

## MOVE Ireland Launch Annual Report 2023 & Strategic Plan 2025-2029

On Monday the 9th of December, MOVE Ireland launched both their Annual Report for 2023 and Strategic Plan for 2025-2029 in the Mansion House. Preparing and launching both our Annual Report and Strategic Plan at the same time afforded us the opportunity to reflect not only on the last year, but also look towards the future of our organisation. At MOVE we feel the time has never been more important to focus on improving prevention and intervention programmes, to ensure the safety of society and to support a zero-tolerance approach to DSGBV. It was also important for us to hold our launch during the '16 days of Activism' and share with those in attendance MOVE's work in addressing DSGBV.



The launch was named 'From Harm to Hope: Pivot to the Perpetrator.' Our goal was to showcase that prevention and intervention programmes, and working directly with perpetrators of domestic abuse is crucial when addressing DSGBV. We were very fortunate on the day to have a number of guest speakers join us at the launch, including Dr. Stephanie O'Keeffe CEO of CUAN, Dr. Louise Crowley a Professor in the School of Law in UCC and Detective Superintendent Sinead Greene. On the day, attendees also heard the testimonial of a man who had completed the 'Choices' programme with MOVE Ireland.



Opening the launch, MOVE's Vice Chairperson Tom O' Leary emphasised that the past year has been one of renewal and re-imaging for MOVE Ireland. In 2023, MOVE Ireland welcomed a new CEO Dr. Michelle Walsh and an entire new board. 2023 also saw a 400% increase in calls to MOVE Ireland and a 34% increase in referrals.

Giving an overview of the Annual Report, MOVE's Director of Client Services Lisa Brown noted that 'self-referrals reached their highest point of engagement in 2023.' Self-referrals made up 46% of all referrals for 2023, indicating a strong level of individual initiative in seeking services.

Data from 2023 also highlighted important trends in relation to partner support.

MOVE's Domestic Abuse Support Team, previously known as the Partner Contact Service, offers support to the current or former partners of those participating in the 'Choices' programme. Of the partners that accepted support from MOVE partner contact workers in 2023, 74% had no prior involvement with domestic violence services, indicating that for many this may be their first time engaging with support. For more information on the service provided by MOVE's dedicated Domestic Abuse Support Team click [HERE](#).

Looking to the future of the organisation, CEO Dr. Michelle Walsh gave an overview of MOVE's newly developed 5 year Strategic Plan, including MOVE's vision, mission, core values and strategic priorities.

Closing the launch Dr. Walsh spoke about society's role in addressing DSGBV and the need to adopt a proactive approach, 'A proactive approach means prevention.' Echoing the theme of the launch Dr. Walsh emphasised the need to pivot to address and intervene with those causing trauma, instability and harm. 'Focus on them. Name their behaviours which are harmful and teach behaviours which nurture and foster healthy equitable relationships.'



Both the [Annual Report 2023](#) and [Strategic Plan 2025-2029](#) are available on the MOVE Ireland website.