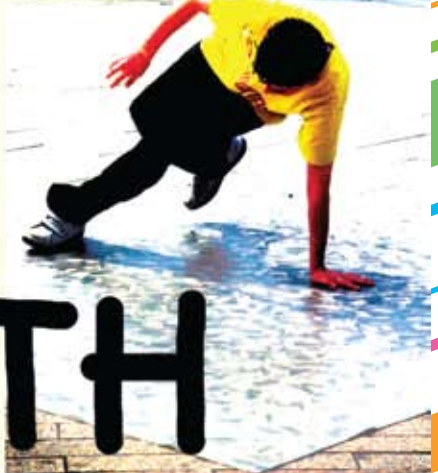




Youth Work Ireland

YOUTH WORK IRELAND ANNUAL REPORT 2010



as the recession takes hold."
Youth Work Ireland said unemployment among younger people had to be tackled since "nobody wants to see a whole generation cast aside".
But Enterprise Minister Batt O'Keefe said a rise in the number of people on the dole was





our vision

**A more equal and sustainable world
where all young people are valued
and involved.**

our mission

**To contribute to changing society
for the benefit of young people.**

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Youth Work Ireland at a Glance

Overall

21,723 young people
– affiliated Youth Clubs
25,278 young people – SPY Projects
131,113 – Youth Information Contacts
1,969 – Youth Justice Projects*

995 Staff

7,224 Volunteers

470 Clubs and Projects

336 Youth Clubs / 47 SPY Projects /
13 Youth Information Projects /
38 Youth Justice Projects / 40 Other

336 Youth Clubs

21,723 Young People

Under 10: 19.4%
10–14: 51.9%
14–19: 26.9%
Over 19: 1.8%

13 Youth Information Projects

Total contacts by Young People: **131,113**

Under 10: 1%
10–19: 62.5%
Over 20: 27.5%

Average weekly hours per project: **39.85**

Average days open p.a. per project:
224.38

47 SPY Projects

25,278 Young People

Under 10: 11%
10–19: 83%
Over 20: 6%

Average weekly hours per project: **53.69**
Average days open p.a. per project: **253.91**
Average days open p.m. per project: **21.16**
Total average daily participants
per project: **50.78**

38 Youth Justice Projects

1,969 Young People on Garda Projects*

14–17: 69%
Male: 71% / Female 29%

*(all Youth Justice Figures 2009
estimates based on
IYJS Annual Report)

Other

7,116 Garda Vetting Forms were
processed in 2010 by Youth Work Ireland

Youth Work Ireland renewed its website
in 2010 (some figures below are estimates)

Total Visits: **12,015**
Unique Visitors: **5,122**
Pages Viewed: **26,195**
Bounce rate: **45.2%**
New Visitors: **63%**

Usage has substantially increased
with the new site

Foreword

Our country did not fare well in 2010 with the virtual collapse of our economy and continuing austerity measures from Government really hitting home. Unemployment and youth unemployment along with emigration continued to rise. However, in communities all around Ireland countless volunteers and youth workers continued to work to achieve our vision of a better Ireland for young people today and tomorrow.

Despite extremely difficult circumstances we have tried as an organisation to maintain our work and provide a quality service to our members to help them assist young people in local communities.

2010 saw the departure of Diarmuid Kearney as CEO of Youth Work Ireland. I would like to officially pay tribute to Diarmuid for the time and effort he put in to the organisation at a critical time in our development and to wish him all the best for the future.

Inevitably the future presents many challenges for our organisation nationally and around the country. Myself and the Board in partnership with the members and the National Office have begun a process to ensure that our organisation is well prepared for these challenging times. This has involved ensuring we operate at the most efficient level and focus on generating new resources to support our work. Sometimes this has involved difficult decisions but we continue to be focussed on supporting our members and ultimately the thousands of young people we work with.

Finally I would like to thank all our member youth services for their hard work in 2010 and similarly pay tribute to our National Office staff.

John Gilmore

President, Youth Work Ireland



Introduction



The huge political and economic change we saw in Ireland in 2010 must be reflected in a different reality for young people and those who work with them. We in Youth Work Ireland have a vision of a more equal and sustainable world where all young people are valued and involved. So often we hear our public representatives and other say that ‘young people are the Ireland of tomorrow’. This is not our view. For us, young people are the Ireland of today. We call on our new Government to share this vision with us and to prioritise policies which will make this vision a reality.

This is why I have joined Youth Work Ireland as CEO.

What would an Ireland committed to reaching this vision look like? What kind of policy priorities would it have? People will undoubtedly have their own list but I am sure most of us will agree that the following are critical:

- To support Youth Work Programmes including the provision of quality local facilities and youth information services delivered by youth organisations.
- The provision of more and better quality places on training and education programmes until there is a sustainable recovery in the economy.
- The delivery of a strategy to radically reduce the numbers of children and adolescents on the waiting lists for mental health services, to end the practice of admitting children to adult inpatient mental health units and to increase supports to young people experiencing despair or distress which may lead to suicide.
- To deliver on previous commitments in the Strategic Task Force on Alcohol.
- The prioritisation of a referendum on Children’s Rights and improved child protection legislation including a vetting bill and provision for “soft information”.
- Ensuring Dáil na nÓg remains as a permanent event in the political and youth calendar and continue to support local Comhairle na nÓg. Maintaining Ireland’s leading role internationally in this area and allow Dáil na nÓg meet in the actual Dail Chamber.

There were hopeful indicators in 2010 that there are commitments to progressing an ambitious agenda for our children and young people. 2011 is a critical year in which this will be tested as a new policy framework for youth work is being developed. Youth Work Ireland will be closely monitoring progress in this regard. We will also be actively engaging with other organisation in the sector and directly with the Department and Government to assist in any way possible in the realisation of our vision for modern Ireland.

Patrick Burke
CEO, Youth Work Ireland

FDYS YOUTH WORK IRELAND



It is with great pride that we report on the work of FDYS. 2010 has been another very busy year and we feel that the support given to young people in County Wexford has been unrivalled. Throughout the year there has been great collaboration between staff and volunteers on a variety of areas including programmes, discos, policy development, club activities and training. Well done to all concerned.

As part of our Quality Assurance Programme we strive for continuous improvements, we are constantly trying to update our programmes, our training and our supports to make them more relevant for our volunteers, our staff, our young people and for communities in County Wexford. These improvements will continue. We were selected to become involved in a National pilot for OMCYA and we hope that our learning and observations will benefit youth clubs from around the country.

FDYS remains committed to Youthwork in County Wexford; it is hugely important and has our full support. We face into challenging times, but what is life without a challenge?



Quality Standards Framework – 2010

The focus of the QSF in 2010 has been on the review of the standards, the framework, and the assessment process, and on the approval and implementation of a revised Framework document.

Having completed the initial implementation phase of the framework, the Quality Standards Core Group spent a considerable amount of time over the last two years engaged in the review of the entire framework. The individual standards have been completely reviewed and rewritten or reorganised where necessary. The assessment process has been clarified and outlined clearly. A draft document was circulated for consultation across the organisation in early 2010 and a revised draft was presented to the membership for approval at the AGM in May. The new document has been implemented and will be reviewed again at the end of the next four-year implementation cycle.

In 2010 Carlow Regional Youth Service successfully completed the peer assessment process. A number of local youth services have been progressing through the preparations for assessment in 2011. Youth Work Ireland Roscommon/N.E. Galway, Youth Work Ireland Cork, Tipperary Regional Youth Service, Meath Youth Federation, Youth Work Ireland Laois, and Canal Communities Regional Youth Service have all invested time and effort into their preparations and have made significant progress towards their first assessment in the coming year.

Furthermore, we will now be in a position to embark on a round of re-assessments. Midlands Regional Youth Service are leading the charge in this regard, hotly followed by Donegal Youth Service and Ossory Youth.

In total 11 services have now completed the assessment process, a further seven services have seriously engaged in the assessment process, with two more at the early stages of their preparations. The remaining two services have not engaged in the process at this point for various reasons.

The peer assessor panel currently has 42 members who have registered and completed induction training. These individuals are drawn from 15 of the 22 services. Approximately 19 of these have been active i.e. have

carried out at least one assessment, with 12 individuals having carried out more than one assessment. The peer assessor panel will be reviewed and updated in 2011, with a revised induction process in place.

We continually aim to assimilate the findings of the peer assessments into our practice, and one of the ways we were able to do that in 2010 is by offering two specific training programmes to local youth service personnel as a direct result of emerging needs from the analysis of findings from the QSF.

We have been identifying the following benefits from participation in the QSF in 2010:

- Engaging in the QSF process has led to clear improvement & change within services, in terms of policy development; planning and evaluation of the work; recording and reporting; and organisational development.
- Including all stakeholders in the preparation for assessment has certainly strengthened organisations and has helped to imbed a culture of continuous improvement
- The standards framework assists youth services in creating and communicating clear expectations and guidelines regarding youth work practice through their policies and procedures
- Youth Work Ireland, through the Quality Standards Framework and other initiatives, continues to inform and positively influence youth work practice across the country

The QSF Core Group is in the process of developing a distinct work plan for the ongoing development of the framework that will include the place of young people in the QSF; the place of youth clubs in the QSF; and, the raising of standards from minimum to excellent.

Arts4All, Cork.

A series of creative workshops to develop interactive and creative skills for children aged 8–12 years of mixed abilities.



CANAL COMMUNITIES YOUTH SERVICE

In October 2010 3 youth workers and 9 young adults travelled to Tanzania in sub-Saharan Africa on a development education trip. The following is an account and photographs of the experience from the group members.

We stayed in a small village called Mwika, which is located on the foothills of the beautiful Mt Kilimanjaro. Here we linked up with a Tanzanian community development organisation called UVIKIUTA and four Tanzanians who soon became good friends of ours! We were welcomed with open arms by the local community. Contributing to the community was one of our aims before we set out on our trip and the group and we did this by attending the local market, shops and purchasing locally produced food and attending the local church. Due to the community being small, we quickly learnt about the culture of the people. The women were the workers of the community and played a pivotal role in society. They carried out more physical work such as bringing goods to the market, carrying bananas on their heads and bringing home hay for the animals. They also do all of the household chores such as washing up, cleaning and cooking for the family. This work was all done without the use of cars and technology. Due to the difference in the languages, we felt that this was a barrier for use because we could not speak to the local villagers and they also could only say few words

in our language. This did not however stop us from being polite and speaking small amounts of Swahili to the locals, who always greeted us and were grateful of our attempts at their language.

We visited local projects such as the HIV/AIDS orphanage project. The women who run this project work to make sure children who have been orphaned by HIV/AIDS are cared for within their community or extended family, as opposed to being housed in an actual orphanage. They also promote education and awareness in the area about HIV/ AIDS. The project receives no state or voluntary funding and money is gained through a goat and pig project run locally to sell milk and meat. We also visited Mama Lucy who is the last of the Chagga tribe members to grow and harvest coffee for sale to tourists and other visitors to the area she lives in up the mountain.

Each morning we attended the school to sand and paint the classrooms in order to create a safe, healthy educational environment for the children. The work to be done was identified by the school and then the organisation we worked with, UVIKIUTA, gave us that task. The money we paid went towards the cost of the paint, brushes and sand paper. Although the experience was enjoyable, we encountered a few difficulties along the way. Not having supplies we





are used to such as ladders, rollers and cloths made the job quite challenging. The paint was very thin and 8-10 coats were needed to make the paint visible. Finishing this daunting task gave us a sense of achievement which we had all worked towards.

In the afternoon we returned to the school to teach English through song, nursery rhymes, rhythm and games. We worked with almost 100 children. We facilitated indoor and outdoor activities for the children such as the longest jump, football and netball.

Through teaching and communicating with the children we gained an insight into their childhood through the combination of their own songs and games which they taught us. At the end of our stay we left behind all the supplies we brought to work with the children including extra crayons, paper, and games and colouring books. They were very grateful to us because they had none of these supplies within the school.

Our accommodation was very similar to that of a hostel. It was comfortable and had the basics, rooms with beds and toilet/ shower. The food we ate was mainly carbohydrate based. Similar to what we have in Ireland such as rice and pasta but cooked over a firebase on the floor. We also had ugali, the traditional maize dish which tastes like very bland semolina. The meat was also very different to what we are used to. Twice we had it but it was mostly bones.

We had a valuable experience while in Tanzania and also made some new friends. We are working now on ways to share what we have learned and raise awareness of the developing world with other young people in Ireland.

Participation

In 2010 Youth Work Ireland achieved some key milestones in our participation work.

Participation Seminar for Policy Makers and Service Providers

In 2010 Youth Work Ireland worked to engage with the entire Irish Youth Work sector to promote and develop support for its beliefs about youth participation. As part of our commitments within our strategic plan to take a leadership role in the Irish Youth Work Sector in relation to policy and practice, Youth Work Ireland provided a seminar in March of 2010 to promote and develop strength based approaches to youth participation in the Irish Youth Work Sector. This seminar brought together the key decision makers service providers, academics and policy makers in the Irish Youth Work sector to examine current youth participation initiatives and to work to ensure that practice, policy and programmes to involve young people in decision making take into account and work from the strengths of young people.

Research on Youth Participation

Youth Work Ireland also undertook an initiative in 2010 to deepen and share its understanding of strength based approaches to youth participation through developing a peer-reviewed, evidence-based paper which sets out Youth Work Ireland's beliefs and values in relation to strengths based approaches to youth participation and how these impact on policy, practice and service provision. The paper was presented at Youth Needs in the 21st century – *Youth Work, Young People and Youth Policy*.



Developing and Ratifying a Participation Policy

In 2010 Youth Work Ireland ratified a new National Office Youth Participation Policy that provides for the organisational change required to embrace and support the involvement of young people in the organisation, in their communities and in society. This policy articulates the principles and commitments of Youth Work Ireland in relation to youth participation and rights as they are identified within the current strategic plan and through a Survey of member services conducted in 2008.

Developing a Participation Proofing Mechanism

As part of the commitments in the new Participation Policy, 2010 saw work to develop, pilot and implement a Participation Proofing to ensure that all of our work in the National Office is measured and referenced against our commitment to youth participation and rights. This mechanism ensures policy integration as it is embedded in the central decision-making processes within the National Office and serves to challenge all staff to involve young people in a principled way in our decisions.

Ensuring Participation in Quality Standards

Quality Standards are an important tool in ensuring the ongoing improvement and harmonisation of practice, as well as higher levels of organisational efficiency and impact. The redevelopment of the Youth Work Ireland Quality Standards Framework in 2010 saw new measures introduced to involve young people in a number of ways in order to insure that these beliefs, as well as the experience and perspective of young people is included. Firstly, it has been agreed that young people will be involved in the current process of revising the Quality Standards Framework. Secondly, the new version of the standards will provide for young people to be involved in the Assessment Preparation Teams for the Assessment process. Thirdly, young people are to be involved in providing evidence during the assessment process.

Supporting the Office of the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs (OMCYA) Participation Team

A great deal of effort and energy in terms of Youth Participation in Youth Work Ireland goes to supporting the work of the OMCYA participation team. Youth Work Ireland assisted in the provision of a number of consultation events for young people including consultations on the Department of Justice White Paper on Crime and the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment Junior Cycle Reform Consultation. Additionally, support was provided on the provision of Dáil na nÓg and Comhairle na nÓg.

Supporting the Development of a National Matching Grants Programme

Real opportunities for young people to become involved in change in their communities are vital if our other beliefs are to have meaning. Youth Work Ireland national office is working to support and promote its members' initiatives to provide opportunities for young people to exercise their rights as active young citizens. In 2010 two Youth Work Ireland Member Services began work to implementing and document pilot schemes to put in practice an asset-based approach through a youth-led matching fund programme for young people's community projects. Youth Work Ireland Ireland is supporting a long-term plan for these projects through assisting to evaluate, manualise, promote and provide training to replicate these projects in other YWI member services.

Youth Participation Training for YWI Member Services Staff

Skills around youth participation are vital for youth workers if they are to truly support young people to have their voices heard. Youth Work Ireland worked in the last year to ensure that staff amongst its services had core skills, knowledge and attitudes in relation to youth participation. Through a series of workshops, more than 150 staff from 19 Youth Work Ireland Member Youth Services came together to explore strength based approaches to youth work and youth participation. These workshops employed appreciative inquiry to identify and document effective practice which is currently taking place within Youth Work Ireland services to engage young people as active citizens in their communities. This practice was underpinned by the sharing of learning from practice internationally in order to support the continued development of Youth Work practice which supports young people to have their voice heard, to activate their rights and to become active participants in their communities.

YOUTH WORK IRELAND GALWAY

2010 saw the 30th Anniversary of our first paid youth development worker. We have changed a lot over the years but the core has remained the same: a strong belief that all young people should have access to quality youth work services if they choose to avail of them.

Youth Work Ireland, Galway is a voluntary organisation that works with young people in Galway City and county. We do this through supporting communities to set up and deliver youth programmes on a voluntary basis, and by developing services to young people implemented by paid staff. We work in partnership with a number of community groups and statutory bodies in the development and promotion of youth services.

In Galway City we deliver the Ragoon Youth Project (Corrach Bui and Droim Chaoín estates), Westside Youth Project (all of the Westside), CAPE, SPARK, shOUT! and Youth Clubs are city wide supports. In addition the Teen Between an individual service for teens who are experiencing difficulties as a result of parental separation and Rainbows and Spectrum loss and bereavement programmes are run based on need.



Ragoon and Westside Youth Projects

have a geographic remit and provide a range of supports for young people including recreational activities such as dj and rap, hip hop, art, outdoor education, swimming, cookery, soccer etc based on the interests of the young people in the area. In addition the projects support young people to remain in school with individual tutoring, grinds, after school and in-school programmes. Both projects also provide other development programmes e.g. Copping On (Crime Awareness), Putting the Pieces Together (Drug Awareness), Health and Wellness, Development Education and Environmental Awareness. Contact the project for further information on Teen Between, Rainbows or Spectrum. The projects are funded by the Office of the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs through the City of Galway VEC and are supported locally by Galway City Council, Ragoon Family Centre and Le Cheile. The projects are located in the Corrach Bui Community Centre off Seamus Quirke Road.

CAPE

is a project that delivers peer education training to older teens in the area of Drug Awareness (using Prevention and Harm Reduction strategies). The Worker is based in The Gaf Youth Café and runs activities there and in school settings. It is a partnership initiative with Foroige and is funded by Office of the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs through the City of Galway VEC and supported by the HSE West. It is open to all teens city wide.



SPARK

is an adolescent service for teens from the asylum seeking and refugee communities in Galway City. The worker meets with young people on a one-to-one basis and currently two groups are running cookery and swimming, based on the interest of the participants. Young people who are in Ireland without their parents are prioritised for support. The project is funded by the HSE West. The Worker runs a drop-in service in The Gaf on Wednesday afternoons and accepts referrals (with the permission of the young person) from Social Workers, Teachers, Direct Provision Hostels and from the community or young people can access the project directly.

shOUT! Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Youth Project

has recently launched their meeting space and is open to young people aged 14 years upwards. There is a Saturday Group and an email and text support service and the Worker runs a drop-in service in The Gaf on Thursday afternoons. The Project provides a safe space for young people to explore their identity and share their experience with peers or a leader in a confidential manner. An outreach information and education service is available to schools, clubs, community groups and agencies. The Project is looking at parent supports and ways to develop this service. The project has its own website www.lgbtyouthgalway.com. shOUT! is funded by the Office of the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs through the City of Galway VEC and supported locally by The Gaf and nationally by BeLoNG To.

Youth Clubs

are volunteer led groups that affiliate to Youth Work Ireland. The Clubs have their own committees and structures but are supported through insurance, training and inter-club activities. All Youth Clubs are unique in that they cater for different ages or have a geographic remit or are a community of young people interested in particular activities. Keep The Beat Klub in Castlegar caters for 1st to 6th Class and has teen and adult leaders and develop young people through music and song. You can usually catch them carol singing in Dunnes Stores in Terryland for St Vincent de Paul before Christmas or at their annual

Community BBQ in Castlegar where the young people showcase their year's work. Our Lady's Boys Club on Sea Road has just completed their new Clubhouse and young men from across the city attend club several evenings a week. The Club also run an annual residential summer camp in Claremorris. The Youth Alive Initiative Club in Ballybrit operates six days a week and young people of the Christian faith from right across the city are members. The Q Club is based in Ragoon/Tonabruckly and recently held a very impressive variety show in the Town Hall Theatre and young people performed at the launch of the Youth Work Ireland Galway Strategic Plan. That's a flavour of the city based Clubs. They are unique to the leaders and young people involved. If you are interested in support to start a club, receive training in leadership and child protection or engage with other clubs contact us.

Over 7,000 young people throughout the City and County availed of our services last year and 350 people volunteered their time. We hosted student placements from PLC and 3rd Level Colleges as well as TY and Youthreach. Youth Work Ireland, Galway is managed by a voluntary Board of Directors.

- For contact details of the Project or Clubs Workers – Check out our website www.youthworkgalway.ie
- For further information on any of our services – Contact 091 561637 or info@youthworkgalway.ie or on Facebook.



Irish Youth Work Centre

Policy and Practice Development

Youth Work Ireland in its current Strategic Plan commits itself to creating a climate where the right of young people to participate equally in decisions affecting them is realised. In 2010 the organisation developed the following resources on equality and youth participation to support this stated objective:

- Youth Work Ireland Equality Policy
- Youth Work Ireland Youth Participation Policy
- Youth Work Ireland Youth Participation Action Framework

The issue of the safe use of social networking tools and social media by young people has created much debate in recent times and Youth Work Ireland put considerable time and effort in 2010 into developing good and safe practice resources in this area, producing the following materials:

- **Safe Social Networking: Guidelines for those working with young people**
- **Safe Surfing: Guidelines for safe Internet use for young people and those who work with them**
- **Social Media Networking Learning Resource Pack**
- **Appropriate Use of Social Networking Tools: Guidelines for Youth Work Staff and Volunteers**

In 2010 Youth Work Ireland also produced revised **Dealing with Drugs, Alcohol and Tobacco in Youth Work Settings: Guidelines for Youth Workers** and developed a **Job Planning, Supervision and Performance Review System**, an integrated system including Support & Supervision and Performance Review, to support staff in their work and ensure that the goals of the organisation are achieved. It was piloted in National Office and was made available to Member Youth Services to adapt to their local needs.

IYWC Training

The IYWC Training workshop programme has begun to be shaped and informed by gaps emerging from an analysis of Quality Standards Assessments undertaken by the organisation to date and these assessments will continue to inform and shape the future composition of the Training Calendar.

In 2010 an expanded training programme was planned and delivered by the Irish Youth Work Centre including workshops on; **Effective Recording and Report Writing Skills; Programme Planning in Youth Work; Staff Supervision for Youth Work; Effective Evaluation in Youth Work; Strategic Planning in Youth Work**. All these workshops received very strong evaluations.

Research

The sixth and seventh editions of **Youth Studies Ireland** were published in 2010. Youth work featured heavily in 2010 with articles on the benefits of youth work and guidelines for good youth work practice as did the experience and opinions of young people on issues such as sexual health, drug and alcohol use and the Gardai. The IYWC continues to act as a secretariat for the Youth Studies Ireland project, its Editorial Board and Advisory Committee and the production of the journal. In an exciting development the Journal will transfer to an electronic format with a dedicated website in 2011.

Work is also nearing completion on a jointly commissioned partnership research project between the Irish Youth Work Centre and NUI Maynooth. The project will lead to a significant piece of research being published in 2011 on documenting practice and outcomes in youth work and will be accompanied by a resource for practitioners. Kildare Youth Services has acted as the primary case site for this piece of work.



Youth Work Ireland Teen Between Project

Other Publications

IYWC continued to produce **Irish Youth Work Scene**, on a quarterly basis as a vehicle for practitioners to profile new and innovative practice within the sector. The Centre also produced the 14th edition of its annual **Directory of Youth & Community Work Courses**, five editions of the **Current Awareness Update**, a bi-monthly information update for Local Youth Services on events of relevance in the external environment and five editions of its regular **Ezine** for IYWC members.

The Centre through its publishing imprint Irish Youth Work Press also continued its commitment to providing a publish outlet for other agencies and promoting their awareness to the sector. In 2010 this included:

Flying The Coop: A Guide to Students Leaving Home & Going to College and **Study Skills** both developed by *Youth Work Ireland Roscommon/N.E. Galway*.

Finally, in 2010 the Irish Youth Work Centre completed its rebranding process launching its new logo, website and webshop www.iywc.ie.

Work continued with the **Marriage and Relationship Counselling Service** to deliver the joint Teen Between Project established in 1998 and operating around the country. There was a significant expansion in training in 2010 with two full basic **Teen Between Training Programmes** and **Communications and Listening Skills Workshops** being planned and delivered and further expanding in order to develop the local sustainability of each service and increase to 60 workers now delivering the service in almost 50 locations in 12 Member Youth Services. Further **Supervision Skills Training** was also delivered in 2010 to increase the capacity building within the project.

Newly redesigned Teen Between service brochures and large posters were also developed by MRCS and Youth Work Ireland for local Teen Between services. Both the brochure and poster have individualised local service information/profiles for each respective Member Youth Service who is providing the service. Youth Work Ireland also now has a dedicated page on the Teen Between website www.teenbetween.ie



CDYS YOUTH WORK IRELAND (CO CORK)



2010 was another fantastic year for CDYS Youth Work Ireland. Based in Cork County, CDYS is made up of projects based in Mallow, Fermoy, Midleton, Cobh and Macroom as well as a number of rural youth clubs.

CDYS has always been committed to providing a quality youth service to local community and 2010 was no different. Young people who participated in the various projects were empowered to achieve their dreams. Whether their dream was to be a rock star, a movie star or be a carpenter, projects were provided to meet their needs. CDYS also ran a number of support programmes for young people and their parents such as Rainbows, Teen Between and Strengthening families. There are plans to roll out even more of these programmes in the coming year.

The Mallow Sports and Leisure Awards acknowledged the fantastic work of our volunteers by awarding them the Community Care award for 2011. This is a well deserved reward for this fantastic group of people who generously give up so much of their own time to enhance others.

CDYS has begun the process to achieving Ireland's national standard for human resource management Excellence Through People and they hope to achieve this award later this year.

Five years of hard work finally paid off last year with the announcement that CDYS has been granted a 25 year lease to Fermoy's old fire station. Work to transform the building into a state of the art Youth facility is due to be completed before the end of the year.

With the introduction of even more exciting projects and programmes in the year ahead it promises to be exciting times for CDYS.



Irish Youth Music Awards

2010 saw the Irish Youth Music Awards go from strength to strength with a new venue at the Liberty Hall Theatre and more new locations added for local selection nights. The Delorentos provided the wow factor at the interval.

Twenty-six bands and their music teams took part in the day's events and **Laois band Bebop & Rocksteady were awarded the top gong on the day.** Since then, Bebop & Rocksteady and nine other acts from their home county Laois and Cork East (who gave Laois a good run for their money) were given recording time at the legendary **Ashtown Studios** in Dublin.

Each band had the opportunity to work with professional producers and lay down their own original tracks. For most, it was their first exciting venture into a real studio! And the music they made was, once again, beyond anyone's wildest expectations!

The end result is the CD '**Girls & Boys – the IYMA's Volume 3**' a 15 track collection of songs released on **Friday 19th November** in shops and online!

A new IYMA's video was produced in 2010 and is available at www.iymaspace.ie



DONEGAL YOUTH SERVICE

Shay Given of Manchester City and Republic of Ireland supported Youth Work Ireland National Games in June 2010. Given endorsed the games competition which has been running for almost 50 years on the first occasion the event has come to Donegal.

The Republic of Ireland goalkeeper said,



The Games provide a great opportunity for young people to get involved in sport and other activities and to showcase their talents. It is also great to see an event of this nature coming to Donegal and is a huge boost for the county.

Shay continued,

Growing up in this county I took part in many different sports and activities and it was a really great way for me to get to meet a lot of new people and improve myself. The Youth Work Ireland national games provide young people with the opportunity to test themselves against young people from all over Ireland and to have some fun at the same time. I wish all the competitors the very best of luck.



Shay Given backs Youth Work Ireland National Games arrival in Donegal with Donegal Youth Service Staff, **Marty Keeney**, **Sheena Boyle**, **Lorraine Thompson** and **Gareth Gibson**.

MEATH YOUTH FEDERATION Annual Camps



MY Easter Camp 2010

The annual Easter Camp was held during the lead up to Easter Sunday. There were twenty three attendees between the age of 8 and 12 at the four day camp. Activities included Easter Card making, colouring, cookery, games, egg hunt and egg decorating.

We also had a visit from Dave's Jungle, who brought along a range of exotic animals including snakes, scorpions, lizards, spiders, a cockatoo and a Cayman crocodile. The attendees were allowed to touch and hold the animals and received lots of educational information.

The Easter Camp was very successful and the young people who attended provided excellent feedback.

We would like to give a huge thank you to all volunteers who gave their help and time in attending the camp.

MY X-Factor 2010

Once again X-Factor was a huge success. This year's event was held in Clonmellon.

There were ten entries with a great range of songs.

There was also a guest appearance from local dance act Rockin Robin.

The X-Factor result was;

Winner – *Amy Clancy*, Clonmellon

2nd Place – *Stephen Emmett*, Meath Autism Navan

3rd Place – *Emma Clement*, Enfield

We would like to give a huge thanks to all the entrants on the day and also to the volunteers who gave their time to make the event possible.

Here's to a bigger and better X-Factor 2011! How can we top 2010??

Programmes 2010

Youth Work Ireland Programmes for 2010 included Variety, Games and Nollaig.

Games 2010

Games 2010 as usual proved very popular. This years Soccer events were hosted by Youth Work Ireland Louth and FDYS Youth Work Ireland. Eleven Local Youth Services took part over the two Saturdays in April.

On the weekend of June 26th, Donegal Youth Service hosted the National Finals of Youth Work Ireland Games. This was the first time a Local Youth Service took on the organising and running of the National Finals with the support of National Office. This weekend event seen over 500 young people take part in events from Basketball to Chess. Both semi finals and finals were run over the two days. Below are the results of the weekend.

EVENT

DRAUGHTS U.15

DRAUGHTS U.18

UNI HOC U.15

UNI HOC U.18

HIP HOP

BASKETBALL U.15

BASKETBALL U.18

5 A SIDE FEMALE U.15

5 A SIDE FEMALE U.18

5 A SIDE MALE U.15

5 A SIDE MALE U.18

TABLE QUIZ U.15

TABLE QUIZ U.18

TABLE TENNIS FEMALE U.15

TABLE TENNIS FEMALE U.18

TABLE TENNIS MALE U.15

TABLE TENNIS MALE U.18

CHESS U.15

CHESS UNDER 18

RUNNER UP

Lee Crawford Doneyloop Youth Club, Donegal

Jason Brennan PTAA, North Connaught

Ballygarrett Youth Club, FDYS

Muff Youth Club, Donegal

Kilrush Youth Club, Clare

Ballycanew Youth Club, FDYS

Club Oige Christ Ri, Donegal

Hugginstown Youth Club, Ossory

Fanad Youth Club, Donegal

Ballyheigue Youth Club, Kerry

Club Oige Christ Ri, Donegal

Templeshannon Youth Club, FDYS

Caherdaniel Youth Club, Kerry

Shauna Foley Caim Youth Club, FDYS

Laura Dunworth Ramelton Youth Club, Donegal

Michael Connors Carlow

Oisin Duffy Remelton Youth Club, Donegal

No runner up.

Diarmuid Neville Oylegate Youth Club (FDYS)

WINNER

Ryan Henry Ballylongford Youth Club, Kerry

Rory O'Connor Ballylongford Youth Club, Kerry

Kilnaboy Youth Club, Clare

Oylegate Youth Club, FDYS

Southside Youth Club, Louth

Killeentierna Youth Club, Kerry

Killeentierna Youth Club, Kerry

Fanad Youth Club, Donegal

Portmagee Youth Club, Kerry

Clonard Youth Club, FDYS

Mullingar Youth Project, Midlands

Muff Youth Club, Donegal

Templemore Youth Club, Tipperary

Katie McAndrew Club Inferno, North Connaught

Brid McAndrew Club Inferno, North Connaught

Lewis Nealon Club Inferno, North Connaught

Alan Ginty Club Inferno, North Connaught

Craig Maloney PTAA, North Connaught

Daniel Neville Oylegate Youth Club (FDYS)





Variety 2010

Youth Work Irelands Variety Show 2010 was equally as popular as previous years. With 13 Local Youth Services taking part over three Area Events.

2010 saw Variety Area Events hosted by Youth Work Ireland Louth, FDYS Youth Work Ireland and Kerry Diocesan Youth Service. A total of 55 acts took to the stage over these three events.

The National Finals of Variety 2010 moved to a new venue in Mary Immaculate College in Limerick. The finals were held on 13 March 2010. Twenty Five acts took to the stage representing twenty clubs and over eighty young people.

The following are the results from the day:

GROUP SINGING

Caherciveen Youth Club, Kerry Diocesan Youth Service

SOLO SINGING

Kilmallock Youth Club, Limerick Youth Service

GROUP INSTRUMENTAL

Fanad Youth Club, Donegal Youth Service

SOLO INSTRUMENTAL

St Senans Youth Club, Kerry Diocesan Youth Service

COMEDY

Ballygarrett Youth Club, FDYS YWI

DRAMA

Doohamlet Youth Club, YWI Monaghan

DUAIS NA GAELIGE

Portmagee Youth Club, Kerry Diocesan Youth Service

SPOTLIGHT

Malin Head Youth Club, Donegal Youth Service

SHOWDANCE

Sixmilebridge Youth Club, Clare Youth Service

CREATIVE DANCE

Cappamore Youth Club, Tipperary Regional Youth Service



Nollaig 2010

Design a Christmas Card

The annual Nollaig competition took place in November 2010. Over 350 entries were received from a number of Local Youth Services.

After adjudicating the entries, three category winners and an overall winner were chosen. The overall winners card was used as Youth Work Irelands Christmas card and was used on the Youth Work Ireland website for December.

The category winners were:

OVERALL WINNER

Chelsie McCusker, Rhode Youth Club
Midlands Regional Youth Service

WINNER 7-11

Orla Smith, Moville Youth Club
Donegal Youth Service

WINNER 12-15

Rebecca Collins, Kilnaboy Youth Club
Clare Youth Service

WINNER 16-18

Teresa Mullin, Malin Head Youth Club
Donegal Youth Service



YOUTH WORK IRELAND CORK



The Gurrabraher Arts Programme, Youth Work Ireland Cork, teaches art in a fun way, they explore and develop different skills in drawing, papermaking, comic books, puppets, animation, clay, knitting, painting and much much more.

Within the arts programme, there is a music programme where young people learn basics in piano, guitar, singing and percussion and a rapping music project which works with teenagers developing beats, rapping, lyrics and recording tracks.

RTÉ's *Arena* programme interviewed rappers from The Gurrabraher Arts Programme in Gurrabraher in April 2010.

Gurrabraher Youth Circus:

The aims were for the group to learn various circus skills, such as juggling, acrobats, clowning, plate spinning and human pyramids. The Circus has been established now for a year and have reached the stage where they feel confident in public performance. The group have taken part in the St. Patrick's Day parade, Halloween Festival in Shandon and in the community centre in Gurrabraher. They have learned how to develop characters and to make costumes for shows are very eager to keep performing. So instead of wishing they could run away and join the circus, they can freely attend circus skills practice weekly on their door step.

Arts4All:

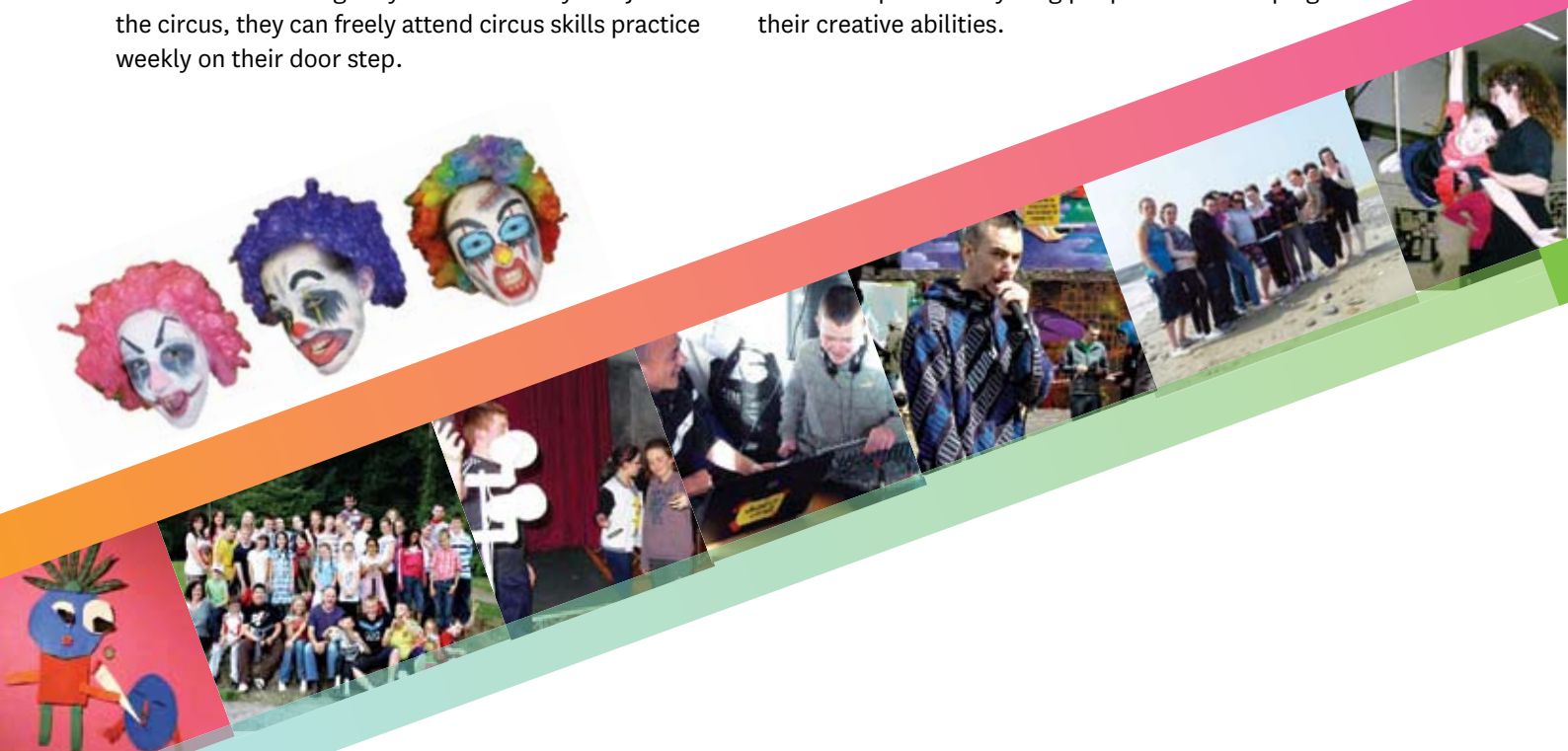
A project for children aged 8-12 years of mixed abilities funded by the Cork City Council Arts Development Fund. A series of creative workshops to develop interactive and creative skills.

Theatre:

This project was a youth initiative funded by Léargas and the Youth In Action Programme. (April 2010 - April 2011) It covers all elements of theatre from set design, sound production to script writing and performing. The final production portrayed an insight into young peoples experiences of bullying and how important it is for us all to be open minded and inclusive. (Soon will be available to view on our website - <http://ywicork.com>)

Rappers/ Singers:

This project also is youth initiative funded by Léargas and the Youth In Action Programme (Jan 2011 - Dec 2011). This image was taken on a team building trip away in West Cork. The group are currently writing songs and rap which they will be soon performing at public events. The project aims to provide equal opportunity and access to wider participation in music programmes. It aims for participants to develop skills in expressing their views on issues that are important to young people and developing their creative abilities.



LEITRIM Goes to Court

2010 saw the conversion of two disused courthouses into Youth Cafés. The youth cafés in Drumshanbo and Drumkeerin, Co. Leitrim proved a big hit with young people.



It's a place where you can sit and talk without getting into trouble.



Both buildings once housed courthouses and health centres and were disused for a number of years. Following research carried out, the need for a youth focused space where young people could meet and socialise was identified. Meetings involving North Connaught Youth Service, Leitrim Co. Council, young people, parents and Leitrim Development Co took place, following which Leitrim Co. Council agreed to lease the building to North Connaught once we got funding to renovate them.

Funding from the Leitrim Development Company Rural Development Programme was secured, resulting in the buildings being developed into high quality youth facilities. Grants from the AIB, Better Ireland Awards and the Irish Youth Foundation also contributed to the development of the courthouses to youth cafés.

So the term "Going to Court" now has a new positive meaning in Leitrim. Being a rural county a core rule is to leave your wellies at the front door as can be seen from the photograph!



It gives us a chance to chill in a nice place.



Voices of Youth



Voices of Youth are an organisation of young people that are interested in getting young people's views across.

Voices of Youth Blog at www.voicesofyouth.wordpress.com.

We want to promote the achievements of young people in our country. As well as drawing attention to important issues surrounding young people. Voices of Youth are a group by the young people, about the young people, for the young people.

2010 was the busiest year for the group yet, a selection of activities being...

UK Youth Voice at Avon Tyrell

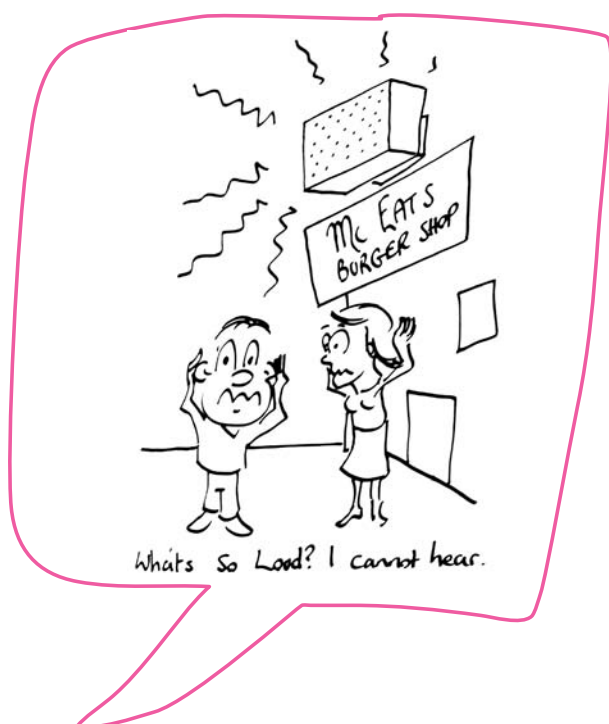
A large delegation from the group attended the UK Youth Voice conference during the summer deep in the new forest at UK Youth's activity centre Avon Tyrell. The weekend conference is very similar to the work of Voices of Youth encouraging young people to have their voice heard in an unmediated way. Participation in this event was supported by the Causeway Programme.

Mosquito Campaign

Voices of Youth in association with Youth Work Ireland continued to campaign against and raise awareness of the Mosquito Device which indiscriminately targets young people and children supposedly to stop anti-social behaviour.

During 2010 Voices of Youth held youth led awareness events about the Mosquito all over Ireland engaging with thousands of young people. Some of the illustrations of this event are included on these pages. This was supported by the Léargas Youth in Action Programme. The Council of Europe has also recently called for an all out ban on the device.

The conclusion of all this work was to forward any issues to the Equality Authority and Human Rights Commission.



Illustrations: Garry Kendellen





Head Shops and Drugs.ie

Voices of Youth has long raised concerns about issues relating to head Shops. In 2010 the Government finally introduced laws in this area. However the group always felt that there was not enough information for young people about legal highs and their affects. In 2010 Voices of Youth assisted the HSE in its launch of information on Drugs.ie on legal highs. It was an important aspect of the participation that members of the group were able to speak and give their own take and experience on the issue.



Continuing to Blog and Facebook

The Blog continues to be a major focus of the groups work and they can now be found on Facebook. The group received media coverage on the Last Word, TV3 and several regional papers.



MIDLANDS REGIONAL YOUTH SERVICE LTD

One of the major highlights of the year was a programme called the 'BLAST' programme. This programme was co-ordinated and presented by Athlone Youth Information Centre. The BLAST course facilitated and educated young people from the Westmeath area to participate in a comprehensive training weekend, which was both appropriate and fun with the outcome being that they left the training sessions with the ability to take a babysitting job seriously.

BLAST stands for **B**abysitting **L**essons **A**nd **S**afety **T**raining. The course content included;

- Before saying yes to a job
- When a stranger calls
- House rules and routines
- Safety rules
- Fire
- Nappy changing
- Bottle feeding
- Winding a baby
- Feeding time
- Crying
- Preparing for bed
- Behaviour
- Discipline
- Sitters checklist
- First aid
- Emergency procedures
- Calling 999 or 112
- CPR for ages 1 to 8 years
- CPR for ages 0 to 12 months
- Nutrition
- Choking for ages 0 to 12 months and 1 to 8 years
- Games and songs
- Kids fun

The most important objective of this awesome course was that it allowed and provided an opportunity for young people to hear, learn and discuss issues and experiences that may be important to young people who are being entrusted and paid to care for other people's children. The group of fourteen were very active and interested in the course, and learned a lot from the facilitators and other young people on the course. Young people felt that the course was fantastic for now, in being able to advertise and apply for babysitting jobs, the young people also felt that they would retain the knowledge and education from this practical course in years to come, when they would or could be having families of their own.

There were 168 application forms received by Athlone Youth Information Centre, and 14 young people were selected to participate. It is felt that if the course was ran again, it would receive the same large response.





The Objectives of the BLAST programme;

- Having completed this course young people will demonstrate knowledge, understanding and skills to meet the needs of children and babies in a way that promotes health and well-being.
- To teach the young people first aid using a qualified instructor.
- To empower young people to learn and demonstrate the ability to promote a safe environment for children in their care.
- To ensure young people will be able to carry out a stimulating activity and practical care with young children and babies.
- To teach participants that babysitting is a responsibility.
- To familiarize the participants with the responsibilities of babysitting.
- To provide the participants with the information necessary to become good babysitters.
- To teach the participants skills needed to become good babysitters.
- To develop confidence in handling the situations that may be encountered when babysitting.
- To develop a positive attitude towards the care of children.

Young people who participated on this course left with the knowledge, skills and confidence to work with young children and babies. They completed a first aid session with a qualified first aid instructor and had practical examples of working with children by using “real baby” dolls, for feeding, changing and their first aid CPR.

According to the evaluation young people would feel 100% confident in completing any task with and infant or a child.

Young people left with a certificate to present to future employers, which also, according to the young people left them with more confidence and empowered them to seek employment in this area.

Young people suggested that the skills that they learned will also help them with their cousins, younger siblings and in the future with their own children.

All in all, this BLAST course proved to be very interesting and appropriate to young people. It is hoped that it will be run annually by Athlone Youth Information Centre, and anyone wishing to receive a copy of the programme plan can contact Edweena in Athlone Youth Information Centre, c/o Midlands Regional Youth Service, 13 Church Street, Athlone, Co. Westmeath or email info@mrys.org

State hit with €170m bill as 8,500 join ranks of the jobless

Fiach Kelly
Political Correspondent

THE DEPLETED public finances took a further €170m "hit" last month as 8,500 more people joined dole queues.

The unemployment crisis deepened dramatically after new figures revealed the number of jobless had surpassed 450,000 for the first time.

The Government was also accused of failing younger people in the workforce, with Fine Gael and **Youth Work Ireland** highlighting the number of under-30s who are unemployed.

There are now 452,500 on the Live Register, the biggest rise in the seasonally adjusted figure for a year, and the unemployment rate has risen from 13.4pc in June to 13.7pc.

It has increased by 34,400 since this time last year and the largest monthly jump in unemployment came among professional workers, up by 12.3pc. Professionals now account for one in six people out of work. More women than men were added to the register during July, with an additional 4,600 women and 3,900 men signing on.

However, the Department of Finance last night insisted its budgetary plans were still on track and said unemployment would have to rise to around 485,000 by the end of the year to have an effect on its strategy.

It is estimated every person who loses his/her job costs the State €20,000 a year through lost taxes and increased social welfare payments.

The department could not say if the €170m hit the State had taken through the latest jobless figures would mean December's Budget - which has to find €3bn in taxes and cuts - will be even tougher.

"The budget will be decided in December so we'll have to look at the figures then," a

spokesman for Finance Minister Brian Lenihan told the *Irish Independent*.

Estimates

When planning the Budget last December, Mr Lenihan allowed for an average of 468,000 people to be jobless this year.

His spokesman said officials thought it was extremely unlikely the budgetary estimates would be exceeded.

Fine Gael's enterprise spokesman Richard Bruton said the impact on younger people was "very worrying".

"Over 80pc of the jobs that have been lost in the past two years have been among those aged under 30," he said.

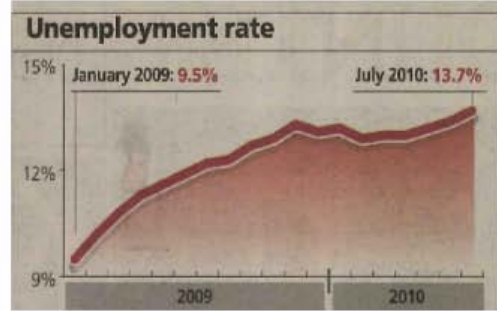
"Unemployment rates among people under 25 are over 33pc and over a third of the young people who have become unemployed are already classed as long-term unemployed - out of work for over a year," he said.

"The first wave of unemployment hit construction and manufacturing where 180,000 jobs were wiped out, mainly for men. Now we see a second phase with huge job losses hitting white-collar workers, mainly women, as the recession takes hold."

Youth Work Ireland said unemployment among younger people had to be tackled since "nobody wants to see a whole generation cast aside".

But Enterprise Minister Batt O'Keefe said a rise in the number of people on the dole was common in the summer due to seasonal factors.

Labour's Willie Penrose said the Government had a strategy to rescue the banks and introduce cutbacks but had no strategy to tackle unemployment.



Irish Independent,
Friday, August 6, 2010
Page: 10

Irish Examiner
Wednesday,
May 12, 2010
Page: 5

Sellers of 'legal highs' risk life in prison

by **Colm Kolpe**

ANYONE caught selling so-called legal highs - which include cocaine, cannabis and ecstasy substitutes - face up to life imprisonment for unlawful supply.

Anyone caught in possession of the outlawed drugs faces up to seven years in jail and/or a fine.

The Government has also approved new legislation put forward by Justice Minister Dermot Ahern to make it illegal to sell or supply substances not covered under the revised Misuse of Drugs Act but that have psychoactive effects.

It will now be an offence to import, export, produce, supply or possess these substances where they are to be used for the purpose of human ingestion except for flavouring in food.

Health Minister Mary Harney published the revised list with store owners and workers threatened with the harshest penalty on the statute book. "These substances are

dangerous and their sale and promotion have caused huge anxiety to families and communities throughout the country," said Ms Harney.

"Their possession and supply are now illegal and subject to criminal sanction."

Ms Harney continued: "This means that the reckless, irresponsible people who have sold and promoted them must safely dispose of every product containing even one of the substances immediately. Otherwise they could face criminal prosecution."

"They cannot sell, supply, possess or distribute this stock, with effect from the start of today."

Ms Harney said she was confident gardai will enforce this law rigorously.

Drugs Minister Pat Carey said the measures will send out a clear signal, especially to young people, about the dangers of psychoactive substances sold in head shops.

"The controls constitute a

significant measure to tackle the issue of the psychoactive substances currently being supplied here in Ireland via the internet and through head shops," he said.

"Psychoactive products on sale in Ireland will continue to be monitored and any other products with a detrimental health effect will be added to the list of controlled substances."

The laws were welcomed by the opposition but Sinn Féin claimed the reforms could have gone further to tackle new products coming into the market and to avoid the risk of loopholes.

Campaigners urged the Government to ensure no loopholes remain.

Youth Work Ireland warned there are many other substances which the clampdown may not cover and that online sales of so-called legal highs were rapidly outstripping the high street trade.

Reform of Leaving Cert urged by group

Youth Work cites findings by ESRI on student stress

PAMELA NEWENHAM

THE LEAVING Cert curriculum needs to be recast to reflect the fundamental principles of education and to take account of best practice internationally, a leading youth organisation has said.

Youth Work Ireland made its call for widespread reform of the curriculum following research by the Economic and Social Research Institute (ESRI) which highlights the negative effect of the exams on the health of students.

The preliminary findings of the *Post-Primary Longitudinal Study*, carried out for the National Council of Curriculum and Assessment (NCCA), show four out of 10 Leaving Cert students lose sleep because of worry.

The study of 900 students in 12 case-study schools, to be published later this year, shows a higher level of stress among girls doing the Leaving Cert, according to Emer Smyth, research professor with the ESRI. She said the findings were consistent with international research which shows high levels of stress among students taking final second-level exams.

The research shows girls spend longer on their homework than boys, an average of four hours or more per night, while boys tend to study for an hour or less, she said.

Youth Work Ireland said there is need for a much wider debate involving continuous assessment, credit systems, team working, critical thinking and industry linkage.

The group warned the process needs to look at the exam and syllabus in the broadest way and focus on the interests of young people by involving them in changes.

Michael McLoughlin, director of central services with **Youth Work Ireland**, said: "Many do well out of the Leaving Cert but the enormous build-up of pressure coupled with our persistently high drop-out rates must spur on the reform process... Previous reforms such as the Leaving Cert Applied, vocational and transition year have shown that mainstream schools can be adapted to serve all young people."

NCCA chair Prof Tom Collins, interim president of National University of Ireland Maynooth, said it was problematic that children from disadvantaged areas continue to underperform in the Leaving Cert points system.

He said there was merit in lottery systems for allocating places for students who meet basic qualifying criteria, adding he would prefer discipline areas to set minimal qualifying criteria. "The portfolio is an interesting option, we have learned more how they can be used and deployed in entrance examinations. I think standardised testing - which we've introduced in medicine - may offer some possibilities, though I am concerned people can cram for those as well."

Speaking to RTE, he said an emerging problem with the points system was the focus of what students are going to do when they get to college tends to be lost in the points race: "I don't have a difficulty with trying to find the best students for the most appropriate courses. The problem at the moment is it is constructed as a race and many children are in a race where they know they are in the wrong racetrack."

Meanwhile, about the up results can a support service "HeadsUp" is based service young people and opening 1 helplines. The viding a dedi Results Corn which offers i how to prep results, handi dealing with s friends and lo

Project ma said: "Headst those young disappointed that the Leavi in itself. Peopl ular exam, the course, or the and return to date. These a options."

HEL The Irish Tin Line, which students advi tomorrow. Th is 18

Irish Times
Tuesday, August 17, 2010
Page: 7

Advocacy, Communications & Fundraising

Youth Work Ireland continued to advocate in connection with the impact of the economic crisis on young people. In particular we have highlighted increases in the Unemployment. Our Budget 2010 Submission emphasised the following –

We have also emphasised the growing problem of emigration related to the growth of unemployment. We have supported calls for the reform of FÁS and the need to strengthen vocational education for example by removing the cap on PLC places and the registration fee for same. We have also continued to voice the need to reform the formal system particularly the Leaving Certificate

Where relevant we have continued to highlight Irelands continuing alcohol problem and its impact on young people, particularly the failure to enforce recent legislative changes and the need for greater action in relation to marketing and promotion.

Our own work and work in partnership with our Voices of Youth Group was very productive in the area of head shops and legal highs with legislation introduced on specific products and on the affects of products. This has made a major difference in this area however concerns still exist about the online environment.

We highlighted the major problems relating to the Garda vetting system in 2010 while also calling for a system of Soft Information. Delays at one stage had reached 8 months. Extra staff have been allocated to the system now and some improvements are evident however delays are still too long and any introduction of soft information could place more pressure on the system.

A Fundraising Strategy was agreed by the Board in 2010 which emphasised growing independent non state income to support our work. The Strategy commits to developing various fundraising approaches in such areas as corporate, individual and events. It also emphasises the importance of branding and marketing in developing this area of our work in the future.



TIPPERARY

Manic Fantastic take to the Radio Waves



In 2010 the TRYS Manic Fantastic Youth Theatre took on a new direction. They were invited by Tip Mid West Radio to produce a play for radio. The group worked with director and radio producer, Jim Keane and produced a play called *Portaferry*. This play was written by local man William Eagan. It was about family, feuding, land and love. The group had a mammoth task ahead of them as they had just four weeks to rehearse and record the play. They need not have worried because on Easter Bank Holiday Monday the play went live on air. There was such a positive reaction to the production that the radio station have asked the group to become partners in another radio play production. The group would like to thank Tipp Mid West Radio and producer/director Jim Keane for the opportunity.

Happy 40th Birthday TRYS

In 2010 Tipperary Regional Youth Service celebrated 40 years helping and supporting young people in our local communities through its many projects and youth clubs. To mark this proud milestone the organisation also launched its new Tipperary Town Youth Centre. In attendance at the launch/birthday party was Minister for Children, Barry Andrews, who launched the new building and also cut the cake with the help of some young people: Luke Corcoran (South Tipp Comhairle), Machaela Coffey (Youth Project member) and Aislynn Burke (Youth Theatre). We had a very special guest in Sr. Mairead who was the first youth worker to be employed by the Cashel and Emly Youth Service as we were then called. Sr. Mairead, with the help of the many youth workers and volunteers through the years, did trojan work to make the youth service the valuable asset it is in our community today. Sr. Mairead took us on a trip down memory lane and talked us through the many struggles with funding and the fun stuff too – all the ups and downs that has made this organisation a vital part of the community today.

Also in attendance was Sean Jackson who is a founder member of TRYS and still volunteers with us today, reminding us of the many people who helped the youth service on its way; as Sr Mairead rightly pointed out *'too many to mention and not enough room to give them the thanks they deserve.'* From initial small beginnings, totally voluntary led, in 1970 through to the appointment of its first staff member (Sr. Mariead) in 1980 to a complement of 17 core staff, 21 FÁS/Rural Social Scheme and 250 volunteers, we have created a proven track record of delivering meaningful supports to young people in both North and South Tipp and East Limerick. And we hope to continue for another 40 years plus.

YOUTH WORK IRELAND MONAGHAN

Come Dine With Me – 5 Teach na nDaoine

– a gastronomic delight! The budding chefs cooking at October’s intergenerational event truly gave the Taste of Monaghan celebrity chefs some stiff competition.

‘The Young Cooks’:

Corey O’Leary, Edel O’Leary, Kaylon O’Leary, Nicola Cooney, Trevor Power and Chloe McGuigan after their successful Come Dine with Teach na nDaoine event.

IncludUS Youth Group

took part in 3 action packed days of summer activities from the 17th to the 19th August. IncludUS is a youth group set up by Youth Work Ireland Monaghan in conjunction with the HSE and with support from the County Childcare Committee for teenagers with special needs and their siblings and friends.



National Conference 2010

CLAIMING OUR SPACE

– Youth Work's Contribution to an Integrated Approach to Meeting the Needs of Young People.



Youth Work Ireland continued its tradition of hosting major conferences for the youth sector in 2010. 'Claiming our Space' sought to provide a reflection on the role of youth services in an integrated approach to working with children and young people. This was intended to kickoff discussions in advance of the framing of a new children's strategy. It also reflected a desire from Youth Work Ireland to reach out to all relevant policy makers and practitioners across the diverse areas involved in services for young people.

This involved considering the original motivation to move towards joined up and integrated approaches to policy and service delivery for children and young people in the children's and youth sector. The conference then examined the contributions of differing and distinct areas which contribute to work with young people today. These contributions came from areas such as education, health, justice and community.

Later in the day there was an opportunity for practitioners to provide examples of how an integrated approach to delivery on the ground operates. The contributions reflected on traditional youth work; work with LGBT young people, drugs work, youth justice and youth cafes.

The proceedings were recorded and are available at <http://www.youthworkireland.ie/site/latest-news/youth-work-ireland-national-conference/>

YOUTH WORK IRELAND ROSCOMMON / NE GALWAY

Youth Info Point & Library *Renew the Cycle!*

St Cuan's Youth Information Point & Library recruited their new youth information officers and all enjoyed their training for the year!! A huge big thank you was given to the outgoing Youth Info officers for having made such an impact on the project and for helping so many of their peers with their information needs.

Ballygar End the Summer

The young people in The Ballygar Youth Project had a great summer and thanks to Galway Rural Development Co. Ltd they took part in a series of fun personal development workshops including Song Writing, Outdoor Pursuits and making their own Music Video.

Castlerea Youth Info Cafe *Get Arty!*

A joint project between the Cafe and the school saw a number of young people creating artwork which reflected youth info and interests in a truly colourful way.

RAD... *Head for the Great Outdoors!*

Happy to be on dry land I want to go home! OMG we did it!. Triathlon participants during the summer programme of RAD Youth project truly out did themselves in completing activities that they never thought themselves possible of

Flying The Coop 2010

This year FTC booklet for students leaving home and going to college ran out of copies completely by May before the college/CAO results season even began, and that was 14,000 copies!



LIMERICK YOUTH SERVICE



2010 was a very eventful and progressive time at Limerick Youth Service. As well as maintaining a busy schedule there were many changes on the ground. Limerick Youth Service was fortunate to secure funding towards the development of Youth Cafes in the Limerick Region and a co-ordinator was appointed in June. An inter-agency steering group was formed to develop a sustainable model for the region. Numbers accessing cafes continue to increase and *The Bands* project continued to grow as part of Lava Javas Youth Cafe with over 30 bands showcasing their talents last year

Kings Island GYDP

made a much anticipated move to Nicholas Street Youth Space. This move was extremely positive as our young people took part in the decorating and official opening of the space as well as participating in the various exciting programmes. *The Car* project, a joint programme with Irishtown GYDP, was aimed at teaching young people the value of cars and car safety. The young people worked on model cars on a weekly basis and this programme was celebrated with a showcase day in John Street. The community Gardai were very much involved and the young people thoroughly enjoyed participating as well as learning new skills and information.

Comhairle na nÓg

In its inaugural year, the Limerick County Comhairle met 10 times culminating with its AGM on November 26th in County Hall where 82 young people from all over Limerick came together in a youth led event to discuss the topic of Youth Mental Health. The key recommendations taken from the AGM will be worked on by the current Comhairle during the year.

DO IT 4 You

12 young people from across Limerick City Regeneration areas took part in an international youth democracy project in 2010. Limerick Youth Service partnered with Ballyfermot Youth Service and two youth groups from Italy for this innovative and exciting project called *DO IT 4 You* (Democratic Opinions Information Technology for Youth). Each group worked over an 18 month period on identifying local and global youth issues. The Limerick group tackled the area of stereotyping illustrated in the creative pieces of art attached. This programme has begun the process of youth democracy filtering through the Limerick Youth Service and proves the strengths our young people have on a local national and international stage tackling issues that affect them and their communities.

The Factory: Southside Youth Space

was officially opened by the then Mayor of Limerick in April 2010. A unique facet of the space is its partnership approach to the management, operation and provision of services to young people primarily living on the Southside of Limerick City but also further



afield. Limerick Youth Service were engaged to take overall operational responsibility of the facility. In addition, Irish Youth Justice agreed to fund the annual rental costs and Limerick Regeneration Agency are grant-aiding the set-up and operational costs. There are a number of independent youth based agencies operating permanently from the Space to facilitate cooperation and coordination of services. These agencies include, however, are not exclusive to, the following:

- Limerick Youth Service
- Southill Outreach
- Limerick South City Youth Initiative
- Le Chéile: Mentoring and Restorative Justice
- Young Persons Probation

The aims and objectives of the Factory is to improve the coordination and quality of youth provision in Limerick City while maintaining and supporting youth centred activities. It is to place itself as the hub of youth activity in the area championing youth work principles and practices, most notably empowering young people to become agents for positive change in their own lives and in their community.

Youthreach

at LYS saw an increased involvement in community based activities including the Joey Hannon Triathlon training and competition, Great Limerick Run and the Youthreach Soccer Tournament. We were delighted to receive an extremely positive WSE report on the operation of our centre carried out by the Department of Education and Skills Inspectorate. A special mention goes to Youthreach learner Myles Casey on his phenomenal success in winning the U/16 Irish Amateur Boxing Championship in April

The West Limerick Youthbank

initiative was planned and developed by staff in Rathkeale SPY in partnership with 16 young people aged 15–17. Many members were recruited from the Transition year class in the local secondary school. They participated in training on a weekend residential trip to Killarney in December. Their aim this year is not only to grant money to groups but they now have to be pro-active in gathering match funding for next year and to maintain a pot of funding to sustain the Youthbank concept.

Operation Weston

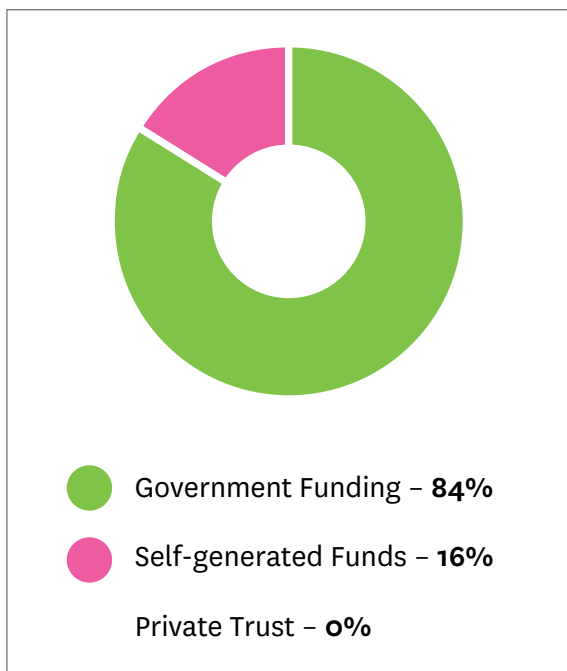
was another innovative youth led response to celebrate the strengths and abilities of young people in local communities. This was a pilot project initiated by Youthwork combining the principles of Asset Based community development with Youth Work Ireland (see Irish Youthwork Scene December 2010).

Financial Report 2010

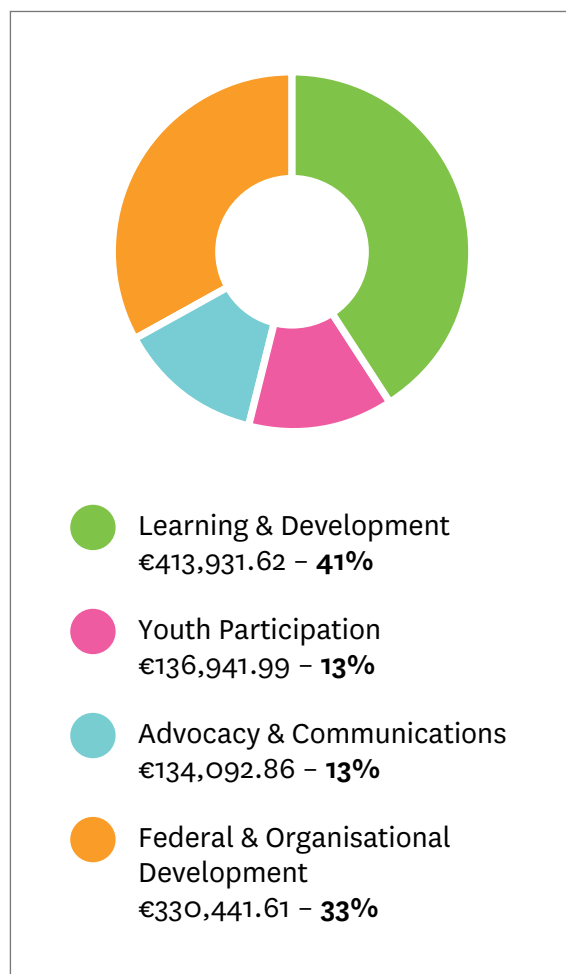
Income:

2010 was yet another very challenging year for Youth Work Ireland with further reductions in Government Grants and market conditions making private income generation and fundraising increasingly difficult. The total income for the year was reduced by approximately €0.5 million when compared to 2009 to just under €9 million. Of this the income specific to the running of Youth Work Ireland National Office was just under €1.5 million and this can be analysed as follows:

Youth Work Ireland Income 2010



Youth Work Ireland Expenditure by Objective Dec 2010

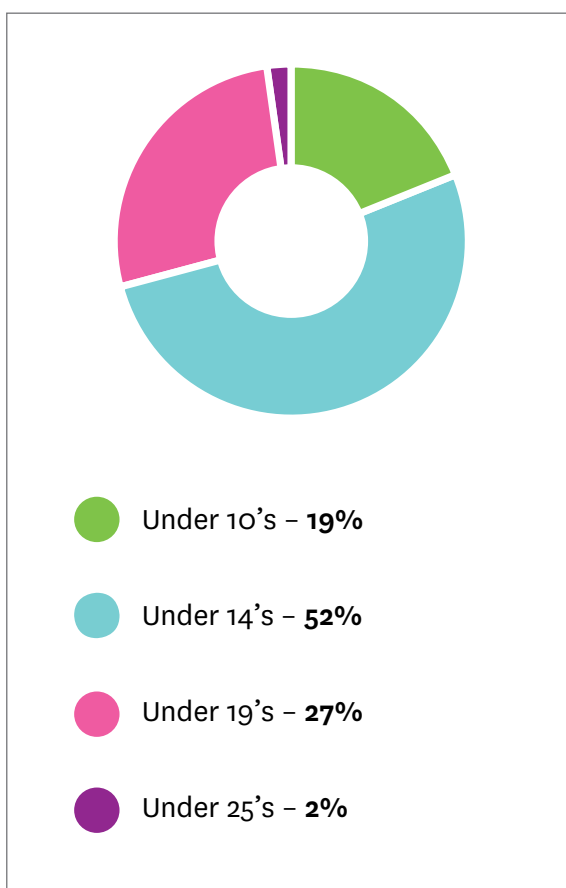


The Balance of the Company's Income is distributed or awarded to our Member Youth Services in different ways. Youth Work Ireland acts as agent for the OMCYA for the distribution of part of the youth service grant, all of the Special Projects for Youth Grant and all of the Youth Information Grant. In 2010 just under €1.5m was distributed in YSG grants, just under €5.1m was distributed in SPY grants and just under €1m in Youth Information grants.

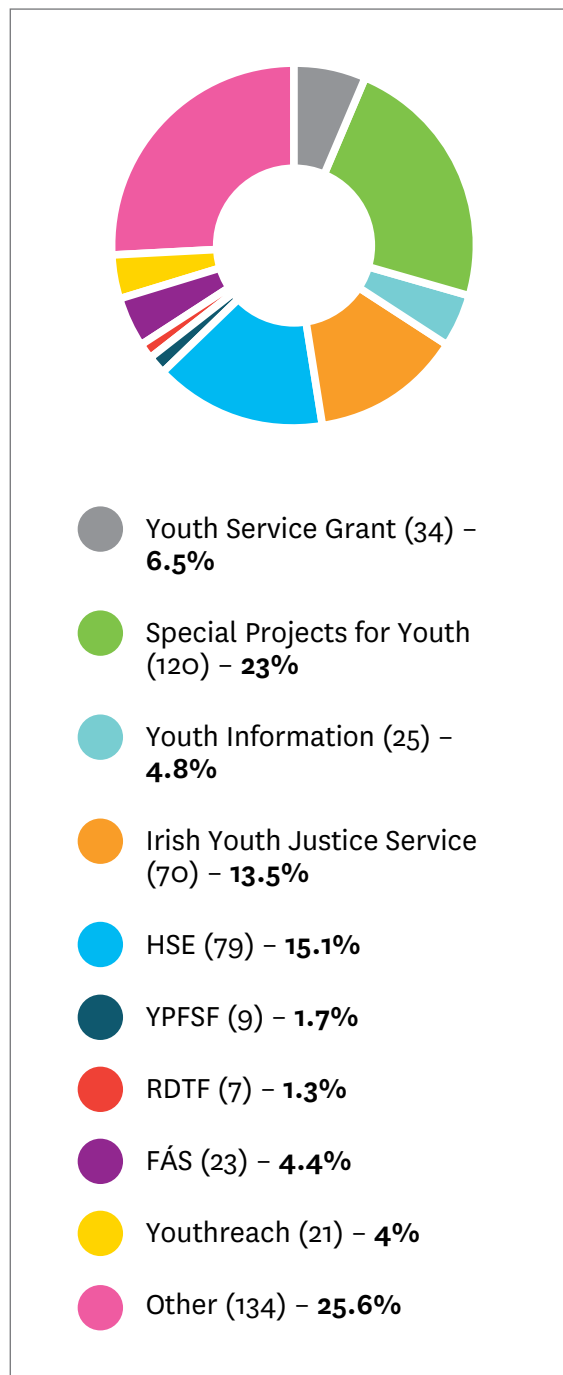
Statistical Breakdowns:

Well over three quarters of all participants are between the ages of 10 and 21 as set out in the Youth Work Act 2001. There are a number of under 10s arising from work such as childcare programmes, after school activities and youth clubs.

Youth Work Ireland – Young People Participating (by Age)



Youth Work Ireland – Staffing by Funders



Youth Work Ireland Members

Canal Communities Regional Youth Service

23 Tyrconnell Road, Inchicore, Dublin 8
T: 01 473 8439 / **F:** 01 473 8440
E: info@ccrys.org
www.ccrys.org

Carlow Regional Youth Service

Montgomery House, Athy Road, Carlow
T: 059 913 0476 / **F:** 059 914 0903
E: carlowys@iol.ie
www.carlowys.ie

Clare Youth Service

Carmody Street, Ennis, Co. Clare
T: 065 684 5350 / **F:** 065 682 9416
E: info@clareyouthservice.org
www.clareyouthservice.org

CDYS Youth Work Ireland

Mallow Community Youth Centre
New Road, Mallow, Cork
T: 022 535 26 / **F:** 022 53456
E: administration@cdys.ie
www.cdys.ie

Donegal Youth Service

16-18 Port Road, Letterkenny, Co Donegal
T: 074 912 9630 / **F:** 074 912 7612
E: dys@eircom.net / yicletterkenny@eircom.net
www.donegalyouthservice.ie

FDYS Youth Work Ireland

Francis Street, Wexford
T: 053 912 3262 / **F:** 053 912 3880
E: fdys@iol.ie
www.youthworkireland.ie/wexford

Youth Work Ireland Galway

41 – 43 Prospect Hill, Galway
T: 091 561 637 / **F:** 091 533 643
E: info@youthworkirelandgalway.ie
www.youthworkgalway.ie

Kildare Youth Services

Canal Stores, Basin Street, Naas, Co. Kildare
T: 045 897 893 / **F:** 045 897 966
E: reception@kys.ie
www.kys.ie

Kerry Diocesan Youth Service

Fairhill, Killarney, Co. Kerry
T: 064 663 1748 / **F:** 064 663 6770
E: killarney@kdys.ie
www.kdys.ie

Youth Work Ireland Laois

Shamrock House, Abbeyleix Road,
Portlaoise, Co Laois
T: 057 866 5010 / **F:** 057 866 5010
E: laoisyouth@gmail.com
www.ywilaois.ie

Limerick Youth Service

5 Lower Glentworth Street, Limerick
T: 061 412 444 / 412 545 / **F:** 061 412 795
E: lys@limerickyouthservice.com
www.limerickyouthservice.com

Youth Work Ireland County Longford

6 Earl Street, Longford
T: 043 455 55 / **F:** 043 486 75
E: longfordyouthservice@gmail.com

Youth Work Ireland Louth

Rivercourt Business Centre, Dundalk, Co Louth
T: 042 933 8323 / **F:** 042 933 7953
E: kevin@lyf.ie

Meath Youth Federation

14 Ludlow Street, Navan, Co Meath
T: 046 902 2707 / **F:** 046 907 5239
E: myfed@eircom.net
www.community.meath.ie

Midlands Regional Youth Services

13 Church Street, Athlone, Co. Westmeath.

T: 090 647 7075 / **F:** 090 647 7076

E: midyouth@eircom.net

www.mrys.org

Youth Work Ireland Monaghan

Enterprise Centre, Castleblayney, Co. Monaghan

T: 042 975 1979 / **F:** 042 975 1932

E: info@ywimonaghan.ie

www.youthworkireland.ie/monaghan

North Connaught Youth Service

Rockwood Parade, Sligo

T: 071 914 5578 / 914 4150 / **F:** 071 914 5578

E: youthservices@eircom.net

Ossory Youth

Desart Hall, New Street, Kilkenny

T: 056 776 1200 / **F:** 056 775 2385

E: admin@ossoryyouth.com

www.www.ossoryyouth.com

Youth Work Ireland Roscommon/ N.E. Galway

19 Abbey Street, Roscommon

T: 090 662 5395 / **F:** 090 662 7398

E: yicrosc@eircom.net

www.www.roscommonyouth.ie

Tipperary Regional Youth Service

Regional Office, Croke Street, Thurles, Tipperary

T: 0504 234 26 / **F:** 0504 238 54

E: trysmanager@eircom.net

www.www.trys.ie

Waterford & South Tipperary Community Youth Service

Edmund Rice Youth & Community Centre

Manor Street, Waterford

T: 051 351 105 / **F:** 051 355 715

E: wrys@iol.ie

Youth Work Ireland Cork

Gurranabraher Youth and Community Resource Centre

11 Gurranabraher Road, Cork City

T: 021 439 9862 / **F:** 021 439 9204

E: admin.youthworkirelandcork@gmail.com





Tomorrows Ireland... Today!

It isn't always easy being young in Ireland today. The economic downturn and the decline in traditional institutions means everybody is worried about the future. It is often said young people are the Ireland of tomorrow, we disagree, **young people are the Ireland of today!**

All around this country by engaging with young people in our communities Youth Work Ireland workers and volunteers make Ireland a better place for young people to develop as active citizens.

Our work ensures young people choose healthy lifestyles, engage with their communities and develop as well rounded citizens today and for the future. By entrusting young people with leadership roles today we know our country is in safe hands tomorrow.

Ireland needs strong and vibrant local youth services in all our communities. Youth Work Ireland makes a real difference to young people's lives today and for the future. Can you help us make a difference to the lives of young people?

STANDING ORDER REQUEST FORM

To: **The Manager**

(Name of Your Bank/Building Society)

Signature(s)

Date:

I/we hereby authorise and request you to debit my/our:

Account Number:

With the sum of (please tick)

€21

€15

€10

Other €

(Print in words)

Starting on the _____ and _____ thereafter until further notice in writing and to credit National Youth Federation Ltd. T/A Youth Work Ireland, at Account number 44514548, Bank of Ireland, O'Connell Street, Dublin 1 (90-00-33).

Please complete this form in full and return it to:

Youth Work Ireland, 20 Dominick Street Lower, Dublin 1.



Keep In Touch

Would you like to receive email updates from us? If yes, please enter your email address.

Email:

If you would prefer to be contacted by phone, please enter your phone number.

Phone:



Youth Work Ireland

Charity No. CHY 18032



Youth Work Ireland Board:

John Gilmore (*President*), Catherine Kelly (*Treasurer*), Glen Guilfoyle, Pat Leahy, Charlene Logue, Wayne Macken, Nicola Moran, Mairead Ni Laoi, Bill Thompson, Tim O'Donoghue.



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