



Dear fellow SOFT members,

We hope you and your family are keeping well. At our AGM this year we decided to try and organise a coffee morning in aid of SOFT in or around **Valentine Week** 14th February 2018 or even the whole month of February.

We are asking each member if they would consider hosting a coffee morning in their area. The primary functions of this would be to:

1. Raise funds for SOFT Ireland.
2. Promote our organisation.
3. Assure families that we are here to help if or when they need us.

SOFT has been there and has been a part of all our lives in some way whether this has been for the short or long term.

So to answer some questions you may have.

(Q) Where do we hold event?

(A) Your own home or maybe somewhere in your area e.g. community centre or GAA club.

(Q) How should I go about arranging an event?

(A) Simply advertise with posters, leaflets (which we will supply) and social media, invite family and friends to come along to help make tea and coffee and put out some biscuits, cake, apple tart etc.

(Q) What time should I arrange it for?

(A) It's completely up to each individual to decide when they wish to hold the event whether it be during the week or after Sunday mass or service.

We ask can you set up a donation box at the door and maybe arrange a raffle with small prizes such as bottle of wine, chocolates or meal voucher for your local Restaurant. One of SOFT's longest members who holds a coffee morning every year has kindly offered to give any advice you may need

His name is **Ian O' Brien** and his contact number is **087-6211264**

Like any group SOFT are struggling to keep their finances in a healthy state. Any money raised whether it be €20.00 or €1000.00 will help to keep our organisation afloat. This money also goes towards subsidising our Spring Day and AGM outings which are so important to both old and new.

There is also money available for home support for living children and for parents who have lost a child if they need help in any way.

When we meet people in our community and share our stories of our special children we often find that some of our neighbours also had special little people in their lives at one time but were never given the opportunity or the time to talk to anyone. That is why we need to promote SOFT and spread awareness to our family, friends, neighbours, doctors, hospital staff and the greater community that we are here to help, to give information and to offer assistance in any way we can to families that have, had or are expecting a child with Trisomy.

We ask you to please consider our request and if you are interested to contact **Terry Matthews** before the end of December for posters and leaflets for the day.

Once again thank you and we wish you and your family a lovely Christmas and Happy New Year.

The Fund Raising Team.

Terry Matthews

Phone: 086-2708260

Email: terry@acehire.net



P.S. As we have done in the past maybe we will all light a candle on Christmas Eve for our special children and remember we are all connected in SOFT through them.