

Children
in Northern
Ireland



2020



VISION

Children in Northern Ireland's vision is to make Northern Ireland a society where all **children** are **valued**, are treated **fairly** and are able to **flourish**.

We will achieve our **vision** and **mission** through our five pillars:

Influencing



Learning



Collaboration



Sustainability



Effectiveness



MISSION

To put **children at the centre** of policy making in Northern Ireland.



05

LEARNING & DEVELOPMENT

- TRAINING
- THINK FAMILY

PARENTLINE
NI

20

24

CHILDREN &
YOUNG PEOPLE'S
STRATEGIC
PARTNERSHIP

FINANCES

28

16

INFLUENCING &
COLLABORATION

- POLICY
- RIGHT TO FOOD
- PARENTS OF CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES ADVISORY FORUM

22

LOCALITY
PLANNING

STAFF & BOARD
OF DIRECTORS

30



CHAIR & CEO REPORT

In a year dominated by Brexit, keeping the needs of children and young people who face multiple disadvantages has certainly been challenging for us all. However, in the midst of this turmoil a new energy has emerged from the children's sector to ensure that we are heard.

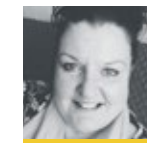
Conversations have been ignited all around the globe about the importance of listening to children and young people and the vital role they can play in making change happen. You only have to look at the environmental campaigns to see that children and young people want their voice to be heard. This gives us hope that our work on a Child's Right to Food campaign will ensure our young Food Ambassadors are listened to when they share the experience of their peers and highlight the issue of food poverty.

We have seen all too often the relentless rise of child and food poverty especially in families where parents are working. We have also seen the mental health challenges faced by parents through our Regional Parenting Helpline **Parentline NI** and our Think Family work. Our focus

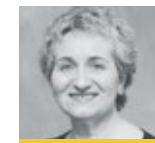
has been on the toughest challenges and will continue to highlight these issues by focusing on the following this year:

- » Providing an extensive range of learning and development courses for the children's sector
- » Through Parentline NI, providing advice, support and guidance to parents and carers
- » Ensuring no child goes hungry through the Gets Active projects in Carrickfergus, Downpatrick, Limavady and Portadown
- » Advocating for free school meals during school holidays and raising the issues faced by children with disabilities
- » Developing, delivering and cascading The Family Model training within the community and voluntary sector.

As we intensify our focus on children, young people, parents and the whole family, we have also intensified our approach. As we welcomed the return of the Northern Ireland Executive and Assembly we will continue to highlight the issues outlined above and advocate for policy change.



Marie Cavanagh
Chair



Pauline Leeson
Chief Executive

LEARNING & DEVELOPMENT



WORKSHOPS
174

ATTENDEES



CHILDREN'S SERVICES TRAINING
1,611



THINK FAMILY TRAINING
200



PRIVATE LEARNING & DEVELOPMENT
1,562



TOTAL TRAINED
3,022

FEEDBACK

"Best course I have been on this year. Very helpful and informative."
Designated Officer

"Trainer extremely knowledgeable and format and delivery of training was professional and trainer made everyone feel at ease and relevant. Shared invaluable experience with group."
Child Protection Level 2


"10/10 course ... very useful for young people."
Safeguarding in a Digital World L3 (Cyber Safety)



"Very informative. Dawn made a difficult subject easier to discuss. Felt it was open and accepting to discussion, thank you."
FGM - A Child Protection Issue

"Found this course fantastic, Síle was a brilliant facilitator would definitely attend again."
Creative ways to communicate to Children & Young People through play



QUOTES ABOUT **CIARÁN**

*"Ciarán is a fantastic speaker, always really enjoy his talks. His **knowledge of trauma is superb**. Keep them coming!"*

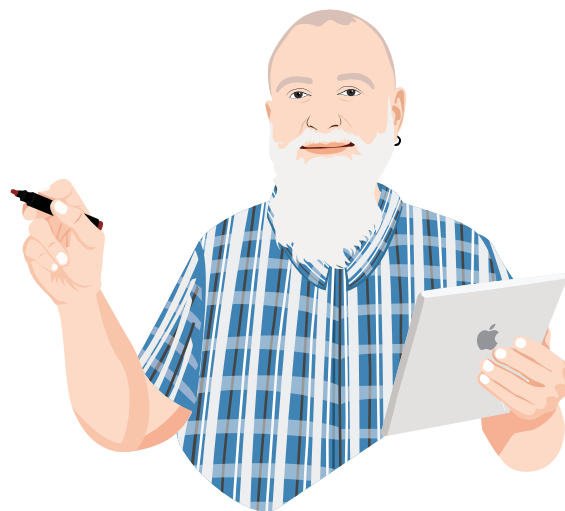
Trauma Informed Relationships

*"Course was very informative & interesting, Ciarán is an excellent facilitator, **excellent straightforward delivery**. Will definitely use these techniques."*

Managing Challenging Behaviour

"Ciarán was great. Good communicator. Great explanations and advice given."

Designated Officer



*"Ciarán brilliant trainer, kept it **alive and interesting**. Great to hear all the personal and professional examples!"*

Managing Challenging Behaviours

*"Everything was very useful and Ciarán is a **fantastic facilitator**. Thanks for making a tricky subject and enjoyable training session."*

Designated Officer

*"Really good and **worthwhile training**, and would recommend to anyone. Ciarán was brilliant."*

Safeguarding in a Digital World L3 (Cyber Safety)

*"Ciarán is a great instructor, very knowledgeable and his **delivery is amazing**."*

Child Protection Level 1

QUOTES ABOUT **ASSOCIATES**



CATHERINE BAXTER

South Eastern Regional College,
Designated Officer

📅 04/06/2019

"Enjoyed the course. Very informative and Catherine is fantastic, professional and knows her craft."



BRYAN MCGARVEY

North Down & Ards Women's Aid,
Safeguarding Children & Adults at Risk
Beth Scott CEO

📅 17/10/2020

"He facilitated a day that was enjoyable, interesting and positive while meeting all of the aims and objectives for staff learning and development. The staff were fully engaged throughout the entire day"



MUSTAPHA BEN HASSINE

North West Volunteer Centre,
Designated Officer

📅 09/09/2019

"Great facilitation by Mustapha, patient, knowledgeable, friendly and supportive."

Enterprise NI,
Designated Officer

📅 01/10/2019

"Very interesting day with some stimulating debate."

Mid-Ulster Council,
Safeguarding Training

📅 31/01/2020

"Very well delivered, full of content, able to get everybody connected."



JOHN O'GRADY & DEARBHLA WALSH

Addiction NI, WRAP Training

📅 12+19/02/2020

"Very enjoyable course. Very knowledgeable tutors – would recommend to others."



DAWN RICHARDSON

FGM – A Child Protection Issue

📅 22/08/2019

“Very informative. Dawn made a difficult subject easier to discuss. Felt it was open and accepting to discussion, thank you!”



ANDREA KEARNS

Mental Health First Aid

📅 23+25/05/2019

“Andrea was excellent. Clearly experienced and knowledgeable. V. sensitive and engaging.”



ADELE BOYD

Mencap Child Protection Level 1

📅 01/07/2019

“Adele was extremely knowledgeable and answered any questions I had.”



KAREN McELHILL

Mid Ulster Council

“Thank you for a very useful and engaging session.”



GILLIAN McAULEY

Therapeutic Crisis Support

Fostering Support Worker

📅 12-14/09/2019

“This was a fantastic course. I have gained so much knowledge to take forward. Two excellent tutors how kept us engaged as a group throughout.”



SARAH WATT

Poleglass Community Association

Designated Officer

📅 13/05/2019

“Presentation brilliant and well delivered and it was kept interesting throughout.”



ROBERT KANE

Paediatric First Aid

Building Bridges Community Arts Theatre

📅 15+17/01/2020

“Robert was very engaging and the sessions were as enjoyable as they were informative.”



LISETTE KROES

Child protection Level 1

Department of Communities, Belfast

📅 22/10/2019

“Excellent & professional course. Subject matter dealt with sensitively. Thank you.”



THINK
FAMILY



206
TRAINED
IN THINK
FAMILY

CiNI was tasked with providing awareness raising on ‘Think Family NI’ and has been asked to promote training on **The Family Model (TFM)** in the voluntary and community sector. The aim of this initiative is to improve outcomes for families where the parent has a mental illness and /or substance use problems.

Following on from the previous successful training of trainers programme in 2018 we have, despite limited funding, continued to deliver training with a dual approach- to train practitioners to improve their practice and to train leaders/ champions to provide support, guidance and encourage policy and practice change within their own organisation and across the sector.

CiNI continues to liaise with Dr Adrian Falkov, the original developer of the model, and also has engaged with Dr Anne Grant QUB who undertook an independent evaluation of the training which was very positive.

1. CiNI's Think Family project has contributed to three very significant events during this year: On the 7th May 2019 CiNI presented on its Think Family work in Omagh at a Regional Update and Launch of the Family Model eLearning Foundation Programme which was hosted by the WHSCT.
2. CiNI was very fortunate to be asked to be part of a Northern Ireland team of professionals presenting at an international conference in Oslo in May. 'It takes a village' explored the ways in which we can strengthen and support families where a family member has a mental illness, a physical illness or substance use issue. It examined ways in which individual and family recovery and capabilities might be promoted so that the risk of distress is reduced. The presentation outlined the impressive range of initiatives that have taken place from 2009 since Think Family was established as a priority for the Health and Social Care Board (HSCB) and was very well received by those attending the conference.
3. Dr Anne Grant and Dr Joan Broder presented at the HSCB social work research conference on the 11th March 2020 in the Belfast Castle.



WHAT WE HAVE LEARNED:

- ✓ Real hunger and demand for this training
- ✓ Service user involvement is very significant, adds value to development of materials and to the training itself
- ✓ Common language and framework between VCS and Statutory sector is very important
- ✓ Value of communicating the message via media, twitter, leaflets, attendance at conferences, promotional video and integration to existing training.



INFLUENCING & COLLABORATION



We engage in advocacy and policy initiatives to ensure that we work to implement policy change for children, young people and families.

ENGAGEMENT & COLLABORATION WITH:

- » Joint Forum
- » Department of Health
- » Department of Justice
- » Department for Communities
- » Children & Young People's Strategic Partnership
- » All Party Group on Children and Young People
- » Children's Future Food Inquiry
- » Safeguarding Board Northern Ireland
- » Education Authority
- » Health & Social Care Board
- » Health Trusts
- » All Political Parties
- » Northern Ireland Human Right's Commission

OUR ALLIANCES



» Children with Disabilities Strategic Alliance



» Child Poverty Alliance

CHILD POLICY INFORMATION SERVICE



e-Briefs sent out to members



Responded to 10 policy consultations



7106 followers



5088 followers



10,739 views



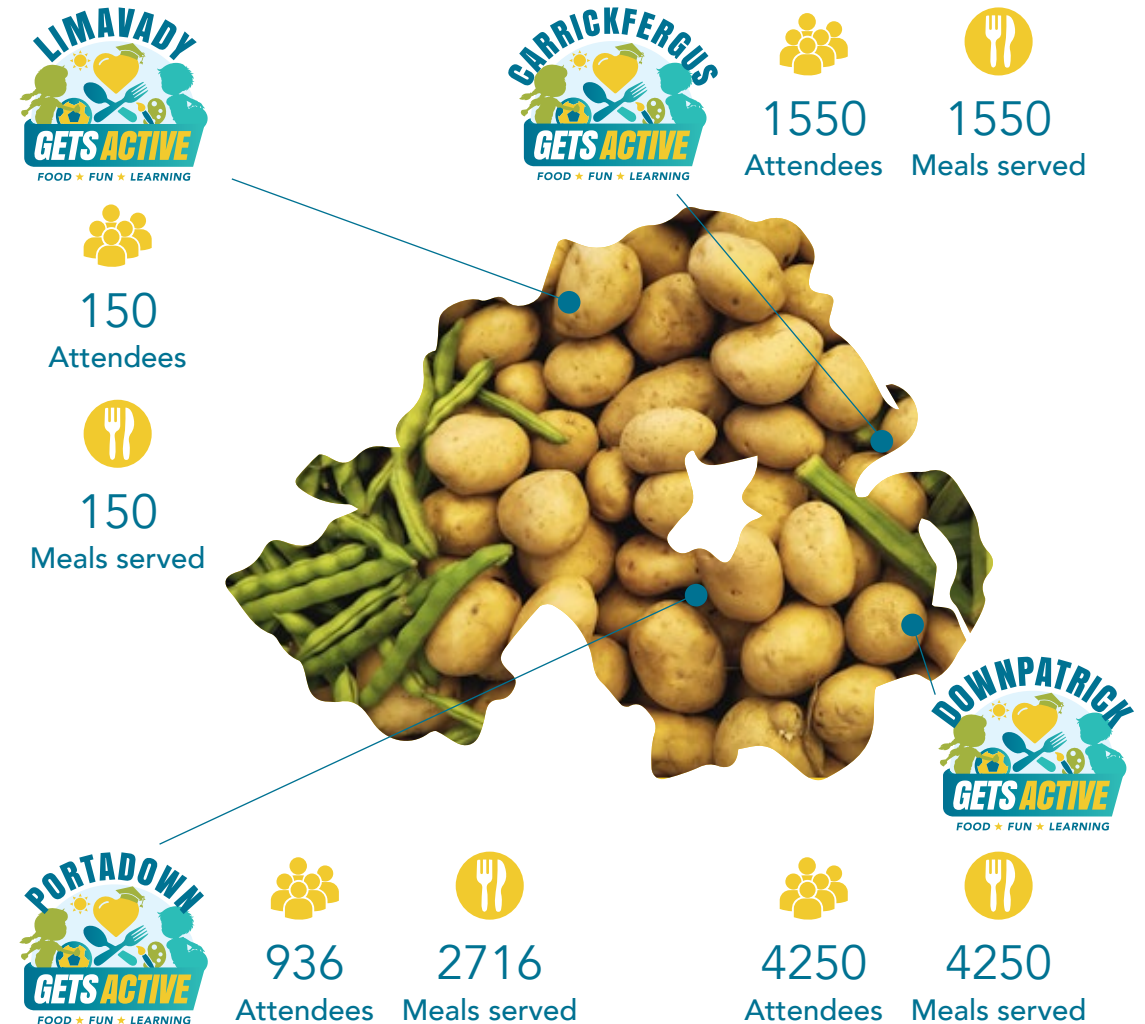
MISSION

Ensure the right to **adequate food** is realised for all children, young people and their parents.



IMPACT

Thanks to this work and our community partners, fewer children faced hunger this year. Our focus is on more than just feeding a child but empowering them by providing physical activities, education and after-school support. We are building a sustainable solution to ensure children are empowered for generations to come.



PARENTS OF CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES ADVISORY FORUM

The Advisory Forum provides an opportunity for parents to communicate their views on health and social care services and policy matters. The Forum allows parents to contribute to the development of key policy positions to raise awareness of the exclusion experienced by children and young people with disabilities. Marian Curran is heading up the Forum for Children in Northern Ireland.



WHAT THE PARENTS SAID:

"It helps my children interact and builds up their confidence."

"Getting the food was great for us.. My daughter is there every Tuesday and Wednesday night and she loves the suppers, always talks about the hot food a big thank you from all of us."

"For the first time my daughter was a volunteer during the programme, I am so proud of her."

"Art was fun & different."

WHAT THE CHILDREN SAID:

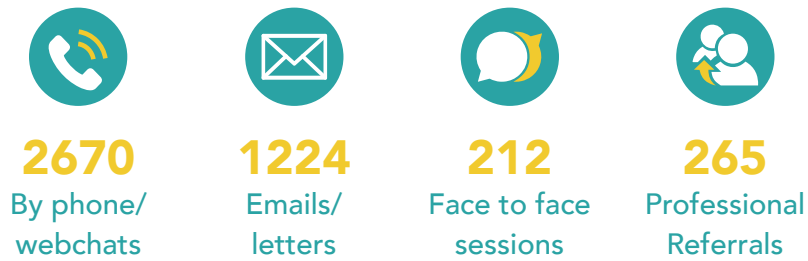
"I really enjoyed the activities especially the Ju Jitsu."

"We liked lunch because we all ate together with our friends."



Parent LineNI™

Advice . Support . Guidance



9
Parentline
Podcasts

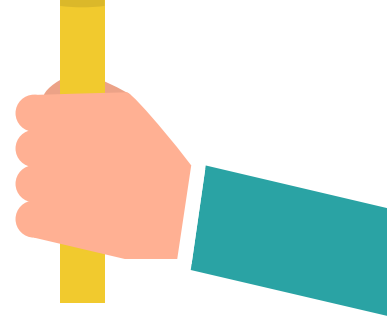


"I always feel like I am in safe hands when I call ParentLine."
Mum to twins under 5 years



"It's so comforting to know that I am not alone on this new parenting journey, thank you for making me feel like an individual again."
Anonymous

"I had no idea this support was available to Dads, now I know what I need to do to increase contact with my kids."
Separated Dad



"Just sharing – a local mum is struggling to juggle a multitude of issues with her eldest son and has this morning after almost a month of persuasion, rang the Helpline. She has just rang me and sounds so much lighter than she did earlier and that was due to the support she received from one of your Helpline Advisors. I think she said her name was Cathy. This mum is now much more focused on the immediate next steps and although it will be a long journey, I am delighted she has called and even more thrilled that even after just one call she feels the benefit."

SOUTHERN AREA LOCALITY PLANNING GROUPS 2019-20

Locality Planning Groups are partnerships between statutory, voluntary and community organisations that are working with and for children young people and families at a local geography; the Southern Area Locality covers:



- 1 Armagh
- 2 Banbridge
- 3 Craigavon
- 4 Dungannon
- 5 Newry
- 6 South Armagh



DURING 2019-20, WE HAVE ENGAGED WITH...



1306
Practitioners



541
Children & Young People



113
Community Groups



247
Parents/carers





Children & Young People's Strategic Partnership

THE CYPSP IS A MULTIAGENCY STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP, CONSISTING OF THE LEADERSHIP OF ALL KEY AGENCIES ACROSS STATUTORY, VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SECTORS WHO HAVE RESPONSIBILITY FOR IMPROVING OUTCOMES FOR ALL CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE IN NI.

The CYPSP supports vulnerable families through a Northern Ireland wide early intervention infrastructure. The CYPSP partners are committed to supporting this model. The model consists of the Family Support Hubs, the Locality Planning Groups, Outcomes Groups and the network of early intervention services.

The Partnership supports:

5 Outcomes Groups **24** Locality Planning Groups **29** Family Support Hubs



In 2019 Shane Devlin Chief Executive of the Southern Health & Social Care Trust took over as chair of CYPSP and hosted a workshop in December 2019 to review progress in collaborative working and plan the way forward.

The engagement of voluntary and community organisations in the work of CYPSP is critical to its success. The area based planning infrastructure supported by CYPSP is set out in the next table:

GROUP	LEVEL	MEMBERSHIP	FOCUS
CYPSP	Regional Level (Northern Ireland)	Partnership of senior regional leaders across all sectors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early intervention • Integrated planning and commissioning • Informed by/and inform individual organisational business, corporate and community plans • Participation and co-design • Improving outcomes for children and young people
Outcomes Groups	Sub-regional level (co-terminus with HSC Trust)	Partnership of senior Trust level leaders across all sectors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early intervention • Building preventative places • Improving outcomes for children and young people
Locality Planning Groups	Locality (neighborhood/ locality)	Practitioners and front line managers from across the statutory, voluntary and community Sectors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early intervention • Building preventative places • Improving outcomes for children and young people

The Partnership has several Task and Finish working groups working on specific regional cross-cutting themes.

TASK AND FINISH GROUP	CHAIR FOR 2019/20	LINKS	FOCUS
Regional ACEs Reference Group	Paul Morgan	5 Nations ACEs Group	Adverse Childhood Experiences and Trauma Informed Practice
Holiday Hunger Group	Pauline Leeson Ellen Finlay	UK Holiday Hunger work	<p>Campaign about ending Holiday Hunger in Northern Ireland by ensuring all children and young people get the healthy food they need and deserve every single day of the year</p> <p>This programme was an opportunity for a partnership approach to address the growing concern of Holiday Hunger during school closure periods in Northern Ireland</p>
Joint Education and Health working group for SEN in early years	Michelle Tennyson Pat Ward	SEN in Early Years	The purpose of the Group will be to develop and strengthen multi-agency partnerships in the delivery of high quality, integrated Early Year's SEN provision and support across Northern Ireland

The partnership continues to support a multi-agency information system to improve the use of data in planning and commissioning. CYPSP has developed a multi-agency information system to support integrated planning based on Outcomes Based Accountability.

The information team has supported the Family Support Hubs and Locality Planning to develop report cards to reflect the significant impact of their work.



In 2019/20 the CYPSP continued to work with Tusla to support them in the development of their information Hub.

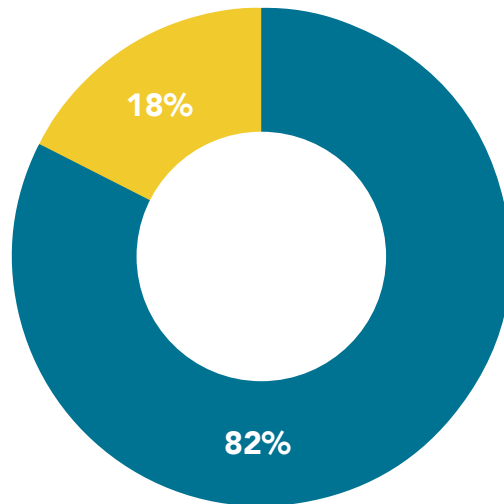
Finances

Statement of Financial Activities

INCOME

for the
year ended
31st March 2020

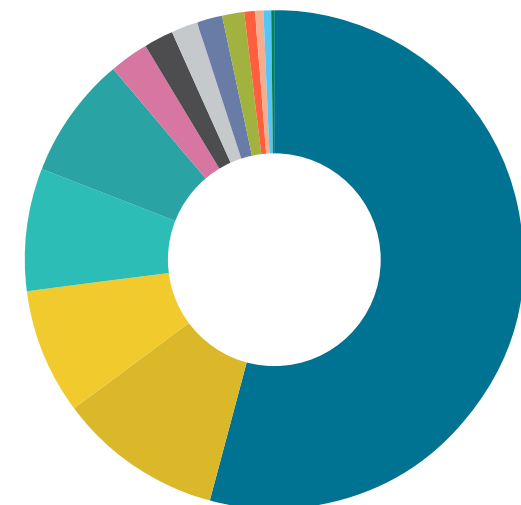
INCOME	AMOUNT
● Grants	£685,343
● Other Income	£145,502
Total Funds	£830,845



EXPENSES

for the
year ended
31st March
2020

EXPENSE	AMOUNT
● Salaries, Pensions & Social Security	£416,612
● Legal, Professional & Trainers	£82,071
● Property Rent & Upkeep	£62,696
● Publications & Promotion	£61,110
● Project Materials	£60,902
● IT Expenses	£19,498
● Stationery, Printing & Postage	£14,665
● Utilities	£13,227
● Room Hire & Catering	£12,669
● Travel Expenses	£10,956
● Sundries & Other	£5,408
● Training & Recruitment	£4,139
● Insurance	£3,870
● Subscriptions	£1,499
Total Expense	£769,595
Net Income	£61,250



CINI STAFF & BOARD OF DIRECTORS

2019/20

STAFF

Pauline Leeson	<i>Chief Executive</i>
Roger Gowdy	<i>Finance & Office Manager</i>
Ellen Finlay	<i>Policy Officer</i>
Ciarán Traynor	<i>Learning & Development Officer</i>
Joan Broader	<i>Change Co-ordinator Think Family</i>
Darren Curtis	<i>Locality Development Officer</i>
Jenny Groves	<i>Training Co-ordinator</i>
Katy Lynn	<i>Think Family Administrator</i>
Joanne Patterson	<i>Locality Development Administrator</i>
Nichola Greene	<i>Team Lead Parentline NI</i>
Gemma Robinson	<i>Administrator Parentline NI</i>
Ann Duffy	<i>Parent Support Officer Parentline NI</i>
Seaneen Madden	<i>Parent Support Officer Parentline NI</i>
Kate Preston	<i>Parent Support Officer Parentline NI</i>
Kathy Martin	<i>Parent Support Officer Parentline NI</i>
Julie Schiess	<i>Parent Support Officer Parentline NI</i>
Aine Barrett	<i>Parent Support Officer Parentline NI</i>
Anne Marie Drain	<i>Parent Support Officer Parentline NI (left August 2019)</i>
Eileen Mulhern	<i>Parent Support Officer Parentline NI (left October 2019)</i>
Maria Graham	<i>Parent Support Officer Parentline NI (left November 2019)</i>

BOARD MEMBERS

Marie Cavanagh	<i>Chairperson</i>
Josephine Marley	<i>Vice Chairperson</i>
Alison Beattie	
John Hunsdale	
Brenda McQueen	<i>Joined Nov 19</i>
Donnie Sweeney	<i>Resigned Nov 19</i>
Joy Poots	<i>Resigned Nov 20</i>



Children in Northern Ireland



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**CHILDREN IN NORTHERN IRELAND
THANKS OUR FUNDERS FOR THEIR
CONTINUED SUPPORT**

