

# McDonald Centre

St Vincent Street  
Belfast  
BT15 3QG

## McDonald Centre Annual Report - 2025

Between January 2025 and December 2025, as we aim to make positive change for the benefit of the community of Lower North Belfast, we have delivered the following:

### *In supporting the local community:*

- Reached 300 local residents with ongoing support through Gas/Electric vouchers.
- Helped 15 local over 55's improve their mental health outcomes through growing our Walking Football project. The men have benefitted enormously from our mental health focus, with funding from Cash for Clubs and Belfast City Council.
- We have grown our staff team to now include a part-time Project Delivery Worker.
- Partnered with organisations such as TAMHI and Sported to help with the development of the Crusaders Academy.
- Worked to improve the mental wellbeing of the Crusaders Academy through a Coca Cola Project to regularly bring in facilitators to support the young people involved.
- Granted an "Awards for All" fund to help local families, with a focus on healthy eating and thematic community support.
- Developed our connections with Cash 4 Kids, with funding helping to support members of our Crusaders Academy.

### *In supporting local schools:*

- Received a 3-year grant from Children in Need to combat educational underachievement in the area, through engagement in a unique sport for development activity with two specific age brackets.
- We have grown our local connections, with strategic involvement in the North Belfast Community Partnership; particularly in the theme of Education.
- Received Belfast City Council funding to continue our pivotal Good Relations work in Primary Schools with our "Around the World Cup" initiative.
- Continued our "Moving On Up" programme to help P7 pupils in their transition to Post-Primary School.

## McDonald Centre Annual Report - 2025 continued

### *In supporting employability skills:*

- Delivered an Aspire project through Belfast Harbour Commissioners funding. This has supported hundreds of young people in finding their unique learning style and growing their aspirations around their education and employability.
- Grown our partnership with Fingerprint Learning to have all staff trained to enable our delivery of bespoke neuroscience-led education and employability workshops.

### Financial Status

In our latest account to end of March 2025 – we recorded a total income of £163,922 with a total expenditure of £179,297. The (£15,375) deficit will be offset through ongoing grants and funds that had yet to be started, and the receipt of management internal funds arising from them.

### Board/Trustees Updates

There have been no changes to our Board members during the past year.