



Improving people's lives in Northern Ireland

In Focus

The newsletter of BCM (Belfast Central Mission)

Nov 2020



BCM's Christmas Appeal is back for 2020!

Since 1890, Belfast Central Mission has provided for the vulnerable and those in need year-round. Christmas can be the most difficult time of year for many families, and 2020 is likely to be difficult for even more. This year, with your help, BCM is aiming to deliver a Toy Appeal (no food) for families across Northern Ireland.

Due to current restrictions, the appeal will work very differently and we would ask you to bear with us as we work hard to enable it to happen safely.

We will be taking deliveries of toys at
Donegall Road Methodist Church in Belfast (not Grosvenor House)
from Monday, 7th December for two weeks.

This will be on a A STRICT PRE-BOOKED TIME SLOT basis.

Please note, there will be no access to BCM HQ in Glengall Street.

For further information please go to our website www.belfastcentralmission.org or contact
lhenry@belfastcentralmission.org or jsewell@belfastcentralmission.org

In the meantime, please continue to support this appeal and the families that need it. Thank you.

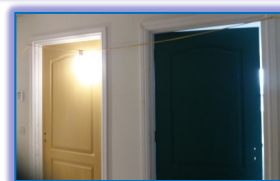


COPELANDS

It is a really exciting time for our Copelands project. Not only are we starting the initial stages of the recruitment process but, as these photos show, the building itself is really progressing nicely and looking so impressive in its beautiful setting nestled between the rolling drumlin countryside and the Irish Sea.

The rooftop terrace at the front, the rear enclosed garden space, and even some of the individually painted doors in one of the dementia households, are all looking great and we cannot wait to start welcoming staff and residents alike.

Fundraising continues so if you would like to donate please send a cheque to Fundraising Dept. (address on back page) or go to our website www.copelands.org.uk Recruitment information can also be found there.



PROJECT ACTIVITIES DURING / AFTER LOCKDOWN



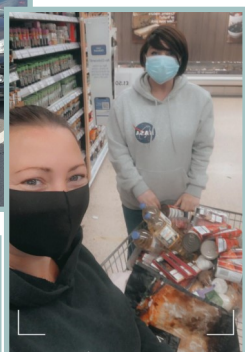
Socially distanced activities for young parents and their children in Newtownards (left) and residents of Kirk House (right)



CEO Nicky Conway preparing for the Big Backyard Campout fundraising event (right)



Shopping for families and young people in Ards and Armagh / Dungannon



Mask, apron and gloves donned for a visit to an older service user in Armagh / Dungannon



Socially distanced picnic with some of our wonderful volunteers

WELCOME

BCM welcomes the new Director of Care & Quality Governance and Deputy CEO

With a career spanning humanitarian relief and healthcare at an international level, Lynne Kavanagh brings decades of valuable first-hand experience to the role. With her primary focus being the welfare and care of service users across BCM's 15+ projects, Lynne will be responsible for ensuring the practice-leading and often award-winning standards of care are upheld.

Originally from Northern Ireland, Lynne studied nursing in Liverpool before spending a number of years working in West and Sub-Saharan Africa with organisations including Concern and Oxfam. For the last 15 years, Lynne has worked as a Critical Care nurse in Canada, most recently as the Nursing Manager of the Oncology and Ambulatory Care service within the Nova Scotia Health Authority.

Nicky Conway, Chief Executive of BCM, said;

"We are delighted to have Lynne as a part of the BCM family and are looking forward to her insight and contribution during this time of uncertainty and transition as an organisation. Throughout the pandemic, BCM has continued to deliver support to vulnerable people and we know that Lynne's knowledge and expertise will allow us to further develop our methods and approach, for the benefit of our staff, volunteer network and service users alike."

Lynne said;

"It is a privilege to now be part of the rich history and exemplary work that BCM carries out and I am excited to develop and shape BCM's provision of care for the individuals, families and communities we work with. With more than 130 years of established and earned reputation and respect across the care and social work sectors, BCM is one of the few organisations operating today that provides such a broad scope of support for so many and I am humbled that I can be a part of this life changing work."



Lynne with Nicky Conway, BCM's Chief Executive, in The Observatory of the Grand Central Hotel, Belfast.
Photo by Brendan Gallagher.



Looking for an alternative to greeting cards?

You can support BCM by sending e-cards instead with **DontSendMeACard.com**

By giving what you would have spent on cards and stamps anyway, you'd be helping BCM without being out of pocket. Every e-card you send saves time, helps BCM, and reduces carbon. It's easy to do. Just go to the website and search for Belfast Central Mission in the list of charities. You can donate using paypal or a credit/debit card and you can send multiple cards per donation. Thank you.

N.B. Administration and processing fees of 8% (plus 20p) will be deducted from your donation by the website and Paypal.

Christmas Eve Street Collection

CANCELLED

Unfortunately, due to the current situation with covid 19, the BCM Board has taken the difficult decision to cancel this year's annual Christmas Eve Street Collection. The safety of volunteers, staff and members of the public remains our main priority.

As this will mean a substantial loss of income, we are working on an alternative means of fundraising to cover this as far as possible.

For more information please contact Lorna on lhenry@belfastcentralmission.org or check out our website and social media for updates.

LOOKING BACK AT JAN-DEC 2019

“Every year we take a look back at the previous year to see how, as an organisation, we are progressing against our Strategic Plan and we thought we would share some of our findings with you. In normal circumstances we would have chosen to share this with you earlier in the year, however everything has been pushed back due to covid. I hope you still find it of some interest”. Nicky Conway CEO

In 2019 BCM's current Strategic Plan ('Improving People's lives across Northern Ireland 2017-21') was reviewed and refined. This resulted in the introduction of three new strategic drivers: Growth, Excellence and Influence and you can read more about these below.

We also commissioned an independent review of the Leadership and Senior Management Structure to ensure that BCM could realise its strategic ambitions. The review resulted in the creation of a suite of new 'Heads of' roles and the new post of Deputy CEO/Director of Care and Quality Governance as mentioned overleaf. We believe BCM now has the structure in place to facilitate our ambitious growth plans, including the Copelands Care Home.

Growth

- ◆ We made good progress on the Copelands Care Home construction project and attracted significant interest from both potential staff and residents
- ◆ We continued to pursue a planning approval for Phase 2 of Copelands which comprises of 24 Extra care bungalows
- ◆ We secured funding from the Supporting People Provider's Innovation Fund for 'train the trainer' for all of our Project Managers
- ◆ We secured funding for additional staffing at Tafelta Rise, Supported Housing Project
- ◆ We were successful in bidding for 2 new Floating Support Services in Newry (Older People) and Magherafelt (Young People)
- ◆ We carried out a feasibility study exploring options for the expansion of Puddleducks Nursery
- ◆ We secured tender for the development of our Parent Support Project in Dungannon
- ◆ We supported over 5,700 beneficiaries

Excellence

- ◆ We secured reaccreditation as a Supporting People service provider
- ◆ We were reaccredited for Investors in People
- ◆ We were reaccredited for ISO 9001 quality standard
- ◆ New IT systems have been implemented in Puddleducks and Kirk House and work began on a new IT system to facilitate remote working for our Floating Support service
- ◆ Stakeholders satisfaction rates were in excess of 90%
- ◆ Service Users satisfaction were in excess of 90%
- ◆ Measurement frameworks are in place across the projects to measure outcomes

Influence

- ◆ As a result of the newspaper and radio coverage we secured over 4.5m views and £80,000 of advertising value equivalent
- ◆ We continued to highlight to key stakeholders, the value of Extra Care housing as a model of care and support for older people in Northern Ireland
- ◆ We participated in a feasibility study regarding the benefits of introducing a Homeshare model of care and support for older people in Northern Ireland
- ◆ We participated in the "Keep on Supporting People" campaign to protect and grow this important programme of housing-related support

A more detailed review of the Objects and Activities undertaken is set out in the Trustees' Annual Report which will be available shortly on the BCM website or from the Communications & Influencing Officer,

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