

Issue 4

St. Vincent's Foundation Newsletter for the Friends of St. Vincent's

March 2011

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**St. Vincent's Foundation is the philanthropic fundraising arm of
St. Vincent's Healthcare Group.**



Board of Directors: Prof. Noel Whelan, *Chairman*

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Welcome from Ms. Mary Duff, Director of Nursing, St. Vincent's University Hospital



It is my great pleasure to include an article in the newsletter of the Friends of St Vincent's.

As Director of Nursing in the hospital, I am responsible for ensuring that the highest standard of care is provided to all our patients and their families. Patients' needs differ greatly from those who have a relatively minor ailment to the extremely sick. Consultants and all members of the various multidisciplinary team work in partnership in order to achieve the objective of ensuring the best possible outcome for each of person that requires our care. Many of our patients have been coming to us for several years and during that time we will have come to know them and their families extremely well.

I'm very conscious of the terrific tradition of St Vincent's and our reputation locally, nationally and internationally. The hospital was formed in St Stephen's Green in 1834 to cater for the poor who could not pay for medical care themselves. The founding values included compassion and respect for the dignity of each patient. Those values are equally important today and we try to live by them.

Caring for patients at the end of their life is a very sensitive issue. It is vital that we provide the greatest care and dignity to the patient and their family. We were delighted to have been in a position in the last year to establish two facilities

in the hospital to accommodate patients and their families. They are called the Mary Aikenhead and Nutley suites. These rooms have made a significant contribution to many people at a very difficult time for them.

During the daily course of my work, I find it very satisfying to receive feedback from patients and their families about the care they have received in the hospital. I regularly receive complimentary letters from families confirming that our staff do live our values and mission. I am very proud of the 1,200 or so nursing and healthcare staff who deliver that care. Many patients express their appreciation with donations to support specific causes in the hospital or for general patient care and comfort.

St Vincent's is an academic teaching hospital and each year we welcome a new intake of nursing students. Most, but not all, have recently left school and it is so heartening to see their commitment to caring for those who need it most. We also participate in postgraduate and continuing professional education for nursing staff including specialisation in a number of medical and surgical specialty areas.

The demands of modern medicine and nursing are constantly changing and we in St Vincent's are at the leading edge of that change. We were really delighted to be awarded accreditation by the Joint Commission International (JCI) in 2010. St Vincent's is the first public hospital in Ireland to receive this accreditation and it reflects the high standard of care and patient safety in the hospital.

We consider ourselves in St Vincent's to be a very large family. That family isn't limited to the staff in the hospital. It includes our patients and their families. An important part of that family is the growing list of donors whom we call Friends of St Vincent's. We are so grateful to you for that support and it makes a major contribution to advancing our patient care, research and education.

Thank you.

Mary Duff, Director of Nursing, S.V.U.H.

St. Vincent's Healthcare Group comprises: St. Vincent's University Hospital, Elm Park, Dublin 4, Ireland (affiliated with University College Dublin); St. Vincent's Private Hospital, Elm Park, Dublin 4, Ireland; and St. Michael's Hospital, Dun Laoghaire, Co. Dublin, Ireland.

(Website: www.stvincents.ie)

Update from John Hickey, C.E.O. of St. Vincent's Foundation



I am pleased to update the Friends of St. Vincent's on our progress.

Since our last Donors' magazine in September we have continued to receive fantastic support from so many people. This is particularly noteworthy given the financial pressures that everyone is dealing with. It is obvious that the funds available to support good causes such as St. Vincent's are more limited in the current environment.

We are heartened by the generosity of those who see the needs of others in these difficult times and want to make a difference. We continue to see a growing number of people who elect that the hospital will be supported in lieu of flowers at the funeral of a loved one for example. So many kind people complete extraordinary feats of courage to raise money for causes in the hospital. These funds allow us to add to care that would not be possible otherwise.

Donors also enable vital research and medical advances that impact on so many and may do so on each of us in the future. Donations support continued education which is so important if we are to provide world class care and leading edge medical treatments.

Many of these advances are expanded elsewhere in this magazine and make interesting and motivational reading.

We are continuing with the development of services in Stroke and Care of the Elderly as well as in Dermatology. Since the last issue of *Friends of St Vincent's* we have been nominated as the National Centre for the treatment of Pancreatic illness. You will read more about this as we progress.

It is important to mention that donors can be very specific about the causes they want to support and we will carry out those wishes in every way.

It remains for me to thank all our donors and supporters and to wish all a very happy and healthy 2011. I also want to thank the various contributors to this magazine from within St. Vincent's and outside. Their articles are very much appreciated.

**John Hickey,
C.E.O. St. Vincent's Foundation**

We are heartened by the generosity of those who see the needs of others in these difficult times and want to make a difference.

EstatesUpdate

Update on improvements in St. Vincent's University Hospital.

In a large public hospital like St Vincent's there is a constant need to invest in the physical facilities to enable the best of care for our patients. We like to keep the Friends of St Vincent's informed about these enhancements as the money donated to the hospital helps to support this investment.

Here are a selection of improvements:

- Dermatology Unit upgrade which included the addition of two treatment rooms, two bathroom and clinical support accommodation.
- Simulation Training Suite – conversion of a decommissioned theatre into a clinical skills and simulation laboratory to be used for education and training purposes and was part funded by the Anaesthetics Dept.
- St. Camillus Ward was given a minor refurbishment in-house to meet necessary hygiene, Health and Safety and EHO standards and facilitate its opening as an Emergency Department overspill ward.
- Radiology Ultrasound – Development of two additional ultrasound rooms to help meet growing demands on the service which was partly funded by NCCP for the Rapid Access Prostate Cancer Clinics.
- Lecture Theatre – Extensive refurbishment of the area was undertaken and partly funded by UCD to improve the learning environment.

Surgical Observation Unit (St Luke's Ward)

As part of the National Surgical Centre for Pancreatic Cancer a dedicated 4 bedded Surgical Observation Unit was established on St. Luke's floor to help improve the service for patients, maximise the efficient use of beds and reduce our average length of stay. This project was funded by National Cancer Control Program

Surgical Observation Unit opened in July



Extension of the Cardiac Cath Lab Department

The 2nd phase of the refurbishment and expansion of the Cardiac Cath Lab department over the last twelve months has significantly improved the facilities overall. Most importantly the standard of quality and safe care that can be delivered to patients is now greatly enhanced with the development of a second procedural room.

There is a constant need to invest in the physical facilities to enable the best of care for our patients

Estates Update continued.....

St Catherine's Ward

This major refurbishment project was one of the key patient / clinical upgrades carried out during the last quarter of the year. The ward was closed and completed upgraded. Works to the ward included installation of new flooring, ceilings, lighting, nurse call bells and medical trunking.

New Ward Block

Perhaps the most significant development in 2010 and our main project for 2011 and 2012 will be the new ward block. We were delighted to have appointed John Paul Construction as the build contractors for this project. A lot of background and preparatory works prior to the main build commencing continued throughout 2010 and included a number of decanting projects being carried out around the campus to clear the site. Lots of activity can now be seen around the site.



Artists impression of the new ward block as viewed from Nutley Lane.

Priority Development Projects for 2011

This year will be an extremely challenging one due to lack of funding and the prioritisation of projects will be essential due to very limited funding. We will continue to prioritise key areas based on principles of patient safety and improving infection control and develop our facilities where we can.

Projects currently under consideration include:

- Endoscopy Upgraded to improve the decontamination facilities and comply with JAG accreditation standards.
- St. Anne's Ward and the Oncology Day Ward to be re-configured and upgraded to improve services and comfort for patient.
- Canteen Upgrade to improve facilities for staff and patients alike.
- Commissioning of the new Herbert Wing in preparation for the decant of services from within the main campus.

Donations have always been important in improving the hospital.

If you would like to support us please go to our website

www.stvincentsfoundation.ie or call our donation line on **1850 603803**

or write to **St. Vincent's Foundation, Elm Park, Dublin 4.**

Fundraising Highlights

Some examples of support from our donors

In September, we received a cheque for €1,500 from UCB (Pharma) Ireland Limited. We are grateful to UCB Pharma for their support. Many thanks.

A number of the Board members of St Vincent's Healthcare Group donate financially on a confidential basis to our efforts as well as giving their time and expertise free to the work of the hospitals. We appreciate that very great contribution.

We gratefully acknowledge a fundraising donation of €600 for the Liver Unit, received in September, from a Liver Transplant patient and friends in Kill, Cootehill, County Cavan

Congratulations to Geraldine Lawless from the Sleep Lab. In St. Vincent's who did a skydive on Saturday 25th Sept last for Breast Cancer services in St. Vincent's Geraldine set up a sponsorship page on MyCharity.ie and received sponsorship cards from St. Vincent's Foundation. She raised over €2,000 between online and offline sponsorship. We are really grateful for this brave venture and for the super fundraising which, we should add, came only weeks after she had broken her arm.



Left: A relieved Geraldine after successfully completing her skydive for St. Vincent's & Right: Geraldine presents proceeds of her fundraising to John Hickey



Staff organise fundraising for Breast Cancer support:

Tracy Malone in Outpatients, Ann Marie Rossiter in the Filing Room and Alan Elliot in Portering organised a terrific fundraising event on Friday October 15th last. They encouraged in excess of 50 colleagues to wear something pink on the day and made a donation to St. Vincent's for support of Breast Cancer care. They also persuaded many others to contribute. We really appreciate their creativity and support and we hope it is something that we can extend further in the hospital in future years. Many thanks.



Alan, Ann Marie and Tracy are photographed presenting €225 from the day's activities.

Fundraising Highlights Continued.....



Keith Cassidy, Dublin Marathon fundraising:

Keith Cassidy took part in his first marathon on October 25th last to raise funds for the Liver Unit in St. Vincent's. Keith's brother-in-law Paul Reid had a liver transplant in St. Vincent's. Tragically Paul died the day before the Marathon. Keith has raised over €19,100 between online and offline sponsorship. We are extremely grateful to Keith and his family for this outstanding support for St. Vincent's, particularly at such a traumatic time for the family.

Keith Cassidy is greeted by two of his proud children outside St. Vincent's Hospital on the Dublin Marathon route

Sheelin I.C.A. raises money for Liver Transplants & St Brigid's Ward:

The Sheelin Guild of the Irish Countrywomen's Association, from Kilnaleck in Co. Cavan, held a hugely successful fundraising day in May. Central to the event was a sponsored walk which was greatly supported. In addition they had a huge variety of events on the day including face-painting, fancy-dress, music and dancing and much more. The wider community was also very involved with donations from as far afield as the USA.

Altogether they raised €12,000 to support liver treatment and research and specifically St. Brigid's Ward. What a fantastic result from an extraordinary group of women. As well as our gratitude to this group we must thank all those who helped, as volunteers, to make the day so successful. The Sheelin I.C.A. Guild decided to support St. Vincent's in this way because two of their members had successful liver transplants. We are delighted to note that they are the picture of good health.



The members of the Sheelin I.C.A. Guild present a cheque to John Hickey



Christine Kearney has once again supported Breast Cancer care in St. Vincent's. She fasted for a day and canvassed her local community raising the terrific sum of €1,143. In addition, however she promoted early detection by advertising the "Action Breast Cancer 5 Point Breast Awareness code" as she visited each house in her area. Christine is a terrific advocate for prevention and treatment of breast cancer and we are all in her debt.

Christine Kearney accompanied by her brother Mick, presents a cheque from her fundraising, to Mary Murray, Advanced Nurse Practitioner of the Breast Clinic.

Fundraising Highlights Continued.....

Many bereaved families have donated large amounts to St. Vincent's from funeral donations on the death of their loved one. We really appreciate this generosity at such a difficult time for any family.

Peter & Josephine McLoughlin (pictured on right with John Hickey & T.R. Dallas) from Mohill, County Leitrim organised a Country Music Extravaganza on Monday 8th November last in Shannon Key West Hotel, Rooskey, County Roscommon which raised a fantastic sum of €10,000 for Cancer Care in St. Vincent's. We are very grateful to Peter & Josephine and all others involved in this outstanding fundraising event for St. Vincent's. To raise €10,000.00 in one night in this economic environment is quite exceptional. Peter is a remarkable man who has faced substantial medical issues and he is a previous Hall of Fame Winner at the Rehab People of the Year Awards. Shannonside Radio played a vital role in promoting the event and in encouraging support and we are very grateful to Joe Finnegan and Eugene Murphy for that. The event gained widespread publicity in the local and national press. All the acts were superbly backed by Mel Crowe and Busy Fingers. We appreciate all who gave freely of their talent and time.



Pictured below are Kathy Durkin and T.R. Dallas performing at the event.



We are delighted that the family of one of our patients organised a group of friends to take part in the Cork Ladies Mini Marathon on 26th September last and raised the very generous sum of €859 for the Liver Unit. We really appreciate this.

We are very thankful to a couple from Donore, County Meath who made a donation of €300 to the Liver Unit in lieu of favours at their wedding last November in memory of the bride's late mother.



The sale of Christmas Cards is an important source of funds each year for St. Vincent's. A big thank you to all who bought the cards last year and particular thanks to the many volunteers who gave their time to sell cards. Their help is really appreciated.



Fundraising Highlights Continued.....



Liver Transplant patient David Breech participated in a sponsored 10km walk and raised over €2,000 for the Liver Transplant Unit. Many thanks David on behalf of all our patients.

David Breech presents proceeds of his fundraising walk to Aoife Coffey, Liver Transplant Co-ordinator

Our thanks go to Matthew Tarrant who undertook the Dubai Half Marathon on 10th December last in memory of his late mother-in-law Marie Simpson R.I.P. Matthew set up a fundraising page on MyCharity and raised over €1,100 for St. Vincent's, which is very much appreciated. The Simpson Family also supported St. Vincent's at the time of Marie's funeral.

We are very grateful to a young man Luke Timmins, a former stroke patient, who took part in a Christmas Day Run to raise funds for St. Vincent's. Luke set up a fundraising page on MyCharity and raised over €600. Our sincere thanks to this courageous and determined young man who demonstrated such kindness to the hospital and it's patients.



Luke Timmins taking part in the Christmas Day Run

Our thanks to the staff of McElwee Pharmacy and the Heath Golf Club in County Laois for their generous donation of €850 for Cystic Fibrosis services in St. Vincent's. Their continued support is very much appreciated.

The O'Neill family and the wide circle of friends of Jack O'Neill R.I.P. have again put huge organisation into a function in November "Jack Goes to Bollywood", which was a remarkable success. We will have an update on this in a later edition. Our sincere thanks to the organisers for the continued massive support for St Vincent's.



St. Vincent's was one of the beneficiaries of the 2nd Annual Run for a Life Fun Run which took place on 18th September last organised by Astellas Pharma Co. in partnership with the Irish Kidney Association. All funds raised were allocated equally to the Irish Kidney Association, as well as to organ transplant units at Beaumont, St. Vincent's and the

Mater Hospitals. We are delighted to acknowledge receipt of €2,000 for St. Vincent's. This was a great success and hopefully will become an annual event.

Fundraising Highlights Continued.....



UCD Medical Society held their annual charity fundraising day on Thurs 14th October last. Over 700 students took to the streets of Dublin to collect for some very worthy charities, including St. Vincent's. We are delighted to confirm that €4,000 has been presented to St. Vincent's from this hugely successful fundraising event. Great credit is due to all who helped and supported this Charity Day. Our sincere thanks again to all involved.

Mark Murphy, Auditor of UCD Medical Society presents a cheque to John Hickey from the 2010 UCD Med Day fundraising event

Eamonn & Mary Burke from Arklow helped to organise a New Year's Day Swim in Arklow in aid of the Liver Unit in St. Vincent's. The volunteers braved bitterly cold conditions to raise funds for the hospital. They donated the terrific sum of €6,160 for which we are extremely grateful. Eamonn previously had a liver transplant in St. Vincent's.

Sarah Mitten from Enniscorthy raised €1,803 for the Liver Unit in a terrific community effort involving participation in last year's Women's Mini Marathon and a Harry Potter film premiere. Sarah who was a liver transplant recipient has shown great courage and generosity in fundraising.



Pictured on right is Sarah presenting cheque to John Hickey and Margaret Cullen, Assistant Director of Nursing.



Through a skydive, Christopher Roe raised €2,230 for the Liver Unit in St. Vincent's. His father Christy had a liver transplant in St. Vincent's in 2009. Christopher was generously supported by his employer John Player & Sons Ltd. We are very grateful to Christopher and to all who supported him.

Christopher Roe and his father Christy present a cheque for the Liver Unit

We are very grateful to Hazel Brack for a fundraising donation of €1,000. Hazel from Bray held a fundraising night in The Magic Carpet on February 26th in memory of her late uncle. The event was a huge success and the money raised was shared between the Marie Keating Foundation and care of patients in St Anne's ward in St. Vincent's.

Our big money box at the main entrance of S.V.U.H. continues to attract a lot of donations. The generosity of all donors is much appreciated. Many of the donations into the box reflect the friendly and supportive service provided by the staff on the front desk.

Fundraising Highlights Continued.....

For the last two years, the St Vincent's Rugby Club have supported patient care in the hospital at the Annual Rugby Ball. In 2010 this raised over €2,000. After a highly successful season on the pitch, the club turned their attention to organising the 2011 annual Charity Ball in February. This year again the Club decided that St. Vincent's Foundation would benefit from whatever surplus was achieved. The function was extremely well attended thanks to the trojan selling efforts of the club, under the guidance off Andrew Brownlee and Conor O'Callaghan. We're grateful also to Prof. Michael Keane, as President of the Rugby Club, for his support. It appears that the donation to St. Vincent's will equal last year's great effort at about €2,000.

We are indebted to David Latham - actor, singer and dancer - who organised a function at Cruzzo's Restaurant in Malahide and raised well in excess of €3,000 for St. Vincent's. This is one of a series of fundraising events planned by David and his family in support of Liver Disease, care and research in the hospital. The support commemorates David's late mother Joan who was a patient in the hospital. Sincere thanks to all involved.



Some of the attendees enjoying David Latham's fundraising night in Cruzzo's Restaurant

Connemara Half Marathon – 10th April 2011

Imelda Noone and 6 of her colleagues from Our Lady's Ward in St. Vincent's are again taking to the roads in beautiful Connemara to compete in the annual Connemarathon. Imelda will be accompanied by Dr. Morgan Crowe, Dr. Jasprett Bhangu, Ms. Serena Hatton, Ms. Sinead Brennan, Mr. Jonathon O'Keeffe and Ms. Maire Gilmartin. They will be fundraising for the Stroke Unit in St. Vincent's.



Pictured L to R are some of the Stroke Team who are taking part on the forthcoming Connemarathon.: Mr. Jonathon O'Keeffe, Dr. Morgan Crowe, Ms. Imelda Noone, Dr. Jasprett Bhangu & Ms. Serena Hatton.

Again, we are so indebted to all these people and to many more not listed. Some donors do not want to be identified and we always respect that.

Bequests to St. Vincent's

We have seen a growing number of former patients and their families including a gift to St. Vincent's in their Will. A bequest in this way allows someone to make a lasting difference, long after they are gone, to a cause that matters to them.

St. Vincent's Foundation is a founder member of MyLegacy.ie. This voluntary organisation encourages people to include a gift to a favoured charity when making their will. MyLegacy recently conducted an extensive advertising campaign on national radio. Hopefully this will raise a consciousness of how people can make a continued contribution when they are no longer living. www.mylegacy.ie
(See article on next page from Chairperson of Legacy Promotion Ireland)

During the last few months we have received several legacy gifts. These include over €30,000 through St Vincent's Private Hospital from the Will of a lady who lived in Australia and legacies of €36,000 and two legacies of €10,000 each. These and other similar acts of generosity are much appreciated.

The services of a solicitor are advisable when considering a Will and we are delighted that **Mangan O'Beirne Solicitors, 31 Morehampton Road, Donnybrook, Dublin 4** have very kindly offered a free consultation to anyone considering a Will. Anyone wishing to avail of



this service should call **01-6684333** or email solicitors@manganobeirne.ie and mention St. Vincent's, to make an appointment.

If you would like to know more about how a legacy/gift can help St. Vincent's, please contact John Hickey, C.E.O. St. Vincent's Foundation on j.hickey@st-vincents.ie or tel: 01-2215035

Gifts in Lieu of Flowers

There is a growing trend of families suggesting donations to specific causes in St. Vincent's in lieu of funeral flowers. This is welcome and very generous of families who look for others to benefit



from their loss. We are very grateful for the donations we received from relatives of deceased patients and also via our website. To make this easier, St. Vincent's Foundation has set up a "Donate" facility on the death notice website www.rip.ie and this feature allows a donate button for the charity to be displayed alongside a death notice. The donate button takes the visitor directly to the donate page within St. Vincent's Foundation website any time St. Vincent's is nominated in a death notice to receive a donation. Over the past few months we have been generously supported by a number of families including staff, who suffered bereavements and requested that donations be made to St. Vincent's.

Bequests to St. Vincent's Continued.....



As Chairperson of Legacy Promotion Ireland, I am delighted to contribute to this magazine for the generous donors to St. Vincent's Hospital.

Legacy Promotion Ireland is a consortium of over 40 charities and not-profit organisations which has come together with the aim of encouraging people to consider leaving a donation in their Will to their favourite charity to support a cause they care about and have a positive impact on the lives of future generations.

Irish charities from the healthcare, childcare, developing world, social care, animal protection and hospital arenas include the Alzheimer Society of Ireland, Amnesty International, Barnardos, Concern, Focus Ireland, the Irish Council for Civil Liberties, the Irish Cancer Society, the ISPCA, St Vincent's Hospital and Unicef amongst others.

According to recent research carried out by The Community Foundation for Ireland, a member of LPI, 62% of Irish people consider leaving a charitable bequest in their will, but in 2008 only 42.5% of people who passed away had made a will and just 12.2% of those left money in their will to a charity – which is dramatically below our neighbours in the UK and USA.

LPI works to highlight the valuable contribution that Irish people can and do make to charities, by leaving a legacy in their will. Ireland has a fantastic history of people leaving very normal, everyday gifts to their favourite charities that have made a real difference. Often people believe that you have to be rich to leave a bequest but that's not the case. Small donations in any form, from cash to a possession, can allow charities to do a lot.

A recent survey conducted by the Community Foundation of Ireland found that a gift of just €5,000 can greatly enhance the work of a charity. For example, it would allow for educational programmes and specialist teaching support at The Abbey Theatre; Oxfam could install water pumps and provide water for a whole community in Malawi and The Jack and Jill Foundation could provide a respite nurse for two families for a year.

There have been a variety of unusual donations to charities in Ireland over the years; from a teapot to a parrot. The Abbey Theatre received a box of Horniman's tea and a teapot. The daughter of the Horniman tea family (since bought over by Lyons) was the Abbey's first benefactor and that could be why she left this donation.

I was interested to learn that in the early days of St. Vincent's Hospital in the 1830's a sailor who had been a patient of the hospital directed that his parrot was to be auctioned and the money donated to St Vincent's. This was an unusual bequest but gifts of money or property can make a huge difference to the lives of those who need it most.

So, after family and other dependants have been taken care of, why not consider leaving a gift in your will. For anyone who is interested in leaving a legacy in their will, visit www.mylegacy.ie where you will find unbiased, useful information about will making and the process of leaving a gift.

I wish St Vincent's every success in their fantastic endeavours on behalf of patients.

Nichola Mullen, Chairperson, Legacy Promotion Ireland.

Tax Relief & Fundraising

Tax Relief on Donations to St. Vincent's Foundation

Because St. Vincent's Foundation is an "Eligible Charity" as defined by the Irish Revenue Commissioners, donations of €250 or more in any one year are eligible for tax relief. This relief applies if donations of €21 or more per month are made by standing order. The relief means that the Irish Revenue Commissioners repay the tax that is relevant to the donation. The tax relief is given at the donor's marginal tax rate (either 20% or 41%). The treatment of the tax differs between PAYE taxpayers and self-employed. The following examples demonstrate the benefits.

PAYE Donors

- St. Vincent's Foundation can seek the tax relief on the donation. Depending on the tax rate of the donor the following applies to a donation of €250:
- If the donor pays tax at 41%, St. Vincent's Foundation reclaims €174 thereby increasing the donation to €424 without any additional cost to the donor
- If the donor pays tax at 20%, St. Vincent's Foundation reclaims €62 which increases the donation to €312—again at no additional cost to the donor
- Larger donations attract a correspondingly increased tax refund.

Self--Employed Taxpayer

- The same level of tax relief applies as with PAYE taxpayers, but , in this case the refund is claimed by the taxpayer.



MyCharity Affiliation

Don't forget our partner in fundraising mycharity.ie. This is a really useful way to organise fundraising for sponsored events. If anyone is considering participating in any type of sponsored event, it is worth visiting the website. Literally any kind of event can be put up.

If you are using the MyCharity to raise money for St Vincent's through sponsored events the best way is by setting up your own page through www.mycharity.ie You can reach this by going to our website www.stvincentsfoundation.ie and following the link for sponsored events. You can then email the link to friends who might wish to sponsor you. There is a Direct Debit payment facility on the mycharity website and also, we are subscribed to their Facebook Fundraising application.

You can also access a myriad of fundraising ideas via the "fundraising ideas page" on this site.

Comments from Our Patients and their Relatives

We constantly receive kind comments on the care given to our patients. We give a sample of these in each edition but we don't identify any patient or staff member. Readers might recognise their own comments

"Everybody, medical miracle staff, domestic and cleaning staff were all so very kind and helpful to me. Thank you all so very much. May God bless you all in your wonderful work"

"I was looked after with nothing but kindness, care and efficiency"

"We are extremely grateful as a family, knowing that Mum was very, comfortable and peaceful throughout her final days"

"..sincerely thank your nursing staff and doctors for the outstanding treatment received from them over the three days under pressure conditions"

"Thank you also for your kind words and comforting presence to each and every one of our family. You were a tremendous help to us during this difficult time"

"The three of us absolutely share Mum's appreciation and gratitude. You could not have provided a more caring and considerate environment for her last peaceful weeks"

"Your kindness has exceeded all expectations and you have gone a second mile on our account"

"Porters, cleaners, nurses and doctors all seemed to make the effort to establish a level of rapport which I believe helped keep his spirits up in a difficult time"

"I am writing to thank you most sincerely for the care and compassion you showed to my brother before he passed away.... my family are truly grateful to each and every one of you"

"I was struck by the unflinching and professional cheerfulness, care, dedication and consideration to me and indeed to all others in my ward"

"During each visit and with no exception the care and competence of all your staff, doctors and nurses alike was truly impressive"

"Finally my thanks and appreciation for making my visits to St Michael's Hospital so pleasant"

"....each member of the nursing team was outstanding"

"The Liver Team provided such amazing care for my wonderful Dad and they always ensured he held his dignity and for this our family will be eternally grateful"

Some Medical Highlights from St. Vincent's

Breast Cancer Research collaboration

Over the last two years a research collaboration in the field of breast cancer has developed between the Smurfit Institute of Genetics at Trinity College Dublin, the Department of Breast and Endocrine Surgery at St. Vincent's University Hospital and University College Dublin. The Smurfit Institute of Genetics is one of the leading research institutes in Ireland and is renowned both nationally and internationally for its research into the genes involved in the number of disease states. More recently, with the appointment of Dr. Adrian Bracken, Lecturer in Genetics in Trinity College Dublin, this Institute has decided to become involved in molecular mechanisms responsible for breast cancer. Furthermore, the goal of this research project is to carry out true bench to bedside translational research, where the findings in the laboratory are investigated in a clinical setting. With this in mind, a collaboration has been set up between Dr. Bracken and his team at the Smurfit Institute of Genetics and Mr. James Geraghty, Consultant Breast Surgeon and colleagues in St. Vincent's University Hospital Dublin.

Over the last two years, this collaborative venture has focussed mainly on the transcriptional regulation of senescence in breast cancer cell lines. As a result of this work, approximately twenty candidate genes have been found which are common to the breast cancer cell lines investigated and may be implicated in breast cancer. These genes are now being investigated in the clinical setting in collaboration with the Department of Pathology at St. Vincent's University Hospital, Dublin.

The research interface between both universities will, in a separate project, shortly begin to investigate novel genes which may be implicated in the development of familial breast cancer in Irish families. It is well recognised that a small percentage of breast cancer is due to specific breast cancer genes but the majority of these genes are currently unknown. In a collaborative venture therefore between the aforementioned groups, together with the Conway Institute and the National Centre of Genetics in Crumlin, it is planned to carry out research to see if novel genes can be found. This will form the basis of a PhD for a junior surgeon who is currently in the Irish Surgical Training Scheme.

In summary, it is well known that bringing together renowned research institutes from different universities enhances the quality of research and it is hoped that the current collaboration between St. Vincent's University Hospital, University College Dublin and Trinity College Dublin will achieve this goal.

This research has been supported by the generosity of many donors.



Business Partners of St. Vincent's

A very important element of the support for St. Vincent's University Hospital is the growing number of Business Partners of St. Vincent's Foundation. In a very practical way each of these companies have contributed to the development of the hospital and demonstrated their corporate social responsibility. This is much appreciated and we hope that each benefits from their involvement with St. Vincents.

As part of our Business Partner programme in St. Vincent's we have an annual reception in the hospital attended by the Business Partners together with the Board and Senior Management of St. Vincent's Healthcare Group. In September last, partners were presented with certificates reflecting their ongoing support for the hospital.

This contribution is very welcome.

**Business Partners Reception
20th September 2010**



Business Partners of St. Vincent's

St. Vincent's Foundation is supported by the following Business Partners

Baxter



Upcoming Sponsored Events

**Are you thinking of taking part in a sponsored event in 2011?
If so, please consider choosing St. Vincent's Foundation as your
chosen charity**

**You can select the cause within the Foundation you would like your money to go to.
All monies received will go directly to your chosen cause and patient care.**

**Contact us now for a sponsorship
pack on 01-2215065 or email
stvincentsfoundation@svhg.ie**

Flora Women's Mini Marathon Monday 6th June 2011



**The 2010 Women's Mini Marathon raised over
€31,000 for St. Vincent's Foundation.
We are again appealing for your support for this
year's event.**

Calling all cyclists

Wicklow 100 or Wicklow 200 on Sunday 12th June 2011



Dublin Marathon 2011 Monday 31st October, 9am



**Log onto www.mycharity.ie for a full list of
sponsored events**

Donations can be made by
24 hour donation phone line Tel: 1850 603 803

Via Our Website

www.stvincentsfoundation.ie

Or

Pick up one of our leaflets in the hospital

OUR CONTACT DETAILS

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Email: stvincentsfoundation@svhg.ie

St. Vincent's Foundation