# Annual Report



Centre for Counselling and Therapy CLG

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# Message from the Board

It is my pleasure, on behalf of the Board of Trustees, to introduce this Review of CKU activities for 2023. This has been another year of hard work and accomplishment for the CKU team, a year in which services have been expanded and diversified to serve the growing and changing needs of our client communities.

Our Co-Ordinator, Barbara Ozga, and our Clinical Director, Mariola Mastek, have again led and inspired our extended team of therapists and volunteers, to deliver a service which is continuously changing and developing and always places the client at its centre.

The range of supports which CKU offers, from crisis intervention and individual and group psychotherapy programs, through to family support, aftercare, and personal development and training, is based on a holistic vision of the needs of those struggling with alcohol and other addictions. The descriptions of our ongoing and new projects contained in this Review show once again how varied and innovative approaches are continually being developed and applied.

Financial pressures intensified during 2023 and our capacity to deliver our services, at a level which matched the demand for them, presented significant difficulties. In the face of continued shortfalls and variability in the flow of Grant assistance, the Board and Co-Ordinator devoted significant time and effort to securing additional sources of Core Funding.

The generous assistance committed by the HSE Community Healthcare Organisation (CHO) Unit, Area 09 has helped significantly in this regard, but more remains to be done. We will continue to engage with other HSE Units, Drug and Alcohol Task Forces and the Department of Health to ensure that we can access sufficient Core Funding to contribute to the fullest, in the national effort to reduce the personal and social harm of addiction and to support comprehensive recovery and rehabilitation.

On behalf of myself, and the Board, I extend my heartfelt thanks to all our team, and to our sponsors and funding partners, for a year in which many challenges were addressed, and in which unremitting efforts to meet the needs of our clients in complex and difficult contexts continued. We will once again pursue our Vision of a service which comprehensively addresses addiction treatment, prevention, recovery, rehabilitation and community integration, with full engagement in 2024.



Tony Devlin Vice Chair of the Board



#### **Co-ordinator Statment**

I am pleased to present CKU's Annual Report for 2023. Over the past 14 years, CKU has been dedicated to serving the Polish community in Ireland, particularly those facing addiction challenges and their families. Initially focusing on alcohol-related issues, CKU has expanded its services to encompass professional therapy for a wide range of addictions, including drugs and other risky behaviors.

Additionally, CKU offers support for families experiencing dysfunction, therapy for couples, addiction relapse prevention workshops, crisis intervention, and online psychological assistance.

We implement a new approach to addictions based on research, we constantly train to improve our skills and qualifications. In 2023, we completed the next stage of motivational interviewing training.

In 2023, we continued the Graduate Supporting Group for individuals completing basic addiction treatment, aiming to foster continued personal development. In small steps we started implementing the SMART Recovery Program, further enhancing our support options for those struggling with addiction.

Despite the steadfast support of long-term sponsors such as SICDATF, CARP, and the Polish Embassy, financial sustainability remains a challenge.

The increasing number of clients seeking our services, compounded by factors such as the housing crisis and the pandemic, underscores the importance of our work. We endeavor to address financial constraints by offering flexible payment options and free sessions for those in crisis.

Our Board of Directors and management were forced to put in contingency plans due to insufficient reserve to flow the organizational action. We had a few meetings with stakeholders to minimize the risk of discontinuing service. We are still working to maximize the potential of CKU and its team. Our Board is currently undergoing membership changes, and we are actively seeking further members to enhance our governance and sustainability.

I extend my gratitude to Mariola Mastek, our Clinical Manager, for upholding high service standards, and to the entire CKU Team for their dedication work, and mutual support.

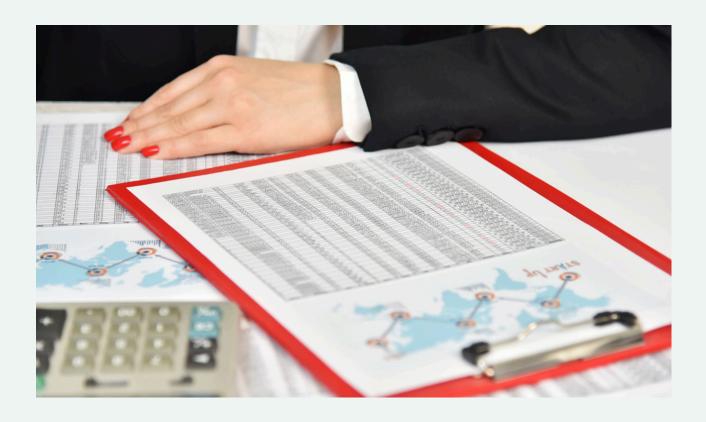
Special thanks go to the new Administrator, Adrianna, for introducing herself to the work structure of our Team and for her tireless work in the area of serving our clients.

Our collaboration with Pauline Mc Keown CEO, Javier De Las Heras day services Manager of Coolmine Therapeutic Community (CTC), and James Kelly Manager of CARP Community Addiction Response Programme has been instrumental in our mission.

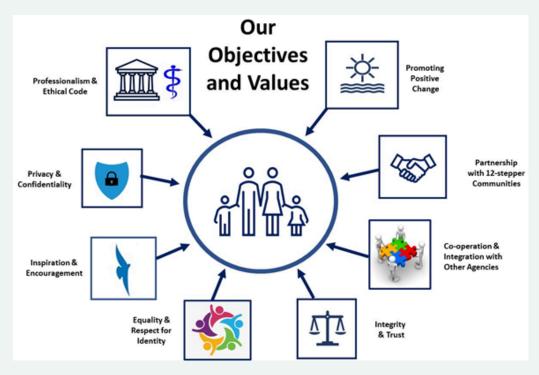
I extend heartfelt thanks to our sponsors SICDATF and its Coordinator Keri Goodlife, HSE section CHO9, and General Manager of Social Inclusion/Addiction Service Brian Kirwan, granters, partners, and supporters for their unwavering assistance.

With determination and continued skill development, we remain committed to providing exemplary services to our community.

Barbara Ożga CKU Coordinator



# **CKU Objectives and Values**



- 1. PROMOTION OF POSITIVE CHANGE.
  2. PROPAGATION OF PARTNERSHIPS
  OF THE PROFESSIONALS WITH THE 12STEPPER COMMUNITIES WHICH
  HELPS IN THE INTEGRATION OF THESE
  PEOPLE WITH LOCAL GROUPS AND
  INDIVIDUALS IN A MULTICULTURAL
  IRELAND WHILE AT THE SAME TIME
  BREAKING THE LANGUAGE BARRIER.
- 3. COOPERATION AND INTEGRATION WITH ORGANIZATIONS, AGENCIES, AND SOCIAL WORKERS BOTH IN IRELAND AND POLAND IN ORDER TO HELP CLIENTS IN A VARIETY OF PROBLEM AREAS IN THEIR LIVES.
  4. INTEGRITY A CREATION OF AN ATMOSPHERE OF TRUST, RESPECT, AND HONESTY.
- 5. EQUALITY- THROUGH RESPECT FOR THE IDENTITY OF OUR CLIENTS, THEIR BELIEFS AND CHOICES.
  6. INSPIRATION TEACHING OUR CLIENTS INDEPENDENCE AND RESPONSIBILITY AND AT THE SAME TIME SUPPORTING THEM IN MAKING CHOICES AND POSITIVE CHANGES IN THEIR LIVES.
- 7. CONFIDENTIALITY MEANS
  ENSURING THAT THE INFORMATION
  COLLECTED FROM OUR CLIENTS IS
  AND ALWAYS WILL BE ONLY USED IN
  SUCH A WAY THAT DOES NOT
  VIOLATE THE TRUST, PRIVACY AND
  PERSONAL DATA PROTECTION.
  8. RESPECT WITHIN THE TEAM AND
  PROFESSIONALISM IN WORKING WITH
  THE CLIENT BY RAISING THE
  PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION AND
  BEING GUIDED BY THE CODE OF
  PROFESSIONAL ETHICS FOR
  ADDICTION THERAPISTS.

#### **CKU Vision and Mission**

#### Vision

A SOCIETY WHERE EVERYONE HAS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY TO LIVE A LIFE WITHOUT ADDICTION





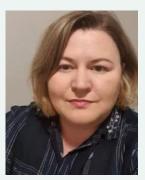


#### **Mission**

TO PROVIDE PROFESSIONAL HELP AND SUPPORT TO PEOPLE AND THEIR FAMILIES AFFECTED BY ADDICTION THRU PSYCHOTHERAPEUTIC TREATMENT, ADDICTION PREVENTION, AND INTEGRATION WITH THE MULTICULTURAL IRISH COMMUNITY IN ORDER TO FACILITATE SOCIAL INCLUSION.



#### Our Team



Coordinator Barbara Ożga



Clinical Manager Mariola Mastek



Addiction Therapist Marta Machnio Wielosz



Family Therapist Katarzyna Kozłowska



Addiiction Therapist Bartosz Bąk



Psychotherapist Piotr Buciński



Psychiatrist Paweł Sala





Psychologist Marta Sędzicka



Administrator Adrianna Ożga



Psychoeducator Tomasz Nawrocki



Supervisor Joanna Sobczyńska

#### Our Offer

#### **Individual**

- · Individual consultations and psychological counseling
- · Psychotherapy for individuals, couples, and families
- · Psychiatric consultation
- Crisis interventions and Online support
- Reduce of use program

#### Groups

#### Psychotherapy groups

- For people suffering from abuse of psychoactive substances/ gambling and other behavioral addictions
- For family members and concerned persons who have been affected by someone's addiction, alcohol or drugs used in the home, or different forms of neglect in family life.

#### Support groups

- · Supporting recovery group/ Aftercare
- · Family support group/ Family connections
- · Motivation and information group
- · Relapse prevention

#### Workshops, Webinars, Psychoeducation

#### Personal development workshops

- Psychoeducational and support workshops
- Training groups
- · Social skills training
- · Relaxation training

#### Workshops for women

• Between us women/ Peer-to-peer support group

#### Workshop for parents

• Development workshops for parents and guardians

#### **Our Offer**

#### **Ongoing Support**







#### **Graduation/ After Care Group**













#### Graduation/ After Care Group













#### Other Events



















#### Between us Women



















#### Development workshops and Social Skills training

















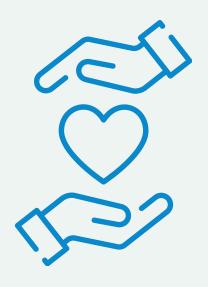
#### Webinars and psychoeducation



















# **Human Impact**



108 Individual
Assesments
Completed



1422 Individual psychotherapy sessions



477 Individual
Counselling
Sessions



47 Individual
Supported
in Group Therapy



20 Individuals
Supported in
Graduation Group



98 Individuals
Supported in Personal
Development Workshop

# **Human Impact**



28 Individuals
Supported in Social
Skills Training



148 Women Supported in Women Workshop "Between us Women"



34 Psychiatric consultations



310 Crisis Interventions



245 Online Support



76 Substance misuse support individuals

# Structure, Governance and Management



Directors' Responsibilities Statement

THE DIRECTORS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR PREPARING THE DIRECTORS' REPORT AND THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH APPLICABLE IRISH LAW LAW REGULATIONS. IRISH COMPANY **REQUIRES** DIRECTORS TO PREPARE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR EACH FINANCIAL YEAR. UNDER THE LAW, THE DIRECTORS HAVE ELECTED TO PREPARE THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE COMPANIES ACT 2014 AND FRS 102 "THE FINANCIAL REPORTING STANDARD APPLICABLE IN THE UK AND REPUBLIC OF IRELAND", APPLYING SECTION 1A OF THAT STANDARD, ISSUED BY THE FINANCIAL REPORTING COUNCIL. UNDER COMPANY LAW, THE DIRECTORS MUST NOT APPROVE THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS UNLESS THEY ARE SATISFIED THAT THEY GIVE AN ACCURATE AND FAIR VIEW OF THE ASSETS. LIABILITIES, AND FINANCIAL POSITION OF THE COMPANIES AT THE FINANCIAL YEAR-END DATE AND OF THE SURPLUS OR DEFICIT OF THE COMPANY FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR AND OTHERWISE COMPLY WITH THE COMPANIES ACT 2014.

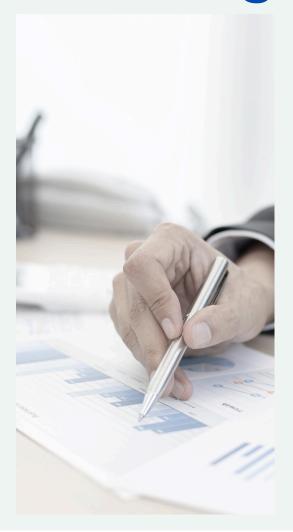
# Structure, Governance and Management

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 A GOING CONCERN BASIS UNLESS IT IS INAPPROPRIATE TO PRESUME THAT THE COMPANY WILL CONTINUE IN BUSINESS.

THE DIRECTORS CONFIRM THEY HAVE APPLIED THE ABOVE REGULATIONS WHEN PREPARING THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS. 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 SURPLUS OR DEFICIT OF THE COMPANY TO BE DETERMINED WITH REASONABLE ACCURACY AND ENABLE THEM TO ENSURE THAT THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND DIRECTORS' REPORT COMPLY WITH THE COMPANIES ACT 2014 AND ENABLE THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO BE READILY AND PROPERLY 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.

# **Legal Status**



COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE AND NOT HAVING A SHARE CAPITAL WITH THE COMPANYREGISTRATION (CRO REG. NO: OFFICE 485287), INCORPORATED ON 15TH MAY 2010 UNDER THE COMPANIES ACT, 1963 TO 2009. CKU WAS ESTABLISHED UNDER A MEMORANDUM OF **ASSOCIATION** WHICH SETS THE **OBJECTS** POWERS OF THE COMPANY AND IS GOVERNED UNDER ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION BY A OF **BOARD** DIRECTORS.

CHARITY WITH THE REVENUE COMMISSIONERS (CHY NO: 19490) AND WITH THE CHARITIESREGISTRATION AUTHORITY (REGISTERED CHARITY NO: CRA 20076511)

# Governance Code for Community, Voluntary and charitable organisations

SINCE 2019 CKU HAS BEEN ON THE 'ADOPTION JOURNEY' OF THE NEW CHARITIES GOVERNANCE CODE WHICH WAS PUBLISHED IN NOVEMBER 2018 AND HAS BEEN IMPLEMENTING POLICIES, SYSTEMS AND PROCESSES. CKU COMPLETED THE CHARITIES GOVERNANCE CODE COMPLIANCE RECORD FORM IN 2020.

# General Governance Information

CKU IS GOVERNED BY A BOARD OF DIRECTORS WITH A MAXIMUM NUMBER OF 7 PEOPLE. IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION, EVERY YEAR AT THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING THE DIRECTORS RETIRE BY ROTATION AND, BEING ELIGIBLE, OFFER THEMSELVES FOR RE-ELECTION.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETS WITH THE CO-ORDINATOR 4-6 TIMES A YEAR. IN 2023 WE HAD 4 MEETINGS.

THE DIRECTORS WHO SERVED THROUGHOUT THE YEAR, EXCEPT AS NOTED, WERE:

EMILIA MARCHELEWSKA— THE CHAIR

TONY DEVLIN - VICE CHAIR

BARBARA OZGA — THE SECRETARY

PATRICK BOLGER - THE TREASURER

ANNA WUCZYNSKA - CLINICAL DIRECTOR

TOM DOYLE - DIRECTOR

KATIE TIMMINS - DIRECTOR

All of our Board members and senior staff signed
The Code of Conduct of Trustees.



#### Our Plans for 2024

We aim to continue providing our services and programs that are part of our permanent offerings, including therapeutic groups, support groups, personal development training and workshops, webinars, and psychoeducational programs focusing on mental health. One of our goals for 2024 is to achieve greater stability. We are in the process of establishing a permanent location that we can call our home.

The year 2024 also marks the milestone of our 15th anniversary! We are excited to celebrate this event.

The mission of our center is to support individuals who struggle with addiction or are at risk of addiction, and as part of this, we plan to run a Smart Recovery meeting (as a part of Service User Involvement and peer-to-peer support). Designated members of our team are currently trained in this program. Smart Recovery is a free program designed to provide support and assistance for individuals struggling with addictive behaviors. It is recognized in Ireland, and we aim to promote it within the Polish community.

In 2024, we are preparing to launch the new website and boost our social media campaigns.

See you in the next chapter!



# Our sponsors















# Media partners













**CENTER FOR COUNSELLING AND THERAPY** 19 LORD EDWARD STREET DUBLIN 2 353 876 494 555 WWW.CKUDUBLIN.ORG







