



ACQUIRED
BRAIN INJURY
IRELAND



ANNUAL REPORT
2017



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OUR BELIEFS, MISSION AND VALUES



OUR BELIEFS

Here at Acquired Brain Injury Ireland we believe in an individualised approach to brain injury. We are driven by the ethos of “maximising ability” and the person is at the centre of everything we do. We understand that no two people with a brain injury will respond the same way or recover at the same rate because the impact of a brain injury is unique to each person.

Acquired Brain Injury has been described as a silent epidemic. People with a brain injury often look fine but can have hidden problems that mean they cannot resume their previous lives or even return home. It is life-changing, not just for the individual but also for their family and friends.

OUR MISSION

To enable people with neuro-rehabilitation needs to lead meaningful lives in the community by providing personalised, quality rehabilitation and support.

OUR VALUES

Dignity and respect – for the individual and their family.

Choices – we respect the right to manage and control our lives within our capabilities.

Sharing ordinary places – we encourage the use of all community facilities and everyday experiences.

Contribution – each person is encouraged to make a contribution within their capabilities.

Relationships – we promote honesty and integrity.

This is what makes any therapeutic programme successful.

OUR STORY

It takes passion, belief and caring to drive an organisation like Acquired Brain Injury Ireland. From its first inception, Acquired Brain Injury Ireland has placed people at the centre of its service and this ethos runs right throughout our not-for-profit organisation from the moment we answer the phone.

“YOU NEVER THINK A BRAIN INJURY WILL HAPPEN TO YOU.”

Brain injury is a hidden phenomenon in Irish society. Nobody ever thinks it will happen to them. But it happens to 35 people in this country every day, often leaving them with a chronic, ongoing condition that can affect their lives and those of their family for months, years and even decades after the initial injury.

Too often people who acquire brain injuries are young and they are left in inappropriate settings such as nursing homes, community hospitals or at home where families are unable to cope.

That's exactly what happened to my brother, Peter. After two serious road accidents by the age of 42, my brother Peter suffered two brain injuries which meant he was no longer able to live independently. To see him misplaced in a nursing home at such a young age, was devastating and this drove me, with the support of my family, to set up the Peter Bradley Foundation in 2000 which is now known as Acquired Brain Injury Ireland.

By 2001, Peter moved into our first assisted-living residential service for people with acquired brain injury. Right from the outset our goal was to help people rebuild their lives and live life to their full potential, regaining as much independence as possible. In 17 years, this goal has not changed and remains as true as the first day we started.

My brother Peter now cooks, cleans and manages his own affairs with constant yet minimum supervision and staff support. The best part of all is that he is interested in life again.

Acquired Brain Injury Ireland has come such a long way since then, now delivering neuro-rehabilitation through residential, community and day services in every province in Ireland to 1,100 brain injury survivors annually. We also provide case management services to guide families through the health system from acute settings through to community.

But with 13,000 new brain injuries acquired in Ireland every year, this is only the tip of the iceberg. It's crucial that we continue to bring our passion and person-centred approach to advocate more funding to deliver services to thousands more people like Peter. More services will also reduce the care-giver burden on thousands of families enduring the aftermath of brain injuries caused by road collisions, stroke, falls and assaults. We only work with people as they need us and our ultimate goal is that they won't need us anymore.

None of our achievements would be possible without the incredible dedication and passion of our neuro-rehabilitation teams right around the country who go the extra mile every day for our clients. Sincere thanks to them and to our central office staff who support them daily. Thank you also to partner organisations in the health and disability sector because we rely on collaboration on referrals to ensure the best pathways for people with acquired brain injuries. Finally, I wish to express our enormous gratitude to the people of Ireland for their incredible support through donations, volunteering and very importantly, for supporting our clients in re-engaging in community and working life.



Barbara O'Connell,
Chief Executive,
Acquired Brain Injury Ireland

MESSAGE FROM CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

Our success is defined by our ability to deliver personalised neuro-rehabilitation with the involvement of clients and their families, so we can return people home with as much independence as possible. Our services are internationally accredited to the highest standards and are delivered by highly committed and skilled teams.

The 2017 plan was drawn up for the organisation to achieve its main strategic objectives in five key areas: service development and delivery, organisational efficiency and effectiveness, brain injury education and training, brain injury awareness; and advocacy and research with evidence-based practice and developing practice-based evidence.

I wish to congratulate the CEO, management team and staff on the continued delivery of a uniquely personal service that is life-changing for so many families across Ireland and meets strategic objectives.

These objectives are not without challenges. We face continual underfunding of community-based services and operate in a health environment with an over-reliance on acute services.

Like many not-for-profit organisations, the funding environment continues to be difficult. The majority of our income comes from HSE service level agreements to cover basic running costs. While these costs are essential, they are also limited and fail to take account of other funding needs such as vital equipment like accessible vehicles to help clients re-engage in their community.

Furthermore, Acquired Brain Injury Ireland cannot exist at all without strategic financial functions, human resources and administration of data compliant with GDPR (General Data Protection Regulation). These core business functions are necessary, vital and integral to ensure:



Denis Buckley,
Chairman,
Acquired Brain Injury Ireland



Strong, strategic finance and accounting



Robust human resource practices



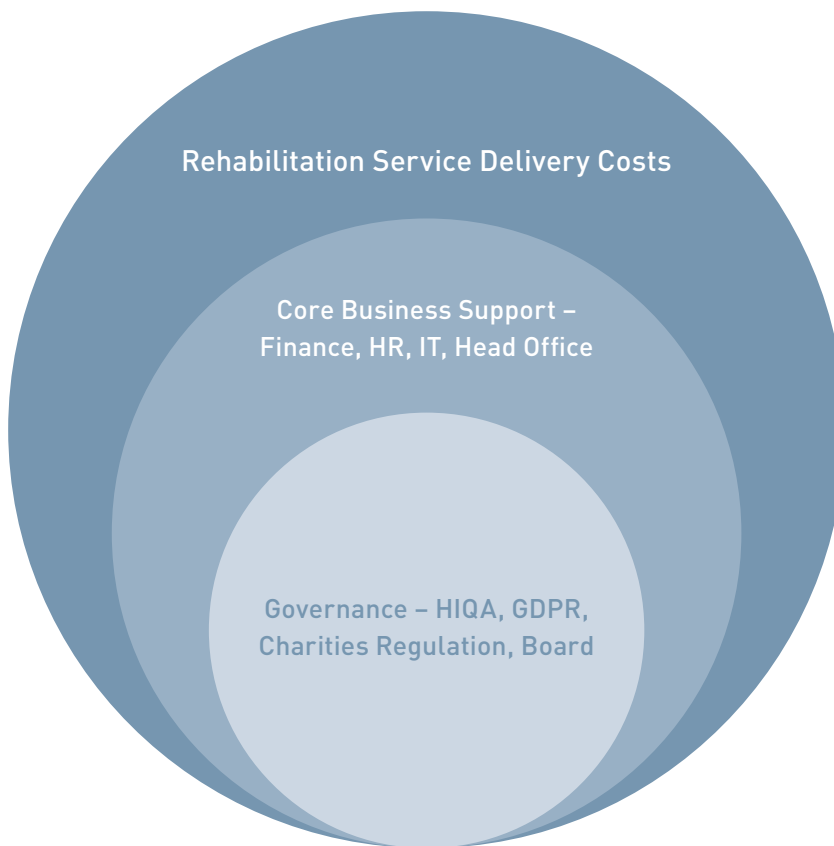
Capable and responsive board governance



Talented and engaged staff

Currently, at Acquired Brain Injury Ireland we face a significant core funding gap which has arisen over time due to underfunded programmes which consistently cover direct expenses only. This funding gap of core mission support functions places the health of the entire organisation at risk and impedes the organisation's ability to grow. By increasing understanding of our true service delivery costs as shown in Fig.1, our funders and supporters can help us eliminate funding gaps and fully fund our programmes.

Fig. 1 Total Service Delivery Costs:



WHEN FUNDING ONLY SUPPORTS SERVICE DELIVERY COSTS, THE ORGANISATION IS DENIED ESSENTIAL FUNDING FOR CORE BUSINESS FUNCTIONS AND GOVERNANCE. SUCH A FUNDING GAP IS UNSUSTAINABLE, AND IT PUTS THE ENTIRE HEALTH OF THE ORGANISATION IN JEOPARDY AND AT RISK OF CLOSING SERVICES.

Adherence to good governance practice continues as a key focus in Acquired Brain Injury Ireland and maintaining trust with our funders, donors, clients and supporters is paramount at all times. We are immensely grateful to the HSE, our corporate partners, grant organisations and our community fundraisers for the invaluable funds received in 2017. More than that, the relationships we enjoy with our funders and supporters help us grow communities of advocates nationwide and enhance services for brain injury survivors. Finally, I would like to thank our Board members for their leadership, commitment and time to this great organisation and for the support they have given to me in my role as Chair.

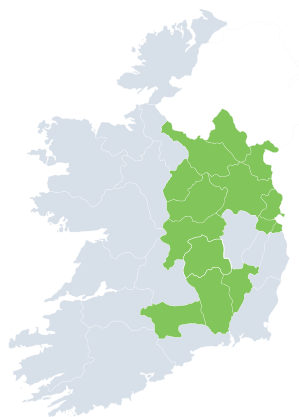
REBUILDING LIVES

NEURO-REHABILITATION SERVICES PROVIDED BY ACQUIRED BRAIN INJURY IRELAND

Acquired Brain Injury Ireland is Ireland's leading provider of community neuro-rehabilitation for adults of working age (18-65 years) living with and recovering from an acquired brain injury. Right across the country we provide services that cater for different stages of acquired brain injury as individual's progress with rehabilitation goals.

Case Management

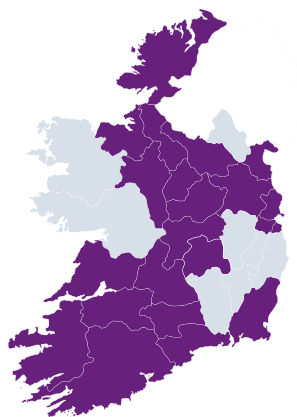
No. of clients: 592



Our Case Managers are brain injury experts who act as a single point of contact providing a clear pathway and linkages to the variety of services to support a person's transition from hospital to home.

Community Rehabilitation

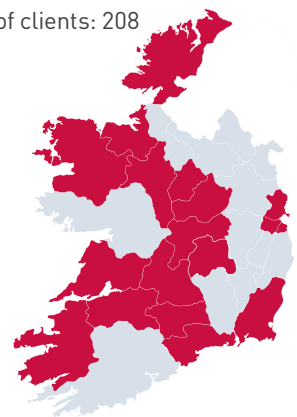
No. of clients: 280



Our Rehabilitation Assistants deliver one-to-one neuro-rehabilitation to support individuals with their rehabilitation goals at home and integrate back into their community and family life.

Day Resource/ Clubhouse Service

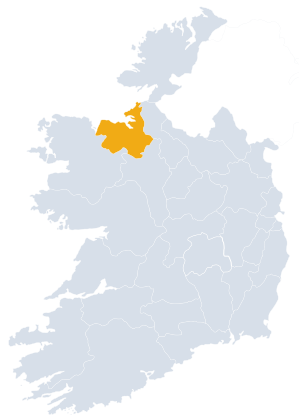
No. of clients: 208



Our clubhouse day services provide vital peer support, group rehabilitation and cognitive rehabilitation to enhance independence and encourage learning new skills.

Transitional Living Services

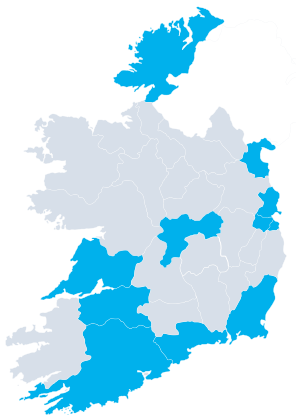
No. of beds: 4



Our transitional living service is a bridge for brain injury survivors to prepare to return to independent living. It provides intensive rehabilitation and support in a residential setting Monday to Friday from 6 weeks up to 6 months.

Residential Services

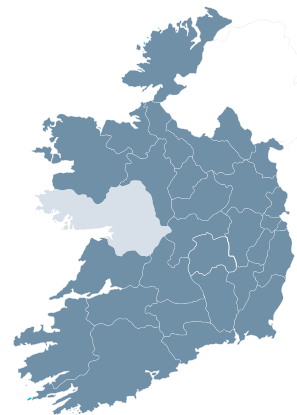
No. of beds: 81



Our unique neuro-rehabilitation residential homes provide long-term tailored rehabilitation and support to 4-5 residents in a house to maximise their independence in a safe and homely place on a 24/7 basis.

Family Services

Nationwide

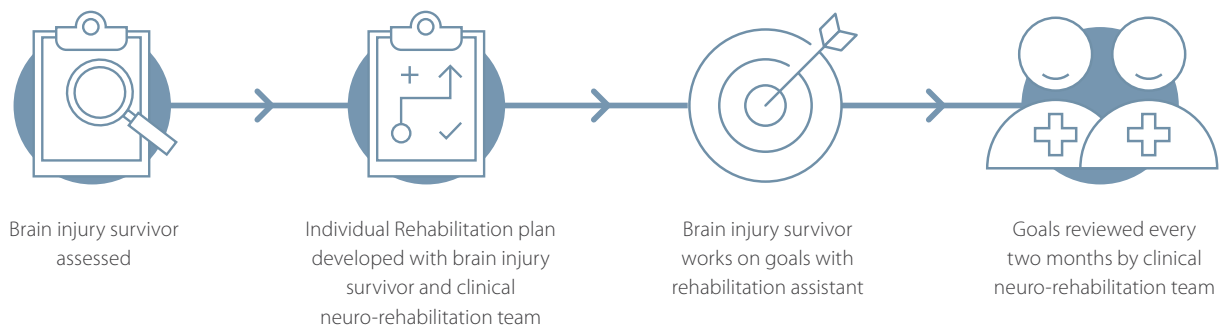


Our family services deliver support nationally through case management, family therapy, parenting skills training, carer training and peer support groups.

Our model

Every brain is different, and every brain injury is unique to each individual affected. At Acquired Brain Injury Ireland we look at the whole person, we take account of their environment, their ability and support needs and we look at the life they had before their brain injury. We support people and their families through a bio-psychosocial model which takes account of biological, psychological and social aspects of rehabilitation.

For this reason, we champion the Individual Rehabilitation Plan (IRP). The plan is developed with the individual, their family and our Inter-Disciplinary Team with a focus on achieving specific goals related to the individual's need and personalised rehabilitation. This bespoke person-centred approach to neuro-rehabilitation is at the core of everything we do at Acquired Brain Injury Ireland.



Our services are supported by clinically led neuro-rehabilitation teams which includes expertise from Neuro-Psychologists, Social Workers, Occupational Therapists, Speech and Language Therapists, as well as Case Managers, Local Service Managers and Rehabilitation Assistants (RAs).

Our clinical neuro-rehabilitation teams:



Referrals to our service

A new referral was fulfilled by our services almost daily in 2017. The majority of referrals had suffered a brain injury as a result of stroke (39%), road traffic accidents (15%) and falls (14%). We received referrals from a variety of sources including acute hospitals, GP's, allied healthcare professionals, HSE primary care teams, the National Rehabilitation Hospital and directly from families.

In 2017, we provided neuro-rehabilitation to 1,173 brain injury survivors through our residential units (81), community

rehabilitation (280), day services and clubhouses (208), transitional living units (12*) and through case management workers (592) which help people navigate the services available to them. The overall availability of our services in each county varies depending on locally identified need or obtainability of resources and funding.

*We have four transitional living unit beds available in Co. Sligo and in 2017, 12 people went through this service.

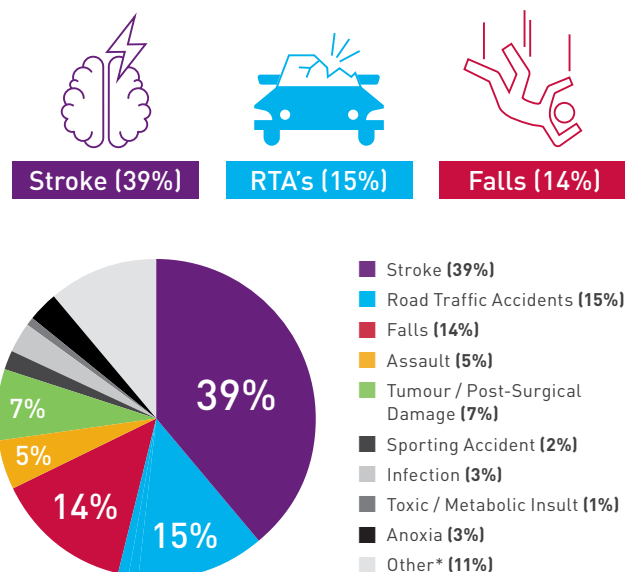
Our challenges

In a continuing climate of severe fiscal challenges in 2017, Acquired Brain Injury Ireland continued to work creatively to respond to the identified and often complex needs of a significant acquired brain injury population. However, many national acquired brain injury service gaps persist, resulting in significant waiting lists and delayed discharges from acute and national rehabilitation hospitals, as well as inappropriate placement of young people with acquired brain injury into nursing homes. Greater investment in resources to expand our community, transitional and residential services would help alleviate and eliminate these issues.

Additionally, there is insufficient investment in:

- **Acquired Brain Injury Paediatric Services:** There is an overwhelming need for paediatric services and we receive continual requests from parents on this. It is a major gap that there is no permanently funded acquired brain injury service provision or support for children and adolescents, including assessment. As a result, we have embarked on a pilot programme for two adolescents operating from our Teach Fáilte Centre in Mountbolus, Co. Offaly. However, there is no funding to expand this essential service nationally.
- **Case Management Services:** Current availability for this service is focused on the northeast, east and midlands with no services available in the northwest, west, south or southeast. Case management is essential to facilitate pathways from acute to post-acute settings to community rehabilitation services.
- **Transitional Services:** Currently there is only one 4-bed Transitional Living Service based in Sligo covering the Sligo/Leitrim area. Transitional services are essential to bridge the gap between hospital and home and allows people with an acquired brain injury to acquire the skills to make them more independent and ultimately to move back home. More than 100 people benefited from greater independence in the last 10 years thanks to this service.
- **Acquired Brain Injury Assessment Services:** For clinical and vocational assessment

Top causes of brain injury at Acquired Brain Injury Ireland



Key highlights in our services in 2017

Despite statutory funding reductions across our services we remained resolute to maintain existing services and worked creatively, both internally and externally, to maximise opportunities for the people affected by an acquired brain injury who accessed our services.

Key achievements in service development included:

- Maintained full occupancy across all 16 residential rehabilitation services around the country as some clients transitioned out into community.
- All residential services that went through the HIQA registration process achieved full registrations with just two exceptions in Waterford and Cork where premises await building works.
- Accessibility building works were completed in the Rochestown Residential Neurorehabilitation Service in Co Dublin in 2017 which will significantly improve ease of access for residents.
- Membership growth continued in each of the nine Acquired Brain Injury Ireland's Day Resource/Clubhouse Services and facilities. As in previous years, these developments were mainly possible due to the generosity of private grant funders and the support of community fundraising activities. Otherwise the unpredictability of income for these services remains a concern.

What our clients say about us

At Acquired Brain Injury Ireland, our day to day is built on transparency and two-way direct communication with clients. Every year we run an independent customer satisfaction survey with our clients using the internationally benchmarked USPEQ survey. It's extremely important to measure what we do to ensure our standards are maintained and that our clients receive the best service to empower them to achieve their rehabilitation goals. The USPEQ survey provides feedback in

relation to five key areas: service responsiveness, informed choice, respect, participation and overall value. This feedback informs the organisation of any areas of concern, so we can respond to reported issues or needs. It is also a source of motivation and positively drives our person-centred culture so we can continuously improve and grow services to help more brain injury survivors rebuild their lives in every corner of the country.

SERVICE EFFECTIVENESS

95%

said the 'services enabled me to do things better'

51.5% strongly agree
43.6% agree
3% disagree
2% strongly disagree

SERVICE VALUE

96.6%

said the services 'met my need'

54.9% strongly agree
41.7% agree
2.9% disagree
0.5% strongly disagree

SERVICE RESPONSIVENESS

93.7%

said they 'got what I needed, when I needed it'

50.5% strongly agree
43.2% agree
5.8% disagree
0.5% strongly disagree

INFORMED CHOICE

96.1%

said 'I agreed with goals in my plan'

47.8% strongly agree
48.3% agree
3.4% disagree
0.5% strongly disagree

PARTICIPATION

85.6%

said the service enabled them to 'live as independently as I want'

38.6% strongly agree
47% agree
12.4% disagree
2% strongly disagree

SAFETY

100%

of Acquired Brain Injury Ireland service users said they 'felt safe here'

67.2% strongly agree
32.8% agree

ACCESS

91.2%

said they 'know where/how to get help in the community'

38.7% strongly agree
52.5% agree
6.9% disagree
2% strongly disagree

RESPECT

99.5%

said that 'staff treated me with respect/courtesy'

67.6% strongly agree
31.9% agree
0.5% disagree

How we deliver a first-class quality service to our clients



Acquired Brain Injury Ireland is actively committed to providing services at an internationally recognized standard which is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF). This accreditation is a prestigious and internationally recognised quality mark which signals that the services we provide meet or exceed international best practice. Acquired Brain Injury Ireland has been successfully accredited every three years since 2003 and our next accreditation process is due to take place in autumn 2018. We are currently accredited for the following Brain Injury Specialty Programmes:

1. Home and community services (Adults)
2. Home and community services (Children)
3. Residential Rehabilitation programmes (Adults)
4. Governance standards

Additionally, all Acquired Brain Injury Ireland neuro-rehabilitation residential services are registered with the Health Information and Quality Authority (HIQA) and are monitored under the Health Act 2007 (Care and support of residents in designated centres for persons (children and adults) with disabilities) regulations 2013.

GETTING MY LIFE BACK

The people we help are some of the most inspirational people you could hope to meet and here we share the rehabilitation journeys of three incredible individuals and the difference our services made to help them get their lives back. Recovering from a brain injury is not easy or quick and these stories illustrate the gradual stages of progress people go through and the importance of collaboration with other rehabilitative services to ensure a good pathway for people with acquired brain injury.

JACK'S STORY

Admission

Seven years ago at just 21 years old, Jack acquired a brain injury resulting from a bleed on the brain which is a cause of stroke. It happened when Jack became ill on a flight to Thailand while travelling with friends. Jack and his friends were on their way to work as carpenters and experience life in Australia. They stopped off in Phuket and were heading to Koh Phangan to experience the full moon party. One friend forgot his wallet and when he returned to their hotel, he found Jack unconscious in his room. Jack was rushed to hospital in Thailand and underwent rigorous testing. He was diagnosed with a cerebellar haemorrhage from cavernoma – a bleed from a cluster of blood vessels in his brain he didn't know he had. He didn't regain consciousness for two weeks after the event and it was another three months before his family could fly him to London and eventually to the Mater Hospital in Dublin. Jack spent three months in the Mater building up to eating and talking again, followed by intense rehabilitation with the National Rehabilitation Hospital before he was finally moved home to Clane in Co Kildare. A year after returning home, he was referred to Acquired Brain Injury Ireland for community rehabilitation. Moving home was challenging. Jack's bedroom was relocated downstairs and he struggled to walk for more than 20 minutes at a time. He couldn't drive, work or play sport. He experienced memory problems, fatigue and his confidence was at rock bottom.

Interventions

Jack started meeting with an Acquired Brain Injury Ireland keyworker Aidan three times a week and together they set goals that were personalised for him. After the brain injury, Jack felt a lack of confidence about himself and he experienced both long term and short-term memory problems. He had come a long way already on his rehabilitation journey - from using a wheelchair to walking - but he struggled with fatigue which affected him both physically and mentally. Sometimes he struggled to remember words or recall memories from his earlier life. Working with his keyworker, he developed practical memory strategies to combat this. With encouragement from his keyworker, Jack joined our weekly social group where he had the opportunity to meet other people in a similar situation and share experiences. Again, with prompting and continued reassurance from his keyworker, Jack also attended a local men's shed where he enjoyed the opportunity to re-engage at his own pace, with the tools of his trade in carpentry. Meeting other people also helped Jack regain confidence in social situations.



“I FEEL LIKE I HAVE REGAINED MY LIFE THANKS TO THE SUPPORT OF MY KEYWORKER AIDAN FROM ACQUIRED BRAIN INJURY IRELAND. WHEN HE MET ME, I HAD BEEN AT HOME FOR A YEAR NOT GOING OUT BECAUSE I DIDN'T WANT PEOPLE TO SEE ME. AIDAN HELPED BUILD MY CONFIDENCE TO TRY NEW THINGS AND STAY POSITIVE.”

— **Jack Fadden,**
28, Brain Injury Survivor

REHABILITATION GOALS

- To build confidence to reengage with society
- To develop and use memory strategies to become reliable, responsible and make decisions
- To build links in local community and increase social activities
- To gain work experience opportunities
- To gain confidence in public speaking to share my experience and inspire others
- To complete a FETAC course in Healthcare
- To join a sports club and increase exercise

Outcomes

In his time with Acquired Brain Injury Ireland, Jack has achieved many of his goals. His confidence continues to grow from strength to strength and he recently engaged in public speaking by delivering a talk to the rehab team in the NRH. A keen sports lover, Jack has joined a local sports club and taken on the challenges of completing 5k runs in Clane where he lives. Next year in 2018, he has set his sights on training to complete a 10k distance. Over the past two years, Jack was responsible for two successful fundraisers in aid of Acquired Brain Injury Ireland to help more people like him. The events raised a staggering €35,000. This was an incredible achievement for Jack in achieving his goal to connect in his community and he applied himself to the planning and organising, with support from friends and family. Additionally, Jack has been able to prepare for work interviews and to participate in work experience with support from his keyworker Aidan.

Discharge

Jack has made great strides with his recovery and his need for our services has decreased. He now sees his keyworker just once per week and he no longer attends the men's sheds or weekly social group. He has returned to driving with confidence and this has really helped him regain his independence to socialise and meet with friends. In 2018, he has set his sights on completing a FETAC course for healthcare assistant because he would like to help more people with brain injury.



BRÍAN'S STORY



“THE WORLD’S WORST THING IS SITTING ON YOUR OWN WATCHING DAYTIME TELEVISION. I WASN’T STIMULATED IN ANY WAY. GOING TO THE CLUBHOUSE WAS GREAT TO MEET PEOPLE WITH MEMORY PROBLEMS LIKE ME. NOW I GET OUT AND ABOUT. MY CASEWORKER GOT ME INVOLVED IN THE ACTIVE RETIREMENT GROUP AND I’M LEARNING GARDENING AT THE CLUBHOUSE WHICH I NEVER DID BEFORE AND I CAN USE IT AT HOME.”

— **Brían Doyle,**
59, Brain Injury Survivor

Admission

Brían’s brain injury in 2009 resulted from a lack of oxygen to the brain when he collapsed with cardiac arrest. For several months he attended St Vincent’s Hospital and the National Rehabilitation Hospital (NRH) before eventually returning home. He continued rehabilitation with the Rehabilitative Training Unit (RTU) at the NRH before he was referred to Acquired Brain Injury Ireland Clubhouse (Day Services). The referral to our services was important to ensure support in place at time of discharge from the RTU. At the time of his admission to our services, Brían was able to do certain tasks when prompted, such as cooking and cleaning, but he had difficulty with initiation. He used to enjoy reading before his injury, but now had difficulty concentrating, even with the daily newspaper. He conversed well in a one-to-one situation but found it difficult to keep concentration in a group setting where cross-talk confused him. With poor initiation, it was very important to have a structure in place for Brían to get him out of the house with a purposeful aim. He also had a fear of meeting people he knew and not remembering their names which was a barrier for him going out.

Interventions

Brían started attending our Clubhouse in Dun Laoghaire three times a week and working with the psychologist, we helped to refine his goals and develop strategies to live more effectively with a brain injury. Brían worked with one of our rehabilitative assistants (RA) from our Community Services to help him work on his goals at home and in the community. In this way, he gradually learned strategies to deal with situations for instance, if the phone went off while he was cooking, he learned to turn off the grill first before attending to the phone. This has cut down an important risk element and left him more independent. We encouraged Brían to take part in various group activities including gardening and cognitive exercises, as well as working on his individual goals. He had no problem doing repetitive tasks but needed prompting to do something new and to partake more actively in a group setting. Encouraging him to join his local Active Retirement Group was a key objective to help him do something new.

We also provided family support to Brían and his wife to facilitate better understanding and communication around his challenges with memory and initiation after the brain injury. For instance, instead of prompting Brían to do something around the house which he viewed as criticism, listing tasks on a whiteboard was more neutral and he had no problem fulfilling these tasks. Now Brían does his part in washing, Hoovering and gardening at home which has empowered him to direct his own life on an equal footing.



REHABILITATION GOALS

- Get back driving to increase independence and get out and about
- Get back to playing seasonal golf and see friends
- Improve computer skills to keep up to speed and increase independence
- House tasks to contribute at home as he used to do

Outcomes

In his time with Acquired Brain Injury Ireland, Brian has achieved several goals that he was working on. He no longer has a fear of going out and meeting people and he can now comfortably read the newspapers. When driving, he has learnt to keep to familiar areas and avoids driving in the city. He recognises that he needs repetition in learning anything new. He is in a local golfing society, so he plays golf regularly for six months of the year, with the added advantage of having good social interaction with his ex-colleagues and

friends. He worked on his computer skills at our Clubhouse and attended a more advanced course in Dun Laoghaire Library. He plays bowling with the local active retirement group twice a week and he enjoys the social element of playing a new sport and going on outings together. He cannot go down the street now without bumping into some of his new acquaintances, which makes him feel part of the community. At home he does his part in household chores.

Now

Brian now has a reasonably full week of activities and does not require the same level of support as he did initially. From time to time he drops in to our Clubhouse gardening group and also occasionally plays pool with the men's group. In this way he maintains an appropriate level of contact with the service enjoying his peers while living his own life.

MARTINA'S STORY



Admission

In March 2012 Martina, a legal secretary, was admitted to Cork University Hospital via the Emergency Department after a fall down the stairs with a severe blow to the head. Staff were unable to maintain her airway and she was intubated immediately. Unconscious for days, she developed aspiration pneumonia with a sepsis syndrome. It was nearly 10 days later before Martina opened her eyes and a month later, she was able to say who she was and could stand for seven minutes using a walking frame. Martina's brain injury caused facial drooping, unclear speech, limited mobility and seizures. At the time of referral to our residential neuro-rehabilitation unit in Clarecastle, Co Clare, Martina was using a wheelchair for outdoor use and mobilizing independently while indoors. Cognitively, she needed to relearn activities for daily living.

Interventions

Following a neuropsychological assessment by the Psychologist it was recommended for Martina to be involved in setting her own personal goals that were of high personal relevance to her. Martina attended an executive functioning and cognitive rehabilitation group that focused on enhancing the ability to attain and set goals. She was also supported with external memory aids and emotional support. Martina participated in an intensive programme of daily living activity to help her relearn key tasks with the support of the neuro-residential team such as how to manage personal money, cooking, doing laundry. Martina also worked with our rehabilitation team on an intensive home exercise programme for her speech to stimulate facial muscles around the mouth. This was completed at least three times a day in front of a mirror so that Martina could follow her own progress. We also supported Martina with her physio programme in order to strengthen muscle tone and balance so that she could mobilise independently both indoors and outdoors. At this time Martina was unable to go up and down the stairs independently as her balance was poor.

“ACQUIRED BRAIN INJURY IRELAND DEFINITELY SAVED ME WHEN THEY OFFERED ME A BED. THEY’RE STRONG, THEY’RE EXACTLY WHAT I NEEDED. NOW I CAN GET AROUND AND DO A LOT OF THINGS FOR MYSELF. I MIGHT EVEN WRITE A BOOK.”

— **Martina Shanley,**
54, Brain Injury Survivor



REHABILITATION GOALS

- To maximise independence and return to the community and live in my own house.
- To develop and maintain friendships within the community.
- To improve facial muscles to speak clearly.

Outcomes

When Martina moved into the neuro rehabilitation residential unit in May, 2013 she did not know anyone, she was nervous, shy, uncertain about her future and at that time, was not able to run her own household. Martina’s first big achievement came from joining our social activity group where members took part in creative activities. Here, Martina found a safe place to be herself, enjoy the activity and practice her speech. This was a breakthrough for Martina because she was extremely shy due to her facial paralysis and speech problems. Slowly she made friends and these people are now an important part of her life. Another achievement for Martina was learning how to plan a shopping list, going shopping and knowing where to find the ingredients, preparing the food, cooking it and finally enjoying the meal that had been prepared. Battling fatigue after brain injury, it took a long time before she completed all of these tasks in one day. Martina is now able to do all of this on her own without suffering fatigue. Martina has come a long way to overcome memory difficulties and after three years’ of intensive rehabilitation, she went on to host her own crossword group and run a residents meeting in 2017.

Discharge

In January 2018 Martina was discharged from our neuro rehabilitation residential unit where she received 24/7 intensive support to living independently into her own home with regular ‘arm’s length’ support as she needs it such as weekly support from a Community Rehabilitation Worker and a Social Worker from our services. Martina is independently mobile both indoors and outdoors and has completed her neuro rehabilitation programme. She has achieved independence in all aspects of her personal care, administering medication, shopping, cooking, attending Mass, works as a volunteer, attends computer classes and flower arranging and can access public transport independently.

Martina has benefited greatly from living in the neuro residential unit in Clarecastle which allowed her to build strong bonds within the community as one of her goals. Martina is still living in the same community where she can continue to enjoy these friendships from her own home and entertain her friends. Martina still has the support of the neuro– rehab residential units in Clarecastle when she needs it for emotional support as she adjusts to living on her own and for continued support with finances.

ADVANCING LIFE AFTER BRAIN INJURY THROUGH RESEARCH

Traumatic brain injury is a silent phenomenon here in Ireland and while there is no cure for it, we can manage it better and faster with greater research into interventions. There is a major need for research investment to drive more effective interventions to capitalise on the window of time shortly after injury, when the brain can rewire cells in some parts of the brain.



Learning new skills after brain injury is an important part of neuro-rehabilitation. Many of our clients like Clive and Cindy learn new gardening skills as part of their goals.

The brain injuries we see every day are life-altering, often leaving individuals and their families to cope with severe deficits in memory, communication, physical ability and behavioural difficulties.

At Acquired Brain Injury Ireland, research is at the core of what we do:

- We value research for the vital contribution it makes to improve the lives of brain injury survivors
- We rely on research to deliver a world-class, evidence-based, national rehabilitation service in every corner of Ireland
- This evidence base is crucial to our ability to influence policy changes and engage in political advocacy to make life better for brain injury survivors

“WE VALUE RESEARCH FOR THE VITAL CONTRIBUTION IT MAKES TO IMPROVE THE LIVES OF BRAIN INJURY SURVIVORS.”



Our CEO Barbara O'Connell joins brain injury survivor Brian Hogan at the launch of new research report Getting My Life Reset.



The Getting My Life Reset report was based upon detailed interviews of people with acquired brain injury. The main author of the report was Prof Orla Muldoon, University of Limerick.

GETTING MY LIFE RESET

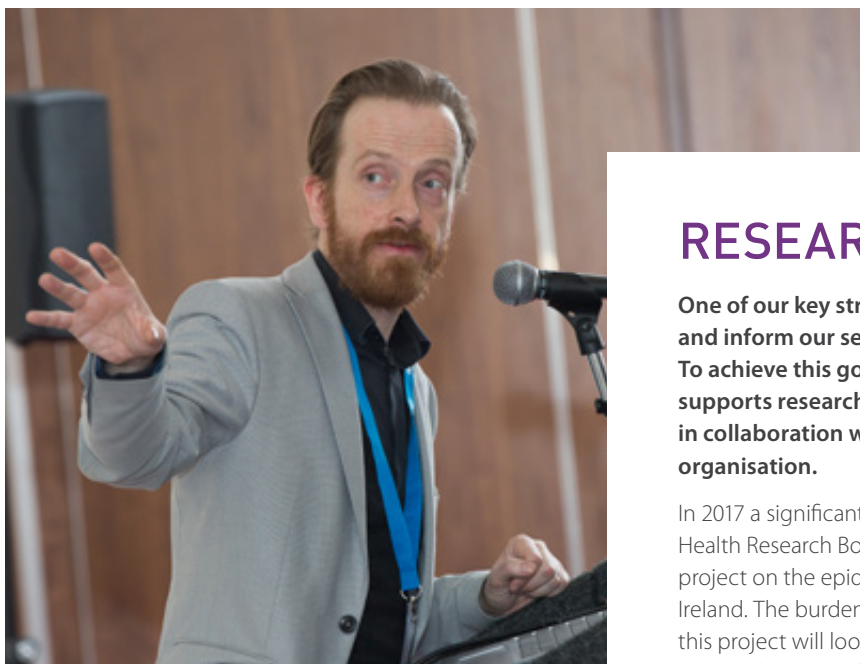
In June 2017, Acquired Brain Injury Ireland published and launched a new research report - "Getting my life reset" - which captured the Irish experience of living with an acquired brain injury for the first time.

The report lifted the lid on brain injury which is acquired by 13,000 adults in Ireland every year through stroke, falls, car accidents and assaults and it clearly highlighted the barriers and difficulties faced in accessing appropriate services. The findings were stark, emphasising the excessive burden on families to provide care and the lack of long-term access to rehabilitation as an individual's needs change.

While families provide essential support and care, they are not skilled and equipped to provide the rehabilitative interventions which have a major impact on people's recovery and outcomes. After a brain injury, people can become more isolated and removed from what was their norm in society.

"I STRONGLY WELCOME THIS RESEARCH – WHICH TELLS THE STORY OF PEOPLE'S LIVED EXPERIENCES. IT HAS BEEN SIX YEARS SINCE I ACQUIRED MY BRAIN INJURY AND IT HAS BEEN A VERY CHALLENGING TIME. THIS REPORT TELLS POLICY MAKERS AND SERVICE PROVIDERS THAT BETTER ACCESS TO REHABILITATION SERVICES GREATLY HELPS PEOPLE LIKE ME, TO LIVE THE BEST LIVES WE CAN. AN ACQUIRED BRAIN INJURY IS A COMPLEX CONDITION AND HEALTH SERVICES NEED TO BE ABLE TO ADAPT TO THE DIFFERENT NEEDS OF PEOPLE AT DIFFERENT TIMES."

— **Brian Hogan,**
Brain Injury Survivor.



Dr Brian Waldron, Senior Clinical Psychologist with Acquired Brain Injury Ireland.

“WE HAVE VERY LITTLE DATA ON BRAIN INJURY IN IRELAND AND THE RESEARCH PROJECT ON TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY WILL PROVIDE US WITH VALUABLE INFORMATION NOT ONLY ON THE NUMBERS BUT DETAILS ON PEOPLE’S REHABILITATION EXPERIENCES AND THE BRAIN INJURY PATHWAY OVER A PERIOD OF TIME. IT WILL THEN HELP US TO HIGHLIGHT WHERE THERE ARE GAPS IN REHABILITATION SERVICES.”

RESEARCH PROJECTS

One of our key strategic objectives is to improve and inform our service delivery through research. To achieve this goal, Acquired Brain Injury Ireland supports researchers both internally and by working in collaboration with researchers external to the organisation.

In 2017 a significant funding bid was successfully made to the Health Research Board (HRB) for €200,000 for a national research project on the epidemiology of Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) in Ireland. The burden of TBI in Ireland is largely unknown and this project will look at the incidence of brain injuries in Ireland, the mechanisms of injury and the consequences of injury on survivors, their families, the health service and society.

Professor Anthony Staines from Dublin City University is the overall Principal Investigator (PI) working closely with our own Dr. Brian Waldron, PI from Acquired Brain Injury Ireland. The two-year project commences in 2018 and will run until 2020. The HRB funding is supported by a combined €40,000 research investment by Acquired Brain Injury Ireland and our community partner Headway.

All research applications are reviewed by Acquired Brain Injury Ireland’s Ethics Committee in accordance with international best practice to ensure researchers are operating to the highest ethical standards when recruiting people with brain injury and their families. In 2017, seven research applications were approved by this Committee.

Our Research Ethics Committee 2017

Dr. Lorraine Crawley (Chair)	Senior Clinical Psychologist, Acquired Brain Injury Ireland
Ciara McCabe	Senior Occupational Therapist, Acquired Brain Injury Ireland
Dr. Eilionoir Flynn (Eleanor Edmond Covering Maternity leave)	Disability and Law Centre, NUIG
Pauline Lynch	Real life expert by lived experience
Catherine Lacey	Local Service Manager and Case Manager, Acquired Brain Injury Ireland
Dr. Fiadhnaid O’Keeffe	Senior Clinical Psychologist, National Rehabilitation Hospital

ADVOCACY AND POLICY

At Acquired Brain Injury Ireland, we believe that charitable organisations like ours, have a vital role to play in shaping in government policy and to represent the voices of thousands of people affected by brain injuries struggling to access neuro-rehabilitation services.

There is an enormous public benefit to our advocacy because it helps drive public discussion on key issues affecting those we serve, and in this way, we can better inform the public and policy-makers.

Our local service managers and staff consistently advocate on behalf of clients and potential clients, to secure greater funding and greater access to rehabilitation hours and services. This is an ongoing challenge for the organisation.

Making submissions in relation to existing or proposed government policy is an essential part of our advocacy role. In 2017, Acquired Brain Injury Ireland submitted multiple policy submissions to Government and public bodies to drive awareness among policy makers of key issues faced by people with brain injury and their families. These included:

- Submission to the Department of Health Task Force on Personalised Budgets, October 2017
- Submission to the Department of Health on Improving Home Care Services in Ireland, September 2017
- Submission to the HSE on Assisted Decision Making (Capacity) Act 2015 Guidelines for Health and Social Care Professionals, April 2017
- Submission to the National Disability Authority on Action 5.1 (Vocational training) Comprehensive Employment Strategy for People with Disabilities, June 2017
- Joint Submission with the Disability Federation of Ireland to the Department of Enterprise and Employment on Action Plan for Jobs, September 2017

Collaboration is key and we continue to work with a range of partners in progressing joint advocacy initiatives. Under the Neurological Alliance of Ireland umbrella, we support the call for greater investment in neuro rehabilitation services.



NATIONAL CARERS CONFERENCE 2017

In February 2017, Acquired Brain Injury Ireland launched a national Carers' Conference called *Building Resilience: Valuing Myself* aimed at family carers of people with acquired brain injury. The conference was facilitated by RTE broadcaster Miriam O'Callaghan and included an address to family carers by the Minister for Health Simon Harris and keynote speaker Dr Eddie Murphy, psychologist with RTE TV show *Operation Transformation*.

Organised by Acquired Brain Injury Ireland, the conference provided more than 200 family carers from across Ireland with the unique opportunity to get access to clinical expertise and information not routinely available to them. The day provided practical knowledge and greater understanding of acquired brain injury to help make life better in the day to day for families. The programme was filled with expert speakers and workshops on legal issues, minding yourself, managing stress and memory challenges.

During the event practical workshops for carers included:

- What you need to know about legal issues, Solicitor Ann McGarry
- What you need to know about minding yourself and managing stress, Dr, Caroline McGrath and Teresa O'Boyle, Acquired Brain Injury Ireland
- What you need to know about attention and memory challenges, Dr. Brian Waldron, Senior Clinical Psychologist, Acquired Brain Injury Ireland
- Health and wellbeing stands for carers

As well as dealing with serious issues, the event provided an opportunity for carers and families to meet with other family members and share experiences. The Carers' Conference was funded by a dormant accounts grant from Pobal.



WHY WAS THE CARERS CONFERENCE SO IMPORTANT?

Family carer and conference participant Jean Uí Bhroin understands the impact of becoming a carer after her husband Donncha acquired a brain injury due to stroke.

Her husband was just 59 years old when he was struck down by stroke six years ago. It affected mobility on his left side as well as his memory and judgement. According to his wife Jean, prior to the stroke, Donncha was very clever and had a phenomenal memory and was studying for a PhD, but that all had to stop after the brain injury. Positively, while many things changed for Donncha, his personality didn't change and he remained good humoured despite newer challenges.

But for Jean, Donncha's brain injury has been life altering. She said: "There's lots of ways your life changes. After the stroke, all the jobs Donncha would have done, he couldn't do any of them anymore. I had to take on everything. In all the usual things, even making the bed, I would have gotten a dig out but I just don't any more. Running the house, checking everything, finances, making sure there's enough money on the account, I suddenly became the only one doing it. It's important to still remember I'm the wife and not the mammy."



FAMILIES AND CARERS

Our family support services happen as an integral part of what we do providing support to the families of clients as needed. We recognise that the family also lives with the brain injury, not just the person affected. For every client there is a family we support through services which are clinically led, and which include family therapy, family and carer training, case management, parenting skills training and peer support groups. Family support is essential. For many children after their mother or father has a brain injury, for the child it can seem as if their 'dad is dead'. For siblings, a brother or sister with a severe brain injury can mean the loss of a best friend. After brain injury, roles within families change and there can be many challenges which cause strain. Brain injury survivors can experience personality changes and this can be very difficult for family members to come to terms with. That's why our service provides ongoing information, education and support with specialist services as needed such as couples counselling and parenting plus.

"THE SUPPORT FROM ACQUIRED BRAIN INJURY IRELAND HAS BEEN FANTASTIC. THE PSYCHOLOGIST SET HIM AN ASSESSMENT AND SET HIM GOALS WHICH IS GREAT BECAUSE HE HAS LEARNED TO FOLLOW A SEQUENCE TO COMPLETE TASKS. THINGS LIKE MAKING A CUP OF TEA INCLUDING PUTTING THE MILK BACK IN THE FRIDGE – IN A SEQUENCE. A LOT OF THINGS HAVE BECOME RE-LEARNED BEHAVIOUR. WE CAN GET OUT AND ABOUT NOW, HE CAN WALK AGAIN. I WALK HIM DOWN TO ACQUIRED BRAIN INJURY IRELAND'S CLUBHOUSE AND I WALK HIM BACK BECAUSE HE'S STILL NERVOUS CROSSING THE ROAD BECAUSE OF THE LEFT-SIDE NEGLECT. HE GOES ONCE OR TWICE A WEEK FOR ABOUT 2 HOURS AND IT'S GREAT FOR BOTH OF US. INTERACTING WITH THE GROUP HAS HELPED HIM ENORMOUSLY, TO MEET OTHER PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN THROUGH SOMETHING SIMILAR AND IT GIVES ME TWO HOURS OF ONLY HAVING TO CARE FOR MYSELF."

OUR PEOPLE

OUR PEOPLE MAKE US UNIQUE – THEY BRING THE MAGIC



Just as every brain injury is unique, at Acquired Brain Injury Ireland, our people are unique. Our teams are highly skilled and qualified in their area and extremely passionate about the work they do. Rebuilding lives through neuro-rehabilitation takes time and in addition to key skills, it requires the ability to see things differently and think outside the box. That's why we hire people who are problem-solvers and who have an ability to drive everyday solutions to help our brain injury survivors adapt to life after their brain injury. Providing choice to clients is at the heart of what we do and our teams thrive on finding creative solutions to preserve our clients' rights to choose.

Our approach to service delivery is about partnership and collaboration with our clients. Building positive relationships between clients and our rehabilitation assistants is essential to achieving personalised goals – in fact, it's the magic. During 2017, we employed 276 staff by year end to meet the requirements of the organisation. This included 20 staff in head office covering key functions such as finance, human resources, administration, research and policy, fundraising and communications. More than 250 staff deliver our rehabilitation services on the ground nationwide.



“A BRAIN INJURY IS A SUDDEN ONSET OF TRAUMA FOR A FAMILY AND THE INDIVIDUAL AND THEY FEEL OVERWHELMED AND DON'T KNOW WHERE TO TURN. MY ROLE AS CASE MANAGER IS EXACTLY DESIGNED FOR THESE TIMES OF DISTRESS. I AM SOMEONE FAMILIES CAN REACH OUT TO, A POINT OF CONTACT THAT LISTENS TO THEIR NEED AND IDENTIFIES RESOURCES APPLICABLE AND AVAILABLE TO THEIR SITUATION. IN THE EARLY DAYS, THERE IS OFTEN A HIGH LEVEL OF CONTACT. THERE ARE TIMES WHEN YOUNGER PEOPLE ARE INAPPROPRIATELY PLACED IN NURSING HOMES AND BEING ABLE TO SUPPORT THESE YOUNGER PEOPLE TO RETURN HOME OR ACCESS SERVICES IN THE COMMUNITY IS VERY IMPORTANT. IT'S EXTREMELY REWARDING, WORKING WITH PEOPLE IN THIS WAY.”

— **Kathleen Brennan**

Case Manager, ABII, Cavan/Monaghan

Kathleen is a former nurse with a diploma in counselling and psychotherapy.



“WORKING ON ACQUIRED BRAIN INJURY IRELAND’S SOCIAL MEDIA DEVELOPMENT THROUGH FACEBOOK GAVE ME A TRULY GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO ENHANCE MY OWN DIGITAL SKILLS AND TO DO WHAT I LOVE, WHICH IS ENGAGING WITH PEOPLE AND HELPING THEM. THERE IS A GREAT SENSE OF COMMUNITY THROUGHOUT ACQUIRED BRAIN INJURY IRELAND AND TOOLS LIKE FACEBOOK MAKE IT EASIER TO ENGAGE WITH COMMUNITIES ALL AROUND THE COUNTRY WHO NEED ADVICE ON BRAIN INJURY.”

— **Niamh Cahill**

Volunteer Ambassador for ABII

Niamh has shared her personal brain injury experience to raise awareness of the condition. In 2017, Niamh also worked on the organisation’s facebook channel to spread core messages online.

Staffing Levels and Service Provision

Our Human Resources (HR) team is committed to attracting and retaining the right people however recruitment challenges were experienced in 2017, which is reflective of national trends. Section 39 pay restoration is causing inequality and movement of staff to statutory bodies. A working group was established to address the issue more closely which comprised HR and Local Service Management.

Learning and Development

In 2017 Acquired Brain Injury Ireland continued to invest in staff by offering learning and development opportunities including mandatory and organisation specific training according to legislative and regulatory compliance and best practice. This continued to enhance Acquired Brain Injury Ireland’s standards in line with our Commission on the Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF). In 2017, the learning and development function transferred to the responsibility of the Head of Human Resources and a new Learning and Development Manager was appointed in quarter 3 of 2017. Learning and Development Strategic Objectives have been set up to the end of 2018 including the introduction of a learning management system platform for online training delivery and the increased external delivery of the Academy of Certified Brain Injury Specialists (ACBIS) programme in response to demand.

GROWING SUPPORT FOR OUR NON-PROFIT ORGANISATION



RTÉ broadcaster Miriam O'Callaghan launches our national 'Bake for Brain Injury' fundraiser in aid of Acquired Brain Injury Ireland.

Acquired Brain Injury Ireland recognises the importance of building a community of supporters who are as passionate about the cause as we are. These supporters are crucial to help us build awareness nationally about the 13,000 brain injuries acquired in Ireland every year and the urgent need to expand our services to meet their needs. Our services currently deliver life-changing neuro-rehabilitation to nearly 1,200 clients but this is only scratching the service. For the first time in 2017, Acquired Brain Injury Ireland appointed a Head of Fundraising to enable the organisation to identify and reach out to potential supporters who can become advocates of our mission, donors to our cause and volunteers to make life better for our brain injury survivors.

The HSE service level agreements are designed to cover basic, essential service delivery and running costs however, these agreements have not been updated in line with actual costs of services in many years. Extra support from generous donors can really make our service a home from home for brain injury survivors while they are with us and help us expand our services to more families. Growing our donations and other grants is a key goal to help us pay for areas which government money can't stretch to, such as vital equipment, research projects to improve interventions for brain injury survivors and towards key projects to support our rehabilitation work such as sensory gardens or accessible vehicles.



Staff and clients from our Mayo service fundraising in their local community.

FUNDRAISING EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

Sincere thanks to the many individuals, groups and organisations who worked with our local teams on the ground and with our new fundraising team, to raise funds for people affected by brain injury. In 2017, through our generous supporters, we raised €146,368.54.

We enjoyed incredible fundraising support in communities all around the country through events including a sponsored cycle in Sligo, a bed-push in Wexford, drama productions in Drogheda and bag-packing by our Clubhouse members in Dun Laoghaire.

Our national annual fundraiser Bake for Brain Injury which takes place in March as part of National Brain Awareness Week, was launched by RTE broadcaster Miriam O'Callaghan to draw national attention to our cause. More than a fundraiser, the event provided an opportunity for local communities to visit our services and support local bake sales. Additionally, two more significant fundraising events in 2017 included a collaboration with Pieta House on a music event called 'Delicate Tissue' which raised €15,000 and the Clane 5k/10k fun run which attracted more than 650 participants and raised over €16,500.

Acquired Brain Injury Ireland was selected as Aurivo's 2017 Charity of the Year and this partnership raised a staggering €40,000. We also enjoyed continued support for a team leader role in our Wexford Clubhouse from BNY Mellon and we received multiple grants from organisations such as the Hospital Saturday Fund to Gaelectric. As we develop fundraising structures to to grow our supporter base, committed giving (by direct debit) is an important future source of income for the organisation. Our new Head of Fundraising trialled the organisation's first direct fundraising appeal in Christmas 2017 to existing donors.



Staff and friends go purple for the women's mini marathon in aid of our charity.

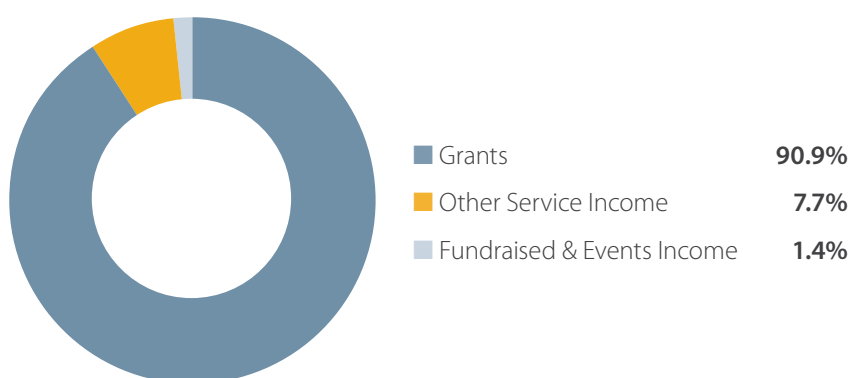
“OUR NATIONAL ANNUAL FUNDRAISER BAKE FOR BRAIN INJURY WHICH TAKES PLACE IN MARCH AS PART OF NATIONAL BRAIN AWARENESS WEEK, WAS LAUNCHED BY RTE BROADCASTER MIRIAM O'CALLAGHAN TO DRAW NATIONAL ATTENTION TO OUR CAUSE. MORE THAN A FUNDRAISER, THE EVENT PROVIDED AN OPPORTUNITY FOR LOCAL COMMUNITIES TO VISIT OUR SERVICES AND SUPPORT LOCAL BAKE SALES.”

OUR FINANCES AND ACCOUNTS

Although Acquired Brain Injury Ireland was faced with increased cost pressures in 2017, cost saving initiatives and the full year impact of the organisation's restructure in 2016, had a significant impact on the organisation's results.

Total income for the year ended December 2017 was in line with the prior year at €12.65m. Direct service grants and other income increased marginally by 0.7% year on year. Fundraised and events income (combined) decreased by 32% to €186k in 2017 versus €272k in 2016, which is explained by a significant anonymous donation received by the organisation in 2016. Funding for our carers training project 'Brain Aware' was recorded at €25k from Pobal in 2017, compared to €40k in 2016.

2017 Income



Total charitable expenditure increased by 1.5% in line with increased service provision. This expenditure ensured that the organisation continued to deliver the appropriate services to meet our clients' needs.

Grant Funding 2017

Every year Acquired Brain Injury Ireland seeks funding, from both statutory and non-statutory sources, to resource its national community based neuro-rehabilitation services and supports. In 2017 a variety of grant applications were prepared and submitted to potential funders. A number of submissions/bids were successful and, while it is not possible to reflect full details of individual receipts and amounts recognised, the table below highlights some key achievements of the year.

FUNDER	AMOUNT	PURPOSE
Health Service Executive National Lottery & Respite	47,713	Part or fully fund a variety of national projects including: Flexible respite, Day Resource/Clubhouse Activities/facilities, gardening tools, rehabilitation equipment
PBF Trust Grant	60,782 (2017 Allocation)	Fund the set-up of the Fundraising function
Local County Council & Community Grants	35,088	Part or fully fund a variety of national projects including: Residence upgrades, rehabilitation & art activities, gardening equipment, gym and swimming lessons
Department of Social Protection (Pobal)	24,576 (2017 Allocation)	ABI Carers Training Project
BNY Mellon (via United Way Worldwide)	12,317 (2017 Allocation)	Further Development of Wexford's ABI Clubhouse through contribution toward funding for a Team Leader role
McManus Fund Car Grant	5,000	Part funded a vehicle for Limerick services

DIRECTORS AND OTHER INFORMATION

Directors	Mr Denis Buckley (Chairperson) Mr Martin Quaid Ms Laurie Mannix Mr Seamus Moore Maurice O'Connell Michael Flanagan
Chief Executive & Secretary	Barbara O'Connell
Auditors	Duignan Carthy O'Neill
Registered Company Name	The Peter Bradley Foundation company limited by guarantee
Trading as	Acquired Brain Injury Ireland
Registered office	64 Mulgrave Street, Dun Laoghaire, Co Dublin.
Registered Charity Number	CHY 14289
Solicitors	TP Robinson Solicitors, 24 Fitzwilliam Street Upper, Dublin 2.
Bank	Allied Irish Bank plc, Cornelscourt, Dublin 18.
Charity Regulatory Authority Number	20046200
Company Registration Number	334659

BOARD AND SUB-COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Board Meetings

The Board of Directors met ten times in 2017.

Remuneration Committee

The Remuneration Committee met twice during 2017, 7th February and the 22nd March.

Members include Michael Flanagan, Seamus Moore, Denise Lloyd and Denis Buckley.

Quality, Safety & Risk Committee

The Quality, Safety & Risk Committee met once in 2017 on the 20th December. Members include Denis Buckley and external consultant Michael Fitzgerald. The CEO attends along with staff to share expertise.

Finance & Audit Committee

The Finance & Audit Committee met 8 times in 2017. Members of the committee include Martin Quaid, Denis Buckley, Maurice O'Connell and external consultant Evelyn Fitzpatrick.

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

for the year ended 31 December 2017

	2017 €	2016 €
Income	12,651,376	12,648,227
Expenditure	12,396,788	12,215,108
(Deficit)/Surplus before Taxation	254,588	433,119
Taxation	-	-
(DEFICIT)/SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR	254,588	433,119
STATEMENT OF RECOGNISED GAINS & LOSSES		
(Deficit)/Surplus for the year	254,588	433,119
TOTAL RECOGNISED GAINS & LOSSES FOR THE YEAR	254,588	433,119

BALANCE SHEET

as at 31 December 2017

	2017 €	2016 €
Tangible Assets	1,740,976	1,785,675
Current Assets		
Debtors: amounts falling due within one year	719,829	603,315
Cash at bank and in hand	1,053,640	791,217
	1,773,469	1,394,532
Current Liabilities		
	-	-
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	1,473,417	1,246,563
Net Current Assets	300,052	147,969
Total Assets Less Current Liabilities	2,041,028	1,933,644
	-	-
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	672,992	781,058
Net Assets	1,368,036	1,152,586
Total Reserves including Capital Reserves	1,368,036	1,152,586

The accounts were approved in the 7th June 2018

Denis Buckley
Director

Martin Quaid
Director

National Office

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