

Rape Crisis and Sexual Abuse Counselling Centre Sligo, Leitrim and West Cavan



Annual Report 2015

Kempton House
Kempton Parade
Sligo

Tel: 071 9171188

Fax: 071 9171268

Email: info@srcc.ie

Freephone Helpline: 1800 750 780

www.sligorapecrisiscentre.ie

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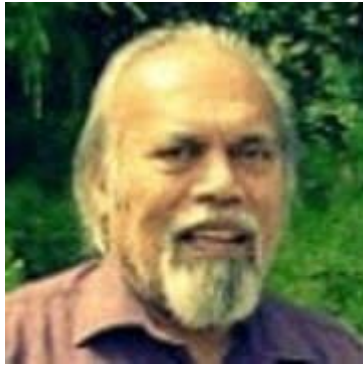
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CHAIRMANS' REPORT

It gives me great pleasure to introduce the Annual Report for The Rape Crisis and Sexual Abuse Counselling Centre Sligo, Leitrim & West Cavan. This report reflects our work and activities for the year 2015.

I would like to use this platform to acknowledge the valuable resource that are our committed volunteers and staff without whom we would not be in any position to deliver our much needed support services for the survivors of Sexual Violence. Each year marks the continued development of the organisation. 2015 was also a year which saw a number of new pieces of legislation, Governance codes and the installation of the Charities Regulatory Authority. Over the last year a project jointly funded by the IPB was undertaken and is progressing well. Our fund raising efforts are producing a reasonable income but there is always room to improve and increase our service. Our outreach service in Carrick-on-Shannon, core funded by TUSLA is going very well and we are seeing a widening of our service to survivors.

We have been active in attending a number of National Conferences, Seminars, Symposiums and Launches which have created an increased awareness of our centre and the services we provide whilst at the same time adding to the scope of networking with other organisations nationally. However there has also been a heightened anxiety over the issue of funding cuts. The funded voluntary sector as a whole has suffered cuts directly as a result of the recession and the state of the economy. We have not been immune from these cuts or the recession. It is hoped that over the next few years the position may change and there may be some light at the end of a long tunnel. Nevertheless this should not and has not affected our morale and the level of the quality support services we provide. In a difficult year we have taken cognisance of the economic situation, funding cuts and reduced core funding in real terms and have accordingly closely monitored our services and ensured that our scarce resources are used optimally. We continued to implement our strategic plan with efficiency in mind for the benefit of our survivors and the community we serve. In the current term we will be re-appraising and evaluating our Strategic Plan and have an expectation to continue to serve our community with confidence whilst being aware of the fiscal challenges that lie ahead.

I also take this opportunity to express our gratitude to our partners in TUSLA and the Health Service Executive for the continued support that they have provided for our work whilst we continue to campaign, with and to them, to further support us with improved funding and resources to enable our sector to provide increased and improved services to the survivors who look to us for support. My gratitude also goes to the hard working and fundraising volunteers and equally to the generosity of the general public in the region responding to our events with such regularity.

I sincerely wish to thank Team SRCC comprising of Tina Horton, Gilla Cornelius and Elaine Hanson, and All Volunteers for the spirit with which they all execute the work of the organisation and the support I have experienced from them as Chairman. I also acknowledge Ursula Devaney for doing excellent work in training local agencies in working with disclosure of sexual violence in Sligo and Leitrim. I extend my thanks to the Board members for their un-waivered support and commitment to the organisation.

Last but not least I would like to extend my good wishes and thanks for the support I received from Mary Roche who left our Board of Directors in a career move and joined TUSLA.

Thank you all.

Dr. Parvez A. Butt
Chairman

Introduction

There are adults everywhere who have experienced some form of sexual violence either as a child or adult. The unacceptability of sexual violence and the devastating effects of such traumatic experiences have long been recognised by the Rape Crisis Movement resulting in Rape Crisis Centres being set up to address both the needs of survivors of sexual violence and the causes of sexual violence in our society. The Rape Crisis Movement has its roots in feminism and believes that sexual violence is a result of the power imbalance and role differences between men, women and children within our society.

The Centre was originally established in 1996 as a local response to sexual violence within the region. Our geographical remit is essentially the regions of Sligo, Leitrim and West Cavan. Previous to its establishment the nearest Rape Crisis Centre was the Mayo Rape Crisis Centre, Castlebar Co. Mayo. The Centre is a member of the Rape Crisis Network Ireland.

How we work

The Centre provides a safe, confidential space for survivors of child sexual abuse, rape and sexual assault where adults and young people can explore and access help with the legacy of issues resulting from their traumatic experiences. The centre provides a non-directive service where survivors are treated with respect and empowered throughout their counselling process. This process is underpinned by the belief that everyone has the inner capacity and resources to move towards change and well being. We believe that no matter what the circumstances sexual violence is never the survivor's fault, the perpetrator is always solely responsible for their actions. All our counselling and support services are also available to survivor's families and friends. This ethos is reflected in our following vision statement:

Key Principles

Sexual violence in all its forms is an abuse of human rights and should never be accepted.

To provide a model of good practice in our centre and for our clients.

To ensure clients, volunteers and staff are treated with respect and dignity.

To underpin our work with the following values: empowerment, equality, inclusiveness and mutual support.

To take a proactive approach in the area of sexual violence; providing education on the dynamics behind sexual violence, the effects upon survivors and society's reactions.

Mission Statement

Our purpose is to create a safe place for those who have experienced sexual violence recently or in the past

We provide when required:

Counselling and emergency advocacy,

Awareness and training to support other agencies who are working with survivors

We are also committed to challenging the tolerance and very existence of sexual violence

What we do

The response of the Centre to the issues of sexual violence is to provide the following services:

Crisis counselling

Ongoing face to face counselling

Outreach counselling

Free phone helpline

Support, advocacy and information for survivors, in particular around legal issues

Relationship counselling

Survivors support group

Counselling, support and information for supporters of survivors

Hospital, court, GP, Garda accompaniment

Education, training and awareness-raising

Lobbying and influencing policy on relevant issues through the Rape Crisis Network Ireland

Networking, experience and information sharing with other relevant voluntary and statutory organisations.

Who we are

Members of the Centre are as follows:

Gilla Cornelius

Elaine Hanson

Tina Horton

Mary Roche

Kate Duke

Ursula Devaney

Margaret Thermes

Suzanne Connolly

Sylvia Farkasovska

Parvez Butt

Ann Murray

Directors (Volunteers)

The following members were appointed and retained as Directors at the Annual General Meeting on 13th May 2015

Parvez Butt(Chair)

Mary Roche (Secretary)
Kate Duke
Sylvia Farkasovska
Karen O'Shea

Counselling Volunteers

Ursula Devaney
Margaret Thermes
Suzanne Connolly
Cathy Ham
Pia Luck
Rebecca O' Connor
Joanne Lawrie
Rosemary McWeeney

Staff

Counselling Coordinator: Gilla Cornelius
Administrator/Counsellor: Elaine Hanson
Co-ordinator/Counsellor: Tina Horton

Contracted Counsellor

Outreach counsellor: Ursula Devaney

Development to date

The Centre has developed substantially during the last 18 years both as an organisation and in terms of the services it offers. Initially funding was secured from both, the Programme for Peace and Reconciliation and the Health Service Executive. The Centre has established itself as both a limited company and registered charity and obtained rented premises in central Sligo. The centre was officially opened by Ms Mary Wallace, T.D in 1999.

Further developments have been established in terms of staff and volunteer personnel within the centre. Throughout this period we have secured paid employment in relation to certain roles within the centre while still maintaining invaluable voluntary input.

All members have undergone the extensive Rape Crisis Network Ireland Training and many have gone on to do further counselling training. The Centre is committed to providing further training to its members in order to provide a competent, professional service. Counsellors are accredited with such bodies as the Rape Crisis Network Ireland, The Irish Association of Counselling and Psychotherapy, The British Association of Counselling and Psychotherapy. The Centre is a member of the Irish Association of Counselling and Psychotherapy.

We have developed a four year Strategic Plan for 2012 –2016 and are committed to continuously reviewing and refining our service provision and operation.

Development within the year 2015

Outreach Counselling

In 2015 we continued our provision of Face to Face Outreach Counselling in Carrick-on-Shannon, County Leitrim, having secured funding from the Child and Family Agency. The service provides all the counselling and support services offered at our main centre in Sligo. During 2015 there was a 17% increase in counselling sessions provided in comparison with 2014. Towards the end of 2015 we increased the number of sessionally paid appointments to 4 a week in response to demand. We continue to advertise this service and it is our experience that as we network more so the client referrals are increasing. This represents a significant step towards providing counselling and support services throughout our catchment area of Sligo, Leitrim and West Cavan.

Volunteer Activity

Volunteer involvement ranges from provision of face to face therapy, helpline cover, directorship, fundraising, awareness raising, training and education. In 2015 32% of face to face clients were seen by volunteers this is a decrease from 54% in 2014. In January 2015 we continued with our Fundraising Volunteer Group for further information on this group's substantial achievements please see the fundraising section of this report.

Interagency Work

Rape Crisis Network, Ireland

The Rape Crisis Network continues to act as a source of support, information, training and development to member rape crisis centres and is a medium through which we as a rape crisis centre can influence policy and lobby for change on a national level. We attended the launch of the RCNI National Statistics and the RCNI AGM.

Racist Incident Reporting Project

We continue to be involved in the Racist Incident Reporting Interagency Group led by the Sligo Family Centre.

TUSLA

In 2015 various members of our organisation were involved in ongoing consultative meetings with TUSLA around commissioning and development of the Sexual Violence sector.

Education and Awareness Raising

During 2015 we provided the following education/awareness raising inputs:

Disclosure Workshops by Ursula Devaney

2015 saw us delivering 6 workshops on Disclosure of Sexual Violence to Volunteers from two organisations. Five workshops were delivered to Sligo Samaritans funded

by Sligo ETB. One workshop to DVAS this was done in voluntary hours. Each workshop had between 10-12 participants. Each day was 6.5 hours long and divided into information about sexual violence, statistics and what services we provide. There was time allocated for experiential work using scenarios to allow the participants the opportunity to role play both as the person disclosing abuse and the service provider. There was time to allow participants to look at their own self-care and how they might get support from their own organisation and from themselves in order to mind themselves. There were evaluation sheets to measure the workshop and here are some of the comments from participants;

“This workshop has helped me understand the caller better”

“I will be able to refer my caller to your service now that I know more about your service”

“This workshop allowed me the space to look at my own beliefs without being judged”

“This is a thought provoking workshop and I would love if all Samaritans could do this training as most of our calls are related to sexual violence”

“I would have liked more time on scenarios, and at the start of the day that was the piece that frightened me most”

The feedback was very positive and all groups enjoyed working with people from within their own organisations. A day together working on this topic helped to build relationships and that would lead to more support for them in the work that they do.

ASK! – Ask, Seek, Know! Project by Elaine Hanson

Funding was secured from the Independent Public Bodies Insurance company to run a brief project (one year) –*Engaging with Young People for Sexual Health*, which resulted from a successful bid by The Rape Crisis and Sexual Abuse Counselling Centre Sligo, Leitrim and West Cavan earlier in the year. Its purpose and that of the project is to support young people in the North West and beyond in their sexual health.

The project development began in November of 2015 with the successful recruitment of a project manager working 6 hours per week. The remit was to take the lead in developing a programme incorporating up to 4 youth establishments in the local area engaging in the issues of sexual health. An Advisory committee was set up with representatives from RCASACC, St Angela’s College Sligo, Sligo Higher IT, and Foróige Youth Services Sligo, in order to access participants and agree a plan for the proposed programme. The project was named ASK: Ask Seek Know to be delivered with a particular remit on talking about attitudes towards consent to sexual activity with participants, what that means to them, how they negotiate it, and how they think it should be. The next step in acquiring a dedicated Steering Committee was

established in February to direct the plan and support the work of the project manager in progressing the work done on ASK to date.

The ASK project workshop sessions began in April with participants from two of the higher educational establishments to explore attitudes towards consent, and to assist young people in looking at what could be learned from their experience and knowledge of consent to date, and, to also explore what would be useful to help influence changes towards experiencing healthier sexual relationships and enjoy happier sexual health. The project also aims to invite participants later on before the end of Summer, to create an artistic or creative expression representing their thoughts, what they would like to say about consent and happier sexual health in an attempt to hopefully influence other young people to become aware of these issues. The creative expression will be displayed at appropriate locations as the project is celebrated and completed.

A long term outcome for the project is to encourage and fulfil the setting up of a young people's forum or membership of a youth group within the RCASACC that will help guide our work on education and awareness raising of issues that affect this group within our community, and focus on how best to assist them in influencing others towards changing attitudes and behaviour towards sexual violence in the future.

Turn Off The Red Light Conference by Elaine Hanson

The Glasshouse Hotel, Sligo.

9th March 2015

Speakers:

Denise Charlton CEO - Immigrant Council of Ireland

Mia De Faoite - Survivor of Prostitution, Activist, Blogger & Philosophy student at The National University of Ireland, Dublin, Ireland

RCASACC as a core member of Turn Off The Red Light campaign has continued in 2015 to support the lead organisation the ICI to help raise awareness about the issue of sex trafficking and prostitution in Ireland, lobby Politian's, and influence changing the sex- buyer laws and criminalising the purchase of sex. As a members of this 70+ strong alliance group we strongly believe in the Nordic Model which makes buying sex a crime, and also de-criminalises the exploited women in prostitution, reducing the demand for women for sale as sexual commodities and furthermore protecting women and girls from being trafficked into Ireland to work as sex slaves.

Since joining the campaign in 2008 RCASACC as well as making a submission to the Joint Oireachtas Committee on Justice, Equality and Defence in support of the Bill to change sex laws, continually lobbying elected TD's, and doing great awareness raising work, have joined our colleagues in DVAS (Domestic Violence Advocacy Service) Sligo, in making an annual public presentation to the local community, inviting relevant local guests and highlighting the importance of the TORL Campaign. This year in March was no exception, and both organisations working towards ending gender based violence joined forces again and presented a two hour TORL update highlighting the work that the Immigrant Council of Ireland have been doing with trafficked women in Ireland over the years and presenting the information that they have gathered from women in prostitution. Some of the ordeals that these

women have endured from their traffickers and pimps whilst living in the trap of forced prostitution was shocking, as well as the prevalence of sexual violence shown towards them from the men who buy their bodies for pleasure.

RCASACC opened the event as Chair with a few words to thank everyone who had come along to support the event and introduced the work of the TORL campaign to end prostitution and sex trafficking, highlighting the success so far in raising awareness on issues the vulnerable women face every day. We spoke about a need for people to continue to get involved in the campaign, lobbying local TD's and elected Public Representatives to support the work of TORL with the ultimate goal of the publication of the enactment of The Sexual Offences Bill.

The Chair welcomed the guests and thanked DVAS for co-hosting the event, then talked briefly about the work the organisation has been doing with survivors over the many years here in Sligo, and the admiration we have for those survivors to heal their lives and access help.

First speaker was CEO of ICI Denise Charlton who spoke in depth about the reasons why Ireland should pass this legislation and take up using "The Nordic Model" approach. This approach works towards the reduction and possible eradication of the sex buyers because it makes them accountable by law and this model has been shown to work well as a preventative method, because men do not want to get caught using prostitutes and receiving fines or going to jail for doing so.

Next to speak was Irish Survivor of Prostitution and Activist Mia De Faoite also a BA (hons) degree in Philosophy and Sociology graduate from Maynooth University. Mia gave a powerful and very emotionally heart-rending presentation, bravely telling us of her own journey from addict to prostitute to activist, Mia captivated the audience and by the end of the 30 mins speech the audience in the room was visibly affected by the content and the reality of the difficulties that women in prostitution face in their lives on a daily basis.

The event was recorded and covered by local radio station Ocean FM and a pod-cast of the speeches was available on-line for several weeks.

This event successfully reached its target audience, giving more strength to the aims of the campaign to help end the demand for sex in Ireland by criminalising people who exploit and purchase women and girls for sex.

Other Awareness Raising:

We took part in the Sligo I.T's International Women's Day Event and their Student Health Fair.

We were invited to speak at the Mother's Union 16 Days of Activism against Gender-based Violence Conference in Carrick-on-Shannon.

We spoke at the Spike Sligo Comedy festival Launch

Throughout 2015 the following media inputs occurred;

Newspaper adverts : Sligo Champion, Sligo Weekender, Leitrim Observer

Radio adverts on Ocean FM

Website

Face book page

Newspaper articles submitted:

Spike Sligo Comedy Festival
TORL article for conference

Radio pod casts from the TORL conference

Training and Conferences

Extensive further training was sourced and undertaken by both staff and volunteers during 2015. The training and conferences undertaken by different members is as follows:

Training

Counselling Adults with Intellectual Disabilities- Sligo RCC

Victim Impact and legal Update training –RCNI

Gestalt Psychotherapy Diploma- Irish Gestalt Centre

The Adolescent/Emerging Adult Mind-Bronagh Starrs

Basic First Aid – SAS Training

How He Gets Into Her Head- Don Hennessey

Domestic and Sexual Violence Good Practice with Roma Women- Sligo Traveller Support Group

Meitheal Training - TUSLA

Dream Workshop- Boyle Family Life Centre

Self-care, Creative, Reflective Practice- Sligo Art Psychotherapy Centre

Attachment and Development Trauma Training- Child in Mind Ltd

Alcohol Related Brain Injury – Alcohol Forum

Therapeutic Intervention with Adolescents- Bronagh Starrs

Child Protection Training for Designated Liaison - TUSLA

Holotropic Breathwork – Jean Farrell

Meditation Course- Sligo Gestalt Counselling

Supervision Course- Anne Murphy

Experiential Drama Therapy - Liz gleeson

Psychotherapy as a Spiritual Practice – Hakomi Ireland

Hakomi Peer Practice

Personal Development

Conferences

Prevention/Education Programme development – Manuella Reido Foundation

Rape Crisis Network Ireland AGM

Rape Crisis Network Ireland National Statistics Launch

Commissioning Group Meeting – TUSLA

Conference on Governance – The Wheel

National Organisation for Treatment of Abusers Conference

The Commissioning Process – The Wheel

Fundraising Events

During 2015 we undertook a number of initiatives with our Fundraising Volunteer Group as follows:

- Spike Sligo - we were joint beneficiaries with other local group Rennafix for the Spike Sligo Comedy Festival. This was the first year the festival was run and hopefully it will become an annual event.
- One person very kindly raised €444 by running the Minimarathon for us
- The Velvet Room Nightclub held a fundraising event for us which raised €760
- The Blue Raincoats Theatre Company donated the proceeds from one night of a production raising €200
- Fundraising Day in April raised € 725 being raised, many thanks to the organisers, cake bakers and sellers who made the day such a success.
- Our annual Flag Day was held in October and this year raised the substantial amount of €1679 many thanks to all who put in a huge amount of effort into the day.
- Bag packing at Centra, Maugheraboy raised €601 many thanks to Deirdre O' Rourke who organised this.
- We also received just over €5953 in donations through our donation boxes in the counselling rooms and private donations.

We would like to thank all the organisations and individuals who kindly contributed to our fundraising efforts in 2015, all their hard work made each event a great success. Finally a big thank you to all who support us through attending our fundraising events, the support of our community is invaluable.

ICTR Fundraising Principles Compliance Statement Report

The ICTR Statement of Guiding Principles for Fundraising sets out best practice in relation to fundraising. We have signed up to these principles and acknowledge such publicly in our building and on our website. We undertake an annual compliance checklist and in the last audit we complied with the vast majority of the checklist. Areas we need to work on are a policy on working with 3rd party fundraisers, educating our selves in relation to the Advertising Standards Authority and the Irish Fundraising Forum for Direct Recruitment regulations, training of more staff in relation to addressing feedback and establishing a finance committee. It is acknowledged that full compliance takes time and that this is work in progress for our organisation as it is for others.

Applications for Funding 2015

Applications for funding were made to the following organisations during the year 2015:

TUSLA received €168,300

COSC received €2000

IPB received €10,000

Lottery- unsuccessful

Evaluation 2015

During 2015 the Board continued a process of self appraisal around their role, responsibilities and effectiveness including training around Governance and Commissioning. We are working towards signing up to the Governance Code and have made significant progress in terms of signing up to the Irish Charities Tax Research Guiding Principles for Fundraising, updated our Health and Safety Policy and Conflict of Interest Policy. We have registered successfully with the Charity Regulatory Authority and submitted our first annual report which will bring welcome developments in accountability and governance to the charity sector.

During 2015 we undertook specific client feedback evaluation through our Client Questionnaire. The service user's questionnaire has been developed providing an opportunity for medium to long-term clients to express qualitative feedback on our counselling service. A report from this feedback was produced in 2015 there were 29 responses and the basic findings included the following:

More than half the surveyed clients had been accessing the centre for more than 1 year. Most of the clients found accessing the centre very or fairly easy. The majority of clients heard about our service through family and friends or advertising. 28 of those surveyed found the service 'extremely helpful' the remaining 1 found it 'fairly helpful.' The following is an extract from the survey including comments from survivors surveyed:

1. Were there things that were particularly helpful to you in your contact with the Centre?

A safe space is created to allow you to talk about your experiences and to help you process your feelings

Continuity of working with therapist over time. Good working relationship. Service is free of charge and I am on very low income.

It was/is very helpful to me for the RCC counsellor to tell me that there was no real time limit on my counselling- I could take things at my own pace- unlike the HSE who cap the hour long weekly sessions at 6 months

The 24 hour helpline was very useful. Messages were always answered

The kind and compassionate responses and communication from the staff members- in person, phone, email was so helpful.

The room is bright but not too big. Have the option of it being darkened or what is comfortable for me. The counsellors are just great. The best I've ever experienced and I've been to psychologists years ago.

I found that I use the mantras my counsellor has helped me find very helpful and they have changed my ability to deal with anxiety.

Yes the exercises of breathing and relaxation really helped in destressing me, and just having a fresh energy.

2. Are there services or other things that might have been helpful to you but which were not available in your contact with the Rape Crisis Centre?

More hours available to suit transport connections

A residential respite opportunity

Perhaps more group therapy and also more specialized groups, in specific addict and anorexia/eating disorders and other compulsive disorders.

Support groups (more regular)

Sometimes it was hard to get through directly to Sligo

Future Development

The Centre intends to engage to a greater degree with the wider community via the implementation of a comprehensive public awareness and training campaign. This work was continued in 2015 through the delivery of the disclosure workshops and the ASK project and it is hoped this progress will be continued. The main barrier to this initiative continues to be the lack of resources available to the centre and so our Strategic Plan 2012-16 focusses on creative ways we can build on opportunities for awareness raising in partnership with other agencies. In particular the centre would like to build stronger links through the media and social media to raise our profile.

In terms of administrative back up both the Co-ordinator and Administrator positions need to be increased to full-time in line with the demands of the workload.

We hope to further develop our Outreach Counselling Service and extend the service further with more hours in Carrick and a service in West Cavan.

Developing our services for young people features in our Strategic Plan we have made a good start with the Addressing the Needs of Young People Report and the Teen Health Initiative Foróige Training. The ASK IPB Project has allowed us to build on links with other services working with young people and be instrumental in the development of new services for young people in the Sligo/Leitrim region.

The free phone help line is still only open for 1 ½ hours in the morning Monday to Friday it is reasonable to assume that a phone line so limited in its operational time does not suit many potential clients. Consequently we require further resources to increase volunteer and paid staff cover in order to extend the phone line opening hours.

Fundraising is playing an increasingly important part in our financial picture; further developing a Fundraising Strategy which incorporates all of our catchment area is a priority for the foreseeable future.

Statistical Information 2015

The information in this report is compiled using the RCNI Database. The RCNI Database equips RCCs to extract data regarding use of their own local service and simultaneously equips RCNI to deliver comparable national data.

Face to Face Client Information (survivor and supporter)

The following figures refer to information about the survivors and supporters who use our face to face counselling and support services.

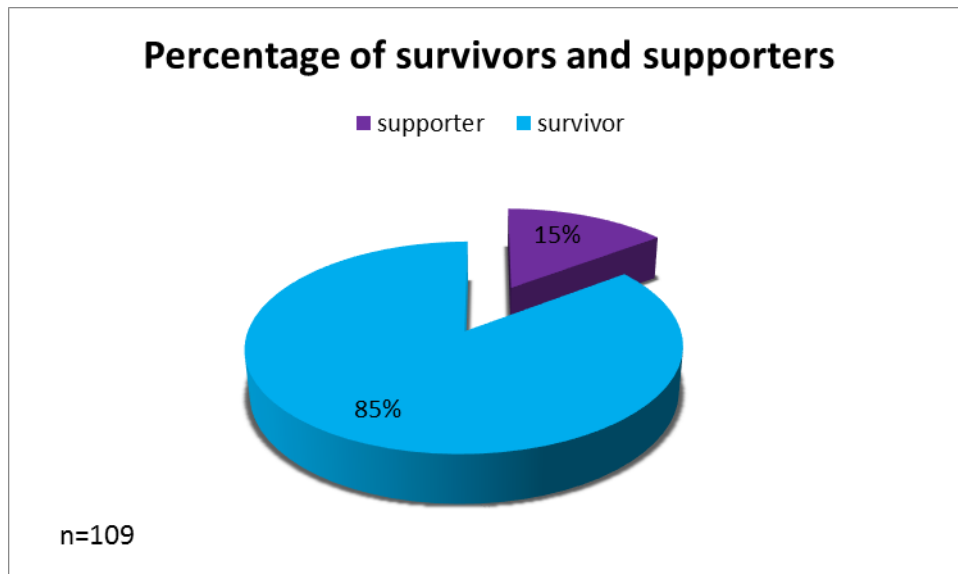


Figure 1.1 The percentage of Supporters has remained almost the same at 15% in 2015 compared with 16% in 2014

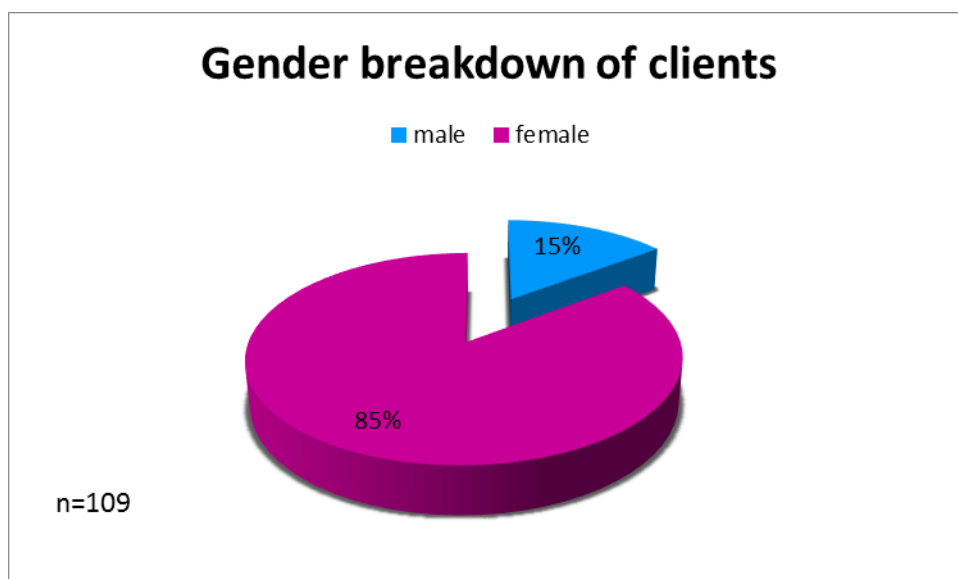
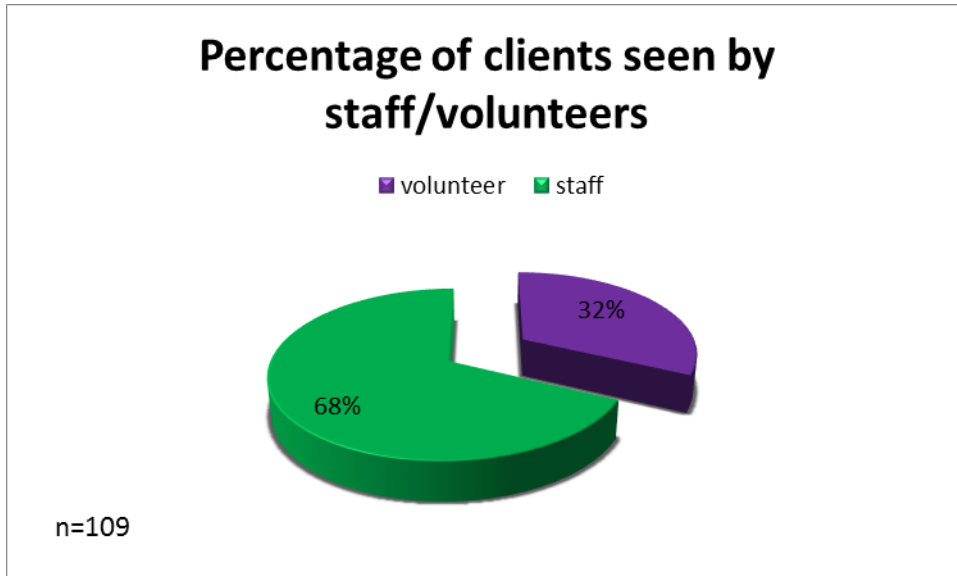


Figure 1.2. There has been a 12% decrease in the number of men using our service in 2015



1.3 There has been a 22% decrease in the number of clients being seen by volunteers in 2015

Supporter Information

The following statistics refer to supporters only

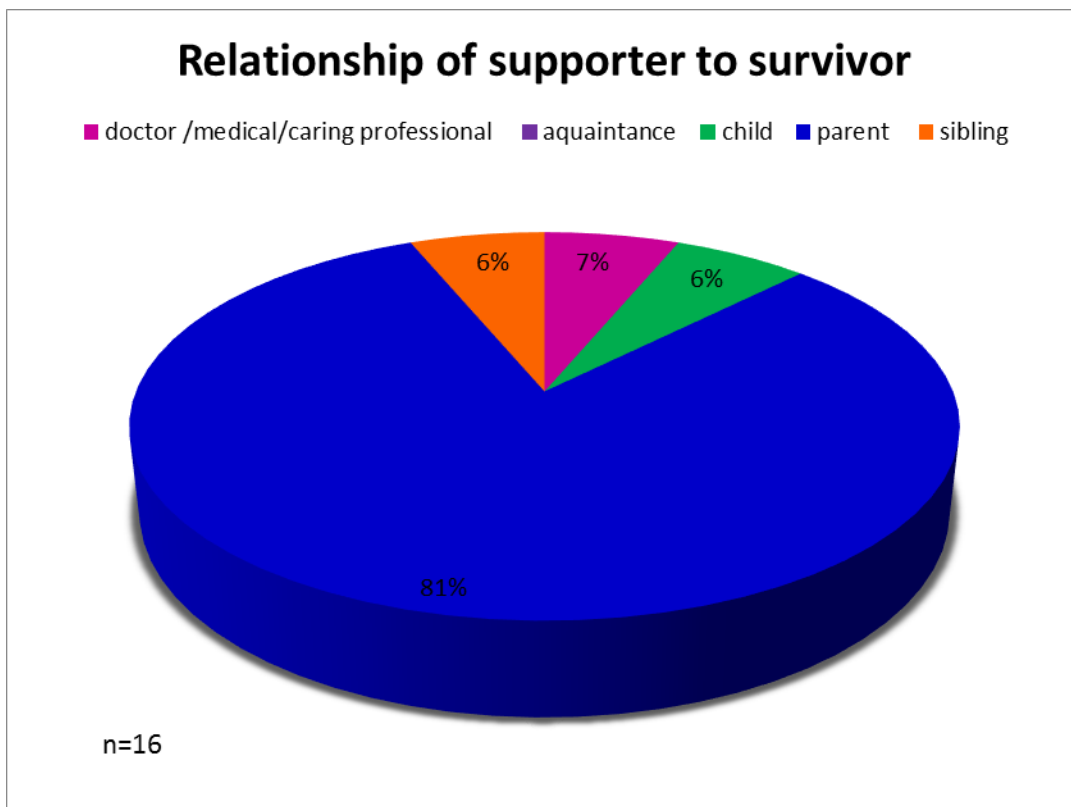


Figure 2.1 Shows that the vast majority of supporters are parents of survivors.

Survivor Information

The following figures provide demographic information on the survivors accessing our face to face Services

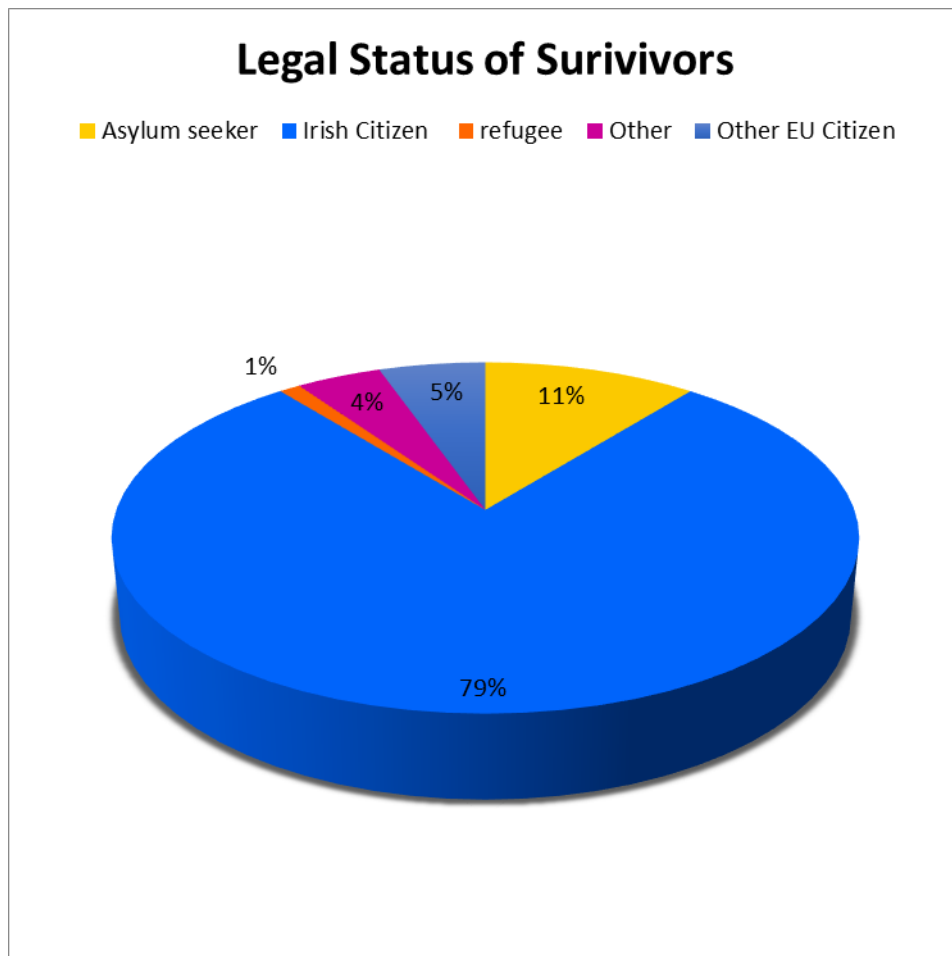


Figure 3.1 The main difference in 2015 is that the percentage of Asylum Seekers availing of our service has increased slightly. It is still not as high as it would have been in previous years this is not surprising given that the services that were in place for Asylum Seekers which used to refer to us have been cut.

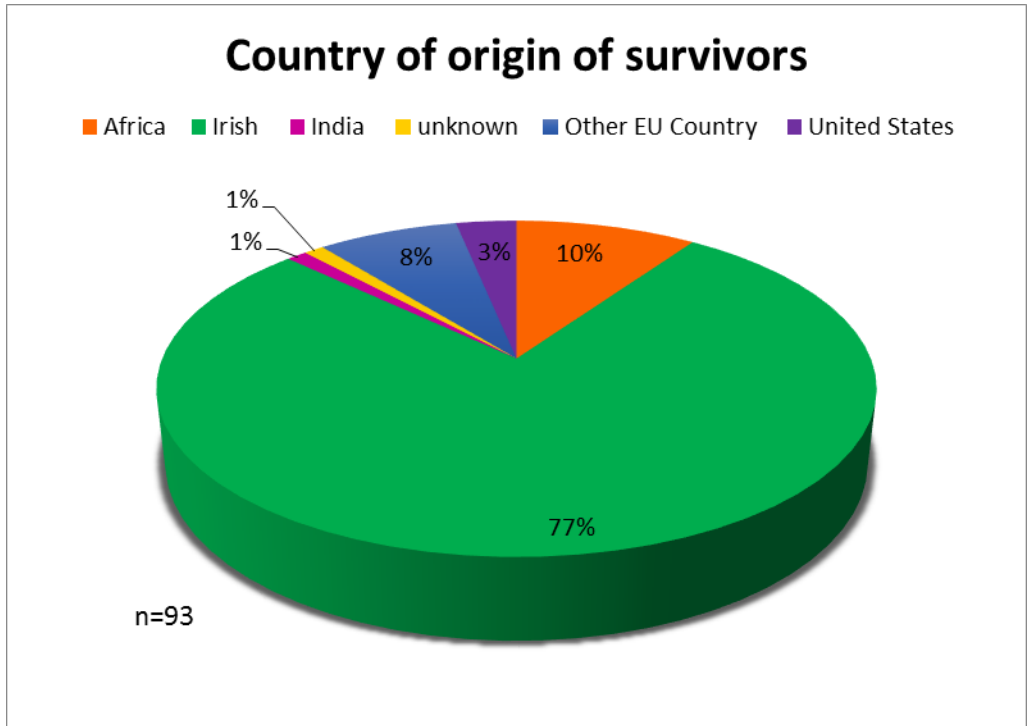


Figure 3.2 This profile remains similar to previous years

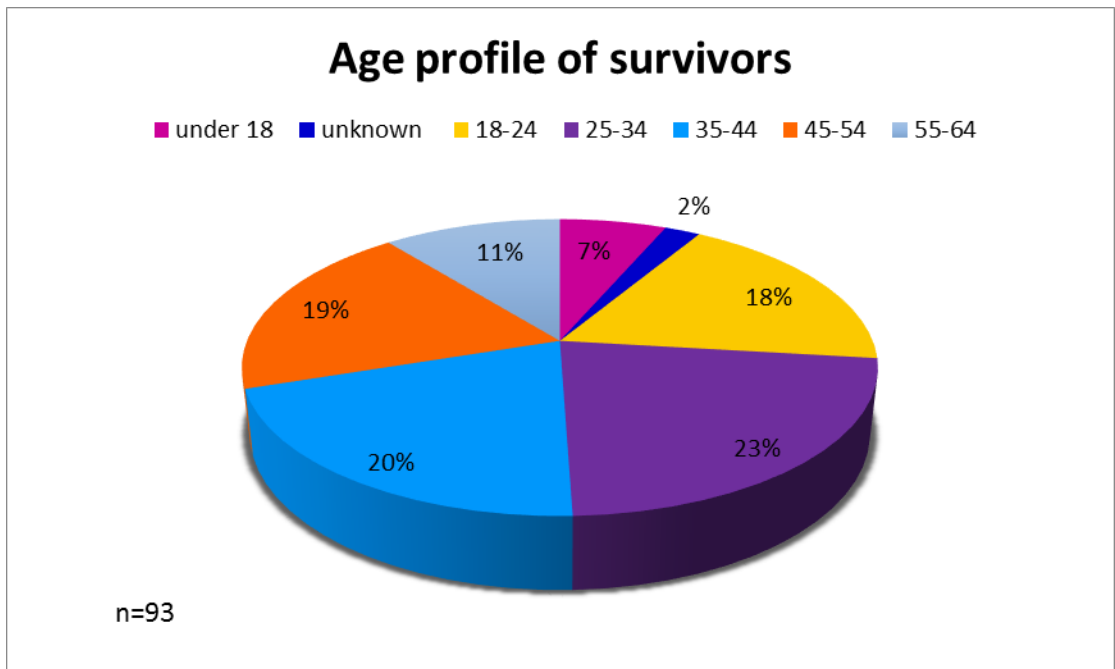


Figure 3.3 In 2015 25% of our clients were under 24, similar to previous years.



Figure 3.4 There was no substantial change in figures for 2015

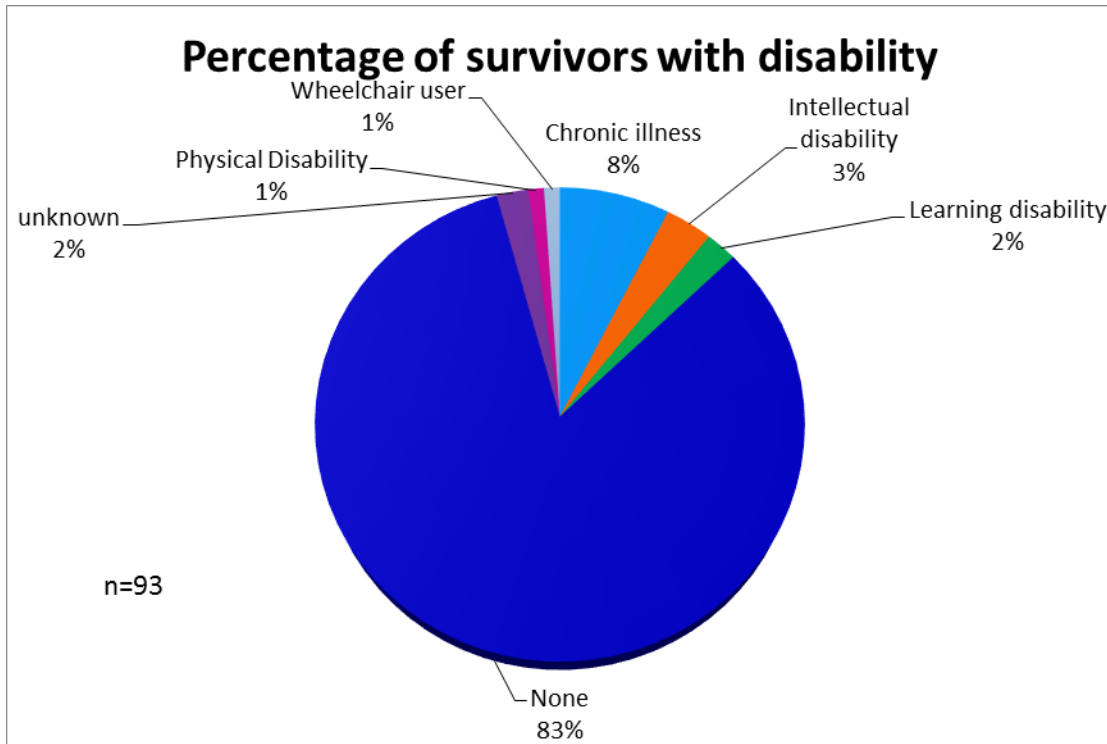


Figure 3.5 There was no substantial change in figures for 2015

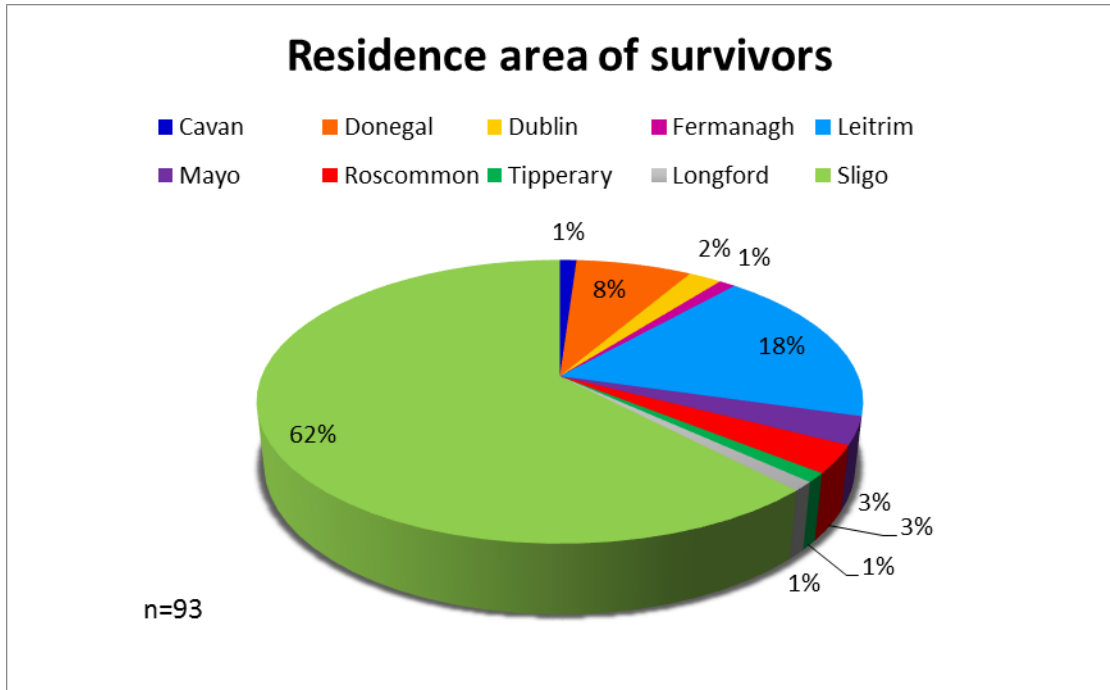


Figure 3.6 Figures remain similar to previous years

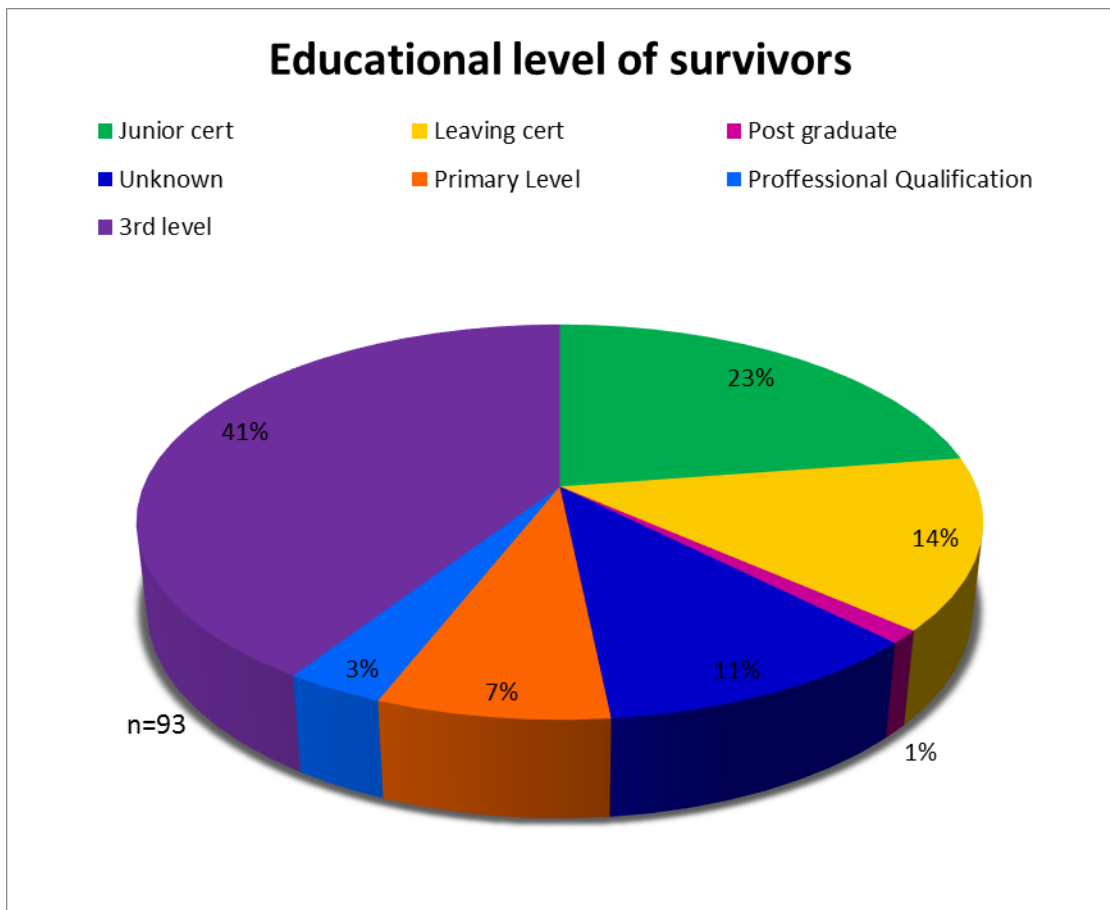


Figure 3.7

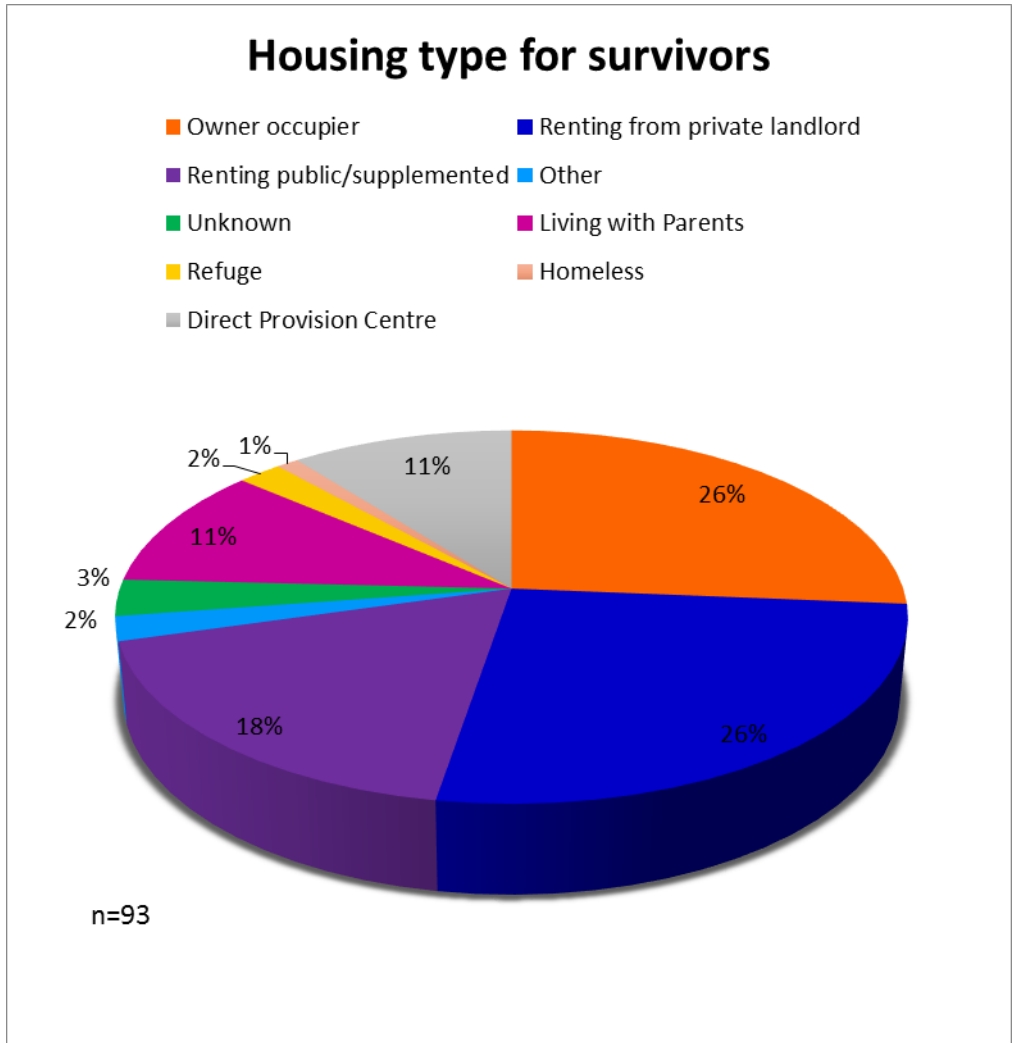


Figure 3.8 Figures 3.7 and 3.8 show that a wide cross section of our community uses our services from all educational and social economic backgrounds

Percentage of survivors reporting to authorities

- Not reported
 - Reported to TUSLA
 - Church Authority
 - Other national police
- Reported to Gardai
 - Reported to more than one authority
 - Asylum Application
 - Unknown

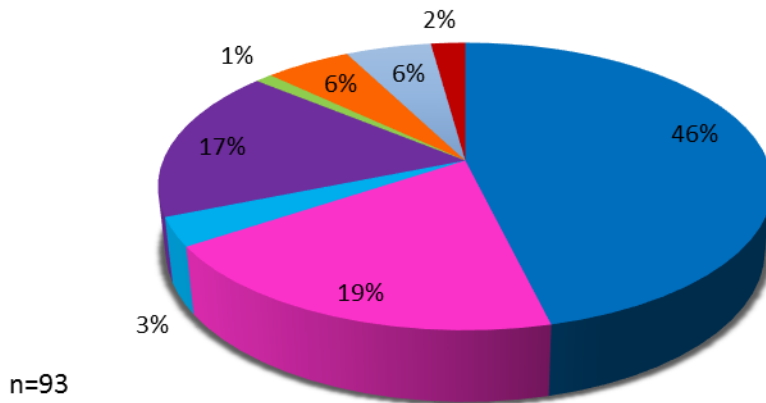


Fig 3.9 The percentage of unreported crimes of sexual violence decreased from 53% to 46% in 2015. Over all the percentage of our clients that report to the Gardai (19%) is higher than that of the general population which has a reporting rate of 10% (Sexual Violence in Ireland, 2002). Evidently the vast majority of sexual crime is not reported or not taken forward to trial and this is a situation rape crisis centres want to see changed by calling for legislative reform that makes the whole legal process an easier, quicker, more supportive and informed experience for complainants of sexual crime.

Sexual Violence Information

The following figures refer to the type of sexual violence experienced by the survivors availing of our face to face counselling and support services

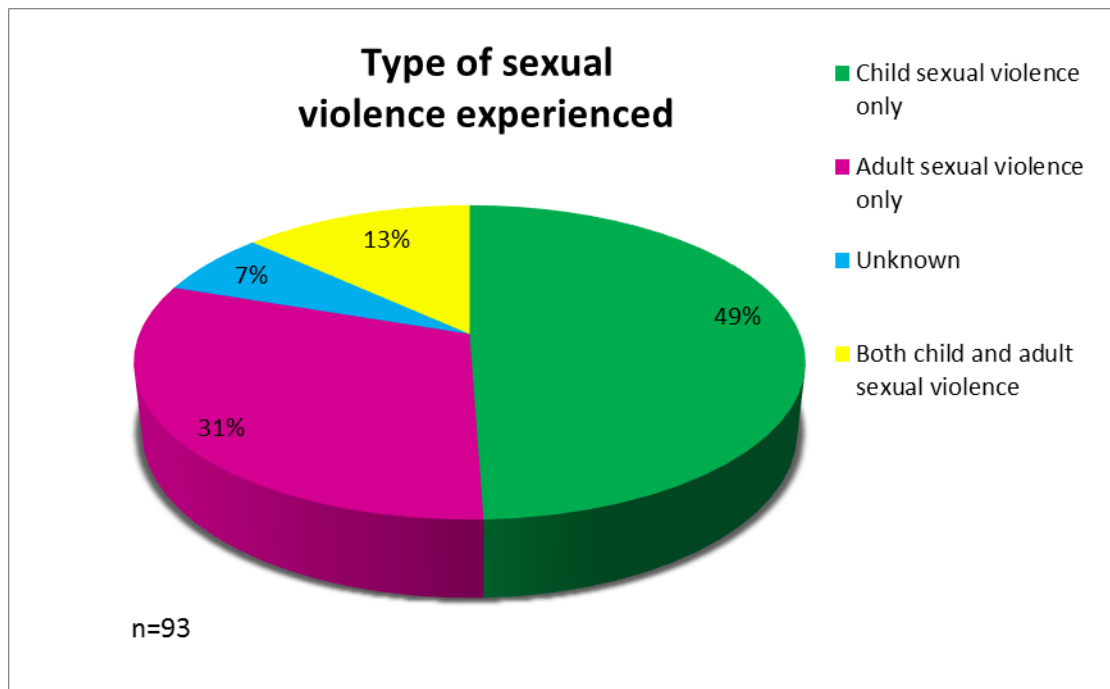


Figure 4.1 In 2015 62% of our clients had experienced child sexual abuse.

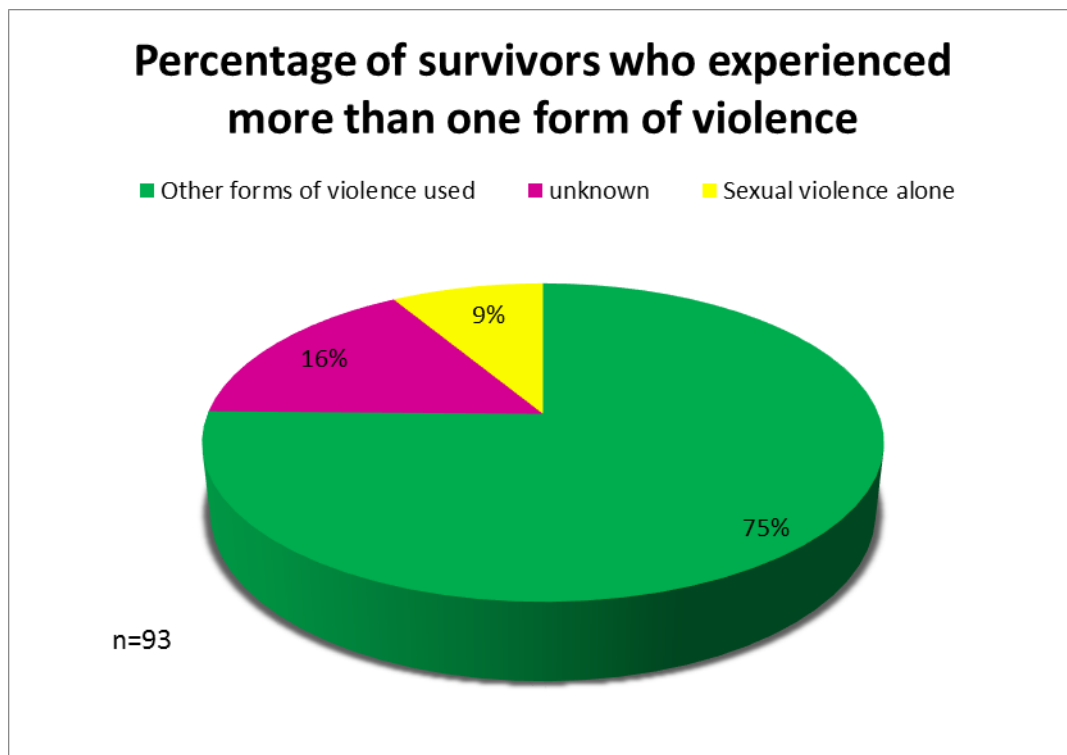


Figure 4.2 The percentage of survivors experiencing more than one form of violence decreased by 11% in 2015

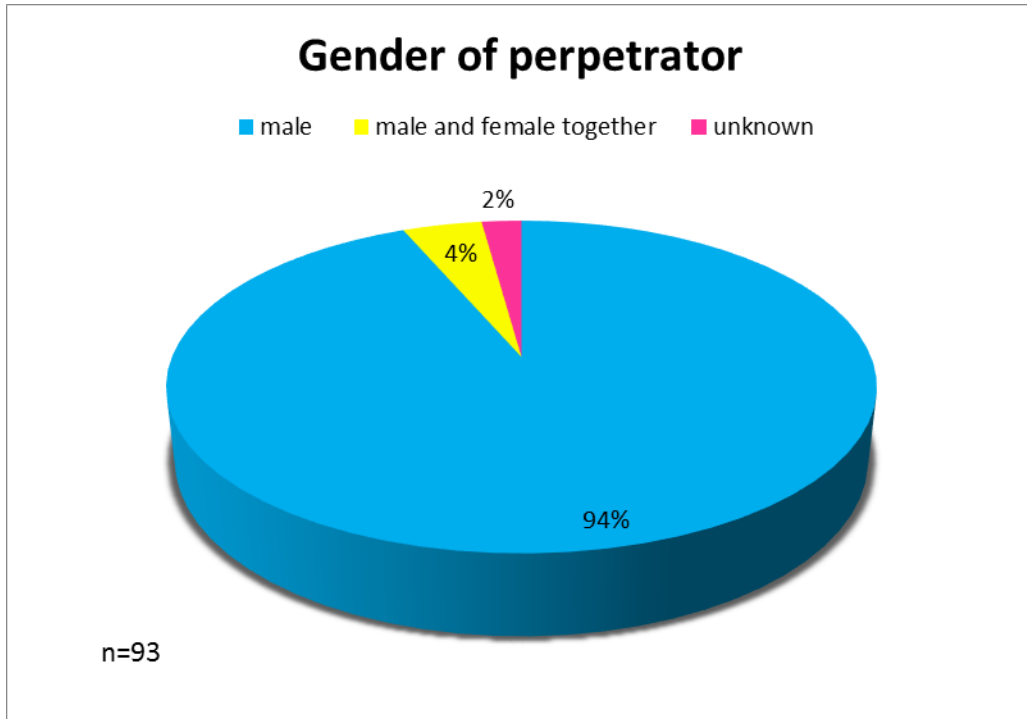


Figure 4.3 The gender profile of perpetrators remains the same as previous years

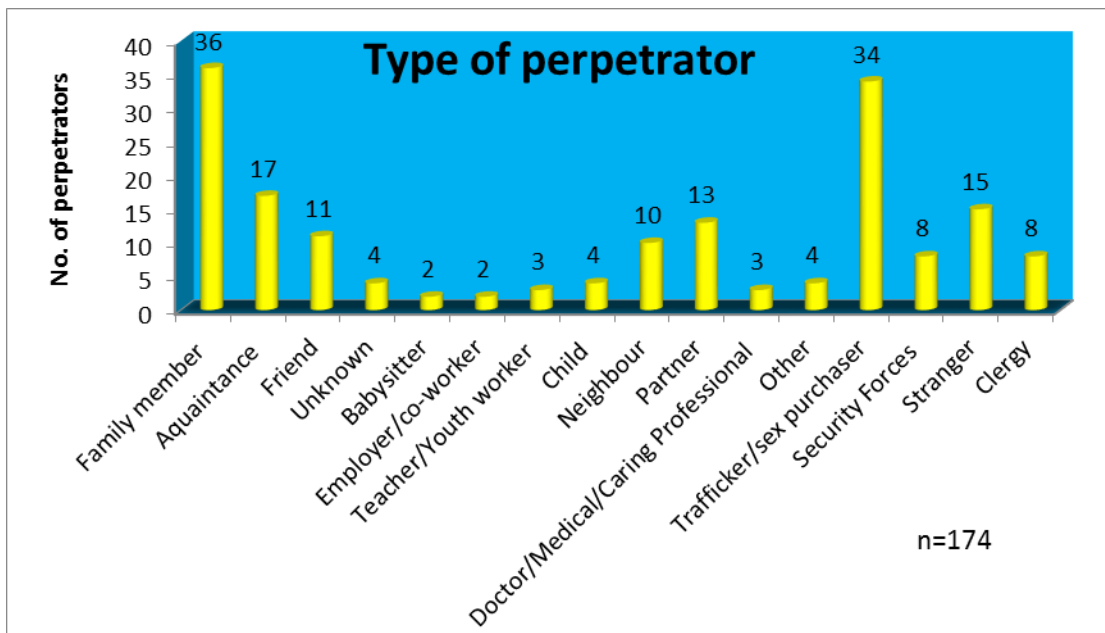


Figure 4.4 Our figures would mirror international statistics which show that the vast majority of perpetrators are known to the survivor with the biggest category being family members.

Service Information

The following figures refer to service statistics relating to how clients come to our face to face service and phone counselling, the types of services clients are using and the uptake of services in comparison with other years

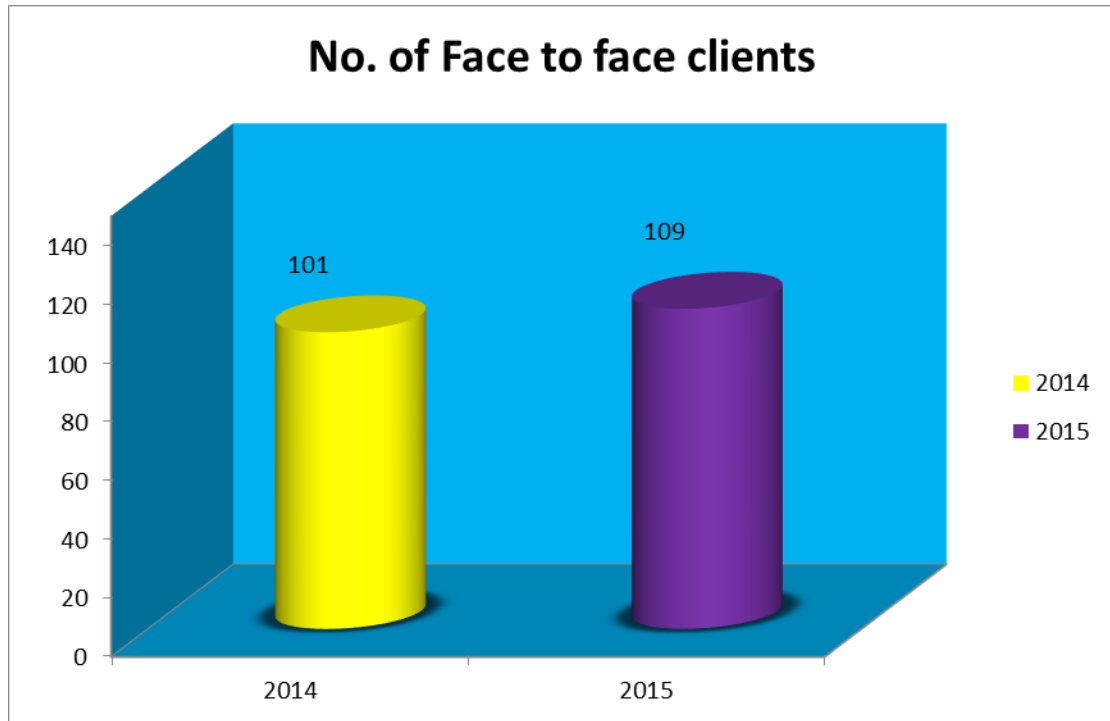


Figure 5.1 There has been a slight increase in the number of people attending for face to face counselling in 2015

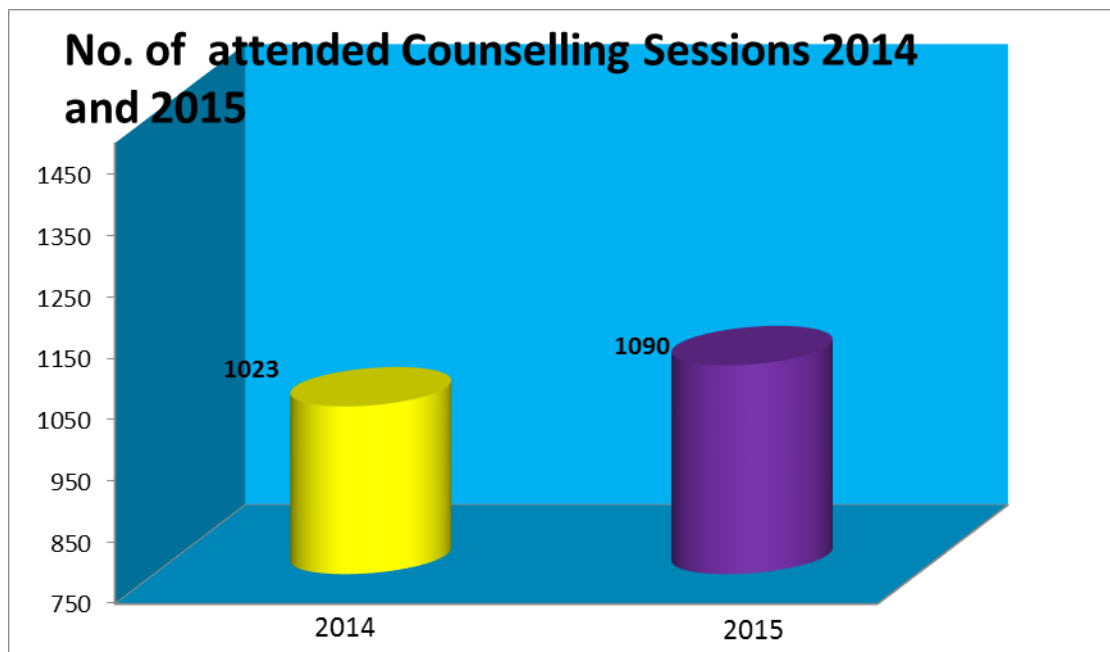


Figure 5.2 There has been a 6% increase in the number of attended counselling sessions in 2015

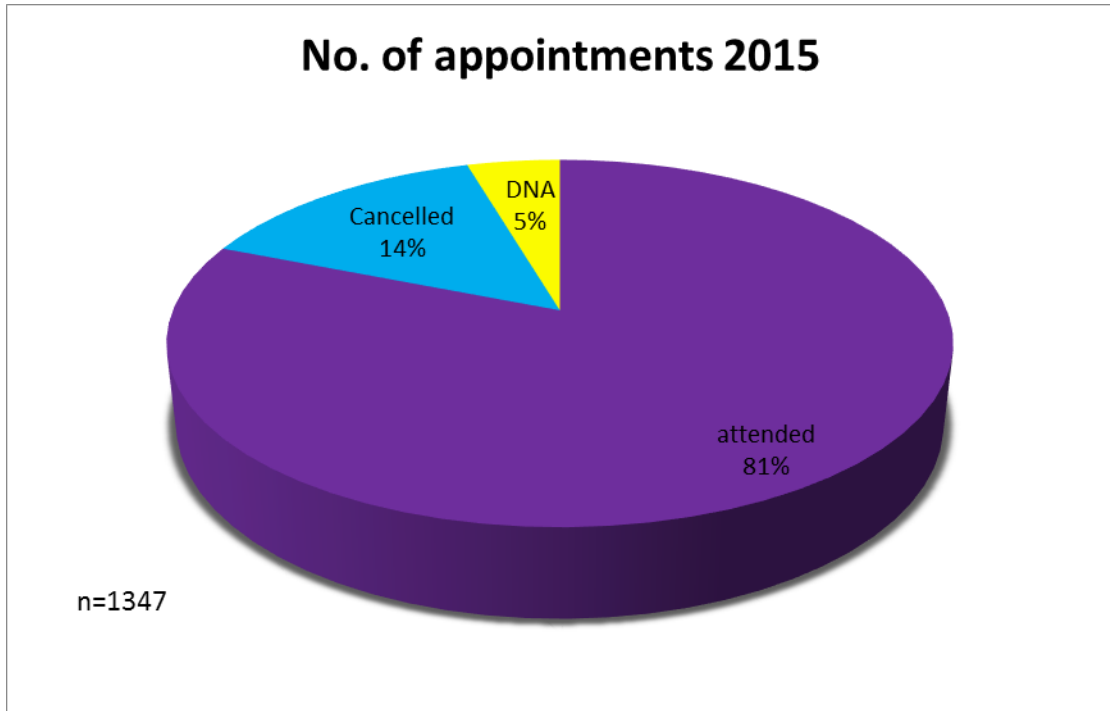


Figure 5.3 The Percentage of attended appointments remains similar to previous years

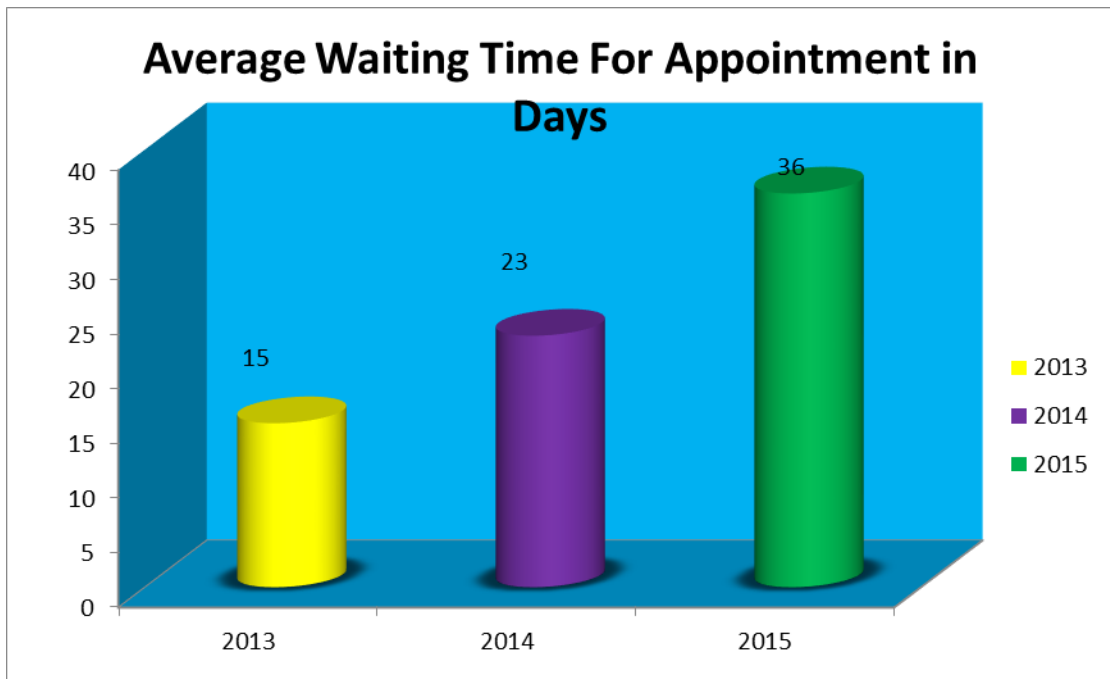


Figure 5.4 There has been a consistent increase in waiting times for appointments over the last 3 years.

Percentage of Attended Appointments in Carrick Outreach in 2015

■ Sligo ■ Carrick

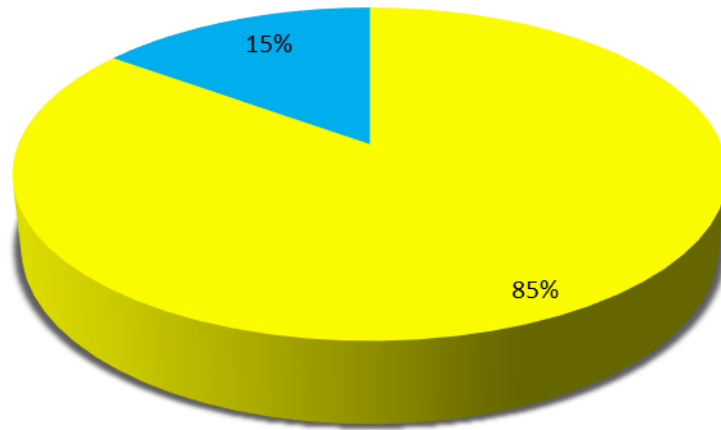


Figure 5.5 The proportion of appointments attended in Carrick have increased from 11% in 2014 to 15% in 2015

No. of Clients in Carrick 2013-2015

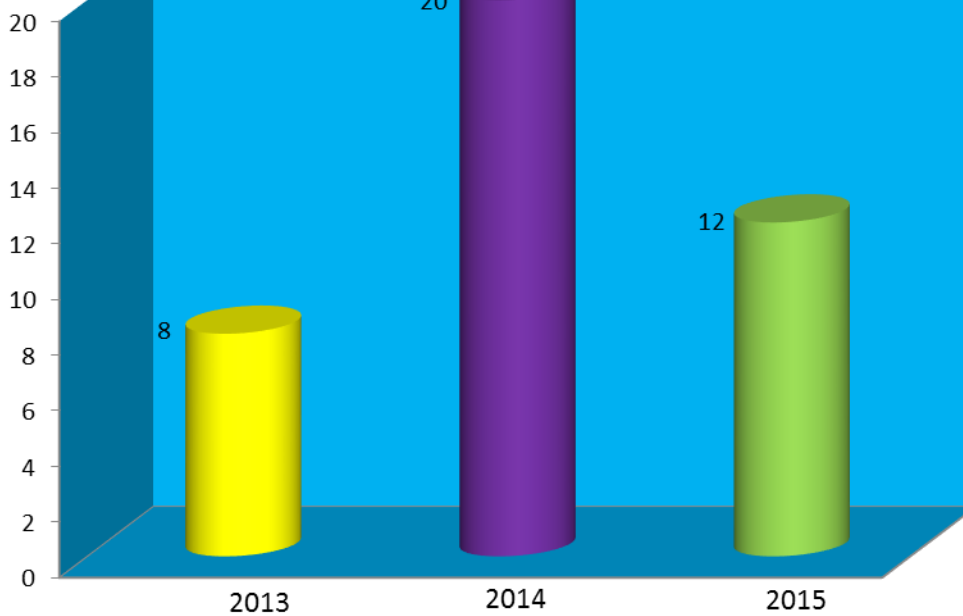


Figure 5.6 The number of clients seen in Carrick decreased in 2015

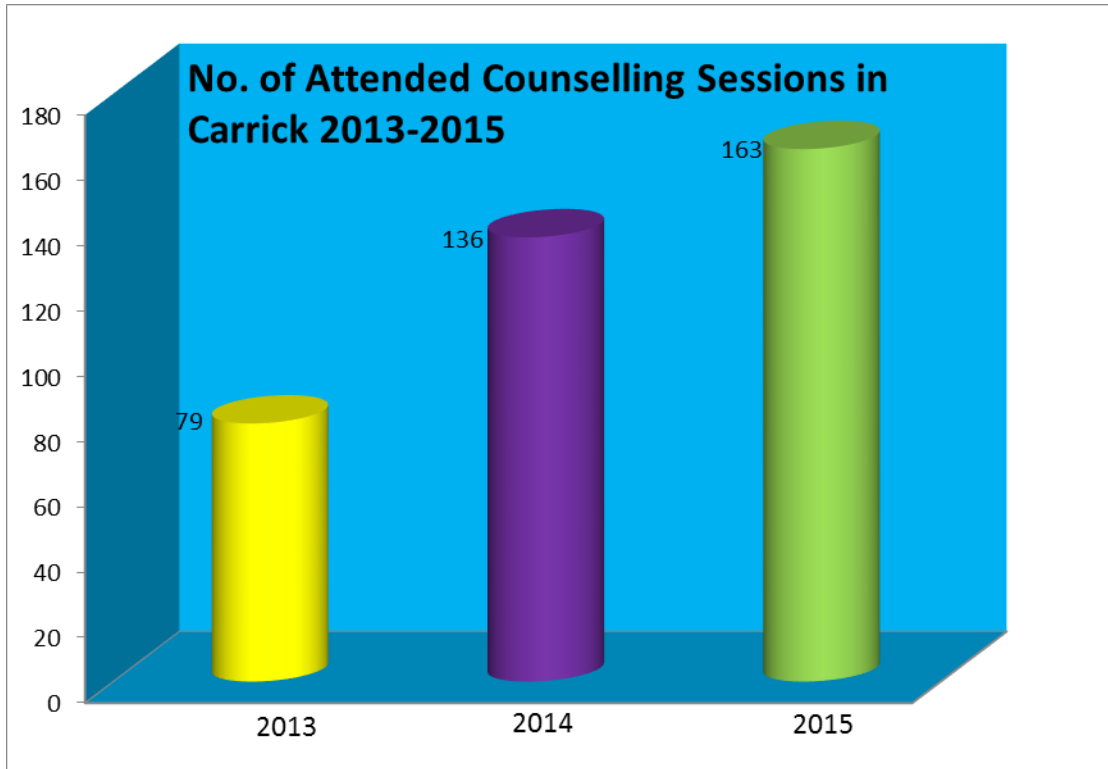
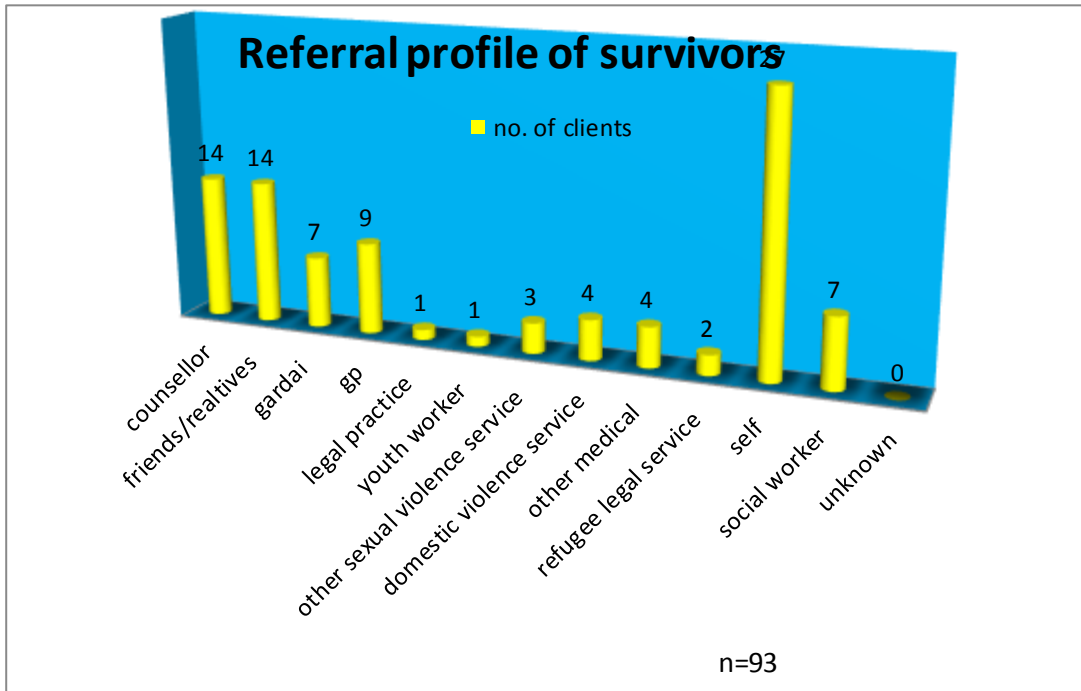
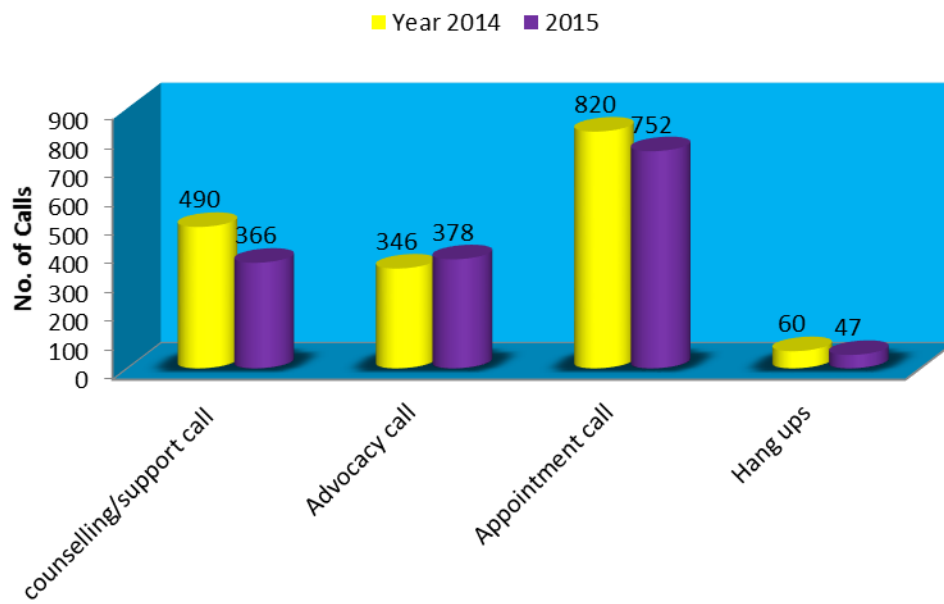


Figure 5.7 There has been an increase of 17% in number of counselling sessions from 2014-2015



5.8 We have had more referrals from Gardai, Gps and Social Workers than in 2014, overall the pattern of referrals remains similar with self-referral being the highest.

Number and type of help line calls 2014 and 2015



5.9 We have had slight decreases in all calls except advocacy calls in 2015

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