



crisispregnancyagency 

ANNUAL REPORT
2005



THE WOMAN AT RISK OF, OR EXPERIENCING
CRISIS PREGNANCY AND THOSE INVOLVED
WITH HER ARE THE CENTRAL FOCUS OF THE
WORK OF THE AGENCY AT ALL TIMES.



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CRISIS PREGNANCY COUNSELLING PROVIDES A SUPPORTIVE AND NON-JUDGEMENTAL ENVIRONMENT FOR WOMEN AND COUPLES TO TALK ABOUT THE BACKGROUND TO THEIR CRISIS

LETTER FROM THE CHAIR



It is with pleasure that I present the fourth annual report of the Crisis Pregnancy Agency. This report documents the work undertaken by the Agency on its **Strategy to Address the Issue of Crisis Pregnancy** in 2005.

Providing for support and good services for women with a crisis pregnancy remains a very important element of our work. Since 2003 our crisis pregnancy counselling services have expanded from an initial six agencies to thirteen. For some women this means that they can now avail of crisis pregnancy counselling services in their local area; for others it means that they now have a choice of services available to them.

Crisis pregnancy counselling provides a supportive and non-judgemental environment for women and couples to talk about the background to their crisis and to consider all of their options. Counselling helps to alleviate the panic and anxiety that a woman may experience when she finds herself pregnant unexpectedly. For too long women in Ireland have faced crisis pregnancy alone, with no access to, or knowledge of, services that could help them. I believe that the Crisis Pregnancy Agency, together with the counselling services we fund, has been successful in encouraging women to attend services, and in providing support to them regardless of the decision they make.

I welcome the announcement by the Minister for Finance, Brian Cowen, T.D., of the New Childcare Strategy 2006-2010, and particularly the National Childcare Investment Programme. Our research shows that women do take their financial situation and supports into account when deciding how to deal with a crisis pregnancy. The Government's commitment to providing affordable, accessible childcare to those who need it will enable women who struggle financially to support their child to return to work or education.

Unfortunately, poverty is still a real possibility for women who become mothers in their teenage years or before they have finished their education. These new mothers need to be supported so that they can continue in or return to education or training and make a good life for themselves and their child. Non-Irish-national women also need special attention. It is important for them to know that free, professional counselling services are available to them if they have a crisis pregnancy and that supports are available to them if they choose to parent their child.

I would like to acknowledge and thank the Board for their work in guiding and advising the executive of the Agency in implementing the Strategy. Their commitment and professional expertise have enabled each function of the Agency to work to a very high standard. I thank them for their support and for giving their time so generously throughout the year.



Tánaiste and Minister for Health and Children, **Mary Harney, T.D.** with **Olive Braiden**, Chair, Crisis Pregnancy Agency at the launch of the Annual Report 2004.



Minister for Children, **Brian Lenihan, T.D.** and **Olive Braiden**, speaking at the launch of the Adoption report, June 2005.



John Keegan, Director of Services, The Adoption Board and **Sharon Foley** at the launch of the Adoption report, June 2005.

The Consultative Committee provides valuable advice for the Agency in conducting our work. Their solid and ethical direction in relation to numerous challenging issues is sincerely appreciated and I would like to thank each member for their participation and support.

On behalf of the Board I would like to thank An Tánaiste and Minister for Health and Children, **Mary Harney, T.D.**, for her interest, support and commitment to our work, and the officials within the Department for their continued assistance during the year.

Together with my colleagues on the Board I would like to thank **Sharon Foley**, the Director of the Agency from 2002 to 2005, for her excellent contribution to the strategic direction of the Agency since its beginnings. I would also like to thank **Caroline Spillane**, the Acting Director, and the staff of the Agency for the energy and hard work so evident in the scope and quality of work undertaken throughout the year. The Agency is fortunate to have a staff that has the necessary vision and experience to ensure that, with the guidance of the Board and the co-operation and goodwill of our partners, our Strategy will continue to be effectively implemented and monitored.

Olive Braiden

CHAIR



Grace Hillis, Receptionist

THE AGENCY PLACES GREAT IMPORTANCE ON OUR **WORKING RELATIONSHIP** WITH OUR PARTNER ORGANISATIONS IN THE STATUTORY AND VOLUNTARY/COMMUNITY SECTORS

INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW OF 2005 BY THE ACTING DIRECTOR



It is with great pleasure that I can report that the Agency has made good progress in 2005 on implementing and monitoring the Strategy to Address the Issue of Crisis Pregnancy. This report contains full details of the funding, research, and communications activities undertaken in 2005 to create a more supportive environment for women who are at risk of or experience a crisis pregnancy.

Work in Programmes and Communications focused on crisis pregnancy prevention in 2005. In addition to the 'Think Contraception' promotional campaign, which has had a very successful second year, the Agency also developed two new resources. The **Key Contact for Prevention** resource gives professionals who are in contact with people who may be at risk of crisis pregnancy information on contraception, sexual health and how to begin a conversation about these issues with a client. The Agency also developed '**Contraception 35-55**', a leaflet on contraception and sexual health for women aged between 35 and 55. Women in this age cohort are at risk of crisis pregnancy due to a lack of knowledge about their fertility and contraceptive needs as they grow older. The leaflet aims to improve knowledge about fertility and contraceptive choices among its target audience.

The work of the Agency has always been informed by a robust evidence base. In 2005 the research team worked on a series of Research Summaries, which bring together the findings from Agency research reports in a user-friendly format. Each summary is focused on the needs of a specific group.

The summaries are the result of collaborative work between the Agency and practitioners within specialist fields. This ensures the practical applicability of the findings to everyday activity. The first summary - **Research on Teenage Sexuality** - was developed to give parents an overview of teenagers' sexual knowledge and behaviour. The second and third summaries - **Research on Crisis Pregnancy** and **Research on Crisis Pregnancy Counselling** - were aimed at crisis pregnancy counsellors. Feedback from all groups indicates that the summaries are welcome, and they were found to be useful and informative.

The Agency also produced research reports on adoption, economic factors affecting pregnancy decision-making, and crisis pregnancy counselling and support services. It also published its first statistical report of fertility and crisis pregnancy indices.



The Agency places great importance on our working relationship with our partner organisations in the statutory and voluntary/community sectors to improve the range and quality of support services available for women who are at risk of or experience a crisis pregnancy. In this regard, the Agency provided €4.138m to over 60 projects in 2005. This included €1.26m in core crisis pregnancy counselling grants. In the latter part of the year the Agency undertook a comprehensive evaluation of the funding programme. This evaluation will inform the future of the funding programme, in conjunction with the future priority action plan and strategy of the Agency in the years ahead.

The Agency made progress in developing a manual of good practice for crisis pregnancy counsellors and in developing a framework of national standards for contraception services.

I would like to thank each member of the Agency's staff for their hard work and commitment.

On behalf of the Agency I wish to thank all those who contributed to our work by participating in the many projects and initiatives outlined in the report, and in particular our partner organisations in service delivery.

Finally, on behalf of myself and the staff, I wish to express my sincere gratitude and thanks to our Chair, Olive Braiden, members of the Board, the Subcommittees and the Consultative Committee of the Crisis Pregnancy Agency, who have provided the Agency with valuable expertise, guidance and support over the past year.

Caroline Spillane

ACTING DIRECTOR



The work of the Agency has always been informed by a robust evidence base. In 2005 the research team worked on a series of Research Summaries, which bring together the findings from Agency research reports in a user-friendly format. Each summary is focused on the needs of a specific group.

THE PURPOSE OF THE CRISIS PREGNANCY AGENCY IS TO BRING STRATEGIC FOCUS TO THE ISSUE OF CRISIS PREGNANCY AND SO TO ADD FURTHER VALUE TO THE WORK OF EXISTING SERVICE PROVIDERS

ROLE OF THE AGENCY

The Crisis Pregnancy Agency was established in October 2001 under the Health (Corporate Bodies) Act, 1961, and is governed by Statutory Instrument No. 446 of 2001: Crisis Pregnancy Agency (Establishment) Order, 2001.

The primary function of the Agency, as set down in the Statutory Instrument, is to prepare and implement a strategy to address the issue of crisis pregnancy, in consultation with relevant Departments of State and with such other persons as are considered appropriate.

The purpose of the Crisis Pregnancy Agency is to bring strategic focus to the issue of crisis pregnancy and so to add further value to the work of existing service providers. The **Strategy to Address the Issue of Crisis Pregnancy** was published in 2003.

The Strategy and Mandates of the Agency

The Strategy is the mechanism by which the Agency achieves the objectives set out in the three mandates specified in the Statutory Instrument. A brief description of the major elements of the Strategy in relation to the mandates appears below:

Mandate A: Prevention of crisis pregnancy

To achieve a reduction in the number of crisis pregnancies by the provision of education, advice and contraceptive services.

Key elements of strategy implementation will see:

- delivery of a programme of education
- delivery of a programme of skills-building for teachers, healthcare workers and parents
- a framework for the development of contraception services.

Mandate B: Services and supports for women experiencing a crisis pregnancy

To achieve a reduction in the number of women with crisis pregnancies who opt for abortion by offering services and supports which make other options more attractive.

Key elements of strategy implementation will see:

- enhanced and expanded crisis pregnancy counselling services
- delivery of a comprehensive communications campaign
- delivery of a programme of skills-building for GPs and health service workers
- delivery of a programme of work to inform policy makers and key decision-makers and to progress the development of key supports.

Mandate C: Post crisis pregnancy services

To ensure the provision of counselling and medical services after crisis pregnancy.

Key elements of strategy implementation will see:

- the framing of policy and research agendas
- delivery of enhanced and expanded post-abortion services: medical check-ups and post-abortion counselling
- provision of enhanced information materials on post-abortion services
- the further development of supports for women following crisis pregnancy.

The Agency's Way of Working: Vision and Principles

The woman at risk of or experiencing crisis pregnancy and those involved with her are maintained as the central focus of the Agency at all times. This focus ensures that the work of the Agency:

- is based on consultation with women themselves
- is based on partnership and consultation with both the statutory and voluntary agencies that play a role in the prevention of crisis pregnancy or in supporting women during and after crisis pregnancy
- contributes to the development of public policy
- can be held accountable
- adds value to the existing range of statutory and voluntary services
- nurtures innovation and courage in the creation of pioneering solutions through research and evaluation
- is based on continually improving quality in the pursuit of best practice.

This approach has informed the development and implementation of the Strategy since 2003 and will continue to inform the strategy implementation process in the years ahead.



STRUCTURE OF THE AGENCY



Ms Olive Braiden



Mr Peter Finnegan



Ms Rosemary Grant



Prof. Linda Hogan



Ms Geraldine Luddy



Mr Brian Mullen



Ms Pauline Moreau



Mr Anthony O'Gorman



Dr Máirín O'Sullivan



Ms Margaret Ryan

The Board

The Board comprises representatives of specified Departments of State, key relevant health disciplines and individuals with other specific expertise relevant to the operation of the Agency.

The Board is an independent body with funding provided by the Government, as recommended by the All-Party Oireachtas Committee on Health and Children.

Chair

Ms Olive Braiden

Members

Mr Peter Finnegan,

Businessman

Ms Rosemary Grant,

Principal Medical Social Worker, Coombe Women's Hospital

Professor Linda Hogan,

Theologian, Irish School of Ecumenics, Trinity College Dublin

Ms Geraldine Luddy,

Director, The Women's Health Council

Ms Pauline Moreau,

Principal Officer, Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform

Mr Brian Mullen,

Principal Officer, Department of Health and Children

Mr Anthony O'Gorman,

School Inspector, Department of Education and Science

(until March 2005)

Dr Máirín O'Sullivan,

Senior Inspector, Department of Education and Science (from June 2005)

Ms Margaret Ryan,

Addiction Counsellor, Member of IAAAC

The Board of the Agency met nine times in 2005.

THE CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE PROVIDES EXPERT ADVICE TO THE BOARD OF THE AGENCY AND FUNCTIONS AS A FORUM FOR ORGANISATIONS THAT HAVE AN INTEREST IN THE WORK OF THE AGENCY TO PRESENT THEIR VIEWS

THE CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

The Statutory Instrument provided for the establishment of a committee, drawing on the expertise of various statutory and non-statutory organisations. The function of the Consultative Committee is "to advise the Agency in relation to (a) any matters pertaining to crisis pregnancy as are referred to it by the Agency and (b) any other matters coming within the remit of the Agency."

Twenty members of the Consultative Committee to the Crisis Pregnancy Agency were appointed by Mr Micheál Martin, T.D., Minister for Health and Children, in November 2002. An additional three members were appointed in 2005: Ms Salome Mbugua, representative of non-Irish nationals, Ms Rosaleen McDonagh, representative of the Travelling Community, and Ms Mary Keogh, representative of persons with disabilities. An additional nominee will be appointed to represent the teachers' joint managerial board.

The Committee is chaired by Professor Linda Hogan on behalf of the Board.

The Consultative Committee provides expert advice to the Board of the Agency and functions as a forum for organisations that have an interest in the work of the Agency to present their views.

The Consultative Committee met on three occasions in 2005.

Subcommittees

The Board and the Executive of the Agency are supported in their work by a range of Subcommittees:

- Research
- Communications
- Finance
- Audit
- Funding
- Staff
- Counselling manual pre-planning group

Members are listed in Appendix 1.

The Executive of the Agency

The Agency has a staff complement of twelve persons.

Director

Ms Sharon Foley (on leave from July 2005)

*Acting Director

Ms Caroline Spillane (from July 2005)

Administration Manager

Mr Ivan Cooper (until October 2005)

*Acting Administration Manager

Mr Donal Rogers (from October 2005)

Programmes and Communications Manager

Ms Caroline Spillane (temporarily appointed to Director's post in July 2005)

Research Manager

Dr Stephanie O'Keefe (on leave from October 2005)

*Acting Research Manager

Ms Madeleine O'Carroll (from October 2005)

Research Officer

Ms Mary Smith

Health Promotion and Education Officer

Ms Siobán O'Brien Green

*Programmes and Communications Officer

Ms Orla McGowan (from July 2005)

Administration Officer

Ms Sheena McAfee (on leave from June 2005)

*Acting Administration Officer

Ms Lynn Dowling (from June 2005)

Administration Assistants

Ms Tracy Richardson, Ms Sarah Ryan, Ms Lynn Dowling (temporarily appointed to Administration Officer post in June 2005),

*Ms Lucy Deegan-Leirião

Clerical Officer/Accounts Clerk

Ms Patricia Wallace

Receptionist/Clerical Officer

Ms Grace Hillis

*Appointment to cover a temporary vacancy

Report on the work of the Agency in 2005

This report on the work of the Agency in 2005 is organised as follows:

Programmes and Communications

Research Programme

Funding Programme

Cross-Functional Projects

Administration of the Agency

OVER €1.9M WAS INVESTED IN THE PROGRAMMES AND COMMUNICATIONS FUNCTION OF THE AGENCY IN 2005

PROGRAMMES AND COMMUNICATIONS

Background to developments in 2005

In 2005 the programmes and communications function of the Agency worked towards:

- Preventing crisis pregnancy
- Providing services and support to women with a crisis pregnancy
- Maintaining established communications' channels between the Agency and the people and organisations interested in its work.

The programmes and communications team - consisting of a senior manager, a health promotion officer and an administrative assistant - was supported by the Communications Subcommittee. The Communications Subcommittee met with the programmes and communications team four times in 2005. Over €1.9m was invested in the programmes and communications function of the Agency in 2005.

Prevention of crisis pregnancy

'Think Contraception' advertising campaign

2005 was the second year of the 'Think Contraception' advertising campaign, which targets 18-24 year olds with the message that consistent use of contraception is the best way to prevent a crisis pregnancy. The campaign was featured on TV, radio, convenience advertising, cinema and in print.

Research conducted on the campaign by Lansdowne Market Research found that 75% of the key audience recalled the message: "No matter where or when - Think Contraception." 74% agreed that the campaign makes people more likely to think about or plan for the use of contraception. 126,000 Think Contraception leaflets

were distributed through pharmacies and GPs' surgeries in 2005 to coincide with the advertising campaign.

'Think Contraception' promotional campaign

In April 2005, the Agency commenced development of a promotional campaign on safer sexual health. Between June and December 160,000 'Think Contraception' tins were disseminated at outdoor music and sports events aimed at 18-25 year olds.

Evaluation of the promotion at the Oxegen music festival found that the tin was very popular among the people attending the event, and was considered to be appropriate and useful by the health workers at the event.

Contraception and sexual health for women aged 35-55

The Agency produced a leaflet for women aged 35 to 55 on contraception and sexual health in 2005. Research has found that women from this age group experience crisis pregnancy because they fail to use contraception, believing that their fertility is low or that they have been through the menopause. The suitability of different types of contraception changes as women get older. The leaflet explains these changes and urges women to continue to use contraception, even if their periods are irregular. 101,000 leaflets were disseminated through GPs' surgeries and pharmacies.

You Can Talk To Me

The 'You Can Talk To Me' campaign, to assist parents in talking to their children about sexual health and relationships, was launched in March. Research has found that when parents talk to

their children about sexual health it increases the likelihood that the young people will practise safer sex when they become sexually active. The booklet and accompanying DVD/video was distributed to all national libraries and citizens information centres. The resource was also made available on the CPA website.

Over 3,000 copies of the booklet and 2,500 copies of the DVD were distributed nationally. It has also been utilised as a key resource for the National Parents Council parents' training programme: 'Team Up'.

Services and supports for women experiencing a crisis pregnancy

Positive Options phase I

Four new services joined the Positive Options campaign this year - three based in Cork and one based in Tralee. This brings the total number of Positive Options agencies to thirteen. The SMS service has been modified and made even more responsive by allowing users to request information on a national or county-by-county basis. A new version of the Positive Options leaflet was produced to reflect the increased spread of services across all HSE areas.

This year the Agency has distributed 50,000 leaflets, 3,400 cards and 240 posters. The Positive Options website received 20,983 visits in 2005. The Positive Options text service responded to 86,854 requests in 2005. Omnibus research on the Positive Options advertising campaign indicated that there was high recall of the Positive Options campaign. Two out of three women aged 15 to 49 were aware of the campaign and its message. In conjunction with the on-going Positive Options campaign, the Agency developed



a new radio and press advertising campaign to alert women in their late 30s and 40s to the availability of crisis pregnancy services.

Golden Pages

The Agency negotiated the listings of Positive Options and the inclusion of a Positive Options directional advertisement under “Family Planning” in all Golden Pages directories.

Positive Options phase II

A series of leaflets for use in a Crisis Pregnancy Counselling session have been developed and disseminated to all Positive Options agencies. The leaflets contain information on different issues related to an unplanned pregnancy, such as having a baby, becoming a parent, returning to work, returning to education and childcare. Their style and tone take account of the counselling environment in which they are being used.

These resources were developed on behalf of the Agency by ‘One Family’, and they are intended to be used as sign-post leaflets to more comprehensive information resources and services currently available for women with a crisis pregnancy.



Orla McGowan, Programmes and Communications Officer and Siobán O'Brien Green, Health Promotion and Education Officer develop the Programmes and Communications materials produced by the Agency



Key Contact

A 'Key Contact' can be described as a person or agency who may be contacted when information on crisis pregnancy prevention or support services is needed. Three new 'Key Contact' resources were developed in 2005, to enable frontline workers to support the woman and to give her information about where she can get help. Assistance is also available to the woman's partner and family.

Key Contact for Prevention

This resource is aimed at frontline service providers working in the area of sexual health. Its purpose is to give service providers information on contraception and sexual health. It also lists sexual and reproductive health organisations that provide services throughout the country. 700 copies of the resource were distributed to agency contacts.

Key Contact for Community and Healthcare Professionals for HSE Northern Area

This resource was developed and disseminated in conjunction with the HSE Northern Area. It provides a list of service providers in the HSE Northern Area who can be contacted to provide information and support to women with a crisis pregnancy. 3,000 were produced and disseminated within this HSE area.

Key Contact - Directory of Supported Accommodation for Women Experiencing Crisis Pregnancy

This resource catalogues the nature and extent of supported accommodation services nationwide. It is intended for use by those seeking to source suitable temporary accommodation for women who require assistance with accommodation prior to or following an unplanned pregnancy.

Maintaining established communications' channels between the Agency and the people and organisations interested in its work.

Media relations and launches

In 2005 there was a significant amount of media interest in the 'You Can Talk To Me' DVD and booklet, the Mixed Methods Research on Adoption, the issue of counselling referral, the annual report, rogue counselling agencies and the Mixed Methods Research on Crisis Pregnancy Counselling and Support Services. The Agency developed press statements on all of these matters, in addition to responding to press queries throughout the year.

www.crisispregnancy.ie

The Crisis Pregnancy Agency web site was continually updated throughout the year to accommodate new information and features.

Health promotion and education function

This function participated in the proofing and editing of funded resources. It also conducted specialised workshops on sexual health issues, gave input at training events nationwide and continued to build strong networks and alliances for the Agency. The Health Promotion and Education Officer gave 10 presentations in 2005 on recent research findings and new campaigns and resources developed by the Agency.

Third level/USI

Incoming student welfare officers have been trained in the areas related to crisis pregnancy and have been made aware of the supports available to them. Welfare Officers and Student Health Centres have received comprehensive stocks of all Crisis Pregnancy Agency materials for use on campus.

Communications Subcommittee meetings

The Communications Subcommittee met on four occasions in 2005.

E-newsletter

E-newsletters were issued to 700 people in February, April, June, August, October and December.



Tracy Richardson, Administration Assistant on the Programmes and Communications team.

IN 2003 THE AGENCY INITIATED THE PROCESS OF EVALUATING RESEARCH RELATED TO CRISIS PREGNANCY BOTH WITHIN IRELAND AND INTERNATIONALLY

RESEARCH PROGRAMME

Background to developments in 2005

In 2003 the Agency initiated the process of evaluating research related to crisis pregnancy both within Ireland and internationally. As a result of this process gaps were identified, and procedures were put in place to address these gaps in knowledge about the behaviours, attitudes and opinions of Irish people in relation to crisis pregnancy.

In 2005 the end of this large research programme is now in sight, with the majority of funded projects having reached completion and publication. A total of 31 research projects have been commissioned by the Agency since 2003.

In 2005 the research function of the Agency worked towards

- managing on-going commissioned work
- disseminating published research findings to key stakeholders
- supporting development of evidence-based initiatives for communications programmes and the development of frameworks for contraceptive services and counselling
- evaluating the strategy implementation, communications initiatives and projects funded by the Agency.

To support this programme of activity Dr Stephanie O'Keeffe was appointed Research Manager to work alongside the Agency Director in managing the research function. The Research Subcommittee, including two members of the Board and two external experts, met five times during the year to support the work of the research function.

Managing on-going projects

The research department has also provided continuous administrative and research support to projects commissioned in 2003 and 2004. A wide range of projects were approaching their concluding stages during 2005. In particular, the research team have supported the initial reporting stages of the Irish Survey of Sexual Health and Relationships (ISSHR), involving input and review from a wide range of experts in the field. This study is jointly funded with the Department of Health and Children. Additionally, the research team have collaborated on the Relationships and Sexual Education Implementation Evaluation in post-primary schools with the Department of Education and Science.

Other projects managed in 2005 were:

- Additional analysis of: 'Understanding how sexually active women think about fertility, sex and motherhood' (Dr Jo Murphy Lawless, Associate Professor Laury Oaks and Ms Clare Brady: Trinity College Dublin)
- Qualitative research on men, sexuality and crisis pregnancy (Mr Fergus Hogan: Waterford Institute of Technology and Professor Harry Ferguson: The University of the West of England)
- Literature review of the emotional and psycho-social effects of abortion on women (Dr Patricia Kennedy: University College Dublin)
- The experience of concealed pregnancy in Ireland. This research project is funded by the Agency and managed in conjunction with the HSE Western Area (Ms Catherine Conlon: University College Dublin)

- Third-Level Audit: A research project designed to audit pregnancy prevention supports and services in third-level colleges (Ms Orla Murphy: Anvil Research)
- Work-Life Balance in Ireland: A literature review and analysis of research gaps (Dr Maryann Valiulis, Dr Jennifer Redmond and Ms Eileen Drew: Trinity College Dublin)
- The development of a strategic evaluation framework for the Crisis Pregnancy Agency (Professor Gerry Boyle: National University of Ireland, Maynooth and Farrell Grant Sparks)
- Towards a Teen Knowledge Attitudes and Behaviour Survey (Teen KABS): A scoping study (Dr Richard Layte: Economic Social Research Institute and Professor Hannah McGee: Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland)
- Influencing the Workplace and Workplace Networks: An analysis (Jackie Harrison: Consultant)

Disseminating published research findings to key stakeholders

The research team worked with the communications team to develop content, and issue, five e-newsletters. The following research reports were publicised and made available for download through the e-newsletter in 2005:

- Mixed method research of crisis pregnancy counselling and support services (Ms Catherine Conlon: UCD)
- Teenagers and the media: A media analysis of sexual content on television (Dr Carol MacKeogh: DCU)
- Mixed methods adoption research (Dr Hilda Loughran and Dr Valerie Richardson: UCD)
- An economic cost-benefit analysis of investment in crisis pregnancy prevention and support services (Farrell Grant Sparks Consulting)
- Crisis Pregnancy Agency Statistical Report 2005: Fertility and Crisis Pregnancy Indices (Ms Deirdre McGrath, Dr Stephanie O’Keeffe, Ms Mary Smith: CPA)

The Agency began work on Research Summaries in 2005. These leaflets are designed to bring the main findings of the Agency’s research to targeted audiences. The following were produced in 2005:

- Research summary for parents on teenage sexuality
- Research summary for crisis pregnancy counsellors on profiling crisis pregnancy
- Research summary for crisis pregnancy counsellors on women’s experience of crisis pregnancy counselling

Supporting the development of evidence based initiatives for communications programmes and the development of frameworks for contraceptive services and counselling

The research team, in conjunction with the other functions of the Agency, also:

- worked through the Research Subcommittee, Board and Consultative Committee to develop a model for evaluating the Agency’s strategy
- advised on a commissioned research project to evaluate the funding programme of the Agency
- assisted with media briefings for various launches, including the annual report launch in July
- provided research supports for communications initiatives; for example, the development and launch of the ‘You Can Talk To Me’ DVD and mechanisms to review the effectiveness of communication initiatives (such as omnibus research)
- assisted the Director with developing the contraceptive framework and evidence base
- worked with external projects funded by the Agency on reviewing their work or advising on evaluations
- worked with the Director and the National Children’s Office (NCO) towards establishing an interdepartmental forum on teenage pregnancy.

Submissions

The research team worked on submissions to the Department of the Environment, Heritage & Local Government on review of the Government’s Homeless Strategy and to the Department of Social and Family

Affairs on lone parenting and the development of a strategy on the family.

Research Subcommittee

The Research Subcommittee oversaw the development of a peer-review process for submitted research reports. It also undertook a full ranging risk assessment of the work of the research function of the Agency.

Research commissioned in 2005

Two new pieces of work were commissioned in 2005:

- Advertising campaign assessment (Lansdowne Market Research, Dublin)
- Improving knowledge regarding abortions performed on Irish women in the UK (Dr Roger Ingham: Centre for Sexual Health Research, University of Southampton)

Other research completed in 2005

The following studies were also completed in 2005:

- Towards a Teen Knowledge Attitudes and Behaviour Study (Teen KABS): A Scoping Study (Dr Richard Layte: Economic Social Research Institute and Professor Hannah McGee: Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland)
- Third-Level Audit: A research project designed to audit pregnancy prevention supports and services in third-level colleges (Orla Murphy: Anvil Research)
- Influencing the Workplace and Workplace Networks: An analysis (Jackie Howard: Consultant)
- The Development of a Strategic Evaluation Framework for the Crisis Pregnancy Agency (Professor Gerry

Boyle: National University of Ireland, Maynooth, and Farrell Grant Sparks).

- Work-Life Balance in Ireland: A literature review and analysis of research gaps (Dr Maryann Valiulis, Dr Jennifer Redmond and Ms Eileen Drew: Trinity College Dublin)

Attendance at conferences in 2005

- Health Research Board: 'Health services/systems research and its importance for health policy'. Dublin, February 2005
- Irish College of General Practitioners: 'Women's Health Conference'. Cork, May 2005
- Children's Research Centre, TCD: 'Adolescent Sexual Behaviour and Sexual Health: New Knowledge, New

Initiatives'. Dublin, September 2005

- The Department of Genito-Urinary Medicine & Infectious Diseases (GUIDE) St. James's Hospital and the Haughton Institute: 'School and Family Based Programmes for Preventing Substance Misuse' Trinity College Dublin Addiction Research Centre, September 2005.

Presentations in 2005

- Lecture to students studying Housing and Community Studies, UCD: Dublin, April 2005
- Irish Pharmaceutical Union: 'Annual Conference 2005'. Wicklow, April 2005
- The Department of Genito-Urinary Medicine & Infectious Diseases

(GUIDE) clinic, St James' Hospital and the Haughton Institute: '4th Annual Sexual Health Conference'. Dublin, September 2005

- National Working Group on Alcohol in Higher Education: 'Responding to CLAN: An Integrated Approach to Health and Welfare at Third Level'. Galway, October 2005
- Cork Sexual Health Centre: 'Understanding Human Sexuality: Biological, Psychological & Social Perspectives'. Cork, December 2005.



Mary Smith, Research Officer and Dr. Stephanie O'Keefe, Research Manager, oversee and co-ordinate the Agency's Research programme.

FUNDING PROGRAMME

The funding programme is overseen by the Funding Subcommittee of the Agency and is headed by the Administration Manager, with the support of an administration officer. The Funding Subcommittee of the Agency met four times in 2005.

Overview of developments in 2005

The funding programme provided €4.138m to over 60 projects in 2005.

This funding included €1.26m in Core Crisis Pregnancy Counselling grants (formerly administered by the HSE Northern Area). This core funding is provided to the following crisis pregnancy counselling agencies: Cura, Dublin Well Woman, Irish Family Planning Association, Life Pregnancy Care, One Family and PACT.

In addition to this core funding the agency also provided €2.874m in grants to these core funded agencies and other organisations providing crisis pregnancy counselling and other services and supports, in line with the mandates of the Crisis Pregnancy Agency. Funded projects include:

- 10 projects in the area of crisis pregnancy prevention
- 28 projects in the area of services and supports for women experiencing crisis pregnancy
- 17 projects in the area of crisis pregnancy counselling
- 5 projects in the area of post crisis pregnancy supports

A full list of projects funded under each of these headings is provided in Appendix 2.

A number of funded pilot projects completed evaluations. These evaluations assist the Agency in assessing the projects before committing to further funding. Evaluations also assist the projects and the Agency in further developing and improving service provision. All the projects that underwent evaluation achieved further funding.

The Agency made site visits to all funded projects in the Dublin area, following up on the visits to funded projects outside the Dublin area in 2004.

The Agency undertook a comprehensive evaluation of the funding programme in 2005. This consisted of developing a framework for the evaluation and a tendering process to commission consultants to carry out the evaluation. The framework for the evaluation was developed with the support of the research team. The Agency went to tender for the project and the successful tender was awarded in June 2005. The evaluation will assess the fit of the funding programme with both the mandates and the strategy of the Agency. The evaluation will inform the future of the funding programme, in conjunction with the future priority action plan and strategy of the Agency. The final report of the evaluation will be submitted in January 2006. The funding team worked closely with the consultants engaged in the evaluation over the period of time needed to assess the projects.

Crisis pregnancy prevention

Projects funded under this area include youth health promotion and education projects, sexual health and contraception clinics, and adult education programmes. The Agency provided €736,427 in funding to organisations for 10 projects in the area of crisis pregnancy prevention in 2005.

2005 saw the Agency continue to fund youth health-centre demonstration projects, including The Zone in Blanchardstown, Squashy Couch in Waterford and the Youth Health Centre in Cork. The Sexual Health Clinic at the University of Limerick received continued funding, as did Dublin Well Woman for the provision of extra hours on Mondays for their Emergency Contraception Clinic.

Sample Projects

HSE South Eastern Area - The Respect Project

The HSE South Eastern area has been piloting a very successful programme of peer-led sex education in selected second-level schools in the south-east area. The Respect Project is a new approach to the current Relationships and Sexuality Education (RSE) curriculum. The programme is being delivered to approximately 400 second-level students by a multidisciplinary team of teachers, health professionals and peer educators. Initial response to this project from schools, health professionals and students has been positive. The project is currently undergoing evaluation and an interim report is expected in early 2006.



National Parents Council Primary: Team Up

Another initiative underway in the area of prevention is the delivery of the Team Up programme by the National Parents Council Primary. Team Up was developed by the Relationships and Sexuality Training and Support Service for schools, in conjunction with the National Parents Council Primary. Team Up underpins the Relationships and Sexuality Education curriculum. The aim of this programme is to assist parents to educate their children in relationships and sexuality. Such was the positive feedback and demand for this programme that the Agency provided further funding in 2005 to the National Parents Council Primary to train more trainers to deliver the programme to a wider audience.

Services and supports for women experiencing crisis pregnancy

Projects funded in this area include initiatives such as supported accommodation services, information provision, short-term foster services, intercultural training and teen parent support programmes. In 2005 the Agency provided €1.289m in funding to organisations for 28 projects in the area of services and supports for women experiencing crisis pregnancy.

In the area of information provision, 2005 saw the Agency continue to fund information officer posts in both One Family and Treoir. Treoir also received funding to update and reprint their Information Pack for Unmarried Parents.

Continued funding was provided to positions of care workers in supported accommodation projects, including Limerick Social Services Council antenatal and postnatal supported

accommodation services and Spring Gardens Housing Association.

Also funded in this area are direct supports to organisations to enable them to deliver the services and supports to women experiencing crisis pregnancy. These supports include a crèche service for One Family and administrative, receptionist and coordinator posts for One Family, Life and Cura.

Sample Projects

Life Galway

- Shelter Support Accommodation

This initiative provides sheltered accommodation to women experiencing a crisis pregnancy. Women may be referred to the service by an external agency or they may refer themselves. The accommodation also provides a support programme to meet the client's needs. This programme includes areas such as parenting skills, nutrition, budgeting and personal health. The service also assists the client in moving on to find long-term accommodation and provides an outreach service to clients who have moved on. The service underwent evaluation in December 2005 and achieved a positive report, which will be considered by the Funding Subcommittee of the Agency in early 2006.

Cúnamh

- Short-term foster service

The Agency provides funding for the social worker post within this service to assist Cúnamh to deliver the short-term foster service. This service provides short-term foster care for babies while their birth mothers consider their options of parenting or adoption. Cúnamh has a panel of twelve foster families who are called upon based on need for the service.

Crisis pregnancy counselling

2005 saw the Agency continue to fund service providers providing free crisis pregnancy counselling. These are the services promoted by the Positive Options advertising campaign coordinated by the programmes and communications function of the Agency. €785,198 in funding was provided to these services with a further €1.264m provided in core funding (formerly administered by the HSE NA).

2005 saw the continued expansion of crisis pregnancy counselling services with the addition of a new service in the HSE Southern Area. The agency funds the position of one full-time equivalent counsellor post to this service. The service is operated out of the West Cork and Kerry regions. Funding is also provided for administrative and other overheads associated with the service. Counselling funding is also used by organisations to provide post termination counselling to women.

Support for women following a termination

2005 saw the agency provide €63,402 in funding to organisations providing post-termination supports for women. These supports include medical check-ups and support groups. Following up on pilots initiated in 2004, as well as the medical check-ups and support groups on offer by the other service providers in this area, it has become apparent that more resources are required in this area. This has been addressed in the service plan for the Agency for 2006.

CROSS-FUNCTIONAL PROJECTS COMBINE THE EXPERTISE OF TWO OR MORE OF THE FUNCTIONS OF THE AGENCY IN THE DEVELOPMENT AND ROLL-OUT OF ACTIVITIES

CROSS-FUNCTIONAL PROJECTS



Sarah Ryan, Project Co-ordinator on the National Framework for Contraception Services and the Standardised Framework for Crisis Pregnancy Counselling: A Practice Guide.

Cross-functional projects combine the expertise of two or more of the functions of the Agency in the development and roll-out of activities. The projects are led out by one senior manager. In the case of the Crisis Pregnancy Counselling Manual and Training Module, a pre-planning group, made up of two Board members, advises on the development of this project. Developments under cross-functional projects included:

National framework for contraception services

In the early part of the year the Agency created an outline model of how the development of a National Framework for Contraception Services might be approached. This was supported by a draft research base. Both were presented in draft format to a specially convened 23 member Expert Group, who debated on and contributed to the development of a draft framework and research base over the course of five sessions.

The draft Framework and its supporting draft research base were submitted for formal review by the Department of Health and Children in September. The review is centred on the policy direction of the document and the Department's view on the implications of its implementation. Following completion of this review the Board of the CPA will formally consider the draft Framework and research base. The Agency will then move to discuss with the Health Services Executive the 'Planning for Implementation' phase of the project, in which the full implications of the Framework are to be teased out, costed and planned.

Development of a standardised framework for crisis pregnancy counselling - a practice guide and training module

Work on the development of a manual of good practice on crisis pregnancy counselling was largely completed in 2005. An external facilitator, Carr Communications, carried out work on the development of the manual of good practice in 2005. This work was directed by a pre-planning group, which met on six occasions throughout the year. Components of the work involved desk research, widespread consultation, expert inputs and the drafting of a finalised manual by November. This was formally presented to the Board at the December meeting. In parallel, the Agency began a process of development of a training module to support the manual. This involved contacting universities, institutions and counselling centres nationwide.

Evaluation

Evaluation of the work of the Agency remained a focus of the research function with the completion of two important studies in 2005:

- Funding programme evaluation
- Evaluation framework to assess Strategy implementation

Both studies provided material that is now being incorporated into the work of all functions within the Agency.



Evaluation of the Strategy

In 2005 the Agency sought to take the first steps in the process of evaluating its own activities, both internally and externally. Firstly, the Agency commissioned consultants to look at all the work of the agency (other than the funding programme), focusing on the research and programmes and communications functions, as well as general administration activity within the Agency.

The focus of the consultants' audit was to establish the closeness of fit between the Agency's mandates, its activities and strategy in approaching the objectives of the organisation. The first stage of this process has been completed in 2005 and further work is being undertaken within the Agency, following the presentation of results by the consultants in this area.

A second step was to look at the Agency's external funding programme, in conjunction with the administration function of the Agency. Throughout the course of the year consultants have audited funded programmes and activities across the country and evaluated how each fits within the mandates of the Agency. The initial outcomes of this process indicate that activity and funding are well focused on the objectives of the Agency. The process has also provided some guidelines for developing frameworks for further funding application processing and monitoring.

This first stage has now been completed and the Agency looks forward to implementing a rigorous assessment of its performance in the coming years based on this work.

Supported accommodation

The Agency continued to provide assistance to the Supported Accommodation Providers Forum. This particularly related to the development of a strategy to progress and enhance their services. The assistance provided centred on supporting the Forum in developing best-practice guidelines in the provision of crisis pregnancy supported accommodation. The Agency also supported the Forum in conducting a mapping exercise to identify gaps in current provision and in planning to address unmet need.

OVERVIEW OF THE ADMINISTRATION FUNCTION IN 2005

Administration in 2005

2005 saw the administration team continue to provide high quality and efficient support to all functions across the Agency. This work underpins the delivery of all agency activity and ensures the Board of the Agency receives timely and accurate information regarding the day-to-day business of the agency. The administration function is headed by a senior manager and is supported by the administration team.

The administration function continued to enable the Agency to adhere to high standards of corporate governance and comply with all legislation affecting

the work of the Agency. 2005 also saw the administration function continue to support the Finance and Audit Subcommittee of the Agency to adhere to the requirements of the Comptroller and Auditor General in relation to financial accounting policies and practice of the Agency.

Finance and Audit Subcommittee

2005 saw the Finance and Audit Subcommittee finalise the Internal Financial Control document of the Agency. This is tabled for yearly review going forward in future years.

The Finance Subcommittee continued to review the monthly expenditure accounts and bank reconciliations of the Agency in advance of Board meetings.

The Subcommittee also assisted the Board in approving the annual accounts, as presented to the Comptroller and Auditor General.

The audit committee of the agency reviewed and advised on Internal Risk and Control analysis prepared by the programmes and communications function and the research function.

The audit committee also reviewed the outcomes of the internal audit function of the Agency.



Lynn Dowling, Administration Officer and Patricia Wallace, Accounts Clerk work on the funding programme and the administration for the Agency.

Financial management in 2005

In the area of financial management, the administration team:

- Managed the payroll, interim superannuation scheme and accounts of the Agency. This included the preparation of the monthly expenditure accounts and bank reconciliations.
- Prepared the year-end accounts for 2004 and facilitated the annual audit by the Comptroller and Auditor General.
- Ensured compliance with audit requirements from funded organisations.
- Reviewed and finalised the Internal Financial Control document of the Agency.
- Completed service planning with other functions and submitted estimates to the Department of Health and Children.
- Continued to liaise with the Department of Health and Children in respect of their financial requirements.

General administration in 2005

In the area of general administration, the administration team:

- Supported the Board of the Agency and its Subcommittees. This included convening meetings and recording the proceedings.
- Prepared the 2004 annual report, in conjunction with the other functions of the Agency.
- Managed the IT system of the Agency.
- Assisted all functions on procurement and tendering processes.
- Ensured smooth day-to-day general housekeeping.

Human resource management in 2005

In the area of human resource management in 2005, the administration team:

- Organised recruitment and selection activities to recruit two new staff members during 2005 and arranged temporary cover for one position.
- Facilitated maternity leave arrangements of three staff members. This included internal recruitment for acting-up arrangements and the provision of temporary cover for the vacancies arising as a result.
- Arranged training for staff on both an individual basis and for the entire team, including senior management. This took the form of a day's training provided to the team in-house to improving internal communications.
- Continued to operate the day-to-day HRM activities (annual leave, annual reviews, sick leave etc.) and provide support and supervision to staff of the administration team.
- Reviewed and updated the staff handbook of the Agency and conducted a review of other HRM policies in place with a view to updating in 2006.

STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE BOARD

Section 17 of Statutory Instrument No. 446, (Crisis Pregnancy Agency Establishment Order), 2001, requires the Board to keep all proper accounts of all monies received or expended by it, including an income and expenditure account and a balance sheet. In preparing those financial statements, the Board is required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless a decision is taken for the Agency not to continue in operation
- follow applicable accounting standards, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.

The Board is responsible for keeping proper books of account which disclose, with reasonable accuracy at any time, the financial position of the Agency and which enable it to ensure that the financial statements comply with Section 17 of Statutory Instrument 446 of 2001. The books of account are held at the Agency's headquarters at 89-94 Capel Street, Dublin 1. The Board is also responsible for safeguarding the Agency's assets and for taking reasonable steps to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.



CHAIR



ACTING DIRECTOR

STATEMENT ON INTERNAL FINANCIAL CONTROL

On behalf of the Board of the Crisis Pregnancy Agency, I acknowledge our responsibility for ensuring that an effective system of internal financial control is maintained and operated.

The system can only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance that assets are safeguarded, transactions authorised and properly recorded, and that material errors or irregularities are either prevented or would be detected in a timely period.

The Board has taken steps to ensure an appropriate control environment is in place by:

- clearly defining management responsibilities and powers
- establishing formal procedures for monitoring the activities and safeguarding the assets of the organisation
- developing a culture of accountability across all levels of the organisation

The system of internal financial control is based on a framework of regular management information, administration procedures, including segregation of duties, and a system of delegation and accountability. In particular, it includes:

- a comprehensive budgeting system with an annual budget which is reviewed and agreed by the Board
- regular reviews by the Board of periodic and annual financial reports which indicate financial performance against forecasts
- setting targets to measure financial and other performance
- formal project-management disciplines.

As the Agency was established in 2002, the internal audit function is not fully developed. However, when developed, it will be overseen by the Finance & Audit committee in line with the Framework standards set out in the Code of Practice on the Governance of State Bodies. The internal audit function will provide the Board with a report on the adequacy and effectiveness of the system of internal financial control. The enhancement of the internal audit function is on the Agency's work plan for 2006.

The Board's monitoring and review of the effectiveness of the system of internal financial control will be informed by the internal audit report to the Finance & Audit Committee during 2006. The Finance and Audit Committee will oversee the work of internal audit, the executive managers with the Agency who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the financial control framework and comments made by the Comptroller and Auditor General in his management letter.

I confirm that while no formal review of the effectiveness of the system of internal control took place during the year, the system was kept under review by the Board on an on-going basis.

Signed on behalf of the Board.

Olive Braiden

Chair
CRISIS PREGNANCY AGENCY

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES

1 Basis of Accounting

These financial statements are prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles under the historical cost convention and comply with the financial reporting standards of the Accounting Standards Board subject to any exception noted below.

2 Income

The Oireachtas Grant income represents the receipts from the Department of Health & Children in respect of the year 2005.

3 Fixed Assets

Fixed assets are shown at original cost less accumulated depreciation. Depreciation is provided on the straight line basis at the following rates

| | % |
|-------------------------|------------|
| Computers and telephony | 33 |
| Furniture | 12.5 to 25 |
| Leasehold Improvements | 10 |

4 Capital account

The capital account represents the unamortized amount of income allocated for the purchase of fixed assets.

5 Superannuation

Pending the establishment of an approved defined benefits superannuation scheme under Section 20 of Statutory Instrument No. 446 of 2001, a pension scheme is being operated on an administrative basis. Superannuation costs are charged against revenue when they arise. Contributions are being deducted from employees and are retained by the Agency pending a decision by the Department of Health & Children on the treatment of such contributions. By direction of the Minister for Health & Children, no provision is made in the financial statements in respect of future pension liabilities.

REPORT OF THE COMPTROLLER AND AUDITOR GENERAL FOR PRESENTATION TO THE HOUSES OF THE OIREACHTAS

I have audited the financial statements of the Crisis Pregnancy Agency for the year ended 31 December 2005 under Section 5 of the Comptroller and Auditor General (Amendment) Act 1993.

The financial statements, which have been prepared under the accounting policies set out therein, comprise the Statement of Accounting Policies, the Income and Expenditure Account, the Balance Sheet and the related notes.

Respective Responsibilities of the Agency and the Comptroller and Auditor General

The Crisis Pregnancy Agency is responsible for preparing the financial statements in accordance with the Crisis Pregnancy Agency (Establishment) Order 2001 and for ensuring the regularity of transactions. The Agency prepares the financial statements in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice in Ireland as modified by the directions of the Minister for Health and Children in relation to accounting for superannuation costs. The accounting responsibilities of the Members of the Agency are set out in the Statement of Responsibilities of the Board.

My responsibility is to audit the financial statements in accordance with relevant legal and regulatory requirements and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland).

I report my opinion as to whether the financial statements give a true and fair view, in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice in Ireland. I also report whether in my opinion proper books of account have been kept. In addition, I state whether the financial statements are in agreement with the books of account.

I report any material instance where moneys have not been applied for the purposes intended or where the transactions do not conform to the authorities governing them.

I also report if I have not obtained all the information and explanations necessary for the purposes of my audit.

I review whether the Statement on Internal Financial Control reflects the Agency's compliance with the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies and report any material instance where it does not do so, or if the statement is misleading or inconsistent with other information of which I am aware from my audit of the financial statements. I am not required to consider whether the Statement on Internal Financial Control covers all financial risks and controls, or to form an opinion on the effectiveness of the risk and control procedures.

Basis of Audit Opinion

In the exercise of my function as Comptroller and Auditor General, I conducted my audit of the financial statements in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland) issued by the Auditing Practices Board and by reference to the special considerations which attach to State bodies in relation to their management and operation. An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures and regularity of the financial transactions included in the financial statements. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgements made in the preparation of the financial statements, and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the Agency's circumstances, consistently applied adequately disclosed.

I planned and performed my audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations that I considered necessary in order to provide me with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or other irregularity or error. In forming my opinion I also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements.

Opinion

As explained in the Statement of Accounting Policies, the Agency recognises the costs of superannuation entitlements only as they become

payable. The policy does not comply with Financial Reporting Standard 17 which requires such costs to be recognised in the year the entitlements are earned. While the failure to comply with Financial Reporting Standard 17 does not impact on the overall financial performance or position of the Agency as disclosed in the financial statements, in my opinion compliance is necessary for a proper understanding of the costs of providing the superannuation benefits earned by employees during the year and of the value of the benefits that the Agency has committed to providing in respect of service up to the year end.

Except for the failure to recognise the Agency's superannuation costs and liabilities in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 17, the financial statements give a true and fair view, in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles in Ireland, of the state of the Agency's affairs at 31 December 2005 and of its income and expenditure for the year then ended.

In my opinion, proper books of account have been kept by the Agency. The financial statements are in agreement with the books of account.



Gerard Smyth
For and on behalf of the
Comptroller and Auditor General
22 June 2006

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

| FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2005 | Notes | 2005 | 2004 |
|--|-------|------------------|------------------|
| INCOME | | € | € |
| Oireachtas grant | | 7,399,030 | 7,306,000 |
| Grant Department of Health and Children | | 125,000 | - |
| Transfer from/(to) capital account | 2 | 18,491 | 63,726 |
| Total income | | 7,542,521 | 7,369,726 |
| EXPENDITURE | | € | € |
| Service provision | 3 | 6,560,035 | 6,535,071 |
| Administration Expenses | 4 | 1,059,093 | 977,594 |
| Total expenditure | | 7,619,128 | 7,512,665 |
| (Deficit)/surplus for year | | (76,607) | (142,939) |
| Accumulated surplus at 1st January 2005 | | 117,048 | 259,987 |
| Accumulated Surplus At 31st December 2005 | | 40,441 | 117,048 |

The Agency had no gains or losses in the financial year or the preceding period other than those dealt with in the income and expenditure account.

The Accounting Policies together with notes 1 to 10 form part of the financial statements.

On behalf of the Board

Olive Braiden

CHAIRPERSON

Caroline Spillane

ACTING DIRECTOR

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2005

| | Notes | 2005 | 2004 |
|--------------------------------|-------|----------------|----------------|
| | | € | € |
| Fixed assets | 1 | 128,938 | 147,429 |
| Current assets | | | |
| Debtors and prepayments | | 26,442 | 27,277 |
| Cash at bank and on hand | | 494,475 | 425,521 |
| | | 520,917 | 452,798 |
| Current liabilities | | | |
| Creditors and accruals | 7 | 480,476 | 335,750 |
| Net current assets | | 40,441 | 117,048 |
| Net assets | | 169,379 | 264,477 |
| Represented by: | | | |
| Capital account | 2 | 128,938 | 147,429 |
| Income and expenditure account | | 40,441 | 117,048 |
| | | 169,379 | 264,477 |

The Accounting Policies together with notes 1 to 10 form part of these financial statements.

On behalf of the Board

Olive Braiden

CHAIRPERSON

Caroline Spillane

ACTING DIRECTOR

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2005

| | Furniture & Equipment | Computers & Telephony | Leasehold & Improvements | Total |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|
| 1. Fixed assets | | | | |
| Costs | € | € | € | € |
| Balance 1st January | 127,309 | 84,316 | 121,503 | 333,128 |
| Additions | - | 25,052 | - | 25,052 |
| Disposals | - | - | - | - |
| Balance 31st December | 127,309 | 109,368 | 121,503 | 358,180 |
| Accumulated Depreciation | | | | |
| Balance 1st January | 67,748 | 81,564 | 36,387 | 185,699 |
| Charge for year | 23,473 | 7,920 | 12,150 | 43,543 |
| Disposals | - | - | - | - |
| Balance 31st December 2005 | 91,221 | 89,484 | 48,537 | 229,242 |
| Net book value | | | | |
| Balance 31st December 2005 | 36,088 | 19,884 | 72,966 | 128,938 |
| Balance 31st December 2004 | 59,561 | 2,752 | 85,116 | 147,429 |
| | | Notes | 2005 | 2004 |
| 2. Capital account | | | | |
| Balance 1st January 2005 | | | € 147,429 | € 211,155 |
| Income applied to purchase/disposal of fixed assets | | | 25,052 | - |
| Amortised in the year in line with asset depreciation | | | (43,543) | (63,726) |
| Balance 31st December 2005 | | | 128,938 | 147,429 |
| 3. Service provision | | | | |
| Grant payments | | 8 | 4,166,232 | 3,817,764 |
| Communication programmes | | 9 | 1,960,230 | 2,081,654 |
| Research | | | 433,573 | 635,653 |
| Total | | | 6,560,035 | 6,535,071 |
| 4. Administration expenses | | | | |
| Payroll | | | 733,462 | 632,839 |
| Rent | | | 115,864 | 115,865 |
| Office supplies | | | 81,482 | 68,845 |
| Board | | | 11,765 | 17,620 |
| Utilities and insurance | | | 50,112 | 53,340 |
| Audit fee | | | 10,100 | 8,000 |
| Professional fees | | | 9,243 | 7,744 |
| Bank charges | | | 390 | 467 |
| Repairs | | | 3,132 | 9,148 |
| Depreciation | | | 43,543 | 63,726 |
| Total | | | 1,059,093 | 977,594 |
| 5. Contingent liabilities | | | | |
| There were no contingent liabilities at 31st December 2005. | | | | |

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2005

6. Capital and other commitments

- a) There were no capital commitments at 31st December 2005.
b) The Agency has commitments up to 2012 in respect of lease of office accommodation at Capel Street, Dublin 1. The current annual rent is €115,864.

7. Creditors and Accruals

| | € | € |
|--------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Trade creditors | 183,547 | 267,276 |
| Pension deductions | 81,862 | 48,846 |
| Accruals | 215,067 | 19,628 |
| | 480,476 | 335,750 |

8. Grants and payments

| | € | € |
|--|------------------|------------------|
| Prevention of Crisis Pregnancy | 719,427 | 615,043 |
| Services and supports for women | 1,239,179 | 1,177,022 |
| Experiencing Crisis Pregnancy Counselling Services | 764,573 | 698,849 |
| Post Crisis Pregnancy Services and Support | 60,902 | 90,530 |
| Core funding | 1,263,823 | 1,236,320 |
| New developments | 118,328 | - |
| | 4,166,232 | 3,817,764 |

9. Communications Programmes

| | € | € |
|--|------------------|------------------|
| Prevention of Crisis Pregnancy | 980,835 | 1,179,747 |
| Services and Supports for Women | 911,420 | 838,941 |
| Experiencing Crisis Pregnancy Communication Services | 67,975 | 62,966 |
| | 1,960,230 | 2,081,654 |

10. Board Members disclosures of transactions

The Board adopted procedures in accordance with guidelines issued by the Department of Finance in relation to the disclosure of interests by Board members and these procedures have been adhered to in the year. There were no transactions in the year in relation to the Board's activities in which Board members had any beneficial interest.



APPENDIX 1

MEMBERSHIP OF THE CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE, SUBCOMMITTEES OF THE BOARD AND EXTERNAL WORKING GROUPS

MEMBERSHIP OF THE CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

CHAIRPERSON

Professor Linda Hogan, Theologian, Irish School of Ecumenics and Board Member, Crisis Pregnancy Agency

MEMBERS

Mr Niall Behan, Chief Executive Officer and Representative of Irish Family Planning Association (to April 2005)

Ms Rosie Toner, Director of Pregnancy Counselling and Representative of Irish Family Planning Association (from May 2005)

Ms Karen Dent, Representative of the National Parents Council

Dr Séan Daly, Master, Coombe Women's Hospital, Representative of the Institute of Obstetrics and Gynaecology

Dr Michael Darling, Consultant Obstetrician and Representative of the Church of Ireland Bishops

Ms Margaret Dromey, Director and Representative of Treoir

Ms Catherine Duffy, Development Officer, Primary Care, HSE Western Area, Representative of the Health Services Executive

Ms Barbara Keogh, Programme Manager, ICTU, Representative of ICTU

Ms Louise Graham, National Coordinator and Representative of Cura

Mr David Hughes, Deputy General Secretary and Representative of the Irish Nurses Organisation (to March 2005)

Ms Kay Garvey, Representative of the Irish Nurses Organisation (from April 2005)

Ms Julie Kerins, Cunamh, Representative of Council of Irish Adoption Agencies

Ms Karen Kiernan, Director and Representative of One Family (to March 2005)

Ms Sherie deBurgh, Counselling Coordinator and Representative of One Family (from April 2005)

Ms Mary Keogh, Representative of persons with disabilities

Ms Margaret McCarthy, Education Officer and Representative of An Bord Altranais (to March 2005)

Ms Ursula Byrne, Education Officer and Representative of An Bord Altranais (from April 2005)

Ms Rosaleen McDonagh, Representative of the Travelling Community

Ms Alison Begas, Chief Executive and Representative of Dublin Well Woman Centre

Ms Ann Power, Representative, Irish Bishops Conference (to June 2005)

Dr Ailís Ní Ríain, Director, Women's Health Programme, Irish College of General Practitioners (ICGP) and Representative of ICGP

Ms Noelle Ryan, Taoiseach's Nominee

APPENDIX 1

MEMBERSHIP OF THE SUBCOMMITTEES OF THE BOARD

FUNDING SUBCOMMITTEE

This Subcommittee advises the Board in relation to the development and management of the Agency's funding programme.

Mr Brian Mullen (Chairperson of Subcommittee and Board Member)

Ms Rosemary Grant (Board Member)

Ms Sharon Foley (Director, Crisis Pregnancy Agency)

Ms Caroline Spillane (Acting Director, Crisis Pregnancy Agency (from July 2005))

Mr Ivan Cooper (Administration Manager, Crisis Pregnancy Agency) Administrative Support: **Ms Sheena McAfee**, Ms Lynn Dowling (from June 2005)

FINANCE AND AUDIT SUBCOMMITTEE

This Subcommittee advises the Board on all matters relating to the financial management of the Agency.

Ms Pauline Moreau (Chairperson of Subcommittee and Board Member)

Ms Geraldine Luddy (Board Member)

Mr David Kelly (Finance/Audit Adviser, serves on Audit Subcommittee (to August 2005))

Ms Sharon Foley (Director, Crisis Pregnancy Agency)

Ms Caroline Spillane (Acting Director, Crisis Pregnancy Agency (from July 05))

Secretary: Mr Ivan Cooper

(Administration Manager, Crisis Pregnancy Agency)

RESEARCH SUBCOMMITTEE

This Subcommittee advises the Board in relation to all matters pertaining to the research function.

Professor Linda Hogan (Chairperson of Subcommittee and Board Member)

Mr Anthony O'Gorman (Board Member (to June 2005))

Dr Máirín O'Sullivan (Board Member (from June 2005))

Dr Davida de la Harpe (External (to July 2005))

Dr Margret Fine-Davis (External)

Ms Sharon Foley (Director, Crisis Pregnancy Agency)

Ms Caroline Spillane (Acting Director, Crisis Pregnancy Agency (from July 2005))

Dr Stephanie O'Keeffe (Research Manager, Crisis Pregnancy Agency)

Ms Madeleine O'Carroll (Acting Research Manager, Crisis Pregnancy Agency (from October 2005))

Ms Mary Smith (Research Officer, Crisis Pregnancy Agency)

Administrative Support: Ms Deirdre McGrath (to June 05). **Ms Suzanne Corr** (to Sept 2005). **Ms Lucy Deegan Leirião** (from Sept 2005).

COMMUNICATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE

This Subcommittee advises on and oversees the development of the programmes and communications campaigns of the Agency.

Ms Olive Braiden (Chairperson of Subcommittee, and Chairperson of the Crisis Pregnancy Agency)

Mr Peter Finnegan (Board Member)

Ms Geraldine Luddy (Board Member)

Ms Sharon Foley (Director, Crisis Pregnancy Agency)

Ms Caroline Spillane (Programmes and Communications Manager, Crisis Pregnancy Agency, Acting Director from July 2005)

Ms Orla McGowan (Programmes and Communications Officer, Crisis Pregnancy Agency)

Ms Siobán O'Brien Green (Health Promotion Officer, Crisis Pregnancy Agency)

Administrative Support: Ms Tracy Richardson

STAFF SUBCOMMITTEE

This Subcommittee advises the Board on issues relating to human resource management in the Agency.

Ms Olive Braiden (Chairperson of Subcommittee, and Chairperson of the Crisis Pregnancy Agency)

Dr Máirín O'Sullivan (Board Member)

Ms Lynn Dowling (Staff Representative)

COUNSELLING MANUAL

PRE-PLANNING GROUP

This Subcommittee oversaw the pre-planning and development of the Standardised Framework for Crisis Pregnancy Counselling - Practice Guide and Training Module.

Ms Margaret Ryan (Board Member)

Ms Rosemary Grant (Board Member)

Ms Sharon Foley (Director, Crisis Pregnancy Agency)

Ms Caroline Spillane (Acting Director, Crisis Pregnancy Agency (from July 2005))

Administrative Support: Ms Niamh Nolan (to June 2005). **Ms Sarah Ryan** (from June 2005).



APPENDIX 2

PROJECTS FUNDED IN 2005

Prevention of crisis pregnancy

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| The Zone Café, Blanchardstown | 32,820.00 |
| HSE South Eastern Area: Squashy Couch | 150,000.00 |
| HSE South Eastern Area: Peer-led sex education project | 156,507.00 |
| HSE Southern Area: Youth health centre | 283,000.00 |
| University of Limerick: Sexual health clinic | 19,500.00 |
| Well Woman: Emergency contraception clinic | 6,000.00 |
| National Parents Council Primary: Team Up | 15,000.00 |
| City of Dublin VEC: Sexual health programmes | 36,600.00 |
| Tallaght Youth Service: Youth health cafe | 20,000.00 |
| SUBTOTAL | 719,427.00 |

Services and supports for women experiencing crisis pregnancy

| | |
|---|---------------------|
| One Family: Information officer | 56,100.00 |
| One Family: Programme officer | 56,100.00 |
| One Family: Receptionist | 27,300.00 |
| One Family: Crèche service | 30,000.00 |
| Cúnamh: 0.5 social worker | 27,239.00 |
| Cura: Regional co-ordinator | 59,800.00 |
| Life: Tullamore service | 7,000.00 |
| Life: National co-ordinator hours | 14,374.00 |
| Life Cork: Administrator | 56,100.00 |
| Life Galway: Accommodation main service | 84,600.00 |
| Limerick Social Services Council: Sonas pre-natal supported accommodation | 50,300.00 |
| Limerick Social Services Council: Altamira post-natal supported accommodation | 50,100.00 |
| Newcastle (Co. Limerick): Extended crisis pregnancy support clinic | 11,000.00 |
| HSE North Eastern Area: Teen Parents Support Initiative | 150,000.00 |
| HSE Northern Area: Teen Parents Support Initiative | 129,950.00 |
| Pact: 0.5 social worker | 32,500.00 |
| Spring Gardens: Supported accommodation care worker | 41,500.00 |
| Teen Parents Support Initiative: National co-ordinator | 95,000.00 |
| Treoir: Information Officer | 70,000.00 |
| HSE Western Area: Family support worker | 33,100.00 |
| Limerick Social Services Council: Outreach | 8,000.00 |
| Treoir: Publications print | 38,000.00 |
| Well Woman: Intercultural training | 11,920.00 |
| Cúnamh: Short-term fostering | 61,000.00 |
| Life Galway: Supported accommodation extended provision | 23,000.00 |
| Accommodation supports | 15,195.77 |
| SUBTOTAL | 1,239,178.77 |

APPENDIX 2

PROJECTS FUNDED IN 2005

Counselling

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| One Family: Counselling service | 41,800.00 |
| One Family: Training & supervision (counselling) | 9,760.00 |
| Cúnamh: Training & supervision (counselling) | 3,000.00 |
| IFPA: Counselling | 155,000.00 |
| IFPA: Training & supervision (counselling) | 8,940.00 |
| IFPA: Co-ordination of counselling | 70,729.00 |
| Alliance: Counselling | 73,822.00 |
| Life: Supervision of voluntary workers | 11,450.00 |
| Life: Counselling - 2/3 post | 34,100.00 |
| Life: Accreditation training costs | 5,000.00 |
| Mayo General: Counselling service | 76,400.00 |
| MHB: GP pilot counselling | 82,800.00 |
| Portiuncula Hospital: Counselling | 120,000.00 |
| Well Woman: Crisis pregnancy counselling | 44,300.00 |
| Well Woman: Post-abortion counselling | 14,700.00 |
| PACT: Counselling improvements trd & sup | 12,772.00 |
| SUBTOTAL | 764,573.00 |

Counselling core funding

| | |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| CURA Core | 594,956.00 |
| IFPA Core | 168,225.00 |
| LIFE Core | 157,688.00 |
| PACT Core | 58,757.00 |
| One Family Core | 88,149.00 |
| Dublin Well Woman Core | 131,511.00 |
| Golden Pages | 64,537.00 |
| SUBTOTAL | 1,263,823.00 |

Post termination

| | |
|--|------------------|
| IFPA: Post-abortion support groups | 31,500.00 |
| IFPA: Free post-abortion medical check-ups | 10,560.00 |
| Alliance: Medical check-ups | 9,442.00 |
| Well Woman: Post-abortion medical checks | 9,400.00 |
| SUBTOTAL | 60,902.00 |



New developments

| | |
|---|-------------------|
| Contraceptive framework development work | 21,425.75 |
| National Parents Council Primary: Team Up | 17,000.00 |
| Cúnamh: Once Off 1/2 year | 15,000.00 |
| Treoir: Once off | 35,000.00 |
| New Aspects/Services Counselling | 20,625.00 |
| Well Woman: Leaflet | 2,500.00 |
| Roll-out of counselling module | 6,777.55 |
| SUBTOTAL | 118,328.30 |

| | |
|--------------|---------------------|
| TOTAL | 4,166,232.07 |
|--------------|---------------------|

APPENDIX 3

A Code of Ethics for the Crisis Pregnancy Agency

The purpose of this Code of Ethics is to articulate the principles that guide the Crisis Pregnancy Agency's decision-making in light of its responsibilities towards its diverse constituencies. These principles will guide the decisions that are made regarding the development, funding and support of projects and the Crisis Pregnancy Agency's research (including the research it funds). The principles will form part of the frame of reference when proposals for funding are being assessed.

In its approach to its work, and in supporting the work of others, the Agency will:

- be respectful of and non-judgmental regarding the choices made by women who face crisis pregnancy
- be respectful of a woman's autonomy and her right to privacy (within the constraints of the law)
- be guided by reliable research and good practice in all areas of our work
- endeavour to work collaboratively with agencies working in the field
- strive to promote policies that are respectful of the diverse experiences and viewpoints that exist on this issue
- be supportive of agencies which
 - > use professional approaches to counsel, educate and provide information to the public
 - > fully inform clients of their organisation's ethos
 - > promote informed decision-making in resolving issues regarding crisis pregnancy and related sexual health matters
 - > use reliable research and responsible monitoring and evaluation methods to ensure accountability and good practice
 - > work to promote equity of access and quality for clients
 - > provide referrals to bona fide service providers when the information or service requested by the client is not available