# DONEGAL CENTRE FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING



**ANNUAL REPORT 2019-20** 







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Welcome once again to the Donegal Centre for Independent Livings Annual



Report and although we find ourselves in the strangest of times, we hope that we continue to find a way of reaching you all in our efforts to keep everyone up to date on the services, developments and achievements of our organisation over the past year and more.

As we ended 2019 I believe it's fair to say that we were all satisfied at having had a good year within DCIL in terms of development of service and practices that were paving the way for an exciting future for staff, Leaders, Directors and certainly the bodies in which we provide services to as stakeholders as an organisation. Much work was completed in governance practice as well as service practice that was setting out our objectives for the strategic planning process very encouragingly. None of us could possibly have foreseen the challenges we were about to face into 2020 with in terms of a global pandemic – Covid -19 that impacted the world so significantly and certainly the disability sector.

I acknowledge and appreciate the challenges this has presented for each and every one of you and for some the losses experienced, I'd also like to pay tribute to the learning that we have been afforded in terms of the dynamic nature of everyone involved in DCIL. This year to-date has highlighted the extreme level of resilience, commitment, and undoubted loyalty that our people have within the organisation at every level. Our Personal Assistants who remain the corner stone of the organisation continued to work out there supported by the Core Staff Team here and whilst often anxious about the virus that was making it's way throughout the country, showed absolute commitment to the people in which they provided service too. These people have made me and all at DCIL both humbled and proud to have as part of our organisation.

I would like to thank the Board and particularly the Officers and Chair for the commitment to the future of DCIL. We express thanks to our Chairperson, Cath Waugh for her support and commitment to us throughout the year. I'd also like to make particular reference to the time given to us by our Treasurer Marian O'Donell who has been assisting us here within the finance department greatly since she took up this role following her retirement as a Core Staff Member of DCIL.

To our Funders, this has been an unprecedented year for everyone and your support in funding our valuable services has not gone unnoticed. We are thankful for the very open and supportive relationship we enjoy with you all and look forward to your continued support over the next few years in the realising of some of our key objectives in terms of development. Your input has been invaluable to us in helping achieve a better quality of life for people with disabilities throughout Donegal.

Finally, our Core Staff Team who has given of their commitment and capacity so generously over the past year and continues to ensure DCIL remains one of the leading disability organisations in Donegal with the provision of essential services to enable Independent Living.

I hope you find the content of this report to be a comprehensive report of our activities, governance and services and a reflection of the strength and capacity that sits within DCIL and ask for your continued support in the journey (Covid-19) we now find ourselves being challenged with but are so encouraged by the people we have that we have every confidence in our ability to soar through this. Thank you for your commitment and interest in The Donegal Centre for Independent Living.

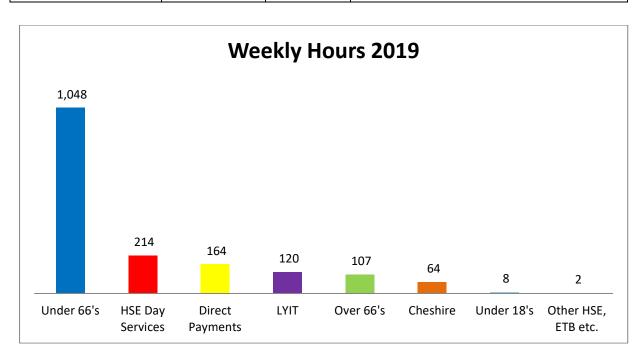
My Kindest Regards,

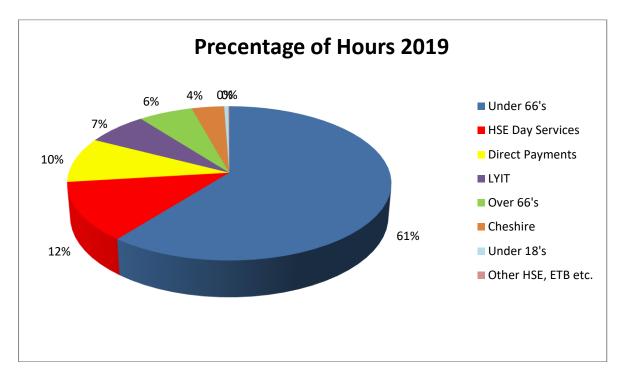
Rosaleen Bradley DCIL CEO

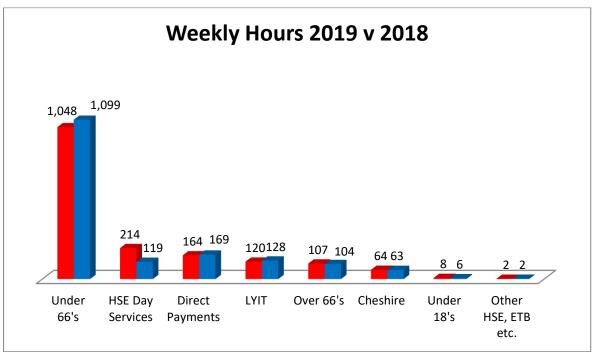
# **DCIL Services**

The table and charts below illustrate the breakdown of the 1,727 PA hours provided per week by DCIL in 2019. Overall DCIL PA services decreased by 2% per week in 2019.

Services	2019	2018	
Under 66's	1,048	1,099	61%
HSE Day Services	214	119	12%
Direct Payments	164	169	9%
LYIT	120	128	7%
Over 66's	107	104	6%
Cheshire	64	63	4%
Under 18's	8	6	0%
Other HSE, ETB etc.	2	2	0%
CE	-	78	0%
Totals:	1,727	1,768	100%
	- 41		-2%







## **DCIL Personal Assistant Services**

Donegal Centre for Independent Living (DCIL) is the leading provider of Personal Assistant services in county Donegal. DCIL prides itself on its selfdirected service, which gives Leaders the choice and control over their service enabling them to live the life of their choosing. DCIL currently provide 1391 PA hours per week to 89 Leaders across Donegal. The PA hours for 2019 are down 2% when compared to 2018 figures.

#### **Educational Support Worker Services LYIT**



DCIL has been providing Educational Support Workers (ESW) services to the Letterkenny Institute of Technology (LYIT) for the past 14 years. In July 2018 the LYIT ESW contract was again up for tender. DCIL went through a detailed EU procurement process and were successful in securing the contract for

another 3 years (academic year 18/19 to academic year 20/21). As we head into year 3 of the ESW contract, DCIL are delighted to continue this service which will help support young people with disabilities to participate fully in student life.

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic unfortunately LYIT closed on Friday March 13<sup>th</sup>. All classes were suspended, with alternative methods of end of year assessments were put in place by LYIT. The LYIT Campus remained closed for the rest of the academic year. We hope all students fulfilled their academic potential under these unique conditions and thank our DCIL ESW for their patience and understanding during these difficult and challenging times.

Great efforts are being put in place by LYIT to afford all students and staff a safe return to LYIT for the academic year 20/21. Consultations is ongoing over the summer period with LYIT to ensure that current DCIL ESW staff are in a position to return and with suitably trained staff available for the new group of students if needed. DCIL wish all students starting their third level education journey in September 2020 the very best.

Pictures of some of the students in the LYIT











## **SOAR (Supported Outreach Advocating Relationships)**

The SOAR programme is a day service delivered by RehabGroup in partnership with DCIL, who provide the Personal Assistant service. The ethos of this programme is community inclusion and maximising people's own autonomy with the goal of progressing participants to their fullest community integration and maximum natural supports.

The SOAR programme will celebrate its 3rd birthday in November 2020, the service continues to grow from strength to strength and is firmly established within Adult Day Services. Following considerable extensions of its premises at Rossview Business Park Letterkenny, to facilitate more participants, it is now at capacity of 11 Service Users. DCIL continues to provide 76 PA hours per week to the project, which is being fulfilled by 8 staff members.

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic unfortunately The SOAR programme also closed on Friday March 13<sup>th</sup>. A very challenging time for the Service Users as they adjusted to Covid-19 restrictions, public health guidelines and to being without a service. DCIL would like to thank all the DCIL SOAR programme staff for their patience and understanding during these difficult and challenging times.

DCIL management have been in regular consultation with the Rehab Group, and the HSE since the service closure and all parties are working together to

return The Soar programme safely on August 31<sup>st</sup> 2020. The last number of months have been unprecedented, it is acknowledged that in order to return to service considerations and adaptation will be needed to ensure safety for all. It will be great to see the Service Users back and enjoying themselves once again.





The partnership between the HSE, Rehab Group and DCIL continues to work very well for this unique project.

#### **Donegal Community Inclusion Training Services (DCITS)**

DCITS is an Adult HSE Day Service which has transitioned from a Community Workshop model to a person-centred approach to day service provision for people with disabilities, in line with the New Directions policy. DCITS is an impressive and constantly evolving Day Service Provider, with premises throughout Donegal, most notably in Letterkenny, South & West Donegal locations and Inishowen.

One of the core principles of New Directions is Community Inclusion and Independent Living and this very much tie in with the core values of DCIL. It has been highlighted that DCIL's input within DCITS service has greatly helped with the participants Person Centred Plans, Project work and service provision.

DCIL continues to strengthen its working relationship with DCITS. Currently we have 6 staff members working within DCITS services, from September 2020 an additional 2 DCIL staff will commence employment with DCTIS. Roles being provided for by DCIL staff include, supporting the Schools Leaver Programmes, Health Promotion Programme and most recently Covid Compliance officer in preparation for return to service August 31st.

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic unfortunately DCITS service users have not physically attended their Day Service since March 2020. However, DCITS staff

have continued to work as normal, creatively providing alternative service provision through online resources and home support packages. DCIL management are in continuous consultation with DCITS and wish everyone a safe return to service, offering our full support in advance of August 31<sup>st</sup> 2020.



#### **Community Employment Scheme**

The participants continue to be supervised by CE Supervisor, Ruth Cleary from the Community Centre. DCIL currently has 5 participants working for the organisation; 2 Reception staff, 2 Caretaker and 1 cleaner. The participants continue to train and work well in their respective rolls.

#### **DCIL Training**

The Berkeley Suite continued to have numerous organisations, groups and businesses avail of the training room and kitchen area. The feedback about the facilities is great, commenting on our completive rates, spacious training area and friendly environment. The HSE, Donegal Travellers Project, Donegal County Council, Community Action Network, Donegal Local Development Company (DLDC), Irish Wheelchair Association, National Learning Network, University College Cork and Donegal ETB Ballyraine all used the facility throughout the year.

The DCIL inhouse mandatory courses are key to the way our PAs support their Leader/s and the PAs personal development. All the DCIL PAs continue to be upskilled in mandatory training. The training includes People, Moving and Handling, First Aid, Independent Living, Children First and Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults. We have also added a few more courses to our list of

training most notably Introduction to Infection Control. This course has been introduced at the end of 2019 and has become very important for all PAs during the Covid-19 pandemic.

#### **Up-skilling of Staff**

Over the past year we have been able to commence with the up-skilling and development of our staff. We focused on the PAs who have been employed by DCIL for a long length of time and may not have the any qualifications other than our mandatory training above. This did not come without its difficulties as the outsourced training company who we agreed to do the training folded which left us high and dry for a while. We contacted Rossan Collage in Letterkenny to run the two modules Care Skills and Care of the Older Person, fourteen PAs successfully completed the Care Skills module at present. DCIL were delighted to receive a lottery grant to help enable this process.

Our training officer Shane Bradley completed refresher instructor courses for Cardiac First Response(CFR) and First Aid Responder(FAR) at QQI Level 6 in the year 2019.

DCIL will continue in it's focus to ensure the upskilling and development of staff as we continue into another year.

# People, Moving & Handling

The course is designed to provide the participants with the knowledge, skills and techniques to support our Leaders in the community safely. It focuses on prevention of injury of PAs and Leaders by carrying out risk assessments before undertaking a certain task, using up to do moving and handling techniques(this may include equipment aids) in accordance with the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work 2005 and Manual Handling Regulations 1993 and 2007. Over five courses twenty-five PAs refreshed their skills and knowledge during 2019.

#### First Aid



The First Aid course we deliver to all PAs is a very practical course, it was developed by the Pre Hospital Emergency Care Council (PHECC) as a national standard to ensure that those who suffer cardiac arrest in the community are given the best possible chance of survival. The course is for those who may be required to respond to a sudden cardiac arrest, heart attack,

choking, stroke or unconsciousness in the workplace, at a sports facility, in the home or in their community. In 2019 we delivered six courses; forty-one PAs successfully completed the first aid course.



## **An Introduction to Children First**

The Children's First Online course which is developed by Tusla. The course is to recognise child abuse and report a reasonable concern about a child's welfare and/or protection. We have recently changed that all PAs need this course to support people in the community rather than PAs only supporting Leaders who have children under 18 or Leaders who are under 18 years of age themselves. Eighty-two PAs have now completed the online course, we are working hard to facilitate the remaining PAs who are struggling because of issues like poor internet, no internet, no email etc.



#### **Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults**

The Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults course is designed and delivered by the HSE for Personal Assistants supporting people in the community. Ninety-Nine PAs have now completed the 3.5 hrs course which is to develop peoples understanding of vulnerability and capacity, to create an awareness of what constitutes abuse and, be able to identify indicators of abuse.

We now have two designated Officers in DCIL, Shane Bradley who completed a refresher course on the role Designated Officer and Donnacha Gallagher who completed his training in Ballyshannon.

Please contact Donegal CIL Designated Officers Shane Bradley or Donnacha Gallagher if concerns or issues arise.

It is important to note that we are all responsible for the safeguarding of vulnerable adults and children in our community.

#### **DCIL Accessible Transport**

The DCIL transport service continued to be busy in 2019 with people using the service for important hospitals appointments in Letterkenny, also Dublin and Galway. Most of the trips have been around Donegal for social outing, shopping, and visiting friends. The number of kilometres used in 2019 was 20342.108 (12,640 miles), this was an increase of 2211kms from the previous year. We did have trips to Dublin, Galway and Belfast for appointments and concerts. The vehicle itself is accessible for one driver, one wheelchair and three passengers if need. The vehicle is maintained by Kevin and Eric who have it in good condition each time it is used. If you are interested in booking the vehicle, please contact the office for available dates and times.

#### **DCIL Media and Information**

Our main social media platforms are Facebook Twitter YouTube and our Website the main aim of our social media platforms is to promote positive awareness around disability.





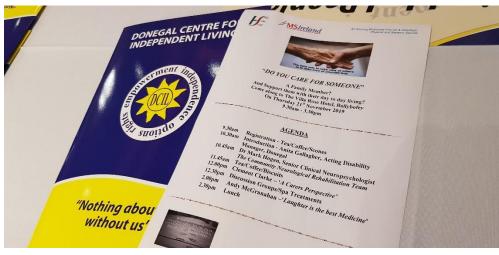
Our most used platform is our Facebook page with <u>2,123 total likes</u> and <u>2,097 followers</u>, these have both increased in 2019. We find this platform is the most effective way that DCIL can keep our Leaders and PAs up to date with articles relating to disability and also events that are taking place within the DCIL office. Our Facebook page also keeps our followers up to date of any job opportunities arising within our office.

#### **Information stand**

We were delighted to have a stand at the Information Day for Carers in the Villa Rose organised by the HSE P&S and MS Ireland. This day provided for

opportunity to meet individuals from various backgrounds and types of disability and provide some key information on the services of DCIL to the broader community.





#### **DCIL Human Resource and Administration**

DCIL has just seen a period like no other during the Covid-19 lock-down. PAs and core staff have unsurprisingly risen to the challenge and we applaud each and every one of you for your dedication during this unprecedented time.

Whilst recruitment and normal day to day activities were all disrupted, we are beginning to see a return to normality and people are currently being recruited with new services commencing.



Jonathan McLaughlin, Service Support & Development Officer has taken a year out and has been ably replaced by Donnacha Gallagher.

Donnacha, who commenced in January 2020, has had a baptism of fire due to Covid-19, however he has slotted into DCIL seamlessly. He previously worked as Service Co-ordinator with Advocates of Personal Potential (APP) Training Services. You are most welcome Donnacha.

Of course, DCIL wouldn't exist without the work of our dedicated Personal Assistants – many of whom have been with us for such a long time. You are the backbone of DCIL and do a tremendous job and we take this opportunity to sincerely thank you. We warmly welcome our new PAs and Leaders and

say a fond farewell, or indeed a sad goodbye, to those who left us over this past year. DCII endeavours to support our PAs when their colleague/Leader passes and sadly this has occurred too often this past year.

SPECTRUM LIFE was introduced by DCIL this year as a support to our staff – it's an Employee Assistance Programme 24/7, 365 days of the year support for a wide variety of issues from free counselling, legal or financial information, health information including Covid guidance. Staff have been circulated with the necessary details of how to Register for this invaluable resource. Available information on how to Access the EAP can be had by calling 01 5180277 or to Register at donegalcil.spectrum.life/login (Organisation code: awgMfPV2)

DCIL are a friendly bunch, we strive to create an open atmosphere for our Leaders and staff; we value our PAs, and provide in-house training; we give a perspective on the abilities of persons' with disabilities which forms part of our core values and training. Our Leaders have the ability to manage their service within the confines of allocated hours and none of our competitors in Donegal can offer this, therefore we are unique in this regard.

The HR Department is here for all within the Organisation and we are always ready to listen and to provide advice and information. We are always glad to help at bernie.walsh@donegalcil.com

#### Administration

Administrative staff has been very busy the last few months with the implementation of the new system Care Planner that will connect with Unique IQ Application, which will be managed by DCIL PA's. There has been a vast amount of work in uploading the information of all stakeholders and ensuring all information is correct on all systems. This new system will be beneficial for PA's and Core staff as it will remove the hassle of timesheets and will make service co-ordination much easier.

#### **DCIL Activities and Events**

# Annual Presentations 2019/19 & DCIL Christmas Party

The Radisson Blu Hotel Letterkenny was once again the venue for the DCIL Christmas Party and Annual Presentations. The evening is a great way for us Donegal CIL to acknowledge the hard work of both Leaders and PA's here in Donegal. It was a fun filled evening from the start to finish with the

entertainment from Martin Orr & the Honky Tonk Heroes certainly helping with their upbeat music. Congratulations to Christopher Mc Brearty who received the DCIL Leader of the year 2019 pictured below with our CEO Rosaleen Bradley, further congratulations to Eileen Mc Kechime Runner Up pictured here with her PA Georgina Montgomery.



















### **AGM 2019**

DCIL's Annual General Meeting took place in our premises here at Ballymacool House, Letterkenny on Thursday 24th May 2018. The meeting was chaired by our chairperson Roisin Kavanagh and presentations on all DCIL services, activities and developments were delivered by our CEO Rosaleen Bradley. Our accounts were presented by DCIL treasurer Marian O'Donnell. We would like to express our gratitude to all those in attendance and thanks the DCIL Board and Staff for their ongoing commitment and dedication throughout the year.













#### **DCIL Music Group 2019**

DCIL decided to run a series of Music & Craic Workshops for our Leaders here in our training room in DCIL, it has been so successful and everybody participating to-date loved it. Our Music facilitator was in the form of Martin Orr who was already very familiar with many of the participants which added greatly to the atmosphere of the group. We definitely believe that we need to organise more of this type of activity within DCIL and bring it to various locations to facilitate more people going forward. It also provides for great opportunity to be meeting more Leaders on regular occasions which is always welcomed. We plan to use the information gathered from our Strategic Plan Surveys to identify what additional type workshops that we can provide to meet the needs of our Leaders and staff over the coming years.





# **International Disability Day 2019**

International Day of Disability was celebrated and enjoyed by all in DCIL in 2019, having all gone purple for the day we used the day to reflect on how far we have come and all the future has to offer. We enjoyed music and food and certainly a wonderful atmosphere.







# **Political Lobbying**



TD Thomas Pringle puts forward a motion regarding the right to Personal Assistant's for people with disabilities. Pictured here with our CEO Rosaleen Bradley and the late Frank Larkin.

#### **Hustings Event**

DCIL also hosted a Hustings event pre election and it was encouraging to see so many election candidates turn out on the day. The day was co-hosted by IIMI and was Chaired by our CEO Rosaleen Bradley. Great event and some challenging questions asked. We look forward to seeing real change in governments commitment to disability going forward.

#### **DCIL Sadness at the loss of beloved Members**

The past year has seen the passing of a number of our beloved Leaders who are sadly missed by the staff who provided services as well as other members. DCIL were all shocked to the core in the passing of our friend and former Chairperson Frank Larkin (RIP) whom we'd worked so closely with over the years and was such a strong advocate on the the rights of people with disabilities. He's played a tremendous role within DCIL since it's establishment in 1999 as well as being involved in campaigning both nationally and internationally over the years. Our deepest sympathies are extended to his wife Pauline and he will be sorely missed by all who knew him.

# **Coffee Morning**

Coffee Morning for Hospice, it was a huge success and great craic was had by all on this wonderful day.



#### **DCIL Strategic & Governance Development**

The Board of Directors appointed a Strategic Plan Focus Group to co-ordinate the strategic planning process, this group is made up of Rosaleen Bradley, Roisin Kavanagh, Kathy Gillespie and Jonathan McLaughlin. To date the Focus Group prepared a strategic plan development proposal, which was approved by the Board of Directors.

The approved development proposal was then put into action which included a consultation process of focus groups and one to one meetings. The next step involved a desktop review in which Leaders, PAs and all relevant stake

holders to DCIL were issued a questionnaire. This process gave people the opportunity to have their input into the direction of the organisation over the next 3 years.

The Strategic Plan has not yet been published as had been planned for early 2020 as obviously priorities took a very sharp turn in the direction of maintaining services due to the pandemic and the challenges this posed for the organisation, We do however plan to refocus in the launch of this plan and our very earliest opportunity. We are very excited about some of the initiatives we plan to take around supporting our service users to the highest degree and the development of new services into the future. DCILO engaged with Jonathan McLaughlin to see this Plan through to the launch of same and we are grateful for all the focus groups contribution to date.



For the past year DCIL, with the support of Disability Federation Ireland (DFI), have been working towards obtaining an independent Governance and Quality Assurance accreditation. The quality mark DCIL are working towards is called Improving Quality (IQ), which has a special focus on governance for not-for-profit organisations. This has been transferred over from the previous accreditation PQASSO, which DCIL had been working towards. A lot of hard work has been undertaken to date, including a detailed self-assessment of the organisation, introduction of new policies and procedures and ensuring DCIL meet the requirements of the Charities Governance Code. DCIL are now ready to be put forward for external assessment. Due to Covid – 19, this has been put on hold for the time being, however we hope to have the process moving forward soon. This will be a great boost for DCIL and the team who have put a substantial amount of work into achieving this goal.



# 2018 Financial Report

# Income and Expenditure for 2019 and 2018

#### Donegal Centre for Independent Living CLG Detailed Income and Expenditure Account Financial year ended 31/12/19

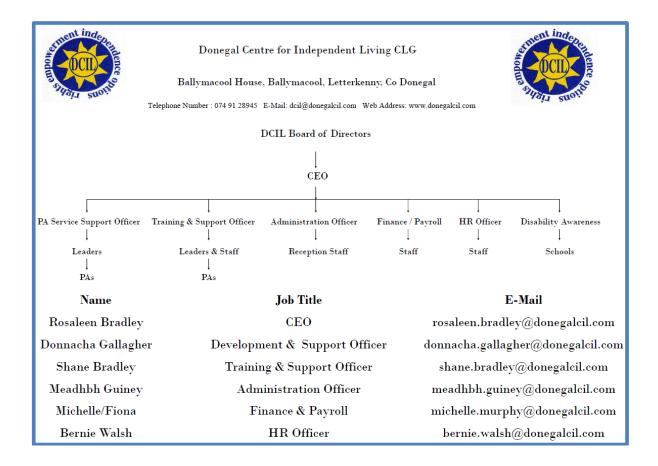
	2019	2018
Income	€	€
HSE Income	1,891,604	1,609,997
Direct Payments	195,054	206,191
LYIT Income	116,826	122,015
Fundraising & Events a/c	2,710	3,038
Other Funding	7,600	3,000
Transport Income	2,195	2,690
DSP - CE Project Income	2,100	199,601
Social Welfare Maternity & Sick Pay Refunds	3,451	100,001
Room Hire & Photocopying	6,400	2,840
Office Rental	10,812	5,325
Other PA Services	1,623	882
Supplied Training	160	320
Supplied Training		
A dustinis deve tive sure as a	2,238,435	2,155,899
Administrative expenses	4 250 405	4 050 040
Personal Assistants - Wages and salaries	1,352,465	1,350,648
Redundancy Payments	3,521	34,100
Core Staff - Wages and Salaries	237,696	223,494
Project Staff - Wages and Salaries	39,172	34,300
Employer's PRSI - Personal Assistants	126,947	124,718
Employer PRSI - Core Staff	24,769	21,971
Employer PRSI - Project Staff	4,225	3,706
Staff pension costs - defined contribution	8,504	13,367
Course fees & training costs	8,418	27,143
Rates	359	303
Insurance	13,471	11,251
Light and heat	5,338	4,465
Security and maintenance	8,135	3,841
Protective Clothing	1,652	1,509
Printing, postage and stationery	6,059	5,909
Advertising	1,153	215
Telephone	2,275	2,163
Computer & Database costs	11,127	7,670
Motor Van Expenses	3,824	3,666
Travel expenses	5,032	4,171
Fundraising & Events Expenses	6,989	3,148
Consultancy fees	3,207	1,010
Auditors remuneration	4,264	3,956
Bank charges	406	475
Bike to Work Expenses		654
CE Project Expenditure	121	199,603
General expenses	2,376	1,537
Project Co-ordination Expenses	3,917	1,007
Schools Awareness Project Expenses	617	1,184
Members Opportunity Fund Expenses	700	1,104
Amortisation of Grants	(2,000)	(2,000)
Depreciation of tangible assets	28,932	29,015
	1,913,671	2,117,192
Surplus	324,764	38,707

#### **DCIL Annual Plan 2018 – 2019**

- 1. DCIL will continue it's plans to launch our Strategic Plan which was put on hold during the pandemic that will act as our road map over the coming years.
- 2. DCIL will endeavour to meet the objectives identified by the organisation contained within the strategic plan.
- 3. DCIL will continue to build on their existing relationships with Stakeholders within the HSE to ensure we are meeting the identified needs plus receiving appropriate levels of funding to deliver same.
  - 4. DCIL will continue to develop opportunities for the organisation that will be DCIL in-keeping with the vision and ethos of DCIL. A positive partnership approach has been developed with the HSE Occupational Guidance & Support dept. DCIL will endeavour to enhance all such working partnerships as part of the strategic plan.
- 5. DCIL will continue to provide office accommodation and training facilities to the wider community in Donegal.
- 6. DCIL will build on the frequency of social/recreational activities/workshops provided this year and identify further locations to facilitate the geographical barriers to participation within Donegal
- 7. DCIL will continue to support Leaders in taking control of their own lives and embracing the philosophy of Independent Living through training and support.
- 8. DCIL will provide appropriate training to Personal Assistants to include all new legislative training requirements that are appropriate.
- 9. DCIL will continue in its efforts to in updating, developing, and adopting procedure in our ongoing work in gaining IQ Accreditation around good practice and legislation within the organisation.
- 10. DCIL will attempt to develop a diverse range of services and supports to an even wider range of service users.

- 11. DCIL will provide new grant offering to people with disabilities within Donegal and explore possibilities around Scholarships for people with disabilities in conjunction with LYIT.
- 12. As guided by the Strategic Planning process DCIL, will explore opportunities to building and investing in suitable accommodation to facilitate the broadening of service offering into the future
- 13. DCIL will continue to provide and support high quality Personal Assistants to people with disabilities throughout the county.
- 14. DCIL will continue in the provision of various support staff and project Officers to the various centres and colleges that we currently provide.
- 15. DCIL will seek to add to their Board Of Directors bringing necessary skills to the success of the organisation.

# **Organisational Chart**



# **CONCLUSION**

We thank our outgoing Board, for her work, time, contribution, and commitment to the organisation over the past years as well as all the Board of Directors for their support and commitment provided over the year.

DCIL, again uses this opportunity to acknowledge and appreciate the DCIL Core Staff Team & Staff in the community who strive every day to make this organisation the success that it is today.

Going forward over the next year, we will strive to resume services that are not yet returned to full capacity and assure you of our commitment to same. Our Core Values remain the same, underpinned by the Philosophy of Independent Living and our activities are aimed towards promoting, Independence, Options, Rights and Empowerment.

DCIL's mission is to support and empower people with disabilities throughout Donegal to lead active and independent lives and to retain choice and control within the lives and activities of their own choosing.

As always, we extend our thanks for your commitment and interest in DCIL and look forward to your continued support in the coming years, we hope you found the report to be a true reflection of our work throughout the year.

Stay safe and look forward to welcoming you all again soon.