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Annual Report 2021

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CHAIRPERSON'S LETTER

I am delighted to introduce the 2021 Annual Report on behalf of the clients, volunteers, staff, stakeholders and Board of Directors of the Sexual Health Centre.

Clients sought the support of the Sexual Health Centre for a variety of reasons in the last year including relationship difficulties, pregnancy support, HIV support, problematic sexualised behaviour, sexually transmitted infections (STIs), and condom provision. The numbers that access these services are representative of the need for inclusive, responsive, and professional sexual health support.

In line with our five-year strategic plan, and in response to the everchanging Covid-19 landscape, the Sexual Health Centre provided sexual health services online and over the phone as well as in person, while continuing to build innovative ways to reach the community. I am delighted that the ongoing work of the organisation was recognised through various awards in 2021.

Condom provision provided by the Centre managed to reach every corner of Ireland while the staff maintained all other services within the Cork/Kerry region.

The year 2021 saw the centre adapt their response to the needs of the community once again through various new and exciting initiatives. These included the Drugs, Alcohol & Sexual Health (DASH) mobile health unit, a new public sex environment outreach service and an extended Sexual Health Hub offering inclusive of free period products and menstrual health information.

For the fourth year running, the Sexual Health Centre co-ordinated the World AIDS Day Run in conjunction with the Sexual Health and Crisis Pregnancy Programme. The event took place in-person in Cork and Kerry, as well as online. This facilitated a national promotion of the U=U message and highlighted the need for everyone to know their HIV status.

Collaboration and partnership is fundamental to the team at the Sexual Health Centre. By establishing relationships and networks with statutory and non-statutory agencies, the Centre has been able to better support the sexual health needs of an evolving Ireland. The Centre's team members remain key collaborators and stakeholders on a number of national and local policy implementation groups.

There is little doubt that the vibrant and busy organisation of today would not exist without the sustained efforts and sheer determination of the staff, volunteers and board of the Sexual Health Centre. Their commitment to the provision of high quality, equitable, accessible and inclusive sexual health services is crucial to ensuring every individuals' right to a positive sexual health experience.

MR. CIARÁN LYNCH

The Sexual Health Centre, Chairperson



INTRODUCTION

The Sexual Health Centre is a Not for Profit, Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO) that was established in July 1987 as Cork Aids Alliance. The vision of the organisation is for a future where sexual health is recognised as an integral part of life, barriers to access sexual health services are removed, social stigma and discrimination are challenged, each individual feels safe to express their sexuality, and people make informed decisions regarding their sexual wellbeing and treat each other's life choices with the utmost respect.

In achieving this, the Sexual Health Centre sets a mission to:

"Always provide the most up-to-date and comprehensive information regarding the topics of sexual health, wellbeing and sexuality, to offer a safe space for individuals to express their concerns without fear, to get non-biased answers to their most intimate questions, to normalise the perception of sexual health and sexuality and to facilitate a nation-wide acceptance of positive sexual health and sexuality as an integral part of life."

The Sexual Health Centre believes that everyone has a right to positive sexual health and aims to provide high quality, inclusive and client-focused services. These services relate to wellbeing, healthy relationships, HIV and sexual health, and are available to every member of the community.

For over 30 years, the Sexual Health Centre has supported the community through innovative initiatives and an adaptive team, and it will continue to do so in the future with no bias, no judgment, and no exception.

OUR SERVICES

WHAT WE DO?

The Sexual Health Centre offers a wide range of services to the public to meet the changing and emerging sexual health needs of the Cork community.



Rapid
HIV Testing



Support for people
living with HIV



Pregnancy
support



SALT Sex And Love
Therapy



DASH mobile
health unit



Sexual health
workshops



Outreach



Support for LGBTI+
population



Professional
training



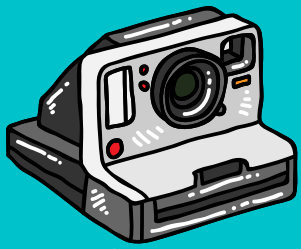
Free condom
demos and distribution



Disability support
programme



Monday - Friday
helpline



MEET THE TEAM



Martin Davoren,
Executive Director



Catherine Kennedy,
Centre Manager



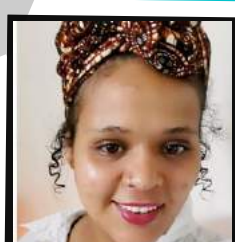
Phil Corcoran,
Sen. Health Promotion
Officer



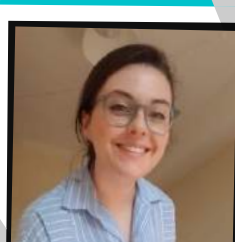
Niamh O Connor,
Receptionist



Konrad Im,
LGBTI+ Support Worker



Aishling McCormack,
Health Promotion Officer



Elinor O' Donovan
Receptionist & PA



Muire O Farrell,
Youth Health Promotion Officer



Mary Wilkins,
Counsellor



Evelyn Dickinson,
Counsellor



Kathleen Greaney
Counsellor



Danny Fitzpatrick,
DASH Coordinator



Denis O' Mahony
Administrator



Donal Clifford,
SALT Facilitator



Olivia Teahan,
Communications & Engagement Lead,
Health Promotion Officer

In memory of Barrie Deehan

Our colleague and friend, Barrie Deehan, tragically passed away in December 2021. Barrie brought passion, kindness and humility to his work with young people here in the centre.

We are very grateful to have known Barrie, and he will be missed.



INTERACTIONS IN 2021

MEDIA MENTIONS



HEALTH PROMOTION CONTACTS



CLIENT ENQUIRIES



PREGNANCY SERVICES



WEBSITE VISITS



RAPID HIV TESTS



DASH CONTACTS



HIV COUNSELLING SESSIONS



WORLD AIDS DAY RUN PARTICIPANTS



SALT ASSESSMENTS



CONDOMS DISTRIBUTED



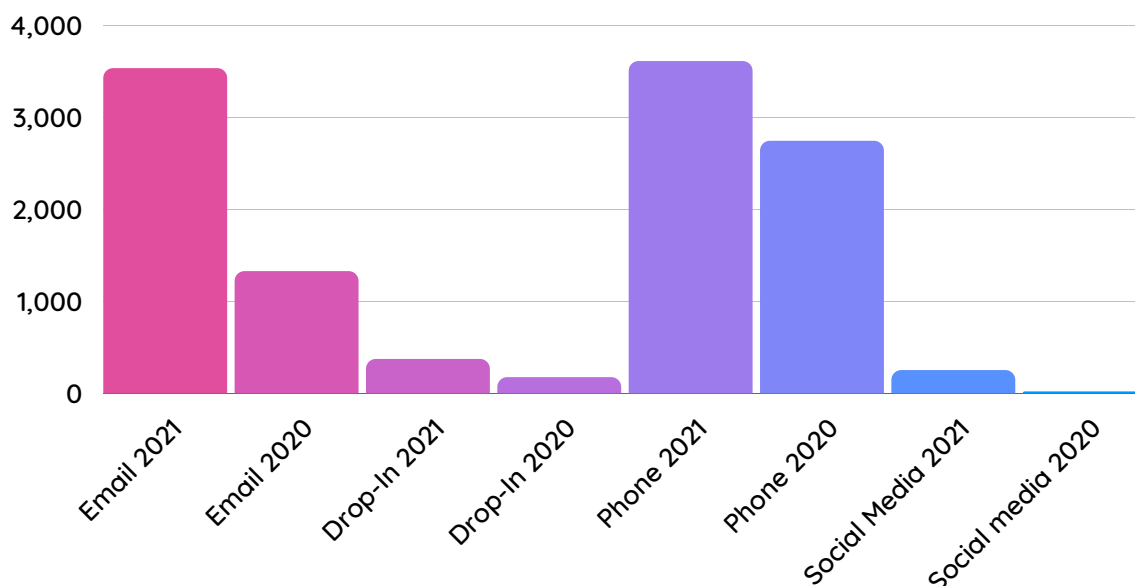
CLIENT ENQUIRIES

Total client enquiries:

In 2021, we answered a total of **7,514** enquiries from clients, in the form of drop-ins and contact via social media, phone and email reflecting our ongoing engagement with the community.



Client enquiries breakdown:

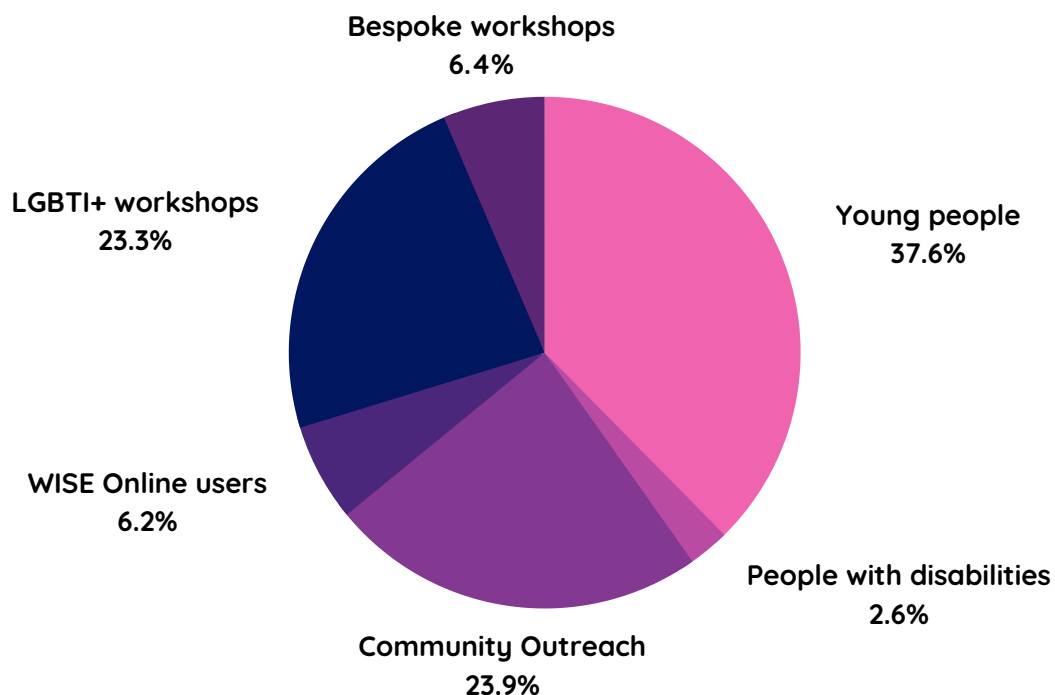


HEALTH PROMOTION

Our team delivered a variety of tailored workshops during 2021. In order to maintain services during the ongoing Covid-19 restrictions, the health promotion team continued to offer virtual service delivery, along with returning to face to face workshops where possible given the diversity of our clients.

Our wide reaching client groups include; people living in direct provision centres, migrant populations, people engaging in sex work, people linked in with homeless services, the travelling community, youth from training centres and non-mainstream schools, and groups within the disability sector. Workshops in relation to LGBTI+ capacity building were also offered to a number of professionals, multi-national corporations and community groups.

Total health promotion contacts:





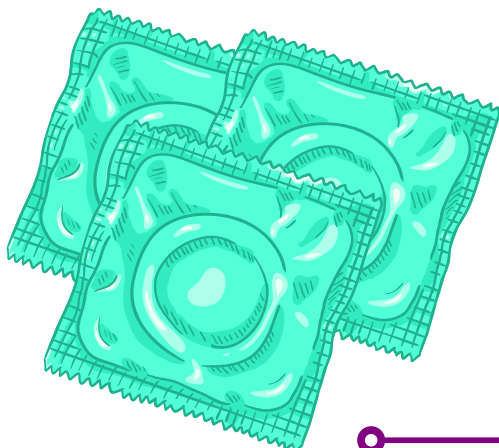
OUTREACH SERVICE

The Sexual Health Centre offers an outreach service for marginalised Groups. This outreach initiative provides support and workshops for a variety of individuals including, people struggling with substance misuse and abuse, people experiencing homelessness, migrants and members of the travelling community.

WORKSHOPS



452
contacts



1780
Condoms

CONDOMS
DISTRIBUTED

LGBTI+ SUPPORT SERVICE

The Sexual Health Centre offers a non-judgmental, professional mentoring service through an LGBTI+ Sexual Health Support Worker. This service provides practical support to members of the LGBTI+ community and their loved ones.



ONE TO ONE SUPPORT SESSIONS

78
contacts

GEO SOCIAL APPS

45
contacts



CAPACITY BUILDING WORKSHOPS

441
contacts

YOUTH HEALTH PROMOTION

The Sexual Health Centre offers a range of health promotion resources and workshops for young people. These include Sexual Health Hub stands, a dedicated youth Instagram Page SHC_HUB, an Agony Aunt- The SHIFT Expert and tailored sexual health workshops.

WORKSHOPS

712
Contacts



SEXUAL HEALTH
HUB STAND

67
Users



SHIFT EXPERT Q'S

74
Questions

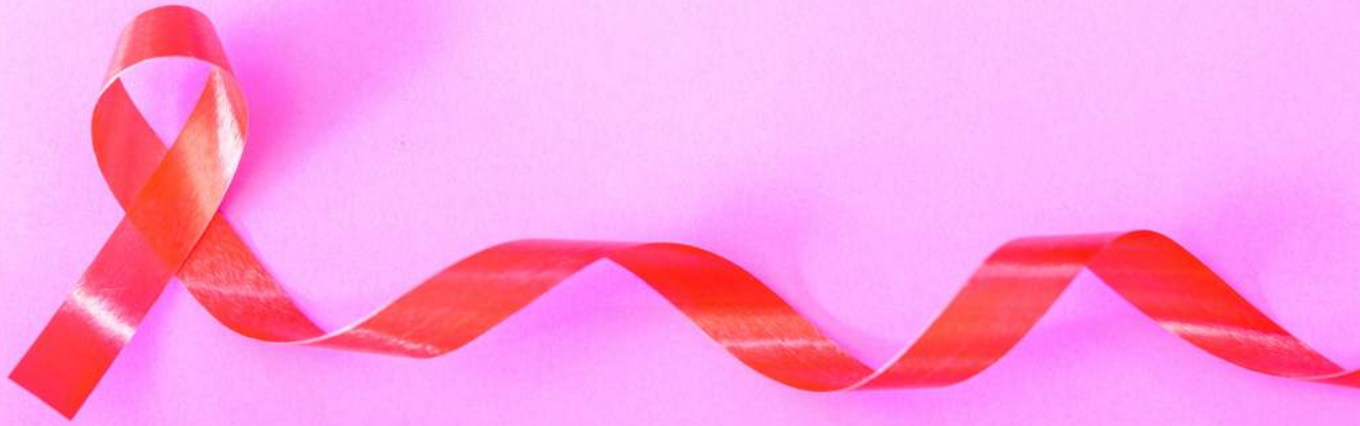


SHC_HUB INSTAGRAM

7,548
Viewers



HIV SERVICES



399
Counselling
sessions

HIV Counselling

The Sexual Health Centre provides professional counselling, tailored to the experiences and needs of people living with HIV. In 2021, our HIV counselling sessions continued to be offered both in person and online.



HIV Support

The Sexual Health Centre's HIV Support Worker continued to provide important practical support and mentoring to people impacted by HIV. In 2021, **90 HIV contacts** took place. As with all of the Centre's counselling and support services, phone calls and Zoom video calls were often used.

90
Contacts



RAPID HIV TESTING

The Centre offered free rapid HIV testing by appointment only in 2021 due to [infection control procedures](#). We provided **207 rapid HIV tests** to those meeting criteria.

This testing service is supported by volunteers as well as the Centre's health promotion and outreach workers. Due to public health measures the testing service was run solely from the Sexual Health Centre by appointment for the majority of the year.



Total Rapid HIV Tests:

207



CONDOM POSTAL SERVICE

The Sexual Health Centre distributed 42,081 condoms in total in 2021.

42,081

This included a mail-out service, whereby condoms and lubricant were posted to client's homes. The Centre worked with its partners such as HIV Ireland, Gay Health network (GHN), the Movement of Asylum Seekers in Ireland (MASI), the Cork Simon Community, Edel House, and various LGBT+ organisations during lockdown to ensure condoms were made available and accessible. One of our quickest growing services is our postal condom service, easily accessed online via our website. The "bag" service for sex workers was also available by post and drop-in throughout the year with 8,656 condoms distributed.

Total Condoms Posted



12,660





DASH

DRUGS, ALCOHOL AND SEXUAL HEALTH

The 'DASH' (Drugs, Alcohol & Sexual Health) unit is the first of its kind in Ireland, providing community-wide mobile services such as rapid HIV testing, condom provision, drug and alcohol assessments and support from trained health promotion professionals making support, information and interventions available to all.

DASH visited multiple locations across Cork and Kerry in July 2021, including homeless services, youth centres, colleges, direction provision centres, community organisations, Traveller groups, LGBTI+ groups and more.

DASH provided information and support to a total of **1,224 people** in 2021.

Total Contacts:

1,224



PREGNANCY SERVICES



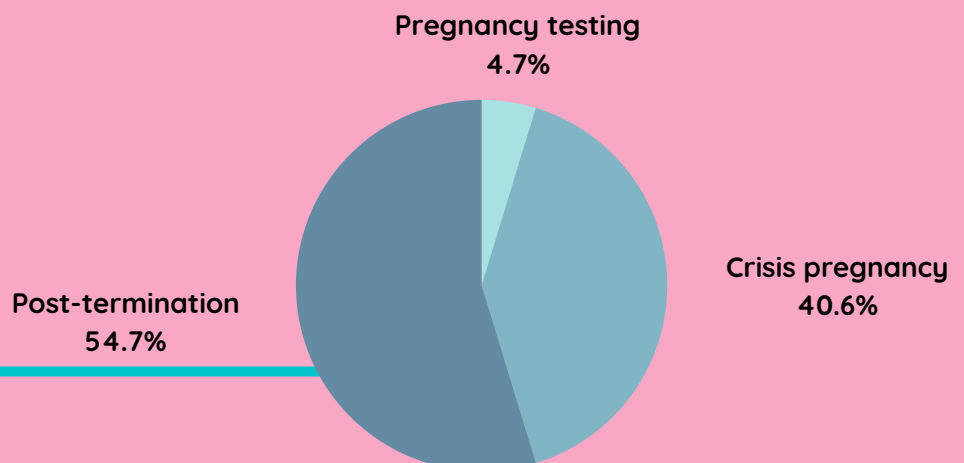
In 2021, the Centre provided a total of **424 sessions**, inclusive of crisis pregnancy counselling, post-termination counselling and pregnancy testing. The Centre continued to offer counselling services both online and in person, while pregnancy testing was by appointment only due to Covid-19 restrictions for the majority of the year.



Total crisis pregnancy sessions:

424

Breakdown of crisis pregnancy sessions:



CRISIS PREGNANCY INCREASES

Post Termination Counselling:

"Our daughter was a very much wanted pregnancy until we discovered at the 20 week scan that she had a genetic defect and would have no quality of life. We were shocked when we were told we would have to travel to have an abortion. I feel we were just left to get on with it. I discovered after returning from the UK that there was an organisation in Cork, the Sexual Health Centre that would have provided information. I am now attending for counselling"

Client

Post-termination counselling rose

22%

in 2021

in 2021

Pregnancy testing rose

11%

in 2021

Pregnancy testing:

"it was great to be able to come in and do a test with someone and be supported with the potential outcome."

Client

Sex And Love Therapy

AT THE SEXUAL HEALTH CENTRE

The S.A.L.T. programme works to support people in regulating their own sexual behaviour and eliminate any internalised shame or isolation that may be associated with it. This service is for any person who feels they are engaging in any sexual activity to a degree which creates a negative impact on their life.



Initial Assessments
in 2021:



Male and Female
weekly group
attendance 2021:



WORLD AIDS DAY CAMPAIGN 2021



Over 1,000 ambassadors joined the World Aids Day run on the 4th of December. The run was supported by a number of political representatives at local, national and European levels. The reach of the event was also supported by local performers with a large online presence, including Chambers' resident drag queens, the 'I'm Grand Mam' hosts, and more.

Over 1,000 participants



TESTIMONIALS

RESOURCES

We are so lucky to have a Sexual Health Centre like yours in our city. Its somewhere you know you will be taken care of and receive reliable information.

I did the WISEonline training. I just wanted to say thank you for creating such an informative and practical training programme for teachers

Thanks so much for sending out the SHIFT booklets. They are a fantastic inclusive resource for young people

We signed up for a Sexual Health Hub and were part of the pilot project for period products. On the very first day 3 young people came in and took period products. What a necessary initiative! Glad to be part of it

WORKSHOPS

The youth at our centre learned so much, in a fun and engaging manner. I wish I had learned about sexual health this way

The mural looks great. Fabulous to see this in Cork

The workshop was tailored to the needs of the group. Highly recommend. Thanks so much

OUTREACH

They have thought of everything!! A mobile drugs, alcohol and sexual health unit

Great to see sexual health services in west Cork with the DASH van

The Sexual Health Centre provided us with capacity building training as a staff team around LGBTI+ issues, in particular terminology. The training was excellent and really simplified and demystified the landscape for us. Take home point- dont be afraid to ask if you are coming from a place of understanding.

YOUTH INITIATIVES

YOUTH INSTAGRAM SHC_HUB



shc_hub [Follow](#)

The Sexual Health Hubs were launched in 2020, as a way of making sexual health information accessible to young people, through services they already attend (youth clubs/Youthreach centres) with trusted youth workers.

In January, a dedicated youth Instagram page SHC_HUB was launched in an effort to meet the needs of this digital generation, whereby educational campaigns and information could still be accessed when some services were shut due to Covid-19 restrictions.

YOUTH AGONY AUNT

The SHC_HUB Instagram page hosts an Agony Aunt named 'The Shift Expert'. This name was picked by a young person in a competition kindly sponsored by CQ Business Systems. Young people can now ask questions anonymously, get factual answers and be signposted to services as required.

The SHIFT Expert



sexualhealthcentre.com



FREE PERIOD PRODUCTS

In December 2021, an additional initiative to offer period products from the hubs was launched by TD Holly Cairns and supported by Cork Education and Training Board (CETB). The dispensers for the products are interactive utilising QR codes to bring youth to a dedicated webpage with information on how to use pads/tampons correctly.



AWARDS



The Sexual Health Hubs project also won this year's Youth in Community Award at the Lifelong Learning Festival Awards for its innovation and unique multifaceted approach to youth needs across Cork.



DASH INITIATIVE



In July 2021, in a landmark partnership for the Cork and Kerry region, the Sexual Health Centre launched a joint community initiative with Cork Local and Southern Regional Drug & Alcohol Task Forces.

The 'DASH' (Drugs, Alcohol & Sexual Health) unit is the first of its kind in Ireland, providing community-wide mobile services such as rapid HIV testing, condom provision, drug and alcohol assessments and support from trained health promotion professionals making support, information and interventions available to all.



The unique mobile health unit serving the Cork and Kerry region!

Executive Director of the Sexual Health Centre, Dr. Martin Davoren, noted that DASH will provide an important link to support for communities across Cork and Kerry:

“The aim of the project is to ensure equity of access. We want to break down the barriers that people face in accessing services - be it time, location or cost. DASH is available to all sectors of the community, and is free of charge.”



DASH IN ACTION

DASH
DRUGS, ALCOHOL, SEXUAL HEALTH



COMMISSIONED ART

'END HIV STIGMA' MURAL



In December, in honour of World Aids Day, the Sexual Health Centre launched the 'End HIV Stigma' mural and hosted an online panel discussion in relation to HIV. The campaign was a collaborative community project in partnership with ACT UP and Positive Cork aimed to shine a light on the stigma attached to HIV, with the tagline "Positive people live positive lives" designed in consultation with a number of people living with HIV.

NEW ROLES IN 2021



PUBLIC SEX ENVIRONS OUTREACH WORKER

In 2021 the Sexual Health Centre received HSE-funding to create a new role of 'public sex environment outreach worker' taken up by Phil Corcoran- Senior Health Promotion officer.

The role is focused on responding to the sexual health needs of men who have sex with men in a public environment, providing information leaflets and condoms, signposting services and supports, and encouraging people to talk about their sexual health.

DASH CO-ORDINATOR

In 2021 the Sexual Health Centre also launched the DASH project and recruited Danny Fitzpatrick for the role of DASH Co-Ordinator.

Danny is responsible for scheduling DASH to attend at organisations across the Cork and Kerry regions, providing information on sexual health and offering Rapid HIV testing.



NEW RESOURCES

SHIFT (SEXUAL HEALTH INFORMATION FOR TEENS)

In March the Sexual Health Centre launched the SHIFT (Sexual Health Information For Teens) booklet. The resource has been created to help young people, of all sexualities and genders, navigate areas of sexual health such as puberty, sex, relationships, and everything in between.

The SHIFT resource offers factual information and guidance on healthy relationships, consent, sexual activities, contraception, pregnancy, HIV, Sexually Transmitted Infections and more.

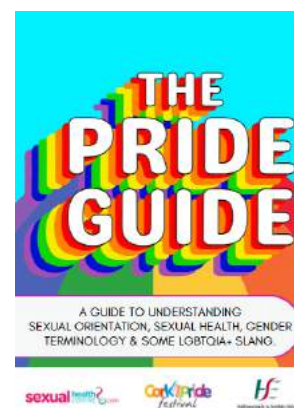
In July 2021, we were deeply saddened by the passing of Tony Power. He was a wonderful person who left a legacy of impactful work throughout various community groups in Cork, and he is dearly missed.



PRIDE GUIDE

The amount of LGBTI+ terminology in existence can sometimes be overwhelming for people. The Sexual Health Centre launched the PRIDE Guide to explain some of these terms.

The guide contains information on terms relating to both gender and sexuality. It explores terminology widely accepted, while also explaining how certain terms may be offensive, outdated or poorly understood.



E-LEARNING IN 2021

IN THE KNOW

'In The Know' was launched in June 2021. It is a certified E-learning training programme for those working with young gay and bisexual men and MSM (gbMSM) developed in partnership with BeLong To and the HSE Sexual Health and Crisis Pregnancy Programme.



THE YEAR IN PICTURES



The team from the Sexual Health Centre launching the DASH (Drugs, Alcohol & Sexual Health) mobile health unit at St. Finbarr's Campus in July 2021, with Cork Local and Southern Regional Drug & Alcohol Task Forces

1A

2

2A

3

3A

The Sexual Health Centre receiving a generous donation from Tesco's Aoife Dilworth, as part of the Tesco Community Fund



1A

2

2A

3



Cork Pride with DASH, featuring none other than Billy Murphy from the Young Offenders!



Cork Pride celebrations at Sexual Health Centre

2A

3

3A

2A

3

THE YEAR IN PICTURES



1A



2A

The Sexual Health Centre team hosting the World AIDS Day run in Glen River Park and Ballincollig Regional Park.

3

3A



The 'End HIV Stigma' mural initiative was led by staff member Elinor Donovan. People living with HIV contributed their ideas to the project, which was brought to life by street artist, Canvaz.

1A



2A

This project was funded by HSE Arts + Health. Pictured: street artist, Canvaz; panel host, Elinor O' Donovan (The Sexual Health Centre); Will Kennedy (Positive Cork); Siobhan O Dowd (Cork AIDS Alliance founder); John Sheridan (ACT UP Cork).

3

3A



'End HIV Stigma: A Cork Reflection' The panel discussion hosted by Elinor O Donovan from the Sexual Health Centre at The Firkin Crane, with guest speakers, Siobhan O Dowd, John Sheridan, Will Kennedy, and street artist, Canvaz.



THE YEAR IN PICTURES



Cork Lifelong Learning Festival awarded the work of our LGBTI+ Support Worker, Konrad for his Exceptional Endeavours throughout the year, and our Youth Health Promotion Officer, Muire in the Youth in Community category for the Sexual Health Hubs initiative.



1A

2

2A

3

3A



A snapshot of some of the work done by the Sexual Health Centre's phenomenal health promotion team (L-R): p; health promotion with people living with disabilities at DORAS; LGBTI+ support; and youth support.



1A

2

2A

3

3A



(Left) launching the SHIFT (Sexual Health Information For Teens) booklet at city hall with Social Inclusion Specialist, Tony Power.

(Right) Our DASH van delivering SHIFT booklets to young people at The Hut, Gurrabraher as part of their sexual health workshop series.



1A

2

2A

3

THE YEAR IN PICTURES

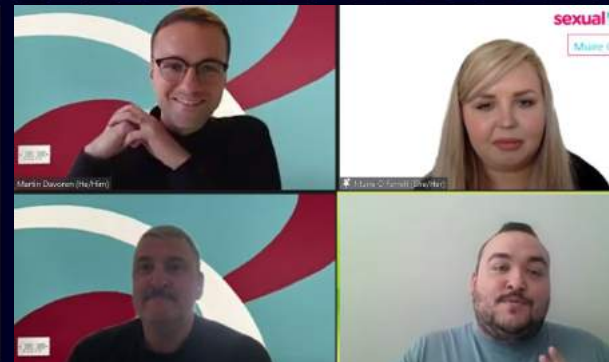


The Sexual Health Hub's online Agony Aunt is named as part of an Instagram competition for Cork youth. The prize was kindly sponsored by CQ Business Systems.



Dr. Martin Davoren, Executive Director of the Sexual Health Centre, chats with Robbie Lawlor, HIV activist, for a Cork Pride Festival event: 'Know Your Status - HIV In Ireland'.

Launching the 'In The Know' online training programme. This partnership with BeLong To and the HSE Sexual Health and Crisis Pregnancy programme supports people working with young gay, bisexual and men who have sex with men (gbMSM)



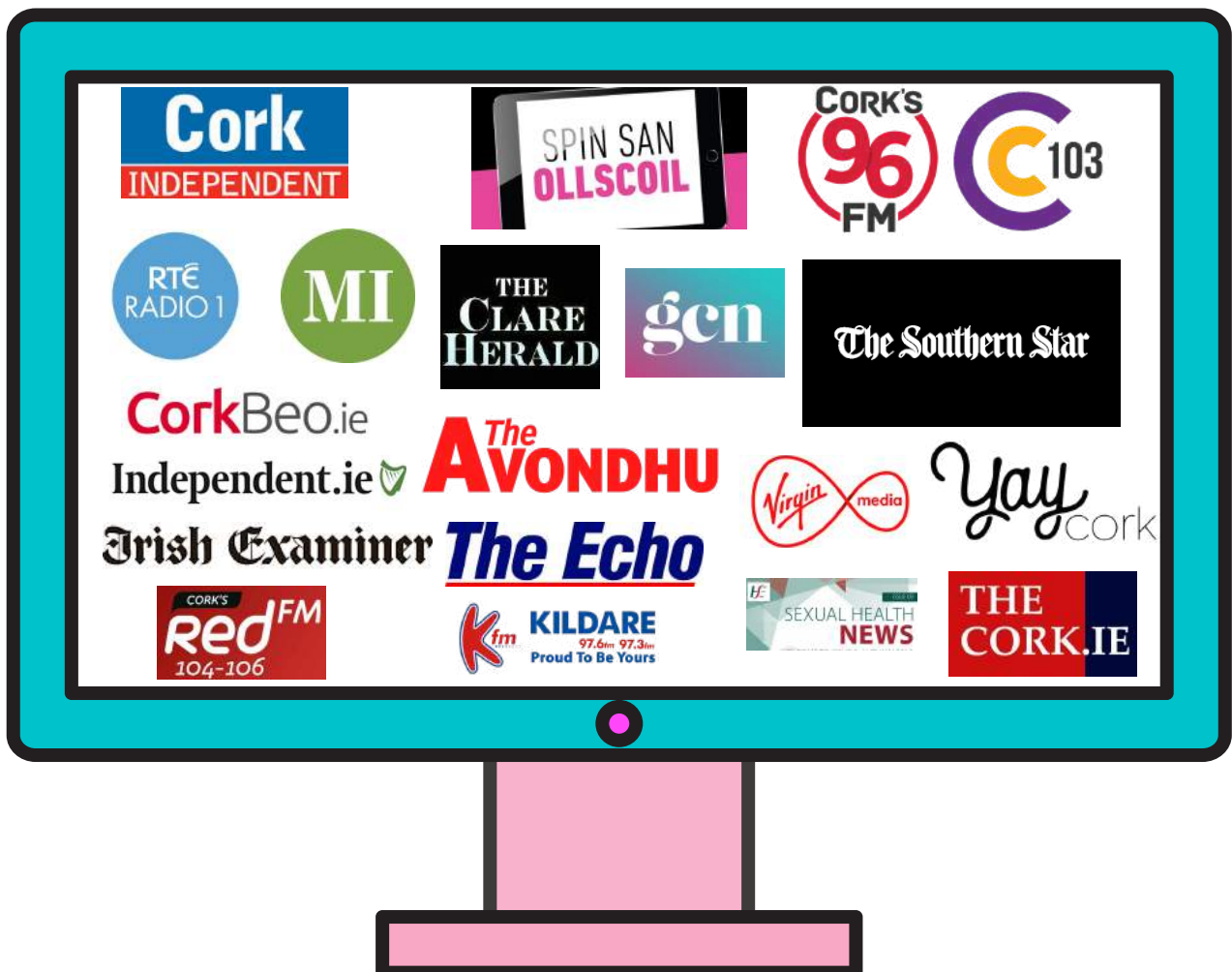
The Sexual Health Centre was a finalist for two national SOCKIES Awards: Instagram for an NGO, and Social Media Strategy for an NGO - this included the Centre's new youth Instagram @shc_hub. The awards were held on Halloween with Muire O Farrell and Olivia Teehan representing the centre.

MEDIA COVERAGE



Media Mentions

The Sexual Health Centre's team and services featured in a range of local and national media throughout the year.





ONLINE PRESENCE

Social media has become an increasingly important tool for the Sexual Health Centre to connect with clients and the wider community. Online platforms are used by the Centre to provide news about its services and general sexual health information, as well as appointment bookings and advice.





GRANTS

The Sexual Health Centre is very grateful for the support of its funders, and was fortunate to be successful in a number of applications in 2021, including the below initiatives:

Pride Campaign

The Sexual Health Centre in partnership with Cork Pride Festival collaborated on a campaign and leaflet for Cork Pride Festival 2021. This campaign ran on billboards in Cork city and on social media, under the name 'Taking Pride in your sexual health', to raise awareness of sexual health services in the Cork community. The leaflet called 'The Pride Guide' was published in the Irish Examiner as an aid in understanding sexual orientation, sexual health, gender terminology and some LGBTQIA+ slang.

Youth Health Promotion

Funding from the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth (formerly DCYA), via Cork ETB, enabled the Sexual Health Centre to develop its capacity to offer outdoor workshops via a pop up marquee, and create sexual health board games for use with youth groups. In addition the Centre received funding for new windows for the ground floor, to better facilitate drop-ins from young people in a well ventilated space.

SHIFT - Sexual Health Information For Teens

The Sexual Health Centre was grateful to receive LGBTI+ Dormant Account Funding via Cork City Council and Cork City Local Community Development Committee, on behalf of the Department of Rural & Community Development. This scheme enabled the Centre to develop, print and distribute an inclusive sexual health resource for young people in Cork.

Sexual Wellbeing for LBQ Women

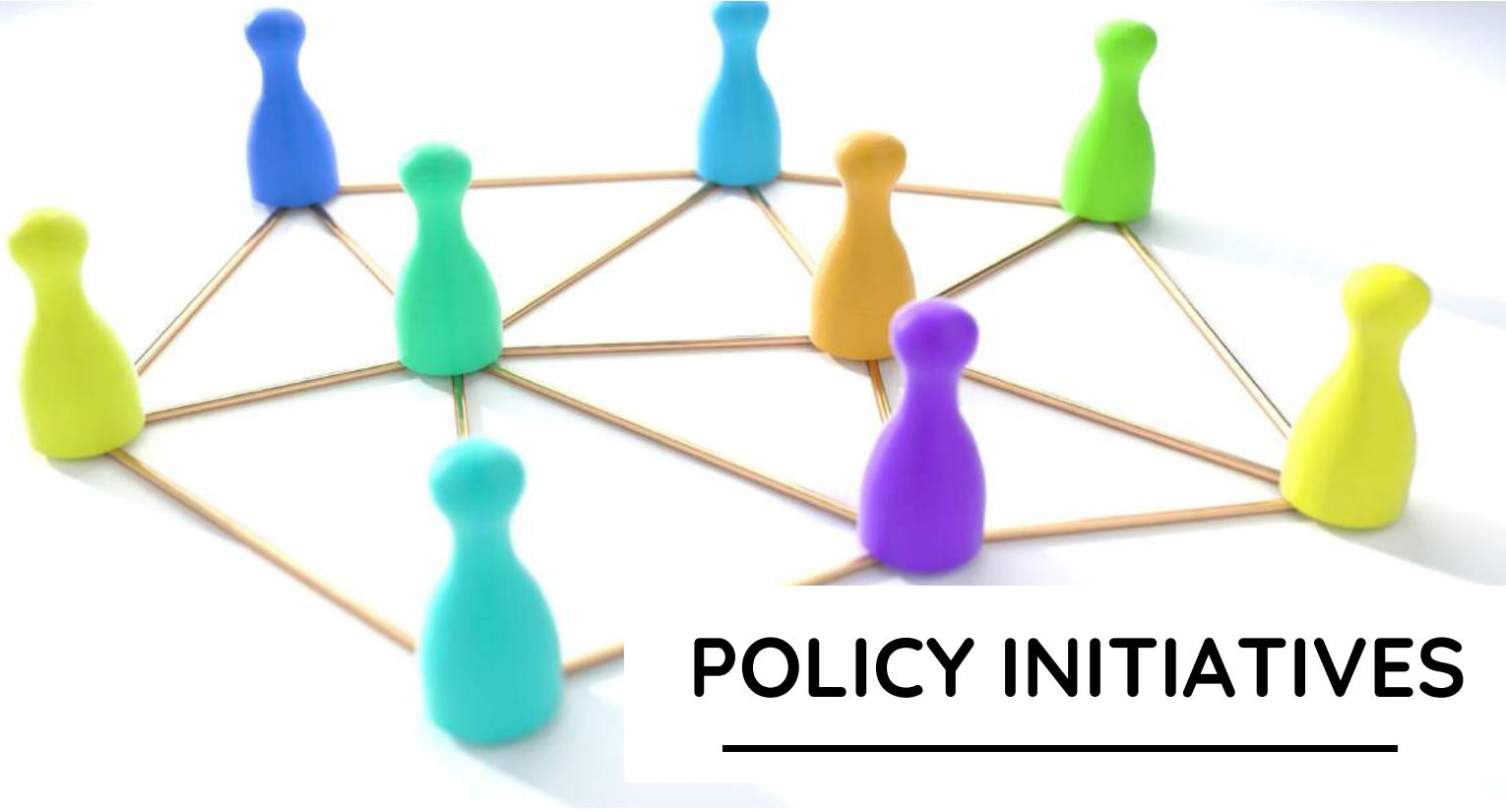
The Centre received funding to develop a resource for LBQ women in collaboration with LINC, and the HSE Sexual Health and Crisis Pregnancy Programme (SHCPP). The booklet aims to address a range of topics in relation to Lesbian, Bisexual and Queer (LBQ) women's relationships and sexual activity and will be the first of its kind in Ireland, breaching the historical invisibility of LBQ relationships and sexual lives.



An Roinn Leanaí, Comhionannais,
Míchumais, Lánpháirtíochta agus Óige
Department of Children, Equality,
Disability, Integration and Youth



Comhairle Cathrach Chorcaí
Cork City Council



POLICY INITIATIVES

The Sexual Health Centre collaborated on several initiatives aimed at advancing the area of sexual health and wellbeing, improving sexual education and promoting a culture of inclusivity and acceptance, particularly in relation to people living with HIV, people experiencing crisis pregnancy, adolescents, members of the LGBTI+ community and other marginalised groups.

SEXUAL HEALTH STRATEGY

The Sexual Health Strategy is a national strategy with the ambition that everyone in Ireland will experience positive Sexual Health and wellbeing. This includes access to high quality sexual health information, education and services.

The previous Sexual Health Strategy ran from 2015-2020 and was the first of its kind in Ireland. In September, the Sexual Health Centre in collaboration with colleagues in Dublin, Limerick and Galway provided a submission for the new strategy which will inform the national goals and responses to sexual health going forward.





PARTNERSHIPS

The Sexual Health Centre was proud to have established and maintained a number of mutually beneficial partnerships aimed at facilitating public access to sexual health services, normalising the topic of sexual health, providing support to vulnerable groups and ensuring advancement of sexual education and the culture of tolerance.

The School of Public Health, UCC

The Sexual Health Centre's Executive Director holds an Adjunct Lecturer post in UCC. This role involves supervising research projects in the area of sexual health.



The Gay Health Network

The Sexual Health Centre is a proud member of the GHN, a network of organisations and individuals in Ireland promoting HIV prevention and sexual health and wellbeing for gay, bisexual and men who have sex with men (MSM).



The Sexual Health Network

Ireland's first sexual health network was established by the Sexual Health Centre in partnership with the GUM/STI clinic, the HIV clinic in CUH, the Sexual Violence Centre, the Sexual Assault Treatment Unit, Cork Gay Project, LINC and the Youth Health Service.





PARTNERSHIPS CTD.

Cork City Local Community Development Committee (LCDC)

The Centre Manager, Catherine Kennedy, has been a community representative on the Cork City LCDC since January 2019.



Cork City Public Participation Network (PPN)

The Centre's Executive Director and Centre Manager are members of the Cork City PPN on behalf of the organisation.



Cork Healthy Cities

As Cork is a designated World Health Organisation (WHO) Healthy City, Cork City Council commits to the community's health and a process and structure to achieve it. The Sexual Health Centre is proud to contribute to the Cork Healthy Cities project.



Cork Local Drugs & Alcohol Task Force

The Sexual Health Centre continued its partnership with CLDATF. The Executive Director Dr Martin Davoren and our Senior health Promotion Officer Muire O'Farrell are community representatives on the task force, focused on responding to drug and alcohol issues in Cork city and Cork North East.



The City Centre Coordinating Group

In partnership with St. Fin Barre's Cathedral, Cork Deaf Association and Threshold, the Centre provides sponsorship to the Community Employment Scheme. The Centre's Executive Director is the Chairperson of the Board.





PARTNERSHIPS CTD.

Sex Workers Alliance Ireland (SWAI)

In collaboration with SWAI, the Centre promoted health and safety of sex workers in Ireland, as well as provided free support, rapid HIV testing and condoms to sex workers.



National Sexual Health Strategy

The Sexual Health Centre is represented in the communications subcommittee and the migrant subcommittee of the Department of Health's National Sexual Health Strategy 2015 - 2020. The Centre's Executive Director is on the Advisory Committee for the National Sexual Health Strategy.



AIDS Action Europe

The Sexual Health Centre is part of a regional network of over 420 organisations across 47 countries, whose vision is for people living with HIV to be free from stigma, discrimination and persecution, and access the necessary prevention, treatment, care and support.



COMPASS Healthy Ireland Implementation Group

The Executive Director chairs the Sexual Health Action Area of the COMPASS plan for Cork Kerry Community Healthcare. The objective of COMPASS is to deliver an integrated, holistic service focusing on improving health and wellbeing and reducing health inequalities to prevent chronic disease at a network level.



RESEARCH AND EVALUATION



Research and evaluation underpin the ethos and service delivery of the organisation. In 2021 the Sexual Health Centre was involved in the following research:

O'Farrell M, Corcoran P, Davoren MP
Examining LGBTI+ inclusive sexual health education from the perspective of both youth and facilitators: a systematic review
BMJ Open 2021

The Executive Director Dr Martin Davoren was co-author on the following research articles:

Carey C, O'Donnell K, Davoren M, et al.
Factors associated with lower knowledge of HIV and STI transmission among MSM in Ireland: findings from the MSM Internet Survey Irealnd (MISI) 2015.
Sexually Transmitted Infections, 2021, Vol 97, 351-356.

Vasiliou, V.S., Dockray, S., Dick, S. et al.
Reducing drug-use harms among higher education students: MyUSE contextual-behaviour change digital intervention development using the Behaviour Change Wheel.
Harm Reduct J 18, 56 (2021).

Calnan S, Davoren MP.
College students' perspectives on an alcohol prevention programme and student drinking - A focus group study.
Nordic Studies on Alcohol and Drugs. April 2021.

Fionn P. Daly, Kate O'Donnell, Martin P. Davoren, et al.
Potential alcohol use disorder among MSM in Ireland - Findings from the European MSM internet survey (EMIS 2017),
Drug and Alcohol Dependence, Volume 223, June 2021.



The Executive Director Dr Martin Davoren also supervised 6 Masters of Public Health Students, and 1 Final Year Medical Student.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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