

# KEY CONTACT

## DIRECTORY OF SUPPORTED ACCOMMODATION FOR WOMEN EXPERIENCING CRISIS PREGNANCY



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Health Service Executive

crisispregnancyprogramme



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# ABOUT THIS DIRECTORY

This directory provides information on supported accommodation services available to women experiencing crisis pregnancy. This resource has been developed by the HSE Sexual Health and Crisis Pregnancy Programme in association with the Forum of Supported Accommodation Service Providers for use by Key Contacts in the management and prevention of crisis pregnancy.

A **Key Contact** can be described as a person or agency who may be contacted by a woman in need of information on crisis pregnancy support services. Key Contacts can include health service providers, counsellors, GPs, citizens' information centres, youth workers, teachers, etc. This publication is one in a series of resources produced by the HSE Sexual Health and Crisis Pregnancy Programme under the 'Key Contacts' banner.

Supported accommodation services can be described as providing 'semi-independent accommodation, with a support programme in place which is accessed either directly on-site or through external agencies'<sup>1</sup>. The accommodation caters for pregnant young girls and women, lone mothers with children, or both, who may be without a home as a result of a crisis pregnancy. '[Supported accommodation] is time-limited and provides a pathway to independent living.'

Those using the directory should note that, for ease of reference, services have been listed by region, i.e. Leinster and Munster. However, the use of any service is not restricted to those living in a designated region. While services aim to be as inclusive as possible, it is important to note that some supported accommodation services are not suitable for women with several children. In other situations, accommodation which might be suitable for babies is not ideal for older children.

Particular attention should be paid to the referral procedures for the individual services, as some will accept self referrals while others may not. This directory was first published in November 2005. We have made every effort to ensure that the information contained in this updated web version was correct at time of publication (December 2015). Please notify the HSE Sexual Health and Crisis Pregnancy Programme of any changes to individual services. A copy of this updated directory is also available on [www.crisispregnancy.ie](http://www.crisispregnancy.ie).

The HSE Sexual Health and Crisis Pregnancy Programme wishes to thank the members of the Forum of Supported Accommodation Service Providers for their involvement and assistance in updating this most useful resource.



Ms. Helen Deely  
Head of the HSE Sexual Health  
and Crisis Pregnancy Programme

<sup>1</sup> I. Keogh, 2003.

# Carr's Child and Family Services – ECCLESVILLE

**Type of Organisation:** VOLUNTARY SERVICE

(Funded by Tusla to support pregnant women and lone parent families with one child)

**Contact:** Ms. Christina Hughes

Carr's Child and Family Services  
5 Northbrook Road  
Ranelagh, Dublin 6

**Tel:** 01 497 1519 **Fax:** 01 497 0409

**Email:** info@carrschildandfamilyservices.ie

## TARGET GROUP

- Pregnant women/lone parents with additional support needs

## CRITERIA

- Minimum age 18 years

## LEVEL OF SUPPORT

- Key worker support

## CANNOT ACCEPT

- Women in active drug use
- Women with high support needs
- Women with more than one child

## REFERRAL PROCEDURE

- Parent visits the service initially
- Application form
- Completed application form goes to the admission/discharge committee

## REFERRAL AGENCIES

- Tusla
- Maternity Hospitals
- Mental Health Services
- Disability Services

## TOTAL PLACES

- 7 bedsits
- Fully furnished

## PAYMENTS

- Qualifies for rent allowance
- Parents pay their own electricity
- Rent collected weekly

## FACILITIES

- Shared laundry (nominal charge)
- Resource room – TV, library, toys and computer
- In house crèche

## CATERING

- Own kitchen

## POLICIES

- Drug/alcohol Misuse
- Complaints
- Equal Opportunities
- Child Protection
- Data protection Policy
- Health and Safety
- Bullying and Harassment Policy

## VISITORS

- Encouraged
- Can go to bedsits
- Times – between 10:00 and 21:00
- No overnight visitors allowed

## LENGTH OF STAY

- One year

## LINKS OUTSIDE ACCOMMODATION

- Community Mothers Programme
- Resettlement team
- Crèche available (separate from accommodation)
- One Family programmes
- Moving on programme
- Specialist services (as needed)
- Treoir for information
- Access to counselling

## EDUCATION

- Parents encouraged to return/ remain in education
- Onsite workshops

# INTERAID

Type of Organisation: **VOLUNTARY HOUSING ASSOCIATION**

Contact: **Ronnie Ellis** Tel: 01 298 7426

- 12 Lakelands Road, Stillorgan, Co. Dublin
- 103 Upr. Kilmacud Rd, Stillorgan, Co. Dublin
- 137 Upr. Kilmacud Rd, Stillorgan, Co. Dublin
- 1 Kilmacud Avenue, Stillorgan, Co. Dublin

## TARGET GROUP

- Mothers & Babies, Physically challenged singles and married couples with no children

## CRITERIA

- Must be registered on a local authority housing list
- Minimum age 18 years
- Must be able to cope with independent living

## LEVEL OF SUPPORT

- All staff volunteers
- No in-house staff

## CANNOT ACCEPT

- Women misusing drugs/alcohol
- Emergency cases
- Women with medium to high support needs
- Pregnant women/new mothers under 18 years

## REFERRAL PROCEDURE

- Application form/client questionnaire
- Self referral

## REFERRAL AGENCIES

- Self referral/family members
- HSE

## TOTAL PLACES

- 16 Self-Contained Apartments. Mostly Single Bedroom, some Two Bedroomed
- Fully furnished

## PAYMENTS

- Qualifies for rent allowance
- Residents pay own electricity and gas
- Financial support facilitated
- Rent collected weekly

## FACILITIES

- Self contained units
- Shared garden/yard

## CATERING

- Own kitchen

## POLICIES

- Tenancy agreement
- Rent book

## VISITORS

- Encouraged
- Can go to Apartments
- Partners allowed
- No overnights

## LENGTH OF STAY

- Open ended at present

## LINKS OUTSIDE ACCOMMODATION

- One Family programmes

# LIFE HOUSE

**Type of Organisation:** NATIONAL VOLUNTARY ORGANISATION

**Contact:** Deirdre Delaney

Life Pregnancy Care Service  
International House  
College Close, Tara Street  
Dublin 2

**Tel:** 01 6351492

**Email:** life@life.ie

## TARGET GROUP

- Pregnant women/new mothers in need of temporary accommodation
- Women considering adoption

## CRITERIA

- Must be homeless
- Minimum age 18 years
- Must be able to cope with independent living
- Access at any stage of pregnancy and up to 6 months post-natally

## LEVEL OF SUPPORT

- One part time Support Worker employed
- Additional volunteer staff

## CANNOT ACCEPT

- Women with more than one child in their care
- Women misusing drugs/alcohol
- Children over 6 months
- Women with medium to high support needs
- Women with serious mental health problems
- Women with high or complex needs unless HSE provide staff
- Pregnant women/new mothers under 18 years

## REFERRAL PROCEDURE

- Letter of introduction from referring agency/social worker
- Application form/client questionnaire
- Interview with client
- Self referrals

## REFERRAL AGENCIES

- Social workers
- Pregnancy counselling agencies
- Self referrals/family members
- HSE
- GPs

## TOTAL PLACES

- 3 rooms for mothers with babies and one room for single pregnant women

## PAYMENTS

- Qualifies for rent allowance
- Means tested

## FACILITIES

- Shared laundry
- Shared TV room
- Shared garden/yard

## CATERING

- Shared kitchen

## POLICIES

- Tenancy agreement
- Rent book

## VISITORS

- No male visitors
- Female visitors during the day only
- No overnight visitors

## LENGTH OF STAY

- 6 months

## LINKS OUTSIDE ACCOMMODATION

- One Family programmes
- Specialist services (as needed)
- Treoir for information
- Ante/post-natal care
- Access to counselling

# RENDU APARTMENTS

**Type of Organisation:** VOLUNTARY, TRANSITIONAL  
HOUSING ORGANISATION

**Contact:** Keith Payne

Vincentian Housing Partnership

North William Street

Dublin 1

**Tel:** 01 836 3548

**Email:** keith.payne@depaulireland.org

## TARGET GROUP

- Homeless women who are single or are with children as single parents.

## CRITERIA

- Service undergoing review process at present, please contact service provider directly for further details.

## LEVEL OF SUPPORT

- Service undergoing review process at present, please contact service provider directly for further details.

## CANNOT ACCEPT

- Service undergoing review process at present, please contact service provider directly for further details.

## REFERRAL PROCEDURE

- Service undergoing review process at present, please contact service provider directly for further details

## REFERRAL AGENCIES

- Service undergoing review process at present, please contact service provider directly for further details

## TOTAL PLACES

- Service undergoing review process at present, please contact service provider directly for further details.

## PAYMENTS

- Service undergoing review process at present, please contact service provider directly for further details.

## FACILITIES

- Service undergoing review process at present, please contact service provider directly for further details.

## CATERING

- Service undergoing review process at present, please contact service provider directly for further details.

## POLICIES

- Service undergoing review process at present, please contact service provider directly for further details.

## VISITORS

- Service undergoing review process at present, please contact service provider directly for further details.

## LENGTH OF STAY

- Service undergoing review process at present, please contact service provider directly for further details.

## LINKS OUTSIDE ACCOMMODATION

- Service undergoing review process at present, please contact service provider directly for further details.



# THE BESSBOROUGH CENTRE

**Type of Organisation:** VOLUNTARY ORGANISATION  
WITH A RANGE OF SERVICES

**Contact:** Carmel Jennings

Blackrock,  
Co. Cork.

**Tel:** 021 435 7730

**Fax:** 021 435 9395

**Email:** info@bessborough.ie  
or reception@bessborough.ie

## TARGET GROUP

- Pregnant women/new mothers
- Teenagers who are pregnant or new mothers

## CRITERIA

- Each case is individually assessed
- Over 18 years preferred
- If under 18 years, need parental written consent/HSE involvement

## LEVEL OF SUPPORT

- Twenty four hour supervision
- Professional carers in-house
- Individual care plans
- Parenting Capacity Assessments
- Assistance & training in financial management
- Parenting skills training
- Parenting support programmes
- Preparation for independent living
- Psychotherapy Counselling
- Aftercare
- GP & Public Health nurse visits
- Infant Mental Health

## CANNOT ACCEPT

- Not Applicable

## REFERRAL PROCEDURE

- Letter of introduction from referring agency/social worker
- Application form & interview
- Self referral

## REFERRAL AGENCIES

- Social Workers
- Self referral
- Pregnancy support services

## TOTAL PLACES

- 6 Singles En-Suites
- 3 apartments
- Fully furnished

## PAYMENTS

- Nominal rent collected weekly

## FACILITIES

- Apartments & rooms en-suite
- Resource room
- Shared garden/yard
- Crèche on-site

## CATERING

- Shared and individual kitchens

## POLICIES

- Weekly Nominal Rent
- Weekly Reviews
- Safety in Caring for Infant

## VISITORS

- Family members encouraged
- Visitors room
- Partners welcomed

## LENGTH OF STAY

- 3-6 months

## LINKS OUTSIDE ACCOMMODATION

- Community Mothers and Toddlers Group
- Crèche available
- All medical care facilitated
- Moving-on programme
- Specialist services as needed
- Treoir
- Fostering services (as needed)
- Liaison with local maternity hospitals
- Family Supports
- Domestic Violence
- Addiction Services

## EDUCATION

- On site secondary school
- Cookery classes
- Computer classes
- Vocational training
- Baby Massage
- Infant Mental Health
- PuP Programme
- Incredible Years
- Positive Parenting

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

## PROJECT COORDINATORS

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## THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING FOR THEIR VALUABLE INPUT AND EXPERTISE

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Interaid

### **Ms Christina Hughes**

Carr's Child and Family Services – Ecclesville

### **Ms Anne Kennedy**

LIFE House c/o Life Pregnancy Care Service

### **Mr Thomas Quigley**

The Bessborough Centre

### **Ms Therese Rice**

Rendu Apartments

### **Brian Bryan**

Limerick Social Service Council Ltd Pre- and Post-Natal Accommodation  
Service (service discontinued)

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