## 5th September 2012 STATEMENT FROM

## <u>" TOWARDS HEALING "</u>

ON THE OCCASION OF THE PUBLICATION OF THE REPORTS OF THE NATIONAL BOARD FOR SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN ON - DIOCESES OF CLONFERT, CORK AND ROSS, LIMERICK, KILDARE & LEIGHLIN; AND THE FOLLOWING RELIGIOUS CONGREGATIONS – SPIRITANS, DOMINICAN (MALE), MISSIONARIES OF THE SACRED HEART

"TOWARDS HEALING" is a confidential Counselling and Support Service for Survivors of Institutional, Clerical and Religious Abuse.

The service today announced the provision of extended opening hours, following the publication of the seven reports by the National Board for Safeguarding Children, into the Diocese of Cork and Ross, Limerick, Clonfert, Kildare & Leighlin - and the following Religious Congregations, Spiritans (Holy Ghost Fathers), Dominican(Male) and the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart. From today, Wednesday, 5th September 2012, the "TOWARDS HEALING" HELPLINE Counselling Service will open from 11am to 1am tomorrow.

Tomorrow Thursday 6th and on Friday 7th September, the service will provide extended opening hours from 8am to 1am.

The HELPLINE can be contacted by calling:

- FREEPHONE 1800 303416 from ANYWHERE IN IRELAND
- ON 0800 0963315 from NORTHERN IRELAND AND THE U.K.

"TOWARDS HEALING" service was set-up following consultation between the Irish Episcopal Conference, CORI, the Irish Missionary Union and with input from Survivor Groups; and is designed to ensure that Survivors of Institutional, Clerical and Religious abuse receive counselling and other support services.

Also see: www.towardshealing.ie

For email contact: <u>info@towardshealing.ie</u>

For further media information, contact Wally Young, Young Communications at 087 2471520. Melissa Darmody, Clinical Director, Towards Healing.