



Don Bosco Aftercare,
12 Clontarf Road,
Dublin 3
087 2462904

04/04/2023

Dear Toni,

I hope this letter finds you well.

We are very excited about our newest project working alongside young people who originally came to Ireland as separated children seeking international protection. They have overcome many obstacles, fled war torn countries, leaving their families behind, treacherous journeys where they encountered violence and risked their lives to find safety.

They are currently living in Don Bosco Aftercare Clontarf service where they receive support to settle, integrate, access education and focus on building a brighter future. All of our young people are in education and are very committed to their studies as they wish to better themselves and gain meaningful employment and contribute to Irish society and economy. Two young people are sitting their leaving certificate this summer and one is doing a PLC course in engineering. These three young people are planning to attend college in September.

However, this placement is short term and these young people will have to move on after a year/18 months. Some of them are coming to the end of their time with us and we are desperately seeking suitable accommodation for them so that they can continue to focus on their studies and build the future they deserve. If we cannot find suitable accommodation, our funding agency Tusla have said their only option will be a discharge to homeless services. This would be detrimental to their health and mental wellbeing. It would severely impact on their ability to access education and their basic need for safety. They have suffered enough already.

As a team, informed by the ethos of Don Bosco, we have built positive, healing relationships with our young people. They have opened up to us and allowed us into their worlds. We are keenly aware of the day to day stress they experience being separated from their families and support networks in their countries of origin. The worry they feel about their family's safety. We see first-hand the level of pressure they are under to get a good education, to work part time so they can send money home to their families and to navigate their way through the legal process around status and family re-unification. In a different country with vast cultural differences. At a minimum our young people need a safe space, a consistent roof over their head that they can call home.

The current housing crisis is making it impossible for us to find homes for our young people. We are looking ideally for one bedroom flats for 2/3 of the young people that are ready and under pressure to move on. This would create spaces for new referrals that we have not been able to process as we are currently at capacity here. The team would continue to offer outreach support to them after moving. Is there any way you can help us with this Toni?

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Company Name: Don Bosco Care CLG
Company Number: 131258
RCN: CHY8523
CRA Number: 20021047

Board of Directors:

M. Casey | AM. Corry | N. Costello | C. Coulter | T. Dignan | L. Gordon | N. Mulcahy | D. O'Hara



We are lucky to work with the young people that we have in Clontarf. We have learnt a great deal from their kindness, resilience and determination to make new lives for themselves through adversity. They are respectful and well-mannered and friendly. They work hard to establish themselves in this new country and culture. Their faith/values/beliefs discourage any use of alcohol or drugs and they would make very stable reliable tenants.

I would be delighted to meet with you in person Toni to discuss this issue further if that would be helpful? Thank you in advance for your time any support you can give us with this matter.

Kindest Regards,

Caitriona and the care team in DBC Clontarf

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