



IMPACT
REPORT

2023

About Us...



For over 165 years, the Mercy Hospital, founded by Catherine McCauley and the Sisters of Mercy, has been caring for the sick and injured and has been a place of respite for the aged and infirm. It has been a place of healing, comfort and compassion. The hospital has always been progressive and innovative while maintaining its ethos of supporting and caring for its patients; and what began as a 40-bed hospital staffed by four Sisters of Mercy, is now a 367-bed hospital with over 1,500 members of staff. More than 140,000 patients come through the doors of MUH each year availing of healthcare services across a wide range of specialties.

Since 2007, the Mercy University Hospital Foundation (MUHF) has served as the official fundraising body for MUH. In this time, we have allocated almost €15 million of donor funds towards projects that help to advance patient care. These funds have been used to purchase life-saving equipment, refurbish areas of the hospital, create patient support groups, fund patient information booklets, support research, provide assistance to patients who may find themselves in short-term financial difficulty due to illness, and much more.

Through campaigns like our annual Mercy Heroes campaign, events like the 96FM Giving for Living Radiothon, generous support from our regular and major donors, community events, and corporate partnerships, we are able to continue supporting the patients and staff of MUH each year.

We are fully committed to helping MUH continue delivering exceptional patient care in the heart of Cork City.

OUR VALUES



A word from our Team...

Thanks to our incredible donors and supporters, in 2023, we marked our 16th year of raising funds for MUH by allocating €732,619, to support patients, staff, research, and various projects and initiatives to ensure that patients can receive the best possible care at 'The Mercy'.

These funds were spread across a range of areas from our Mercy Cancer CARE Centre and psycho-oncology services, to advancements in hospital technology.

Construction continued on the Mercy Cancer CARE Centre at 9 Dyke Parade, one of our flagship projects, at a cost of €2,800,000.

We will continue to work closely with the Mercy University Hospital to help them to continue delivering exceptional patient care. Thank you for your continued support throughout the years.

This report highlights just some of the ways that the Foundation was able to support MUH in 2023. This report shows just how much of a difference that support can really make for patients, their families and hospital staff. As healthcare in Ireland continues to change and adapt to new challenges, we are committed to supporting MUH in providing world-class care to all patients.

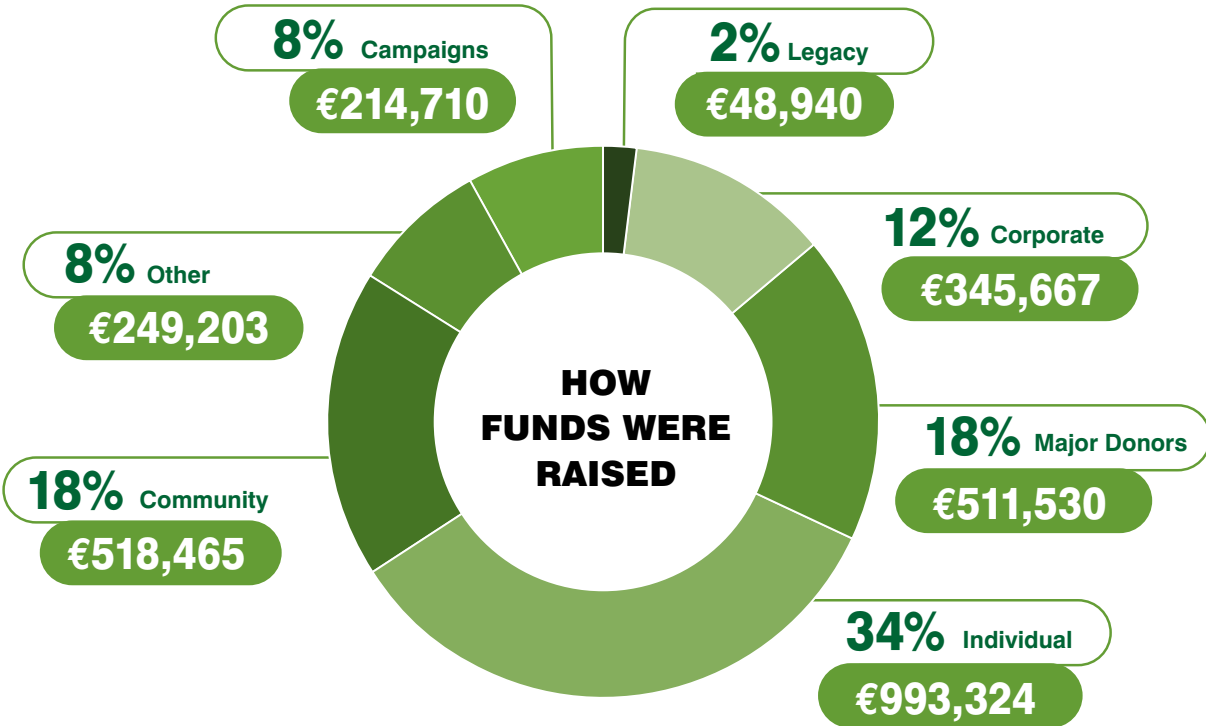
Mercy Hospital Foundation Team.



How funds were raised and where funds made a difference



Check out what we achieved 2023



Financial Report

	2023	2022
	€	€
INCOME		
Donations and legacies	1,135,109	574,828
Income from Charitable Activities	1,746,728	1,749,473
Income from Investments	2	72
Total Income	2,881,839	2,324,373
EXPENDITURE		
Expenditure on charitable activities	723,619	318,779
Fundraising activities	803,464	739,517
Management & Administration	447,501	345,360
Bank Charges	3,399	8,877
Total expenditure	1,986,983	1,412,533
NET INCOME before bank charges	898,255	920,717
NET INCOME after bank charges	894,856	911,840
Balance Sheet		
CURRENT & FIXED ASSETS		
	€	€
Fixed Assets	2,884,347	1,312,064
Current Assets	4,240,507	4,922,621
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Creditors	227,026	231,713
Net Assets	6,897,828	6,002,972
REPRESENTED BY:		
Restricted Funds	2,114,178	4,064,885
Designated Funds	2,697,497	-
Unrestricted Funds	2,086,153	1,938,087
Total Funds	6,897,828	6,002,972

Here's how just some of the funds raised were spent in 2023...

Mercy Cancer CARE Centre - €1,589,235



Construction continued on our flagship project which will improve the wellbeing of cancer patients at Mercy University Hospital. The 5,000 sq ft building at 9 Dyke Parade is now open, providing patients and their loved ones with space to gather their thoughts and take in this life altering news in a comforting, non-clinical environment.

Psycho-oncology - €127,179

We provide a specialised psycho-oncology service to help patients navigate the emotional and psychological aspect of a cancer diagnosis. More than 470 clinical psycho-oncology appointments were facilitated in 2023.



IBD Scanner - €93,032

The new IBD Scanner allows staff to carry out bedside Ultrasounds for patients with IBD (Crohn's disease and Colitis). It reduces the need for CT and MRI scans, as well as colonoscopy tests.



ICU - Combilizer - €17,220

The Combilizer is a versatile aid that enables out of bed mobilisation for critically ill patients in ICU at 'The Mercy'. It allows patients to be positioned into lying, sitting and standing positions – all of them achievable without having to perform transfers in between.

Oncology Booklets - €1,586

We designed and printed thousands of information booklets to help cancer patients understand the side effects associated with chemotherapy and how to manage them. These are given to patients on their first day of treatment at either St. Therese's or St. Bernadette's.



Chairs for St Mary's Ward - €6,435

Two new high support comfort chairs were purchased for geriatric patients in St Mary's Ward. Thanks to the incredible staff in the Hospital who, by participating in The Echo Women's Mini Marathon and organising a coffee morning, raised part of the funds used to purchase these chairs

Mercy Cancer CARE Centre

An estimated 42,000 people get cancer each year in Ireland, and at the Mercy University Hospital Foundation we want to improve the wellbeing of people diagnosed and being treated at 'The Mercy'.

Inspired by our cancer patients and their hope for a place to go, eight years ago, we had a vision, a vision to create a place for those diagnosed with and being treated for cancer, and their families, to come. A place for them to take time to understand what their diagnosis means for them, and a place to come during their treatment for support and advice.

While our cancer doctors and nurses look after the patient medically, the team in the Cancer CARE Centre will work with the person, and sometimes with their family, to address the psychological impact of their diagnosis. The psycho-oncology service aims to give all cancer patients psychological care and emotional support when they need it.

The new Mercy Cancer CARE Centre at 9 Dyke Parade, is within minutes of Mercy University Hospital. Covering an area of over 5,000 square feet, the centre offers individual and family therapy rooms, as well as a larger room for groups to meet. There is also a library where information on cancer and mental health can be freely accessed and a large kitchen/ social area where those visiting the centre can make a cup of tea or coffee, and meet with others while they wait for an appointment or whilst waiting for a loved one.

The facility also offers visitors the opportunity to visit our centre's garden where they can escape to make time to reflect on the journey that they find themselves on.

A **drop-in facility**
for cancer
awareness and
support.

Psycho-oncology services
to support the mental and
emotional health of patients.

CANCER CARE CENTRE

Facilities for
**one-to-one
counselling** and
patient/ peer to peer
support groups.

A **safe haven** for
patients at the time of
their initial diagnosis.

The design...

Our Centre has been specially designed by our team of architects because we know that light, colour and connection to the outside world can help people to feel better.

Our Centre is thoughtfully designed to be calming and welcoming, a place to escape from the clinical environment of the Hospital.

Our Centre has a large open social space. Our Blarney Room hosts a large kitchen with space to sit over a cuppa and to chat to people in similar situations.

We have also created some peaceful corners for quiet moments, to gather your thoughts; as well as our garden space where you can breathe in some fresh air.



Psycho-oncology

Did you know that one in two of us will develop cancer in our lifetime?

Did you know that 1/3 of those who are diagnosed with cancer will experience depression or anxiety during their cancer journey, making a difficult time even more challenging?

Cancer is a frightening disease, and for too long the impact of cancer on a person's mental health and psychological wellbeing has not been a priority.

At the Mercy University Hospital Foundation we want to improve the wellbeing of people diagnosed and being treated at 'The Mercy'; and thanks to the Mercy Cancer CARE Centre, we are improving the total package of care for cancer patients and their families.



“The work I do is only half of it. Having the right facilities, access to research, being supported by complementary services all play a part in our patient care. It's a team effort, and The Mercy Cancer Appeal has already helped so many patients and families through their cancer journey. The support received enables us to continue providing the very best treatment and care to patients, by helping to fund research, new equipment and support services right here at the Mercy University Hospital.”

Professor Derek Power,
Consultant Oncologist, Mercy University Hospital

Thanks to our wonderful donors, we provide a specialised psycho-oncology service to help patients navigate the emotional and psychological aspect of their diagnosis. The service is fully funded through donations; and provides psychological support to patients with cancer experiencing emotions like anxiety, depression, distress and anger.



Ger Fitzgerald, two time All-Ireland winning hurler, and cancer patient at 'The Mercy'

“The psycho-oncology team has been available whenever I needed support, to discuss a whole range of psychologically-based therapeutic interventions, which they are able to match to the individual patient's needs - whether emotional, psychological, social, or spiritual. I now practice mindfulness which I find very helpful and is something that has given me enormous strength. The psycho-oncology service will be a tremendous resource to those going through cancer treatment and choose to avail of it.”

“It is very common to experience psychological distress at the time of diagnosis and at various time points throughout the cancer journey. It is crucially important that high quality psychological therapy is available to these patients and families. Our team offers psychological support to patients and families at every step of the journey - following diagnosis, during treatment, and beyond - and we provide assessment and a range of psychologically-based therapeutic interventions matched to the patient and their family's emotional, psychological, social, and spiritual needs.”

Dr Tara Houlihan,
Senior Clinical Psychologist, Mercy University Hospital



“

**I'm so grateful for
the care I received
at 'The Mercy'
that I want to give
something back**

**so I'm leaving
a donation
in my will**

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Please contact us if you would like to make plans
for a legacy gift to Mercy University Hospital.

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