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1st May 2024

Ms. Jennifer Murnane O'Connor TD
Dail Eireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

PQ 14055/24

To ask the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth the status of funding to support community-based service providers in the provision of health services across the country for a service in County Carlow (details supplied).

(Details supplied: Holy Angels Carlow)

Dear Deputy Murnane O'Connor,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which was submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

I have reviewed the matter and the following is the current position.

At the end of 2023 Disability Operations provided an additional €88,000 to Holy Angels to meet the additional supports requested. Disability Services understands that this has a full year effect and indicated to the Minister and DCEDIY that this would be the case.

Currently we are not in a position to provide the assurance Holy Angels require regarding funding to their core ongoing budget.

However Disability Services can confirm that the same additional funding will be made available to Holy Angels in 2024. This will be on a once-off basis to progress recruitment.

€82,481 was funded as once off September 2023 to June 2024 for Holy Angels to recruit a Multidisciplinary Team including Occupational Therapy (OT), Speech and Language Therapy (SLT) and Psychology to provide preschool supports to the children who attend Holy Angels. Holy Angels have requested for this funding to be approved for the next school year 2024/2025. A business case was requested from Holy Angels at their recent Service Arrangement Meeting and this was received on 30th April 2024. This business case will be considered cognizant of vacancies in the Carlow Children's Disability Network Team (CDNT) mid-year.

I trust this information is of assistance to you. Should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

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Ms. Paula Dwan

General Manager for Children's Disability Services, South East Region