



Heart To Hand Charity Newsletter 2017



Dear friends of Heart To Hand,

Welcome to this years' edition of our annual newsletter. 2016/2017 has been a very busy year for our Charity. The demand for supplementary food in Ireland is still very high; we are on the road on a daily basis collecting and delivering Food Aid to those most in need of support. Every day in Ireland thousands of families still struggle to put food on the table. We are very grateful to those who make Heart To Hand their choice when donating Food Aid, especially Kerry Group and Glanbia. We deliver Food Aid to over 50 organisations around Ireland including, homeless shelters, soup kitchens, rehabilitation centres, homes for distressed families, breakfast centres, Brother Kevin in Dublin, and drop in centres, to mention but a few. They are all doing great work with people who have fallen on hard times and we help out by delivering Food Aid. In doing so, those organisations save thousands of Euro on food bills which eases their burden of fundraising and enables them to provide other vital services to people in need. We all need to work towards alleviating homelessness in Ireland and to offer a better life for people who are finding it difficult to get out of the poverty trap.

If you would like to support the work of Heart To Hand, we would be most grateful. You can donate by visiting our website, www.hearttohand.net and donate online or you can post a cheque, fill in the standing order form on the back of this Newsletter or simply donate to any member of Heart To Hand. Fundraisers are vital to the life of the Charity and without them we cannot continue. With so many Charities struggling these days fundraising has become very difficult and we really need new ideas and people to take on the fundraising task. If you can help, please contact Kieran or Pat whose details are on the back page of this Newsletter. We want to thank all of our volunteers and friends for their continued support this past year. We hope you will continue to support us and the work that we do.

Our construction volunteers were hard at work this year in Dublin where they built a new workshop for the residents of "The Mendicity Institution" a fabulous centre for the homeless where they spend their days making various timber products, flower baskets, window baskets and they also produce sleeping bags which are distributed to the homeless around Dublin and also sent to refugee camps. Full story inside.

Our overseas Aid deliveries continue to Albania, which is one of the poorest countries in Europe. We ship clothes, shoes, food, bedding, wheelchairs and much more to help the poorest of the poor who are really suffering. We received delivery of a 40ft articulated trailer this year from Paul Dempsey of Keyline transport. This was a very generous donation and allows us to continue loading while our other trailer is in Albania.

New trailer donated by Keyline Transport!

Kieran Byrne,
Director and Founder.



Kerry Foods continues to support Heart To Hand with food aid.	Thank you letters from Albania for the Aid received.	Mendicity Building Projects	Limerick Food Aid
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Building Projects 2016/2017 Mendicity Dublin.



On Sat 11th March, the Heart To Hand volunteers arrived in the Mendicity Institution, Island Street, Dublin to construct a new workshop, outside toilet and canopies over all doors.

All works were completed in one day with the Electrical team arriving a few days later to complete the electrical works and connection. The workshop was officially opened by Dublin Lord Mayor Brendan Carr who presented Kieran Byrne with a hand crafted window flower box. The Mendicity Institution is the oldest working Charity in Dublin. Established in 1818, it has been in operation for nearly 200 years creating opportunities for people experiencing homelessness, isolation and marginalization to live better lives.

Phase 2 of this project will take place later this year. The existing workshop is to receive a new roof and remedial works. Our thanks to all our sponsors for this project. Full details are available on our website.

Volunteers.

Back Row: Kevin Power, John Mockler, Don Ryan, Timmy Corcoran, Martin Gleeson, Matthew Pollard, Jimi Pilinci, Dermot Fennelly.

Front Row: P.J. Gleeson, Pat Whelan, Simone Lazar, John Stapleton, Charles Richards and our photographer Tomas Gleeson! Missing from photo, Denis O'Dwyer, Martin Campion and Mick Morgan.

Building Projects Albania 2016/2017

This October, 12 volunteers will travel to Albania to carry our building works on houses in very great need of repair. These houses will receive new roofs, electrical works and much more. We will start work on a very large feeding station in Tirana which will become home to every homeless person on the streets. We will equip the existing building with new toilets, showers, a new kitchen catering for circa 400 per day, temporary accommodation, classrooms for families with children and create a place for the homeless to spend some time with others and receive some assistance with integration back to a life without poverty! This is a very large project which will require a lot of funding. If you would like to help, please contact us or simply make a donation.



Loading of the Humanitarian Aid Lorries.

Photo over shows Margaret Byrne hard at work sorting all of the items for the Humanitarian Aid deliveries. Each lorry carries approximately 25,000kgs. That is serious loading for a small group; Margaret is assisted by Kieran and their son James. The amount of time and effort that goes into each load is phenomenal. Every lorry is packed with as much love as it is with Aid. Kieran, Margaret & James will only load items once they have been checked and approved. St Mother Teresa was very conscious to maintain the dignity of her poor people and as such tried to ensure that everything was as good as new when it was received. Kieran, Margaret & James have maintained this ethos and every load is so well received by the poor people of Albania. We are currently loading for Albania and if you would like to donate towards the cost of these very necessary deliveries, please contact us or donate online at www.hearttohand.net Thanks to everyone who donates food, clothes, and medical items for these deliveries.

Standing orders and donations.

Our sincere thanks to all those who continue with standing orders. This is the lifeline of our charity and we really want to say thank you. Thanks to all who donate in any way.

Thanks to all who make anonymous donations .

Wexford Potatoes

Thanks to Brian & Liam Barry who have been collecting potatoes all over Wexford for Heart To Hand and thanks to the potato growers who continue to donate!

Shop Door Collections

Special mention to Maureen Sherlock and her group of volunteers who organise the shop door collections and collect so much food for Heart To Hand. Thanks Maureen, Carmel, John, Martin & Kathleen.

Food Collections during Lent.

Thanks to everyone around the country for donating food items during Lent. This collection brings in very large amounts of food and we really appreciate the effort to remember, and bring different items each Sunday during Lent.

Pen Boxes.

Thank you to all the shopkeepers and businesses who host our pen boxes and keep them maintained. We appreciate your help and continued support.

Volunteer drivers - Myles Doran & Pat Cody

Our thanks to Myles and Pat for the endless hours spent delivering Food Aid around Ireland. Without their continued support we would not be able to continue. We are so grateful for your hard work and dedication to those in need. God bless you both.

Christmas Gift Box appeal.

Every year Heart To Hand sends thousands of Christmas gift boxes to the orphanages and the poor in Albania. If you would like to donate one, please fill a gift box with some toys, writing pencils, toothbrush, colouring books, etc. and mark the box for a boy or a girl and the age category the gift would suit. Boxes can be delivered to any of the Heart To Hand volunteers or to the contacts on the back page of this Newsletter. Thank you.



Photo shows Heart To Hand Volunteers, Kathleen Buggy & Betty McEvoy following a very successful food collection in Supervalu Wexford. Thanks to Kathleen & Betty and all who donated food for this collection.



HEART TO HAND NEWSLETTER 2016/2017



A huge thank you to all at the Kerry Group who have made Heart To Hand their 1st choice when donating Food Aid. We are extremely grateful for their ongoing support and especially for the volume of food received on a weekly basis. This is excellent quality food and recipients are so grateful to receive it in such quantities. Thank you Kerry Group, and thanks to the staff of Kerry Group who have held fundraisers and donated the money raised to Heart To Hand. Kerry Group and Heart To Hand have come together to ensure that no food is wasted and that all Food Aid is delivered straight to the people who need it most. We are very fortunate to receive such firm support from Kerry Group.

FUNDRAISERS 2016 /2017

Designer Clothes Sale - Lakeside Hotel Killaloe.

Thanks to Joanne Skelly and her team of volunteers for another successful clothes sale in the Lakeside Hotel, Killaloe this summer. This is an event the whole town looks forward to, such are the bargains! Please support our next sale which will be held in November. Details will be posted on our website and Facebook page. Thanks to the Lakeside Hotel for their continued support in hosting these fundraisers. Thank you to all who donate clothes and who volunteer.

Concert in St Flannan's Cathedral Killaloe.

Sadie Flanagan will be hosting a charity coral concert for Heart To Hand on Sunday 10th December, in St Flannans Cathedral. An excellent way to spend a Sunday evening and help support your local charity. We look forward to a great evening of singing and hope to see you there!

Our sincere thanks to **Geraldine O Sullivan** who has served as a volunteer for Heart To Hand for many years. Geraldine was our leader in limerick where she did exceptional work with food distribution and fundraising. Due to a heavy workload Geraldine has passed the lead role to Camilla O Brien, one of her team. We thank Geraldine for her contribution to the poor & homeless in Limerick where she continues to help. We welcome Camilla as our new leader and we want to acknowledge the huge workload involved with food distribution in Limerick. These ladies do all this work at their own expense and receive no payments from the charity. Thank you both and also thanks to your team of volunteers who turn up at short notice to distribute the food aid.

Thank you letter from Br Andre Marie in Albania.

To our dearly beloved friends at Heart to Hand in Ireland, Kieran, Margaret, Pat, Dennis and all! May this letter find you well! It is my great joy to thank you once again for your generous contributions for the poorest of the poor which arrived here in Albania in the lorry driven by the able driver John. He not only drove the vehicle, he worked for hours with us to unload it!

I was overwhelmed by the generosity of the Irish at Heart to Hand. They literally flooded us with precious food material. We received from the generous Heart of the Irish tons of milk! You have no idea what a precious gift this is for us! Thanks to Heart to Hand each package contained about ten articles. In each package there was one jacket, one shirt (or a pair of pants), two pairs of socks (brand new), one toothbrush, one tube of toothpaste, two pieces of body soap and two pairs of underwear (brand new), one package of soda crackers (containing eight individual mini packages of crackers of Heart to Hand origin), I wanted to thank Heart to Hand for the tons of milk, for the tons of pasta, for tons of flour, for the tinned food in great quantity, especially the fish, soups and vegetables, also for the soups in packages. These concentrated materials help the Brothers much to heat up a quick nutritious supper in the winter with our leftovers. Thank you so much for the delicious cereals, and the sweet biscuits. The food supply is used in our home for the handicapped, for the Brothers, and for the local poorest of the poor. Thanks so much for the cooking oil and the porridge. Thanks for the many first class mattresses; you really outdid yourselves here, which were covered with a protective plastic rubber layer. They are perfect for our poorest of the poor, they were put to use immediately. Thanks for the wheel chairs, crutches, medical supplies and walkers. Thanks for the toilet rolls; we have a lot from you. I had no idea how the people, especially the women, regard them so highly. Thanks in a very special way for the mountain of clothes, school supplies and stationery items, which are just perfect for the young poorest of the poor who go to school on an extremely low, if not non-existent sometimes, budget. Kind regards, Br Andre Marie MC Albania.

Thank you letter from Cuan Mhuire Limerick.

Dear Kieran,

On behalf of Cuan Mhuire CTR I would like to express our deep debt of gratitude to you and to all involved in the Heart to Hand Foundation for the wonderful help which you constantly provide to Cuan Mhuire and its residents. You have no idea how much it means to us.

As you are aware Cuan Mhuire has centres at Athy, Co. Kildare, Bruree, Co. Limerick, Farnanes, Co. Cork and Coolarne, Co. Galway. In addition we have five Transition Houses at Gardiner St, Dublin, Roxboro Rd, Limerick, North Circular Rd, Limerick, Ballybay, Co. Monaghan and Helen's St, Galway City. In 2016 we had in excess of 2,500 admissions to our centres and provided 173,000 bed nights. This gives you an idea of the extent of the work and how important your support is to us. All those who came through our doors benefit from the support which you so generously give us through the Heart to Hand Foundation.

Renewed and most sincere thanks to the Heart to Hand Foundation and to its benefactors.



TECHNOLOGIES LTD

Big thanks to all in OMC Technologies for their continued support. OMC has been supporting Heart To Hand for many years now and we are so grateful. In lieu of Christmas gifts to customers, OMC makes a large donation to Heart To Hand. This generous donation at Christmas time is a huge boost and we sincerely want to thank all at OMC.

6 A-Side Soccer Tournament
in aid of
Heart to Hand Albanian Project

Sunday 1st October 2017 @ 2pm
Ursuline Convent, Thurles

€120 per team
Full proceeds going to the Heart to Hand Albania Fund

We would welcome local businesses, groups or friends who would like to enter the tournament to contact Phil on 087-2420074

Light refreshments & presentation of cup in Noel Ryan's Pub afterwards

Heart to Hand Charity No: CHY 11391

Soccer Tournament

Phil Purcell held a very successful 6 a side soccer tournament in the Ursuline Convent Thurles on Sunday 1st of October. 20 teams took part to raise funds for the Albania building projects. Thanks to all participants and to Phil for organising the event. Congratulations to the winning team.

Employee donations through work

Company Employees Supporting Heart To Hand.

If your company employees would be interested in donating €1 per employee per month, it would make a huge difference and would help us to continue our work with the homeless. Heart To Hand would like to speak to you if you are interested.

Ordinance Survey Ireland.

Our thanks to the staff of Ordinance Survey Ireland who have been supporting Heart To Hand for many years through monthly donations. We are very grateful to all those who donate and to the administration staff who organise and arrange the



Heart To Hand Food Aid in Ireland



Heart to Hand volunteers continue to deliver Food Aid to those in need on a regular basis. Above is a photo of the Limerick volunteers hard at work sorting and distributing food. There are about 25 centres in Limerick which benefit from the Food Aid. Thanks to all who turn up at short notice to help out and to Camilla O'Brien our team leader. Thanks to Munster Logistics for continued support.

ST. FAUSTINA SCHOOL, MALAWI, PROJECT REPORT.

We are very happy for the €3,000 grant that we received towards the construction of the second school block at St. Faustina Primary School. We write to give a report and the current status of the project.



School in Malawi supported by heart To Hand.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Make a donation: contact any member of Heart To Hand or contact us on 087 2745570

Direct debit/Standing Order of your choice. Our bank details as follows: AIB Arklow Co Wicklow. **Account No. 03679094 Sort code 93 30 23. Account name - Heart To Hand.**

Making a will.

Please consider Heart to Hand when thinking of leaving something to help the poor in Ireland.

Hold a food collection in your local parish, church, school, workplace or supermarket. Tinned food, pasta, porridge, rice, beans and peas, soup, etc. are especially welcome.



Heart To Hand volunteer Miles Doran delivering Food Aid to Fr Seamus McEntee in DCU. Fr Seamus has set up a Charity to help students who are struggling to cope with high rents and college fees. Fr Seamus provides assistance and Food Aid received from

Heart To Hand.



Lorry packed and ready for the long journey to Albania. Thanks to Keyline transport for their continued support.

WHAT WE DO

Provide Food Aid to over 50 locations around Ireland; these centres and food shelters operate on a voluntary basis and we always like to help the smaller centres where funding and support would be minimal. This past year we have provided the equivalent of **250,000 meals** to the poorest of the poor.

We support those who try to make a difference.

CONTACT DETAILS

Kieran Byrne: 087 2745570

Scarnagh, Gorey, Co Wexford.

Charity No. CHY 11391

Phone 0402 37260

Email: kieranbyrne1@gmail.com

Web: www.hearttohand.net

Pat Whelan: 086 8240978

68 Ard Coillte,

Ballina,

Co Tipperary

Email: pat.whelan@omc.ie

STANDING ORDER FORM

If you can, please consider a regular donation of €5 or any amount of your choice.

I wish to make a donation of €_____ each month until further notice starting on _____

Please pay to: Heart To Hand Charity, **AIB, Arklow, Co Wicklow.**

Account No: 03679094

BIC: AIBKIE2D

IBAN: IE12AIBK93302303679094

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone No: _____

YOUR BANK DETAILS

Account Number: _____

BIC: _____

IBAN: _____

Your Bank Name & Address

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Please return this completed form to:

Kieran Byrne, Heart To Hand, Scarnagh, Gorey, Co Wexford.