



International Focus - December 2011

Thank you for your interest and support for Depaul's services around the world during 2011. We have been called upon to help more homeless and disadvantaged people than ever before - in these times of global financial and economic uncertainty, sadly poverty and the number of people needing help is rising. Depaul International is just one of hundreds of charities trying to alleviate the situation, and we remain true to our vision that everyone has a place to call home and a stake in their community, as challenging as that ambition may be.

Here's a snapshot of what's been happening in Depaul services during the autumn, and from everyone at Depaul International we wish you a peaceful **Christmas and all the best for 2012.**

Mark McGreevy, Group Chief Executive, Depaul International

/// Depaul USA Daybreak Capital Campaign Launches



Depaul USA is developing a new day/resource center called Daybreak to help homeless people in Macon, Georgia, USA. On November 15th more than 150 supporters in Macon joined Capital Campaign Chair Karla Redding-Andrews to launch the campaign to raise \$175,000 for purchase and refurbishment of the building. Daybreak's new home will be a 6,000 square foot warehouse at 174 Walnut Street. The campaign will target individuals, Macon's youth, local businesses, and philanthropic organizations. Macon's three television stations, its newspaper, and the local NPR affiliate all covered the launch ceremony. At the end of the ceremony, Roosevelt Rowland, a local homeless man told the Macon Telegraph, "The center itself will be an extraordinary venture for Middle Georgia because it will provide a lot of care for people who don't normally have doors open for them."

/// Depaul UK's young people in South Shields bowled over by generosity of Christmas gift!



A group of young homeless people in South Tyneside were bowled over by the generosity of local traders in South Shields this Christmas. The Dunes Bowl on South Shields seafront generously donated a morning of ten pin bowling to the clients of Depaul UK's Jigsaw Project, which provides support to 16-25 year olds in the borough who are homeless, or at risk of becoming homeless by providing one to one support, drop in support, and structured learning to gain the skills required to become independent. To help the group to celebrate the festive season, local entertainment venue Hedworth Hall joined in the generosity and dished up a free three course Christmas dinner to the group. Jo Burlton, manager of the Jigsaw Project, said: "Christmas is a very hard time of year for our young people who are often alone, and especially vulnerable. The generosity from these businesses is amazing, especially during this economic downturn, we would like to thank them very much."

/// Depaul Ireland's Castlehill Project Looks Back on First Two Years



Castlehill opened its doors in June 2009 providing accommodation and support for up to 28 people. 100% of people resettled have maintained their own tenancy. As part of The Council for the Homeless Northern Ireland Homeless Awareness Week 2011, Depaul Ireland launched the 2-Year Retrospective Report of the Castlehill Project in Dungannon. Speaking in advance of the event, Kerry Anthony MBE, Depaul Ireland CEO, said: "Castlehill is a special project, operating in a market town with limited access to other accommodation services locally; part of its success has been through adopting the Depaul Ireland low threshold ethos. The team have created a welcoming and accessible environment to anyone who has come to them for support and it is testament of their commitment to this ethos that they have been able to support people with very complex needs within the service."

/// Depaul Slovensko organises Charity Concert



On 16th October 2011, in support of the UN International day for the eradication of poverty on the 17th, Depaul Slovensko held a fundraising concert at St. Martin's Cathedral in Bratislava. The concert was organized under the auspices of prime minister Iveta Radicova. They also welcomed Ambassador Kathryn Coll from the Irish Embassy, a long-term supporter of Depaul Slovensko. The Slovak chamber orchestra presented works by Bach, Vivaldi, Mozart and Benjamin Britten. Income from the concert €1684.90 is to be used for services at the St. Vincent Nightshelter in Bratislava.

/// Depaul Kharkiv enters photographic competition



Depaul Kharkiv has participated in the second national photographic contest of the Ukrainian Philanthropists' Forum "Charity through the lens," which was held under the auspices of the National Union of Photographers of Ukraine. Two photos of our projects, taken by Laura Stephens, were included in the top 38 images selected from hundreds of entries. The grand opening of the exhibition was held in Kiev on December 5th, and our photo 'Help soul and body' was awarded a diploma, along with a photo given a special prize in the category 'Volunteering changes the world'. After the exhibition closes it will go on tour for display in other cities in Ukraine.

/// For more information please contact
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