

W. H Five Loaves

CHY NO: 16056

& Ark Housing Asc

CHY NO: 16770

NEWSLETTER Autumn/Winter 2014

"We believe in the inherent dignity of every person, proactively addressing and meeting the needs of the homeless and disadvantaged, in a spirit of compassion and hospitality, with the hope of making a difference in their lives"



Chairpersons Statement

This year has been extremely busy for us at W.H Five Loaves and Ark Housing Association, the current economic climate is proving challenging for many people, in particular we have seen young families and the elderly who have been hit hardest in the housing crisis. The need for assistance is increasing steadily in line with the increase in homelessness and financial uncertainty in society.

W.H Five Loaves drop in centre opens five days per week, Monday to Friday from 10.00 am to 4.00 pm. The primary purpose is to facilitate the needs of both the homeless and those "at risk" in our community by ensuring their nutritional, housing and social needs are met. The change in the nature of homelessness has also brought about a change in our mission and an increased demand on our advocacy supports service. We work within a multi-disciplinary setting that strives to support clients to become active agents in the process of working together to explore ways in which they can use their strengths to support their needs and achieve their goals.

We have spent a great deal of time this year developing our service in both our drop in centre and Ark housing projects, establishing care and education plans for service users and residents, developing prevention and intervention strategies to those presenting or at risk of homelessness and liaising with other local agencies to ensure that our clients needs are met. We have also spent the year reviewing, developing and adopting policies for the organisation to ensure best practices, some of which include The Voluntary Housing Regulation Code, The Governance Code, The ICSA Code of Charity Retailing and we welcome the appointment of a Charities Regulatory Authority.

We would also like to take this opportunity to express our heartfelt thanks to all of our staff, volunteers, fundraisers, financial patrons, those who help stock our food pantry and donate clothing. Even though there are challenging times ahead we have a continued passion and enthusiasm for our work and will endeavour to achieve our mission with the hope of making a difference .



"The worst part of being homeless is not the weather, it's really not that much the scarcity of food or that. It's the loneliness and despair of it. it's extremely depressing. You can imagine sleeping down some lane way and no one to talk to. You feel like no one cares. There's a sense of hopelessness.. I couldn't wait for Five Loaves to open in the morning. It kept my spirits up... With all sincerity the Five Loaves kept me alive, not just because of the food. It was like a home to me."

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We are now registered with iDonate. It is vital to our service that we participate in fundraising initiatives. We would be extremely grateful if you would consider fundraising for us like a coffee morning, fun run etc. Please contact fundraising@whfiveloaves.com for further information

AIB Bank , Main street, Bray, Co Wicklow. Account name: WH Five Loaves Limited Account number: 04449062 Sort code: 933481
BIC: AIBK IE2D IBAN: IE86AIBK93348104449062



World Homeless Day 10th October

World Homeless day is an annual event on the 10th October every year. It originated in 2010 and is used as a collaborative effort to draw attention to homeless people's needs locally. It provides opportunities for communities to get involved in responding to homelessness and aims to keep the problem of homelessness at the forefront of peoples mind. At present Ireland is at crisis point due to lack of social and affordable accommodation and increasing numbers of people nationwide are at risk or are facing homelessness.

Ark Housing Association are currently in the process of securing 4 new individual units to add to our existing family home unit and our 6 unit supported men's accommodation. The current housing crisis can only be offset with the provision of new homes or helping those at risk of being homeless with preventative measures.

Education and raising awareness of the issues, challenges and perceptions surrounding homelessness is vital to make a long term change. We work closely with schools/clubs and others to provide information or arrange visits to talk about our work.



Ark Housing Supported Men's Project

Are you at risk?

Finding you are struggling to pay your rent or other bills? Need to know more about your rights?

- Our drop in centre on the Albert Walk provides hot meals in a safe welcoming environment.
- Staff members are available to help with advice, support or information where possible.

W.H. Five Loaves & Ark Housing rely heavily on fundraising to maintain the operation of the Charity. Wicklow County Council have kindly provided us with a facility at Bray Recycling Centre for our charity shop for which we are extremely grateful. Bray Recycling Centre gives us the opportunity to raise much needed funds while encouraging people to promote the centres ethos to reduce waste, reuse regularly and recycle materials to benefit the environment. We would also like to thank the manager Daryl Tighe and all the staff for their continued support.

The shop opens Mon - Fri 9.30-4.00 and Sat 9.30-2.00 we accept all clothing, accessories and bric-a-brac.



5 Albert Walk Bray, Co Wicklow. Ph: 01 204 0960
Email: info@whfiveloaves.com Website: www.whfiveloaves.ie