



NEWS RELEASE

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Hanafin says "new stresses" are having impact on family life

Almost €8million funding provided to Counselling organisations

Over €7.8 million is being provided to 29 major organisations involved in Marriage, Child and Bereavement Counselling Services throughout Ireland. Announcing the funding, Minister for Social and Family Affairs Mary Hanafin T.D., said this funding, which is administered by the Family Support Agency, **"is the first part of a three year rolling investment in the valuable services provided by these organisations to support families in times of distress and trauma."**

Minister Hanafin said that now more than ever there is a need to ensure that quality services are available in order to help families who may be experiencing new pressures and stresses in their lives. **"The difficult economic situation being experienced throughout the country is filtering into the lives and homes of families throughout Ireland. Where a person loses their job or has their working hours cut back, this financial strain can lead to pressures in relationships. Having a network of support services available throughout the country, to provide marriage and relationship counselling services is a core part of helping families to cope with problems they are confronted with."**

The funding announced by Minister Hanafin today covers:

- **€4.7million for major providers of services** such as ACCORD and Marriage & Relationship Counselling Ltd
- **€1.9million for 17 regional networks** of services in counties Cork, Dublin, Galway, Kerry, Louth, Mayo, Roscommon and Waterford.
- **€748,000 services providing supports for children** in need of counselling in relation to parental separation and bereavement.
- **€458,000 for organisations providing services in disadvantaged communities.**

Minister Hanafin said that each of these organisations has **"a proven track record in the specialty of services they provide and having this funding made available to them earlier in the year than in previous years will enable them to continue to develop services and plan into the future, as they move to a multi annual budget process."**



Department of Social and Family Affairs

The grants to organisations dealing with marriage and relationships also helps fund marriage preparation courses for couples planning to marry, as well as support for families dealing with relationship breakdown. **“Early intervention, counselling and support can help families to avert a much deeper crisis causing a family break-up and the professional services available for couples, families and children through these organisations is a vital service”** said Minister Hanafin

The Minister went on to say that there are many other local services being provided throughout communities in Ireland and that there will be a further announcement on funding for these in the coming months, as part of the Department’s spend of over €11.8million through the Family Support Agency to support counselling services.

ENDS



Department of Social and Family Affairs

Organisation Name	County	Grant
CORK COUNSELLING SERVICES LTD	CORK	€175,100
CORK MARRIAGE COUNSELLING CENTRE	CORK	€447,200
DUBLIN COUNSELLING & THERAPY CENTRE LTD	DUBLIN 1	€107,500
CLANWILLIAM INSTITUTE	DUBLIN 2	€139,100
AIM FAMILY SERVICES	DUBLIN 2	€93,400
MRCS	DUBLIN 2	€811,800
ACCORD DUBLIN	DUBLIN 2	€781,000
CROSSCARE TEEN COUNSELLING	DUBLIN 3	€181,900
IRISH COUNTRYWOMEN'S ASSOCIATION	DUBLIN 4	€88,300
HEADWAY IRELAND	DUBLIN 7	€75,000
HESED HOUSE	DUBLIN 8	€79,400
BARNARDOS	DUBLIN 8	€233,300
LIBERTIES COUNSELLING	DUBLIN 8	€79,000
C.A.R.I. FOUNDATION (DUBLIN)	DUBLIN 9	€169,300
RAINBOWS IRELAND	DUBLIN 12	€164,200
TARGET	DUBLIN 13	€94,000
GENESIS PSYCH. & FAMILY THERAPY SERVICE	DUBLIN 15	€116,700
NORTHSIDE COUNSELLING SERVICE LTD	DUBLIN 17	€109,200
NEWLANDS INSTITUTE FOR COUNSELLING	DUBLIN 22	€153,300
TURNING POINT IRELAND LTD.	CO DUBLIN	€90,700
PRO-CONSULT	GALWAY	€97,200
SOUTHWEST COUNSELLING CENTRE	CO KERRY	€93,600
ACCORD CENTRAL OFFICE	CO KILDARE	€1,215,360
ACCORD CENTRES NATIONWIDE	CO KILDARE	€1,456,500
DUNDALK COUNSELLING CENTRE	CO LOUTH	€152,700
KNOCK COUNSELLING SERVICE	CO MAYO	€120,000
FAMILY LIFE SERVICES	CO MAYO	€90,000
FAMILY LIFE CENTRE, BOYLE	CO ROSCOMMON	€168,800
VITA HOUSE FAMILY CENTRE	ROSCOMMON	€124,900
ST BRIGID'S FAMILY AND COMMUNITY CENTRE	WATERFORD	€155,300
Total		€7,863,760