



Annual Update

Sonas has had a very busy few years with an increase in clients year on year. In total, Sonas has seen more than a 40% increase in clients from 2019 to 2023, with the largest jump in clients in 2021 during the pandemic.

Last year, Sonas had no option but to turn 468 women and their families away as we were at full capacity. Sonas is very disappointed with the number of women turned away last year and vows to continue to advocate on behalf of these women and engage with all agencies to ensure this does not continue.

2019 – 2023 STATS		
Year	Total Clients	% Increase
2019	644	-
2020	686	6.52%
2021	866	26.24%
2022	876	1.15%
2023	916	4.57%
TOTAL	3,988	42.4%

Sonas has undergone a lot of change within the last few years, and 2024 in particular, however, the primary objective of Sonas has always been to ensure that the needs of women and children experiencing domestic abuse in the Greater Dublin Region are met.

As part of Sonas' dedication to our clients, Sonas has worked on a number of initiatives over the last few years such as collaborating with the HSE for the North East Inner City (NEIC) Project to provide advice to those dealing with DSGBV and running the Power to Change Programme in the community to empower victims of DSGBV to name a few.

Our biggest project, however, is the development of a new 12 unit Refuge in Dun Laoghaire Rathdown in partnership with Cuan (the new DSGBV Agency), the Department of Housing and Dun Laoghaire County Council. Sonas has been working diligently on this project for the last two years with the aim to be on site by December 2024 and to have the construction completed by 2026.

With all of this in mind, I would like to thank the Board of Sonas for their advice, dedication and continued support to Sonas throughout the last number of years and particularly as I join Sonas as Interim CEO. I would also like to thank our funders, Tusla – the Child and Family Agency and Cuan – the new DSGBV agency, for their continued support as well as Safe Ireland and An Garda Siochana.



I would also like to thank Management and Staff within Sonas who are on the frontline delivering vital services to victims of domestic abuse and our clients who without Sonas would not exist.

Lastly, I look forward to my time in Sonas as Interim CEO and supporting our staff and clients in any way I can.

Yours sincerely,

David Hall

A photograph of a handwritten signature in blue ink on a light-colored surface. The signature reads "David Hall".

Interim CEO,
Sonas

**Registered Office: 3 Killester Court, Dublin 5, D05 XW40.
Sonas Domestic Violence Charity is a company limited by guarantee (Company Number: 195618) and a
registered charity (Registered Charity Number 20028497; CHY 10872)**