COMMUNITY CONNECT SUPPORT CLG

ANNUAL REPORT 2025

For the year ended

31st December 2025



CONTENTS



PART ONE

1. Chairperson & CEO's Message

PART TWO: ANNUAL REPORT

2. Introduction
3. Our Charitable Purpose
4. 2025 at a Glance
5. Our Impact
6. Voice of Impact
7. How Our Model Works
8. Our Network
9. Our People
10. Our Community of Support
11. Structure, Governance and Management
12. Financial Review, Reserves & Risk Management
13. Plans for 2026
14. Reference and Administrative Information
15. Approval of the Directors' and Trustees' Annual Report



PART ONE
CHAIRPERSON & CEO'S MESSAGE

1. Chairperson & CEO's Message



INTRODUCTION

2025 was a year of **significant growth, impact and learning** for Community Connect. Across Ireland, our network of volunteers, donors, referral partners, funders and supporters came together to ensure that families facing hardship could access essential baby clothing, equipment and hygiene supplies with dignity.



The scale of our work increased significantly during the year. We supported **992 families** through **1,129 deliveries**, reaching families in all **26 counties**. More than **4,100 essential baby items** were distributed, including almost **1,500 items of equipment** and more than 900 clothing bundles, alongside almost **1,000 essential hygiene packs**. This represented an overall **50% increase** in the number of families supported compared with 2024.

Behind every one of these numbers is a family who needed practical help at an important and often challenging point in their lives.

1. Chairperson & CEO's Message



MEETING A GROWING NEED

Our work has never been more relevant. The 2025 CSO Survey on Income and Living Conditions (released March 2026) reported **7.8% of children aged 0-17 living in consistent poverty**. It also found that 16.9% of children aged 0–17 were at risk of poverty in 2025 - equivalent to almost 208,000 children - an increase from 15.3% in 2024. Children continued to have the highest at-risk-of-poverty rate of any age group. Applying these rates to the 2025 population of children under four suggests that **approximately 18,000 babies and young children are experiencing consistent poverty, with 39,000 at risk of poverty**.

The Child Poverty Monitor 2026 published by the Children's Rights Alliance states:

"Over the last five years the rates of child poverty have marginally increased and decreased. However, the trends have mostly remained constant with children having the highest rates of poverty compared to all other age groups."

These reports show that tens of thousands of children and families in Ireland continue to experience financial pressure and difficulty accessing basic necessities.

For Community Connect, the reality of these pressures is visible every week.

The families referred to us are experiencing a wide range of circumstances, from **homelessness and domestic violence to low incomes, displacement and other forms of financial hardship**. The cost of providing everything a baby needs can place an enormous strain on a household budget. By providing essential items that families may otherwise struggle to afford, we can offer immediate, practical support at a time when it is needed most.



In 2025, we became members of the **Children's Rights Alliance**, joining a national movement of organisations working to improve outcomes for children across Ireland. Membership strengthens our ability to contribute our experience as a frontline organisation and to support wider efforts to ensure that children's rights are respected and that child poverty remains on the **national agenda**.

1. Chairperson & CEO's Message



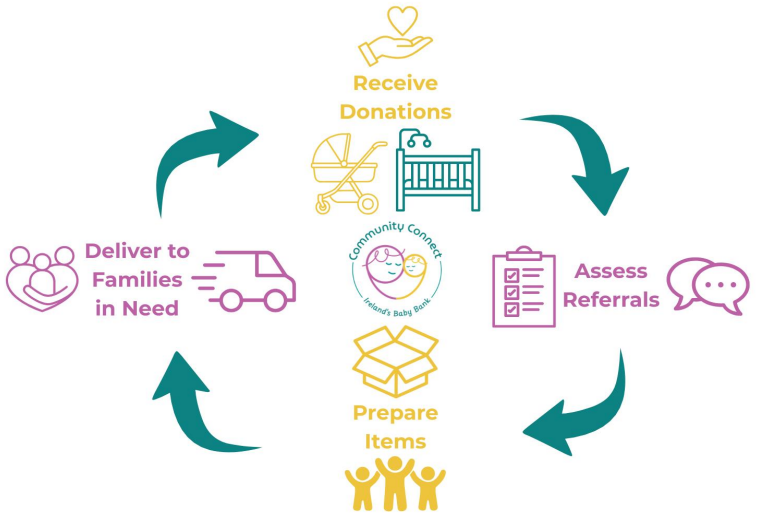
CREATING ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT THROUGH REUSE

Our work also has a significant environmental purpose. Every year, thousands of baby items that are still safe and usable risk becoming waste simply because children grow quickly and families no longer need them. Baby equipment can be particularly challenging to recycle because it often combines materials such as plastic, metal and fabric.

In 2025, our circular model **kept almost 1,500 items of equipment and over 900 clothing bundles in use and diverted approximately 16 tonnes of material from landfill**. By collecting, checking, preparing and redistributing high-quality pre-loved baby clothing and equipment, we extend the useful life of products that might otherwise become waste while reducing the need for families to purchase new items.

This creates a practical connection between environmental sustainability and social support: one family's surplus meets another family's needs.

We believe this is an important part of what makes Community Connect different. **We provide material support while also building a community-powered circular model in which resources are shared, waste is reduced and families are supported.**





1. Chairperson & CEO's Message



GROWING OUR IMPACT

A number of significant projects enabled us to extend our reach during the year.

Our **'Cork's Baby Bank' project**, funded through Rethink Ireland's Resilient Cork Fund, was particularly transformative for our Cork hub. The project enabled us to introduce regular van deliveries and significantly increase the scale and reach of our service, allowing us to **support 100% more families across Cork and the surrounding areas** during 2025.

In Dublin, we began a major project in July supported by SSE Airtricity's Generation Green Community Fund. This enabled us to **scale the work of our Dublin hub**, increasing the number of families we could support while also substantially increasing the number of baby items we could save from landfill.

This important project continued into 2026 and is helping to build the capacity of the hub for the longer term.

We were also grateful for support through the HSE National Lottery Grant Scheme, which enabled us to purchase essential items including mattresses and double buggies for families in need across a number of areas.

Alongside these larger projects, generous grants from the MCKS Charitable Foundation, Adobe Community Fund, Benefact Movement for Good, RTÉ Toy Show Fund, Katherine Howard Foundation, IKEA and Aldi Community Grants helped us to maintain and develop our services throughout the year. A number of other generous supporters and corporates also supported our work financially during the year.



We are deeply grateful to every organisation that chose to support the work of Community Connect. Each grant, regardless of size, contributes to our ability to respond when a family needs us.

1. Chairperson & CEO's Message



LISTENING TO THE FAMILIES WE SUPPORT

2025 was also the year we began systematically measuring the experience of the families we support. Through **our new beneficiary survey**, we asked families whether they were happy with the support they received and whether it had improved their wellbeing.

The results have been **consistently and overwhelmingly positive**.

This feedback gives us an important sense of reassurance that we are providing the right kind of practical support and that the way we deliver it is making a meaningful difference to families. It also gives us a valuable foundation for continuing to learn, improve and ensure that the voices of the families we support remain central to our work.

A COMMUNITY-POWERED ORGANISATION

None of what we achieved in 2025 would have been possible without the extraordinary generosity of our community.

We held a number of **successful fundraising events** throughout the year, from Drive & Drop and our VHI Women's Mini-Marathon team to our summer raffle and Christmas Connect appeal. We are incredibly grateful to everyone who donated, volunteered, fundraised, collected items, organised events or simply shared our message. These community-led efforts are fundamental to our ability to continue our work.



Our **volunteers remain at the heart of Community Connect**. More than 4,400 volunteer hours were contributed during 2025, helping us sort, prepare, pack, deliver and distribute essential items to families across Ireland.

Alongside our volunteers, our **referral partners play a vital role** in ensuring that support reaches families who need it most, while **families who donate baby items** make the circular model possible by giving their high-quality, pre-loved baby items a new life.

1. Chairperson & CEO's Message



BUILDING A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

Our greatest challenge remains the sustainability of our funding.

The demand we experience every week is clear, and our 50% growth in families supported demonstrates just how much our service is needed. Yet much of the funding available to us remains short-term or project-specific. This creates a difficult tension: the need is growing and there is a clear opportunity to expand our impact, but we must also ensure that we only build services that we can sustain.

Securing more sustainable, multi-year funding will therefore remain one of our most important priorities as we look ahead.

THE IMPORTANCE OF GOOD GOVERNANCE

The role of our Board is not simply administrative oversight.

Good governance provides the foundations from which our staff and volunteers can do their best work. It means ensuring that risks are identified and managed, that resources are used responsibly, that our legal and regulatory responsibilities are met and that the organisation remains financially sustainable. Most importantly, it means keeping sight of the long-term direction of Community Connect and making the decisions needed to ensure that our service can continue.

We are very grateful to our Board for the time, expertise and commitment they give to Community Connect and for their careful stewardship of the organisation as we continue our journey.



1. Chairperson & CEO's Message





LOOKING AHEAD

We are proud of what Community Connect achieved in 2025, but as we look to the future, we are equally conscious of the work still to be done.

We want to build on the progress of the past year, strengthen our network across Ireland and develop the sustainable funding base needed to meet growing demand.
We want to continue demonstrating that practical support for families, environmental responsibility and community participation can work together to create a stronger and more sustainable model of support.
Above all, we want every family who comes to Community Connect to feel that they have been treated with dignity, respect and care.

Thank you to every person and organisation who helped make 2025 possible.
Together, we are building a stronger community around families at a time when they need it most.

James Condren, Chairperson

Elaine Noonan, CEO


#Ireland
G 9-12m

Community Connect

Ireland's Baby Bank

PART TWO
ANNUAL REPORT

2. Introduction

Community Connect Support was incorporated as a Company Limited by Guarantee on 13th Sept 2022. The company was granted charity status by The Charities Regulator on 31st July 2023.

Community Connect is Ireland's **National Baby Bank** – a registered charity dedicated to providing practical support to vulnerable pregnant mothers and parents with small babies, who are struggling to provide for their children.

Our hubs gratefully accept donations of new and pre-loved essential items for babies and children, and pass them on for free, from one family to another. This offers **crucial support to mothers**, and ensures their young children have the essentials they need to thrive.

We also appeal for monetary donations, which we use to buy essential hygiene supplies, start packs and hospital bags, and to cover the costs of running our hubs.

We provide expecting and new mothers who need it most, with the baby equipment, clothing and essential baby supplies they need to welcome their little ones into the world **with love and dignity**.

3. Our Charitable Purpose

OUR MISSION

Deliver dignity-centred solutions that meet the immediate material needs of vulnerable pregnant mothers and parents while building a resilient, community-empowered circular model that strengthens family, social, and environmental well-being.



OUR VISION

An Ireland where no family experiences material deprivation during early parenthood, and where circular-economy principles transform how communities support each other, creating environmental and social well-being.



3. Our Charitable Purpose

OUR VALUES

COMPASSIONATE SUPPORT

We deliver our service with empathy, warmth, and respect – offering practical help with genuine care for every family's journey.

DIGNITY-CENTRED

Providing respectful, non-stigmatising service to all families.

ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY

Championing reuse, recycling and waste reduction through circular economy principles.

COMMUNITY SOLIDARITY

Building strong networks of donors, volunteers and partners, in support of families.

TRANSPARENCY

Maintaining open and accountable operations.

3. Our Charitable Purpose

Community Connect provides essential baby and maternity items to pregnant mothers and parents of very young children experiencing financial hardship or material deprivation, helping to prevent or relieve poverty and economic hardship by meeting essential material needs.

Support is provided free of charge through donated and purchased goods, and is delivered through referral partners across the Republic of Ireland. In this way, the charity helps families meet the immediate material needs of early parenthood with dignity, while its circular model also delivers wider environmental and community benefits through the redistribution and reuse of goods.

The Trustees are satisfied that the activities undertaken during the year further the Company's charitable purpose and provide a public benefit by helping families experiencing financial hardship to meet essential needs during pregnancy and early parenthood.



ANNUAL REPORT 2025

4. 2025 at a Glance

During 2025, the organisation continued to operate at significant scale within a context of rising demand for support.

The numbers of families supported, and support packages delivered represent a 50% increase on 2024 figures.



26 counties reached

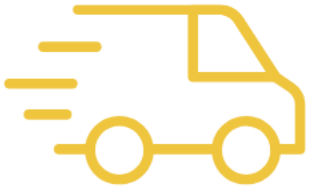
992 families supported



4,400 Volunteer Hours



4,102 Items Delivered





134 Referral Partners

€97,000 worth of essential items redistributed



4. 2025 at a Glance

1,975 offers from donors wanting to donate baby items

911 Bundles of Clothing Redistributed

1,456 Items of Baby Equipment Redistributed

956 Essential Hygiene Packs Distributed

99% reported satisfaction with the support they received[1]

16,000 kg of Waste Diverted from Landfill

97% reported increased wellbeing or feeling better after receiving support[1]

166+ Tonnes of CO2 emissions avoided[2]

[1] percentage of positive responses from families who responded to our beneficiary survey
[2] estimated CO_2e based on comparable LCAs and benchmarks, and estimated average weights per item







ANNUAL REPORT 2025

5. Our Impact

1. ***Dignity and Wellbeing***

Families consistently report improved wellbeing when essential items are provided at the vulnerable stages of pregnancy and early childhood.

2. ***Child Poverty Alleviation***

Our support reduces immediate household expenditure needs, helping families redirect limited resources towards housing, food and essential living costs.

3. ***Circular Economy Impact***

Our model ensures high-quality baby goods are reused rather than discarded, creating a national system of redistribution that is trusted by donors.

4. ***Healthcare System Support***

Strong hospital partnerships enable timely provision of essential support, potentially reducing pressure on maternity services and social work teams.

5. Our Impact

Referral Pathways

Support was delivered through a wide network of statutory and community partners, including maternity hospitals, IPAS centres, homeless services, domestic violence services, HSE professionals, Tusla, family resource centres and community organisations.

The largest referral pathway was maternity hospitals, reflecting strong integration into perinatal care pathways and discharge planning.

How we measure our Impact

We measure our impact in a number of ways, including:

- Beneficiary feedback surveys, testimonials, case studies
- Referral Partner feedback and testimonials
- Volunteer hours contributed, feedback, participation in community events
- Metrics collection and analysis including numbers of families supported, numbers and types of items redistributed, donation offers received, value of donated items
- Wider environmental impact: waste avoidance, circular economy and carbon savings


WD-40
WORKZONE
COMMUNITY CONNECT

5. Voices of Impact

I just received your delivery and I don't know how to say thank you for all this help! … it's everything that I need for my baby… It's a huge help for me and my baby…

beneficiary

I am ever so grateful for the support I have received from Community Connect. I never felt judged or made feel like I was a burden to ask for support as a single mother…. I can't say in words how much and how grateful I am to all at Community Connect.

beneficiary

The help we received had a tremendously great impact for our everyday life and we will be forever grateful.

beneficiary

Julia's Story

Following the loss of her job during pregnancy and a move brought about by financial pressures, Julia was referred to Community Connect for practical support. She received essential items for her baby, including a buggy, cot, clothing and hygiene supplies.

Having experienced the difference that practical support made for her family, Julia later returned some of the items to Community Connect so they could be passed on to another family - demonstrating the circular model in action.

5. Voices of Impact

I'm delighted I have found somewhere and a charity to get them directly to new mums in need. What a fantastic set up you have.

donor

I myself was once in need of support so it's so heartwarming for me to be able to give back to someone in similar situation. Your hard work is very much appreciated.

donor

Thank you for continuing to make a difference not only with what you give, but in the way you give it: with dignity, warmth, and understanding.
We are truly grateful to be connected with Community Connect, and we look forward to continuing this vital relationship in the future.

referral partner

The service has ensured that no mothers or babies are left without essentials. Living in emergency accommodation is a traumatic experience for families which comes with so many challenges and Community Connect is a great practical support for families when they need it most. We would be lost without their service.

referral partner


ity
by Bank
New Born
Neutral

7. How Our Model Works

Community Connect is Ireland's National Baby Bank – a registered charity dedicated to providing practical support to vulnerable pregnant mothers and parents with small babies, who are struggling to provide for their children.

Our hubs receive donations of essential items for babies and children and pass them on for free, from one family to another. We also purchase and prepare hygiene packs of essential items, including Hospital Bags, BabyBoxes, BabyBags and MamaBags.

This offers crucial support to mothers, and ensures their young children have the essentials they need to thrive.

We provide expecting and new mothers who need it most, with the baby equipment, clothing and essential baby supplies they need to welcome their little ones into the world with love and dignity.



7. How Our Model Works

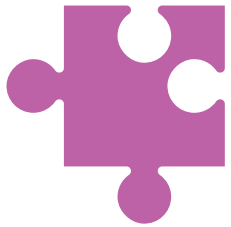
STEP 1: Receiving Donations

Families who no longer need their baby clothing and equipment can donate good-quality, pre-loved items directly to Community Connect.

Donors complete a form on our website, after which our Donations Coordinator contacts them to assess the items offered against the current needs of their local hub. Donors are provided with information on items which are suitable for donation, items we are unable to accept and practical details on where and when items can be dropped off.



7. How Our Model Works



STEP 2: Receiving Referrals and Assessing Need

Families in need of support are referred to Community Connect by referral partners including healthcare providers, social workers and other organisations supporting families. Referrals can be submitted through our website or received by phone or email.

All referrals are reviewed by our Administrator, who ensures that the relevant information is provided and complete before assigning each family to the appropriate hub. Our Hub Coordinators then review each referral and contact the family directly to understand their individual circumstances and requirements.

The Hub Coordinators assess each family's needs against the items available at their hub and create a list of the items required, ready for preparation by the hub volunteer team in the week ahead.

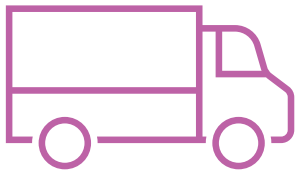
7. How Our Model Works



STEP 3: Preparing Items for Families

Our Hub Coordinators work alongside volunteer teams who meet regularly at each of our five hubs to sort, check, clean and prepare donated items. Volunteers ensure that pre-loved clothing and equipment are in good condition, suitable for reuse and appropriate to provide to a family in need.

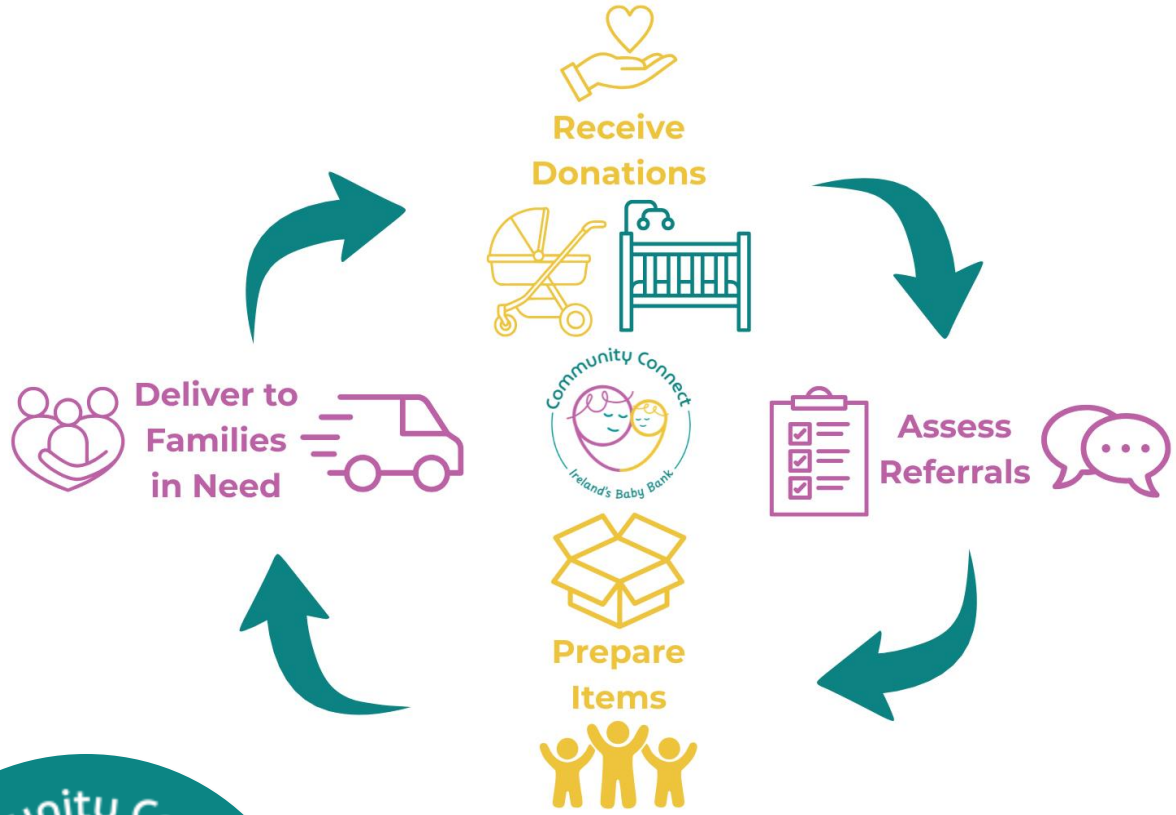
Alongside these pre-loved items, volunteers also prepare BabyBoxes and hygiene packs containing essential new baby supplies. All items identified for each family – including clothing, equipment, BabyBoxes and hygiene packs – are then assembled into individual bundles, ready for delivery.



STEP 4: Delivering Support Directly to Families

Our delivery drivers and volunteers deliver these bundles directly and free of charge from the hub to each family at a pre-arranged time. Volunteers in other locations can access prepared bundles from their nearest hub and deliver them to families in their own local area.

7. How Our Model Works



A Circular Model of Support

Through this model, items that are no longer needed by one family can be checked, prepared and passed on to another family who needs them. This enables us to provide practical support to families experiencing material hardship while extending the useful life of baby clothing and equipment, reducing unnecessary waste and promoting the principles of a circular economy.

In this way, every donation has the potential to support more than one family, creating a community-powered cycle in which resources are shared, reused and kept in circulation for as long as they remain safe and suitable for use.





8. Our Network

During 2025, Community Connect operated five key hubs located in Dublin, Cork, Galway, Kilkenny and Athlone, supported by additional volunteer networks across Ireland. We also operated a smaller hub in Dundalk, and had active volunteers in Wexford and Donegal to support local families.

During 2025, we supported families in all 26 counties of the Republic of Ireland. No material structural changes occurred during the year.



9. Our People

The organisation employed 11 part-time staff (equivalent to 3 full-time equivalents).
All staff costs are disclosed in accordance with Charities SORP (FRS 102) and are reflected in Note 7 of the financial statements.

Our core team in 2025 included:

Role	Name
CEO	Elaine Noonan
Fundraising Manager	Lydia O'Reilly
Dublin Hub Coordinators	Charlotte Murphy & Dorota Maurya
Galway Hub Coordinators	Lindsay Deely
Administrator + Cork Hub Coordinator	Natalie Sutton
Social Media Manager & Kilkenny Hub Coordinator	Jill Callanan
Donations Manager & Athlone Hub Coordinator	Joanne Cosgrove
Cork Hub Support	Portia Ndlovu
Delivery Drivers	Mark Fitzpatrick & Alan Glavin

9. Our People

The organisation also relies heavily on volunteers, who are central to its operational model and service delivery.

The organisation was supported by approximately:

- 50 consistently active weekly volunteers
- A wider pool of approximately 100 ad hoc volunteers
- Approximately 4,400 volunteer hours contributed across the network during 2025

Volunteers play a central role in the regular receiving, sorting, checking, preparing and redistributing of donated items and supporting the operation of the charity's hubs.

Volunteers are also critical to the success of our major fundraising campaigns.


9606
infababy

10. Our Community of Support

Community Support through our Fundraising Campaigns

DRIVE & DROP

Our annual Drive & Drop appeal was run on 23rd-24th March 2025.

It was held in 35 locations around the country – including 7 in Dublin, 4 in Cork, 2 in Galway and one in each of Kilkenny, Portlaoise, Carlow, Athlone and Tullow.

Approx. **€11,700** worth of goods were donated – including nappies, hygiene items and clothing.

In addition, **€14,800** of cash donations were received as part of this campaign.



















ANNUAL REPORT 2025

10. Our Community of Support

Community Support through our Fundraising Campaigns

MINI MARATHON

Community Connect participated in the 2025 VHI Women's Mini-Marathon on 1st June, with 11 team members running and walking to raise funds for our work.

The team raised over **€7,600 in sponsorship**.







10. Our Community of Support

Community Support through our Fundraising Campaigns

SUMMER SUNSHINE RAFFLE

Held during June 2025, the

raffle raised over **€2,500**.





CHRISTMAS APPEAL

The 'Christmas Connect' Campaign run in December 2025 was a fully digital campaign, using email and social media to promote.

The campaign encouraged donors to sponsor a gift package for a family in need, and our supporters were incredibly generous, sponsoring a total of **over €17,000 in gift packages**, for distribution to families during 2026.





10. Our Community of Support

We wish to acknowledge with thanks our grant funders during 2025:

RETHINK IRELAND

MCKS Charity Ireland
Care Changes Communities

sse Airtricity
Generation Green
Community Fund

Adobe Foundation

National Lottery
HSE GRANT SCHEME 2025

RTÉ TOY SHOW APPEAL

KHF KATHARINE HOWARD FOUNDATION

CHILDREN'S PROMISE
GRANTS PROGRAMME

Benefact Group
Movement for Good

SAINT PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL DUBLIN

An Roinn Forbartha Tuaithe agus Pobail
Department of Rural and Community Development
Comhairle Cathrach Chorcaí
Cork City Council

LCDC
Coiste um Fhorbairt Pobail Áitiúil Chill Chainnigh
Kilkenny Local Community Development Committee

An Roinn Comhshaoil, Aeráide agus Cumarsáide
Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications

THE CHRISTIAN BROTHERS EDMUND RICE TRUST

SICAP
Social Inclusion & Community Activation Programme


PUBLIC STORAGE
girl
COMMUNITY CONNECT
linking parents to real support

10. Our Community of Support

Corporate Donors

Our relationship with IKEA continued during 2025, following a very successful ‘Play It Forward’ collaboration in late 2024, where €1 from every sale of the SKOGSDUVA range between Oct - Dec 2024 was donated to Community Connect. This donation was received in early 2025, and enabled us to provide practical support to many pregnant mothers and vulnerable families.



10. Our Community of Support

Corporate Donors

We were delighted to be selected by staff at 18 Aldi stores across the country to receive vouchers to be used by our hubs to purchase essential items for families, including nappies and other hygiene essentials.



10. Our Community of Support

Corporate Support

During 2025, we welcomed Corporate Volunteer groups into our Dublin, Cork and Kilkenny hubs to help out with sorting, packing and organising. In some cases, we were able to bring the work to their offices, where they packed and sorted clothing and hygiene packs for families. We thank them all most sincerely for their support and hands-on hard work!





10. Our Community of Support

In-Kind Donations

We are most grateful for the following practical items and services donated to us during the year. All items donated were passed directly on to families we supported:

- IKEA - donated baby towels, cot mattresses and boxes for our BabyBoxes
- WaterWipes - donated 4 pallets of baby wipes
- Baby Bedibies - donated bottle and soother sets
- Visit.org - donated teddies
- Primark – donated baby clothing samples throughout the year
- Little Green Shop – donated beautiful gift items for MamaBags
- Pramcare – cleaned many buggies for our Dublin hub
- Creative Robin Design – designed our Christmas Connect campaign





PENNEYS



10. Our Community of Support

Volunteers

We wish to acknowledge with very special thanks our wonderful and dedicated volunteer teams at each of our hubs, and in other locations around Ireland. Without them, we couldn't do the work we do.









10. Our Community of Support

Referral Partners

Thanks to all our referral partners, across many counties, organisations and support services throughout Ireland.

These are some of those who referred families to Community Connect for support during 2025.



10. Our Community of Support

Donors & Supporters

We want to thank most sincerely all our regular donors, those who donated to our fundraising appeals or at Christmas, those who ran local fundraisers for us or who contributed in any way.

We are also very thankful for the wonderful team of knitters, who supply us with hand-knits for our BabyBoxes.

We also extend our gratitude to the hundreds of families who passed on their pre-loved baby clothing and equipment to us, trusting us to pass it on with love from one family to another.

Without your support, we simply would not exist.


Baby Blanket & Comforter
80cm x 100cm
Community Connect
Ireland's Baby Bank

11. Structure, Governance & Management

Community Connect Support CLG is governed by its Constitution/Memorandum and Articles of Association. The organisation is a company limited by guarantee not having a share capital and a registered charity. The company is governed by a voluntary Board of Trustees who are responsible for strategic oversight, governance, risk management and ensuring compliance with the Companies Act 2014, Charities Act 2009 and Charities SORP (FRS 102).

The Board is chaired by James Condren, along with Board members Sarah Durning and Mary Hunt.

In accordance with the Constitution, at the Annual General Meeting of the company in every year (subsequent to the first), one-third of the Directors for the time being, or, if their number is not three or a multiple of three, then the number nearest one-third, shall retire from office. A retiring Director shall be eligible for re-appointment.

The Trustees are supported by the Chief Executive Officer, Elaine Noonan, who leads day-to-day operations and service delivery across Ireland. Elaine Noonan also served as Company Secretary throughout the year.

Governance oversight is maintained through regular full Board meetings, sub-committee meetings between Board members and the CEO to address specific areas such as finance and budgeting, and ongoing financial and operational reporting.

Trustees served in a voluntary capacity and received no remuneration, benefits or expenses. Elaine Noonan was remunerated in her role as CEO.

The charity is in full compliance with the Charities Governance Code.

A conflicts of interest policy is in place and applied consistently. No related party transactions were identified during the reporting period.

No material governance structural changes occurred during the year.

11. Structure, Governance & Management

Compliance with Sector-Wide Legislation and Standards

The charity engages pro-actively with legislation, standards and codes which are developed for the sector.

Community Connect Support Company Limited by Guarantee subscribes to and is compliant with the following:

- The Companies Act 2014

- The Charities SORP (FRS 102)

The financial statements are prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2014, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their financial statements in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

The Directors' Report contains the information required to be provided in the Directors' Annual Report under the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) guidelines. The directors of the charity are also charity trustees for the purpose of charity law and under the charity's constitution are known as members of the board of trustees.

The charity is a registered charity and hence the report and results are presented in a form which complies with the requirements of the Companies Act 2014 and, although not obliged to comply with the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland FRS 102, the organisation has implemented its recommendations where relevant in these financial statements.

11. Structure, Governance & Management

The Auditors

The auditors, Farrelly and Scully Accountants Ltd, (Chartered Accountants) have indicated their willingness to continue in office in accordance with the provisions of section 383(2) of the Companies Act 2014.

Statement on Relevant Audit Information

In accordance with section 330 of the Companies Act 2014, so far as each of the persons who are directors at the time this report is approved are aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the statutory auditors are unaware. The directors have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and they have established that the statutory auditors are aware of that information.

Accounting Records

To ensure that adequate accounting records are kept in accordance with sections 281 to 285 of the Companies Act 2014, the directors have employed appropriately qualified accounting personnel and have maintained appropriate computerised accounting systems. The accounting records are located at the company's office at 21 St Catherine's Park, Sandycove, Co Dublin

Community Connect is proud to be a member of The Wheel, Charities Institute Ireland and The Children's Rights Alliance in 2025.


Community Connect
Ireland's Baby Bank

12. Financial Review, Reserves & Risk Management

Financial Review

The financial results are set out in the financial statements and additional notes are provided showing income and expenditure in greater detail.

Income

Total income for the year was €423,529, comprising grants, donations, fundraising activities and income in kind from donated goods.

Major income sources included:

- Grants: €113,165
- Donations and Gifts: €189,954
- Income from donated goods (in-kind): €117,886

Expenditure

Total expenditure for the year was €339,808.

Expenses included:

- Relief of Poverty: €319,393
- Cost of Raising Funds: €20,415
- Support Costs: €34,196

Our main categories of expenses were Wages and Salaries, Storage Rental & Purchase of Items for Hygiene Packages for distribution to beneficiaries.

At all times, we used funds as prudently as possible, to attain the maximum benefit for the families we supported.

12. Financial Review, Reserves & Risk Management

Financial Results

At the end of the year the charity had gross assets of €184,022 (2024 - €104,440) and gross liabilities of €22,661 (2024 - €26,800).

The net assets of the charity have increased by €83,721.

The surplus will be retained to support operational sustainability in line with the organisation’s reserves policy and anticipated funding volatility.

The Trustees have reviewed the charity's financial position, forecasts and funding requirements and are satisfied that the charity has adequate resources to continue its activities for the foreseeable future.

Reserves Policy and Reserves Position

The Trustees recognise the importance of maintaining an appropriate level of reserves to enable the charity to continue its activities in the event of unforeseen expenditure or fluctuations in income, while ensuring that funds are used effectively to further the charity's objectives.

The charity's reserves policy is reviewed regularly by the Board of Trustees and takes account of the charity's ongoing operational commitments, anticipated income, expenditure requirements and key financial risks. The Trustees seek to maintain sufficient unrestricted reserves to provide financial resilience and support the continuity of the charity's activities.

The Board aims to hold reserves equivalent to 3–6 months of core operating costs.

At year end, total funds amounted to €161,361, comprising:

- €150,361 unrestricted funds
- €11,000 restricted funds

The Trustees consider the level of reserves held at year end to be above the minimum level specified under the charity's reserves policy, reflecting the anticipated increase in demand for the charity's services during the coming year.

12. Financial Review, Reserves & Risk Management

Risk Management

The Trustees have identified the following key risks during 2025:

- **Rising demand:** A 50% increase in families supported compared to 2024, placing pressure on capacity
- **Funding instability:** The charity receives a proportion of its funding on a once-off basis, creating uncertainty around the future scale of service provision
- **Storage and logistics constraints:** Limited warehousing capacity restricts donation intake and operational efficiency, particularly in Dublin

The charity maintains a formal risk register, which is reviewed by the Board of Trustees on an annual basis. Identified risks are assigned appropriate mitigation measures and actions, with active risks and associated actions monitored and tracked by the Board through its regular meetings throughout the year.



13. Plans for 2026

The organisation's strategic priorities for 2026 are:

1. **Maintain and stabilise existing services:**

- Maintain the existing five hubs and ancillary volunteers
- Keep a consistent volunteer team to support our operations
- Supporting additional families at a similar or higher level than 2025
- Maintain delivery vans on the road in Dublin and Cork

2. **Secure replacement funding for expiring grants:**

- Maintain current corporate relationships
- Continue to apply for appropriate grant funding to support our work
- Develop dialogue with civil service and government stakeholders
- Develop further corporate partnerships

3. **Strengthen community engagement and profile:**

- Develop and expand corporate volunteer programme
- Build community awareness through expansion of Drive & Drop event and placement of donation boxes across community centres and public areas


Baby Blanket
and Comforter
Baby Blanket
& Comforter
80cm x 100cm
Pampers
premium protection™
new baby
No.1
0

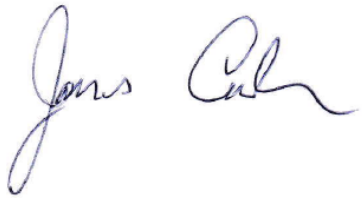
14. Reference & Administration Information

Registered Name	Community Connect Support Company Limited by Guarantee
Company Number	725862
Registered Charity Number	20206555
CHY Number	23052
Directors/Trustees	James Condren, Sarah Durning, Mary Hunt, Jane Parlon (appointed 25/07/2026)
Company Secretary	Elaine Noonan
Registered Office	24A Baggot Street Upper Dublin 4 D04 N528 Ireland
Auditors	Farrelly and Scully Accountants Ltd Chartered Accountants and Statutory Audit Firm 2 Kennedy Road Navan Co Meath C15 VX5H
Principal Bankers	Bank of Ireland 101 George's Street Upper Dun Laoghaire Co Dublin

15. Approval of the Directors' and Trustees' Annual Report for financial year ended 31 December 2025

This report was approved by the Board of Trustees on behalf of Community Connect Support CLG and signed on their behalf.

Signed:



James Condren
Chair of Trustees / Director



Sarah Durning
Trustee / Director

on behalf of the Board of Trustees

Community Connect



Ireland's Baby Bank