF as Director since 1999; her work with the Foundation has included designing, implementing and managing special grant initiatives including general grant schemes, demonstration programmes and research projects. Prior to working with KHF, Noelle worked as a Project Officer with the Combat Poverty Agency and a Community Development Worker and Social Worker with the HSE (formerly the Eastern Health Board).

A graduate of Social Work from Trinity College Dublin, Noelle was conferred in 2011 with a Doctorate in Education by St Patrick's College of Education in Dublin. Her doctoral thesis focused on absenteeism at Primary School Level in an area designated as disadvantaged. Noelle was appointed Chairperson to the National Steering Group of the Children and Young People's Services Committee in November 2016.



Gina Allen, Administrator

Gina joined the Katharine Howard Foundation in 2014 to manage operational administration and programme support for the Foundation. She is an honours graduate of UCD with a degree in French and Spanish, spending her summers in Spain during her academic life. After completing college, she joined the Department of An Taoiseach for 3 years. Following a period of travel, she returned to Ireland in 2000, joining Accenture European Service Centre, before moving to The Coca-Cola Company in 2004 where she got involved in the company's corporate citizenship programme. Gina returned to Sydney in 2007 but a desire to work in the not for profit area in Ireland brought her back to Dublin in 2010 where she started volunteering initially, before joining the team at Suas Educational Development fulltime from 2010-2014.



Francis Chance, Programme Manager

Francis joined the Katharine Howard Foundation (KHF) as Programme Manager of The Nurture Programme: Infant Health and Wellbeing in July 2015. Francis is a Professionally Qualified Social Worker with almost 40 years' experience of working with children in Ireland in both the statutory and voluntary sectors. From 1983 to 2000, he worked in Children and Family Services within the Eastern Health Board and, latterly, the Northern Area Health Board. He held several roles including that of a Community Care Social Worker, a Community Development Worker, a Social Work Team Leader and Principal Social Worker for the North Inner City and Ballymun areas of Dublin. In 2000, Francis joined Barnardos as a Regional Manager and was appointed to the post of Assistant Director of Children's Services in 2004. In this capacity he was responsible for the planning, development and delivery of services in one of Barnardos five regions and participated in the national governance and development of the organisation.

Francis has considerable experience in working strategically on committees and working groups at national, regional and local levels including the HSE Expert Group on Children (2006-2009), the Tallaght West Childhood Development Initiative, the South Dublin Children's Services Committee and the National Steering Group for Children and Young People Services Committee. Since 2013 Francis was a member of KHF's Advisory Group for the Parenting Support Initiative until his appointment to the Programme Manager role.



Jane Treacy, Finance Officer

Jane joined the Katharine Howard Foundation (KHF) as Finance Officer in January 2016, having worked with KHF on their financial systems for the previous four years on a sessional basis. Jane's background is in IT and she worked previously with Irish software consultancy Prose (now part of Version 1) for twenty years. Her role as Software Development Manager involved working on a variety of financial and bespoke projects for a number of government departments, RTE and private

business.

Jane joined the not for profit sector in 2007 working with Irish Charities Tax Research Ltd, who provide leadership and support for the Irish charity sector, managing their membership and financial systems. In 2012 she moved to the Insurance Institute of Ireland, a not for profit educational body, to work as a Systems Development Specialist on their student/member interface.



Marguerite Hanratty, Strategic Planning Support

Marguerite has worked with the Katharine Howard Foundation (KHF) over many years in a strategic planning/programme consultancy role. Marguerite is a professionally qualified Social Worker and worked with the Health Service Executive (HSE) for 17 years, as a Social Worker and subsequently as a Community Development Worker in the Clondalkin area of Dublin. Over the past

15 years she has worked as an independent consultant providing a range of supports and services to community, voluntary and statutory organisations with a particular focus on the planning and development of new projects, programmes and initiatives.

In her role with KHF, Marguerite has supported the Director in relation to the overall strategic planning of the Foundation's work and in particular the planning and development of a number of new programmes/initiatives including the Tallaght West Small Grants Programme (2004-2006), the Parent and Toddler Group Initiative (2006-2008) and more recently with the Parenting Support Initiative (PSI) (2013-2016) and the Nurture Programme: Infant Health and Wellbeing (2015-2018).

Chairperson's Report

I am pleased to present the 2016 Annual Report and Financial Statement for the



Katharine Howard Foundation (KHF). This report outlines our main activities and learning during 2016 while also building on the work that took place over the previous years.

The Foundation, as an independent Irish grant-making Foundation, has a particular emphasis on working with children and families by supporting community projects and initiatives in areas that are socio-economically disadvantaged. Building on this work KHF aims to influence policy and practice so that they are informed by relevant evidence, and ultimately achieve better outcomes for children, young people, families and communities.

KHF has implemented a number of strategic grant programmes since 2001 and through this work, developed a positive track record of working in partnership with statutory, community and voluntary organisations and other funders. This partnership approach has proved successful over the years and helped the Foundation to meet its objectives.

Towards the end of 2016, KHF underwent a process of reviewing its strategic plan (2013-2016) and began a planning process to formulate a new plan for (2017-2020). It was clear from the review and planning process that the Foundation should continue to operate its developmental approach to grant making within its primary area of expertise (early intervention through supporting children and families) and to continue to work with other partners, where possible. By

December 2016 significant progress was made in developing the new strategic plan with a commitment to have it finalised by early 2017.

KHF continued to work closely with other Foundations such as The Atlantic Philanthropies and the Community Foundation for Ireland whereby co-funding arrangements were in place towards specific grant programmes. In addition, KHF networked with other organisations in the Philanthropic sector.

During 2016, the Foundation also provided strategic grants to meet with the objectives of its strategic plan and to progress and enhance the work in the sector supporting children and families.

Priority was given in 2016 to the implementation of the third year of the Parenting Support Initiative (PSI). This is a collaborative partnership between the Katharine Howard Foundation and The Community Foundation for Ireland. PSI is a three year (2013-2016) strategic grants initiative with a focus on children from birth to three years and their parents, with a particular emphasis on supporting parents in their parenting role.

A second key priority for the Foundation in 2016 was the development of an Implementation Plan for the Nurture Programme: Infant Health and Wellbeing in partnership with The Atlantic Philanthropies, the Health Services Executive and the Centre for Effective Services. The Grant for the Programme is managed by KHF and the Programme aims to support the strategic reform of universal health and wellbeing services provided by the Health Service Executive for infants and their families.

KHF established the Infant Development Fund in collaboration with the Community Foundation for Ireland as a component of the Nurture Programme.

I am very grateful to my fellow Trustees for their unwavering commitment to the governance of the Foundation. In late 2016 a long serving Trustee, Eddie Shaw, retired from the Board. Eddie had been with the Board since 2005. We also saw the end of a long standing support role as treasurer from Brian Little. They will both be missed and we thank them both for giving such great support and commitment over the years.

Thanks are also due to the numerous individuals and organisations that assisted KHF, formally and informally, during 2016. We are very grateful for all the support and the willingness to work together and share learning so that we might improve outcomes for children and families.

All the Trustees appreciate the inspiration, great work and dedication which the Director, Noelle Spring brings to the Foundation. Thanks are also due to staff that assisted the Director

throughout 2016, particularly Gina Allen who provided administrative support, Francis Chance as Manager for the Nurture Programme and Marguerite Hanratty who continued to provide strategic planning support. The Foundation was also very fortunate to have Jane Treacy join the KHF team in January 2016 on a part-time basis in the role of Finance Officer.

During 2016 the Foundation has embraced the challenges of supporting the development and implementation of PSI and the Nurture Programme which are both based on positive collaborative working and funding relationships with key partners. The ongoing commitment to a range of strategic grants has also been maintained and enhanced by the Foundation. KHF has welcomed the opportunity to continue its approach to responding to the needs of children and families in a flexible and creative manner with a view to ensuring best outcomes for children and families.



David Kingston, June 2017

Background Information

The Katharine Howard Foundation (KHF) was established in 1979 by Katharine Howard, who was the last survivor of the Earls of Wicklow and resided most of her adult life in Co. Wexford. She set up the Foundation with assistance from friends who agreed to support her by becoming Trustees. Her intention was to support locally based projects and community activities. She was a founder member



of the Gorey Girl Guides and was involved in other voluntary organisations such as the Camphill Community that assisted people with disabilities and others, involving environmental projects.

Initially she allocated £20,000 to her fund and gradually added more modest funds to the Foundation which continued distributing small amounts of funds until her death in 1990. Subsequently her estate and that of her American grandmother was then added to her endowment funds and this greatly increased the funding that was available. These funds were then carefully invested by the Trustees who also expanded the organisation and sought advice to become strategic and focused about its grant making.

Key Principles

The key principles that underpin KHF's work are:

- A belief that KHF can make a difference through focused interventions based on collaboration, reflective learning, adding value and flexibility.
- A commitment to equality and overcoming disadvantage - in particular, to promote equality of opportunity for all children.
- A commitment to apply respect, integrity and empathy in all aspects of KHF's work.
- A commitment to transparency and accountability throughout all KHF's work.

Structure, Governance and Risk Management

The Katharine Howard Foundation is a registered charity with the Charities Regulatory Authority: CRA Number 20010928. It also holds a Revenue Charity number: CHY 6255. The Foundation was established by a trust deed on the 14th June 1979 and amended by a deed of variation on the 25th November 1986.

The Trustees of the Foundation are those listed under the previous section. New Trustees are appointed by existing Trustees. A scheme of delegation is in place and day to day responsibilities for the implementation of the current strategic plan rest with the Director assisted by three Trustee subcommittees: Finance and Investment; Implementation Support and Human Resources. The Director has responsibility for the operational management of the Foundation, including staff

supervision and team development, in line with best practice.

Trustee meetings are held at least four times a year and include a review of what was achieved and the outcomes of the work over the past 12 months. This review helps to ensure that the objectives and activities remain focused on the stated aims of the Foundation. All grants are reviewed and approved by the Trustees. All Trustees give their time and expertise voluntarily, without any form of remuneration in cash or kind.

The Foundation is an associate member of the Association of Charitable Foundations (ACF), a support organisation for grant making trusts and foundations in the UK. KHF liaises with other foundations operating in Ireland on sectoral issues and joint grant making. KHF is also a member of the Prevention and Early Intervention Network (PEIN).

The Director and staff of the Foundation are assisted by establishing advisory groups for the various programmes and initiatives. In 2016 this included the Advisory Group for the Parenting Support Initiative and Steering and the Oversight Groups for the Nurture Programme: Infant Health and Wellbeing.

Risk Management

The Trustees are aware of the major risks to which the Foundation is exposed, in particular those related to the finances and operations of the organisation and are satisfied that systems and procedures are in place to manage

exposure to the major risks. The principal risks faced by the Trustees lie in the performance of investments and the operational risks of ineffective grant making.

The Trustees consider variability of investment returns on its equities, fixed interest stocks and cash constitute the Foundation's major financial risk. This is mitigated by retaining expert investment managers, Tilman Brewin Dolphin and having a diversified investment portfolio. A medium risk level is deemed to be most suitable for the Foundation's investment and at least two meetings a year are held with the investment managers to oversee this approach. The Finance and Investment Subcommittee assists the Trustees with the oversight of the investments and reports at each Trustee meeting.

The major operational risk is the extent to which the grants awarded make an impact on the intended beneficiaries. The review and reflection approach taken by the Foundation is informed by the reports received from grantees and/or programme partners. Recipients of strategic grants are required to provide a progress report within a year of the grant being allocated. This includes information on the grant purpose, project outline and information on what was achieved through the grant. Projects in receipt of multi-annual funding through a specific programme, such as the Parenting Support Initiative, also provide additional information obtained through individual project evaluations. This learning then informs KHF's approach to assessment for future funding.

Work of the Foundation

Since the early 1990s the Foundation has operated as an independent all-Ireland grant-making Foundation with a particular emphasis on supporting community projects and initiatives in areas that are socially disadvantaged, particularly those with a focus on families and young children. The work of the Foundation includes:

- ☐ Advocacy and development work;
- ☐ Providing funding through small grants;
- ☐ Developing and implementing collaborative innovative programmes/initiatives.

KHF places great emphasis on working in partnership with statutory, community and voluntary organisations and other funders. This partnership approach has proved successful over the years and has affirmed the Foundation's developmental approach to its work in engaging in special projects especially in the area of young children and family support. KHF has built in a support role accompanying grants where possible. This support role includes an emphasis on designing and planning activities and delivering activities through a considered and reflective approach to project work. The impact of providing funding along with implementation support has strengthened the partnerships made by KHF within the sector in which it operates in.

Collaborative initiatives developed by KHF include:

- ☐ The Community Playgroup Initiative (2001-2004) in partnership with the South Eastern Health Board;
- ☐ Tallaght West Small Grants Programme (2004-2006) in partnership with The Atlantic Philanthropies;
- ☐ The Parent and Toddler Group Initiative (2006-2009) in partnership with the Office of the Minister for Children;
- ☐ The Parenting Support Initiative (2013-2016) in partnership with The Community Foundation for Ireland;
- ☐ The Nurture Programme: Infant Health and Wellbeing (2015-2018) in partnership with The Atlantic Philanthropies, the Health Service Executive, the Centre for Effective Services and the Community Foundation for Ireland.

KHF's Programme of Work 2016

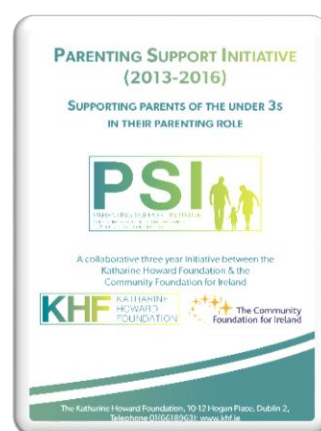
2016 was another busy year for KHF and one that provided many challenges and opportunities.

Central to the work was the continued development and implementation of its two core programmes, the Parenting Support Initiative (PSI) and the Nurture Programme: Infant Health and Wellbeing. KHF also continued to support projects and initiatives through its strategic grants that linked with its overall focus of supporting children and families in areas of socio-economic disadvantage.

In April 2016 KHF moved office to Red Cow Lane, Smithfield in Dublin 7. The move has been very positive for the Foundation as the building is a hub for a number of organisations working in the children and family sector.

Parenting Support Initiative (PSI)

The three-year (2013-2016) [Parenting Support Initiative](#) (PSI) was developed based on consultations with key stakeholders and on research of the Early Year's Sector, where the gap for support for parents of children from pre-birth to three years was identified. The Parenting Support Initiative is a collaborative Initiative developed in partnership with [The Community Foundation for Ireland](#) (CFI), which allowed for the pooling of resources to increase the level of funds available for grants. PSI supports a number of projects working in socio-economically disadvantaged areas or specific socially disadvantaged (target) groups engaged in collaborative approaches to working with parents of children from birth to three years.



Objectives of PSI

The objectives of the PSI include:

- ☐ Strengthening prevention and early intervention supports for children and families to achieve better health, wellbeing and learning outcomes for their children;
- ☐ Reinforcing the developmental role of the Children and Young People Services Committees, City/County Childcare Committees, National Childcare Voluntary Organisations, Family Resource Centres and other community based services working directly with children from birth to 3 years and their parents;
- ☐ Strengthening the links between existing health and community based services to support a holistic approach to meeting infants' and young children's needs;
- ☐ Building on the learning from initiatives such as, the Prevention and Early Intervention Programme (PEIP) and the National Early Years Access Programme (NEYAI).

PSI was focused on supporting prevention and early intervention evidence informed or evidenced-based programmes, practices and approaches that:

- ☐ Support parents in meeting their children's developmental needs – physical, social, emotional and cognitive;
- ☐ Support parents as their children's primary educators in creating a positive home learning environment;
- ☐ Support informal learning of parents with a particular emphasis on parent literacy;
- ☐ Increase parental self-efficacy and confidence in their parenting role;
- ☐ Increase parenting skills and capacity;
- ☐ Reduce parental stress;
- ☐ Promote positive parent child interaction and attachments.

PSI was designed to support a specific number of projects that were likely to have the greatest impact in terms of improving outcomes for children through support for parents and projects that would provide good learning opportunities in the area of prevention and early intervention. The total amount of funding available through the programme is €600,000.

The implementation phase of the Initiative began in 2014. KHF and CFI allocated €180,000 towards core grants to be paid in the first year. KHF also allocated an additional €100,000 to fund once-off small grants in 2014 as part of the PSI. A total of 59 organisations from across the country were selected to receive grants under the Initiative; 16 organisations received core grants while 43 organisations received small once-off grants. The amount of the grant allocated ranged from €1,000 - €15,000, depending on the category and the focus of the proposed projects. The funded projects come from all of the 26 counties and include a wide range of organisations within the community and voluntary sector. In 2015, Year (2) of the

Initiative, €176,799 was allocated to the Core Projects and in Year (3) the amount allocated was €156,241.

Sharing the Learning from PSI: In 2016 KHF was pleased with the development of the final year of PSI. The support and advice of the Advisory Group continued to be very important and helpful in keeping the Initiative on track and in ensuring that as much impact is obtained from the Initiative as possible.

Core Projects: [The 15 PSI Core Projects](#) continued to make good progress in the third year of the Initiative with positive work happening in different settings and with a variety of approaches to supporting parents of the under 3s. The 15 Core Projects engaged actively and positively with KHF and completed progress reports for Year (2) and provided outline project proposals for Year (3) (one of the projects was unable to continue beyond Year (1) due to organisational restructuring).

Completion of the Final Year of PSI: The review of the progress reports from Year (2) indicated that the projects were generally on track and making progress in meeting objectives. Overall the projects continued with the same focus and direction in Year (3) with some new or additional activities to enhance same. The focus on inter-agency working continued to be important in planning and developing project plans. The planning for the final year of PSI included a strong focus on strategic planning, future sustainability of the work, connecting the work of PSI with the Nurture Programme: Infant Health and Wellbeing and tracking, documenting and sharing the learning.

PSI and Nurture Programme: Infant Health and Wellbeing

KHF produced a briefing document on PSI for the Nurture Programme in July 2016. This provided an overall snapshot of PSI and the projects involved with a view to supporting the work of the Nurture Programme Implementation Teams by highlighting potential linkages between the two programmes.

PSI Site Visits

Advisory Group members along with KHF staff visited a number of the PSI projects during the summer of 2016 and found these visits both useful and informative in terms of learning about the work of the projects and meeting with key personnel and agencies involved, including in some instances, parents.

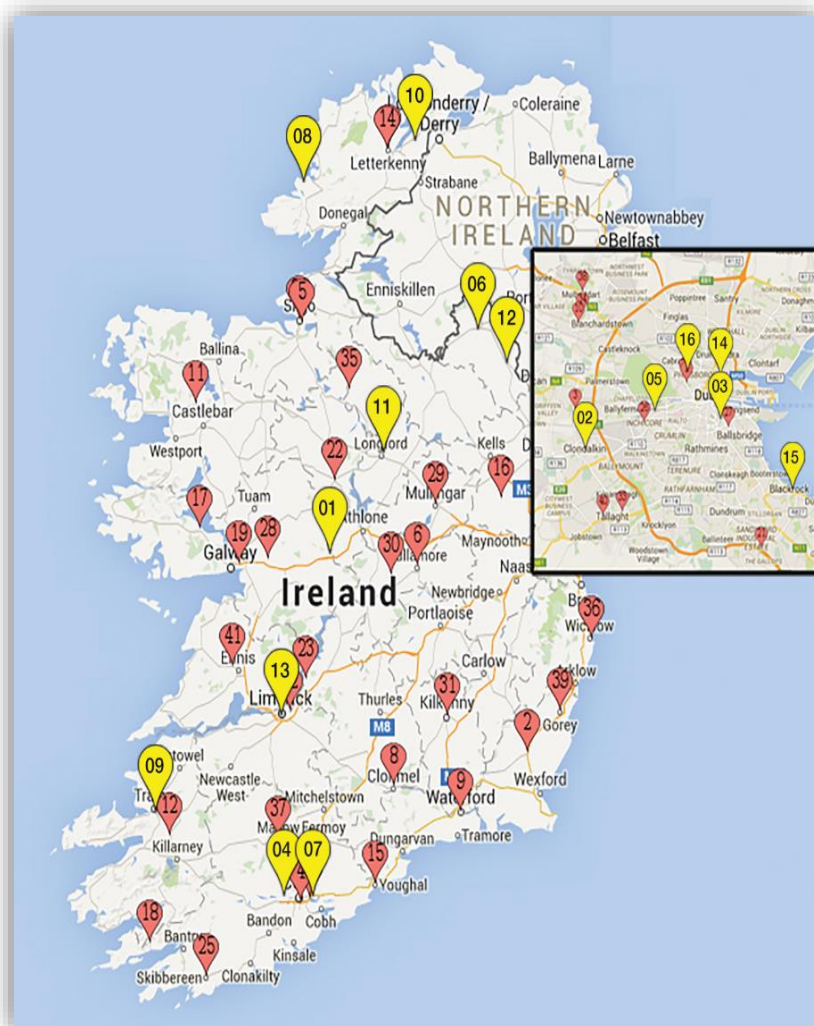
PSI Review Process

As part of the final year of PSI, KHF considered the most effective way to capture the learning from each of the 15 PSI projects and decided to develop a facilitated Review Process rather than request projects to complete a progress report for Year (3).

The main purpose of the PSI review was to provide a space for individual projects to reflect on the experience of planning and implementing a PSI Project and to identify key learning. The Review Process also aimed to provide important learning for both KHF and CFI as funders of PSI and for others working in this area. KHF was also engaged in its own review process in 2016 with a view to developing a new Strategic Plan (2017-2020). Given the importance of PSI for the Foundation over the past three years, KHF was keen to learn from the projects about their experiences and to think about how this work might be best supported into the future.

A framework for a review process was developed by KHF in consultation with the Advisory Group and the projects. An independent facilitator was contracted to undertake the review between November 2016 and April 2017. Individual reports for each project based on the review sessions and a summary overall report to highlight and share the learning from the 15 PSI projects were to be produced. A template was also developed by KHF to support projects in preparation for the review sessions. The review process began in December 2016.

The map indicates the geographical spread of the PSI Grant Recipients. The 16 core projects are named and indicated by a yellow balloon and the 43 once-off projects are indicated by the pink balloons.



PSI PROJECTS	
01	Ballinasloe Social Services, Galway
02	Barnardos, Dublin
03	Co-Operative Housing Ireland, Dublin
04	Dublin South City Partnership
05	Bessborough Centre, Cork
06	Chatterbox Cavan and Monaghan
07	Cork City Partnership
08	Downstrands FRC, Donegal
09	Kerry Children & Young People's Services Committee
10	Lifestart, Donegal
11	Longford Community Resources (<i>funded for Year (1) only</i>)
12	Monaghan Integrated Development
13	Bedford Row, Limerick
14	Pavee Point Traveller and Roma Centre, Dublin
15	Southside Partnership, Dublin
16	North West Area Partnership, Dublin
	43 Once-off Grant Recipients

Core Projects 2016

Lead Organisation	Org Category	Grant €	Grant Awarded Towards
Ballinasloe Social Services, Galway	Community Childcare	€12,500	Delivery of 2 Incredible Years Programmes. Provide individual sessions for parents with children.
Barnardos, Dublin	National Organisation	€11,500	Delivery of Programme of activities to parents of 0-3s in Dublin 12.
Bedford Row, Limerick	Provides support to families affected by imprisonment	€15,000	Provide support work to women in prison and outreach work with ex-prisoners.

Bessborough Centre, Cork	Support service for teenage parents	€8,000	Delivery of Babble Group. Pilot training pack on Babble Group approach.
Dublin South City Partnership (formerly Canal Communities Partnership)	Partnership/Local Development	€12,560	Delivery of the Parent Child Home Programme (PCHP).
Cork City Partnership	Partnership/Local Development	€6,746	Delivery of an Integrated Child and Family Activity Programme.
Chatterbox, Cavan & Monaghan	County Childcare Committee	€7,670	Delivery of a ELKLAN Speech and Language parenting programme in Cavan & Monaghan.
Downstrands Family Resource Centre, Donegal	Family Resource Centre	€15,000	Delivery of Child and Parent Programmes to Family Resource Centres in Donegal.
Children & Young People's Services Committee (CYPSC), Kerry	Children & Young People's Services Committee	€13,500	Delivery of Language and Play Programme to Parent & Toddler Groups in Kerry. Delivery of Facilitator Training L&P Programme.
Lifestart, Donegal	Home-based Family Support	€8,000	To develop Nursery Rhymes book with a focus on speech and language development.
Monaghan Integrated Development Ltd	Partnership/Local Development	€10,000	Delivery of Parents Plus Programme training for 20 Childcare workers.
Cooperative Housing Ireland (formerly NABCO)	Social Housing	€6,800	Delivery of specific Parenting Support Programme to parents including Parents Plus Programmes.
Pavee Point Traveller and Roma Centre, Dublin	Organisation committed to the attainment of human rights for Irish Travellers and Roma	€13,965	Delivery of the Parent Child Home Programme (PCHP).
Southside Partnership, Dublin	Partnership/Local Development	€15,000	Delivery of an Integrated Early Intervention and Family Support Group.
North West Area Partnership	Partnership/Local Development		Grant not requested for Year (3).
TOTAL		€156,241	

The Nurture Programme: Infant Health and Wellbeing (2015-2018)

Building on the work and learning from the Parenting Support Initiative (PSI), KHF also progressed discussions with [The Atlantic Philanthropies](#) (Atlantic) on improving outcomes for children through the development of a new Infant Health and Wellbeing Programme that would complement the Foundation's Parenting Support Initiative and also provide for an even greater focus on meeting the needs of all children and their families during pregnancy and up to a child's third birthday.

A proposal for the Programme was developed with key stakeholders and was successfully approved by the Board of Atlantic in December 2014. The Programme completes a long-term cycle of investment by Atlantic with the goal of creating evidence-based policy, services and practices in Ireland. It aligns with Atlantic's commitment to ensure that its final grants deliver impact at the level of long term, sustainable systemic change that makes a real difference to the lives of children and their families. One of the most significant findings from national and international research is that the first two years are the most critical time in a child's development and what happens in this developmental phase can influence the trajectory of a child's life positively or negatively. Furthermore, early intervention and prevention can offer significant benefits in terms of delivering best outcomes for children.

The aim of The Nurture Programme is to support parents and healthcare professionals in their caring and service provision roles.

Nurture Programme: Infant Health and Wellbeing is a three year programme and is primarily focused on working with [the Health Service Executive's](#) (HSE), Health and Wellbeing and Primary Care Divisions, in the development of an integrated approach to

service planning and delivery to improve health and wellbeing outcomes for infants and their families. KHF is managing the grant and the work programme will be delivered by the Health Service Executive (HSE) with technical



and implementation support provided by the [Centre for Effective Services](#) (CES).

Progress and Development 2016: KHF continued to focus on an integrated approach to the development of the Nurture Programme working in collaboration with the other key Programme partners to improve the health and wellbeing outcomes for infants and their families. The Programme planning and development was progressed in 2016 and was supported and overseen by the Programme Oversight and Steering Group structures.

Nurture Programme Structures: The Steering Group continued to meet monthly to support the planning and implementation of the Programme. The Oversight Group also met regularly to provide guidance and direction with the overall Programme. A number of facilitated sessions were also held with the Steering Group to provide reflection space on the development and implementation of the Programme. The Centre for Effective Services (CES) completed the Scoping Report on current HSE structures and services for infants and their families and it is envisaged that the report will be updated during the lifetime of the Programme to reflect any relevant developments. CES continued to provide

implementation advice and support to the six Implementation Teams. An Implementation Specialist and Data and Information Specialist were recruited as part of the CES Nurture Implementation Support Team.

Development of Nurture Programme Implementation Plan (2016-2018): A central part of the work of the Nurture Programme in early 2016 was the development of the Programme Implementation Plan (2016-2018). The Implementation Plan is being delivered through the six Implementation Teams that focused on identified priorities for 2016. The

Implementation teams are focused on the following areas:

1. **Knowledge and Communication**
2. **Infant Mental Health and Parenting Supports**
3. **Antenatal and Postnatal care**
4. **Health and Wellbeing Promotion and Improvement**
5. **Training and Resources**
6. **Standardised Child Health Record**

Launch of The Nurture Programme: The Programme was formally launched in May 2016 and was well attended with 162 people from across the sector including a wide range of staff from within the HSE and from a range of external agencies. A number of key note addresses were also delivered as part of the launch. A [video](#) of the event was produced and a [booklet](#) outlining the work of the Nurture Programme was also produced.





The Nurture Programme: Infant Health and Wellbeing Launch, Steering Group Members, *from left to right*: Anne Pardy, HSE; Shelia Sugrue, HSE; Phil Jennings, HSE; Francis Chance, KHF; Noelle Spring, KHF; Aisling Heffernan, HSE; Kevin Kelleher, HSE; Jane Forman, Atlantic; Carmel Brennan, HSE; and Aisling Gillen, Tusla.

Process Evaluation: An evaluation sub-committee was established in December 2015 and a tendering process was undertaken in 2016 which resulted in the appointment of Quality Matters in association with the School of Nursing and Human Sciences at DCU as the evaluation team to undertake a process evaluation of the Nurture Programme.

Infant Development Fund: An important element of the Nurture Programme is the Infant Development Fund which has been established by KHF in collaboration with the Community Foundation for Ireland (CFI) to ensure continuity for the work undertaken through the Parenting Support Initiative (PSI) and The Nurture Programme: Infant Health and Wellbeing and other innovations. The Fund will be a ring fenced, permanent fund of €3m and up to €5m by 2020. The fund will be managed by the CFI.

Other Key Areas of work

Other key areas of KHF's work over the past year included its ongoing commitments to a range of other initiatives, organisations and foundations. This involvement included:

Start Strong: Start Strong which was founded in 2004 as the Childcare Policy Network (ICPN), a coalition of organisations and individuals interested in progressing childcare and early learning policies in Ireland. ICPN evolved into Start Strong in 2009 with the aim of progressing the early care and education (Birth-6 years) agenda in Ireland and also advocating for increased investment in support services. KHF was a founder member of ICPN and a funder since its start-up phase. The Foundation continued to provide funding to Start Strong along with The Atlantic Philanthropies and the Community Foundation for Ireland (multiannual 2012-2015). As Start Strong planned its wind down as an organisation, KHF together with the other two Foundations remained committed to supporting this work and formalised an agreement with the [Children's Rights Alliance](#) (CRA) in 2016 to continue key elements of the work of Start Strong. CRA appointed an Early Years Manager and established an Advisory Group to inform the work. Start Strong's Policy Officer was seconded to the [Department of Children and Youth Affairs](#) (DCYA) to work on childcare policy. KHF is a member of the Advisory Group within CRA and manages the grant on behalf of the three Foundations involved, meeting regularly with CRA to support and monitor the grant. In July 2016, an event was held marking the closing of Start

Strong and a report was launched outlining the impact of the organisation during its lifetime.

Parenting Network (Hosted by the [Centre for Effective Services](#) (CES)): KHF is a member of the Parenting Network. The Network was established in 2010 by CES as an all-Ireland Group with a focus on supporting parents in their parenting role. The Network includes CEOs, funders, professional bodies and practitioners engaged in direct work along with academics and professional researchers working in this sector.

[Children and Young Peoples Services Committee](#) (CYPSC): In November 2016, the Director of KHF was invited by Katherine Zappone, Minister for Children and Youth Affairs to take on the role of chairperson of the CYPSC National Steering Committee for two years. The Foundation was pleased to accept this role as it will involve supporting and guiding local CYPSCs in their work to achieve better outcomes for children and young people. The role also involves representing the CYPSC Initiative on the consortium of [Better Outcomes Brighter Futures](#) (the National Policy Framework for Children and Young People 2014-2020).

KHF Strategic Grants 2016

The Foundation continued to fund a number of grants that provide support to other organisations and groups involved in work linked to KHF's strategic plan and which provide great learning opportunities.

This year a small number of strategic grants were made to support work in the children and family support sector. This work often involved securing matching or co-funding from other Foundations and Trusts.

Organisation	Project Funded	Grant €
Children's Rights Alliance	Employment of Early Years Manager	€63,744 (Co-funded with Atlantic Philanthropies & Community Foundation for Ireland)
Parenting Northern Ireland	Knowledge Paper Publication	€6,000
St Andrew's Resource Centre	Upskill 1 childcare staff to obtain level 7 qualification	€2,500
Suas Educational Development	Literacy Support Programme	€7,000
TOTAL		€79,244

Summarised Financial Statements 2016

Income and Expenditure Summary Balance Sheet

Katharine Howard Foundation (Established by Trust Deed in 1979)

Income and Expenditure			Summary Balance Sheet		
Income	2016	2015		2016	2015
	€	€		€	€
Investment			Financial Assets	8,825,911	8,985,221
Income	226,015	284,405	Current Assets	3,289,547	1,496,942
Restricted			Current Liabilities	-116,110	-123,146
Programme					
Income					
PSI	100,000	100,000			
Nurture					
Programme	2,500,000	3,033,365			
			Total Assets Less		
			Current Liabilities	11,999,348	10,359,017
Total Income	2,874,759	3,417,770	Total Funds at 31st	11,999,348	10,359,017
			December		
Expenditure	2016	2015			
	€	€			
Grants					
Allocated	235,618	228,173			
(PSI & Other)					
Nurture	432,556	1,616,549			
Programme					
Staff Costs	319,250	248,105			
Governance Costs	7,152	6,230			
Cost of Generating	17,656	21,337			
Funds					
Support Costs	87,702	70,873			
Total	1,099,934	2,221,267			

The financial information on this page has been extracted from The Katharine Howard Foundation's Audited Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2016 which were approved by the Trustees on 30 May 2017.