

Our Strategic Plan 2016-2019



Our Vision

No-one will face death or bereavement without the care and support they need.

Our Mission

To strive for the best care at end of life, for all.



Our Goals for 2016-2019

1 Service Improvement:

Innovating excellence in palliative, end-of-life and bereavement care.

2 Education and Training:

Enhancing end of life and bereavement care.

3 Debate and Policy Change:

Driving debate, awareness and change on issues related to dying, death and bereavement in Ireland.

4 Good Governance & Sustainability:

Maintain our credibility, independence and long-term sustainability through good governance, financial independence and accountability, effective communications and a cohesive fundraising programme.

80

people die every day in Ireland



We believe

Everyone has the right to be cared for and die with dignity and respect in the care setting of their choice.

Death, dying and bereavement affect us all.

Everyone deserves the BEST care at end of life.

Through our Strategic Plan we aim to make this a reality for more people in Ireland.

What we want to change

The Irish Hospice Foundation intends to play its part in addressing a number of issues:

- **End-of-life services should be on the national agenda** – everyone deserves a good death.
- **Palliative and end-of-life care services are inconsistent** – we want equity of service for all.
- **Drive policy change on key issues relating to dying, death and bereavement** – effective political and NGO lobbying is visible in public policy and services.
- **Bereavement is inadequately addressed in Ireland** – Everyone should be afforded sensitive bereavement support.
- **Training in end of life, bereavement and palliative care is not widespread.** Staff in all care settings - hospitals, care homes, community settings and hospices - need support, training and development.
- **Encourage people to talk, think ahead and plan for end of life.** More discussion will better prepare the population as a whole for end of life. If support needed, know that our wishes for end-of-life care will be respected.

57%

of people say there is not enough discussion about death and dying in Ireland

(up from 51% in 2004)



A Snapshot of what we do already

Service innovation

- **Nurses for Night Care:** Supporting over 500 families each year to care for their dying loved one at home.
- **Hospice Home Care for Children:** Over 240 families supported annually
- **Hospice Friendly Hospitals:** Improving end of life care in 42 acute hospitals across Ireland
- **Primary care and care in people's homes:** Working with the HSE and ICGP to deliver better care in the community.
- **Bereavement service development:** Driving the provision of bereavement support for children and adults.
- **Palliative Care for All:** Ensuring people have full access to specialist palliative care services.

Education, research and information

- **Education and training:** Every year about 3,000 people take part in our training programmes.
- **Research:** We fund pioneering research on end of life and palliative care issues.
- **Information and library service:** to professionals, students and the public.

Support the voluntary Hospice Movement

- **We coordinate two national fundraising programmes for voluntary hospice groups each year:** Sunflower Days and Ireland's Biggest Coffee Morning, raising an estimated €2.5 million for local hospice care all across Ireland.

Advocacy and public engagement

- **Awareness-raising & advocacy:** To promote a better understanding of end-of-life care issues at public and political level.
- **Public engagement:** Endorse and encourage discussion on death, dying and bereavement.
- **Think Ahead:** Promotes the concept of thinking, planning and talking about one's own death.
- **Forum on End of Life:** We support an active National Council of the Forum on End of Life and host public conferences on end of life issues.

The detailed IHF Strategic Plan 2016-2019 is available on www.hospicefoundation.ie