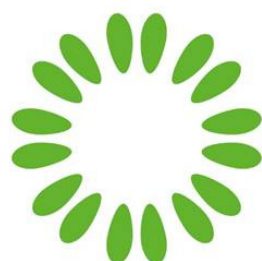


2021/22

footprints women's centre



# footprints

# ANNUAL

# REPORT

## Purpose

“to enable women and children in the Colin community to grow to ensure their voices are heard and that they take their rightful place in a just and equal society”

Footprints Mission Statement



# Contents

**1-3**

Chairperson &  
CEO Foreward

**4-5**

Support Services

**6-8**

Childcare

**9-10**

Training & Education

**11**

Good Relations

**12-15**

Sustainable Living

**16-17**

Family Services

**18**

Treasurer's Report

**19-20**

Financial Report

**21**

Awards

**22**

Partnerships

**23-24**

Acknowledgments



# Chairperson & CEO's Foreward

The spread and aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic has had vast immediate and long-term implications for women's equality globally. It has shone a spotlight on the chronic structural weaknesses of current systems and has exacerbated existing gender inequalities across all aspects of life, especially for the most vulnerable. Increased violence by men against women and girls, contractions in economic activity disproportionately affecting women and decreased visibility and voice in decision-making and representation in key institutions remain of especially deep concern and demand even greater coordination. The most recent statistics show that Northern Ireland faces an endemic in relation to female murders, with more women per capita murdered in Northern Ireland as a result of domestic violence than any other part of Western Europe.



Footprints continue to build on our unique obligation as an organisation, developing and delivering essential support services for women and children and coordinating work on gender equality both locally and in wider society. All policy responses to current crises must embed a gender lens and account for women's unique needs, responsibilities and perspectives.

From the very first days of the lockdown Footprints moved quickly to adapt our frontline services to meet the continuing needs of our service users. That we did so with the minimum of disruption to those we support speaks volumes for the sheer professionalism and dedication of our staff. They calmly approached the challenges they faced with innovative solutions and a real 'can-do' attitude, showing tremendous energy, flexibility, and professionalism. Leadership, innovation, resilience, and engagement were the hallmark of our work before lockdown and these qualities have stood by us during these challenging times.



Recognition of this outstanding contribution and sharing of good practice has also been made from outside the organisation with awards including 'Aspiring Leader of the Year' to Sustainability Manager Eileen Wilson and 'Best Community Daycare' to Childcare Manager Angela Garland. These come along side excellent inspection reports and commendations for our services.

The organisation has placed staff health and wellbeing as a priority, committing to improving our employees' lives, inside and outside of work, providing access a range of support including financial health checks and nutritional workshops, and advice and information supporting women's health. We participated in 'Work Well Live Well' a public Health Agency initiative and were delighted to receive a Workplace Health and Wellbeing Recognition Award in February 2022 for supporting staff health and wellbeing.

Alana Fisher - Chairperson  
Isobel Loughran - CEO



The commitment and support of our partner organisations has, as always, played an essential role in our development and growth, from FareShare's support to our Food services to hosting Groundwork's pilot 'Wellies in the Wood' programme , providing parents and children with the opportunity to learn and play together outdoors. Our successful collaborations have supported the sustainable growth of our services and a greater efficiency of resources.

Our charity partnership with PWC has been inspiring and has supported Footprints in making a tangible difference in the lives of the women and children we serve, sharing our passion and commitment to sustainable social change and assisting Footprints in ensuring we're on a firm footing for the future needs of Colin and beyond.

We will continue to strengthen, confident that our work in transforming lives for the better, and will flourish and grow in the years ahead.



# Support Services

The most recent statistics show that Northern Ireland faces an endemic in relation to female murders, with more women per capita murdered in Northern Ireland as a result of domestic violence than any other part of Western Europe. Additionally, instances of domestic violence, mostly related to violence committed against women, are rising significantly in Northern Ireland. Latest PSNI figures show that it received reports of almost 2,000 domestic abuse incidents between 14 December 2021 and 1 January 2022, a 12 per cent increase on the same period the year before.

We continue to work with our sister organisations in campaigning and lobbying for a Domestic and Sexual Abuse Strategy and Violence against Women and Girls Strategy that meets the needs and concerns of the women and children in the communities we serve.





# Support Services



## MAS Group



## Mindfulness

We continue to offer the only 'open door' crisis intervention services in the Colin Community for women. The daily demand for the service, demonstrates the overwhelming need that exists within the community for vital support services.

In addition to our 'open door' crisis intervention service, Footprints Support team provide weekly drop-in groups; childcare respite; Older women's groups; a 1:1 support service for women experiencing domestic violence; advocacy; referral to specialist agencies; stress management techniques; assist suicide first aid contact point and domestic violence awareness raising programmes. We also provide 'Pop up' support service sessions in community venues including local hostels, providing group and one to one support to women and families.

# Childcare

We have placed an even greater focus on the development of our children's outdoor play activities and spaces, gaining a Green flag Award in October 2021 in recognition of environmental management of our gardens and outdoor spaces. Children and families using our award winning spaces can avail of our newly installed outdoor climbing frame and Eco Barn, promoting and supporting positive health and wellbeing. We are also a registered NI Forest School, recognising our children's contact with nature to be extremely important from an early age.

The staff's commitment to quality was recognised in March 2022, receiving an award for 'Best Community Daycare' at a ceremony in the Titanic Hotel.





# Childcare

Our Day-care facility delivers affordable and flexible childcare to working parents and women in full and part time education/training. In addition, we provide childcare respite, providing childcare places for children at risk of going into care and families in need of support, and emergency social services referrals. Without this vital service many children would be left in unstable circumstances in relation to family life and environment. We provide food tasting sessions for our children, facilitated by Educator Chef Marie Anne Daly, as well as Yoga, Dance and Mindfulness in promoting their health and wellbeing.



## Food Tasting



## Yoga

# Childcare

Our annual South Eastern Trust inspection was carried out in October 2021 and I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to the childcare staff for their incredible teamwork. The excellent results contained in the report would not be possible without them. We would also like to thank our parents for their positive comments and reviews. We are immensely proud to be so highly rated and receive such positive feedback from parents using our services.





# Training and Education/Womens Empowerment

Our Training and empowerment programmes provides high quality capacity building programmes for women in a safe and welcoming space.

We carried out an online survey in July 2021, in identifying the needs of our members and how best to meet them. The wide range of accredited and non-accredited programmes on offer reflect Footprints responsiveness to member's surveys and consultations.

We have recently installed a full commercial kitchen in our sectional build, which will be used to deliver a range of skill's based programmes in supporting women's employment opportunities and work and volunteering opportunities.



# Training and Education/Womens Empowerment



Health and wellbeing remain a core part of our programme delivery and a wellbeing week was held as part of our International women's Day celebrations. Workshops, therapies and information sessions supporting women's physical and mental wellbeing were delivered in both our indoor and outdoor spaces.



# Good Relations

Good Relations work remains part of the centre core services and our Syrian women's group continues to develop and grow. Members meet weekly to share food and support and take part in conversational English classes. Six women from the group have successfully completed their ESOL training and now provide language support to other women in the group.

Representatives from the group were involved in the 2021 Black Santa Campaign, and met with Dean Stephen Forde in raising awareness of the needs and concerns of Syrian women and their families settling in Northern Ireland. The theme for the 2021 campaign was supporting refugees and the women provided much needed awareness raising on the groups unique needs.

Footprints partnership work with our sister organisation Windsor Womens centre provides opportunities for visits and trips where women can collectively and individually embrace the different races, political and faith backgrounds within our community.



# Sustainable Living

In April 2021, as Covid restrictions continued to impact service delivery, a key priority was to continue to operate Food Services and the Social Supermarket within Covid 19 regulations. We continued to respond flexibly to changing circumstances whilst responding to high levels of need for services.

This year was also a period to review the strategic direction of food services, to begin the process of rebuilding, post pandemic and to embrace the opportunities which had emerged.

Footprints Social Supermarket is successfully embedded in the Centre's core services and is an integral route for families in Colin to access food provision and wrap around support at Footprints. The need for this service has increased, not only as a result of the Covid pandemic but also as the rising cost of living begins to significantly impact both families on benefits and families with working parents on a low income.

Social Supermarket: A Social Supermarket redistributes the surplus produce from the food industry, to families experiencing food poverty, for a nominal fee. Alongside food, we have a wide range of 'wrap around' support services; to help women regain life skills; re-establish control over their finances and transition from crisis.



# Sustainable Living

To support the growing numbers of families in Colin experiencing poverty and accessing Footprints' services, alternative income generation streams for the Social supermarket's long term sustainability were considered, alongside the development of new initiatives to tackle unemployment.

A business plan for 2022-2025 was produced. This plan was informed by, an independent evaluation of the Social Supermarket project and also the opportunities arising from Footprints partnership with PwC; primarily the donation of commercial catering equipment which was sufficient to install a new training kitchen on site. To maximise resources and to prepare for the future, the operating structures of Food Services were reshaped.



This new venture Social Cook will be launched later in 2022. The Community Training Kitchen will offer programmes to gain accredited, hospitality skills training to improve employment prospects Opportunities will be available to build on learning and to gain confidence and 'hands on' experience by volunteering in our Social Action Project, cooking meals for organisations working on homeless projects. The Community Kitchen will also be a space for women and families to come together, to discover the pleasure of cooking good food, including fresh produce from our Social Grow: Kitchen Garden Allotments and to celebrate cultural milestones and special occasions through food.



# Sustainable Living

With support from DfC, additional storage containers were placed on site which enabled Footprints to access additional surplus food from our community partner Fareshare. While ensuring this food goes to families in need, continually seeking to reduce carbon emissions and environmental impact is a central focus of Footprints Sustainable Living Strategy.

Our work in this area was strengthened this year, by an Environmental Top up Grant which upgraded the PV solar panels installed previously in 2010. This upgrade has resulted in the improved efficiency of the renewable energy storage capacity which generates energy savings for the Centre and reduces Co2 emissions.

Grants from Belfast Harbour, Live Here Love Here and DOI Living Places, Living Spaces, alongside the building of an Eco Barn, funded by National Lottery Community Fund has enabled Footprints to place a focus on improving our outdoor space and developing our Climate Action Champions programmes. This work was recognised and celebrated when Footprints received a Green Flag Community Site Award 21/22.





# Sustainable Living

Alongside contributions to food insecurity research for University of Cambridge, Footprints contributed to the co design of a Carbon Literacy programme and formed a new partnership with QUB, Global food security team. We hosted many visitors and groups to Footprints this year, including Aston Centre, Kilcooley Women's Centre and Antrim Borough Council to discuss the Social Supermarket model and how this model can be replicated.

We also welcomed Lord Major, Kate Nicolls and Jayne Brady, Head of NI Civil Service to discuss the many challenges facing women and families in Colin and to raise awareness of the services which Footprints has developed to meet these challenges.

It was a great honour to attend the Lord Major's Dinner in February 2022 and to celebrate Belfast's diversity and vibrancy with so many other individuals and organisations, committed to community development principles of empowerment, human rights, inclusion, social justice, self-determination and collective action.



# Family Services



## Wellies In The Woods



## Girlz Utd



# Family Services

Footprints provides 1-1 support, CHAMPS (Children Healing through Art, Movement, Play and Smiles), MAS's (Maternal Advocacy and Support) programme), mums and tots, and bespoke programmes to support parents and families.

We were delighted to be part of Children in Needs' Money Heroes programme, supporting the delivery of a tailored financial education programme for our 5-10 year old CHAMPS group. The programme was delivered in a fun and interactive way, developing financial capability and important skills for the future.

All of this work is delivered by a highly skilled team who bring specialist skills and experience ensuring that services continue to meet the diverse range of needs of the women and families in the area. We have developed positive working relationships with key agencies, including STEM NI, Barnardo's, Social Services, Belfast and Lisburn Women's Aid, PSNI, Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference, NIHE, Colin Neighbourhood Partnership, Sally Gardens and Colin Surestart, ensuring access to a wide range of services is promoted and developed.

The waiting lists and feedback from Parents and children highlight the commitment from the staff who provide daily programmes, activities, visits and summer scheme.



## Money Heros



## Champs

# Treasurer's Report

Over the past year the work and role of Footprints in the local community has been of ever-increasing importance in light of further challenges post-Covid with the cost-of-living crisis as well as rising domestic violence against women and girls.

Footprints' entire team has shown determination and resilience in navigating challenges to ensure the fundamental support provision for women of children has remained at the core of the organisation's services.

Vital government funding has allowed Footprints to continue to provide essential and affordable childcare through Footprints Daycare and much needed Food Services Support initiatives through the Social Supermarket contributing to 'wealth building' in the local community.

Footprints has been a leader in the Colin area in terms of sustainability, charity partnerships and collaborations with a focus not only on the local community but further afield in acting as a Supermarket model to visitors and groups to share learnings and grow.

In order to continue this crucial work further Government support is urgently needed and we will continue lobbying on behalf of ourselves and the Womens' sector as a whole for commitment to support funding as well as strategies which will continue to support the needs of the women and children in the Colin area.



# Financial Report

## FOOTPRINTS WOMENS CENTRE

### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Restricted funds 2021 £	Total 2021 £
Notes						
<b>Income from:</b>						
Voluntary income	173,334	-	173,334	131,431	-	131,431
Charitable activities	-	545,699	545,699	-	491,497	491,497
Other trading activities	236,086	-	236,086	191,904	-	191,904
Investments	1,456	-	1,456	1,246	-	1,246
<b>Total income</b>	<b>410,876</b>	<b>545,699</b>	<b>956,575</b>	<b>324,581</b>	<b>491,497</b>	<b>816,078</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>						
Raising funds	185,777	-	185,777	196,475	-	196,475
Charitable activities	54,696	544,783	599,479	68,731	495,376	564,107
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>240,473</b>	<b>544,783</b>	<b>785,256</b>	<b>265,206</b>	<b>495,376</b>	<b>760,582</b>
<b>Net incoming resources before transfers</b>	<b>170,403</b>	<b>916</b>	<b>171,319</b>	<b>59,375</b>	<b>(3,879)</b>	<b>55,496</b>
Gross transfers between funds	(258)	258	-	(16,130)	16,130	-
<b>Net income for the year/ Net movement in funds</b>	<b>170,145</b>	<b>1,174</b>	<b>171,319</b>	<b>43,245</b>	<b>12,251</b>	<b>55,496</b>
Fund balances at 1 April 2021	424,703	732,092	1,156,795	381,458	719,841	1,101,299
<b>Fund balances at 31 March 2022</b>	<b>594,848</b>	<b>733,266</b>	<b>1,328,114</b>	<b>424,703</b>	<b>732,092</b>	<b>1,156,795</b>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

# Financial Report

## FOOTPRINTS WOMENS CENTRE

### CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT 31 MARCH 2022

	Notes	2022 £	£	2021 £	£
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Tangible assets			762,435		697,299
<b>Current assets</b>					
Debtors		39,642		48,268	
Cash at bank and in hand		644,219		511,315	
		<u>683,861</u>		<u>559,583</u>	
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>		<u>(118,182)</u>		<u>(100,087)</u>	
<b>Net current assets</b>			<u>565,679</u>		<u>459,496</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			<u>1,328,114</u>		<u>1,156,795</u>
<b>Income funds</b>					
Restricted funds			733,266		732,092
<u>Unrestricted funds</u>					
Designated funds		209,522		209,522	
General unrestricted funds		<u>385,326</u>		<u>215,181</u>	
			<u>594,848</u>		<u>424,703</u>
			<u>1,328,114</u>		<u>1,156,795</u>

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Directors on .....

.....  
Ms A Fisher  
Trustee

.....  
Mrs S Glymond  
Trustee

Company Registration No. NI036140

# Awards



## Workplace Health & Wellbeing Recognition Award



## Aspiring Leader Of The Year



## Best Community Daycare





## PWC Partnership Volunteering



## PWC 2022 Xmas Toy Donation

# Thank You!

*Footprints Board of Directors would like to acknowledge the staff and volunteers for their hard work, dedication and commitment over the last year.*

*Chairperson  
Alana Fisher*

*Vice Chairperson  
Ursula Carberry*

*Director  
Stacey Lavery*

*Director  
Roberta Denvir*

*Treasurer  
Sinead Glymond*

*Director  
Mary McNeill*

*Director  
Margaret Boyle*

*Director  
Rosanna Holmes*

*Director  
Noreen Braniff*

*Director  
Dolores Atkinson*

# Thank You!



**Making life better,  
together**  
Belfast Strategic Partnership



**DfC**  
Department  
for Communities  
[www.communities-ni.gov.uk](http://www.communities-ni.gov.uk)



**COMMUNITY  
FUND**



**Public Health  
Agency**

Project supported by the PHA



**South Eastern Health  
and Social Care Trust**

**BELFAST  
BLACK SANTA**



**co-operationireland**  
working for a future together

**early years**  
the organisation for young children

**The Community  
Foundation**



**AWARDS  
FOR ALL**

Northern Ireland



**Developing  
Healthy  
Communities**



**Clear**  
Emotional well-being & Mental health



**Belfast  
City Council**



We're supporting  
**BBC  
Children  
in Need**



**Social  
Enterprise NI**



**Northern Ireland  
Executive**  
[www.northernireland.gov.uk](http://www.northernireland.gov.uk)

**T:buc**  
Changing for the better, together



**FareShare**  
fighting hunger,  
tackling food waste

*We would just like to say thank you to our partners and funders –  
without you we would not be able to provide these essential services to  
women and children.*





We have evolved from a strong self-help ethos and operate within a Community Development context. Our Centre has been acknowledged as a valuable asset within the community and has developed a diverse range of services within the Colin Neighbourhood. We wish to continue to provide these services to women and children for many many years to come.

'To enable Women and Children to grow to ensure their voices are heard and that they take their rightful place in a just and equal society.'

We thank you for your continued support in our efforts to continue providing vital services and support throughout out local community and beyond.

---

## Contact

Footprints Women's Centre  
84A Colinmill,  
Belfast,  
BT17 0AR

02890 923444

[www.footprintswomenscentre.org](http://www.footprintswomenscentre.org)

**FOOTPRINTS WOMEN'S  
CENTREE**

ANNUAL REPORT 2021/22