

A large, stylized, cream-colored letter 'Q' is the central graphic element. It has a thick, three-dimensional appearance with a slight shadow. The letter is positioned diagonally, with its top loop in the upper left and its tail extending towards the bottom right. The background is a textured, light beige color.

Daughters of Charity Service

Information Guide
to Services and Entitlements

Foreword

For over one hundred years the Daughters of Charity have provided services to people with intellectual disability and to their families in the Dublin area. Many positive changes have occurred during that period. These changes include how services are delivered. Today the focus is on the development of the whole person, and our Service works closely with parents and siblings. Where possible, services are delivered to children and adults who attend from their own homes. Where this is not possible, residential services in a variety of settings which are appropriate to the needs of the individual are provided in an area close to their homes. Terminology has also changed since 1892 and from January 2000 our Service, in common with the Department of Health and Children and the Federation of Voluntary Bodies, has chosen to use the term "Person with Intellectual Disability".

Access to information on services for persons with intellectual disability is essential for parents and families. This information booklet aims to provide you with an outline of the range of services provided by the Daughters of Charity in your area of Dublin. It also provides information on external supports which are available at local and national level at this time.

Working in partnership with the new Northern Area Health Board and the Eastern Regional Health Authority, our Service is committed to developing a quality service for all children and adults with intellectual disability in our catchment area.

I wish to congratulate the members of the Social Work Department who compiled this booklet.

I hope this booklet will assist those reading it in understanding the range of services and entitlements which are available to support you.



Sr. Catherine Mulligan, D.C.
Provincial

September 2000

Contents

SECTION 1

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 HISTORICAL BACKGROUND	7
1.2 PHILOSOPHY OF SERVICE	7
1.3 MANAGEMENT OF SERVICE	7
1.4 ADMISSIONS, DISCHARGES, TRANSFERS COMMITTEE (ADT)	7

2. DAUGHTERS OF CHARITY SERVICE

2.1 SCOPE OF SERVICE /CENTRES.	7
2.2 ST. VINCENT'S CENTRE	8
2.2. (i) St Vincent's Centre, Day Services and Facilities	8
(a) Early Services	8
(b) St Vincent's National School	8
(c) Development Education Centre	8
(d) Vocational Training / Skills Development	9
(e) Day Activity Centre	9
2.2.(ii) St Vincent's Centre Residential Accommodation	
(a) Residential Units	9
(b) Respite Care Unit (Sancta Maria)	9
2.2. (iii) St. Vincent's Centre Leisure Facilities	9
(a) Gym	9
(b) Swimming Pool	9
2.3 ENTERPRISE AND EMPLOYMENT	
2.3 (a) De Paul Enterprises	10
2.3 (b) Weavers 101	10
2.3 (c) Clean Sweep	10
2.3 (d) Kinvara Options	10
2.4 COMMUNITY RESIDENTIAL SERVICE (CRS)	10
2.5 OTHER CENTRES DUBLIN	10
2.5 (i) St Joseph's, Clonsilla	10
(a) Residential Centre	10
(b) St. Louise's School of Nursing	10
(c) Special Nursing Care Unit	10
2.5 (ii) Holy Angels Glenmaroon	11
(a) St. Michael's National School	11
(b) Glen College	11
(c) Residential Unit	11
(d) Bower Lodge	11
2.5 (iii) St Teresa's Blackrock	11
2.5 (iv) St Rosalie's Portmarnock	11

3. ADDITIONAL SUPPORTS	
3.1 HOME SUPPORT SERVICE	11
3.2 BREAKAWAY	11
3.3 SUPPORT GROUPS	12
3.4 VOLUNTEERS	12
3.5 PASTORAL CARE	12
3.6 LIBRARY	12
3.7 FUNDRAISING	12
(a) RESPECT	12
(b) Parents & Friends' Groups	12
4. TELEPHONE DIRECTORY / Daughters of Charity Services	13
5. INDEX OF PROFESSIONAL ROLES	14-15

SECTION 2

6. STATUTORY / VOLUNTARY ENTITLEMENTS AND SUPPORTS	
6.1 INTRODUCTION	17
6.1(i) Programme for services for people with disability	17
6.1(ii) Useful telephone numbers in our catchment area	17
6.1(iii) Catchment Area Map	18-19
6.2 FINANCIAL ALLOWANCES / INCOME SUPPLEMENTS	20
(Specific to Intellectual Disability)	20
6.2(i) Domiciliary Care Allowance	20
6.2(ii) Disability Allowance	20
6.2(iii) Carer's Allowance	20
6.2(iv) Extended Child Benefit	20
6.2(v) Incapacitated Child Allowance	20
6.3 TRAVEL/TRANSPORT CONCESSIONS	21
7. GENERAL HEALTH SERVICES	
7.1 HEALTH SERVICES	21
7.1 (i) Community Care Services	21
7.1 (ii) Specialist Health Care Personnel	21
7.2 HOSPITAL SERVICES	22
7.3 ENTITLEMENTS	22
7.3 (i) GMS/Medical Card	22
7.3 (ii) Long term Illness Scheme	22
7.3 (iii) Drugs Repayment Scheme	22
8. HOUSING ASSISTANCE FOR DISABLED PEOPLE	23

9. NATIONAL ORGANISATIONS	23
9.1 (Voluntary Organisations)	23
9.1 (i) National Federation of Voluntary Bodies	23
9.1 (ii) National Association for the Mentally Handicapped of Ireland	23
9.1 (iii) National Parents and Siblings Alliance.	24
9.1 (iv) Siblink	24
9.1 (v) Carers Association	24
9.1 (vi) Downs Syndrome Association	24
9.1 (vii) Disability Federation of Ireland	24
9.1 (viii) National Council for the Blind	24
9.1 (ix) National Association for Deaf People	25
9.1 (x) Brainwave Irish Epilepsy Association	25
9. NATIONAL ORGANISATIONS (cont.)	25
9.2 (Statutory Organisations)	
9.2 (i) National Disability Authority	25
9.2 (ii) Comhairle	25
9.2 (iii) Legal Aid	26
10. SPECIAL EDUCATION SCHEMES	26
11. GENERAL COMMUNITY SERVICES	26
11.1 BARNARDOS	26
11.2 NORTHERN AREA HEALTH BOARD	26
11.3 IRISH PRESCHOOL PLAYGROUPS ASSOCIATION	27
11.4 CARMICHAEL CENTRE	27
11.5 NATIONAL DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTRE	27
12. LEISURE / SOCIAL SUPPORT ORGANISATIONS	27
12.1 ARCH CLUBS	27
12.2 CASA	27
12.3 YOUTH SERVICES	28
13. OTHER SOURCES OF INFORMATION	29
14. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	29

Section One

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Since 1892 the Daughters of Charity Community has provided a service to people with intellectual disabilities and to their families. The service is now funded primarily by the Eastern Regional Health Authority with additional revenue generated by various fund raising activities. The Department of Enterprise Trade and Employment through FÁS provides some revenue towards training and employment, while the Department of Education and Science finances the schools within the service.

1.2 PHILOSOPHY OF SERVICE

The Daughters of Charity Service aims to develop the potential of each person to the fullest, regardless of their level of ability, so that they can be enabled to lead as independent and as satisfying a life as possible.

The service mission statement expresses a commitment to:

- The development of the whole person.
- The involvement of parents, families and the wider community.
- The education and development of staff and collaborators.
- An efficient management structure.

(Daughters of Charity Policy Document 1992)

1.3 MANAGEMENT OF SERVICE

A Board of Management appointed by the Daughters of Charity operates the service. A Director of Services, who is head of the Central Management team, coordinates the overall administration and management of the service. This team is based at St. Vincent's Centre, Navan Road. The Director of Services is responsible to the Board of Management. Each centre is managed by an Administrator.

1.4 ADMISSIONS, DISCHARGES, TRANSFERS COMMITTEE (ADT)

All new referrals to the service are considered by the ADT committee. This committee comprises Clinical Director, Head of Psychology Department, Head Social Worker and Administrators. Internal transfers/discharges are also discussed. A decision is then taken to accept a referral or to bring the referral to the attention of another service provider in the appropriate catchment area. On acceptance of a referral, initial assessment is carried out by a core team comprising Social Worker, Psychologist and Doctor. This ensures that services offered subsequently will be the most appropriate to meet the person's needs.

Referrals to the Service may be made at any stage of life and come from a range of sources. They may be made directly by a family member or any professional involved with the child or adult.

2. DAUGHTERS OF CHARITY SERVICE

2.1 SCOPE OF SERVICE / CENTRES

The Daughters of Charity Service has centres in Dublin and Limerick. It provides day/residential services for children and adults – female and male.

A range of services for children is available including Early Intervention, Pre-School and School.

Various training opportunities including sheltered work and supported employment initiatives are available to adults.

Residential care is available in a number of different settings within the service, including houses in the community, centre-based accommodation or purpose-built accommodation within the grounds of some centres.

Within each area of the service there is a group of professionally trained people who work together as a multi-disciplinary team to deliver the best possible service and support to each service user and their family. There is a detailed listing of the people you may meet and their roles in Chapter 5.

2.2 ST. VINCENT'S CENTRE

2.2(i) St. Vincent's Centre - Day Services and Facilities

a) Early Services Multi-disciplinary Team

This part of the Service caters for children from birth to six years of age. The Early Services Team assesses new referrals and works in partnership with parents to ensure that the needs of each child are met at the earliest possible stage.

Early Intervention Unit

Young children who require early stimulation outside the home prior to attendance at a pre-school or nursery facility may attend a specialised group which offers a flexible programme tailored to each child's individual needs.

St. Vincent's Pre-School

This offers a service to 3-5 year old children prior to their going on to formal schooling. Emphasis is placed on developing each child's concentration and attention span, communication and language skills and encouraging independence in self help skills.

b) St. Vincent's School

The school offers a full education service for boys and girls aged 4-18 years of age. Teachers follow the Department of Education's curriculum. Additional activities include swimming, gym, music and dancing. A multi-disciplinary team is available to pupils and families.

c) Developmental Education Centre (DEC)

The DEC, which is part of St. Vincent's School, offers a nursing and educational service to girls and boys with complex needs in the age range 4-18 years of age. It provides a full social, developmental and leisure programme. A multi-disciplinary team is available to pupils and families.

d) Training and Development Centre

This centre delivers two programmes.

One is a 3 year Training Programme for young adults with intellectual disabilities. It aims to promote personal development, maximum independence, social and vocational integration. This includes the enhancement of living skills, work experience programmes, leisure activities and craft work.

The Development Programmes are more long-term than the Training Programme. They were set-up to meet the needs of adults who have availed of some training to date but need further enhancement of skills. They focus on the development of practical skills, independent living skills, social/interpersonal skills and creative skills.

e) Day Activity Centre

This Centre aims to provide day activities for adults with complex needs, some of whom live in St. Vincent's Centre. Others travel from their own homes or community based houses. Activities are designed around each person's needs, paying particular attention to their quality of life and need for relationships. Activities include art / music / relaxation therapies, craft work and cookery.

2.2 (ii) St. Vincent's Centre - Residential Accommodation

a) Residential Units

A number of adults and children with high dependency needs live in purpose-built accommodation. Staff in these bungalows aim to provide a home-like atmosphere and residents enjoy as full and varied a vocational/social life as possible. Family, relatives and friends are encouraged to actively maintain links with their family members.

b) Respite Care Unit (Sancta Maria)

This is a purpose built ten bed unit which offers short term breaks to children and adults with high dependency needs, who attend our Service and/or live in our catchment area. The Unit aims to create a home-like atmosphere and allows families enjoy regular, planned breaks. In addition, requests for emergency admissions are dealt with sympathetically.

2.2 (iii) St. Vincent's Centre - Leisure Facilities

a) Gym

The gym provides a range of movement and games training, leading to participation in indoor games and Special Olympics. Sports provided include basketball, bowling, athletics, table tennis, gymnastics and keep-fit. The gym also has a large bouncing castle and ball pool for fun activities.

b) Swimming Pool

This is a modern heated indoor pool, which is appropriately adapted. Trained staff are available to work with people of all ages and ranges of ability. It offers opportunities for fun, relaxation and physical exercise. There is a full schedule of times of availability for residents, day attenders and for the public.

2.3 ENTERPRISE AND EMPLOYMENT

The employment/enterprise/sheltered work aspects of the Service have grown significantly over the last number of years. Enterprise and Employment aim to match people's abilities to appropriate training / work opportunities in a flexible way.

Enterprise and Employment now incorporates:

2.3 (a) De Paul Enterprises

This is a community based enterprise providing sheltered employment to adults who are engaged in the production of a range of handcrafted products which trade under the name Tofa Celtic Handcrafts. In addition many of the adults engage in contract work.

(b) Weavers 101

Weavers provide a range of services. These include the production of a variety of crafts, an ironing service and an apprenticeship training programme.

(c) Clean Sweep

This is a horticultural based service involved in gardening and grounds maintenance.

(d) Kinvara Options

A number of job coaches support clients working part-time in mainstream employment. An ironing service operates from this base. There is also a craft shop where products from the service are sold.

2.4 COMMUNITY RESIDENTIAL SERVICE (CRS)

This area of service offers an opportunity to some service users to live independently in a home like environment, with appropriate levels of support from trained staff. At present there are approximately thirty houses in the general Navan Rd., Clonsilla, Castleknock, Mulhuddart areas offering a service to over one hundred and forty adults and children. Many of the residents attend various day activities including school, sheltered workshops and open employment.

Community based respite houses

These community based respite houses, offer respite care to people with intellectual disabilities who attend and /or live in our catchment area.

2.5 OTHER CENTRES – DUBLIN

2.5 (i) St. Joseph's, Clonsilla

- (a) The main unit is a large residential centre catering for women of varying levels of ability. A comprehensive range of day programmes and activities is available.
- (b) A small unit providing intensive nursing care for seriously ill service users is also available.
- (c) St. Louise's School of Nursing, which provides a professional RNMH qualification (Registered Nurse in Mental Handicap) in conjunction with Dublin City University, is also located at St. Joseph's.

2.5 (ii) Holy Angels, Glenmaroon

- (a) St. Michael's School caters for approximately 200 male and female pupils with general intellectual disabilities in the age range 4-18 years.
- (b) Glen College is a FÁS funded centre, which offers vocational training to young adults. It offers a two year course in catering and a two and a half year course in horticulture.
- (c) This centre also offers residential accommodation to a number of women on site. A comprehensive range of day activities is available.
- (d) Bower Lodge
This house, located in Holy Angels, provides accommodation for some students who attend Glen College or who have recently graduated from there.

2.5 (iii) St. Teresa's, Blackrock

This residential centre has a comprehensive programme of day activities (for residents only) which include work and leisure pursuits. The daily work programme is organised to meet the needs of each individual, which endeavours to equip them with skills necessary to live as independent a life as possible within a residential setting.

2.5 (iv) St. Rosalie's Portmarnock

This residential centre offers care to a small group of women of varying levels of ability. It offers a programme of day activities (for residents only) with emphasis on independence skills training, social and leisure activities.

3. ADDITIONAL SUPPORTS

In addition to the Day and Residential Services outlined in Chapter 2, the Daughters of Charity Service offers a variety of extra supports.

3.1 HOME SUPPORT SERVICE

This flexible service, which operates from St. Vincent's Centre, aims to respond to the changing needs of clients / families. It provides personal and practical support to families in their own homes by sharing the care of their son or daughter for a number of hours per week.

3.2 BREAKAWAY

In addition to the respite care facilities available within the service, Breakaway offers children and young adults up to 18 years of age an opportunity to avail of family-based respite care. Families are recruited, trained and matched with children who then have short breaks or holidays with these host families.

3.3 SUPPORT GROUPS

Groups are organised from time to time in different parts of the service. Such groups offer families, parents and siblings an opportunity to meet other families in a supported environment and to gain additional information on aspects of intellectual disability. Family days, fun days, religious and special celebratory occasions offer family groups an opportunity to meet at relaxed social events.

3.4 VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers add an extra dimension to the lives of residents and day attenders and help increase levels of community awareness about the area of intellectual disability. Some parts of the service recruit volunteers to participate in activities and befriend service users.

3.5 PASTORAL CARE

There is an acknowledged commitment to pastoral care within the service. Vincentian priests provide a chaplaincy service. SPRED is an established special programme of religious education which may be parish based or located in one of the Daughters of Charity Residential Centres.

3.6 LIBRARY

The service library, which is located at St. Vincent's Centre, offers a wide range of reading material, focusing primarily on the area of intellectual disability. A range of data bases and internet access is available.

3.7 FUND RAISING

(a) Respect

This is the official fund raising body of this Service. It coordinates the fund raising activities of parents, friends and staff. It raises capital to provide purpose-built facilities for work, training and leisure activities throughout the Service.

(b) Parents and Friends Groups

A number of centres within the Service have groups of families who through various fundraising activities have been instrumental in providing additional facilities / equipment and holidays for service users.

4. TELEPHONE DIRECTORY

DAUGHTERS OF CHARITY DUBLIN SERVICES

	Telephone	Fax	E-Mail
Central Management	01 8385527	01 4385496	info@doc-central.ie
St. Vincent's Centre	01 8383234	01 8383446	docsvn@clubi.ie
Child Study Centre	01 8383881		
Break Away	01 8383881		
Resource Centre	01 8387121		
St. Vincent's School	01 8387748		
Vocational Training Centre (VTC)	01 8387601		
Library	01 8383234		
Swimming Pool	01 8384906		
Gym	01 8387761		
Community Residential Services (CRS)	01 8223801 01 8223802	01 8223804	doccrs@clubi.ie
Respite (Ardcuan)	01 8386751		
Enterprise & Employment	01 8204676	01 8204740	docee@iol.ie
De Paul Enterprises	01 8204729 01 8204676	01 8204740	docee@iol.ie
Weavers	01 8213226 01 8215442		docee@iol.ie
Kinvara Options	01 8383269	01 8383269	docee@iol.ie
Clean Sweep	01 8383269 01 8383269		
St. Josephs Clonsilla	01 8217177 01 8217120	01 8214684	
Holy Angels, Glenmaroon	01 8216166 01 8216346	01 8211991	
St. Teresa's, Blackrock	01 2882280	01 2886915	
St. Rosalie's, Portmarnock	01 8460132	01 8461602	

5. INDEX OF PROFESSIONAL ROLES

There is a wide variety of staff with appropriate professional training in each area of the service. It may be helpful for you to know a little about the roles of the professional staff you are likely to meet, once you and your relative have contact with our Service. They are presented in alphabetical order.

5.1 HOUSEPARENT / ASSISTANT HOUSEPARENT

Houseparents and Assistant Houseparents are primarily employed in the Community Residential Service and aim to provide a home-like atmosphere for those who live there. They are drawn from a wide range of disciplines. They work closely with day services staff to promote independent living and community integration.

5.2 INSTRUCTOR / SUPERVISORS

Instructors / Supervisors work with service users to implement various work / social / leisure programmes which have been designed to meet their needs.

5.3 MEDICAL STAFF

Primary medical care for new residents is provided by the person's own general practitioner (G.P). The general practitioner covers routine medical matters.

The Daughters of Charity Service has a number of specialist doctors available to provide input to clients, when needed. These include psychiatrists, a paediatrician, input from an orthopaedic surgeon and from an ophthalmologist. These doctors work closely with medical colleagues at both a community level and a hospital level. Normally referral to these specialists, where appropriate, will come through the person's own general practitioner.

5.4 NURSING STAFF / CARE STAFF

Nurses are employed to provide care for people within the Service and are instrumental in devising and carrying out various programmes alongside other disciplines. Most nurses employed in the Service have RNMH qualifications (Registered Nurse in Mental Handicap).

Care Staff are also employed in this care-giving process. Many care staff have undertaken relevant training to equip them with the skills to carry out this role.

5.5 OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST

The Occupational Therapist assesses the clients functional ability in areas such as daily living, occupation and play. Programmes are planned in consultation with parents and members of the multi-disciplinary team. The therapist may also recommend structural changes to the client's home and may advise on particular equipment / seating to promote maximum independence and comfort.

5.6 PSYCHOLOGIST

Psychologists assess the skills and abilities of children and adults. They work with families and staff to develop programmes which will enable each individual to reach his / her full potential. They are also involved in the delivery of training programmes to meet the needs of staff and service users.

5.7 PHYSIOTHERAPIST

Physiotherapists work with children and adults who have physical disabilities. Following individual assessment, personal exercise programmes are devised and implemented in partnership with parents and staff.

5.8 SOCIAL WORKER

Social Workers use counselling skills, advocacy, information sharing and mediation to promote partnership between service users, their families / carers and the Daughters of Charity Service. In addition to direct work with individuals and families, they undertake group work, training programmes and liaison with external agencies both statutory and voluntary.

5.9 SPECIAL NEEDS ASSISTANTS

Special needs assistants are employed by the Board of Management of a school, to assist the teacher in the classroom, under the direction of the Principal.

5.10 SPEECH AND LANGUAGE THERAPIST

Speech and Language Therapists assess speech, language and communication difficulties. Feeding problems are also assessed and remedied. All intervention is carried out in a participative manner, involving the child or adult, their parents and carers. This is co-ordinated and evaluated by the Speech and Language Therapist.

5.11 TEACHERS

Teachers implement a full educational programme which enables pupils to live as independent and fulfilling a life as possible. They promote an active partnership between home and school.

Section Two

6. ENTITLEMENTS AND SUPPORTS - STATUTORY / VOLUNTARY

6.1 INTRODUCTION

In addition to the services / personnel available within the Daughters of Charity Service, there are statutory and voluntary supports, services and entitlements available to persons with disability. These supports are complex in nature by virtue of the wide variation in eligibility, availability and provision of services.

Many key services / supports are listed in the following pages. Specific phone numbers are included where possible.

The Eastern Regional Health Authority (ERHA) replaces the Eastern Health Board and is responsible for the funding of all health and personal social services, both statutory and voluntary, in counties Dublin, Kildare and Wicklow. The ERHA is divided into three distinct areas: East Coast Area Health Board, South Western Area Health Board and Northern Area Health Board. The current catchment area of the Daughters of Charity Service is unchanged at the time of publication of this booklet (see map for details). The Daughters of Charity Service is located in Community Care Area 6, which is part of the Northern Area Health Board.

6.1 (i) Programme for services for persons with disability

This is an ERHA programme which specifically caters for the needs of people with intellectual disabilities.

The main objectives of this programme are:

- Planning for future service needs
- Coordination of services
- Advocacy for people awaiting new or appropriate services

6.1 (ii) Useful phone numbers in our catchment area.

EASTERN REGIONAL HEALTH AUTHORITY

1. Shared Services Centre
General Administration Headquarters
Dr. Stevens Hospital, Dublin 8
01 6790700
Freephone 1800 520 520
2. Headquarters
Northern Area Health Board
Unit 7, Swords Business Campus,
Balheary Road, Swords.
Tel: 01 8139810
Fax: 01-8131800

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL, COMMUNITY AND FAMILY AFFAIRS

Information Services
Free Schemes
01 8748444
071 69800

A comprehensive listing of all State services and Government Departments, Health Board, Corporation and County Council, is available in the coloured pages at the front of Eircom 01 (Dublin) Phone Book.

Eastern Regional Health Authority (EHRA) Northern Area Health Board





Daughters of Charity service catchment area

6.2 FINANCIAL ALLOWANCES / INCOME SUPPLEMENTS

(Specific to Intellectual Disability)

6.2 (i) Domiciliary Care Allowance

This allowance is paid monthly to the parents of any child who needs constant care and supervision which is substantially greater than would normally be required by a child of the same age or sex. It is paid from time of diagnosis up to 16 years of age, in respect of children living full time at home. Parents' means are not taken into account but a child's means are considered. This allowance is paid by the local Eastern Regional Health Authority and is processed by a local area medical officer.

Further information and application forms are available from NAHB headquarters, Unit 7, Swords Business Campus, Balheary Road, Swords.

6.2 (ii) Disability Allowance (formerly DPMA)

This allowance is paid weekly to people with a substantial degree of disability, aged 16 -66. It is a means tested allowance, payable to people who live at home or in lodgings or hostels. Recipients of disability allowance may be entitled to free travel, companion travel pass and medical card. A recipient who lives alone may be entitled to free electricity, free T.V. licence, fuel allowance, free telephone rental allowance.

Further information and applications forms are available from the Department of Social, Community and Family Affairs.

6.2 (iii) Carers Allowance

This is a means tested allowance payable to carers of children / adults who need full time care and attention. Carers may also qualify for additional entitlements.

Further information and application forms are available from the Department of Social Community and Family Affairs.

6.2 (iv) Extended Child Benefit

Parents may be entitled to claim extended child benefit, up to 19 years of age, if their child remains in full time education / training and / or has a physical / learning disability.

Further information and application forms are available from local Post Offices.

6.2 (v) Incapacitated Child Allowance

This is an additional tax free allowance which may be claimed by parents in employment if the child is permanently disabled. It may be paid through to adulthood.

Further information and application forms (Claim Form 12) are available from your Tax Office.

6.3 TRAVEL / TRANSPORT CONCESSIONS

6.3 (i) Travel Pass

People who qualify for disability allowance may also be entitled to free travel pass and companion travel pass.

Further information and application forms are available from Free Schemes Section, Dept. Social Community and Family Affairs.

6.3 (ii) Mobility Allowance

This is a means tested monthly allowance paid to people with a severe degree of disability from 16-66 years of age, who live at home. People who live in residential care may also qualify. There are strict medical criteria for eligibility.

Further information and application forms are available from ERHA local headquarters, Rathdown Road, Dublin 7.

6.3 (iii) Disabled Persons Parking Permit

This is a parking permit for disabled drivers and / or passengers with significant mobility problems. It can only be used in public car parking areas.

Further information and application forms are available from the Irish Wheelchair Association. Phone 01-8338241.

6.3 (iv) Tax refunds

There may be some tax refunds available to applicants with a severe, permanent disability where a specifically constructed / adapted car is required. Medical certification by the Health Board is required. Special safety aids may also qualify. Some fuel refund and motor tax relief may be available.

Further information and application forms are available from Disabled Drivers Section, Office of Revenue Commissioners, Freepost Coolshannagh, Co. Monaghan. FREE PHONE: 1890 606061.

7. GENERAL HEALTH SERVICES

7.1 HEALTH SERVICES

7.1(i) Community Care Services

A range of community based services is available to everybody. These services are delivered at local Health Centre level. A number of aural, dental and optical services is available to people with intellectual disability. Some are free of charge and others incur costs.

7.1(ii) Specialist Health Care Personnel

A range of other specialist professionals may be available to families with a child/adult with intellectual disabilities. Public Health Nurses work with families who have babies and young children. They are a source of advice/support and a useful link in helping families access the complexities of services. Other professionals available include Occupational Therapists, Social Workers, Psychologists, Doctors, Speech and Language Therapists, Physiotherapists and Dentists.

7.2. HOSPITAL SERVICES

Medical Card holders are entitled to free public inpatient and outpatient hospital services. People covered by the long term illness scheme are also entitled to free public inpatient and outpatient services, related to their condition..

If you wish to opt for private treatment this can be organised through private health insurance companies.

7.3 ENTITLEMENTS

7.3(i) GMS/ Medical Card

This is a means tested service. Where parents satisfy the means test, children under 16 years of age are included in the family's medical card . Any adult in receipt of Disability Allowance is entitled to a medical card. Medical Card holders are entitled to a full range of medical services which include G.P. services, prescribed drugs, hospital services (in-patient and outpatient) and specific equipment for named medical conditions.

Further information and application forms are available from local Eastern Regional Health Authority Headquarters, Rathdown Road, Dublin 7.

7.3(ii) Long Term Illness Scheme

a) Eligibility

This is determined by medical certification of specific long term disabilities. It is not a means tested scheme. All persons with an intellectual disability can obtain necessary prescribed drugs related to their condition under the long term illness scheme. G.P. fees are not covered.

Inpatient and outpatient hospital charges related to the named condition are covered under this scheme

Further information and application forms are available from the local Eastern Regional Health Authority Headquarters, Rathdown Road, Dublin 7.

(b) Incontinence Wear / Nappies

Children over three years and adults with incontinence difficulties, may qualify for a supply of nappies or other incontinence wear. This entitlement is subject to annual review. Contact your local public health nurse to initiate application.

(c) Aids and Appliances

A range of aids and appliances is available, e.g. walking aids, adapted furniture and other specialised equipment. Some equipment may be available on loan, some may be free of charge or a financial contribution may be levied. Consult local health centre for further details.

7.3(iii) Drugs Repayment Scheme

This scheme covers families and individuals for the cost of their prescribed medication. No family or individual will have to pay more than a specified amount in any calendar month for prescribed drugs and medicines for use by that person or his/her family. All prescribed drugs costs over this limit are free. Each family will be issued with it's own identification number on a drugs repayment scheme swipe card.

Further information and application forms are available from your local pharmacy.

8. HOUSING ASSISTANCE FOR DISABLED PEOPLE

- 8.1 People with moderate / severe physical and intellectual disability who live at home may be eligible for housing assistance. This is a grant paid by a Corporation or a County Council to disabled people to allow them carry out structural adjustments to their homes. Where the applicant is a tenant of a Corporation / Council house, the whole cost of the work may be covered by the grant. Where the applicant is a private home owner a specified maximum amount is available, not exceeding 90% of the cost.

The Chief Medical Officer of the Corporation or County Council assesses the physical needs of each applicant.

Applications must be processed and approved before any structural work commences.

It is strongly recommended that applicants consult with the Occupational Therapy Department within the Daughters of Charity Service for guidance on design and special fittings and equipment.

Further information and applications forms are available from local Council/Corporation offices.

9. NATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

The following organisations may provide advice, support and information on specific aspects of disability. The key voluntary organisations are presented first, followed by the main statutory organisations.

9.1 VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS

9.1 (i) NATIONAL FEDERATION OF VOLUNTARY BODIES

This is an umbrella organisation for voluntary / non-statutory agencies that provide direct services to people with intellectual disability. It makes representations to government departments and other public authorities, nationally and internationally, on various issues.

Address: Oranmore Business Park, Oranmore, Galway.
Phone: 091-792316
Fax: 091-792317
e-mail: fedvol@indigo.ie
Website: www.fed-vol.com

9.1 (ii) NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE MENTALLY HANDICAPPED OF IRELAND (N.A.M.H.I.)

This is a voluntary organisation for those who are working on behalf of people with an intellectual disability. It involves parents, family members, professionals and other interested people. It aims to promote the general welfare of people with intellectual disability. N.A.M.H.I. issues publications, gives advice to parents and relatives, encourages the formation of local and regional associations, assists in arranging seminars and engages in research.

Address: 5 Fitzwilliam Place, Dublin 2
Phone: 01 6766035
Fax: 01 6760517
e mail: dcarroll@namhi.iol.ie

9.1 (iii) NATIONAL PARENTS AND SIBLINGS ALLIANCE

This group campaigns for the rights of people with an intellectual disability. It is a lobby group which aims to improve current service provision and highlight areas of inadequacy.

Address: 9 Whitecliff, Rathfarnham, Dublin 16
Phone: 01 4935578
Fax: 01 4935578

9.1 (iv) SIBLINK

This is a national organisation of adult brothers and sisters of people with intellectual disabilities. It aims to raise the profile and needs of siblings.

Address: 36 Springlawn Court, Blanchardstown, Dublin 15
Phone: 01 8206940

9.1 (v) CARERS ASSOCIATION

This is a national voluntary organisation which actively lobbies on behalf of carers in the home. It has a number of resource centres throughout the country and offers a limited home care service.

Phone: 1800 240724 (Freephone)
Fax: 01 4976108
e-mail: director@carersireland.com

9.1 (vi) DOWNS SYNDROME ASSOCIATION

This is a national organisation of parents and guardians of people with Downs Syndrome. It aims to improve the quality of life of those with Downs Syndrome and their families. A comprehensive parent information pack is available.

Address: 5 Fitzwilliam Place, Dublin 2
Phone: 01 6769255
Fax: 01 8733612

9.1 (vii) DISABILITY FEDERATION OF IRELAND (D.F.I.)

This is the national umbrella body for Ireland's main organisations of and for people with disability. These services range from information and support services to education, training, housing, respite care, paramedical and other professional services.

Address: 2 Sandyford Office Park, Blackthorn Avenue, Dublin 18
Phone: 01 2959344 / 2959345
Fax: 01 2959346.
e-mail: info@disability.ie

9.1 (viii) NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR THE BLIND (N.C.B)

This organisation provides information and counselling services for people who are visually impaired. A range of support services, mobility and independence skills training is also available.

Address: P.V. Doyle House, 45 Whitworth Road, Dublin 9.
Phone: 01 8307033.
Fax: 01 8307787
e-mail: info@ncbi.ie

9.1(ix) NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR DEAF PEOPLE

This Association promotes the rights of people with serious hearing impairments and assists them and their families in accessing the full range of appropriate supports.

Address: 35 North Frederick Street, Dublin 1
Phone: 01 8723800
Fax: 01 8723816.
e-mail: nad@iol.ie

9.1 (x) BRAINWAVE IRISH EPILEPSY ASSOCIATION

This association promotes research into causes and treatment of epilepsy and awareness of the need for education of the general public. It provides pre- employment training courses on a nation-wide basis. A social work service and an information service is available. The association has published many informative leaflets and booklets.

Address: 249 Crumlin Road, Dublin 12
Phone: 01 4554133
Fax: 01 4557013
e-mail: brainwave@iol.ie

9.2 STATUTORY ORGANISATIONS

9.2 (i) NATIONAL DISABILITY AUTHORITY

(which replaces some of the functions of the National Rehabilitation Board).

The main function of this authority is the development and implementation of policy, standards and research with regard to the provision of services for people with disabilities.

Address: 25 Clyde Road, Ballsbridge, Dublin 4.
Phone: 01 6684181
Fax: 01 6609935
e-mail: www.nda.ie

9.2 (ii) COMHAIRLE (formerly National Social Service Board and some sections of National Rehabilitation Board)

This agency ensures that services for people with disabilities will become an integral part of mainstream information and advisory services for all citizens throughout the country. Up-to-date information is available from local Citizen Information Centres (CICs).

Phone: 01 6059000 (Head Office)
Fax: 01 6059099
e-mail: comhairle@comhairle.ie

9.2 (iii) **LEGAL AID**

Civil legal advice and/or aid may be obtained from various law centres, set up by the Legal Aid Board. It is important to consider seeking legal advice particularly if a person with intellectual disability may be inheriting from you, i.e. if making a will, or drawing up a covenant.

Further information is available from

Legal Aid Board, St. Stephens Green House, Earlsfort Terrace, Dublin 2.

Phone: 01 2400900

Fax: 01 2400972

Free Legal Advice Centres. (FLAC), 49 South William Street, Dublin 2.

Phone: 01 6794239

Fax: 01 67915

e-mail: flac@connect.ie

10. **SPECIAL EDUCATION SCHEMES**

10.1 All children regardless of ability are entitled to an educational service. In addition to school /day service provision, the Department of Education and Science provide various schemes for children who need extra tuition i.e. visiting teachers for specific disabilities, home school liaison teachers, school attendance officers, childcare assistants, and resource teachers.

Further details are available from the

Department of Education and Science, Marlborough Street, Dublin 1.

Phone: 01 87347000 or Athlone 0902 74621.

Fax: 01 8729553

e-mail: webmaster@educ.irlgov.ie

11. **GENERAL COMMUNITY SERVICES**

11.1 BARNARDOS

Barnardos advances the welfare of all children and their families by providing effective child care services and by campaigning for improvement of children's welfare.

Services include: Family support services; Bereavement counselling for children;

Adoption advice service; Toy library.

Address: Barnardos, Christchurch Square, Dublin 8

Phone: 01 4549699

Fax: 01 4530300

e-mail: info@barnardos.ie

11.2 NORTHERN AREA HEALTH BOARD - Notified Unit of Pre-Schools.

The NAHB employs preschool officers who have current information on childcare facilities, ie. Montessori and Playgroup facilities.

Phone: 01-8680444

11.3 IRISH PRESCHOOL PLAYGROUPS ASSOCIATION (IPPA)

The IPPA provides training, approval and information on the location of local preschool / playgroups.

Address: S.P.A.D.E. Enterprise Centre, Dublin 7.
Phone: 01 6719245

11.4 CARMICHAEL CENTRE FOR VOLUNTARY GROUPS.

This centre provides accommodation for a large number of voluntary organisations, some of which are of specific interest to people with intellectual disabilities and their families. It provides a wide range of services enabling voluntary organisations to achieve their objectives. It also organises training for people working and volunteering in the voluntary sector.

Address: North Brunswick Street, Dublin 7
Phone: 01 8735702 / 01 8725550
Fax: 01 8735737
e-mail: carmichaelcentre@eircom.net

11.5 NATIONAL DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTRE

This is a centre where aids and equipment suitable for people with a disability can be seen and tried out. A range of professional advice and information on costs and suppliers is available.

Address: 44 North Great Georges Street, Dublin 1
Phone: 01 8747503
Fax: 01 8747490
e-mail: nrbdrc@nrb.ie

12. LEISURE / SOCIAL SUPPORT ORGANISATIONS

There are many well established services which may be of interest to families of children and adults with intellectual disabilities. Some of these are listed below:

12.1 ARCH CLUBS

These clubs aim to provide recreational facilities for people and to further the process of normalisation and acceptance into society of people with intellectual disabilities.

Further information is available from:

Address: National Federation of Arch Clubs, 74 Meadow Grove, Dublin 16
Phone: 01 2951081
Fax: 01 2963049

12.2 C.A.S.A

This organisation provides a variety of activities for people with intellectual and / or physical disabilities and their friends, including social outings and holidays and respite care.

Address: Carmichael House, North Brunswick Street, Dublin 7.
Phone: 01 8725300

12.3 YOUTH SERVICES

Some Youth Services may be available in your local area.
Information is available from headquarters listed below.

- (a) Catholic Youth Council
Phone: 01 8725055
Fax: 01 8725010
e-mail: info@cyc.ie

- (b) Church of Ireland Youth Council
Phone: 01 8300299

- (c) Scouting Ireland (SAI),
Phone: 01 8368102

Federation of Irish Scout Associations
Phone 01 6761598
Fax: 01 6768059
e-mail: scoutingirelandvsi@eircom.net

Irish Girl Guides
Phone 01 6683898
Fax: 01 6602779
e-mail: trefoil@igg.iol.ie

- (d) Foróige
Phone 01 4501122
Fax: 01 4501941
e-mail: foroige@eircom.net

13. OTHER SOURCES OF INFORMATION

There are many other national and local organisations who offer advice, information and support in relation to specific medical conditions, special needs and services, including:

Irish Society for Autism, Parentline, Irish Society for Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus; Cystic Fibrosis Association etc.

For further details please consult:

- Eircom Phone Book
- Local libraries
- The Internet
- Centre for the Study of Developmental Disabilities.
Address: U.C.D., Belfield, Dublin 4.
Phone: 01 7068702
e-mail: csdd@ucd.ie
- Contact a Family (CAF) a source of up-to-date information on rare medical conditions and family support groups.

Address: 170 Tottenham Court Road, London W1P 0HA U.K.
Phone (Irish Code) 0044/171/3833555
e-mail: info@cafamilly.org.uk
- Other statutory / voluntary organisations in Ireland and other countries.
- Library – St Vincent's Centre.

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Social Work Department
Daughters of Charity Service

*This booklet is intended as a guide for information purposes.
The authors cannot take responsibility for any anomalies arising
as a result of the publication of this booklet.*

