

Campaigners Youth and Children's Ministry (NI) Trust
Company limited by guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report
Year ended 31 December 2024

The trustees present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2024. The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statements of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (FRS 102) in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity.

Objectives and activities

The Campaigner movement started in the UK in 1922 and has existed in Northern Ireland since 1957. It is an inter-denominational movement, with groups or "clans" formed in any evangelical place of worship, subject to agreement by church leaders to our Statement of Faith.

Campaigners seeks to: -

- encourage thoroughness in all aspects of life and increase awareness of teamwork and working with others. This is achieved via various sporting activities and games, and also through participation in award schemes such as the Duke of Edinburgh award scheme.
- promote Christian teaching and the maintenance of Christian doctrines as set out in its Statement of Faith.
- develop contact with an increasing number of churches, allowing a greater number of children and young people across Northern Ireland to take part in its activities.

Campaigners is a uniformed organisation for children and young people from age 4 up to age 18 which meets on a weekly basis, from September to April/May each year. Children and young people are grouped into sections according to their age: Eagles (age 4 to Primary 2), Junos (Primary 3 to Primary 6), Inters (Primary 7 to Year 9) and Craftsmen (Year 10 to age 18). It offers structured weekly programmes for each clan which are tailored according to the various age groups and which cater for the varied interests of children and young people. Clans from different churches also meet together on a regular basis at both organised district and regional events such as indoor football, uni-hoc, sports days, Bible quizzes and camps. Campaigners also provides a comprehensive programme of training for its leaders which includes general training on delivery of the weekly programme, Child Protection training, First Aid training, and such other specialised training as may from time to time be considered useful.

Advancement of the Evangelical Christian Faith

Campaigners Youth and Children's Ministry Northern Ireland ("Campaigners") seeks to make known the Gospel of Jesus Christ by providing teaching from God's Word, the Bible, encouraging the maintenance of Christian doctrines as set out in its Statement of Faith, seeking to demonstrate God's love in practical ways and to lead by example. Its aim is that children and young people will come to personal faith in the Lord Jesus Christ through benefitting from the opportunity to explore Christianity in a safe, nurturing environment.

The direct benefits which flow from this purpose are an improved sense of wellbeing for children and young people attending Campaigners as they receive teaching from God's Word, the Bible, via our Timeline Bible teaching resources, and the promotion of Christian values and high moral standards for the benefit of individuals, with children and young people attending Campaigners encouraged both by the teaching they receive and by the example of our leaders to adopt a moral framework where they are good citizens. The indirect benefits which flow from this purpose include the moral improvement and responsible citizenship in society as a whole which religion is considered to encourage.

Advancement of Education

Campaigners offers a comprehensive range of age-specific programmes that cater for the varied interests of children and young people. Our programmes are aimed at providing opportunities to have fun, but also have a focus on personal development, physical activity, civil awareness and Bible teaching, all of which seek to build children and young people into responsible adults.

The direct benefits which flow from this purpose are the spiritual, personal and social development of individual children and young people who participate in Campaigners' activities, events and programmes, the development of practical and life skills, sporting talents and creativity through our activities, and increased

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self-esteem and self-confidence of individual children and young people. The wider benefit to the community at large is the enhanced social education and responsible citizenship that flows from this purpose.

All of the above benefits will be demonstrated through feedback from the children and young people who are members of Campaigner groups (known as "clans") and the clan leaders, and also through feedback from local churches. The organisation's beneficiaries are children and young people throughout Northern Ireland, with membership of Campaigners open to children and young people of all faiths and from all sections of the community. The only private benefit flowing from our purposes is related to the employment of our staff, an Administrator who receives a salary as a result of their employment. However, we consider this to be incidental and necessary in order to further our charitable purposes as it allows our organisation to be run efficiently. There are no other private benefits as our activities are open to all and are advertised as such on our website. We do not anticipate that any harm will flow from any of the above purposes.

Public benefit statement

The trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland's guidance on public benefit and they believe that this has been met through the achievements outlined in this report.

Achievements and performance

Campaigners Youth and Children's Ministry (NI) Trust operates within 16 churches in Northern Ireland. This is made up of different Denominations - Baptist, Presbyterian, Congregational, Methodist and Pentecostal.

We have 4 districts within the region of Northern Ireland

- Armagh
- Lagan Valley
- North Down
- Antrim

This year we have approximately 652 children and young people from preschool age to 18 years. It's great to see an increase in numbers from last year, an encouraging year. The programme focuses on creating a safe and fun environment to encourage the development of the individual's potential, spiritually, practically and physically, and also encouraging involvement within the community. The programme seeks to develop a framework to encourage the exploration of the Christian faith in partnership with the local Church. Campaigners is open to all children and young people from all walks of life.

Events

Different events were held throughout the year at Regional and District levels. The archery team were busy facilitating Archery evenings and competitions in the Centres throughout the districts.

District and Regional events were -

- Activities evening
- Archery competition
- Archery evenings
- Fellowship evenings

Splash Sports canoeing has not been operating over the past few years, as there are no trained leaders. It was agreed by the Trustee's to sell canoeing equipment. Most of the equipment has been sold and funds deposited into the Campaigner account. The remaining equipment will be put up for sale in the following year.

Ongoing Development

The ongoing development is now implemented mainly within the Senior Chiefs and the Administrator.

Senior/District Chiefs meet 3-4 times per year to address general Clan life, the needs within the Clans, up and coming events and any new events or any areas for development.

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Leader's support

Senior/District Chiefs visit Clans within their district every year. The annual visit is a supportive role where any issues or queries can be discussed. Resources are continually uploaded on to the website to support all Chiefs and Assistant Leaders.

Some Council members have also visited Clans to encourage and support, and this has been well received.

Training

Chiefs training took place online in April, with meetings together in May and then the final assessment taking place in November. We had 7 training this year, 5 from Claggan & Orritor Presbyterian, and 2 from Clogherney & Sixmilecross Presbyterian. Further training and support were put in place for Claggan & Orritor Presbyterian as they are new to the organisation. All participants completed their training.

Mission Project

The Project M mission initiative was offered to older Clansmen (16 and 18 years old). This initiative helps with a percentage of their funding for mission trips at home or overseas. The aim is to promote missions within the Craftsmen Clan which has an amazing impact on the lives of these individual young people, helping them attain access to mission opportunities at home or on a global scale.

This year we had 4 applicants participating in the programme, all from Portadown Baptist. All young people had an amazing experience and a great time away.

Financial review

The financial results are as set out on pages 9 -10 of the accounts. The trustees are aware of the reduced revenue over the past few years. The Centres have not fully recovered from being closed during Covid-19 and undoubtedly these figures have affected the income with annual subscriptions. Council is very thankful and appreciative of the Churches and leaders who are working hard to increase numbers.

Structure, governance and management

Campaigners Youth and Children's Ministry (NI) Trust is a company limited by guarantee and a registered charity. The company was incorporated on 08 February 2007. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objectives and powers of the company and is governed by its Articles of Association. The liability of the members is limited in that every member of the company undertakes to contribute to the assets of the company in the event of its being wound up while he/she is a member or within one year after he/she ceases to be a member, for payment of the debts and liabilities of the company contracted before he/she ceases to be a member and of the costs, charges and expenses of winding-up and for the adjustment of the rights of the contributories amongst themselves, such amount as may be required not exceeding £1.

The directors of the charitable company are its trustees for the purpose of charity law. The trustees who have served during the year and since the year end were as follows:

Rev Paul Dunn
Deborah Hamilton
Hugh Kerr
Jill Lorimer
Rev Mark McClurg
Graeme McKillen

Small company provisions

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies entitled to the small companies exemption.

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This report was approved by the board on 15th April 2025 and signed on behalf of the board by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'MKerr.', is written on a light blue grid background. The signature is enclosed in a thin yellow rectangular border.

**Margaret Kerr
Secretary**