

Care Alliance Ireland

Milestones over the past
20 years



'Guiding support for family carers'

1995

- First meeting
- First Chairperson



'Guiding support for family carers'

1996

- First - Newsletter
- First - Seminar
- Membership – 25 Organisations



'Guiding support for family carers'

1997

- First AGM
- 4th Edition – Newsletter
- National Carers Register Set Up – 1,400



'Guiding support for family carers'

1998

- Elder Care Network Begin's



'Guiding support for family carers'

1999

- Secured Department of Health/HSE Annual Funding



'Guiding support for family carers'

2000

- Employment of First Staff Member



'Guiding support for family carers'

2001

- European - Elder Care Network Report



'Guiding support for family carers'

2002

- National Seminar – The role of Statutory Bodies in Supporting Family carers.



'Guiding support for family carers'

2003

- Membership Reaches 50 organisations
- Joint Conference –Care Alliance/Carers Northern Ireland



'Guiding support for family carers'

2004

- Appointment of National Development Officer
- New Newsletter Design
- Formation of more formal 'Board'



'Guiding support for family carers'

2005

- Research Funding secured through the Equality Authority



'Guiding support for family carers'

2006

- Research Funding Secured through the Combat Poverty Agency
- Move to The Carmichael Centre



'Guiding support for family carers'

2007

- Secured State Funding as a Federation
- First Website
- Set Up National Carers Week
- Representation on Board of Eurocarers



'Guiding support for family carers'

2008

- Incorporation
- Draft Home Care Guidelines
- Appointment of Policy and Research Officer
- Establishment of Family Carer Research Group
- Staff member appointed as Treasurer of Eurocarers
- Visit by Family Carers to Aras an Uachtarain



'Guiding support for family carers'

2009

- Joint Conference with the Neurological Alliance of Ireland
- First Position paper - Ref Board Snip Nua
- Successful bid to EU Commission for Life After Care Project
- Publication of First Strategic Plan
- Recruitment of a Director through Boardmatch
- Delivered Family Carer Training Seminar
- Funding secured from IRCHSS to undertake collaborative Primary Research with TCD - Former Carers



'Guiding support for family carers'

2010

- Memorandum of Understanding and Workplan - with The Disability Federation of Ireland
- First Social Work Student
- Published Research on Family Carers of People with Parkinsons



'Guiding support for family carers'

2011

- Begin Joint Press Statements with other Federations/Alliances
- Published Research on Former Carers



'Guiding support for family carers'

2012

- New Website and Logo Membership Development Initiative - 15 new Members



'Guiding support for family carers'

2013

- Full Compliance with the Governance Code
- Provision of Secretariat for Not for Profit Home Care Providers Group
- New Auditors - DCON



'Guiding support for family carers'

2014

- 100 Member Organisations
- Appointment to Board of IACO
- Secured Research Funding for 'Benefit Finding in Caring' with UL.
- 67% Increase in Funding from Federations Scheme



'Guiding support for family carers'

2015

- Successful Funded Co-Applicants for HRB Research
- Pre-Pilot of Carer Needs Assessment
- Twitter Account
- eZine and Position Papers Developed
- Presented 2 Papers at 6th International Carers Conference, Chaired Two Sessions



'Guiding support for family carers'

Have you heard about
Carers Week 2015?

No, when is it on?

June 8th - 14th



Quotes/Feedback on Carers Week

- (On the Merchandise)
- “Thanks Kaitlyn for the biro and the (trolley coin)key ring. Tokens are very handy, especially the €2 one for Aldi!”-
- (On the Events)
- “very positive, engaged with carers 'old' and new. but too many events puts unnecessary strain on organisers”
- (On the quality of the Facebook Posts)
- ‘It was great, I was excited to see all the updates and support we get as carers!’



'Guiding support for family carers'

Carers Voices – You Tube Video

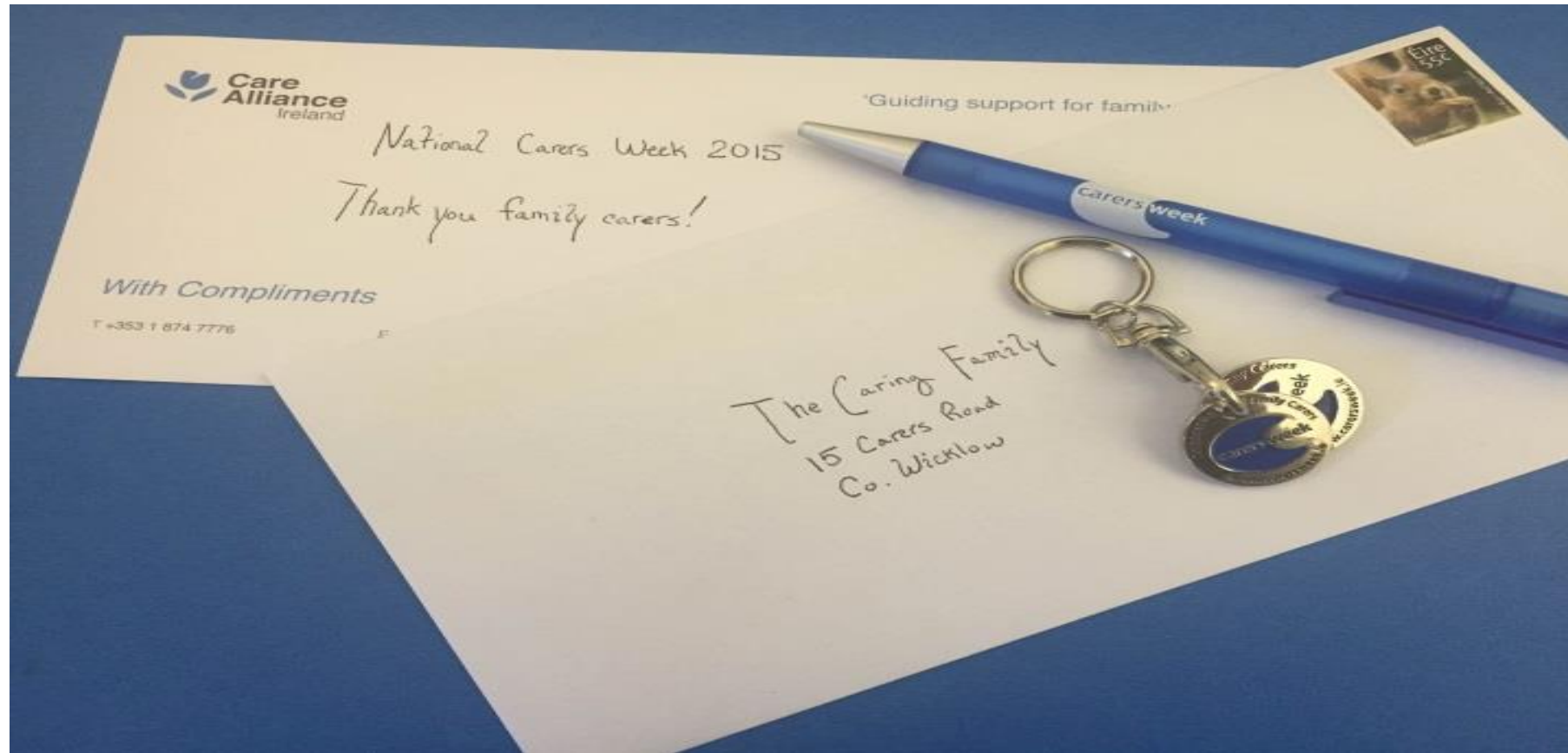


<https://youtu.be/OeSU2q2JehQ>



'Guiding support for family carers'

Carers Week 2015



Quotes/Feedback from Stakeholders

“This is indeed good news and a big step forward! I would appreciate receiving a copy of the draft assessment tool and instruction manual, if possible. We will look forward to following your full international pilot on assessing caregiver needs in 2016.”

(In response to Communication about Carer Needs Assessments)



Senior Strategic Policy Advisor,
AARP Public Policy Institute, USA

'Guiding support for family carers'

Quotes/Feedback from Stakeholders

"Thank you so much for your attendance at the Care Centre Focus Group. It was great to have you there and get your input. I appreciate it was a crazy busy week for you and we really appreciated you taking the time out to attend this amongst the Carers Week events."

- CEO, Condition Specific Organisation



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Quotes/Feedback from Stakeholders

"This is fantastic, it is exactly the type of help we need. Thank you so much. You are always there to support us, I am very grateful."

(In response to placing a link to a Carer Support Magazine on our National Carers Week Facebook page.)

Aviva Cohen, Founder of Research and Hope and of Neurohero.



'Guiding support for family carers'

Quotes/Feedback from Stakeholders

"Well done! I love the layout of the key findings. It's really clear & easy to read! The use of the logo and boxes in the conclusion of the main text are great too..... Another publication there!"

(Publication of Literature Review on the Relationship between Family Carers and Home Care Support Workers.)

Development Manager, Irish Hospice Foundation.



'Guiding support for family carers'

Quotes/Feedback from Stakeholders

"Thank you so much for helping me with the subtitling of the Young Carers video. Thanks to your support we will be able to share it with non-English speaking audience during our upcoming Carers Day and we will therefore contribute to raise awareness on the issue of young carers in Italy."

Licia Boccaletti, EU project manager,
Anziani e non solo soc. coop.



'Guiding support for family carers'

Quotes/Feedback from Stakeholders

"That's brilliant info.... I hadn't spotted that funding so I've sent off an application this morning! Thanks for the tip! Keep up the good work!"

(In response to notification of Respite Funding Opportunity from a Philanthropic Organisation.)

Manager: Family Support Services,
Spina Bifida Hydrocephalus Ireland



'Guiding support for family carers'

Quotes/Feedback from Stakeholders

“Thanks for this; is very relevant for our family carer training.”

Policy and Research Manager from member organisation commenting on receipt of latest research from BMJ on dementia/carer intervention



'Guiding support for family carers'

Quotes/Feedback from Stakeholders

Congratulations to you and everyone there on an extremely successful Carers Week! We really appreciate all the support you gave us in the lead up to and during the week.

Advocacy Officer,
Partner organisation in Carers Week



'Guiding support for family carers'

Some Publications

Health and Well-being of Family Carers in Ireland:
Results of a survey of recipients of the Carer's Allowance

Liam O'Sullivan

Care Alliance Ireland

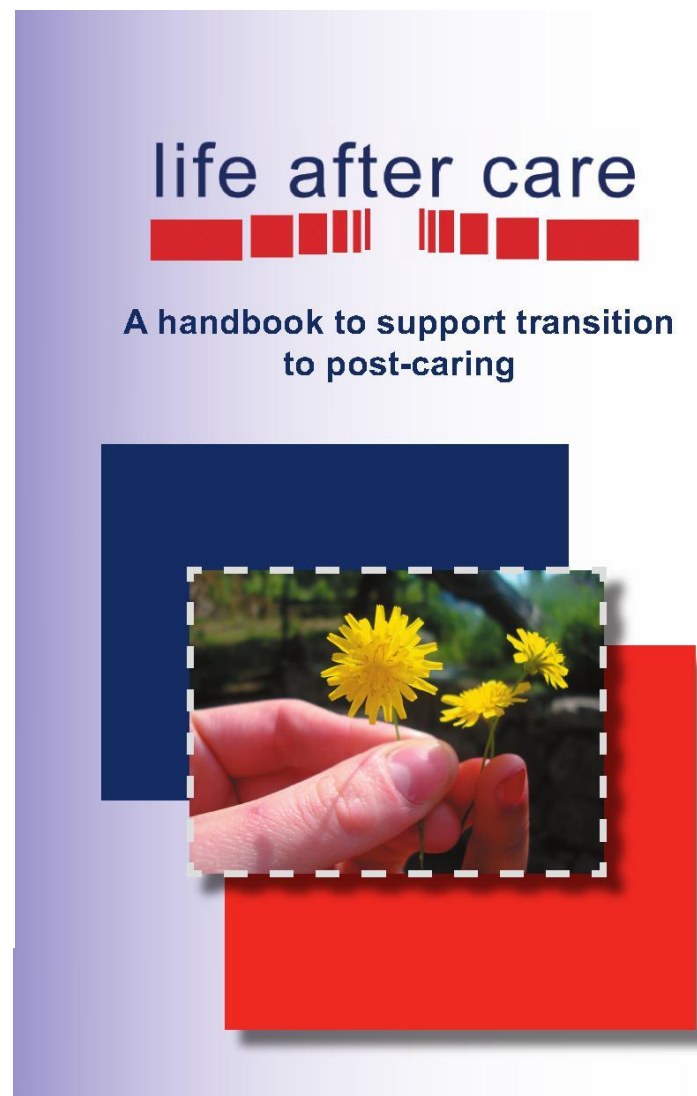
Coleraine House, Coleraine Street, Dublin 7

info@carealliance.ie

RESEARCH WORKING PAPER 2008/11

ISBN: 978-1-905485-72-7

November 2008



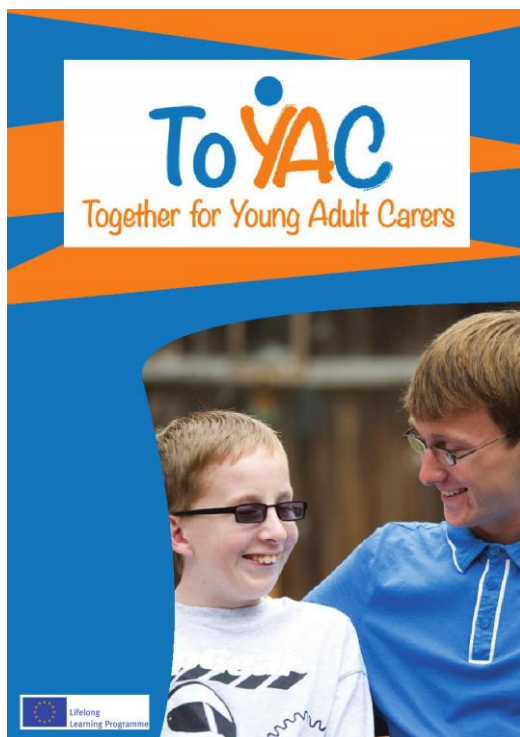
'Guiding support for family carers'

Current Board Members



'Guiding support for family carers'

More Publications !



'Guiding support for family carers'

Fact Sheet on Family Caring In Ireland - June 2015

Who is a Carer?

The most recent Census of Population (2011) defines a 'carer' as someone who:

provides regular, unpaid personal help for a friend or family member with a long-term illness, health problem or disability (including problems which are due to old age). Personal help includes help with basic tasks such as feeding and dressing.

The Quarterly National Household Survey, in the third quarter of 2009, asked 21,500 people:

Some people have extra responsibilities because they look after someone who has long-term physical or mental ill health or disability, or problems related to old age. May I just check, is there anyone living with you/not living with you who is sick, disabled or elderly whom you look after or give special help to, other than in a professional or paid capacity (for example, a sick or disabled (or elderly) relative/husband/wife/child/friend/parent etc.)?

(This is a broader definition of caring than the census question and therefore is likely to elicit a greater positive response.)

Who Needs Care?

Amongst community-dwelling older people in Ireland, 11% of men and 14% of women aged 50 or over had at least one limitation in at least one 'activity of daily living' or one 'instrumental activity of daily living'. This translates into 164,000 older adults with care and support needs living in communities across Ireland.

Who Cares?

- The Census figures report that 4.1% of the total population over 15 was providing unpaid assistance to others in April 2011. (Census 2002 – 148,754, Census 2006 – 160,917, Census 2011 – 182,884 (excludes 4,228 carers aged under 15)).
- The 2009 QNHS suggest higher numbers providing care generalised to the estimated population at the time. The survey suggests that in the region of 274,000 people, (8% of the population aged 15 and over) were providing unpaid informal care.
- 98.3% care for a family member. Spouses were most frequently identified as the main caregiver.
- Amongst spouse carers, 11.7% received Carer's Allowance or Carer's Benefit.(2012) This is likely to have increased in recent years as the take up of the half-rate Carers Allowance appears to be increasing.

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Registered Company No 461315
Charity Registration No 20048303
CmTY No 14644

Directors: R. Dwyer, A. Dooly, C. Duffy, J. Duggan, D. Maguire, Dr. S. McCaffrey, F. O'Rourke, D. Shanagher, A. Warren



Care Alliance Ireland

The National Network of Voluntary Organisations for Family Carers

www.carealliance.ie



Parkinson's Association of Ireland

www.parkinsons.ie

Care Alliance Ireland and The Parkinson's Association of Ireland

The Caring Reality of Family Carers:

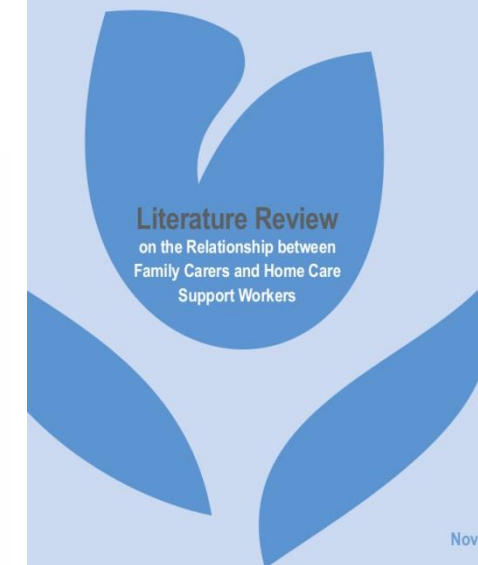
An exploration of the health status of Family Carers of people with Parkinson's disease

June 2010

Author: Ann Stokes/Care Alliance Ireland



Guiding support for family carers



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Previous Board Members



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Newsletters – x 47



Care Alliance Ireland Exchange

Issue 26 December 2008



Care Alliance Ireland Exchange

Winter 2011 Issue 35



Guiding Support for Family Carers'

Inside this issue:

- New Carers Websites
- Regional Meeting In Galway
- Research on Stroke Awareness for Carers
- Budget 2009 Changes to Carers Allowance

Contents:

- Response to Budget 2
- Donegal Carers Event 4
- Depression In Carers Research 7
- Director Profiles 9

INCORPORATION OF CARE ALLIANCE IRELAND

Care Alliance Ireland is delighted to announce that since August this year we have become an incorporated entity.

This replaces the old legal entity of having been an unincorporated association after organisations formation in 1995. The move to incorporation reflects a more appropriate legal structure for our organisation.

We now have 12 Company Directors (profiles p 9-10), a Company Secretary as well as A Memorandum of Association and Articles of Association.

We continue to keep our Charitable Status. Commenting on the move at our gathering in November,

Colum Conway, the new Chairperson of Care Alliance Ireland, spoke about the new development representing an exciting time for Care Alliance Ireland.



Colum Conway, Incoming Chair Care Alliance Ireland, Jean Day Outgoing Chair Care Alliance Ireland and Judith Ironside, First Chair Care Alliance Ireland.

He welcomed the recent incorporation in the context of the increasing emphasis on appropriate and solid governance

structures within the NGO sector. Colum spoke about looking forward to working with the board in developing a formalised strategic plan.

He gave tribute to Jean Day, the outgoing Chair, who guided the organisation through the last three years of extensive organisational change, board strengthening and development and increased activity, collaboration and effectiveness. He also paid tribute to Judith Ironside, the first Chairperson of Care Alliance Ireland, who along with others, provided the energy for the establishment of Care Alliance Ireland in 1995

New SMS Texting Service Available from DSFA

There is now a new SMS texting service available from the Department of Social and Family Affairs where customers can apply for application forms.

To request a Carer's Allowance Application Form please text FORM CARA followed by your name and address to 51909.

To request a Carer's Benefit Application Form please text FORM CARB followed by your name and address to 51909.

Standard Text Rates Apply.



In this issue

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- Irish Red Cross Carer of the Year 3
- Young carers 4
- Dates for your Diary 5
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- Call for Dementia Strategy 11
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- About Care Alliance Ireland 20

Membership Development Initiative Yields Big Response

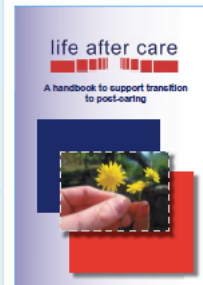
Care Alliance Ireland's first formal membership development initiative has resulted in 10 organisations becoming members of Care Alliance Ireland. This brings our membership to well over 80.

Speaking after the board of directors meeting on Tuesday 15th November, where membership applications were considered and formally approved, Colum Conway, Chair of Care Alliance said:

"The response to this initiative, from some of Ireland's leading non-governmental organisations, reflects the value they place on collaboration and alliances and the role they see Care Alliance Ireland plays in building cohesion and delivering positive outcomes in the Family Carer Sector.

On behalf of the board of Care Alliance Ireland, we look forward to engaging with our new members and in deepening the connections our members and other stakeholders make in the interests of Ireland's Family Carers."

- The newest members of the Alliance are:
- Barnardo's
 - Special Olympics Ireland
 - St Andrews' Resource Centre
 - Ability West
 - Sunbeam House Services
 - Clarecare
 - St Aidan's Day Centre (Gorey)
 - Plearaca Teo
 - Rosses CDP
 - Co. Roscommon Disability Support Group



Care Alliance Ireland has recently published a guide for Former Carers:

Life After Care - A handbook to support transition to post-caring

You can download the handbook from www.carealliance.ie or email info@carealliance.ie to request hard copies

Turn to page 2 for more information

Care Alliance Ireland Exchange

Spring 2015 Issue 46

In this issue

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Merger of Two National Carer Organisations Approved by Members

A merger between The Carers Association and Caring for Carers was approved overwhelmingly in early February by both organisations' respective memberships.

"This will mean one dedicated carer centred organisation to help support, lobby and advocate on behalf of Ireland's family carers. The merger will ensure that benefits and services of both organisations will be available to all carers throughout the country while pooling best practice and experience to create one strong national voice for family carers based on a shared vision for the future" said Pat Dolan, Chairperson, of the Carers Association.

Judith Ironside, President and a founding member of Caring for Carers Ireland said: "I welcome the decision to merge the two organisations. I look forward to an improved network of support for family carers in Ireland and to gaining greater recognition for the voices of family carers".

With both organisations offering services and support in different parts of Ireland, the merger will ensure the benefits and services of both organisations are available for family carers across the whole country.



Continued on page 2

And new for 2015 – eZines !

Welcome to the first edition of the new *Care Alliance Ireland*
Research & Policy e-zine

We hope you will find the contents interesting and informative. Every two months we will bring you the latest news, policy updates and research in the field of family care. If you would like to discuss any of the contents with us or if you have any suggestions, please don't hesitate to get in touch with our Policy and Research Officer, Zoe. She can be reached by email (zoe@carealliance.ie) or by phone (086 883 4942).

New Policy & Research Officer



Care Alliance Ireland is pleased to announce the appointment of Zoe Hughes as our new Policy and Research Officer. The post is funded through the Scheme to Support National Organisations, and it is envisaged that Zoe will work on all aspects of the policy and research work of Care Alliance. Zoe is a qualified social worker, having graduated from the Master in Social Work programme (TCD) in 2008. She holds a H. Dip. in Social Policy (UCD, 2006) and an M. Litt. in disability research (TCD, 2013). Zoe has

previously worked as a social care worker, and has experience of being a family carer in her personal life. She has also worked with groups such as Empowering People in Care and The National Parents and Siblings Association on various policy projects, and with the National Institute for Intellectual Disability (Trinity College Dublin) on various research projects related to disability. Zoe is available via email (zoe@carealliance.ie) and phone (086 883 4942).



Policy Update

8th Annual Carers Representative Forum

On 24 February, the 8th Government Department Consultation Meeting of Carer Representative Groups took place in Dublin. This is an annual event hosted by the Department of Social Protection as part of its commitments under the [National Carers Strategy](#) (National Goal 1, Objective 1.1.4.). In addition, Care Alliance Ireland hosted its annual pre-forum breakfast, which gave member organisations and other forum participants an opportunity to meet and discuss critical issues for the family carers they work with. This year's event included multiple departmental officials, representatives from carer organisations and family carers themselves, who all provided input on topics such as supports for young carers, carer well-being, housing supports for people with disabilities, and transitioning to life after caring. We hope that the various government departments will take on board the excellent feedback provided on the day, particularly as we come to the third anniversary of the publication of the National Carers' Strategy later this year.

And More Previous Board Members !



'Guiding support for family carers'

Have you heard about
Carers Week 2015?

No, when is it on?

National Carers Week
Reach Out to a Family
Carer in your Area

Hooray - its time to celebrate
Family Carers !

June 8th - 14th

The forecast is bright
for National Carers
Week June 8th - 14th

Collaborative Conferences



'Guiding support for family carers'

Other Supporters !



Carers Week Partners in 2015



'Guiding support for family carers'

Annual Reports

Care Alliance Ireland
A Company Limited by Guarantee
and not having a Share Capital
Directors' Report and Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 December 2013



84, Northumberland Road
Ballsbridge
Dublin 4

Duignan Carthy O'Neill
Chartered Accountants
Registered Auditors



'Guiding support for family carers'

Summary Annual Report - 2014

2014 was another successful year for Care Alliance Ireland. Key events in 2014 were the launch of a peer-reviewed and well-received literature review on the relationship between Family Carers and paid home care workers, a very successful eighth National Carers Week in June, and a successful funding bid to the *Scheme to Support National Organisations in the Community & Voluntary Sector*.

Implementation of the 2012 *National Carers' Strategy* by government agencies remains disappointing. We worked intensively as part of a monitoring group led by the Carers Association, and had fruitful meetings with various government departments. The second annual report on the strategy, published in early 2015, demonstrated some progress.



Communication

We continue to assist researchers, students, the media and the general public with queries in relation to Family Carers, both by email and telephone. All 95 member organisations and over 450 other organisations and individuals involved in supporting Family Carers received regular communications from us, on issues relating to support, practice, policy and research. We use email in a measured and focussed way to ensure that communication is relevant to members and stakeholders. We review sectoral publications and, in particular, carer-related research, and disseminate information in a targeted way.

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Directors : R Daynes, A Dooley, C Duffy, J Duggan, D Maguire, Dr. G McCaffrey, F O'Rourke, D Shanagher, A Walsh

AGMs



Strategic Plans x 2



Care Alliance Ireland

The National Network of Voluntary Organisations for Family Carers

Strategic Plan 2010-2012

Vision

That the role of Family Carers is fully recognised and valued by society in Ireland.

Mission Statement

Care Alliance Ireland exists to enhance the quality of life for Family Carers. We will achieve this by supporting organisations in their direct work with Family Carers through the provision of information, research, the sharing of resources and opportunities for collaboration.

Strategic Objectives – 2010-2012

Information Provision and Knowledge Exchange Objectives

- To disseminate up-to-date and relevant information, in a timely and accessible manner, to Care Alliance Ireland stakeholders.
- To develop the capacity to participate in international fora.
- To identify and disseminate best practice in Family Carer support using a range of methods.



Strategic Plan

2014 -2017

'Guiding support for family carers'



'Guiding support for family carers'

National Carers Strategy Launch



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Most Popular Downloads from Website (2014)

- i)Family Caring in Ireland Report**
- ii) Newsletters**
- iii)Directory of Services for Carers**
- iv)List of Family Carer Training**
- v) List of National Carer Support services**
- iv)Booklets** Life After Care Booklet –
- v)Research Reports** - 2011 TCD Research Report on Former Carers
2010 Parkinsons Research Report
- vi)Practice/Resource Documents** - Selected Caregiver Assessment Measures: A
Resource Inventory for Practitioners
- vii)Policy Documents-** Social Policy Document on Family Carers
National Carers Strategy
- viii) Submissions** - Department of Health Submission on Disability Policy



'Guiding support for family carers'

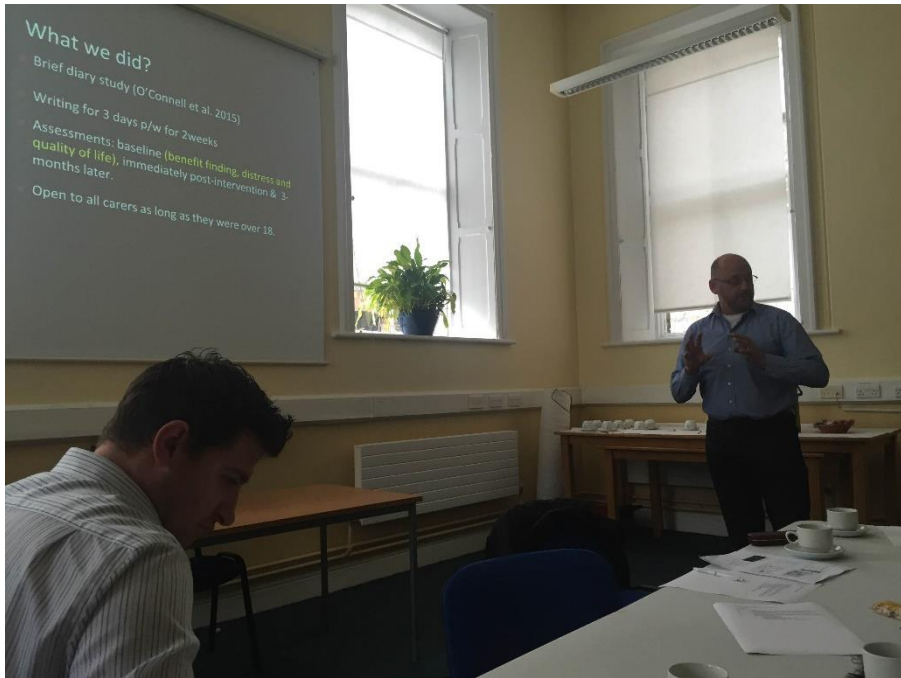
Family Carers Visiting the President



 **Care
Alliance**
Ireland

'Guiding support for family carers'

Family Carer Research Meetings



'Guiding support for family carers'

Consultations with Family Carers/Former Family Carers

