Irish Youth Work Scene

Special Edition
Young People, Politics & Participation

NYF National Youth Poll 2004
International Approaches to Youth Participation
The Youth Bank

JOURNAL FOR YOUTH WORKERS

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POLITICIANS BEWARE!

By DIARMUID KEARNEY

he pre-election frenzy is well and truly with us as politicians vie for airtime and column inches in pursuit of that elusive vote. But will their promises make for a sustainable difference in the lives of young people? If the opinions expressed by young people in the NYF's National Youth Poll are anything to go by, then the answer is no, but let's be open to more positive possibilities.

There are two key issues on the agenda of youth work organisations as we drop that voting slip in the ballot box (for one more time at least). Firstly funding. Will we see the sector continue to be funded at current levels and will we see resources made available for the implementation of the Youth Work Act and The National Youth Work Development Plan? And secondly, will we see young people participate more actively in the decision-making processes which impact on their lives?

Funding has been considered all too often in recent editorials, so we'll concentrate on participation for now. One could easily be mistaken, given the media focus, in believing that all the sector wants is a reduction of the voting age to 16. We have to be clear that this is just one, admittedly, symbolic action, which might bring Irish society to a point where young people are treated with dignity and equality. As youth workers we know that truly engaging young people in decision making leads to a greater sense of inclusion, more effective outcomes and an increased sense of ownership and commitment. If we only pay lip service to this engagement then the outcome is cynicism, disaffection and, even on occasions, revolt.

We are seeing increasing examples of politicians embracing the concept of active participation and this is to be applauded – but a word of warning. Young people are perceptive and critical judges of a political system that they see as largely ineffective in addressing their issues. Insincerity and manipulation will be easily spotted. If participation is to be embraced and valued by young people then it must be real.

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It is open to all readers to exchange information or to put forward your points of view. Send in news, comments, letters or articles to the editor. Views expressed in this journal are the contributor's own and do not reflect those of the National Youth Federation or the Irish YouthWork Centre.

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INTERNATIONAL APPROACHES TO YOUTH PARTICIPATION

By Fran Bissett

I think it would be fair to say that in Ireland, youth services and indeed wider societal structures are still grappling with the concept of youth participation and how to effectively engage young people in decision-making, democracy and the political process in a way that is not tokenistic. This article aims to provide just a flavour of some the innovative and diverse approaches and methodologies that have and are being used internationally to actively engage young people at a policy and decision-making level.

Foundation for Young Australians

The Foundation for Young Australians has demonstrated a commitment to youth consultation, participation and partnership. Its priority funding areas have been based on discussions with over 700 young people throughout Australia in 1993, a subsequent symposium with key stakeholders, and ongoing reviews of the available literature, statistical data and government programs for young people. This has resulted in the following key areas of focus for its programs: employment, education, housing/homelessness, health/mental health, juvenile justice/human rights and civic/youth participation. These are consistent with priority areas adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in March 1996 (United Nations, 1996). In addition, since 1993 the following strategies have been built into the programs and activities:

- Youth representation on its Board of Governors;
- Support of young people's attendance at conferenences and forums, to allow their voices to be heard;
- Making youth participation in the design, implementation and evaluation of its programs a condition of funding;
- Serving as a voice for young people's achievements
- Developing and circulating its Youth Partnership and Participation paper to projects and the wider community, to stimulate effective partnerships with young people.

The Foundation for Young Australians is implementing or plans to implement the following further strategies:

- Involvement of young people on sub-committees, including the provision of appropriate training;
- Development of youth networks from young people involved in its Leadership and Scholarships programs (e.g. CIVICUS meeting);
- A Youth-for-Youth grant making program, allowing young people to recommend the implementation of new projects addressing identified needs;
 - Consideration of consolidating youth participation through a part-time youth liaison officer in the future:

Good Practice Projects

In particular, four Foundation for Young Australians funded projects provide good examples of youth participation practices. One was a research project on "Young People and the Criminal Economy". It employed peer interviewing methods where young people interviewed other young people. By allowing young people to speak for themselves and discuss issues relating to the formal and informal economy, it enabled young people to have a voice in policies that concerned their well-being.

The "Melton Youth Access Audit Team" Project allowed young people to work in partnership with local government to improve their access to public spaces and community facilities. Young people were involved in the planning and implementation of the project, and were given a voice in local government, by collecting the views of young people, establishing a rating process to encourage local space providers to be youth-friendly, and appointing a young Access Audit Worker to the council.

The International Youth Exchange Program, a joint initiative of the Foundation for Young Australians, Levi Strauss and the Myer Foundation, provides funding for young people to travel overseas to participate in international community projects. Applicants travel in small groups during a two to four week period, accompanied by a trained mentor. Outcomes include increased knowledge, personal skills and work skills, among young people who might otherwise not have had such opportunities. By building up existing international networks, it

increases opportunities for young people to participate. This program was selected for replication by the Asia-Pacific partners (China, Japan, Thailand, Philippines and Australia).

Finally, in 1999 the Foundation for Young Australians sponsored a new **Australasian Evaluation Society Award for Best Evaluation in Community Development** involving youth participation in the design and/or conduct of the evaluation. The award was not given in its first year due to a poor quality of applications.

Cluster evaluations conducted by the Foundation for Young Australians indicate that strategies adopted to increase youth participation have so far been very successful and provided many opportunities for young people to be heard at all levels, through participation in action research as well as in service delivery projects. Ongoing reviews of the literature indicate the continuing relevance of its portfolio areas. Some additional issues have also been noted as a concern to young people, including the environment, family life, the increasing gap between rich and poor and the role of technology.

There is an increasing emphasis on youth participation programs around the world. Five youth participation models developed by the Australian Federal Government, the United Nations, the Children and Youth Foundation of the Philippines, Do Something (U.S.A.) and the Youth Action Network (Canada) are summarised below. They provide examples of key strategies for youth participation programs, including youth-for-youth grant making activities.

Australian National Youth Roundtable Commonwealth Department of Education, Training and Youth Affairs

Forms of youth participation and consultation have been explored in some detail by governments in Australia and the Federal government favours a youth consultation process to determine issues of importance and policy guidelines in this area. In 1999 it replaced its national peak youth body (AYPAC) with a National Youth Roundtable. The Roundtable brought together 50 young people, aged 15 to 24, for discussion with the government. Participants undertook a series of consultations with their peers across Australia to develop a comprehensive picture of the views and attitudes of young people. The Roundtable was expanded in 2000 to include a National Youth Forum to provide an ongoing connection between the Government and youth organisations. The Commonwealth Department of Education, Training and Youth Affairs also prepared a literature

review of public youth participation and policy.

Community Connections Campaign Do Something, USA

Do Something is a national non-profit organisation in the U.S. supported by The Pew Charitable Trusts. It is dedicated to inspiring young people into initiating change, through training, funding and mobilisation. This organisation has developed the Community Connections Campaign, which is part of a program designed to connect young people with civic organisations and strengthen communities into the 21st century (Do Something, 1999). In particular, the Community Connections Campaign aims to help community organisations actively recruit, involve and engage young people in their efforts to change the world. It includes a curriculum (in the form of a Handbook), training component (involving "Community Coaches"), media strategy and a web site. Community Coaches work in schools and community organisations, developing young people's leadership skills, inspiring them to get involved, and creating networks across sectors to strengthen communities.

The Community Connections Campaign was based on two years of research with young people and community organisations from throughout the U.S. This included eight focus groups with young people who reflected on how organisations have tried to improve their community's way of life; three large surveys of young people and volunteers experiences with community-based organisations and politics; and ten case studies of diverse organisations that have promising practices related to the involvement of young people.

The key findings from the research were that:

- While young people show little interest in politics or political issues, they are active in their communities;
- Young people are ready, willing and able to do more, feel that they have a lot to offer their communities and want to be taken seriously, although they often do not know how to become more involved;
- Young people are assets in terms of being resourceful and imaginative contributors to civic life;
- Organisations that involve and engage young people are more likely to achieve and sustain long-term goals.
- The program, derived from these findings, provides a 'how-to' guide to involving young people in community activities; providing meaningful roles for them; operating outreach & recruitment strategies; & conducting orientation, training and supervision.

Youth Action Network (YAN), Toronto, Canada

YAN is a national Canadian non-profit organisation run by and for youth, based in Toronto. YAN aims to create and promote social development and public policy initiatives for Canadian youth through research, human resource development, public education, advocacy and regional cooperation. It educates and empowers young people to participate in creating a more just and sustainable society through the following activities:

- International Youth Week, an annual event during which young people all over the world implement concrete action to improve their communities
- Youth Action Forum, a youth magazine for social and environmental issues;
- Resource Action Centre which provides young leaders with information, tools and personal guidance for taking action; and
- Youth Action Connection, a newsletter for high schools and community centres.
- YAN employs a (Youth) Project Coordinator to administer and oversee these activities. It is governed by an annually elected Board of Directors.

United Nations World Program of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond

The United Nations recognises that young people in all countries are both a major human resource for development and key agents for social change, economic development and technological innovation. The Programme identifies ten priority areas for improving the situation and well-being of youth, including the "full and effective participation of youth in the life of society and in decision-making" (UN, 1996). In relation to youth participation, it proposes the following action:

- Develop and strengthen opportunities for youth to learn their rights and responsibilities;
- Promote the social, political, developmental and environmental participation of young people, and remove obstacles that affect their full contribution to society;
- Encourage youth associations and their activities through financial, educational and technical support;
- Foster national, regional and international cooperation and exchange between youth organisations;
- Strengthen the involvement of young people in international forums, for example, by considering the inclusion of youth representatives in their national delegations to the United Nations General Assembly.

The United Nations also organises a number of other related activities, including the Youth Forum of the United Nations, which provides an opportunity for young people to review the achievements made, to consider obstacles and constraints, and to develop the next critical steps that need to be taken.

Youth Empowerment to Serve and Grow with Others (YESGO): Children and Youth Foundation of the Philippines

Three year youth-to-youth grant making program, funded by Levi Strauss, and administered by the Children and Youth Foundation of the Philippines (CYFP) in partnership with the Baguio Centre for Young Adults, Inc. (CYFP, 1997), with a budget of US\$70,000. The model proposed that in order to solve current problems affecting marginalised youth, such as teenage pregnancy, economic uncertainties, substance abuse, crime, inadequate housing and sanitation, malnutrition, lack of recreational facilities etc, young people need to be empowered to identify and solve these problems at a community level.

The overall aim of YESGO was for disadvantaged youth in Baguio and adjacent towns to launch and manage youth-to-youth organisations (Young People's Organisations; YPO's) in order to gain increased self-esteem, effective leadership skills and improved communication skills. The specific objectives were to acquire organisational, team work and leadership skills; learn about philanthropy, fund raising, grant-making and community service; learn needs assessment skills and the application of this knowledge to projects; design, fund and implement service projects; and to learn to work within the community and with significant adults.

540 young people and 95 adults were directly serviced by the project, and another 2,000 youth indirectly affected. The project was to also undergo an evaluation process, with the degree of success based on the creation of YPO's, their performance in running and funding youth-to-youth projects, their managerial skills, and their ability to generate funding from the community and become self-sufficient.

For further information on these programmes go to: www.youngaustralisans.org

Extracts have been taken and adapted from the Youth Participation Background Paper with the kind permission of The Foundation for Young Australians and the Australian Youth Research Centre, The University of Melbourne.

YOUTH BANK: WHAT IS YOUTH BANK

BY RAY MOLONEY

Background

Youth Bank is an idea originating in the U.K. and introduced to Ireland by the Irish Youth Foundation. Managed entirely by young people, Youth Bank enables them, through youth work principles, to make decisions and take action around the allocation of funds to groups applying to the Youth Bank. This in turn benefits other young people in their wider community.

Youth Banks offer a range of development opportunities for young people: to learn about and participate in their own communities, to develop new skills and have new experiences and to travel to meet other young people involved in Youth Bank. It gives young people a positive role in their communities and in turn can improve the community's perception of its' young people.

Youth Banks directly contribute to the regeneration of communities and, by putting money into the hands of young people, ensures their priorities are being met.

Limerick Youth Service Youth Bank Project

Seven young people, aged between 17 and 21, from Limerick Youth Service decided to undertake this project assisted by two youth workers, whose only role was to challenge decisions made by the group in an attempt to ensure that the process was completely inclusive and transparent.

This process entailed the group of young people having weekly meetings facilitated by a different member of the group on each occasion. The group agreed the overall work to be done and what steps would be necessary to achieve their goal. The entire process lasted four months, culminating in a presentation of cheques to groups successful in obtaining funding from the Limerick Youth Service Youth Bank.

What was their inspiration? Some members of the group thought that the concept was dynamic and innovative and all stated that it was the level of responsibility and trust given to them that "sold" the concept.

Some of the steps for organising their Youth Bank Group included:

- Engaging a group of people
- Agreeing on a contract for working together
- Deciding on the conditions of eligibility for funding i.e. types of groups, ages of young people, list of activities funded or more to the point not funded!
- Establishing each persons role and responsibility for different jobs involved and a timescale to do them
- Agreeing on a facilitator of each stage of the process
- Organising advertising e.g. press release for newspapers, contact radio station, doing up posters etc
- Designing Youth Bank logos, application forms and cover letters. Young people must fill out the application forms, which are then ratified by a leader in their club
- Deciding as a group on a set of criteria for assessing each application
- Once the application are returned an initial paper sift can begin
- Interview and take photos of possible youth groups. (N.B. Young people to be interviewed only by young people.)

- Group gets together to make a final decision on those who are to receive grant funding
- Organise a presentation night for presentation of cheques etc. and invite guests
- Give out cheques
- Have a great party

The group have been given a total of E10,000 to spend. E2,500 is for administration and training, the remaining E7,500 is for grant funding. The group has agreed to fund ten organisations / youth groups spread evenly between Limerick City and County.

The responsibility of finance and budgeting was also the remit of the group, which included recording of:

Expenses for the administration / training

Travel (to Dublin, interview locations etc.)

Rent of premises for meetings

Stationery

Presentation night

Printing costs

Food

Each Thursday, the group either spends money on take away food to have during a "working lunch break" or go out and get something to eat. (The ethos behind Youth Bank considers this aspect important for motivation and team building!)

Two young people from Youth Bank interviewed two young people from the group having established criteria for interviews, which included taking photographs of the premises and group for consideration by the whole group. All members of Youth Bank were involved in interviewing.

The youth workers assisted the young people in getting to these locations (mini-bus). Three of the young people have also been involved in Youth Bank, at a National Level and are part of a larger group looking at youth bank on a national level.

Project Outcomes

This pilot project was quite successful but demanded a lot of time and energy. As well as the Youth Bank contact time, the Co-ordinator and Assistant meet once a week for approximately one hour to plan and evaluate sessions. The young people seem to be enjoying it and are gaining a lot from it in terms of skills development and confidence.

Some of the positive factors involved for the young people include:

- Decision-making.
- Empowerment through trust with handling large sums of money.
- Working as part of a team and being responsi ble for handling over the project to the next team member.
- Gaining the ability to critically analyse.
- Gaining an increased awareness of community.
- Writing press releases, dealing with inquiries from the public and representing Limerick Youth Service on radio.

For further information please contact:

Ray Moloney
Limerick Youth Service
5 Lower Glentworth Street
Limerick

Tel: 061 412444 Fax: 061 412795

Ray Moloney is a youth worker with the Limerick Youth Service

WHO SAID YOUNG PEOPLE WEREN'T INTERESTED IN POLITICS? THE NATIONAL YOUTH POLL 2004

Background and Introduction

The National Youth Poll 2004 was launched on 6th May and is the first in a series of youth polls designed and delivered by the National Youth Federation, Ireland's largest Youth Service organisation. The poll had three primary aims, which were to:

- Identify how young people view politics
- Highlight the issues that are of concern to young people
- Measure their interest and knowledge of politics and representation at Local, National and European level.

It was carried out with the assistance of Local Youth Services throughout Ireland and with further assistance from schools, youth groups and community led projects. The National Youth Federation will promote the views of the young people that participated in this survey as it seeks to achieve greater recognition for young people in all strands of society and in decision-making.

The National Youth Poll surveyed 1,014 young people in 42 locations throughout Ireland. The poll was carried out in all regional authority areas. While the target age was 16 and 17 year olds, a younger age group was sometimes included due to the broad range of activities carried out by Local Youth Services. Those surveyed divided fairly evenly in gender with 48% male and 52% female. Fifty nine per cent were 16 year olds, 28% were 17 while 13% were 15 and younger.

Primary Findings: Voting Age Reduction and Representation of Young People's Views

One of the most significant findings in the Poll was that 63% of those surveyed felt that the voting age should be reduced to 16. Furthermore 77% of those surveyed said that they would use their vote if they had one in the upcoming EU and Local Elections.

85% of the survey group agreed with the statement that it was important to have an opportunity to express their views on local issues while only 3% disagreed. This is deemed to be an important finding particularly for those involved in local development and local government, given that the National Children's Strategy proposes that children and young peoples' views should be represented wherever services important to their well being are being planned and delivered

Issues of Importance to Young People

The respondents were also asked to rank issues of importance to them from 1-15. The figures were analysed by adding all the rankings together and sorting from the lowest (i.e. the one with the most 1's 2's 3's etc.) thus allowing for all preferences to be taken into account.

<u>RANK</u>	<u>ISSUE</u>
1	Health
2	Family
3	Crime
4	Human Rights
5	Education
6	Drugs/Alcohol
7	Safety
8	Environment
9	Facilities for Youth
10	Northern Ireland Peace
	Process
11	Developing/Third World
12	Neutrality
13	War in Iraq
14	Corruption in Politics
15	Car Insurance
16	Other

The high rating for Health is perhaps indicative of nationally held views regarding the current state of the health service. Furthermore recent legislative changes regarding smoking have resulted in greater coverage of smoking related illnesses and a trend towards health promotion. The ranking for Family is consistent with other research on young people's priorities.

Young People's Interest in Politics

A small majority (55%) of those surveyed say they have an interest in politics of some sort. The numbers who describe themselves as very interested is quite low. This may reflect views held on national politics, notwithstanding the fact that young people are still actively involved in and pursuing individual political issues including Developing World issues, the War in Iraq, Human Rights etc.

Half of the respondents failed to name any TD in their area and almost half could not name a local Councillor. Given that TDs have traditionally enjoyed greater profile than Councillors this is a seen as a serious reflection on how young people may view national representative politics.

It is also worth noting that this lack of knowledge may be a two-way engagement, as answers elsewhere in the survey indicate a poor view of politicians and of the manner in which the political process engages with young people. These views may be indicative of a perception that politicians don't engage with young people and similarly don't invite participation by young people at local and national level.

Our media is focussing on the proposed European Constitutional Treaty, there is much discussion on the accession of new Member States to the EU and Ireland holds the Presidency of the EU. It is disappointing therefore, although not altogether surprising, that nine out of ten respondents failed to name even one MEP when asked to do so as part of the Poll.

Young People's Opinions of Politicians

84% of those surveyed agreed with the statement *that politicians were only in it for themselves*. Cynicism or such strongly held views by young people in the 13 to 17 years age category is not a great basis upon which to build respect and encourage involvement in politics.

Three quarters of young people surveyed agreed to some degree with the statement that 'Politicians do little to improve the lives of Young People', and 12% disagreed. While this view may be a source of disap-

pointment to politicians and others it is counterbalanced somewhat by the fact that the same respondents earlier stated that they are seeking a vote at 16 years of age, are willing to use their vote and are seeking to become more involved in decision making, particularly at local level.

These are just some of the highly significant and illuminating findings of the Poll. They certainly provide food for thought for politicians and decision-makers and give the lie to many of the commonly held misconceptions of young people and their supposed lack of interest or apathy regarding politics and political engagement.

The next phase of this Poll will involve the production of regional statistical breakdowns on these issues, which should provide an extra dimension to the findings to date and will be of assistance to Local Youth Services when lobbying at local and regional level.

For further information or to request copies of the National Youth Poll 2004 please contact:

Michael McLoughlin or Brid Horan National Youth Federation 20 Lower Dominick Street Dublin 1

> Tel: 01 8729933 Fax: 01 8724183

Email:bhoran@nyf.ie or mcloughlinm@nyf.ie Website: www.nyf.ie

News Round Up

NEW CHILD PROTECTION PUBLICATION FROM BARNARDOS

Barnardo's National Children's Resource Centre has published a free guide for parents on the national child protection guidelines entitled *Our Children First: A Parent's Guide to the National Child Protection Guidelines.* It covers topics such as "what is child abuse", "what to do if I'm worried that a child I know is being abused", "what happens if I'm being investigated by the health board for child abuse" and "how can I make sure that my child is safe?"

Our Children First aims to provide parents with a clear and easily accessible guide to the guidelines that affect their children's safety and well-being. The publication is funded by the Irish Government and part-financed by the European Union under the National Development Plan 2000-2006 and is available free from Barnardo's National Children's Resource Centre.

For further information and to request a copy of the publication please contact:

National Children's Resource Centre Christchurch Square Dublin 8 Tel: 01 4549699 Email: ncrc@barnardos.ie

YOUNG MEN ON THE MARGINS

"Young Men on the Margins" is an account by men aged between 18 - 30, telling us about their family relationships and circumstances, economic deprivation, their experience of the education system, how they cope with homelessness and their hopes to change their lives and integrate into society. The study is of interest to those concerned with improving the well-being and social inclusion of children, families and communities in Ireland. It is also of interest to those concerned with the relationship between gender and social policy.

The report was commissioned and published by The Katharine Howard Foundation and was co-funded by the Dept. of Social and Family Affairs under the Families Research Programme. The research was carried out by the Social Science Research Centre, UCD by Anne Cleary, Maria Corbett, Miriam Galvin and Joy Wall.

Copies of the full report and /or summary are available from:

The Katharine Howard Foundation ISFC
10 Grattan Crescent
Inchicore
Dublin 8.
Tel: 01 453861
Email:khf@eircom.net

WORLD REFUGEE DAY AWARDS

A special UN General Assembly Resolution was unanimously adopted in 2000, designating the 20th of June every year as World Refugee Day. To mark this day, the African Refugee Network in partnership with Dublin City Council, Integrating Ireland, NCCRI, SPIRASI, KNOW RACISM, Reception and Integration Agency and UNHCR, with support from CREATE, will again, following the success of last year, organise World Refugee Day Awards.

The Awards will be presented to asylum seekers and refugees who have positively contributed to the local communities in which they live and also to individuals from those communities who have extended a hand of friendship and solidarity to promote the inclusion of refugees and asylum seekers in their communities. The award is open to anyone living in Ireland with an emphasis on individuals contributing to interaction at a local and regional level rather than on national organisations.

Specially commissioned awards from the National College of Art and Design will be presented to the winners at the ceremony to take place on Thursday 17th of June 2004 in the Atrium, Civic Office, Dublin City Council, Woodquay, Dublin 2. Two awards will be given under each of the five categories, which are Arts & Culture, Sports, Community and Environment, Education and Youth, Health and Welfare.

Nomination forms are available on the following sites:

www.nccri.com www.comhlamh.org www.spirasi.ie

GUIDELINES FOR PROVIDERS OF AFTER SCHOOL SERVICES PUBLISHED

Barnardo's have recently launched *After School - Practice Guide for Providers* published by Barnardo's National Children's Resource Centre. The publication is aimed at supporting the growing number of providers of after school services for children in Ireland to assist childcare practitioners to focus on developing quality childcare services.

As a growing number of school aged children are looked after by people other than their parents at the end of the school day and there has been an increase in community based after schools projects, many which offer a broad variety of activities, including homework support, sport and cultural activities.

The publication is divided into four sections: Children and Young Person's Development 8-14 Years; Roles and Relationships in the After School Setting; The After School Environment; Programme Development in After School Projects. A detailed section on useful resources and activities and contact addresses is also included.

This Guide is available from Barnardo's National Children's Resource Centres throughout Ireland at a cost of E12.00

For Further information please contact Barnardo's National Children's Resource Centre Christchurch Square

Christchurch Square Dublin 8 Tel: 01 4549699

Email: ncrc@barnardos.ie Website: www.barnardos.ie

TRAINING QUALIFICATIONS FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT WORKERS

The Development Studies Centre invites applications for the following HETAC accredited courses commencing in September 2004:

- National Diploma in Development Studies (day-time)
- Graduate Diploma / MA in Development Studies (day-time)
- Understanding Development (evening course)
- Understanding the Economics of Sustainability (evening)

Through its National Diploma programme, the DSC provides an opportunity for community development workers who may lack usual entry requirements for University, to enhance their understanding of development issues, to acquire new skills and to obtain an internationally recognised third level qualification. Participants can attend individual subjects on a part-time basis and obtain academic credits, which can be accumulated over time to realise a full award.

Subject areas covered by the DSC programme that may be of particular interest to people working with community development and voluntary organisations in Ireland include: Adult Education; Leadership; Group Dynamics; Human Development Theories; Political Studies; Training for Transformation; Gender and Development; Environment and Development; Project Planning and Management (includes design, planning and management of projects, monitoring and evaluation.

For a Course Prospectus and further information contact:

The Applications Office
Development Studies Centre
Kimmage Manor
Whitehall Road
Dublin 12
Tel: 01 4064386/4064380

Fax: 01 4560089 E-mail: info@dsckim.ie Website: www.dsckim.ie

POLICY & FUNDING

PROGRAMME OF GRANTS FOR LOCALLY-BASED COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS

The Department of Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs has announced that applications are now being invited for the 2004 Programme of Grants for Locally Based Community and Voluntary Organisations.

The Programme offers two schemes of once-off grants to local community and voluntary organisations for:

- Equipment and Refurbishment of Premises
- Education, Training and Research

Grants will be made to a range of local voluntary and community organisations and groups with a focus on disadvantage. These are likely to include mutual support and self-help organisations e.g. lone parent support and self-help groups; unemployed groups and community-based education groups.

Application forms and further information are available from the Department's website at www.pobail.ie or from:

Voluntary and Community Supports
Department of Community, Rural and
Gaeltacht Affairs
Dún Amhirgin
43/49 Mespil Road
Dublin 2
Tel: 01 6473236/ 6473238

Tel: 01 6473236/ 6473238 LoCall: 1890 474847 Fax: 01 6670826

Email: eolas@pobail.ie

The closing date for receipt of applications is 5:00pm on 31 May 2004

VODAFONE IRELAND FOUNDATION CHARITABLE FUNDING

Vodafone Ireland Foundation (VIF) believes strongly in the values of vibrant communities, whether local or national and the sense of connection they deliver within our lives.

As such, VIF will fund selected projects of registered Irish charities with strong community linkages. The social investment programme will focus primarily on removing barriers that prevent people from participating fully in society.

VIF will support a variety of programmes across Ireland calling for varying levels of funding. However, due to the high volume of applications that receive there are funding guidelines to help our charitable giving to be as focussed and effective as possible.

Grant Applications are considered by the Foundation Board on a quarterly basis. Closing date for next round of applications is the 31st May 2004.

For further details and grant application form contact:

Anne-Marie Moran
Vodafone Ireland Foundation Office
Mountain View
Leopardstown
Dublin 18
Tel: 1800 308020
Fax: 01 6708465

 ${\bf Email: voda foneire land foundation@voda-}$

fone.com

Website: www.vodafone.ie

STAY IN SCHOOL STRAND OF SCHOOL COMPLETION PROGRAMME RETAINS FUNDING

The Minister for Education and Science, Mr. Noel Dempsey, T.D., announced on 4 May that the 53 second level schools involved in the Stay in School Retention Strand (SSRI) of the School Completion Programme would continue to be funded at their current level for the 2004/2005 school year. These schools will therefore continue to receive 50% of the 2002/2003 level of funding for the 2004/2005 school year, which is the final year of the SSRI.

The Minister also stated that his Department was currently finalising a detailed review of educational disadvantage schemes, which would impact on existing schemes and that an announcement would be made in relation to the outcome of this process once the review had been completed.

For further details, please contact:

Department of Education & Science
Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
Tel: 01 8896400
Email: info@education.gov.ie
www.education.ie

DEVELOPMENTS IN EU DRUG POLICY

On 10-11 May the Department of Equality Justice and Law Reform hosted a closed conference in Dublin Castle to begin work on the development of a new EU Drugs Strategy for 2005-2009. The existing strategy (2000-2004) is drawing to a close and focused on the following:

- Reduction of prevalence of illicit drug use as well as new recruitment to it, particularly among young people under 18 years of age
- Substantial reduction in the incidence of drug related health damage and drug related deaths
- Substantial increase in the number of success fully treated addicts
- Substantial reduction in the number of drug related crimes

• Substantial reduction in money laundering and illicit trafficking of precursors.

A Steering Group was been established to oversee the final evaluation of the strategy to report by the end of 2004. The Dublin Conference addressed issues such as involving civil society in the development of EU Drugs Policy.

This event will be followed in 15 June by a meeting hosted by the Department of Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs involving the 25 EU National Drugs Co-ordinators, to look at the challenges (outlined by a recent report, see below) the enlargement of the EU will present in terms of Drug trafficking, escalating drug use and the spread of infectious diseases.

For further information on the EU Drugs Strategy 2000 – 2004 go to:

www.europa.eu.int/comm/external_relations/drugs/strat00_04.pdf

For further information on the EU Action Plan on Drugs 2000 – 2004 go to:

www.europa.eu.int/comm/external_relations/drugs/ap00 04.pdf

For a copy of the Annual Report on the State of the Drugs Problem in the Acceding and Candidate Countries in the EU go to:

www.candidates.emcdda.eu.int/download/c andidates_ar2003-en.pdf

RESOURCES

ARTS & DRAMA

50 Drama Sketches for Youth (2003) by Nick Page

These funny, entertaining and thought-provoking sketches will help young people explore many real-life situations and issues. The bulk of the sketches were written to provoke laughter, irritation and even mild nausea, but mainly they are intended to get a good debate going about real life.

Mapping Hidden Talents: Investigating Youth Music Projects by R. Ings, R. Jones & N. Randell

This is the first attempt to put contemporary popular youth music projects on the map. What it reveals is a landscape of hidden talents and ambitions, an exciting sense of direction and a wealth of achievement across a wide range of projects around the UK. It goes on to challenge the arts funding system, the music industry and youth work agencies to fully recognise the importance of youth music projects and to get behind them and properly support them.

CHILD PROTECTION

Body, Mind and Society (2002) by Melanie Revolta

Pack has been developed and devised by women youth workers and the groups of young women 13-17 years of age with whom they have worked. It came about through a concern with the increase of eating disorders among young women. Pack contains tried and tested activities to encourage young women to take a look at themselves and the society in which we live. The activities aim to raise awareness of how and why we react as we do to life's challenges, choices and celebrations.

Child Sexual Abuse and the Internet: Tackling the New Frontiers (2004) by Martin C. Calder

Sexual crime through the Internet poses a major new challenge to everyone working with young people. This book attempts to organise some of the emerging practice wisdom, small-scale research findings and theory development into a useful and accessible text for front-line youth workers.

Keeping It Safe: A Young Person-Centred Approach to Safety and Child Protection – Standards & Guidelines by NCVYS

These standards and guidelines have been designed to help youth organisations create an environment that is safe i.e. an environment where there is no negligence and unnecessary exposure to avoidable risk. These standards also suggest that youth organisations should be placing the views of children and young people at the centre of the policy planning and implementation process. For those organisations that have already have standards and guidelines in place, this resource can be used as a audit tool to ensure all areas are covered.

DEALING WITH AGRESSION

Averting Aggression: Safety at Work with Adolescents and Adults (1999) by Owen Booker

This is a personal and practical guide for everyone whose work can require them to deal with aggressive behaviour, in social or youth work, education, residential care and youth justice. Book provides practical ideas to improve safety, minimise sources of anger, manage others and protect people from harm.

Creative Force: Arts Based Exercises for Work with Young People around Issues of Violence (2001)

by Save the Children

Resource looks at the key issues around young people and violence – verbal violence, bullying, peer pressure, sexist and racist violence, physical or non-physical violence and domestic violence. It uses arts-based approaches such as drama, creative writing, poetry and photography activities as tool to explore issues of conflict and violence.

Facing Aggression: Effective Work with Young People (2003) by J. Hopkins & D. Owens-Rawle

Resource focuses on strategies designed to enable

youth workers to respond effectively to challenging behaviour – strategies that will enhance their ability to; prevent incidents of aggression; manage them effectively when they do arise; and re-engage with young people, if an incident leads to a break in contact.

Understanding Anger: A Group Work Programme (2001)

by J. Hopkinson & D. Owens-Rawle

Practical resource designed for use by field workers and trainers working with young people whose anger causes difficulties. The manual has been compiled from the experience of running programmes with young people, it includes an exploration of approaches; guidance on the practicalities of setting up a programme and training activities.

Working It Out: A Handbook for Violence Prevention in Work with Young People (2002) by Stephen Briault

For everyone who deals with young people in their work, this book aims to contribute to work on the prevention of all kinds of violence involving young people. It can be used as a source of new ideas to understand youth violence; as a toolkit to develop a range of successful practical approaches, and as guidelines for the transformation of organisational culture and the reduction of violence.

Words Hurt Too... Young People & Bullying (2003)

by Gail Russell

Bullying doesn't just happen in the playground – it goes on all around us. This resource bank is designed to offer youth workers an insight into the problem of bullying. It looks at how bullying affects young people and how to address the problem. It also includes ideas for youth workers, and activities to use with young people.

Making a Difference: Practice and Planning in Working with Young People in Community Safety and Crime Prevention (2002) by A. Dearling & A. Skinnner

Purpose of this book is to provide practical ideas and information for those involved in direct work with young people in trouble with the law, or victimised by crime. It brings together practice-based methods of planning, preparation and running programmes for young people at various levels of intervention.

EDUCATION TO WORK TRANSISTION

In Our Own Words – What Young People Think about the Transition from Education to Work by Carnegie Young People Initiative

Report that looks what young people think of the quality and timing of career guidance. It aims not only to give an account of young people's views but also to show the methods used to consult and engage them in an active, participatory process. It makes a number of positive proposals aimed at improving the careers advice which deserve consideration.

Young Men Leaving School: White, Working-Class Masculinity (2001) by Linda McDowell

Book investigates the ways in which young white working-class men, designated low achievers by their schools, think about themselves and the opportunities available to them as they approach the end of compulsory school attendance.

GOOD PRACTICE IN YOUTH WORK

Delivering Good Youth Work: A Working Guide to Surviving and Thriving (2001) by G. Ingram & J. Harris

Book about coping, surviving and thriving in order to work more effectively with young people. It is about dealing with issues such as; understanding the forces acting on the lives of young people; being able to identify their needs and plan strategically, and offers a range of techniques to meet these needs.

Creating Independence and Inclusion: Youth Personal Assistance Support Scheme – Good Practice Guidelines by Rowen Jade

This report and video describe the exciting, challenging and sometimes frustrating journey of Youth PASS – project set up to promote independence, equality and inclusion through the provision of personal assistances to disabled young people. The pack invites other organisations to learn from the discoveries made and the good practice developed.

Guidance on Training and Employment of Disabled People in Youth Work (1996) by Jenny Hand

Reports addresses the increased involvement of dis-

abled people throughout the youth service which would help to improve the services for all. The report starts from the assumption that youth work managers will want to redress these employment imbalances, but they do not have all the answers.

Exploring the Depths: A Resource Manual for Those Wishing to Develop Peer Education Initiatives (2004)

by Fast Forward

Resource pack that maps out what exactly peer education means, breaks down all the steps involved in starting, developing, completing and reviewing a peer education initiative. It also provides definitions, case studies, activities for use with young people and examples of effective practice.

The RHP Companion to Outdoor Education (2004)

by P. Barnes & B. Sharp

Outdoor education still has a long way to go in terms of its acceptance by educational organisations and the public at large, some of whom even question its very meaning and purpose. This important new book will help clarify aims and encourage the pursuit of good practice.

MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES

Change Your Mindset: An Activity Pack for Youth Groups About Discrimination and Mental Health

by MindOut for Mental Health

Pack designed for youth group leaders working with teenagers. Its aim is to help inform young people about mental health issues, and encourage them to question their attitudes and challenge the stigma and discrimination surrounding mental health.

Street Cred? Values and Dilemmas in Mental Health Work with Young People (2000) by Bernard Davies

Report on 42nd Street, a community based mental health resource for young people. It provides a critical account of the key themes and by illuminating the dilemmas faced on a day-to-day basis it seeks to provoke a wider debate about how values can be sustained within services for young people in the face of external and conflicting pressures.

RELATIONSHIPS & YOUNG PEOPLE

Exploring Feelings: A Resource Handbook for Work with Young People Aged 9 to 13 (2001) by Vanessa Rogers

A diverse collection of activities, worksheets and team-building games aimed as a response to the increased demand of work with young people who are below the traditional youth service age group. The aim is to engage with children & young people who may not take up statutory services, but could respond to a youth work approach.

Lets Talk Relationships...: A Handbook of Resource Activities for Young People (2001)

by Vanessa Rogers

Book featuring 90 activities split over five categories (getting to know each other; friendship and peer groups; living at home; love, sex and all that; and evaluation) aimed at encouraging young people to talk about sensitive issues and open up about their feelings for themselves and their relationships.

RURAL / DETACHED YOUTH WORK

Who Says Nothing Ever Happens Around Here? Innovation in Working with Young People in Rural Areas (2003)

by R. Fabes, B. Payne & J. Wood

Following on from Nothing Ever Happens Around Here, this book looks at the changes that have taken place in the range, variety and creativity of ways to work with young people in rural areas. It charts and analysis these changes and finds growing evidence that the interests of young people in rural areas may be at last receiving public attention.

Have You Ever? A Handbook of Resource Activities for Detached Youth Workers (2000) by Vanessa Rogers

Due to the particular challenges detached workers face in meeting young people's needs, some innovative and creative projects have emerged. These ideas have been collected together to make this practice resource a must for all those involved in detached youth work.

TRAINING SKILLS

Developing Social Skills: A Learning Resource Manual for Trainers and Educators Working in

Non-Traditional Learning Environments (1999) by Gillian Squirrell

Specially developed and tested for use in non-traditional learning environments this comprehensive resource will enable practitioners to help adult and young adult learners consider their personal development and develop social skills.

Resources for Courses: A Training the Trainers Toolbox (2001)

by W. Clemmey, B. Hadley & M. Lambourne

CD Rom, that is an ideal resource for those delivering a training the trainers course. It contains material including ice breakers, warm ups, exercises, session plans and handouts all of which can be adapted to support any training the trainers programme. It also contains general advice and background on training, and resources for running, reviewing and evaluating a course.

Learning Events (2003) by Alan Dearling

A guide to planning and running conferences, seminars and workshops for anyone involved in facilitating training in the people-services.

Recording and Accreditation – Supporting Young People's Achievements (2004) by NYA

Booklet provides a valuable background to the current debate on recording and accreditation and highlights the results of a recent seminar which sought to clarification of DfES performance measures for youth work

YOUTH & COMMUNITY WORK

Architects of Change: Studies in the History of Community and Youth Work (2003) by R. Gilchrist, T. Jeffs & J. Spence

The 13 chapters in this book tell tales of intervention, organisation, and action within daily struggle. Of intentions and purposes motivated by the ideals of justice, democracy and equality; and of how community and youth work has been a catalyst for creative, co-operative activity amongst ordinary people.

Beating the Odds: Youth and Family Disadvantage (2003)

by J. Scott & C. Chaudhary

This research is based on a national study which examined how some young people are able to overcome family disadvantage. It explores the importance of young people's experiences with parents, the young person's own attitudes and aspirations and how positive family relations and personal motivation can help counterbalance otherwise disadvantaged circumstances.

Born and Bred:

Leadership, Heart & Informal Education (1999) by M.E. Doyle & M.K. Smith

Book explores some key themes for educators about leadership, these include the idea that leaders are people with special qualities; the experience of leadership is a shared process; the place of heart in the work; the centrality of service, association and well-being; the relationship between animation, formation and education and the special role informal educators can play in developing environments where people can take responsibility and have a concern for each other.

Foundations: The Guide to Running a Youth Group (1999) by Alan Rogers

Practical guide to working with young people, it looks at what is required in order to establish a youth group based on a commitment to young people's involvement and participation. It covers both the aims and the background organisation of a youth group. It also focuses on the delivery of an effective programme that involves and interests young people.

Fundamental: An Introduction to Work with Young Men (2002) by Mark Wood

This is an introductory guide to working with young men in order to explore their experience of being male. The work can be built around a range of different activities, based on young men's own interests.

Modern Youth Work & Youth Crime Prevention (1999) by Peter Loe

Report aims to encourage and enable more youth work agencies and youth workers to actively engage in youth crime initiatives. It outlines the key issues and challenges surrounding the involvement of youth work in youth crime prevention. It establishes an agenda for action and in doing so begins to detail some of the factors which contribute to effective policy development, practice and evaluation in the area of youth crime prevention work.

Tolerance in Diversity: The Video Documentary of an Exchange Programme by Youth Work Press

This booklet and video narrated by Danny Glover, is the story of two diverse groups of young people from difference sides of the Atlantic who embarked on a two-year voyage of discovery about themselves, each other and their two distinctive communities.

YOUTH PARTICIPATION

'... Doing Something' Young People as Social Actors (2002) by K. Eden & D. Roker

This book describes a study which focuses on young people who are actively engaged in their communities, in politics and in wider participation, outlining some of the key results and then discussing the broader implications for policy and practice and for our understanding of young people today.

Challenging the Image: Young People as Volunteers & Campaigners

by D. Roker, K. Player & J. Coleman

Book that challenges the image of young people as apathetic, lazy, self-centred and unconcerned about the needs of others. Instead their research shows a much greater level of involvement in voluntary and campaigning activities across a range of social, environmental and political issues than common stereotypes would suggest.

Everyday Participation: A Practical Guide to Youth Involvement (2004) by Felicity Shenton

Introductory guide based on the views of young people, youth workers, and others about what has worked for them and what they would like to try to pass on to other people. This guide aims to provide: understanding of what participation means, its history and the values that underpin it; examples of how participation can be part of everyday work with young people, and guidance on how to put everyday participation into practice.

Making a Success of Youth Action (2002) by Richard Parsons

Report that attempts to draw out some of the general principles and effective practices involved in developing and promoting active engagement of young people in their communities. The report should help those developing project-based programmes at national regional and local levels, and while the material is derived from youth action initiatives, many of the lessons can be applied more generally to programmes and projects involving young people.

Up for It: Getting Young People Involved in Local Government (2002)

by Vicki Combe

Guide demonstrating how local authorities and others can begin to involve young people in the democratic process effectively and meaningfully. It details the challenges involved and puts forward solutions showing why they have been effective.

YOUTH POLICY

Towards Inclusive Youth Policies and Practices: Lessons from Young Lesbians, Gay Men & D/deaf people (2003)

by G. Valentine, T. Skelton & R. Butler, 2003

This book aims to explain why some groups of young people are 'vulnerable' to becoming socially excluded and to make positive suggestions for change. It describes a study that focuses on two groups of young people who are at risk of experiencing several factors of disadvantage and therefore might be considered vulnerable.

Voices Unheard: Young people at the Beginning of the 21st Century by Roger Frost

Report giving a series of views from leading commentators along with young people on the challenges of a new century for youth policy. It marks the launch of a new programme by the Carnegie Youth People Initiative, designed to set standards in the public and voluntary sectors for the involvement of young people in decision making.

All of these titles & others on related topics are available ON LOAN (NOT FOR SALE) to IYWC members. The IYWC is an offical sales agent in the Republic of Ireland for CPA, DEFY, Directory of Social Change, NYCI, Nightshift Publishing & Russell House Publishing.

For further information please contact:

Fran Bissett / Gina Halpin Irish YouthWork Centre National Youth Federation 20 Lower Dominick Street Dublin 1

Tel: 01 8729933 / Fax: 01 8724183 Email: fbissett@nyf.ie or ghalpin@nyf.ie Website: www.iywc.com

Noticeboard

ACCESSING THE MEDIA

Date: Wednesday 2nd June, 2004

Time: 2.30pm-6.00pm

Venue: All Hallows College, Drumcondra,

Dublin 9

This information session delivered by the Wheel Information Officers Network is aimed at information workers or those involved in publicity within community and voluntary organisations. Registration takes place at 2.00 p.m. and there will be a Networking Opportunity from 5.30 p.m. onwards.

CORPORATE SPONSORSHIP & FUNDRAISING

Date: Wednesday 2nd June, 2004

Time: 2.30pm-5.30pm

Venue: All Hallows College, Drumcondra

Dublin 9

This session offers a practical introduction to the world of Corporate Fundraising and Sponsorship and aims to provide a practical understanding of successful techniques and tools in securing Corporate Fundraising and/or Sponsorship. Registration takes place at 2.00 p.m. and there will be a Networking Opportunity from 4.30 p.m. onwards.

For further details and to download a registeration form please go to: www.wheel.ie/user/content/view/full/1302/

or contact

Grainne at: Tel 01 4548727 / Fax 01 4548649 Email: register@wheel.ie

SKILLS TRAINING IN ADDICTION WORK

Date: 10th-11th June, 2004

Time: 9.30am-5.00pm

Venue: Dublin City Council Poppintree,

Community Centre, Gallaun Road,

Poppintree, Dublin 11.

Two-day workshop aimed at Addiction Counsellors, Education Officers, Community Development Workers, Project Workers, etc. with some experience in the area of addiction and facilitation, and if one's work could involve education/training around Addiction Issues. Delivered by Urrús - Ireland's Community Addiction Studies Training Centre - A Ballymun Youth Action Project Initiative.

Cost: E100.00

For further details please contact:

Gabrielle Gilligan URRÚS 290 Balcurris Road Ballymun Dublin 11 Tel: 01 8425726

Email: urrus@iol.ie

MINORITIES AND INDIGENOUS PEOPLES SUMMER SCHOOL

Date: 14th-18th June, 2004

Venue: NUI Galway

The Irish Centre for Human Rights, NUI, Galway runs an annual summer school that focuses on the rights of minorities and indigenous peoples. The aim of the course is to provide participants with an overview of the legal, political and philosophical issues pertaining to international human rights law and its relationship to minority rights and the rights of indigenous peoples.

Further Details: Places may be reserved by sending the form together with a non-refundable deposit of E100 by cheque or postal order to the Irish Centre for Human Rights. Registration details and programme can be obtained at:

www.minority-rights.org/sum04.htm

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT TRAINING INSTITUTE SUMMER SCHOOL

Date: 14th-18th June, 2004 Venue: UCD, Belfield, Dublin 4

The Local Development Training Institute of Ireland (LDTI) provides relevant workshop training for individuals and groups involved in local development: Community development organisations and groups; Voluntary organisations and Statutory agencies. Workshops are in the following areas:

- Working with Community Groups
- Working with Other Organisations
- Skills for Organisational Development
- Skills for Personal Effectiveness
- Managing a Social Economy Enterprise
- Health & Well-being
- Participatory Planning

Cost: One Day Workshop (Community/Voluntary Sector: E100.00, Statutory: E150.00)

Two Day Workshop (Community/Voluntary Sector: E180.00, Statutory: E250.00)

Further details/copy of Prospectus 2004 contact:

Tel: 01 2300640 Fax: 01 2304868

E-mail: info@ldti.ie

DEVELOPING YOUR VOLUNTEER POLICY

Date: Tuesday 15th June, 2004

Time: 10.00am-4.00pm

Venue: Coleraine House, Dublin 7

One day course delivered by Volunteering Ireland that is aimed at any organisation that already involves volunteers in its work, or that intends to do so in the future.

Cost: E100.00 non-members E75.00 Volunteering Ireland members.

For further details please contact:

Clare McGuinness Volunteering Ireland Coleraine House Colerain Street Dublin 7

Tel: 01 8722622 / Fax: 01 8722623 Email: clare@volunteeringireland.com

INTRODUCTION TO GROUP WORK

Date: 26th-27th June, 2004

Time: 9.30am-5.00pm (3.30pm on 27th)
Venue: All Hallows College, Drumcondra,

Dublin 9

Weekend workshop that will cover the fundamental methods for working effectively with groups using the Technology of Participation system of group work. It will be of interest to those working in NGOs, community work and all who wish to obtain skills for working with small groups.

For further details please contact:

Booking: Course Co-ordinator
Preparing for Ministries
All Hallows College
Grace Park Road
Drumcondra
Dublin 9

Tel: 01 8373745 Fax: 01 8571135 Email: pfm@allhallows.ie Website: www.allhallows.ie

GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP IN-CAREER DEVELOPMENT

Date: 5th-9th July, 2004

Venue: Irish Girl Guide House, New Road,

Galway

For the last 6 years Galway One World Centre has successfully run summer ICD courses. This year we are offering 'Global Citizenship'. This course aims to raise awareness and understanding of anti-racism, diversity and equality issues in the classroom. Teachers will gain skills in integrating these topics into the curriculum and will identify resources and tools for classroom use that encourage respect for human and cultural diversity.

For further details please contact:

Susan Bradley
Galway One World Centre
The Halls
Quay Street
Galway
Tel: 091 530590 / 530592

Email: gowcsusan@hotmail.com