



"I am convinced that there is no other place in the world I can do more to help those who are most in need of help right now... if I can improve the life of just one child each day I am here then my life will have been worthwhile."

Gena Heraty, VC Member Haiti

**VC Viatores
Christi**
Volunteering for a just world

Annual Report 2017

Covering the financial year 2016

Contents

A Message from our President	3
A Message from our CEO	4
Who we are- Mission and Goals of VC	5
A missionary approach to development	7
Field of Dreams- <i>A reflection on Zambia</i>	9
Impact of our work in numbers	14
Volunteer Placements by Sector	15
Organigram of VC	20
Highlights from our volunteers	21
Providing Value for Money VFM	27
Our Supporters	30
Minutes of AGM 2016	31
Breakdown of accounts	40
Financial Statements	41

Staff

Shane Halpin	CEO
Ann Waldron	Administration and Training
Colette Rooney	Recruitment, Marketing, Vol Support
Susan Lakes	Projects and MDO
Niamh Caffrey	Projects Support (p/t)
Tessa Cornally	Mission Support (p/t)
Mary Winters	Parish Promotions Coordinator (p/t)
Rose Salaama Bavuga	VC Uganda Coordinator (p/t)



Volunteers

Sally Roddy	MCP and VC Draw Coordinator, Vol Support
Dianne Kavanagh	MCP US Coordinator
VC Members	Parish Promotions: Speaking and Collecting in Raphoe/Cork and Ross

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Cover picture: VC Haiti member Gena Heraty receives Leinster House Human Dignity Award for her exemplary commitment, passion and hard work to the promotion of human dignity and human rights in Haiti. Pictured with a number of VC members and staff.

A Message from our President

Maybe it makes sense to start at the beginning, but as I reflect on 2016, I will start at the end and our Christmas Mass and candlelight ceremony. This continues to be a special occasion and it was lovely to see a large attendance. An especially poignant moment was the lighting of a candle for our member Mary Kiernan who died in November. Although, she moved to Blackpool many years ago, Mary kept in touch and regularly attended events over the years. Mary was a particular and much appreciated, source of support and encouragement for myself, when I was a trainee in the late 1980s.



A few days later long-term member, Kay O'Loughlin Kennedy lost her battle with a long illness. This was followed in January by the death of our stalwart Rita Dunne. It was a sad time, but the sadness was tinged with respect, pride and indeed joy as we reflected on the immeasurable influence these women had on so many lives across the world. May they and all our deceased rest in peace in the joy of Christ's love.

A happier occasion was the presentation to Gena Heraty of the Oireachtas Human Dignity Award in Leinster House on 8th December. Several of us were present to show our support and appreciation as Gena received this richly deserved honour.

The Venture Training programme continues to be highly rated by participants, who in turn inspire and encourage us with their willingness to share their life's journey, as well as their knowledge and skills, with those in areas of need.

We welcomed two new part-time members of staff: Niamh and Tessa. We are as ever, deeply appreciative of the dedication and professionalism of all our staff: Shane, Ann, Colette, Susan and indeed, Rose in Uganda. A special word of thanks to Rita Riordan who retired after many years in the office.

Mary Winters coordinated the PPP programme which took place in Raphoe. Many of you volunteered your time as we visited parishes in the beautiful North-West. Thanks to Maire Ni Bhroin for her generous hospitality throughout the summer. Meanwhile Sally Roddy coordinated the MCP programme in the US which saw us visiting parishes in Cleveland, Chicago and Indianapolis among others.

I write this just after attending our weekend retreat. It was impressive to note that 53 years spanned the time, that those attending, first came into contact with VC. We hope that this gathering will become an annual event allowing members to connect and engage with each other.

An important decision as an Association has been to welcome and place volunteers from other Christian traditions, and indeed those of all Faiths and none who respect our Catholic ethos. This challenges all of us to ensure that VC is a welcoming inclusive space where we endeavour to live out gospel values true to the tradition we value so much.

Denise

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Denise Plack". The script is cursive and fluid.

A Message from our CEO

Well 2016 has been a busy year in VC. The year began with a midterm strategic review led by independent consultant Nicky Deasy with staff and later in the year with council. The outcome resulted in a revised operational plan for the next two years. From the review it was apparent that VC had made great strides in increasing the level of workflow and resulting number of volunteers reaching a peak of 36 volunteers in the field during the year. On the downside it was becoming evident that the staff-to-work ratio was not sustainable given the increasing complexity of managing individual partner projects. This was compounded by the retirement of long term stalwart, Sally Roddy and more recent departure of Rita Riordan.



In October 2016 the team was thankfully augmented to include two new part-time staff with Niamh Caffrey joining the projects office and former VC volunteer, Tessa Cornally joining to support the programme at various levels.

As a result of the strategic review and an independent evaluation carried out by Coffey Consultants, renewed efforts were put into creating a more sustainable organisation for the future. New strategies were introduced around the vetting of our field partners, (with the demise of the Irish connection now more important than ever). Fortification of research on our poverty marginalisation focus was carried out, with statistics gathered more proficiently to indicate our reach and impact in the field. As a result of this recent work we are able to show an 85% increase in the number of beneficiaries *directly* reached through our small office, from 30,000 in 2014 to over 55,000 in 2016.

We also worked on a major piece of work around our Value for Money (VFM). We need to be able to show donors, VC members and supporters that through the way we work and manage our programmes, and being aware of the need to provide value for the tax payer, we achieve life changing outcomes in the field. We are mindful that if we are not making a difference in people's lives then VC's work cannot be good VFM no matter how cheaply it is delivered.

We continue to push ourselves not just in office specific areas but also in terms of our faith development. With regular staff reflection time and monthly council-organised sessions on *Laudate Si* and other such material VC is actively becoming a renewed force within the Irish Church. This has been reinforced by the engagement of leading prominent speakers on the area of renewal and reform at the VC Series of Talks entitled 'He Has Spoken through the Prophets'.

Thank you one and all the hard working staff, the VC volunteers, the many parish promotions volunteers and in particular, the board of directors on council who give up their time for this very important work,

Shane Halpin CEO

A handwritten signature of Shane Halpin in black ink. The signature is written in a cursive style, with the first name 'Shane' and the last name 'Halpin' clearly visible.

Who We Are

VC was set up as a Lay Catholic Association in Ireland in 1960. It has a fulltime CEO and is governed by a Council/Board of Directors elected from the membership at the AGM. Council is made up of a President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and Secretary and up to six additional members. It meets ten times a year and is responsible for policy and other governance issues including approving membership of the association.

VC are signatories to the Comhlámh Code of Good Practice, a set of standards for organisations in Ireland involved in facilitating international volunteer placements in developing countries, to ensure good practice in the sector. VC is a member of AMRI, Misean Cara and Archbishop Diarmuid Martin is its patron.

Viatores Christi Limited is incorporated under the Companies Acts 1963 to 2013 as a Company Limited by Guarantee and not having a share capital No 68333. It is also a registered charity No. 5526 and CRA 20008444.

Ethos Statement of Viatores Christi

Our vision is a world of freedom, peace and justice, where everyone is empowered to live their lives with dignity, equality and respect. Challenged by Gospel values and committed to freedom, peace and justice in the creation of a better world, we share life's journey with the poor and marginalised. True to our Catholic tradition we aim to uphold Christian values in everything we do.

VC Offer:

- * An opportunity for trainees of all faiths and none to learn about and explore the context of mission and development today, and reflect on their own motivation and gifts;
- * Accompaniment in making an informed decision about undertaking a suitable overseas placement, which we help source with a mission partner;
- * Practical facilitation of all stages of an assignment, including holistic support while overseas and on return;
- * Awareness of the needs and opportunities for active involvement in social justice and global development.

Strategic Goals:

- Deliver the vision and mission of VC - *A world of freedom, peace and justice, where everyone is empowered to live their lives with dignity, equality and respect*
- Always strive to serve the poor and marginalised, in a world which is unjustly divided, aiming at equality, capacity building, participation, partnership and sustainability;
- Work to address the basic and immediate issues of our time, such as Poverty Reduction, Food Security, Health, Education and Human Rights and together with other agencies, play our role in the achievement of the *Global Goals for Sustainable Development*;
- Deepen collaborative relationships with mission partners, peer organisations, funders, and all stakeholders;
- Provide high quality training to those who wish to volunteer overseas, and prepare them for overseas assignments;
- Select suitable candidates for overseas assignments and to match them with a specific role identified by a mission partner which meets the needs of the beneficiaries;
- Demonstrate and promote the development impact of our work;
- Provide appropriate support to volunteers throughout the entire volunteer cycle;
- Demonstrate value for money;
- Develop and strengthen the overarching ethos of VC based on Gospel values; ensure effective governance arrangements so that Council can properly guide and control the organisation at a strategic level, and that the organisation has the right mix of skills and necessary resources at both council and staff level to achieve its mission.

Council 2016-17: Board of Directors

President:	Denise Flack
Vice President:	Sally Roddy
Secretary:	Charlie Flynn
Treasurer:	Brian Sheridan
	Paula Slattery, Nora Casey, Noel O'Meara, Stephen Burns, Yvonne Deane (co-opted)
Charity Trustees:	John O'Loughlin-Kennedy, Mairead Walsh, Kevin Goodwin, Brenda Hynes, Angela Temple.

A Missionary Approach to Development

As a Catholic association Viatores Christi's work embodies the core values of the Missionary Approach to Development - to operate through justice, compassion, integrity, commitment and respect. This applies to every aspect of our work. VC Mission Partners have proven good practice in development work with strategic plans, child safeguarding and financial policies actively implemented. On a similar footing, VC Mission Workers are assessed, recruited and trained before departure, to ensure their qualifications; expertise and motivation are aligned with VC and the Mission Partner, who also conduct final interviews with potential Mission Workers. VC recognise that people are at different stages of their life journey when they seek to go on mission but encourage participation and engagement in the core ethos of the organisation.



Before deployment on overseas mission, prospective candidates must complete a comprehensive training programme which incorporates current, relevant topics which are in line with international best practice in development as well as a focus on the personal spiritual development of the individual – where they are allowed a unique space for discernment. This training programme, Venture, has been in existence in some form since our inception and it represents our commitment to the practical and faith preparation of prospective mission workers to ensure that they may be of benefit to those that they will serve overseas and go only where there is a need.

VC Venture Training Programme - All lay volunteers must complete VC's 4-month long Venture Programme for overseas preparation, one weekend per month, covering the topics of Mission & Development, Global Awareness & Health, Community Development & Leadership, Cultural

Adaptation, Research Methodologies, Project Cycle Management and Project Evaluation.

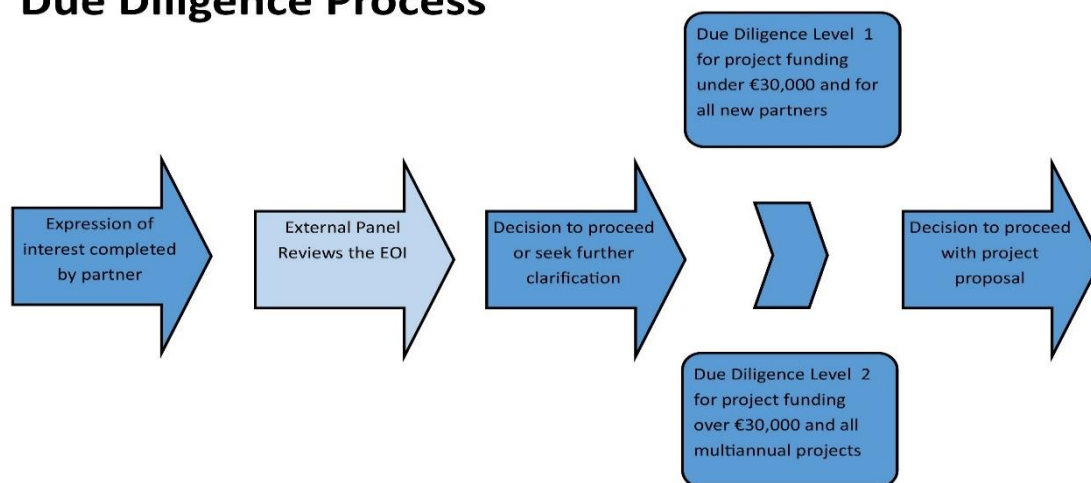
Mission & Development Module – The Mission & Development module is delivered over the four weekend workshops of the Venture Programme, which enables trainees to further explore what and how their motivation can contribute to overseas development work.

Returned Speakers – VC's Venture Programme also provides returned missionaries with a platform to speak of their overseas mission with Venture attendees. Once returned from overseas mission, VC Mission Workers are actively encouraged to remain involved in VC by participation in the following:

VC Returned Volunteer Weekend – VC hold an annual weekend to welcome back and bring together VC Mission Workers who have returned from their overseas mission. Here, individuals are able to share their experiences of their overseas missionary work together.

VC Home-Based Volunteers – The desire and passion of VC lay volunteers to engage in mission is evident. Their attitudes are in line with VC ethos and are harnessed in Catholic Social Teaching and as such they participate in our various Church based mission awareness activities, such as the Co-Ordinated Parish Promotion Programme and the US based Mission Co-Operation Plan as well as speaking at Masses and participating in events during Mission Month.

Due Diligence Process



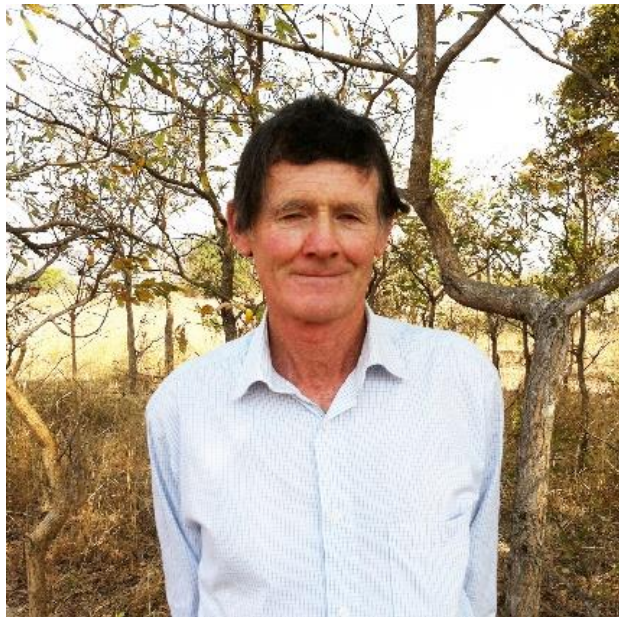
VC Due Diligence– all Mission Partners undergo a robust due diligence process to ensure the capacities and capabilities of the organisation are critically assessed, focusing on stewardship, transparency and accountability in the use of public funds. VC's Due Diligence Policy also features a separate section to determine Mission Worker safety in-country and of all potential partners.

Real Life: The experience of a VC Volunteer

Field of Dreams

From Westmeath to Zambia - a life changing experience for retired farmer

Westmeath farmer Brian Sheridan witnessed the incredible sense of what it means to have a supportive community when he gave a year of his time to volunteer in rural Zambia in 2014. Brian who comes from small rural community in Ballynacargy, Co Westmeath was completely overawed by the support of his wife and family in the first instance, but also of the local community who got behind his what might seem a crazy idea for a recently retired person to spend a year as volunteer development worker in Africa.



However that is what he did! "It's hard to put your finger on the motivation," Brian says, "but I have been fortunate to have travelled a lot and worked overseas in many countries all for financial gain but I have also seen a lot of poverty too and fundamentally it was about wanting to give these people a leg up and to empower them to make their situation better."

Brian describes himself a child of 1950's rural Ireland where he says things were very basic with huge emigration. He describes his family's donkey and cart which he used to bring the two cans of milk to the local creamery where his own father worked. But even at that young age Brian saw the potential of dairying as an income generator for rural communities.

As a child of the 50's Brian was to live through the changes of Vatican 2 where the church opened up to the possibility of lay engagement and lay missionary work. In the 1960's Brian spent two years studying for the priesthood with the Spiritan Fathers (Holy Ghost as they were known) inspired by this calling to do something for the poor and marginalised in the world. He left there to complete a degree in History and Politics which led him into teaching.

But even with teaching Brian wanted to seek out those that were left out of mainstream schooling and was one of the first in Ireland to specialise in remedial and special needs education. His role in teaching led him overseas and in early 1978 he went to Saudi Arabia with Masstock International. That teaching role ended and he got himself a role as a sales and marketing person on a large dairy farm in the desert of Saudi Arabia. This company became hugely profitable and Brian did very well financially out of this fully irrigated farm in the Arabian Desert. He was later to travel to the Far East, to China and Hong Kong also as part of this role with Masstock. During his time in Saudi he met his wife and had three children during his travels before returning to Ireland to set up his own dairy farm.

The experience of working with different cultures and different religions was hugely important for Brian. He remarked that young Irishmen came out to work in the farm from both sides of the religious divide in Ireland, Catholic and Protestant, people that never spoke at home became great friends within a matter of weeks. He also became aware of the injustices in society particularly the treatment of non-westerner workers who Brian made it his duty to treat with equal respect to those coming from overseas.

Returning to Ireland, Brian returned to teaching and also set up a farm in Ballynacargy, Co Westmeath and still today farms in the area. Busy with the day to day farming and school duties Brian was later to hear a speaker from *Viatores Christi* (VC) who gave a talk at his local parish church about the opportunities to help out in the developing world. Something must have clicked with Brian after he heard that talk, as his immediate thought was that he just *might* be able to help. Not sure how, but he felt he just might be able to use his agricultural skills in the developing world. This was the start of the journey that led him to attend the training programme in Dublin.

Several years later at the time of his retirement he headed out to Zambia to assist with the development of a commercial dairy farm with the Jesuit Mission in Kasisi.

Preparation for his mission

Viatores Christi, he recounts, while sounding fierce religious was not at all what he expected. His course which he completed in 2009 was full of interesting like-minded people who all were exploring the possibility of going overseas to share skills with those less fortunate in life. "Some give by going, and some go by giving," he laughs. "My plan was to give by going. I felt very welcome and encouraged by the staff there."

One of the most interesting things about Brian's story is that fact that Brian has a wife and three children and a farm. "Yes that was a bit of

challenge!” Brian recalls. “At first she was not impressed at all with the idea of me going away for the year but she was very understanding and said that she would certainly not stand in my way.” For his part Brian undertook to break up his assignment with at least one or two flights home from Zambia and regular skype calls from his base. “That’s the great thing about modern technology” he says, “You are never far from home.”

And the farm? Brian was overwhelmed with the support of the local community and the generosity shown by his farming neighbours who, each in their own way, came to the rescue to keep his suckler herd ticking over while he was away. He bartered some heifers that were in calf in return for farm management. Another neighbour volunteered to feed cattle on an out farm. “This man would be at the gate of heaven checking the rest of us in!” he laughs. He was so good to me. Another neighbour, a lovely woman he says, took it on herself to look after the calves. She was very attached to the parish and he jokes “she had the whole parish praying for the safe arrival of my calves into this world!”

Taking up the role

One of his biggest fears when he got offered the role was would he be able to do this job? Would he be able to handle the complexities that was outlined in the business plan on paper? Brian wasted no time to get going on his project. He arrived on a Saturday in late 2014 into Lusaka and travelled to his project which although rural was not too far from Lusaka airport. On Sunday, he was given a quick tour and he started work on the Monday! His first task, as he saw it, was to walk the perimeter of the farm. With rucksack and a few bottles of water in hand, he headed off into the bush. He walked for 9kms along the perimeter of the farm acre upon acre of wild African bush a total of some 800 hectares (2000 acres) of empty land.

“It was very daunting” he says. “There was no equipment, no fencing, no livestock, no experienced personnel, nothing but wide open bush. I just stood there and questioned the enormity of the task at hand.” Brian, not easily phased by the challenges got to work with the local community to clear the land so he could grow fodder. After a few weeks on the job Brian was quickly beginning to realise the enormity of what he had taken on and more importantly the enormity of what the Jesuit fathers were looking to undertake. He visited local commercial farms and saw at first hand the huge capital outlay that was necessary. As a farmer he knew very well the enormous expense involved in moving from a green field site to a fully functioning dairy farm. “The difficulty, as I saw it was the very high level of constant management that dairy cows need and this is with particularly stressful climatic conditions. I didn’t think that there were the personnel among the Jesuit mission willing or able to give the time and constant oversight necessary to this task.” He needed the team

to understand the pitfalls of this and before long his recommendation was to lease out the land long term to a commercial farmer rather than attempt to undertake this high risk themselves.

When asked was this a disappointment for him that the project didn't proceed as planned he is quite clear that his role was to pass on his experience and share his knowledge with the people. So from his perspective this is what he did and hopefully prevented the project from making an expensive mistake.

Apart from his assignment on the farm in Kasisi, Brian also volunteered in a local orphanage - where he undertook regular literacy classes with the young teenagers.



Life changing moments

He had many memorable moments. One of the life-changing moments for Brian was right at the end of his 12 month project when he was leaving Lusaka airport. He tells the story. "I was travelling with Emirates Airways and for some reason I was upgraded to business class. I've never been upgraded before so I was really enjoying the experience, the real knives and forks, the lovely food on the menu, the glass of wine. However, suddenly I looked out the window as the plane travelled down the runway and over the villages and fields of my farm which had been my life for the last year. No roads, no electricity, no sanitation and the grinding poverty and the people who when they say they have no food they really meant having no food... this really struck home just how lucky I was."

Reflections on the experience

When I came home, "I was changed completely," Brian says, "without a shadow of doubt. It puts everything in perspective. When I heard the people talk about trivial things like complaining to RTE's Joe Duffy about issues like not getting concert tickets for some show in Dublin when there are so many basic needs that are not being met in our world."

And his advice for someone going out to a project from Ireland? He says, "The most important thing is to have an open mind, as despite the best described project on paper it could be very different on the ground. To communicate and get the opinions of the various stakeholders is crucial. It is very important to build a team of local people from which a consensus can be had in a mutually respectful way." And the last point Brian makes is around spending of donor money. "Donor funding must be treated with the utmost of respect."

And for those going out first time? "They would need to be greatly supported by VC as it can be quite daunting for someone young and someone that may not have had the international experience that I had."

And to leave with one comment – "I came home at Christmas of that year quite worried about the project and whether it should be going down the route it was and the VC support person insisted on meeting me, even though I was not in the humour to meet, she met me and that impressed me a lot. I did not feel alone, I felt supported and it left a big mark on me and my decision to stay involved with VC now that I am home."

Interview by Shane Halpin 2017 - Brian Sheridan subsequently joined the VC Council and is a current board director –

VC: Measuring our impact in 2016



VC Volunteer Placements by Sector 2016



VC EDUCATION PROJECTS 2016

Nuala Cunningham – St. James’ Secondary School, South Africa

Resource mobilization and organizational capacity development of St. James Secondary School in Port Elizabeth in collaboration with the Missionary Sisters of the Assumption

Aoife Lyne – Salesian Institute Cape Town, South Africa

Helping to improve the lives of South Africa’s vulnerable children and youth through the provision of education, shelter and emotional support.

Jim Kavanagh – Spiritan Missions, Tanzania

Installation of a water supply to an orphanage of 80 children in the Endulen region and following a fundraising campaign in Ireland, the installation of a clean water supply to a whole rural community of over 10,000 people in Monduli, Arusha.

Yvonne Moynihan - Incarnate World Missionaries, Peru

Early childhood development, teacher training and learning support in Institución Educativa Pedro Pablo Atusparía, a large school in Chimbote, Peru - In conjunction with the Incarnate Word Missionaries and Sisters and the Women’s Global Connection.

Anne Heffernan – Religious of Jesus and Mary, Haiti

Provision of IT skills training and resources to teachers and disadvantaged children and remote communities in Jean Rabel. Providing them with access to technology and enhanced learning.

Deirdre Ryan & Aoife Jenkins – Xavier School (Jesuits), Cambodia

Working to improve the quality of education in Cambodia through an integrated and multi-faceted education programme targeting children and youth living in poverty.

Sarah Oates – Franciscan Brothers Adraa Agricultural College, Uganda

Working to contribute to the quality of life of rural communities and refugees in northern Uganda through education, training and research provision, promoting sustainable agriculture.

Dan Ferguson – Asociación Nuevo de El Salvador – Protection and development of youth in El Salvador

Training software engineers and setting up a Software Development Social Enterprise which will tender for work internationally. Also part of a pastoral team providing Youth Leadership, Educational scholarships and support for catechists and disadvantaged youth in both rural El Salvador and neighbouring Honduras.

David Deegan – Kano’j, Guatemala

Responsibility for Kano’j civil association, started by David, for the education of disadvantaged Mayan teenagers, has now been completely handed over to the local board. David is currently working as a teacher and exploring the setting up of a cooperative project in local Mayan Communities.



VC HEALTH PROJECTS 2016

Clara Brasier – Serenity Reduction Programme (SHARPZ), Zambia

A project focusing on the promotion of an individuals’ mental health in Zambia, with particular focus on the prevention and reduction of harmful substance abuse and physiological assistance.

Aoife Bulman – Bishop Magambo Counsellor Training Institute, Uganda

Addressing the psychological needs of local individuals through the provision of counselling services and through the running of masters, diploma and certificate level training on counselling. Outreach projects in local community, research and Awareness Raising in areas such as Domestic Violence.

Máire Concannon & Marie Fitzpatrick – The Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Mary, Joao Pessoa, Brazil

Máire and Marie still spend a few months each year in Brazil. The Sisters are handing over most of their community based-projects to the local Diocese but Máire and Marie have continued to be responsible for the support of the crèche and Seniors Group. The local leaders are well trained. However funds are about to run out and they will be looking for another sponsor this year.



VC SPECIAL NEEDS PROJECTS 2016

Aisling Foley – Home of Hope, South Africa

Designated Child Protection Organization which provides protection, education and support to children in-need, including societies most vulnerable; child victims of abuse, abandonment, neglect, HIV or Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders. Aisling has now handed over the management of the Special School which she was instrumental in developing to a local team and she is dedicating her time to advocacy and awareness raising on the problem of FASD, which is very prevalent in South Africa.

Nos Petits Freres et Soeurs (NPFS) Haiti: Gena Heraty, Annette Johannsson, Colin Brennan & Tracy Keogh, Michael Nolan

Dominican Republic: Sarah Mc Evoy & Laura Conry

Translated as 'Our Little Brothers and Sisters'. Located in Port-au-Prince and Kenscoff in Haiti and San Pedro de Macoris in the Dominican Republic, VC volunteers work with children many with special needs. The project provides shelter, healthcare, therapy and education through various projects, targeting children stemming from the poorest of the poor families and communities. They are also involved in outreach training for teachers and therapists in the surrounding remote areas.

Therese Mc Auliffe – Presentation Sisters Mongu Cheshire Home, Zambia

Early Childhood development -The only facility in the Western Province of Zambia that caters to the unique medical and educational requirements of children with special needs, particularly cerebral palsy, through interventions such as physiotherapy, plastic & orthopaedic surgery and prosthetic fittings.

Suzanne Halligan – Missionary Sisters of the Assumption MSA Enkuthazweni Centre for Special Needs, South Africa

Empowering physically and mentally challenged children through a skills centre to become independent as far as possible, where their environment makes them susceptible to stigma, poverty and high unemployment rates.



VC COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & HUMAN RIGHTS PROJECTS 2016

Pat Mooney – Partners in Compassion,(PC) Cambodia

Development Support and Capacity Building for Poverty Reduction Programmes including vocational training and livelihoods in Rural Communities. Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC) project, caring for children orphaned through, HIV/AIDS, living in the community. PC is also involved in a hospice, medical centres and uses awareness raising activities and workshops to build local knowledge.

Miriam Bannon – Catholic Migrant Farmworker Network, USA

CMFN is a national organization dedicated to pastoral ministry and leadership development with migrant farmworkers and rural immigrants in the U.S. It provides faith formation and leadership development through pastoral courses and other workshops. Promoting the formation of Church communities to advocate and address social issues such as justice, dignity and respect for all.

Rita Formolo and Rose S Bavuga – Caritas Kampala & VC Hub Office, Uganda

Microfinance and Cooperatives support at Diocesan level. - Poverty reduction programme that empowers local communities to establish cooperatives; providing an alternative source of income from the traditional local businesses to alleviate localised poverty.

Rose is a VC staff member, who is responsible for support of VC members and partners in Uganda.

Breda Cody – Prison Care Support Network, South Africa

Marketing and Communications - Responding to the spiritual, emotional and education needs of the incarcerated and their families during prison sentences and after release for the social reintegration of offenders.

Carmel Bradwell – Xaveri, South Africa

Development Support - Youth development organisation promoting youth engagement and development, affiliated with the Missionaries of Africa and the Archdiocese of Pretoria.

Roisin Keown – Good Shepard Sisters, Cambodia

The Good Shepherd Centre for Women and Children's Rehabilitation and Development provides non-formal education and vocational

training to detainees, street children, women sex workers, young ethnic girls, people living with HIV/AIDS and places a priority on victims of human trafficking. Roisin was working as an English teacher.

Patrick Mc Gee – Hoima Diocese, Uganda

Strengthening of the Justice & Peace Commission in western Uganda to facilitate the network of Justice and Peace Commissioners in their advocacy and peacebuilding work with vulnerable members the community.



INCOME GENERATION & LIVELIHOODS PROJECTS 2016

Mick Shea & Eoin Hickey – Manzini Youth Care & Bosco Youth Agricultural Training Centre, Swaziland

Development and Agricultural training -The Salesians Bosco Youth Agricultural Centre (BYAC) is the country's first accredited agricultural training centre, which focuses on the provision of training, workshops and post-course employment opportunities to marginalised youth in the area.

Frank Murray – Padri Vjeko Vocational Training Centre, Rwanda

Carpentry training - Addressing Rwanda's shortage of vocational training and subsequent employment for local youth, through the delivery of hands-on training in carpentry and job support upon completion.

Patricia Keane – Franciscan Missionaries of the Divine Motherhood, (FMDM) Zambia- Short term support in the area of research

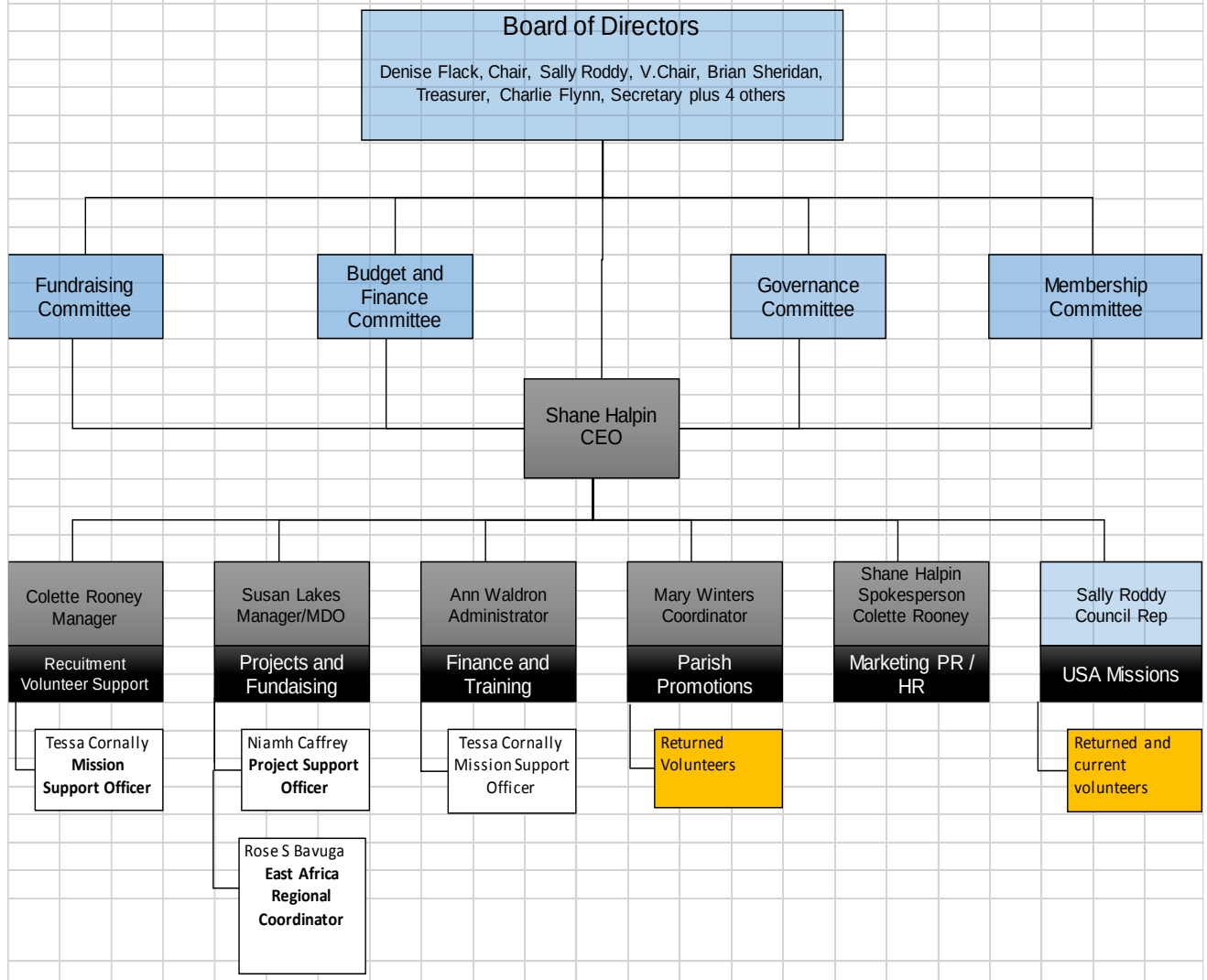
VC REMOTE VOLUNTEERS 2016

- 1. Shane Lynch – St Damien's Paediatric Hospital NPH Haiti**
- 2. Brian Lynch – South Africa baseline research project for VC among five partner projects in South Africa**

SUSAN,
NIAMH, ANN
AND TESSA
FOLLOWING
STAFF
PLANNING
SESSION IN
COLLINS
BARRACKS



Viatores Christi Organisation Chart 2017



SOME HIGHLIGHTS FROM OUR VOLUNTEERS IN 2016



VC EDUCATION PROJECTS 2016

Anne Heffernan – Religious of Jesus and Mary, Haiti

"Hopefully, I will make a difference to some people's lives while I am here, by enabling them to make the most of the opportunities having IT skills can bring to their ability to make a livelihood, in the global, technological age"



Anne has worked with Sr. Rose Kelly and Sr. Nazareth Ybarra since she first landed in Haiti, in May 2016. Located in the northwest remote commune of Jean Rabel, Anne and the Sisters of Religious of Jesus and Mary have introduced IT skills to the area with the aim of empowering Haitians who are disproportionately impacted by poverty, with a particular focus on children, women and the elderly. In line with the newly launched Sustainable Development Goals, this project utilises Information and Communication Technology (ICT) as a catalyst for sustainable and positive future community development.

The project works in two primary schools to provide ICT skills training, research and life-long learning to nearly 200 disadvantaged boys and girls. Anne is working as an IT Education Manager imparting her skills and expertise to a local counterpart who will take over her role on Anne's departure, ensuring project sustainability. This project also works to provide families with a new opportunity to generate an income through the completion of the IT courses, putting a permanent halt to generational poverty in the area.



VC SPECIAL NEEDS PROJECTS 2016

Gena Heraty (20+ years) – Nos Petits Freres et Soeurs, Haiti

"I am convinced that there is no other place in the world I can do more to help those who are most in need of help right now... if I can improve the life of just one child each day I am here then my life will have been worthwhile."



Nos Petits Freres et Soeurs (NPFS) began operations in 1987, and since then has been working to address the social needs of the poorest of the poor across the island of Haiti. Following the twin disasters of the 2010 earthquake and cholera outbreak, NPFS served one million individuals through its childcare homes, health campuses and educational programmes. Viatores Christi's Gena Heraty spearheaded and continues

to develop the organisation's Special Needs Programme encompassing a special needs home for 40 young people, a special school, providing medical, rehabilitative, life skills and educational support for over 100 families in the community, where children have severe physical or intellectual disabilities. In Haiti children with special needs are often abandoned at hospitals, due to the high medical costs and stigma attached with such healthcare concerns. It is under this premise that NPFS and VC Development Volunteers engage with the voiceless children and individuals of the nation.

Gena continues to demonstrate the great tradition of Irish missionary and humanitarian work in her role as the Director of NPFS's Special Needs Programme. Earlier this year, she was awarded the Leinster House Human Dignity Award for her exemplary commitment, passion and hard work to the promotion of human dignity and human rights in Haiti. Gena, now the Director of the programme, first went to Haiti with Viatores Christi in 1993, and has remained there ever since empowering once vulnerable and disadvantaged children living with special needs.



VC COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & HUMAN RIGHTS PROJECTS 2016

Pat Mooney – Partners in Compassion, Cambodia

"In 2001 my life took another turn and this time it was to South East Asia that the Lord turned my head and heart. For the past 16 years I have served as a Volunteer Development worker and Lay Missionary in Cambodia and Thailand"

Pat has served as a Volunteer Development Worker and Lay Missionary in both Cambodia and Thailand since 2001, bringing his expertise in Project Management, Accountancy, Community Development and Adult Religious Studies to the field for over 16 years. During the course of his extensive voluntary work he has represented Caritas Thailand in emergency work during the Tsunami of 2005, the flood of 2011 and during Myanmar's Cyclone Nargis in 2009.

Pat also shares his skills and experience with Partners in Compassion, a Cambodian-based NGO originally established to give a voice to vulnerable and poverty stricken individuals and communities, particularly those who have fallen victim to the HIV/AIDS epidemic.



Pat assisted in the development of Poverty Reduction Programmes, including; a hospice and medical centre for people living with HIV/AIDs, awareness raising activities, training and workshops to spread local community knowledge of the virus. The availability of ARV's has resulted in a shift in Partners in Compassion's work, with the organisation now providing services and sustainable interventions to enable and empower individuals to survive and live to their fullest, despite having the virus. 50 children, orphaned due to HIV/AIDS also reside in the centre.

Education, literacy programmes, skills training and income training initiatives are offered to individuals on a holistic and sustainable scale. VC hopes to continue its work with Partners in Compassion in 2017, providing community based-care and support to 200 orphans and vulnerable children (and caregivers), enabling them to secure their most basic human rights of survival, protection and development. Such rights are often stricken from vulnerable children in orphanages across the country, highlighting the importance of this project's community-based and grounded approach.

In the past year key staff at field locations have been trained on Child Safeguarding and have carried out 8 training events at 4 project locations. In addition weekly sessions are held by the teachers with the children at field locations to highlight and spread awareness of the importance of safeguarding the rights of all children.

Dan Ferguson –Asociación Nuevo Amanecer de El Salvador ANADES

"The people have welcomed me, shared their culture and shown me their generosity. Through that generosity I have found a passion inside me that makes me want to do all I can to share the skills that I have"



Dan, an IT trainer from Derry, first went to work in El Salvador in February 2010 with the Sisters of Scared Hearts of Jesus and Mary. One of their projects was in the remote village of El Mozote which was the scene of one of the worst massacres of El Salvador's 12 year civil war, in which more than a thousand adults and children were killed. Dan was involved in creating a database of victims and their surviving relatives and documenting their stories for the Inter-American court of Human Rights.

Dan returned to El Salvador in 2016 and he has been training software engineers as part of a new project with ANADES. He is currently developing a software social enterprise to provide employment for the IT graduates, and enable them to tender for projects on Freelance websites, with some business links already developed in Ireland.

He is also a member of a four-person pastoral team who deliver pastoral support to catechists in the marginalised regions of neighbouring Honduras. He is also involved in a youth leadership and scholarship programme. Currently, 13 students receive a university scholarship through this project and they are required to create a youth group in their community for disadvantaged young people. Once a month the youth leaders come to the pastoral centre to cover the theme for the coming month.. This year, Dan and his team established a football school for children in the area, which they envisage will grow into a small inter-village league into the future. The football teaches the children

cooperation, leadership, healthy living and restores their once lost childhoods.



INCOME GENERATION & LIVELIHOODS PROJECTS 2016

Eoin Hickey – Bosco Youth Agricultural Centre, Swaziland

"Working in Swaziland has been a life changer, so much so I had to go back out!"

County Carlow born Eoin Hickey first ventured to Swaziland with Viatores Christi in February 2016, returning again in 2017, as a Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development Specialist with the Salesians Bosco Youth Agricultural Training Centre. This centre directly benefits 120 marginalised and street-dwelling youth, reaching a further 600 family and community members indirectly. The centre looks to enhance food security and rural development in the rural Manzini district of Swaziland, through the facilitation of sustainable rural livelihoods.



It has been a busy year for the training centre, with the construction of trainee accommodation on-site reaching completion and plans to construct a new farm storage building already set in motion. The new curriculum in the centre is accompanied by a project placement component, which provides trainees the opportunity to gain employment or establish their own enterprises immediately after graduation. To-date over 90 youth have received training from the centre and over 50 of these graduates have already been successfully reintegrated into farms for employment.

VC Value for Money strategy

“Supporting life changing outcomes for poor and marginalised people with partners, as consistent with Catholic social teaching principles, and optimising the use of resources to achieve it”

Introduction

Viatores Christi (VC) is dedicated to delivering strong value for money (VfM), as part of its commitment to helping poor and marginalised people around the world while also maximising the effectiveness of contributions of its donors. As part of this commitment, VC has worked with a consultant from Coffey International to examine how VC conceives of VfM and how it is making the most impact with its limited resources. The following is the first part of a comprehensive strategy document (full strategy document under separate cover) sets out how VC defines and operationalises VfM throughout the key phases of its work, while also discussing the different approaches, tools and resources it uses to demonstrate the VfM of its work.

Common understanding of VfM

Value for Money is a commonly used phrase by donors and development organisations, but there is no consensus as to how it should be defined. Perhaps the most widely used VfM definition is from the UK National Audit Office (NAO), ‘the optimal use of resources to achieve the intended outcomes’ - however, a number of bilateral donors and foundations have their own VfM definitions, including the World Bank and the UK’s Department for International Development.¹

VC’s value-first VfM approach

To achieve the best value for money, VC understands that it needs to make the most effective use of its resources as possible. However, VC’s approach asserts that while costs are important, the primary focus of VfM should be to ensure that its partners, through the help of VC’s support, are delivering life changing outcomes. If life changing outcomes are not occurring, then VC’s work cannot be good VfM, no matter how cheaply is it delivered.

Using this ‘value-first’ approach allows VC to focus on what is the right way of working to ensure that desired outcomes are achieved.

This means that VC needs to show that it is doing the right things in the right way– this means demonstrating that the scale and type of costs are being incurred as a result of the activities and services being delivered are necessary to achieve life changing outcomes.

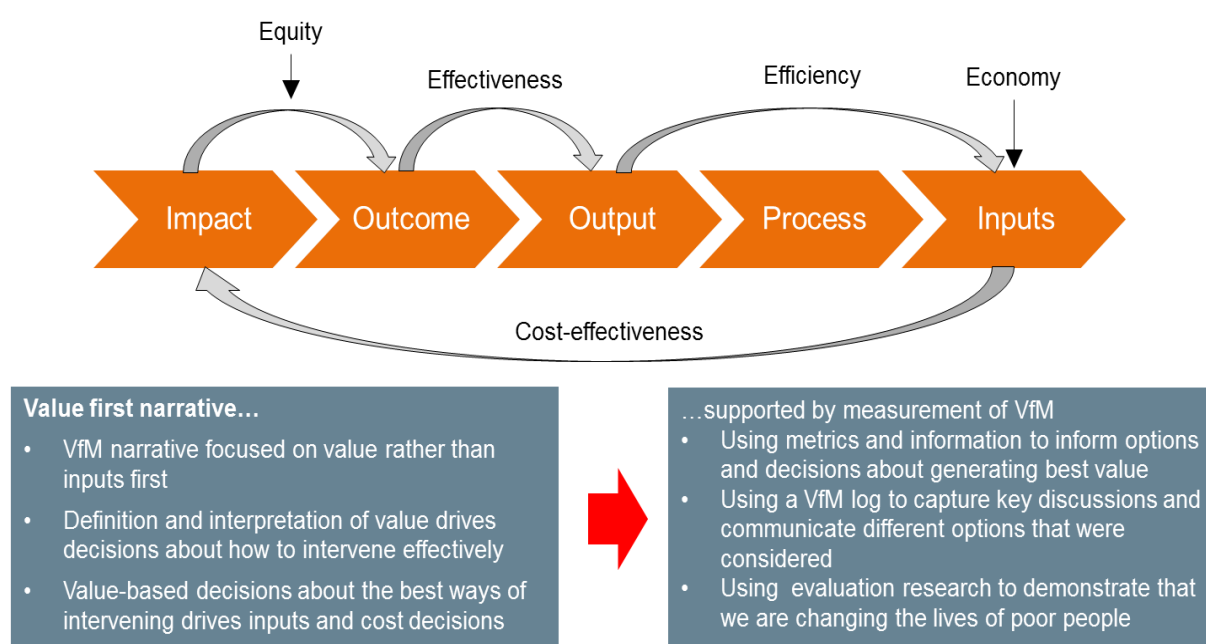
¹ IrishAid currently has no definition.

Key problems that limit the effectiveness of partners typically include:

- Lack of access to specialist skills across a range of technical and management related areas;
- Lack of resources to invest in key organisational infrastructure; and
- Lack of profile and access to funding from international donors.

By addressing the problems mentioned above, VC is able to achieve its vision of good VfM as defined as 'supporting life changing outcomes for poor and marginalised people with partners, as consistent with Catholic social teaching principles, and optimising the use of resources to achieve it'.

The Impact first approach – what difference will our work make in the field?



Key development outcomes that VC delivers

The ways in which VC adds value to its partners is described below.

1. Long-term outcome: VC's partners improve the lives of people living in poor and marginalised communities

VC is able to show that the work of its local partners directly improves the lives of poor and marginalised communities around the world. Although external factors can sometimes disrupt the work of partners (e.g. political unrest, economic decline, and sudden emergencies), VC is able to demonstrate that its partners are having an important impact through a number of different evidence sources.

2. Intermediate outcomes: Partners deliver better services to poor and marginalised communities

The initiatives that are delivered through VC projects strengthen the capacity of partners. Strengthened capacity enables partners to deliver better quality services to poor and marginalised communities. The role of VC's specialists in contributing to better quality services can manifest themselves in a myriad of ways such as supporting more timely or focused activities, building new technical skills amongst field staff, or designing better tools for learning and analysis to improve performance. VC specialists while involved in skills transfer with counterparts can also create systemic changes to the capacity of an organisation to effect change.

3. Intermediate changes: Specialist skills are transferred and capacity is built amongst partners

A key element of VC's VfM offer is that its specialists are effective development actors. These specialists, and the projects they lead, build the capacity of staff and help to establish systems which can then be sustained over time. The success of this capacity building is assessed as part of VC's M&E and accountability systems.

4. Immediate changes: Volunteers make effective development contributions

VC's model of deploying the right type of specialist at the right time to respond to the strategic needs of partners is a critical element of its VfM proposition. VC is able to do this through analysis of partners' needs combined with the careful recruitment and placement of specialists. VC's training and discernment approach helps to ensure that its specialists are equipped with the training and character to be effective agents of change.

Understanding VfM throughout VC's work

In order to achieve the four key development outcomes that are described above, VC needs to engage in a number of essential tasks with its volunteers/specialists and its partners.

VC's delivery approach is informed by its values as a faith-based organisation, its extensive experience training and deploying specialists and its organisational learning about what works best. VC makes a number of different decisions on an annual basis to help refine its approach, and so is introducing a quarterly VfM review process that places options analysis at the core of each of its major decisions.

*This is a shortened version of the document. For full strategy – see **How VC provides Value for Money** – an independent assessment of Viatores Christi Development Programme 2017*

Thanks to Our Donors and Supporters in 2016!

A F McCarthy
A Hannon
A Ni Bhriain
A & R O’Gorman
P Mollaghan
B Hynes
B O' Donohue
B O'Reilly
D Farrell
D Humphreys
D & J Ahearn
D Kelly
Wm & A Leahy
O Twomey
J & A McNamara
M Harrington
M Roche
MI & CL O'Connell
O Holohan
Rev M Harrington
Rev S Conway
S Collins
D Flack
S Devereux
S Fuller
P Ni Shlatarra
J A & T O’Byrne
Kiltegan Fathers

C Sheridan
P Short
S McArdle
P Strain
Y O’ Leary
MI McGuinness
C Colclough
M Kiernan
O Camacho
C Murphy
E McArdle
M Mullin
C Flynn
M Ui Cillin
P Quinlivan
A McLaughlin
T D Sweeney
R Sharkey
Rev E Kelly
Rev P Boyce
J & H Fay
B Hynes
M & T Treacy
F Coyle
M Guiney
S Roche
Columban Sisters
Misean Cara

DRAFT



**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting
of Viatores Christi
Saturday 3rd September 2016**

President Paula Slattery thanked everyone for coming and welcomed them to the Meeting. The meeting commenced at 2:30 pm

Minute 1/2016

- To open the Meeting the Prayer of Pope Francis for the Jubilee Year of Mercy was recited.
- Notice Convening the Meeting was read and adopted.
- The list of apologies was read. A copy of the list of apologies is attached to these Minutes. A list of those attending the Meeting is also attached.
- An ordinary motion was proposed by Therese Osborne. It was considered relevant to the Business of the Meeting and was added to the Agenda. (Dealt with under Item 7.)

Minute 2/2016

- Minutes of the AGM held on Saturday 5 September 2015 were considered and amended and adopted.

Minute 3/2016

- Matters Arising from the minutes. Minute 2 /2015 and Minute 7/2015 were brought to the attention of the Meeting by President Paula Slattery.
- Minutes of the AGM 2014 were amended at last year's AGM and the amended version was presented for consideration of the Members. A further amendment was made to minute 7/2014 which was then approved by the Meeting.

Minute 4/2016

Presentation by Shane Halpin, CEO.

- Shane began with the "Positive change brought about VC" by means of the story told by Therese McAuliffe who worked in "Cheshire Home, Mongu. It concerned a little girl, 3 years old, who was unable to walk due to cerebral palsy. She was in the physio room one day and asked the staff to pray with her. She began to pray 'Dear God, I want to walk. I have not killed anyone; you can't be mad at me. So let me walk.'

When the technicians came they fitted her legs with callipers and she started to walk with the aid of a walker. Her mother started to cry as Therese put her first pair of shoes on over her callipers.

- VC member Yvonne Moynihan filled the role of providing educational support to primary school children in Nuevo Chimbote, Peru. Carlos, who is in 4th grade was struggling with some letter and word recognition when she began working in Sept 2015. After some remarkable progress and very hard work Carlos is now able to read and write simple texts with ease.
- Shane drew attention to the diagram and table on pages 9 / 10 of the Annual Report. It showed that 38,252 people benefitted from the work of our volunteers in 2015. We had 37 members on assignment, which continues to go against the overall trend in the sector. We also have engaged with 9 new Partners. Key areas where the organisation has seen growth is in the area of research. To this end VC carried out baseline surveys with five partners in South Africa resulting in a comprehensive report on the marginalisation status and impact of the work being done in the field. In line with its needs-based approach VC continued with its high level engagement in the area in M&E, partnership development and due diligence assessment.
- The rental income is a step in the direction of diversification of funding. Ideally we need to approach the situation of becoming self-sustaining. Shane believes that we now need to focus more on membership (of Returned Volunteers) and investigate community & parish development at home. He went on to refer to the strategic plan review undertaken in February with the Council and then detail the ongoing positive trajectory that VC is heading in terms of overall financial sustainability.
- Pat Mooney thanked Shane and Susan for their work particularly in the development of project applications. Project Partners need a lot of support, in particular with new partners being brought on board. Pat said that it was useful to see 'Core Values' of the Missionary Approach to Development explained as on page 8 of the report. He also commented that the reference to Misesan Cara and perhaps it could be expanded. He thanked the staff and all who contributed for a good report, a report in which we can learn from each other and gain mutual enrichment.
- Helen Flaherty pointed out that not all volunteers are receiving funds from Misesan Cara and was wondering how they managed in the field. In reply Shane said that some people are self-funded, get funds from Congregations or may be retired and not need support. Has VC looked at this 'group' as an issue? In response Shane mentioned that an emergency fund has been initiated the reason for this is that some funding does not arrive in time. He understood that Helen's point was a particular challenging issue for VC and that the point is well made. Having a contingency fund is part of good Governance and will be kept in mind.

Minute 5/2016

- The Treasurer's Report was presented by Charlie Flynn. He referred to the work of the Auditors having examined the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2015 and that they found that these give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs. They had not found any exceptional activity which needed to be reported.
- The surplus for the year, €36,710 had improved from €4,378 in the year ended 2014.
- A breakdown of how this figure was derived was shown on an Income & Expenditure summary distributed at the meeting. Attention was drawn to the charts on page 45 of the Annual Report in explaining the breakdown of Income and Costs.

Minute 6/2016

Policy on Membership of the Association

- One of the main tasks of the Council 2015-16 during the year had been the adoption of a policy on membership of the Association. President, Paula Slattery reported that the statement takes account of the Articles of Association but that council did not seek to amend them. The policy statement is was approved by Council and may need to be clarified or modified in years to come. The policy document was read to the meeting by Nora Casey. (see attached policy)
- A short discussion followed. A few questions were made by members from the floor and in answer contributions from Nora, Sally and Charlie, members of the working group who prepared the document, were given in reply.

Minute 7/2016

- Special Resolution to adopt modified Memorandum
- Prior to the special resolution vote, VC Member Therese Osborne proposed an ordinary resolution;
- *Ordinary Resolution*

Viatores Christ has always valued a high degree of participation on the part of its members. In order to improve transparency and promote maximum participation of members in all decisions of the association, I propose that members be informed of their right to receive upon request a copy of the VC constitution, as outlined in No. 37 (i) of Companies Act 2014 (p. 92). In this way members will be able to compare any proposed changes with the exiting constitution, and participate in a process of discussion well in advance of the Annual General Meeting.

Therese Osborne 3rd September 2016

- After a discussion concerning the background to the motion and how we exercise our franchise, the motion (an Ordinary Resolution, presented here in Italics) was passed unanimously on a show of hands.
- The **Special Resolution** to modify the Memorandum and Articles of Association of Viatores Christi in accordance with the Companies Act 2014 was then considered by the Meeting.
- The Special Resolution was proposed by Paula Slattery on behalf of Council. It was seconded by Nuala Dillon. The Motion was approved on a show of hands, there were no objections and deemed passed unanimously.
- The details of the changes are attached and form part of these minutes.

Minute 8/2016

Nominations for election to VC Council September 2016

Election of Officers of the Association: Only one nomination was received for the following Officerships:

President:	Denise Flack, proposed by Paula Slattery, seconded by Charlie Flynn.
Vice-President:	Sally Roddy, proposed by Denise Flack, seconded by Nora Casey.
Secretary:	Charlie Flynn, proposed by Paula Slattery, seconded by Sally Roddy.
Treasurer:	Brian Sheridan, proposed by Charlie Flynn, seconded by Denise Flack.

The above nominated Members were elected as Officers of Council for the coming year.

Minute 9/2016

Election of Members of Council: There were four nominees for five Council positions. The following members were nominated:

- **Noel O'Meara**, proposed by Paula Slattery, seconded by Sally Roddy.
- **Stephen Burns**, proposed by Sally Roddy and seconded by Mary Winters.
- **Nora Casey**, proposed by Sally Roddy and seconded by Paula Slattery,
- **Paula Slattery**, proposed by Denise Flack, and seconded by Mary Winters.
- The following members were elected: **Noel O'Meara; Stephen Burns; Nora Casey; and Paula Slattery**. It was pointed out by the President that Council can co-opt other members onto the Council.

Minute 10/2016

Election of five Trustees of the Association:

Paula had written to our five Trustees in advance of the AGM.

- John O' Loughlin Kennedy had confirmed that he would be prepared to be re-elected. Brenda Hynes, present at the meeting also confirmed her willingness to be a Trustee.
- Mairéad Walsh and Kevin Goodwin had conveyed their willingness to continue as Trustees and these four Trustees were re-elected.
- Angela Temple was nominated by Paula Slattery and seconded by Mary Winters for the fifth trustee position and was duly elected.

Minute 11/2016

Appointment and Remuneration of Auditors: The Council proposed that Auditors, Russell Brennan Keane (RBK), be reappointed as Auditors for the coming year, subject to agreeing with them on their fee. The motion approved unanimously.

Minute 12/2016

- The President expressed a vote of thanks to: (a) Fr. Donal Dorr, Council Members, CEO, Shane Halpin and dedicated staff. To people who have been working in VC Office on a voluntary basis in particular Stephen Burke, Sally Roddy, Anne O'Driscoll, Rita Riordan, Gabrielle Farren, and Tom Winters.
- To Mary Winters, for her work in directing the Parish Promotions Programme. President, Paula appealed for more help in the programme especially from newly returned home people with fresh stories to relate.
- In relation to the MCP programme carried out in the US; thanks to Sally (who did the preparatory work), and to Nora and Dan who travelled. She expressed thanks also to Diane Kavanagh our local contact in the US.
- To our intern Louise Talbot Beirne who is now employed by VMM.
- To Ross McMahon for legal advice received on a pro-bono basis, also noted.
- Thanks for continued support by way of large donations to The Kiltegan Fathers, and The Columban Sisters.
- To our Spiritual Director Brendan Carr and the priests who celebrate mass with us each month.

The Meeting ended at 4:50pm (Approx.)

List of Attendees

Maeve Bracken Stephen Burns Nora Casey Nuala Dillon Gabrielle Farren Denise Flack Charlie Flynn Helen Flaherty Brenda Hynes Angela Temple Andrew Kieran Tina McCarthy	Mary Mc Eneaney Pat Mooney Michael Nolan Adele O'Reilly Ivo O'Sullivan Therese Osborne Ann Reilly Sally Roddy Brian Sheridan Paula Slattery Maired Uí Cillín Mary Winters
--	--

Staff and Others

Ann Waldron
Susan Lakes
Shane Halpin (CEO)
Fr Donal Dorr SPS

President

Date

Appendix 1

Membership Policy of Viatores Christi (VC)

Viatores Christi Ethos Statement (as agreed at the Annual General Meeting, Sept 2015)

Our vision is a world of freedom, peace and justice, where everyone is empowered to live their lives with dignity, equality and respect. Challenged by Gospel values and committed to freedom, peace and justice in the creation of a better world, we share life's journey with the poor and marginalised. True to our Catholic Tradition we aim to uphold Christian values in everything we do.

Memorandum and Articles of Association of Viatores Christi (as adopted at the Annual General Meeting, September 2014)

Article 5 provides that the Board of Directors (*i.e. the VC Council*) may at its absolute discretion admit anyone to membership:

- Persons who have been invested as Viatores.
- Persons who are actively participating in the organisation having completed at least 6 months satisfactory service.
- Persons who are actively participating in Functional Committees having completed a period of at least 6 months
- Persons who have rendered exceptional services
- Former members

Criteria for Full Membership of VC

Full membership is open to those:

- who are challenged by the faith-based ethos of VC and guided by the values of Christ's Gospel
- who are committed to the vision of a world of freedom, peace and justice, where everyone is empowered to live their lives with dignity and respect
- who strive to share life's journey with the poor and marginalised
- who, following induction by VC, are considered by VC to have the requisite skills, training (VC or equivalent) and experience to fulfil the requirements of the role/assignment which they are about to undertake through VC, **or**
- who have fulfilled the conditions for membership based on service at home or exceptional service rendered (as set out in the Memorandum and Articles)

Full membership of VC will be offered to all new volunteers who accept the above criteria.

Appendix 2

Associate Membership of VC

Will be offered to new volunteers who

- are about to undertake an assignment arranged and approved by VC
- following induction by VC, are considered to have the requisite skills, training (VC or equivalent) and experience to fulfil the requirements of the role/assignment to be undertaken,
- Wish to be associated with and fully supported by VC while on assignment.
- Respect the ethos and values of VC and undertake not do anything to undermine the ethos or values.

Notes

Associate Membership has been introduced to ensure that volunteers who opt for this category of membership and who undertake an assignment arranged through VC, can be included in the Association and receive the full support of the VC office team while serving abroad.

Associate Membership will last for the duration of the overseas assignment and for one year after return.

At this point, Associate Members will be invited to apply for Full Membership of the Association or to remain as Associate Members if they so wish, on payment of the requisite membership fee. Associate Members will participate in the life of VC on the same basis as Full Members.

Council will ratify Associate Membership in the same manner as Full Membership. Applications for Full Membership or Associate Membership should be made in writing for the approval of Council

Appendix 3 - Special Resolution

To Amend the Memorandum and Articles of Association of Viatores Christi Limited

It is resolved that the Memorandum and Articles of Association of Viatores Christi Limited be amended as follows:

Title page of Memorandum And Articles

Replace the existing title page with;

COMPANIES ACT 2014

COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE AND NOT HAVING A SHARE CAPITAL

CONSTITUTION OF VIATORES CHRISTI CLG Company Number 68833

I Memorandum of Association

Replace section 1 with the following

1. The name of the Company is VIATORES CHRISTI (Company Limited by Guarantee).
It is registered under Part 18 of the Companies Act 2014.

After section 9, add the following

- 9.2 Any such amendment, if required, shall be notified to the Charities Regulator in accordance with section 39 (11) of the Charities Act 2009.

II Articles of Association

Instead of VIATORES CHRISTI LIMITED, insert VIATORES CHRISTI CLG

Under PRELIMINARY, insert the following: The provisions of the Companies Act 2014 shall apply to the Company save insofar as they are excluded or verified hereby.

In Article 1

“the Act” means the Companies Act 2014 [delete 1963]

“Charities Act” means the Charities Act 2009 “Charities Regulatory Authority” means the Charities Regulatory Authority established under the Charities Act;

In Article 15: Insert “Section 178 of the Act” instead of Section 132.

In Article 16: Insert “Section 181 of the Act” instead of Sections 133 and 141.

In Article 37: The form of proxy should be headed “VIATORES CHRISTI CLG”

In Article 40: Add the following

“The Directors of the Company shall not be entitled to remuneration”.

In Article 46: delete “Section 142” and insert “Section 181”

In Article 65(c): delete “Section 184” and insert “Section 148”

In Article 65(g): delete “Section 194” and insert “Section 231”

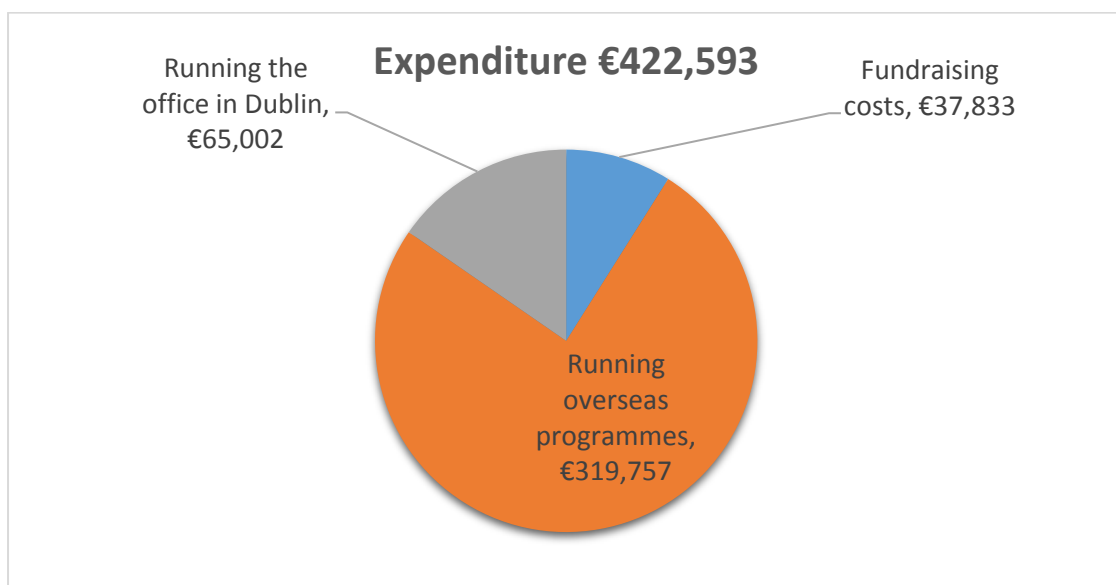
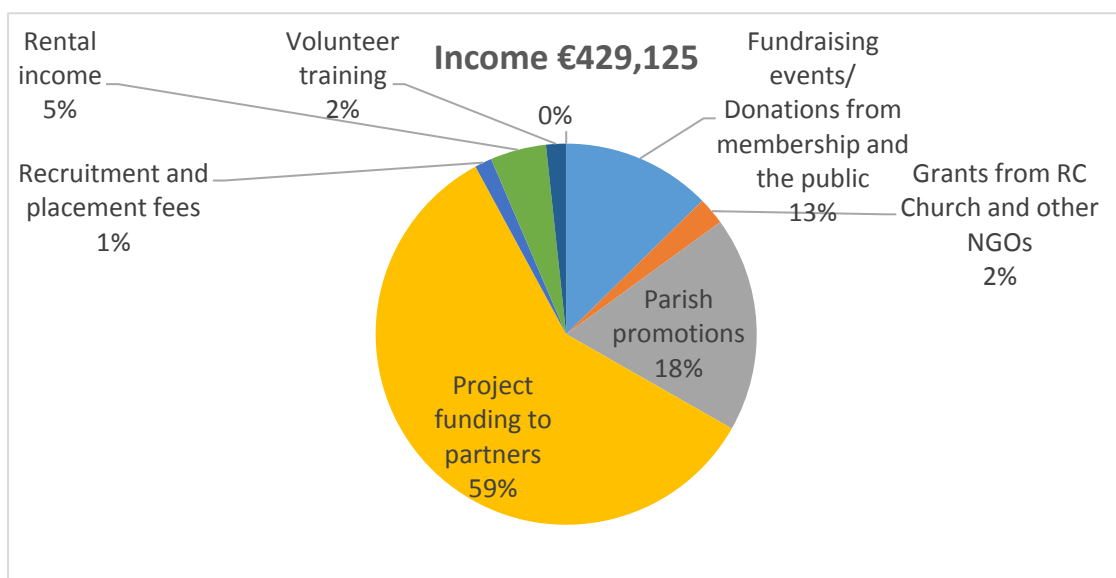
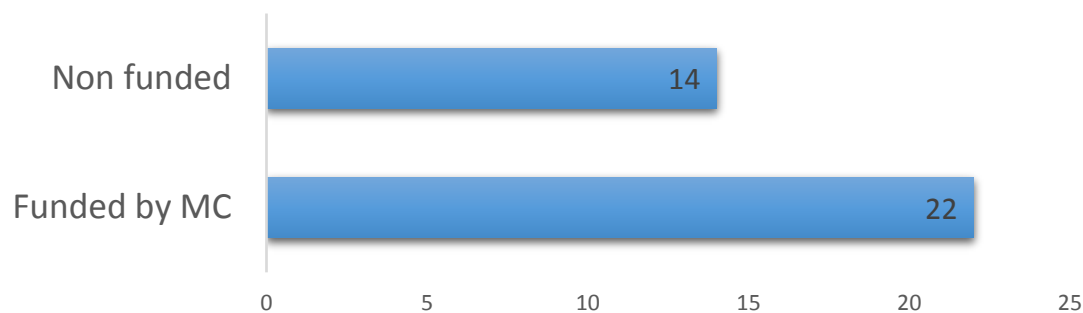
In Article 69(i): delete “Article 63” and insert “Article 65”

In Article 87: delete “Section 147” and insert “Section 283”

In Article 89: delete “Sections 148, 150, 157 and 158”
and insert “Sections 291 and 325 to 332”

In Article 91: delete “Section 160 to 163”
and insert “Sections 380 to 402 and 1221 and 1222”

Funded v Non Funded Projects 2016



Financial Statements

The auditor's report and the financial information on the following pages have been extracted from the 2016 Directors Report and Financial Statements of Viatores Christi Company Limited by Guarantee (Charity) and Viatores Christi Designated Activity Company (Property). The full accounts have been signed and emailed to members on request and will be filed with the Registrar of Companies. This information will be made available on the website of VC following the Annual General Meeting.

VIATORES CHRISTI COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

EXTRACT FROM FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2016

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF VIATORES CHRISTI COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

We have audited the financial statements of Viatores Christi Company Limited By Guarantee for the year ended 31 December 2016 which comprise the Statement of financial activities, the Balance sheet, the Cash flow statement and the related notes. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is the Companies Act 2014 and FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" issued by the Financial Reporting Council and promulgated by the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Ireland.

This report is made solely to the members in accordance with Section 391 of the Companies Act 2014. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the members those matters we are required to state to them in an Auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the members for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinion we have formed.

RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF COUNCIL MEMBERS AND INDEPENDENT AUDITOR

As explained more fully in the Directors' responsibilities statement, the Council Members (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view and otherwise comply with the Companies Act 2014. Our responsibility is to audit and express an opinion on the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards require us to comply with the Auditing Practices Board's Ethical Standards for Auditors.

SCOPE OF THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

An audit involves obtaining evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of: whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the company's circumstances and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed; the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the Council Members; and the overall presentation of the financial statements. In addition, we read all the financial and nonfinancial information in the Council Members' report to identify material inconsistencies with the audited financial statements and to identify any information that is apparently materially incorrect based on, or materially inconsistent with, the knowledge acquired by us in the course of performing the audit. If we become aware of any apparent material misstatements or inconsistencies we consider the implications for our report.

OPINION ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 December 2016 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with the relevant financial reporting framework; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the 2014 Companies Act.
- We have obtained all the information and explanations which we consider necessary for the purposes of our audit.
- In our opinion the accounting records of the company were sufficient to permit the financial statements to be readily and properly audited; or
- The financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns;
- In our opinion the information given in the Council Members' Report is consistent with the financial statements.

MATTERS ON WHICH WE ARE REQUIRED TO REPORT BY EXCEPTION

We have nothing to report in respect of the provisions in the Companies Act 2014, which require us to report to you if, in our opinion, the disclosures of Directors' remuneration and transactions specified by Sections 305 to 312 of the Act are not made.

Conor O'Brien

Russell Brennan Keane Business Advisers

Chartered Accountants & Registered Auditor

96 Lower Baggot Street

Dublin 2

Date: June 2017

Statement of Financial Activities

VIATORES CHRISTI COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2016

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2016 €	Restricted funds 2016 €	Total funds 2016 €	Total funds 2015 €
INCOME FROM:					
Charitable activities	2	180,790	209,087	389,877	575,351
Other activities	3	39,248	-	39,248	23,106
TOTAL INCOME		220,038	209,087	429,125	598,457
EXPENDITURE ON:					
Raising funds	4	44,353	-	44,353	53,768
Charitable activities	5	169,572	208,668	378,240	508,129
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		213,925	208,668	422,593	561,897
NET INCOME		6,113	419	6,532	36,560
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		6,113	419	6,532	36,560
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS:					
Total funds at 1 January 2016		124,061	53,715	177,776	141,216
TOTAL FUNDS AT 31 DECEMBER 2016		130,174	54,134	184,308	177,776

All activities relate to continuing operations.

Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2016

VIATORES CHRISTI COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE REGISTERED NUMBER: 68833

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2016

	Note	€	2016 €	€	2015 €
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	10		2,652		1,583
Investments	11		66,130		15,130
			<u>68,782</u>		<u>16,713</u>
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	12	64,496		111,053	
Cash at bank and in hand	17	154,011		268,913	
		<u>218,507</u>		<u>379,966</u>	
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	13	(102,981)		(218,903)	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			<u>115,526</u>		<u>161,063</u>
NET ASSETS			<u>184,308</u>		<u>177,776</u>
CHARITY FUNDS					
Restricted funds	14		54,134		53,715
Unrestricted funds	14		130,174		124,061
TOTAL FUNDS			<u>184,308</u>		<u>177,776</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Council Members on 9 June 2017
signed on their behalf by:

and

Denise Flack

Denise Flack

Brian Sheridan

Brian Sheridan

Cashflow Statement for the year ended 31 December 2016

VIATORES CHRISTI COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

CASH FLOW STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2016

	Note	2016 €	2015 €
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities	16	(114,902)	119,872
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		(114,902)	119,872
Cash and cash equivalents brought forward		268,913	149,041
Cash and cash equivalents carried forward	17	154,011	268,913

AUDITORS' REMUNERATION

The Auditor's remuneration amounts to an Audit fee of €4,305 (2015 - €4,305)

STAFF COSTS

Staff costs were as follows:

	2016 €	2015 €
Wages and salaries	151,920	139,769
Employers PRSI	15,824	14,827
	167,744	154,596

The average number of persons employed by the company during the year was as follows:

	2016 No.	2015 No.
Administration	5	4

No employee received remuneration amounting to more than €60,000 in either year.

Note: Please refer to full accounts for notes

VIATORES CHRISTI (PROPERTY) DESIGNATED ACTIVITY COMPANY

DIRECTORS' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (EXTRACT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2016

DIRECTORS' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2016

The directors present their annual report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2016.

Companies Act 2014

The Companies Act 2014 was commenced on 1 June 2015. The company was converted to a designated activity company under Part 16 of that Act.

Directors' responsibilities statement

The directors are responsible for preparing the directors' report and the financial statements in accordance with Irish law and regulations.

Irish company law requires the directors to prepare the financial statements for each financial year giving a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Company. Under the law, the directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with Irish Generally Accepted Accounting Practice in Ireland, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and promulgated by the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Ireland and Irish law.

Under company law, the directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities and financial position of the Company as at the financial year end date, of the profit or loss of the Company for that financial year and otherwise comply with the Companies Act 2014.

In preparing these financial statements, the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies for the Company's financial statements and then apply them consistently;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards, identify those standards, and note the effect and the reasons for any material departure from those standards; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Company will continue in business.

The directors are responsible for ensuring that the Company keeps or causes to be kept adequate accounting records which correctly explain and record the transactions of the Company, enable at any time the assets, liabilities, financial position and profit or loss of the Company to be determined with reasonable accuracy, enable them to ensure that the financial statements and directors' report comply with the Companies Act 2014 and enable the financial statements to be audited. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Principal activities

The principal activity of the company is that of a property holding company. The company is a 100% wholly owned subsidiary of Viatores Christi Company Limited by Guarantee, a registered charity in Ireland with CHY number 5526.

Business review

The loss for the year, after taxation, amounted to €15,339 (2015 - profit €150).

Directors

The directors who served during the year were:

Mary Winters
Denise Flack
Paula Ni Shlatarra (resigned 20 October 2016)
Adele O'Reilly (resigned 20 October 2016)
Stephen Burke (resigned 20 October 2016)
Charles Flynn (appointed 20 October 2016)
Sally Roddy (appointed 20 October 2016)
Brian Sheridan (appointed 20 October 2016)

In accordance with the Articles of Association the directors are required to retire by rotation and being eligible offer themselves for re-election.

Neither the directors nor the company secretary had any interest or beneficial interest in the share capital of the company or the parent company at 31 December 2016.

Principal risks and uncertainties

Irish company law requires the company to give a description of the principal risks and uncertainties which it faces.

The principal risks and uncertainties affecting the company are similar to those affecting other companies in the property market, namely uncertainties in the property market valuations and the general economic environment affecting the property market as a whole.

Management and the board regularly review the risks facing the company. The directors are satisfied that there are appropriate policies in place to mitigate the effect of these risks.

Accounting records

The measures taken by the directors to ensure compliance with the requirements of Sections 281 to 285 of the Companies Act 2014 with regard to the keeping of accounting records, are the employment of appropriately qualified accounting personnel and the maintenance of computerised accounting systems. The company's accounting records are maintained at the company's registered office at 8 New Cabra Road, Phibsboro, Dublin 7.

Statement on relevant audit information

Each of the persons who are directors at the time when this directors' report is approved has confirmed that:

- so far as the director is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the Company's auditors are unaware, and
- the director has taken all the steps that ought to have been taken as a director in order to be aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the Company's auditors are aware of that information.

Post balance sheet events

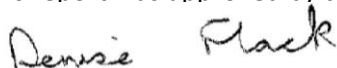
During the year ended 31 December 2016 the directors of the ultimate parent of the Company decided to restructure and re-organise the Viatores Christi Group. As a result, a decision was made to wind down Viatores Christi (Property) Designated Activity Company with the ultimate intention being to liquidate the company. During the year all intercompany liabilities payable by the Company were discharged and settled.

As at 31 December 2016, the only asset remaining in the company is the premises at 8 New Cabra Road. When the liquidation process commences this asset will be distributed "in specie" back to Viatores Christi.

Auditors

The auditors, Russell Brennan Keane Business Advisers, continue in office in accordance with the provisions of Section 383(2) of the Companies Act 2014.

This report was approved by the board on



Denise Flack
Director

and signed on its behalf.



Brian Sheridan
Director

Statement of Comprehensive Income

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2016

	Note	2016 €	2015 €
Turnover	4	-	15,424
Gross profit		-	15,424
Administrative expenses		(15,399)	(15,444)
Operating loss	5	(15,399)	(20)
Interest receivable and similar income		-	170
(Loss)/profit before tax		(15,399)	150
		(15,399)	150
		-	-
		(15,399)	150

Statement of Financial Position as at 31 December 2016

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2016			
	Note	2016 €	2015 €
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	7	470,000	480,000
Investments	8	-	25,000
		<u>470,000</u>	<u>505,000</u>
Current assets			
Debtors: amounts falling due within one year	9	-	5,000
Cash at bank and in hand	10	-	26,505
		<u>-</u>	<u>31,505</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>470,000</u>	<u>536,505</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	11	-	(51,106)
Net assets		<u><u>470,000</u></u>	<u><u>485,399</u></u>
Capital and reserves			
Called up share capital presented as equity	13	96,647	96,647
Profit and loss account	14	373,353	388,752
Shareholders' funds		<u><u>470,000</u></u>	<u><u>485,399</u></u>

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the board:

Denise Flack

Denise Flack
Director

Brian Sheridan

Brian Sheridan
Director

Date:

The notes on pages 11 to 18 form part of these financial statements.

Cashflow Statement for the year ended 31 December 2016

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2016		
	2016 €	2015 €
Cash flows from operating activities		
(Loss)/profit for the financial year	(15,399)	150
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation of tangible assets	10,000	10,000
Interest received	-	(170)
Decrease in debtors	5,000	27
(Decrease) in amounts owed to parent undertaking	(51,106)	(10,047)
Net cash generated from operating activities	(51,505)	(40)
Cash flows from investing activities		
Purchase of unlisted and other investments	-	(25,000)
Disposal of unlisted investments	25,000	-
Interest received	-	170
Net cash from investing activities	25,000	(24,830)
Net (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	(26,505)	(24,870)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	26,505	51,375
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of year	-	26,505
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of year comprise:		
Cash at bank and in hand	-	26,505
	-	26,505

Note: Please refer to full accounts for notes

