



**Praxis Care**  
Annual Report 2008/2009

Vision Statement

**Excellence and Innovation in Supported Living.**

Mission Statement

**Providing excellence and innovation in care and support to vulnerable children and adults affected by mental ill health, learning disability, acquired brain injury or dementia.**

## THE CHAIRMAN AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE REMARKS

This year has seen many changes in the field of Health & Social Care Services. Services are being rationalised and 'small' is no longer considered 'beautiful'. Economies of scale are now considered much more important factors in a world where money for public services is becoming increasingly scarce. However 'less money' does not equate with a desire for 'lesser care' and there is an increasing demand for better services which can demonstrate improved outcomes for service users.

Responding to service user needs remains at the heart of Praxis Care and that is why the organisation has continued to grow and prosper in a difficult year and will do so in the future. The key to any successful organisation is remaining true to its value base and being willing to change appropriately to ensure that the value base underpins all its activity.

Praxis Care is ready for the challenge to 'step up to the mark' and aspires to be a preferred provider for the Trusts and other purchasers. 2008 - 2009 has demonstrated that this is achievable. The organisation has the capacity to deliver excellence and innovation to a range of vulnerable client groups and it will continue to persuade government that the commissioning of the voluntary sector is the way forward in the delivery of efficient and effective Health & Social Care Services.

Loyal and committed staff and volunteers are the essential factors in delivering services and no one could thank staff and volunteers enough for continuing to go the 'extra mile' in terms of the delivery of services and helping to 'transform' the lives of service users in the different projects.



*Nevin Ringland*

**Nevin Ringland - Chief Executive**



*WJ Canning*

**WJ Canning - Chairman**

## BOARD MEMBERS

### **Mr WJ (Bill) Canning (Chair) - FIPD, MHSM, Cert.Health Econ**

Bill has considerable senior management experience in Industry, Local Government and in the Northern Ireland Health Service, including management of a large hospital. Recently retired, Bill was the regional manager for the Parkinson's Disease Society in Northern Ireland. Bill is currently the Chairman of Praxis Care. A keen historian, Bill has written several books on Irish History. Bill sits on the Governance Committee of Praxis Care.

### **Dr Oliver Shanks - MB, BCh, BAO, MRCP, FRCPsvch**

Dr Shanks is currently a Director of Extern and Kilcreegan Homes and is a Parole Commissioner for Northern Ireland. He was a Consultant Psychiatrist specialising in learning disability at Muckamore Abbey Hospital and had a community brief in Belfast. He has now retired. Dr Shanks was a member of the Bamford Review of Mental Health and Learning Disability and was a member of the Mental Health Commission for Northern Ireland. Dr Shanks has been a Director of Praxis Care since 1995 and sits on the Research Committee.

### **Mr John McGregor - MSc Eng**

John is Director for Business in the Community NI. He has worked extensively in the area of Social and Economic Development with a special focus on marginalised groups and Targeting Social Need (TSN) areas. Prior to his current position John comes from an engineering background and latterly he was Operations Director with a Blue Chip company in Ireland. John holds a number of non-executive directorships with Social Economy Companies, not-for-profit organisations and Private Sector businesses. John chairs the Finance Committee of Praxis Care.

### **Miss Margaret Stevenson**

Margaret was actively involved in the Public Sector housing field for twenty-nine years, latterly taking up the post of District Manager with NI Housing Executive in 1976. She retired in May 1995. From 1989 until 1997, Margaret served as a committee member on the Praxis Antrim Standing Committee and now sits on the Health & Safety Committee.

### **Miss Anne Vance - M.A., Dip.Car.ED., LGSM-Speech**

Anne is a retired Grammar School teacher, where she taught French and English as well as being Head of Residence and the Careers Department. Anne actively volunteers with many organisations: she is a National Trust Volunteer Lecturer, a volunteer with the Marie Curie Day Therapy Centre, a volunteer with a local Church group for older people, as well as being a Praxis Befriender.

### **Mr Vincent Malone**

A Fellow of The Institute of Bankers in Ireland, Vincent is a Senior Manager with First Trust Bank and has had a diverse and varied banking career within Northern Ireland extending back to 1972. He has held managerial roles and responsibilities since 1988 across a range of disparate areas in banking, including Branch Banking, Commercial and Residential Mortgage Lending/Administration, Quality Assurance and Risk Management and Asset Financing. Vincent joined the Praxis Board in 2005 and sits on the Finance Committee.

**Mrs Rosaleen Moore - OBE**

Rosaleen Moore is a Social Worker by profession and was Director of Mental Health and Disability Services in Craigavon and Banbridge Health and Social Services Trust until retirement. Rosaleen retains an interest in this area and was appointed to the Board of Praxis Care in 2005. Rosaleen is currently on the Northern Ireland Policing Board. She also sits on the Research Committee of Praxis Care.

**Mr Arthur Canning - Dip.(Est Man), MB.Eng, Assoc. RICS, MCMI, MAPM**

Arthur is Chief Executive of Trinity Housing which specialises in the provision and management of housing for the elderly and supported housing for people with special needs. He currently sits on the Council of the Northern Ireland Federation of Housing Associations (NIFHA) having previously held the positions of Chairman and Vice-Chairman. In addition to serving on the Boards of a number of other voluntary organisations, Arthur is Chair of Praxis Care Human Resources Committee.

**Dr Etta Eid-Jennings - MBE**

Etta was the Chairwoman and Director of the Northern Ireland Agoraphobia and Anxiety Society, the Charity she set up in 1980. Previous to this, she trained and worked in Marriage Guidance (now Relate) as a counsellor, then transferred into the field of mental health, working with people suffering from depression, bereavement and other psychiatric conditions. Etta has over 30 years of experience covering a very wide spectrum of counselling. She received the MBE for her years of work dealing with people suffering from phobias and anxieties.

## SIGNIFICANT EVENTS - April 2008/March 2009

### Service User Deaths

Seamus Bradley, Rockmills - March 08

Patricia Thrasher, Rose Orchard - March 08

June Crozier, Upper Suffolk - June 08

Ellen Knox, Magherafelt - August 08

Victor Shaw, Antrim Mental Health Scheme - September 08

James Perry, Glenfield - September 08

Raymond Boyd, Ballyclare - October 08

Paul Ferguson, Connaught House - October 08

Belinda Thompson, Glenfield - November 08

Elizabeth Lemon, North Down & Ards - December 08

Andrew Piekals, Star Club - December 08

Eddie Doherty, Age Appropriate Day Care, Derry - March 09

### Staff Deaths

Susan Ashe, Isle of Man - May 08

Each of these people brought a unique contribution to their project and will be remembered by staff and other service users alike.

### Ability Awards - April 2008

Donna Sheehan from Forest Hill Satellite Units won Gold at the Ability Awards for Culinary Excellence in the King's Hall on 29 April 2008. Donna received her award from Bernie Kelly, Deputy Lord Mayor of Belfast.

### Official Opening - Castle Lane Scheme, Lurgan April 2008

Castle Lane Court was officially opened on 28 April 2008 by Sir Nigel Hamilton, Head of the NI Civil Service. The scheme provides a range of accommodation for adults with a learning disability.

### Investors in People Accreditation - May 2008

In May Praxis Care officially became an 'Investors in People' organisation. This was a tremendous achievement. Investors in People is a quality standard which recognises the important link between staff members within the organisation and the growth and success of the organisation. The many benefits for Praxis Care in undertaking this assessment include:

- Improved performance and productivity
- Better skilled staff
- A culture of learning, development and involvement



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE



### Awards Ceremony - 29 May 2008

Praxis Care's first awards ceremony for staff took place in the Secret Garden, Hillsborough. The event was great fun and a celebration of the tremendous input from staff in the life of Praxis Care.

- Number of Training Awards - 63
- Number of Long Service Awards - 71 (10 years or more service)
- Number of Awards for Excellence - 9 individual and 11 scheme awards were presented

### **Befriending Dinner and Awards - June 2008**

A very successful dinner was held in the Glenavon Hotel to celebrate the contribution made by befrienders to the work of Praxis Care. The Minister responsible for the voluntary sector, Margaret Ritchie MLA and Maeve Walls from the Volunteer Unit were Guests of Honour. Amongst others, the evening celebrated befrienders who had volunteered for over 20 years. This is a terrific achievement for the volunteers - and for the Assistant Project Officers and co-ordinators who supported them during this time.



### **Rivermead and Baxter Avenue - June 2008**

Praxis Care won a tender to take over Rivermead Residential Home and Baxter Avenue 'Supporting People' House, both located in Worcestershire in England.

### **Garden Show - June 2008**

Praxis Care hosted the second garden show at the Praxis Care Workskills Project at the Secret Garden in Hillsborough. It was a tremendous success with over 23,000 visitors coming from all over Ireland to see the Walled Garden of Hillsborough Castle and the show's exhibits.

### **Rose Orchard and Coombe House CSCI reviews - August 2008**

CSCI (English regulation body) reviewed Rose Orchard and Coombe House on the 19th June 2008 and 27th June 2008. Both had their rating of 'Excellent' confirmed for a second year. An 'Excellent' rating is the highest rating it is possible to receive. Full praise for this must go to Anita Cant and Emma White, scheme managers, and their hard working and very committed teams for maintaining such high standards.

### **Name Change - September 2008**

Over the years the organisation has changed its name and its logos on several occasions. When all three charities, Praxis Mental Health, Challenge and Respond joined together in 2001, the organisation became 'Praxis Care Group', with a new logo but retaining the names of its divisions as trade names. The organisation then decided to go one step further and became 'Praxis Care' dropping 'Group' from its name and no longer using its trade names, 'Challenge', 'Respond' and 'Praxis Mental Health', in correspondence and within the organisation. Therefore from 1 September 2008 the names 'Challenge', 'Respond', and 'Praxis Mental Health' became obsolete and the organisation became 'Praxis Care'.

### **Blanchardstown Opening - November 2008**

A new domiciliary care scheme started in Blanchardstown in the south of Ireland for individuals with a learning disability.

### **OBE - January 09**

Mrs Rosaleen Moore, one of Praxis Care's Board Members was awarded the OBE in the New Year's Honours List.



### **New Logo - March 2009**

Praxis Care decided on a new logo as part of developing a new corporate identity. The public consultations said the new logo represented strength, confidence, safety, assurance, movement and stability which are attributes Praxis Care wants for its service users.

## PRAXIS CARE STATISTICS 2008-2009

<b>Number Of Staff</b>	
Permanent	827
Relief	293
<b>Total:</b>	<b>1120</b>
<b>Number Of People (Adults) Praxis Care Provides A Home To:</b>	
Learning Disability And Acquired Brain Injury	124
Mental Health	254
Elderly	29
<b>Total:</b>	<b>407</b>
<b>Number Of People (Adults) Praxis Care Help In Their Own Home:</b>	
Home Response	180
Floating Support	152
<b>Total:</b>	<b>332</b>
<b>Number Of People (Adults) Who Attend Praxis Care Day Activity/Workskills/Lunch Clubs:</b>	
Mental Illness	117
Learning Disability	119
<b>Total:</b>	<b>236</b>
<b>Number Of Children Receiving Respite Services:</b>	
<b>Total:</b>	<b>121</b>
<b>Number Of Volunteer Befriending Matches:</b>	
<b>Total:</b>	<b>111</b>
<b>Number Of People Receiving Carers Advocacy Help</b>	
<b>Total:</b>	<b>225</b>
<b>Number Of Service Users Who Achieved Qualifications</b>	
<b>Total:</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>Number Of Service Users Who Won A Medal At The Special Olympics</b>	
<b>Total:</b>	<b>13</b>



## CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

(incorporating the income and expenditure account) for the year ended 31 March 2009

	Unrestricted funds 09 £	Restricted funds 09 £	Total funds 09 £	Total funds 08 £
<b>Income from generated funds</b>				
Voluntary income	30,025	-	<b>30,025</b>	26,922
Activities for generating funds	-	-	-	-
Investment Income	32,264	-	<b>32,264</b>	24,046
Income from charitable activities	22,706,846	210,926	<b>22,917,772</b>	20,136,662
Other incoming resources	-	-	-	2,634
<b>Total incoming Resources</b>	<b>22,769,135</b>	<b>210,926</b>	<b>22,980,061</b>	<b>20,190,264</b>
<b>Resources Expended</b>				
Costs of generating funds	22,235	-	<b>22,235</b>	-
Charitable activities	20,545,459	247,882	<b>20,793,341</b>	18,713,678
Governance costs	74,921	-	<b>74,921</b>	260,194
Other resources expended	-	-	-	896
Impairment of freehold property	1,544,474	-	<b>1,544,474</b>	-
<b>Total Resources Expended</b>	<b>22,187,089</b>	<b>247,882</b>	<b>22,434,971</b>	<b>18,974,768</b>
<b>Net incoming resources</b>	<b>582,046</b>	<b>(36,956)</b>	<b>545,090</b>	<b>1,215,496</b>
Exceptional item	975,000	-	<b>975,000</b>	-
Revaluation of freehold property	(1,943,910)	-	<b>(1,943,910)</b>	-
Unrealised (deficit)/gains on investments	(4,150)	-	<b>(4,150)</b>	298
Unrealised foreign exchange gain	563,241	-	<b>563,241</b>	10,921
<b>Net movement in funds for the year</b>	<b>172,227</b>	<b>(36,956)</b>	<b>135,271</b>	<b>1,226,715</b>
Total funds brought forward	11,123,645	183,098	<b>11,306,743</b>	10,080,028
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	<b>11,295,872</b>	<b>146,142</b>	<b>11,442,014</b>	<b>11,306,743</b>

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses in the year and therefore a statement of total recognised gains and losses has not been prepared.

All of the above amounts relate to continuing activities.

## PRAXIS CARE STATISTICS 2008-2009

Mental Health Schemes			
<b>Advocacy Project</b>	A carer Advocate is currently employed in the North and West Belfast Trust	<b>Laurel Lodge, Larne</b>	This facility comprises of an eight-place group house and a block of 4 specially designed flats
<b>Antrim</b>	Provides DISH (Dispersed Intensively Supported Housing) - 16 places	<b>Castle Hill House, Lisnaskea</b>	Supported Residential Flat Cluster and a Floating Support Scheme comprising 11 individual flats
<b>Armagh</b>	Provides 12 group living places in 3 bungalows	<b>Lurgan</b>	Dispersed Intensively Supported Housing - 21 places
<b>Chisholm House, Ballyclare</b>	Supported Group House and Flat Cluster - 18 places	<b>Magherafelt / Cookstown</b>	Dispersed Intensively Supported Housing - 15 places
<b>Crozier Mews, Banbridge</b>	Supported living group house and residential flat cluster - 13 places	<b>Plasden Court, Manchester</b>	Provides up to 20 places for adults with an enduring mental illness in Wythenshawe
<b>Carmen Lane, Bangor</b>	Residential Flat Cluster with 6 places.	<b>Kilmorey House, Newry</b>	Supported Group House and residential flat cluster for 13 residents and a Home Response Scheme
<b>Coleraine</b>	Dispersed Intensively Supported Housing - 15 places	<b>Connaught House, Newry</b>	A 5 place supported group living home
<b>Derry City</b>	Dispersed Intensively Supported Housing - 12 places	<b>Newtownards</b>	Dispersed Intensively Supported Housing - 8 places
<b>Dunmisk Manor, West Belfast</b>	Residential flat cluster - 16 places	<b>Planet B, Antrim</b>	A drop in centre for young people - accessed by 22 service users
<b>Foyle Young People</b>	Supported Living Flat Cluster - 6 places	<b>Portadown</b>	Dispersed Intensively Supported Housing - 14 places
<b>Isle of Man Home Support Service</b>	Provides 180 hours per week to clients living at home	<b>The Star Club, Isle of Man</b>	Day centre based on 'Club House' model and accessed by 70 service users
<b>Isle of Man Supported Living Accommodation</b>	5 individual flats with 24 hour staff support in Douglas 5 individual flats with Outreach support in Douglas	<b>West Belfast</b>	Dispersed Intensively Supported Housing - 16 places
<b>Larne</b>	Dispersed Intensively Supported Housing for 6 service users	<b>Young People Leaving Care, Northern Trust Area</b>	A befriending service specifically targeted at young people - 17 matches

Dementia Schemes			
<b>Clements Court, Derry</b>	13 one bedded flats with housing support services provided	<b>Lisnaskea</b>	A floating support service supporting 34 individuals
<b>Coleraine Floating Support</b>	A floating support service supporting 15 individuals	<b>Parklands, Lisburn</b>	This is an 8 place house where residents receive a support service from 24 hour staff
<b>Foyle Floating Support</b>	A floating support service supporting 19 individuals	<b>St Paul's Court, Lisburn</b>	Purpose built accommodation consisting of 15, 2 bedroomed bungalows and 8 self contained apartments

Learning Disability Schemes			
<b>Pettigo Road, Kesh</b>	Pettigo Road provides care for 10 adults	<b>Glenfield, Leicestershire</b>	A short break scheme which is accessed by 25 children
<b>Forest Hill, Newtownards</b>	Supported living for 16 people	<b>Glenroyd, Isle of Man</b>	Provides accommodation for 5 residents
<b>Beechfield Respite Unit, Conlig</b>	A respite care unit for 30 children	<b>The Willows, Kesh</b>	Supported living house for 4 people
<b>Blanchardstown, Dublin</b>	Domiciliary care unit providing care and support - 1 place	<b>Kesh Day Care Centre</b>	A day care unit for 12 service users
<b>Bocombra Cookie Company, Portadown</b>	A workskills programme where 16 users make, package and sell cookies to local shops and coffee shops	<b>Kimberley House, Newtownards</b>	Residential care for 13 service users
<b>Castle Lane Court, Lurgan</b>	This unit provides care and support for 20 tenants in a range of accommodation	<b>Blooms Café on the Walls, Derry</b>	A coffee shop based in Derry providing work experience for 9 service users
<b>Conlig Workskills</b>	Provides day care/workskills to 27 trainees	<b>Le Bistro, Kesh</b>	A bakery and café providing work experience for 3 service users
<b>Coombe House, Kidderminster</b>	This unit is a 12 bedded Nursing Home	<b>Mantlin Cottage, Kesh</b>	Residential care home for 9 service users
<b>Cornerstones, Ardee</b>	Supported living accommodation for 4 male adults with autism	<b>Meenag and Swan House, Navan</b>	Supported living accommodation for 10 people
<b>The Courtyard, Crumlin</b>	Supported Living for 12 adults	<b>Melton, Leicestershire</b>	A short break scheme for 25 children
<b>Derry Age Appropriate Day Care</b>	The project offers a day care service for 19 older adults	<b>Mullingar</b>	A 4 place residential unit providing care and support to adults
<b>Derry Befriending</b>	Enables and supports volunteers to act as a friend to an adult - 31 matches	<b>Domiciliary Care Agency, Kidderminster</b>	This unit 24 hour support for two people living in their own home
<b>Derry Cookie Company</b>	A workskills programme where 12 users make, package and sell cookies to local shops and coffee shops	<b>Rainbow Lodge, Ballymena</b>	A 8 bed care unit for children from 30 families with learning disabilities
<b>Forest Lodge, Portadown</b>	Provides 3 residential care homes for 9 service users	<b>Rivermead, Kidderminster</b>	Supported living to two people with learning disabilities/mental health problems and associated challenging behaviours.
<b>Galliagh House, Enniskillen</b>	Provides residential care to 24 service users	<b>Rose Orchard, Kidderminster</b>	A five bedded bungalow, which provides nursing care for five adults
-	-	<b>The Secret Garden, Hillsborough</b>	A workskills programme for 18 service users

The Northern Ireland Agoraphobia and Anxiety Society (NIAAS), although a separate charity in its own right, receives management and support services from Praxis Care. NIAAS provides counselling and support to people suffering from agoraphobia anxiety and panic attacks. Self Help Groups are held in the following locations: Belfast, Downpatrick, Bangor.





**Praxis**  
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