



HOW THE MONEY WILL BE USED

(Police – Fire – Ambulance – Coastguard)

EMERGENCY SERVICES CHARITY OF THE YEAR - 2008

How we will use the money raised by the 999 Partnership



We are absolutely delighted to have been chosen by the Emergency Services '999 Charity Partnership' as your official charity for 2008. This is a fantastic opportunity for us to benefit from your support. The PSNI has an excellent reputation for their local fundraising efforts and we are very excited to be working alongside you not only to help maximise fundraising potential but also raise the profile of our Charity.

Every week in Northern Ireland two more families will receive the devastating news that their child has been diagnosed with cancer. Whether a solid tumour or leukaemia, that family will simply never be the same again as their child embarks on a journey that may involve immediate surgery, radiotherapy and almost certainly a regime of chemotherapy.

Our job at the NI Cancer Fund for Children is to provide vital support services to help these desperate families at the time they need it most and, with your help, we will be able to continue to provide these services and so much more.

Our organisation must grow and expand to meet the essential needs of more and more children and young people every year, and we want also to develop unique new services designed to support the many thousands of kids in Northern Ireland living in fear and anxiety as they receive the news that their mum or dad has cancer and may not survive.

We are passionate about what we do and the families we work with and we know that, in your company, we will achieve great things this year.

First we will see the launch of our trail blazing Young Shoulders Programme and then we will build our ground breaking centre of excellence for kids living with cancer, and their families, we will create the Shimna Valley Village.

'Young Shoulders'

Young Shoulders is a residential based service, providing invaluable support to children and young people living with a mum or dad who has cancer. This service is the first of its kind in the UK, and indeed second only in Europe. Young Shoulders provides emotional and social support to these children and equip them with the coping mechanisms and resilience that will guide them through their family's cancer journey. This is what the kids say:

"My Dad has a brain tumor and doesn't go to work anymore. My mum looks after us all. We can't have lots of new things but I don't mind, I just want my Dad to get better"- Jamie aged 13

"Now my Mum is terminally ill, I never want to get angry with her or have an argument, I try to take care of her, but sometimes I just want to cry and cry - Claire aged 14

"She never cries in front of me, but sometimes I find her walking the house and crying in the middle of the night" - Sophie aged 16, talking about her mum

With your help, we can reach out to so many families and together we can help these kids learn to smile again!

Shimna Valley Village

Our second project will be immense!

We want to create a totally unique centre of excellence for kids from all over Northern Ireland who are living with cancer in their lives. We want to build on existing successes at our own Shimna Valley House and Narnia log cabin, which already offer a nurturing and sustaining haven for families. But with your fundraising power we aim to buy adjoining land and property that will be converted into a new holistic centre and become the very heart of our brand new Shimna Valley Village.

This will be an environment far removed from hospital wards, clinics and treatment regimes. Nestling at the foot of the Mourne Mountains we will realise our vision of creating a magical place where families torn apart by the devastation of cancer can simply relax, re-energise and spend precious time together.

We will increase our residential capacity to 72 beds and we will build on the essential services that this organisation has been offering there for more than 10 years.

Our plans are adventurous and ambitious but achievable and we are looking forward enormously to an exciting and fun year ahead with each and every one of you

Thank you so much for everything you are doing for us.

Gillian Creevy

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For details about events etc: www.nicfc.com

Partnership Web sites: [Police](#) [Fire & Rescue](#) [Ambulance](#) [Coastguard](#)