



2020 ANNUAL REPORT

FOUNDATION IN CHRIST MINISTRIES

Although the 2019-2020 school year was cut short due to COVID 19 closures and some of our ministries were not able to take place in the same capacity, we are excited about what we accomplished before the pandemic and the new and creative ways we were able to reach the community during and after quarantine! Thank you for your steadfast support and prayer as we navigated this unforeseen time!

AN TOBAR NUA CAFÉ

The Café remained as bustling as ever with students enjoying the daily lunch rushes, participating in various interest groups, building relationships, and playing games with one another and the staff. Our games group, girls' group, and Faith Alive youth group were all well attended, and it was a joy to see students deepening in their friendships. Our Free Ice Cream Fridays and Role Playing Games group were also a big hit this year, bringing in about 30-40 students regularly every Friday. Through our various programs, on a weekly basis we had the opportunity to build relationships with about 70 students regularly each week, and it was great to watch some of them become regular patrons of the café and start asking questions about faith and why we do what we do!

One of our favorite aspects of ministry this year was the 12 work experience students we hosted from local secondary schools. It was such a joy to be able to spend focused time with each of these students and show them what faith looks like on a daily basis as they worked alongside us in the Café.



RETREATS

This year, our four retreat teams held a total of 289 retreats, speaking to 13,818 students, over 10,000 of whom made a faith commitment at the end of the retreat day! With the addition of our Leinster team, we also made connections with 46 new schools. Despite the school year being cut short, our retreat teams were busy working from home and developing the curriculum for next year's retreats, creating online content for our new YouTube channel, as well as adapting our existing curriculum to include social distancing measures when we go back into schools in the Fall. Our "Friendship" and "Resilience" curriculums, games, and activities have all been adapted for the coming school year, and we are very excited to share our new "Unlocking Potential" curriculum that we have developed during the quarantine and summer months.

Along with curriculum development, we also identified the leaders for our newest North-Dublin team! Schools are already being scheduled for the coming school year in the new region, and we cannot wait to watch how God moves this coming school year!



I really enjoyed the retreat. I liked listening to all the leaders' stories. I learned so much. I learnt that if we trust in Jesus, God will help us and also guide us.

13.8K

Students Reached

46

New Schools

10.7K

Commitments of Faith!

115

Counseling Clients

30

Scripture School Students

122

Alpha and Nua Students

EMMAUS SCRIPTURE SCHOOL

The Emmaus Scripture School held three courses this year studying the book of *Galatians*, *The Road Less Traveled* by S. Peck, and *Theology of the Body* by John Paul II. Across all three studies, 30 students attended, gaining scriptural insight and deepening their relationship with Christ. Along with these classes, our weekly *Lectio Divina* scripture study and Taize worship nights were attended by an average of 9 people each week.

When quarantine kept us from meeting at the Café in the spring, many of the participants requested we continue our *Lectio* group virtually, and our numbers grew to 17 regularly attending from 3 different nations. During this time, we saw our students grow not only in love for another, but in their need for the Lord as well.



"The class content was first-rate quality and absolutely relevant for relationships of whatever sorts!"



ALPHA AND NUA

Similar to our Retreats, the Alpha and Nua faith courses allow students to explore what it means to live a faith-filled life today in a more in depth way over several months. The Alpha course was attended by groups of 65 and 23 students in the Fall and Spring respectively, and the Nua course was attended by 34 students throughout the year.

Along with these courses, our Alpha & Nua leader, Kevin, also led a weekly prayer experience with roughly 160 primary (elementary) school students. Teachers, staff, and administration at the school where the prayer time was offered expressed seeing a significant change in the students who attended the prayer experience. For one meeting, parents of the students were also invited to join! What a privilege it is to know that prayer is truly changing these students and moving beyond their individual lives and into their classrooms and homes.

COUNSELING CENTER

In total, our two full-time counselors and three counseling interns saw a total of 115 clients this year, including 50 new clients. Both of our full-time counselors completed higher education classes this year, Megan completing her Masters in Family Therapeutic Skills and Tom gaining his Diploma in Supervision by overseeing the certification process of our counseling interns. We also held our own seminar with a guest speaker who taught nonverbal methods for treating trauma. Thirteen counselors from the region attended and expressed gaining helpful tools to help in their practices.

In the spring, both Tom and Megan attended an addiction and trauma workshop where they learned to help patients experiencing stress and trauma. This workshop proved to be an incredibly valuable tool for helping clients during the anxiety and isolation of quarantine. Many patients expressed a significant reduction in stress and anxiety on a scale of 1 to 10, moving from a high level of stress at the beginning of the session to a much lower amount of stress by the end. We are so thankful to have had the technology available to us to continue seeing these clients despite social distancing mandates, and we look forward to integrating more technology into our counseling sessions in the future.



"I now see changes that I have dreamt of for years coming to pass in my life, and An Tobar Nua counseling is where it all began. Thank you!"

FAITH ALIVE

Our Faith Alive youth group offered on Saturday afternoons has grown a lot throughout the year, with a consistent group of 15 students attending this spring prior to quarantine. Many of these students practice other faiths or claim no faith at all, and it is wonderful to see them engaged in the lessons, singing worship songs, and discussing difficult questions of faith with one another.

One weekend in particular, we expected attendance to be low given that there was a storm, but to our surprise, the group of students arrived on time and made the trek into town specifically to attend the youth group. For some, the journey was over an hour long!

SUMMER CAMPS

Each summer we look forward to putting on our teen and kids camp, and this summer was no different. With social distancing mandates in place however, we decided to make our camps virtual! The Café and Retreats staff created lessons, games, and activities for our students, and shared them via our new YouTube channel! Though making the camps virtual was certainly a challenge, the hard work paid off, and so far we have over 1,800 views on the videos, and we hope they continue to reach more students and families.



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