

## Cliona Ring Foundation

Imagine how you would feel if you heard that your much loved child had been diagnosed with a terminal illness. Naturally your first priority would be on sourcing the best medical treatment for your child, irrespective of cost and location. The reality of the situation in these recessionary times however is that few parents realise the hidden non-medical costs involved in getting your child to hospital or other medical facilities for treatment. Such costs include travel, lodging, food and other expenses associated with hospital visits.

The Cliona Ring Foundation provides financial assistance to families from Ireland who have children undergoing long-term medical treatment for serious illness. Funds raised are not used to pay for the child's actual medical care; instead they are used to defray the non-medical and miscellaneous expenses associated with hospital visits. The ultimate goal of the foundation is to assist families in remaining intact and functional during their crisis and to endeavour that all family members, friends and family affected by serious childhood illness are helped and supported at this very difficult time.

The foundation is named after Cliona who lost her very bravely fought battle against illness in December 2006. After being diagnosed with an inoperable brain tumour in 1998 her parents discovered that in addition to the emotional drain on families in their situation, even families with good medical coverage find that lodging, food and other non medical expenses can prove quite a hardship during an already traumatic time.

Cliona was a wonderfully warm person who faced her illness and it's treatment with courage and good humour and was an inspiration to all. Her family decided that her gifts of inspiring and helping others should continue and this motivated them to establish the foundation in 2007. To date over €180,000 has been raised through a series of fundraisers such as a charity auction, sponsored head shaves, greyhound night, sponsored cycle and street collections throughout Limerick City and County.

In January 2008 a cd "Just for Cliona" was launched which contributed substantially to our fundraising. This cd is still available for the sum of €10.00. In addition to all of this, the Cliona Ring Foundation was donated a thoroughbred greyhound, "Lady Cliona" which is now in training with Paul Hennessy, who incidentally also trained the "Late Late Show" greyhound.

All of these funds have been dispersed to a families of children diagnosed with serious illness. This has allowed them to focus on giving their sick child the emotional support that he/she needs rather than worrying unnecessarily about rising costs of bringing their child to hospital.

Examples of how the Foundation has helped families include (without revealing their identity and respecting their confidentiality):

- A family who needed to travel to Switzerland; the donation allowed both parents and the sick child's brother to travel to Switzerland for the duration of the 7 week treatment.
- A donation was made to a family who had to make numerous trips from Munster to Dublin for rehabilitation for their sick child.
- A donation allowed a family to bring their sick child, from a hospital in Dublin, home to be fully treated and cared in his own home, thus reducing the amount of time he had to spend in hospital locally.
- One family were able to have a family holiday in Trabolgan.
- Another family decided to have professional photographs taken.
- One family used the funds for travel between Our Ladys Hospital for Sick Children Crumlin and home during treatment for their sick child.
- A new pink mobile phone was purchased for a young girl who has spent quite some time in and out of hospital to enable her to stay in contact with her family and friends.

For further information or if you wish to make a donation or learn more about the Foundation visit:

[www.clionaringfoundation.com](http://www.clionaringfoundation.com)

## Charity Run in aid of the



CLIONA RING  
FOUNDATION

# Liane Moloney

Sunday 2nd May 2010

great  
Limerick  
run

---

10 KM

---

*Supporting families of Children  
facing life threatening illnesses*

[www.clionaringfoundation.com](http://www.clionaringfoundation.com)

Name	€
1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	
6.	
7.	
8.	
9.	
10.	
11.	
12.	
13.	
14.	
15.	
16.	
17.	
18.	
19.	
20.	
21.	
22.	
23.	
24.	
25.	

Name	€
26.	
27.	
28.	
29.	
30.	
31.	
32.	
33.	
34.	
35.	
36.	
37.	
38.	
39.	
40.	
41.	
42.	
43.	
44.	
45.	
46.	
47.	
48.	
49.	
50.	

