



Hospice
Sunflower
Days



Dear Colleague,

I write to you on behalf of Kerry Hospice as we would love your staff and pupils to get involved in our new fundraising initiative for Hospice Sunflower Days taking place in June 2024.

Hospice Sunflower Days is one of Ireland's longest established charity fundraisers, and raises up to €1 million each year for hospice services nationwide. Our volunteers at Kerry Hospice will return to the streets once again to raise funds on Friday 7th and Saturday 8th June 2024, but this year we have an exciting new addition to the campaign.

We are calling on primary schools to support Kerry Hospice by participating in a **"Sunflower Fun Day"** in June 2024.

Taking part is easy! Pupils are asked to get involved by wearing yellow to school on Friday 7th June (or a date that suits you in June) Children and staff can be as inventive and creative as they wish, they could wear a yellow T-shirt, giant yellow glasses, or go even bigger and dress up as a sunflower! All they need to do is wear something yellow and have fun!

We are encouraging families to donate €2 (or whatever they can) on the day with **every euro raised locally, staying locally**. That means all donations will go directly to Kerry Hospice so that we can continue to provide person-centred, holistic, loving care to our patients and their loved ones.

Ready to host a "Sunflower Fun Day" at your school?

Here's how;

1. **Register** your school directly by contacting Kerry Hospice by phone on 066 7119070 or email us at info@kerryhospice.com with the following information.
 - a.) How many pupils in your school.
 - b.) What day you wish to host your event in June.
2. **Ask pupils to wear a yellow item of clothing** to school on your chosen **"Sunflower Fun Day"** in June.
3. **Ask families to donate €2**, or whatever they can afford.

What we supply;

1. A downloadable pack containing digital posters to advertise your event, digital sunflower artwork for the children to colour in and a letter to inform parents of the planned day.
2. Sunflower seeds for the children to have fun planting.



Kerry Hospice is a voluntary organisation with branches throughout the county. We rely on donations to fund our Specialist Palliative Care Services. These services are available throughout the county and in our state-of-the-art facility in Tralee. Kerry Hospice Foundation provides funding for, Night Nursing, Refurbishing Hospice Rooms in Community Hospitals, Palliative care equipment, aids, and appliances to enable people to live more comfortably at home, ongoing education for Palliative Care Nurses and other members of the Palliative Care team. All services are provided free of charge to the patient and their family.

We have a Day Unit and a 15-bed in-patient unit, our plans going forward is to fundraise for an extra 5 beds.

Remember, every time you make the choice to support Hospice/Palliative care you make such a difference to other people.

Every cent raised in Kerry stays in Kerry to support Palliative Care/Hospice.

Together for Hospice represents 26 hospice and specialist palliative care providers nationwide and exists to support and enable these frontline services to fundraise collectively at a national level. Hospices nationwide need to raise approximately €20 million each year, with existing voluntary hospices receiving differing levels of state funding ranging from 58% state funded up to 90%. Some homecare services receive no state funding. Despite this, demand for services continues to grow and Hospice and specialist palliative homecare providers across Ireland cared for over 17,000 patients and made over 85,000 homecare visits in 2022 alone. By supporting Hospice Sunflower Days, you are supporting those who need hospice care in your community.

We are incredibly grateful to families and communities across Ireland for all donations, small or large.

Thank you for your consideration, and please feel free to contact me **at info@kerryhospice.com** to register your school's participation on or with any queries you might have.

Yours Sincerely,

Jack Shanahan
Chairman of KHF Fundraising