

Quaker Care Ltd

Quaker Care Ltd was established in 1998 and is the trading wing of Quaker Service. There are two shops operating in Belfast, one on the Lisburn Road and the other on the Woodstock Road. All profits from both shops are covenanted to Quaker Service to deliver much needed services for disadvantaged and vulnerable families in Northern Ireland.

Quaker Care provides volunteer opportunities and helps to raise the profile of the charity.

Quaker Service is also supported by a range of funders including statutory sources, trusts, businesses, Friends Meetings and individuals.



Quaker Service takes as the basis of its work Friends' belief in a divine presence in each of our lives. This fundamental belief leads us to value the worth and individual potential of each person.

Accepted as a charity by HM Revenue and Customs Company Limited by Guarantee No NI063929

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Monica Barritt Visitors' Centre

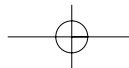
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Religious Society of Friends



**Acceptance,
Respect and
Support**



What is Quaker Service?

Quaker Service is the charity formerly known as the Ulster Quaker Service Committee, which has been providing services since 1969. Quaker Service contributes in a practical way to the understanding and reduction of the causes and effects of violence, suffering and social deprivation on our communities in Northern Ireland. We provide services to support vulnerable and undervalued individuals, families and children and when necessary, speak on their behalf.

The core strategic aims of our services are:

- to support disadvantaged mothers and children to reach their potential;
- to support those in custody and their families;
- to influence policy and practice regarding criminal justice issues in Northern Ireland; and
- to enhance mutual understanding and respect for all cultures.

Our main services are delivered from:

- the Quaker Cottage family day care centre in Belfast;
- the Monica Barritt Visitors' Centre near Moira; and
- our office and shops in Belfast.

Quaker Cottage

Quaker Cottage is a cross community family support centre which provides services for some of the most disadvantaged areas of north and west Belfast. The Cottage provides support to mothers and their children who have experienced trauma or who are having difficulties coping with the day-to-day management of their homes. Mothers who attend have individual needs but typical issues are abuse, alcoholism, anxiety, bereavement, depression, domestic violence and parenting. Referrals are made to the manager, usually by social work and health care staff.

Mothers and their young children attend on two days per week for eight months and then one day per week for a further four months. The older children attend one afternoon per week after school during the school year and a special summer programme is arranged. Teenage programmes are provided during the afternoons, evenings and occasional weekends. Residential outings are also provided for families.

The cottage provides a safe and caring environment where increased self-esteem, greater family understanding and co-operation, improved social and life skills, enhanced development and mutual understanding and respect are actively promoted. It helps towards greater understanding of personal situations and discovery of new and different ways to cope with life's challenges.



Monica Barritt Visitors' Centre

The Visitors' Centre at Maghaberry Prison is located in the visitor's car park, approximately 400 yards from the main entrance to the prison.

The Centre exists to support the families and friends of prisoners by providing a range of services within a safe, friendly and non-judgmental environment where everyone is made to feel welcome.

Services for visitors at the centre and inside the prison include:

- Information and advice
- Non-directive counselling
- Advocacy
- Café and tea bar
- Child care
- Shuttlebus
- Child centred visits
- Family focus weeks
- Family induction

In partnership with the Northern Ireland Prison Service and other agencies, Quaker Service is developing a new volunteer programme "*Quaker Connections*" based at Maghaberry Prison to provide further support for those in custody and their families. There will be volunteer opportunities for:

- an isolated inmate befriending team;
- a family support team;
- an Alternatives to Violence Project; and
- children's work.

