# JFM RESEARCH www.magdalenelaundries.com

# Research Guide for Margaret Martin & Mary

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# Former Magdalene Women

Justice for Magdalenes Research (JFMR) is a not-for-profit organisation whose main aim is to provide for the advancement of education of the general public by researching the Magdalene Laundries and similar institutions and by providing information and support to the women who spent time in the Magdalene Laundries and their families.

#### Introduction

Justice for Magdalenes Research (JFMR) has compiled this Research Guide to assist relatives of former Magdalene women and girls, both living and deceased. We hope that this guide will be of assistance to you and if you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact us at <a href="magdalenelaundries.com">info@magdalenelaundries.com</a>. We have provided some sample letters for you below, but if you would like us to check anything before you send it out, please don't hesitate to ask. A list of resources and counselling services is also attached.

# **Magdalene Restorative Justice Scheme**

If you are a relative assisting a family member who is a survivor, and she has not already applied to the Magdalene Restorative Justice Scheme at the Department of Justice and Equality, the following guides may be of assistance to you.

Survivor Guide to Magdalene Restorative Justice Scheme
<a href="http://magdalenelaundries.com/Survivor%20Guide%20to%20Magdalene%20Restora">http://magdalenelaundries.com/Survivor%20Guide%20to%20Magdalene%20Restora</a>
<a href="mailto:tive%20Justice%20Scheme.pdf">tive%20Justice%20Scheme.pdf</a>

Supplementary Guide to the Magdalene Restorative Justice Scheme
<a href="http://magdalenelaundries.com/press/Supplementary%20Survivor%20Guide%20to%">http://magdalenelaundries.com/press/Supplementary%20Survivor%20Guide%20to%</a>
20Magdalene%20Restorative%20Justice%20Scheme.pdf

#### Adoption

If you are an adopted person who is seeking your natural mother who you believe may have been in a Magdalene Laundry, we suggest that you use this Research Guide in conjunction with the **Adoption Rights Alliance Tracing Handbook for the Adopted Person** available at <a href="https://www.adoptionrightsalliance.com">www.adoptionrightsalliance.com</a>

If one or more of your children were adopted please visit the Adoption Rights Alliance website at <a href="https://www.adoptionrightsalliance.com">www.adoptionrightsalliance.com</a> for information on available supports and on how to trace if this is your wish.

**IMPORTANT:** If you are a relative of a woman who was in a Magdalene Laundry and she has only recently revealed this to you, allow her to tell her story as and when she is ready. Do not try to persuade her to tell you her story or embark on any research if she is not ready. It might also be helpful to suggest that she seek some counselling to help her come to terms with what she went through. A list of Resources and Counselling Services is provided at the end of this guide.

# **Beginning Your Research**

Before you set out on your journey, you should firstly gather whatever information you can from your family and other sources close to you. Some of the possible questions you could ask are below. Please note that this can be a difficult subject to talk about in a family so we suggest that you be as tactful as possible when asking the questions.

# **Suggested Questions to Ask Family Members Before Starting Your Research**

- When did the woman enter the laundry?
- What part of the country was the laundry in?
- What order of nuns was involved?
- What were the circumstances surrounding the woman being in the laundry?
- Did she get out?
- Did she die in the Magdalene Laundry?

# **Contacting the Religious Order**

Once you have gathered whatever information you can, your first step should be to contact the religious order that ran the laundry in question. If you do not know what order was involved, then we suggest that you write to all of them. We have provided a sample letter below to give you an idea of the wording you should use. There is a list of names and addresses of the religious orders at the end of this document.

#### **Guidelines for Dealing with Religious Orders**

- ✓ Always communicate in writing preferably using Registered (Signed For) Post.
- ✓ Do not give the order a contact number. If you absolutely have to contact the order by phone (e.g. to arrange an appointment), we advise that you use a

private number (this can be done from any Irish landline by placing 141 before the number to be dialled).

- ✓ Remember, you have the right to be treated respectfully.
- ✓ If you are told that you have been placed on a waiting list, ask how long the wait is and ask to be kept regularly informed of your place in the queue.
- ✓ Ask for the name of the person dealing with your query and address all correspondence to this person.
- ✓ Keep track of your paperwork in a folder or file and keep a copy of any
  correspondence sent to the agency.
- ✓ If you wish, copy your correspondence to JFMR, clearly stating that you have done so at the end of the letter.

# Sample Letter to the Religious Orders:

Your Name and Address

Date

Name of Religious Order Address of Religious Order

To Whom It May Concern:

I believe that my [state relationship e.g. mother/aunt/sister etc] was in a Magdalene Laundry that was run by your order at [INSERT ADDRESS OF LAUNDRY]. I would be obliged if you could supply me with whatever information you have on file in relation to this person.

The details are as follows:

Name of Magdalene woman
Date of Birth of Magdalene Woman
Date of death of Magdalene Woman (if applicable)

I would appreciate if you could give this matter your immediate attention.

Yours faithfully,

[INSERT YOUR NAME HERE]

#### Sample Questions to Ask Religious Orders

Below is a sample list of additional questions that you might like to ask the religious order once you have established which order was involved. If you are still unsure, then send the list to all of them. You should amend the list to reflect your own situation.

- What date did my relative enter the laundry?
- What name was my relative given in the laundry?
- What were her responsibilities in the laundry?
- What hours did she work?
- Was she paid for her work?
- Are there tax records for her?
- Did her family know she was in the laundry?
- Did she receive any visitors while she was in the laundry?
- What is her education level?
- What was her health during her time in the laundry? Was she ill at any stage?
   Did she receive medical attention?
- Did she ever leave the laundry?
- If so, what date did she leave? Where did she go?
- Did she die while still in the laundry?
- If so, what was the date and cause of death?
- If so, where is she buried and under what name?
- Was her death registered?
- Is she still residing in the care of the religious order?
- What is her current residence?
- Was she transferred from an industrial school and if so, what were the circumstances surrounding the transfer?
  - Did the Magdalene Laundry request the transfer?
  - Did the industrial school request the transfer?
- Was she transferred from a psychiatric institution and if so, what were the circumstances surrounding the transfer?
  - Did the Magdalene Laundry request the transfer?
  - Did the psychiatric institution request the transfer?
- Was she transferred from a mother and baby home and if so, what were the circumstances surrounding the transfer?

- Did the Magdalene Laundry request the transfer?
- o Did the mother and baby home request the transfer?
- Was she transferred from the Magdalene Laundry to a mother and baby home and then back to the laundry and if so what were the circumstances surrounding the conception of the child?
- O How many children did she give birth to and what became of them?
- Was she incarcerated in the Magdalene Laundry via the courts service?
  - O What was her alleged crime?
  - O What was the sentence?
  - What was the actual time served?
  - Did the Probation Service follow up and check in to ensure that she was released when her sentence had expired?

# **Contacting Government Departments & Other Agencies**

While the Magdalene Laundries were church-run institutions, the State was also involved in referring women and girls there. Your relative may also have been transferred from a mother and baby home or another institution. You should therefore write to the government department involved and seek whatever information they possess on file. Some sample questions and a sample letter are supplied below. You should amend the questions and letters to reflect your own situation.

#### **Guidelines for Dealing with Government Departments**

- ✓ Always communicate in writing preferably using Registered (Signed For) Post.
- ✓ Do not give a contact number. If you absolutely have to contact the department by phone (e.g. to arrange an appointment), we advise that you use a private number (this can be done from any Irish landline by placing 141 before the number to be dialled).
- ✓ Remember, you have the right to be treated respectfully.
- ✓ If you are told that you have been placed on a waiting list, ask how long the wait is and ask to be kept regularly informed of your place in the queue.
- ✓ Ask for the name of the person dealing with your query and address all correspondence to this person.

- ✓ Keep track of your paperwork in a folder or file and keep a copy of any correspondence sent to the agency.
- ✓ If you wish, copy your correspondence to JFMR, clearly stating that you have done so at the end of the letter.

#### Sample Letter to Department of Education:

Your Name and Address

Date

John Kelly Principal Officer Residential Institutions Redress Unit Cornamaddy Athlone Co. Westmeath

Dear Mr. Kelly,

I believe that my [state relationship e.g. mother/aunt/sister etc] was in the industrial school at [INSERT ADDRESS OF SCHOOL]. I also believe that she was transferred to a Magdalene Laundry at [INSERT ADDRESS OF LAUNDRY]. I would be obliged if you could supply me with whatever information you have on file in relation to this person.

The details are as follows:

Name of Magdalene woman Date of Birth of Magdalene Woman Date of death of Magdalene Woman (if applicable)

I would also be obliged if you could answer the following questions:

- 1. What are the circumstances surrounding my relative's admission to the industrial school?
- 2. What were the circumstances surrounding the transfer from the industrial school to the Magdalene Laundry?
- 3. Did the Magdalene Laundry request the transfer?
- 4. Did the industrial school request the transfer?
- 5. Did she ever leave the laundry?
- 6. Did she die in the Magdalene Laundry? If so, what was the date & cause of death, where is she buried and under what name?
- 7. Is she still residing in the care of the religious order?

I would appreciate if you could give this matter your immediate attention.

Yours faithfully,

[INSERT YOUR NAME HERE]

#### **Sample Letter to Psychiatric Hospitals:**

Your Name and Address

Date

Name of Psychiatric Hospital Address of Psychiatric Hospital

To Whom It May Concern:

I believe that my [state relationship e.g. mother/aunt/sister etc] was a patient at [INSERT ADDRESS OF HOSPITAL]. I also believe that she was transferred to a Magdalene Laundry at [INSERT ADDRESS OF LAUNDRY]. I would be obliged if you could supply me with whatever information you have on file in relation to this person.

The details are as follows:

Name of Magdalene woman
Date of Birth of Magdalene Woman
Date of death of Magdalene Woman (if applicable)

I would also be obliged if you could answer the following questions:

- 1. What were the circumstances surrounding my relative being a patient at the psychiatric hospital?
- 2. What were the circumstances surrounding the transfer from the psychiatric hospital to the Magdalene Laundry?
- 3. Was she considered fit for work?
- 4. Did the Magdalene Laundry request the transfer?
- 5. Did the hospital request the transfer?
- 6. Did she ever leave the laundry?
- 7. Did she die in the Magdalene Laundry? If so, what was the date & cause of death, where is she buried and under what name?
- 8. Is she still residing in the care of the religious order?

I would appreciate if you could give this matter your immediate attention.

Yours faithfully,

[INSERT YOUR NAME HERE]

#### Sample Letter To Religious Orders Who Ran Mother & Baby Homes:

Your Name and Address

Date

Name of Religious Order Address of Religious Order

To Whom It May Concern:

I believe that my [state relationship e.g. mother/aunt/sister etc] was a resident at [INSERT ADDRESS OF MOTHER AND BABY HOME]. I also believe that she was transferred to a

Magdalene Laundry at [INSERT ADDRESS OF LAUNDRY]. I would be obliged if you could supply me with whatever information you have on file in relation to this person.

The details are as follows:

Name of Magdalene woman
Date of Birth of Magdalene Woman
Date of death of Magdalene Woman (if applicable)

I would also be obliged if you could answer the following questions:

- 1. What were the circumstances surrounding my relative being a resident at the mother and baby home?
- 2. What were the circumstances surrounding the transfer from the psychiatric hospital to the Magdalene Laundry?
- 3. Was she considered fit for work?
- 4. Did the Magdalene Laundry request the transfer?
- 5. Did the mother and baby home request the transfer?
- 6. Was she transferred from the Magdalene Laundry to a mother and baby home and then back to the laundry and if so what were the circumstances surrounding the conception of the child?
- 7. How many children did she give birth to and what became of them?
- 8. Did she ever leave the laundry? If so, what date did she leave? Where did she go?
- 9. Did she die in the Magdalene Laundry? If so, what was the date & cause of death, where is she buried and under what name?
- 10. Is she still residing in the care of the religious order?

I would appreciate if you could give this matter your immediate attention.

Yours faithfully,

[INSERT YOUR NAME HERE]

#### **Sample Letter to Department of Justice:**

Your Name and Address

Date

Mr. James Martin Assistant Secretary Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform 94 St. Stephen's Green Dublin 2

Dear Mr. Martin,

I believe that my [state relationship e.g. mother/aunt/sister etc] was transferred to a Magdalene Laundry at [INSERT ADDRESS OF LAUNDRY] through the courts system. I would be obliged if you could supply me with whatever information you have on file in relation to this person.

The details are as follows:

Name of Magdalene woman Date of Birth of Magdalene Woman Date of death of Magdalene Woman (if applicable)

I would also be obliged if you could answer the following questions:

- 1. What were the circumstances surrounding my relative being incarcerated at the Magdalene Laundry?
- 2. What was her alleged crime?
- 3. What was the sentence, if any?
- 4. What was the actual time served?
- 5. Did the Department of Justice monitor her during her time at the Magdalene Laundry?
- 6. Did she ever leave the laundry? If so, what date did she leave? Where did she go?
- 7. Did she die in the Magdalene Laundry? If so, what was the date & cause of death, where is she buried and under what name?
- 8. Is she still residing in the care of the religious order?

I would appreciate if you could give this matter your immediate attention.

Yours faithfully,

[INSERT YOUR NAME HERE]

# **Progressing your research**

Before you embark on your search, you should establish what you are trying to achieve. For example, if your relative is deceased, you might want to seek out as much information as you can about her in order to paint a picture of her life. In this instance you may want to start with obtaining her death certificate (assuming you know her full name) and working backwards from there. The section below will guide you through the process of the civil registration system and will aid you in obtaining birth, death and marriage certificates. On the other hand, you may know very little, i.e. whether your relative is alive or not, or indeed if she managed to get out of the laundry. In this particular case you will be trying to obtain information from wherever you can. Often, the best place is to start at the beginning with her birth certificate and move forward from there. The birth certificate will give you her date and place of birth and is a good foundation to build a search on.

You might also want to consider whether your relative married before entering the laundry or if she had children, so it is worth searching for this in the General Registrar's Office. If she was not married and you think she had children, you should search for instances where the mother's maiden name and the child's surname are the same.

If you find that the civil records are not yielding sufficient information, you can also try the church (parish) records and you can read more about this below.

If your relative would have been in the laundry in either 1901 or 1911, you can search for her in the Census records. The 1911 Census is available online and JFMR has put as many of the Census records for Magdalene Laundries as we can find online. Through the Magdalene Names Project, we have also been gathering data from electoral registers and other records, so please contact us if you would like us to check for your relative's name.

The searching process can be a lengthy one, depending on how unusual a surname is. However with a lot of persistence and diligence, you will usually be able to find a certain amount of information from the various sources, which will give you the basis to try and retry other sources.

If there is anything you feel you need help with we would be happy to take a look at your work and give you some suggestions.

# **Visiting the General Registrar's Office**

In the course of your research you may need to visit the Research Room in the General Registrar's Office in order to obtain birth, death or marriage certificates. The Research Room is located at Werburgh Street, Dublin 2.



#### General Information/Tips for Your Visit to the Research Room

- ✓ Opening hours are Monday to Friday from 9.15am 4.45pm (open during lunch).
- ✓ Bring sufficient money to cover you for the day.
- ✓ When you pay for a General Search, you can request as many books as you wish for the same fee for that day. However, you will still have to pay for photocopies of certificates individually.
- ✓ When you pay for a Five Year Search, you will receive books for five consecutive years (e.g. 1973 1977).
- ✓ Only **eight** photocopies of certificates per person per day are allowed, though the GRO will post out any surplus requests to you if you wish.
- ✓ Note: Up to three people can view the registers under the same General Search so bring a friend or relative if they are available to help look through the registers. You can also avail of double/treble the amount of photocopies.
- ✓ Do not hesitate to ask Research Room staff for help.

#### **Research Room Fees**

General Search: €20 Five Year Search: €2 Photocopies: €4

Full Certificates: €8 with references, €10 without

#### Searching the Registers at the Research Room

Please read the following information carefully before searching the registers:

- Take your time looking through the books
- Search **all** of the books, even if you think you have found what you are looking for after a short amount of time
- Make sure you check all four quarters for registrations before 1966 (see below)
- If the date of birth/death/marriage was late in the year (November or December), you should search the book for the year after the birth as well, because it was common for these events to be registered at the beginning of the following year.
- Check the back of the books for hand written late registrations.
- Please note, some birth/death/marriage certificates will have different first names – e.g. your relative might be known as Bridget, but on her birth

certificate the name might be Mary Bridget. So, it is important to be watchful for this phenomenon as it can lead a lot of people astray.

# Format of the Register of Live Births

The format of the registers changed in January 1966 so we shall explain both formats.

### Pre-January 1966:

Births prior to January 1966 were registered every three months; the books are separated into four quarters, March, June, September and December with no dates of birth included in the books. **Please ensure you check all four quarters.** 

# Format of Pre-1966 Registers:

Surname	First Name	Mother's Maiden Name	District	Vol	Page
Murphy	Mary	Jones	Dublin S	2	421
Murphy	Bridget	Smith	Delvin	3	211
Murphy	Sheila	McKenna	Dublin N	4	433
Murphy	Anne	Murphy*	Mullingar	5	187

<sup>\*</sup>This is an example of a possible unmarried birth registration – i.e. the mother's maiden name and child's surname are the same.

# Format of Post-January 1966 Registers:

Births from January 1966 are sorted alphabetically, and not separated into quarters, but dates of birth are included in the registers.

### Format of Post-1966 Registers:

Surname	First Name	Mother's Maiden Name	District	Date of Birth	Vol	Page	Qtr
Murphy	Mary	Jones	Dublin S	22-05-1944	2	421	3
Murphy	Bridget	Smith	Delvin	15-02-1953	3	211	1
Murphy	Sheila	McKenna	Dublin N	22-03-1962	4	433	2
Murphy	Anne	Murphy	Mullingar	23-07-1954	5	187	4

\*This is an example of a possible unmarried birth registration – i.e. the mother's maiden name and child's surname are the same.

**Please Note:** There will be three or four books for the year of birth, registered alphabetically.

# **Searching the Register of Deaths**

### Pre-January 1966:

Deaths prior to January 1966 were registered every three months; the books are separated into four quarters, March, June, September and December with no date of death included in the books. **Please ensure you check all four quarters.** 

# Format of Pre-1966 Registers:

Name	Age	District	Vol	Page
Murphy, Mary	68	Dublin S	2	421
Murphy, Bridget	71	Delvin	3	211
Murphy, Sheila	45	Dublin N	4	433

### Format of Post-January 1966 Registers:

Deaths from January 1966 are sorted alphabetically, and not separated into quarters, but the date of death and marital status are included in the registers.

### Format of Post-1966 Registers:

Name	Age	Marital Status	District	Date of Death	Vol	Page	Qtr
Murphy, John	68	Bachelor	Dublin S	22-05-1973	2	421	2
Murphy, Bridget	71	Spinster	Delvin	15-02-1953	3	211	1
Murphy, Sheila	45	Married	Dublin N	22-03-1973	4	433	1

#### **Searching the Register of Marriages**

### Pre-January 1966:

Marriages prior to January 1966 were registered every three months; the books are separated into four quarters, March, June, September and December with no date of death included in the books. **Please ensure you check all four quarters.** 

### Format of Pre-1966 Registers:

Name	District	Vol	Page
Murphy, Mary	Dublin S	2	421
Murphy, Bridget	Delvin	3	211
Murphy, Sheila	Dublin N	4	433

Note: Marriages are registered in both the married and maiden surnames so you can use this to help you narrow things down by checking for a corresponding marriage under the maiden name, if known.

#### Format of Post-January 1966 Registers:

Marriages from January 1966 are sorted alphabetically, and not separated into quarters, but the date of marriage and spouse's surname are included in the registers.

# Format of Post-1966 Registers:

Name	Spouse's Surname	District	Date of Marriage	Vol	Page	Qtr
Murphy, John	Bachelor	Dublin S	22-05-1973	2	421	2
Murphy, Bridget	Spinster	Delvin	15-02-1953	3	211	1
Murphy, Sheila	Married	Dublin N	22-03-1973	4	433	1

### **Requesting Photocopies**

At this point you should have narrowed down the possibilities significantly. You should request photocopies of the possible entries on your list. To do this you must fill in a photocopy request form with the volume, page number and quarter and hand it in to a staff member at the Research Room.

**Please Note:** Don't throw away extra photocopies and notes, as they might be useful to someone else. If you do not wish to store them yourself, post to JFMR at the following address: Justice for Magdalenes Research, Crocknahattina, Bailieborough, Co. Cavan, with a note saying they are extra photocopies you did not need.

# **Visiting the National Archives**



The Reading Room of the National Archives, Bishop St. Dublin 8 is open from Monday to Friday, 10.00 till 17.00, to members of the public in possession of a <u>valid</u> Reader's Ticket.

You can order documents from 10.00am-3.15pm.

When you first visit the National Archives, you will need to apply for a Reader's Ticket. In order to obtain the Reader's Ticket you will need to provide photographic identification, though you will not be charged. You can download an application form for your Reader's Ticket in advance of your visit to the National Archives and fill it in before you leave. Visit the National Archives website to download the form <a href="http://www.nationalarchives.ie/PDF/NAIReadersApplication.pdf">http://www.nationalarchives.ie/PDF/NAIReadersApplication.pdf</a>

# Some of the archives held by the National Archives that may interest you include:

- 1. Census 1901
- 2. Census 1911 (Available online)
- 3. Coroner's Inquests
- 4. Archives of Government Departments 1922–1979;
- 5. Archives of other governmental agencies;
- 6. Archives of the courts and probate registries;
- 7. Archives from other sources, including Church of Ireland parishes, health boards, hospitals, schools, charities, trade unions, business firms, solicitors' offices, estate offices;

You can obtain copies of most records held at the National Archives and for further information on this visit the National Archives website at www.nationalarchives.ie

#### **Church Records**

In the course of your research you may need to avail of parish records (as opposed to records from religious orders). For example, if you found that the civil registration system did not give you the results you needed, you could write to the parish of the woman in question and ask for a **full baptismal certificate**. These certificates often include the woman's baptism, marriage and death if applicable and can be useful in filling in the gaps. We recommend that you include a donation which might help to expedite your request. If you are having difficulty in locating the contact details for the parish in question, contact us and we will try to help.

#### **UK Records**

If your relative managed to leave the laundry it is possible she travelled to the UK, like many other Magdalene survivors. There are a number of resources you can use in the UK to trace people.

### Find My Past

Find My Past contains civil registrations, available online.

When you obtain details from Find My Past you can apply for certificates at:

General Register Office

PO Box 2,

Southport

Merseyside PR8 2JD

Tel: 0870-243 7788

Email: certificate.services@ons.gov.uk

Web: www.col.statistics.gov.uk

OR

Family Records Centre

1 Myddelton Street

London EC1R 1UW

Tel: 0870-243 7788

General Enquiries: 0208-392 5300

Email: frc@nationalarchives.gov.uk

Web: http://www.familyrecords.gov.uk/frc

http://www.findmypast.co.uk/home.jsp

#### 192.com

192.com is a great resource to find people via phone books and electoral rolls.

http://www.192.com/

Genes Reunited

Genes Reunited is another useful resource to help you track down family

members.

http://www.genesreunited.co.uk

Search Engines

Search engines such as www.google.ie or www.yahoo.co.uk have proven to be very

useful searching tools. When you visit a particular search engine just simply type in

the name of the person you are looking for and see what results you come up with.

Try to use different combinations when you are searching so that you can maximise

the results, see the examples below:

"Jane Jones"

"Jones. Jane"

"janejones"

Jane Jones

"J Jones"

If you know that the person you are looking for lives in Ireland you can also ask the

search engine to only find pages from Ireland.

**Barnardos Origins Information and Tracing Service** 

You may find it helpful, if it is appropriate to your situation to contact the Barnardos

Origins Information and Tracing Service which provides assistance to people who

grew up in Ireland's industrial schools in tracing their families.

For further information contact:

Barnardos, Christchurch Square, Dublin 8

Tel: 01 453 0355

Email: origins@barnardos.ie

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#### **Department of Social and Family Affairs**

We are aware of a service provided by the Department of Social and Family Affairs whereby they will deliver a letter on your behalf to an individual, without giving you the individual's address. We are presently researching this service and will update this Guide when we obtain the information.

#### **How to Make Contact**

If you are searching for a Magdalene survivor who is still alive, you will eventually reach the point when you have your research narrowed down and you will have contact details for a particular person. We would urge you to remain calm at this point and think things through before acting. Please read this section carefully and contact us if you have any questions.

Please note! Before making any kind of contact double check your work to ensure you have definitely got the right details!

#### Phone, Visit or Letter?

Even if you know your relative's phone number and know where she lives, we advise that you make contact **by letter or email only**. Many Magdalene survivors will want to keep this part of their past private and you should respect that. Therefore, phoning or arriving on a doorstep is not a helpful way of making contact in these circumstances. A letter or email is a safer method to use, because your relative can read it over and make contact with you in her own time.

Though you might be eager to make contact with your relative, bear in mind that while you know you have been tracing, your relative doesn't and won't have had time to prepare herself.

Although you might have your relative's address and phone number, you won't know what members of her family are aware of the fact that she was in a Magdalene Laundry; therefore discretion is of the utmost importance. A discreet letter saying that you are doing some family research is the most appropriate way to proceed.

We hope the information in this Guide is of help to you. If you have any questions or concerns or if you are unsure of anything, don't hesitate to get in touch with us.

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Distribution of this document is encouraged, but no alterations are permitted.

# **Contact details for Religious Orders (Magdalene Laundries)**

# **Good Shepherd Sisters**

Sr. Bríd Mullins Good Shepherd Provincialate 245 Lower Kilmacud Road Goatstown Dublin 14

Telephone: 051-873241 / 021-874294

Email: mbridmullins@eircom.net

### **Sisters of Our Lady of Charity**

The Ministries Desk Sisters of Our Lady of Charity 63 Lower Sean McDermott Street Dublin 1

Telephone: 01 8711109 or 087 7719723

Email: ministeriesdesk@olc.ie

### **Sisters of Mercy**

Ms. Marianne Cosgrave Catherine McAuley Centre 23 Herbert Street Dublin 2

Telephone: 01-6387521 Email: info@mercyarchive.ie

### **Sisters of Charity**

Sr. Christina Gorman Mary Aikenhead House St. Mary's Donnybrook Dublin 4

Telephone: 01-2698744 or 087-2127245

Email: generalate@rsccaritas.com

#### Other Religious Orders (Industrial Schools – girls only)

#### **Order of the Poor Clares**

Ran an industrial school at Cavan Town

Poor Clare Monastery Upper Faughart Dundalk., Co. Louth IRELAND

Tel. 353 (0)42 937 1966 Fax 353 42 937 1908

Email: poorclares@poorclaresireland.org

#### Sisters of St. Louis

Ran an industrial school in Monaghan Town, moved to Bundoran in 1957

Mill Road Dundalk Co. Louth

Tel: 042-9335773

#### **Presentation Sisters**

Ran industrial schools in Cashel and Dundrum (Tipperary)

Presentation Provincialate Garden Vale Athlone Co. Westmeath Ireland Zip Code

Email: presnpro@iol.ie

Tel: 09064 72186 /09064 75895

# **Religious Orders (Mother and Baby Homes)**

(May not be complete)

#### Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and Mary

Ran mother and baby homes at Bessboro, Co. Cork; Sean Ross Abbey, Roscrea & Castlepollard, Co. Westmeath.

### Sacred Heart Home, Bessboro - records now held by:

Child and Family Agency Regional Adoption Services Páirc Na gCrann St Stephen's Hospital Sarsfield Court Glanmire Co. Cork

Phone: 021 4858650

# Sean Ross Abbey, Roscrea, Co Tipperary - records now held by:

Child and Family Agency Adoption Service, 2 St Andrew's Terrace, Newtown, Waterford.

Tel: 051 - 860048

### Sacred Heart Convent, Castlepollard, Co Westmeath

Records now held by:

Child and Family Agency Regional Adoption Services, County Clinic, St Conals Campus, Letterkenny Co Donegal.

Ph: 074 9104716

### Daughters of Charity of St Vincent de Paul

Ran a mother and baby home at St. Patricks, Navan Road Daughters of Charity of St Vincent de Paul Seton House Northbrook Road Dublin 6

Tel: 01 - 6674346

## **Good Shepherd Sisters**

Ran a mother and baby home at Ard Mhuire Dunboyne

Sr. Bríd Mullins Good Shepherd Provincialate 245 Lower Kilmacud Road Goatstown Dublin 14

Telephone: 051-873241 / 021-874294

Email: mbridmullins@eircom.net

#### **Other Homes:**

#### **Legion of Mary**

(Regina Coeli Hostel)

# International centre: Concilium Legionis Mariae (Legion of Mary)

De Montfort House Morning Star Avenue Brunswick Street Dublin 7

Tel: +353 1 872 3153

Email: concilium@legion-of-mary.ie

#### **Government Departments/Agencies**

# **Department of Education**

John Kelly
Principal Officer
Residential Institutions Redress Unit
Cornamaddy
Athlone
Co. Westmeath

### **Department of Health**

Department of Health Hawkins House Hawkins Street Dublin 2

#### **Mental Health Commission**

Mental Health Commission St Martin's House Waterloo Road Dublin 4

#### **Department of Justice**

Mr. James Martin Assistant Secretary Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform 94 St. Stephen's Green Dublin 2

# **Department of Children and Youth Affairs**

Department of Children and Youth Affairs 43-49 Mespil Rd Dublin 4

### **Psychiatric Hospitals**

(May not be complete as some hospitals have closed)

# St. Conal's Hospital

Letterkenny Co. Donegal

# **Central Mental Hospital**

Dundrum Co. Dublin

# St. Brendans (Grangegorman)

PO Box 418
Rathdown Road
Co Dublin

Tel: 353 (0) 1 8693000

### St. Patricks Hospital

St James Street Dublin 8

# **District Mental Hospital**

Clonmel Co. Tipperary

# St. Ita's Psychiatric Hospital

Portrane Co. Dublin

# St. John of God's Hospital

Stillorgan Co. Dublin

### St. Vincent's Psychiatric Hospital

Convent Ave Richmond Road Fairview, Dublin 3

# St. Loman's Hospital

Palmerstown, Co. Dublin

### St. Fintan's Psychiatric Hospital

Portlaoise, Co. Laois

### St Mary's Psychiatric Hospital

Castlebar Co. Mayo

# **St Brigid's Hospital (Psychiatric)**Ballinasloe Co. Galway

# St. Brigid's Psychiatric Hospital

Ardee, Co. Louth



# **Resources and Counselling Services**

There are a number of organisations and services listed below that provide a range of supports that might be of interest to you. This document is not necessarily an endorsement of any particular service.

### Resources and services in the Republic of Ireland

# **National Counselling Service**

The National Counselling Service was set up by the HSE and was established initially to provide counselling to adults abused as children in state institutions but also offers support to adults abused in other settings. The counselling service is free of charge.

 North East:
 1800 234 117

 North Dublin:
 1800 234 110

 North West:
 1800 234 119

 West:
 1800 234 114

 Mid-west:
 1800 234 115

 Midlands:
 1800 234 113

 Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow:
 1800 234 112

**South Dublin & East Wicklow:** 1800 234 111/1800 234 116

**South East:** 1800 234 118

#### Connect

Connect is an additional service to the HSE's National Counselling Service and provides free telephone counselling and support for any adult who has experienced abuse, trauma or neglect in childhood.

**Telephone:** 1800 477 477

**UK and Northern Ireland:** 00800 477 477 77

Outside ROI and UK: +353 1 865 7495 (International call rates apply)

Website: <a href="http://connectcounselling.ie/">http://connectcounselling.ie/</a>

# Irish Association for Counselling and Psychotherapy

You may also wish to visit the website of the Irish Association for Counselling and Psychotherapy at <a href="http://www.irish-counselling.ie">http://www.irish-counselling.ie</a> to find a counsellor or therapist in your area in the Republic of Ireland. These services are not likely to be free of charge; however some counsellors and psychotherapists operate on a sliding scale.

#### **Samaritans**

Samaritans are available 24 hours a day to provide confidential emotional support for people who are experiencing feelings of distress or despair, including those which may lead to suicide.

**Telephone:** 1850 60 90 90 **Text:** 087 2 60 90 90

Email: jo@samaritans.org

Website: <a href="http://www.dublinsamaritans.ie/">http://www.dublinsamaritans.ie/</a>

# **Adoption Rights Alliance**

The mission of Adoption Rights Alliance is to advocate equal human and civil rights for those affected by Ireland's closed secret adoption system. There are a number of self-help guides available on our website and links are provided below.

**Email:** info@adoptionrightsalliance.com

Website: <a href="http://www.adoptionrightsalliance.com">http://www.adoptionrightsalliance.com</a>

**Postal Address:** The Mill House, Millview Road, Malahide, Co. Dublin.

Please visit <a href="http://www.adoptionrightsalliance.com/searchandreunion.htm">http://www.adoptionrightsalliance.com/searchandreunion.htm</a> to download our Tracing Handbooks which are a step-by-step guide to obtaining your birth certificate and which will assist you through the tracing process.

We also encourage adopted people, natural parents and relatives to register with the National Adoption Contact Preference Register (NACPR), which is run by the Adoption Authority of Ireland and which is available here:

http://www.aai.gov.ie/index.php/information-a-tracing/contact-preference-register.html

# **Justice for Magdalenes Research (JFMR)**

The main aim of Justice for Magdalenes Research (JFMR) is to provide for the advancement of education of the general public by researching the Magdalene Laundries and similar institutions and by providing information and support to the women who spent time in the Magdalene Laundries and their families. There are a number of self-help guides available on our website and links are provided below.

**Email:** info@magdalenelaundries.com

**Website:** http://www.magdalenelaundries.com

**Postal Address:** Crocknahattina, Bailieborough, Co. Cavan.

JFMR has made the following resources available to Magdalene survivors and their families:

Survivor Guide to Magdalene Restorative Justice Scheme

http://magdalenelaundries.com/Survivor%20Guide%20to%20Magdalene%20Restorative% 20Justice%20Scheme.pdf

Supplementary Guide to the Magdalene Restorative Justice Scheme

http://magdalenelaundries.com/press/Supplementary%20Survivor%20Guide%20to%20Magdalene%20Restorative%20Justice%20Scheme.pdf

Research Guide for Magdalene Survivors

http://magdalenelaundries.com/Research%20Guide%20for%20Magdalene%20Survivors.pdf

Research Guide for Relatives of Magdalene Women

http://magdalenelaundries.com/Research%20Guide%20for%20Relatives%20of%20Magdalene%20Women.pdf

#### Citizens Information

The Citizens Information service provides information on the social and civil rights of everyone in Ireland.

Telephone: 0761 07 4000

Email: <a href="https://www.citizensinformation.ie/en/contactus">https://www.citizensinformation.ie/en/contactus</a>

**Website:** http://www.citizensinformation.ie/en

#### **Dublin Rape Crisis Centre**

The Dublin Rape Crisis Centre is a national organisation offering a wide range of services to women and men who are affected by rape, sexual assault, sexual harassment or childhood sexual abuse

**Telephone:** 1 800 778 888

Email: <a href="mailto:rcc@indigo.ie">rcc@indigo.ie</a>

Website: <a href="http://www.drcc.ie">http://www.drcc.ie</a>

**Postal Address:** 70 Lower Leeson Street, Dublin 2.

#### **Aislinn Centre**

The Aislinn Centre provides a mixture of certified, therapeutic, and recreational adult education classes to survivors of institutional abuse and their families.

**Telephone:** 01 8725771

Email: aislinned@eircom.net

**Postal Address:** Jervis House, Jervis street, Dublin 1.

#### **Family Resource Centres**

The aim of the Family Resource Centres is to help combat disadvantage by supporting the functioning of the family unit. Centres provide services and supports to families, lone parent families, men, women, youth, the elderly and others in need of support. Many Family Resource Centres also provide counselling services or can refer enquirers to appropriate services.

**Telephone:** 01 4200580

**Email:** info@familyresource.ie

Website: http://www.familyresource.ie/centres.php

# Health Service Executive (HSE)

People without medical cards can still access a wide range of community and hospital health services, either free of charge or at reduced cost. The HSE website contains a detailed directory of the services and information on how to access them.

Please note: Information on the enhanced medical card for Magdalene survivors will be added to this document as soon as it is available.

**Telephone:** 1850 24 1850

Email: <u>infoline1@hse.ie</u>

Website: <a href="http://www.hse.ie/eng">http://www.hse.ie/eng</a>

#### Aware

Aware provides support groups for people with depression through its program 'Aware Defeat Depression'. Aware's support groups are nationwide for both individuals with depression and also family members and friends.

**Telephone:** Dublin: 01 661 7211

Cork: 066 7194 713

Email: info@aware.ie

Website: http://www.aware.ie

#### **GROW**

GROW is a mental health organisation that helps people with mental health problems. It has a national network of over 130 groups in Ireland.

**Telephone**: 1890 474474

Email: <a href="http://grow.ie/contact">http://grow.ie/contact</a>

Website: <a href="http://www.grow.ie/meetings.html">http://www.grow.ie/meetings.html</a>

#### Shine

**Shine provides support to reduce** the risk of suicide through confidential counselling and special education initiatives such as Life Hope and ASSIST training.

**Telephone:** Dublin: 01 8601620

Cork: 021 4929210

**Email:** http://www.shineonline.ie/index.php/main-contact

Website: <a href="http://www.shineonline.ie/index.php">http://www.shineonline.ie/index.php</a>

Postal Address: Dublin: 38 Blessington Street, Dublin 7

**Cork:** 32 South Terrace, Cork

# Drugs.ie

Drugs.ie is an independent website managed by The Ana Liffey Drug Project. Its mission is to work with people affected by problem substance use - to reduce harm, improve overall quality of life and promote human rights.

Telephone: 01 878 6899 Email: info@drugs.ie

Website: <a href="http://www.drugs.ie/find\_services">http://www.drugs.ie/find\_services</a>

Postal Address: The Ana Liffey Drug Project, 48 Middle Abbey Street, Dublin 1.

#### **Alcoholics Anonymous**

Alcoholics Anonymous is a fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism.

**Telephone:** 01 8420700

Email: gso@alcoholicsanonymous.ie

Website: <a href="http://www.alcoholicsanonymous.ie">http://www.alcoholicsanonymous.ie</a>

Postal Address: General Service Office of Alcoholics Anonymous, Unit 2, Block C,

Santry Business Park, Swords Road, Dublin 9.

#### **Barnardos**

Barnardos runs the Origins service which is for people (and their families) who spent all or part of their childhood in an Irish industrial School and are interested in tracing information about their parents, siblings or other relatives. The service is available to people in Ireland and abroad.

**Telephone:** 01 453 0355 **Callsave:** 1850 222 300

Email: <u>origins@barnardos.ie</u>

Website: <u>http://www.barnard</u>os.ie

Postal Address: Barnardos, Hyde Square, 654 Sth. Circular Rd. Dublin 8

# Money Advice and Budgeting Service (MABS)

The Money Advice and Budgeting Service (MABS) is a free, confidential, independent and non-judgmental service for people in debt, or in danger of getting into debt, in Ireland.

**Telephone:** 0761 07 2000

Email: <a href="mailto:helpline@mabs.ie">helpline@mabs.ie</a>

Website: <a href="http://www.mabs.ie">http://www.mabs.ie</a>

#### Resources and services available to UK residents

#### Connect

Connect is an additional service to the HSE's National Counselling Service and provides free telephone counselling and support for any adult who has experienced abuse, trauma or neglect in childhood.

**UK and Northern Ireland:** 00800 477 477 77

Website: <a href="http://connectcounselling.ie/">http://connectcounselling.ie/</a>

#### **Samaritans**

Samaritans are available 24 hours a day to provide confidential emotional support for people who are experiencing feelings of distress or despair, including those which may lead to suicide.

**Telephone:** 08457 90 90 90 **Text:** 07725 909090

Email: jo@samaritans.org

Website: <a href="http://www.samaritans.org">http://www.samaritans.org</a>

#### Irish Survivors in Britain

Website providing links to UK based survivor groups.

**Telephone:** 0121 622 4169

Email: <a href="mailto:info@irishsurvivorsinbritain.org">info@irishsurvivorsinbritain.org</a>

Website: <a href="http://www.irishsurvivorsinbritain.org/survivors-networks-and-support-">http://www.irishsurvivorsinbritain.org/survivors-networks-and-support-</a>

services-in-britain/

#### **UK Citizens Advice Bureau**

The Citizens Advice Bureau provides free, independent, confidential and impartial advice to everyone on their rights and responsibilities. It values diversity, promotes equality and challenges discrimination.

Website: http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk

### Rape Crisis (England & Wales)

Information and support for those affected by rape and sexual abuse.

**Telephone:** National Freephone Helpline 0808 802 9999

Email: <a href="mailto:info@rapecrisis.org.uk">info@rapecrisis.org.uk</a>

Website: <a href="http://www.rapecrisis.org.uk">http://www.rapecrisis.org.uk</a>

Postal Address: Rape Crisis (England & Wales), BCM Box 4444, London, WC1N 3XX.

# Services and resources available to individuals residing outside the UK and ROI

#### Connect

Connect is an additional service to the HSE's National Counselling Service and provides free telephone counselling and support for any adult who has experienced abuse, trauma or neglect in childhood.

**UK and Northern Ireland:** 00800 477 477 77

Outside ROI and UK: +353 1 865 7495 (International call rates apply)

Website: <a href="http://connectcounselling.ie/">http://connectcounselling.ie/</a>