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Irish Youth Work Scene

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Magazine for Youth Workers

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“Because we're worth it!”

By Diarmuid Kearney
Chief Executive, National Youth Federation

Our summer began with a level of optimism not only in anticipation of weather and holidays but also in anticipation of significant moves towards the implementation of the Youth Work Act 2001 and the National Youth Work Development Plan. The season of mists and mellow fruitfulness however brings with it a level of depression not this time as a consequence of S.A.D. (Seasonal Affective Disorder) but because we are facing another winter with no real movement towards implementation.

This pessimism is set against a backdrop of a significant increase in funding towards implementation and an unprecedented level of confluence in the aspirations of the youth work sector, the IVEA and many other interested parties. So what's the excuse for the tediously slow progress? It appears to be no different than the excuse we've been hearing for the last three years, - “technical difficulties”. What these 'technical difficulties' amount to are the failure to appoint a Youth Work Assessor, failure to resource the VEC's in implementing the Act, failure to establish a Development Unit and a host of other failures which although not as central to the implementation of the Act are nevertheless serious indicators of what can at best be described as a lethargic, and at worst, an obstructive approach.

What can we do about this state of affairs? Well for starters the interagency funding campaign is about to be re-energised, but then we have shouted long and hard in the past about funding and have achieved notable success recently in securing additional resources. It seems that money is not the problem!

What lies at the heart of our difficulties is Governments lack of understanding of the role of youth work in today's Ireland. If they did understand what we know, anecdotally at any rate, to be true, then they would be fools not to realize the aspirations of the Act and more significantly, the Development Plan. And that's where we must accept our part of the blame! Failure to articulate the impact of youth work is a major deficit in our work. A fresh and considered approach to planning for, achieving and measuring the outcomes of our work is required. Perhaps we will have greater success if we can demonstrate, like the add says, it's "because we're worth it!".

EMIGRATION

An escape route for the socially marginalised

SERVICE
PROFILE

by Joe O'Brien

Introduction

In our current prosperous times most people who emigrate from Ireland do so not because they have no other choice but because it is a preferred option for employment or perhaps to experience a different culture and country for a year or two. These days most young people who emigrate from Ireland do so in a financially secure and socially supported manner, very often with a job waiting for them in their country of destination. However, this is not the case for all people and the situations that many Irish emigrants face these days are worryingly reminiscent of times past.

With roots tracing back to 1942, Emigrant Advice has assisted Irish emigrants for decades. These days Emigrant Advice provides an information and advocacy service to vulnerable intending emigrants in Ireland, Irish emigrants abroad (particularly those who wish to return to Ireland) and more recently immigrants in Ireland.

As a voluntary organisation and a programme of Crosscare, Emigrant Advice is committed to working with the most vulnerable of migrants. Despite the decrease in the number of people emigrating from Ireland in the last decade there is still a clear need for the service. Last year Emigrant Advice conducted a survey with a range of Irish information and homeless services in the UK. The results were startling. There are still reports of young Irish people presenting to information, welfare and homeless services in the UK in very vulnerable situations. The profile of the new arrivals include young Travellers, people with addiction problems, older early school leavers, young people who have left residential care, ex-prisoners and young people who have left homeless situations in Ireland.

New Outreach Service

In response to this increasingly vulnerable profile of the new Irish arriving in the UK, Emigrant Advice

have developed an Outreach arm to what was previously an office based service. The aim of the Outreach service is to reach those vulnerable intending emigrants who would have had difficulty accessing the office based service.

One of the most common problems faced by young vulnerable Irish people emigrating to the UK at the moment is that they do not bring adequate identification in order to swiftly get a National Insurance Number (the equivalent of a PPS number). Delays in getting this number have led to delays in people getting access to welfare and consequently in some cases people have ended up homeless.

As part of its Outreach work Emigrant Advice is building stronger links with a variety of services across Dublin and Ireland. Successful links have been made with homeless services, prison probation services, addiction services and a range of youth services including Fr. Peter McVerry's services for homeless young people and the Ana Liffey Drug Project in Dublin.

The Outreach service also involves talks on the steps that an intending emigrant ought to take before, during and after the decision to migrate. Such talks can be provided directly to groups of prospective future emigrants, to staff teams who deal with vulnerable people who are prospective emigrants or at conferences and meetings of relevant service providers. Emigrant Advice has recently received funding from the Irish Abroad Unit of the Department of Foreign Affairs to research the profile of the newly arrived vulnerable Irish emigrant in the UK. This research will be published by the end of the year & available on the website: www.emigrantadvice.ie

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Living on e street

by Gina Halpin

Project
Profile

THE DIGITAL HUB

INTERNATIONAL DIGITAL ENTERPRISE AREA | DUBLIN



Introduction

July 2005 saw the launch of the Digital Hub's summer project entitled "*e street - our digital neighbourhood*". This year's venture was an innovative project which saw 50 children and young people between the ages of 8-16 from the Liberties/Coombe areas of Dublin taking part. The aim of the project was to encourage young people to participate in the design and planning of their dream street using the latest design and computer technology. The *e street* project provided young people with the opportunity to express what they felt was important as regards the infrastructure, amenities and environment they are growing up in.

Summer Project

Using Thomas Street as their template the young people were given a set of landmark features and facilities they could use in the design of their street. The project was then structured into a three week programme with a team of technical tutors from the Digital Hub training and coaching the young people with the technical aspect of the project.

In the first week the young people planned and selected the features, buildings and infrastructures they wanted to be included in their street. They were given free scope to use their imagination and creativity in their designs. These drawings were then scanned into a computer using the latest computer technologies.

In the second week a giant green screening room was set up, similar to the blue screens used in movie making such as George Lucas's Star Wars trilogy. The young people had to then mimic everyday actions like playing, shopping, dancing, walking and running down streets.

During the last week of the project the video action images of the young people were applied onto the scanned art work and the virtual e-street came alive. Again the young people were assisted by a team of technical tutors.

The end product was a mixture of realism and fantasy, with the streets consisting of typical shops, playgrounds and cafes located next door to the most adventurous architectural structures such as aquatic centres and a monkey water fountain!! The streets were imaginatively designed, lined with trees and decorated with furniture, playgrounds and innovative solutions to common problems in the capital such as traffic congestion, decent housing and facilities for young people.

The result of the three week project was launched in the Digital Hub in Dublin. Upon entering the exhibition you immediately become part of the street as



you wander down through a corridor lined with giant green screens displaying the art work and video images designed by the young people. You are also accompanied on your wander through the street by video footage of the young people.

The nine youth and community Groups involved in the *e street* project were in the project were:

1. Charlemont Community Centre
2. Liberties Summer Project
3. Marrowbone Lane Summer Project
4. Oliver Bond Summer Project
5. YMCA Summer Project, Whitefriar St
6. Dolphin House Summer Project
7. YouthReach
8. St Michael's Youth Project, Inchicore
9. Fountain Resource Centre

Liberties Learning Initiative

The *e street* summer project forms the 2005 part of the Liberties Learning Initiative from the Education and Learning Strand of the Digital Hub. The Digital Hub is an Irish Government initiative aimed at creating an International Digital Enterprise Area in an urban part of Dublin city. It is delivered through the Diageo Liberties Learning Initiative, and supported by €2.6million.



Although essentially an enterprise project, the Digital Hub is also an urban regeneration project with a specific community remit. The core development of nine acres is located just ten minutes walk from Dublin city centre within the historic Liberties Area. The activities of the Diageo Liberties Learning Initiative are delivered under five main Strands:

- ~ Enterprise Strand
- ~ Community Strand
- ~ Education & Learning Strand
- ~ Heritage Strand
- ~ Property Strand

The initiative provides state of the art digital education initiatives to the local schools, the wider community and the emerging digital media sector, and reflects the national priorities of building a knowledge-based society.

The Digital Hub also works in partnership with the existing community to provide access to the education and enterprise benefits of this technology as seen with the nine youth and community groups involved in the *e street* project. It works in conjunction with the many voluntary, business and statutory organisations of the Liberties and Coombe such as Rapid, Dublin City Council and Thomas Street Traders Association.

Summer Projects To Date

Over the past three years summer projects have been run by the Digital Hub as part to the Community Strand. In 2002 the project *Digiboarding* integrated skate boarding with the use of advanced digital tech-

nology. The project highlighted the fun aspect of digital media in a non-technical environment that appealed to young people. 120 young people from the local areas took part.

In 2003 the *Digital Beat* summer project was run through 14 local community and youth groups in the Liberties. It featured the use of digital stills imaging and sound to create videos based on local themes. The results were broadcast on RTE Network 2's News 2. The Digital Beat project continues to be rolled out in a number of groups in the community.

In 2004 the *DigiRhythm* summer project saw 80 children and teenagers utilising cutting-edge digital technology to write, sound record and produce their own rap music. The project was designed to teach young people to a range of music writing and recording skills.

All of the imaginative summer projects devised by the Digital Hub provide local young people with the opportunity to develop their technical skills in a fun environment. The 2005 *e street* project is on display in the Digital Hub Exchange Building, Crane Street in Dublin.

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Moose Do That!!!

A Canadian Wilderness Experience

Exchange
Profile

By Ruth Griffin & Olivia McEvoy

Introduction

A trip of a lifetime some young people said, others said life would never be the same! These were a few of the comments from a group of 20 young people who travelled to Canada during the summer for a youth leadership training programme. The programme was funded by the Ireland fund of Canada and was co-ordinated by the NYCI and the Northern Ireland Youth Forum in conjunction with the National Youth Federation and Foroige.

The idea for the project was the brainchild of Mark Dowds who was a former youth worker in Northern Ireland. He emigrated to Canada a number of years ago where he now works as a consultant specialising in organisation culture and learning. Through his work and various connections he became involved with the Ireland Fund of Canada who are part of the Ireland Funds.

The Ireland Funds

The mission of the Ireland Funds is to be the largest worldwide network of people of Irish ancestry and friends of Ireland dedicated to raising funds to support programmes of peace and reconciliation, arts and culture, education and community development.



A Room with a view.... the group visits the CN Tower in Toronto

Following the success of the inaugural *Bring A Kid to Camp* in Canada 2004 sponsored by Muskoka Woods Sports Resort and Sunquest Vacations, the

Ireland Fund of Canada announced that it was continuing funding of this important initiative when it took on four partnering youth organisations in both the North and South of Ireland. They expanded the programme to encompass all of Ireland to ensure a greater focus on peace and reconciliation and leadership training as delivered by the four community organisations.



Group visiting the British Consulate in Toronto

Camping Fun

The group of young people arrived in Toronto, Canada on August 9th for orientation and tours of Toronto then headed north for a life changing wilderness camping experience, where it rained continuously and really tested people's survival skills! Despite much anticipation no moose or bears were encountered! The group then headed off to Muskoka Woods to participate in skill based workshops and develop their youth leadership initiative for implementation back home. Despite all the work, time was still available to have fun Canadian style! This included paintballing and mountain biking to name a few. The trip was completed by a visit to the famous Niagara falls and a trip on the Maid of the Mist.

The over-whelming feedback from the twenty participants was that the two-week programme was a life-changing experience where they learned much about themselves as people and as leaders. It was also a hugely enjoyable and useful programme that equipped, and enhanced the skills of the partici-

pants, enabling and empowering them to deliver youth participation projects in their respective local communities.

Project Success

The quality of the facilitation and sessions delivered to the young participants was extremely high. Mark Dowds, key architect of the specific content on the workshop themes suggested, delivered many of the key sessions himself and otherwise arranged for high quality, high profile individuals to deliver additional sessions.

All the participating leaders would concur that this was a hugely worthwhile experience and was an innovative youth participation programme that was executed without any major difficulty or incident. Although an intense two weeks of work, it was also an extremely rewarding and enriching experience for the participating leaders.



Some of the leaders involved from l-r Drew, Colin, Olivia, Joni, Ruth & Mark.

Conclusion

In the course of the many 'project planning' sessions, the participants concluded that they were better equipped and skilled to deliver a project in their respective local communities. The young people were facilitated as a collective in thinking about appropriate types of themed projects in their local areas. One on one support was also provided in the various stages of mapping out a project plan. Each of the project participants from the South have now devised an individual project, while the young people from the North are doing a group initiative for logistical purposes.

In 'changing' the lives of twenty young people and empowering them to become active leaders and

people of influence in their home communities, we have been part of the possibility to create the potential to build a sustainable youth participation model and tool from this project.

It is essential that the young participants continue to be supported in their individual projects. It is also important that their active citizenship is highlighted as an example of the positive influence that young people can have as leaders in their local communities when involved in the decision making process.

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The Ireland Fund of Canada

www.irlfunds.org/canada

The Childrens Book Festival

By James Curtain



Introduction

This October 5th - 31st Children's Books Ireland, in association with the Youth Libraries Group, presents the annual Children's Books Festival 2005. The festival is one of the largest in Ireland and is the leading celebration of books and reading for young people. Every year there are over 25,000 children taking part, and with the festival's dates having been lengthened this year, the number is expected to rise even further. All over the country, from local libraries to schools and participating bookshops, hundreds of venues will host scores of children full of the festival spirit!

Bookfest

This festival spirit is whipped up steadily from early springtime on when work starts on the annual publication *BookFest - the Recommended Reading Guide*. This 64-page guide is released to coincide with the festival as a team of editors and reviewers get together and select the finest books from the hundreds of titles published in 2005. All ages are catered for, from 0-4 right up to 15+ and there are even sections on Poetry books and Information books too. This year the reviews are longer and BookFest is presented at its most in-depth yet. Each age or genre section has a foreword on helpful tips and insights for parents or older children. It's a great resource for children, parents, teachers and book-sellers alike.

Design-A-Bookmark

Since April budding artists and illustrators have been honing their craft as they aspire to win the festival's Design-A-Bookmark competition. Having come through local, then regional and finally national stages, 64 entries will be judged by award-winning illustrator P. J. Lynch and two winners, one for 10 years and younger and one for 11 years and over will be chosen. The winners will find out their fate at the festival launch in Pearse Street Library on October 5th and have the honour of seeing their designs becoming the bookmarks for next year's competition.

Festival Events

And now for the main event...the festival events! There are more authors and storytellers taking part this year than ever before with the festival swelling with hosted events. Second only to reading itself, an author visit can be the most enriching literary experience a child will have and the aim of this festival is to give as many children as possible the chance to have that experience. Across the length and breadth of Ireland dozens of writers will enthral school children in their classrooms, libraries and bookshops. Such big name authors as Philip Ardagh, G.P. Taylor, Roddy Doyle, Oisín McGann, Aubrey Flegg, Helen Cooper, Cathy Hopkins, Siobhán Parkinson and more will be making appearances from Cork right up to Donegal.

To find out what's going on in your area pick up a copy of *The Event Guide* in libraries and bookshops nationwide, or check out the festival website www.childrensbooksireland.com for updated festival news. You can also vote online in the annual Author Poll or in venues nationwide. We can all look forward to seeing the results of this one and finding out who's come top as the nation's favourite author. Last year it was Jacqueline Wilson but perhaps a certain wizard might shade it for his creator this time round...who can tell!

What is for sure is that there is a month of fun-filled activity ahead for one and all. Make sure you get a piece of the action and help to celebrate the world of children's books!

For further information please contact your
local library

or

Childrens Books Ireland

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Website: www.childrensbooksireland.com

SpunOut

by Ruairi McKiernan

Service
Profile

INTRODUCTION

The SpunOut.ie National Youth Website was launched on May 4th and has since received almost 10,000 visitors. SpunOut.ie is Ireland's *'biggest and best'* youth website and features over 1,000 pages of quality information and support for young people on all aspects of health, lifestyle and culture.

The site is the result of over 2 years of dedicated interagency working between various health, youth and community bodies and is managed by Community Creations, a dynamic new youth health charity based in Ballyshannon, Co. Donegal. As issues such as obesity, anti-social behaviour, suicide and teenage pregnancy continue to hit the headlines, this site is already providing confidential and youth friendly information to young people.

The concept is a radical shift in youth health, information and media, as hundreds of young people have been involved in the project from the very beginning. They are the designers, programmers, writers and editors and they have worked with a skilled team of health and media professionals at Community Creations to ensure that SpunOut.ie is one of the most innovative youth websites around.

Throughout the site health issues are viewed in a holistic sense, whereby all aspects of youth culture are seen as interrelated. There are sections on school, college, careers, travel, volunteering, equality, food, diet, sex, relationships and much more. There's also a 'take action' section that encourages young people to get involved in their communities and moderated discussion boards where they can share information and ideas with their peers.

The site features a dynamic magazine style with competitions, polls, surveys, jokes and interviews by and for young people. SpunOut.ie has the potential to become a huge positive force in reaching out to young people, addressing their health and information needs and providing them with an outlet for expressing their hopes, dreams and opinions.

Young people and youth workers are encouraged to

get involved by contacting the SpunOut.ie team and requesting further information, promotional packs, discussing joint ventures or writing for the site.

DEVELOPMENT PLANS

There are also plans for an interactive text messaging and email support service as well as a print magazine version of the website, both of which will allow young non-internet users access to the information, help and support they need and deserve.

FUNDING SOS

The innovative team at Community Creations are currently engaged in a 'funding SOS' campaign to ensure SpunOut.ie realises its huge potential. To date development funding was provided by the H.S.E. and the Dept. of Social and Family Affairs but all funds are currently exhausted.

This means that the 3 full-time staff (a Coordinator, Outreach worker and Online Editor) are unable to meet their wage, rent and development costs which could put the entire project in doubt should funding not be forthcoming. Given the right resources, the expert Community Creations team can:

- Ensure the site is updated daily with new information, articles and resources.
- Commence their National promotion programme that will ensure the bulk of Ireland's 700,000 16-25 year olds are aware of the site.
- Engage in outreach work to involve more young people as writers and editors.
- Develop all aspects of the site's content and interactive capabilities.

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Global Village

Project
Profile

by Ruth Griffin

Introduction

On the 2/3/4 September a group of young people from Monaghan Youth Federation, Ossory Youth, Limerick Youth Service & Louth Youth Federation took part in the Global Village in Ballyloughran Co. Kerry.

Project Background

The aim of the weekend was to engage young people in developing action plans to promote change using development education techniques. The idea for the project came about after the Tsunami disaster earlier this year. Thousands of Irish people donated money and fundraised endlessly for the relief efforts. There was an energy within the National youth Federation to look at doing something to help. A number of interested people came together to explore the possibilities.

It was decided that given that there was so much fundraising already happening and that there were already young people engaged in various activities to raise money in their own communities, it was decided to look at more awareness raising approaches and give young people more knowledge on global issues.

Following this a call was made to youth organisations for expressions of interest. Various representatives from an array of organisations became pioneers for the project. Contact was made with Trocaire who made a generous financial donation towards the project and also with the Development Education Unit in NYCI, where the staff were really helpful in designing the programme for the weekend.

The young people who were selected to participate had to be engaged in or at least have an interest or some experience in development education. We ended up with a group of fantastic young people. We had one girl from Limerick Youth Service who had just returned from Volunteer Work in South Africa. We also had a group from Ossory Youth who are involved with Habitat Ireland and are currently fundraising to build a school in Africa.

Global Village Weekend

A number of workshops were held over the weekend. They were basically to explore peoples knowledge and understanding of development education, to create awareness of the cycle of poverty. The group then looked at agents of change and influential people in our society and there was a great realisation that everyone has the possibility to make a difference.

The young people were made aware that there are lots of different approaches that can be taken in making a difference from campaigning and lobbying, to fundraising and overseas volunteer work. Having been suitable inspired, the young people then began to develop an action plan on things they would like to make a difference around. The group came up with a number of key areas which included:

- Continuing the Habitat Project
- Campaigning against Child Labour
- Developing a Multi-Cultural Festival
- Awareness Raising.

The group went away with lots of inspiration and motivation to make a change. Bob Geldof and Bono watch out!

It is hoped to form a youth advisory group to follow up on the work done at the weekend. One World Week is happening the first week in November so its hoped the group can tie in with this and take some action!

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Policy & Funding

NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION ACTION STRATEGY LAUNCHED

Reach Out - the National Strategy for Action on Suicide Prevention was launched on 8 September by Minister for Health & Children, Ms. Mary Harney. The ten year strategy aims to reduce the levels of suicide through a range of measures by state & non-Governmental agencies at four levels:

- General Population
- Specific Target Groups
- Responding to a Suicide
- Information and Research.

Much of this work will be facilitated by The Health Service Executive establishing a national office on suicide prevention to help reduce the number of people who take their own lives every year. The new office, to be headed by a former senior health board official, will co-ordinate, resource & administer the work of suicide prevention across the State. It will be responsible for promoting positive mental health. The strategy also recommends more assertive interventions & services for "at risk" people, such as those who have a history of self-harm or psychosis. A Task Force will be established across relevant Government departments to support The strategy. In addition to existing funding, €500,000 has been allocated for the remainder of this year to commence implementation of the Strategy with the following priorities identified:

- Development of a National Campaign to promote Positive Mental Health
- Delivery of a National Intervention Skills Training Programme
- Creation of new services for treating Deliberate Self-Harm in A&E Departments
- Development of Bereavement Support Services.

For further information of the strategy contact:

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Website: www.dohc.ie

REPORT ON EFFECTIVENESS OF GARDA YOUTH DIVERSION PROGRAMME LAUNCHED

On 9 August the Minister for Children Brian Lenihan T.D., along with Assistant Garda Commissioner Al McHugh, launched the Annual Report of the Committee appointed to Monitor the Effectiveness of the Garda Diversion Programme. The Report provides detailed breakdowns of the numbers of young people being referred to youth diversions schemes and of the age profiles and the range of offences involved.

The Youth Diversion Programme is a targeted intervention scheme, which intercedes early with young people to help them & to prevent them from developing inappropriate patterns of behaviour or slipping into criminal activity. The diversion schemes use a variety of methods such as family conferencing & restorative justice measures & linking young people with non-offending peer groups & forming stable & trusting relationships with adults in the community. The first Diversion projects were established in 1991. There are now sixty-four projects in operation & seven Local Drug Task Force projects. The report notes that the total number of individuals referred to the National Juvenile Office in 2004 amounted to 17,656, an increase of 613 from 2003 & ranged across a number of offences including alcohol related offences, criminal damage, public order, theft & burglary.

Minister Lenihan highlighted the fact that he had, along with the Minister for Justice Equality & Law Reform Minister McDowell, established a Project Team to examine the scope for rationalising the youth justice framework & to consider the establishment of a dedicated Youth Justice Service within the Department of Justice, Equality & Law Reform. The Project Team is finalising its proposals & it is intended to present them to the Government in the Autumn.

For further information/copies of the report contact:

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Web: www.justice.ie



One World Week

by Jean-Marie Cullen

One World Week is a week of youth-led awareness raising, education and action that takes place throughout Ireland during the third week in November every year. During One World Week young people throughout Ireland learn about local and global justice issues and take action to bring about change. Some groups organise public events, quizzes and debates, invite guest speakers or have multicultural evenings. Many groups publicly display the work they have done in preparation for One World Week, or lead other people in doing a public action. One World Week introduces new organisations to successful development education, while providing more established programmes with an annual development education focus.

This year One World Week is from 19-27 November. The theme for One World Week 2005 is '**Young People Participating to Change their World**'. The National Youth Development Education Programme has produced an activity pack for youth workers called '*Making a Difference - Young People Participating to Change their World*' which explores the issue of youth participation locally and globally. This pack contains a range of activities to help youth workers explore this theme with young people. It looks at barriers to youth participation and celebrates the many ways in which young people take action for change. It also offers suggestions on how young people can become involved in action for a more just world. Some sample activities are listed below:

Activity One: Linked Together

Aim: That young people examine how their lives are linked to the rest of the people all over the world.

Age: 6

Time: 20 minutes

Materials: Long piece of string/wool, Ball or other small object

- * Everyone sits or stands in a circle, begin by asking the group what connects them to the rest of the world.

- * A ball or other object is passed around the group and only the person holding it speaks and says what connects them to the wider world.
- * They hold one end of the string/wool and throw the rest to a person across the circle who says how they are connected.
- * This is repeated until everyone is connected.
- * Explain that we are all connected to people throughout the world in our daily lives. Decisions we make about what we eat, what to wear, how to travel and so on affect people everywhere.

Activity Two: Make Your Mark!

Aim: That young people reflect on experiences of participating or being prevented from participating

Age: 10 years and older


Time: 30 minutes

Materials: Sheet of paper and markers/art materials

- * Each person gets a sheet of paper & markers.
- * They can choose to draw their own hand or foot print or both.
- * Ask half the young people to imagine a time when they participated in something.
- * Inside the hand or foot, write or draw how it made them feel.
- * On the outside, draw or write what helped their participation.
- * The other half imagine a time when they were prevented from participating, how they felt about it and what hindered their participation.
- * Allow 15 minutes for this.
- * Form mixed groups and have the young people share what encouraged or discouraged them from participating and how they felt about it.
- * Each group makes a list of up to five statements about good youth participation. All the groups feed back and an overall charter of good youth participation is agreed.

GET PAVING!

One World Week has teamed up with Friends of the Earth Ireland to take action on climate change. It is increasingly evident that climate change is not just a burden on future generations but is with us today. While the biggest contributors to global warming are rich countries, it is the poorest people whose lives are affected most.



The 10 warmest years ever measured worldwide have all occurred in the last 15 years.

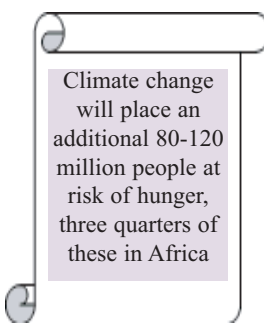


'PAVE THE WAY FOR ACTION ON

CLIMATE CHANGE'

 is this year's One World Week central action. Young people up and down the country will be exploring the link between climate change and poverty and what each one of us can do to take action. They will be producing colourful paving stones with images and messages calling for action and inviting local politicians and the public to walk along the path of sustainable development.

At a national level, the paving stones will be presented to the Irish delegation heading out to UN Summit on Climate Change in Montreal, Canada. We will be calling on them to use Ireland's influence to achieve action on climate change.



Climate change will place an additional 80-120 million people at risk of hunger, three quarters of these in Africa

GOING GLOBAL!

Best Practice Guidelines on Development Education in Youth Work:

In September 2005, the National Youth Development Education Programme launches 'Going Global! - Good Practice Guidelines on Development Education in Youth Work'. Going Global! provides youth workers with a step-by-step guide to delivering quality development education programmes. Each section includes case studies

which share the experiences and insights of youth workers and young people involved in development education. These case studies highlight the value of development education to young people in Ireland and globally and show why youth work settings are ideal for doing development education. Going Global! also gives suggestions on how to make development education a core part of youth organisations' on-going work. Copies of Going Global! are available free of charge from the National Youth Development Education Programme or can be downloaded from www.youthdeved.ie



or can be downloaded from www.youthdeved.ie

Handy Websites for further information on global, environmental and development education issues:

Action Aid Ireland www.actionaidireland.org

Amnesty Ireland www.amnesty.ie

Concern www.concern.net

Development Cooperation Ireland www.dci.gov.ie

Enfo www.enfo.ie

Fairtrade Mark Ireland www.fairtrade.ie

Global Campaign for Education www.campaignforeducation.org

Make Poverty History www.makepovertyhistory.com

Oxfam Ireland www.oxfam.ie

Eco Unesco www.ecounesco.ie

Trocaire www.trocaire.ie

For further information please contact:

Jean Marie Cullen
NYCI

3 Montague Street
Dublin 1

Tel: 01 4784122

Fax: 01 4783974

Email: deved@youth.ie

Training on the activities in the 'Young People Participating to Change their World' pack is provided free of charge to youth workers from September. All training participants receive a free copy of the pack. Please contact the Development Education Programme in NYCI (01) 4784122.

New Resources

ADDICTION ISSUES

**Alcohol and Young People:
Approaches to Prevention: Acceptance
Responsibility & Action Implementation (2004)**
by MEAS

Conference report from MEAS (Mature Enjoyment of Alcohol in Society) on the topic of alcohol and young people held in Dublin in Oct. 2004. The theme of the conference was prompted by research commissioned to better understand the problem of underage drinking. The research endorsed the widely held view that underage drinking is comparatively widespread in Ireland and tends to be well ingrained from 15 or 16 years of age. The research also found that changing parenting styles in Ireland have had the effect of facilitating easier underage access to alcohol.

**Drug Use Among the Homeless
Population in Ireland (2005)**
by N.A.C.D.

NACD commissioned report which had as its overall aim to assess the nature, extent and context of drug use among homeless people in Ireland. It is clear from the research that homeless drug users are a very vulnerable group. Over a third of the study population were problematic drug users and while drug use was not the primary reason for people becoming homeless it is the key reason for remaining homeless. The report notes that homeless drug users are exposed to higher levels of risk as they use drugs in unhygienic public places and share drug taking paraphernalia.

**The Family Guide to Substance Misuse
CD Rom & Video (2005)**
*By Anne Bradshaw, Mid-Tipperary Drugs
Initiative*

DVD telling the story of a teenage boy living in a small Irish town who begins using drugs. It outlines the effects substance abuse has on his life, his families and his future. The aim of the DVD is to create a greater awareness of substance abuse for the whole community and particularly parents.

CHILD PROTECTION & WELL-BEING

Children's Understanding of Well-Being (2005)
by Saoirse Nic Gabhainn & Jane Sixsmith (NCO)
Report that attempts to uncover children's understanding of well-being with the aim of contributing the perspective of children to the development of a national set of well-being indicators. The findings illustrate the breadth of perspective that children have on this topic. The design and method of data collection is both novel and creative and is described in detail to support the credibility and conformability of the findings. This study generated data of a positive nature both in terms of the subjects and the discussion that they subsequently produced.

Measuring Child Well-Being (2005)
by Anne-Marie Brooks & Sinéad Hanafin (NCO)
The identification of a national set of child well-being indicators to form the basis for the State of the Nation's Children Report was identified as a key objective in the National Children's Strategy, 2000. This objective reflected an increasing global effort to measure and monitor child well-being. This report includes more than 2,500 indicators from 80 international, national and regional reports on child well-being and outlines the way in which child well-being has been conceptualised across different reports and throughout different countries.

**Our Duty to Care:
The principles of good practice for the
protection of children & young people (2004)**
by Department of Health & Children
Document aimed at community & voluntary organisations of any size or type that provide services for children. It offers guidance on the promotion of child welfare and the development of safe practices in work with children. It also gives information on how to recognise signs of child abuse and the correct steps to take within organisations if it is suspected, witnessed or disclosed. The process of reporting suspected or actual child abuse to the health board is described step by step and guidance is given on how to handle sensitive issues.

Report on the Development of a National Set of Child Well-Being Indicators in Ireland (2005)

by Sinead Hanafin & Anne-Marie Brooks (NCO)

Report that provides a detailed account of the development of a national set of child well-being indicators in Ireland which will form the basis for the production of the State of the Nation's Children report. The developed indicator set is an initial step towards the presentation of a comprehensive picture of children's lives in Ireland and provide a basis for future development. A multi-stage consensual approach was taken to the development and the Delphi technique was used as an overarching methodology for integrating each part.

The Delphi Technique:

A Methodology to Support the Development of a National Set of Child Well-Being Indicators

(2005)

by Sinead Hanafin & Anne-Marie Brooks (NCO)

Report on child well being indicators developed by NCO to assess the current status of child well being in Ireland today. This report provides an overview of the Delphi Technique and considers issues relating to categorisations, advantages, disadvantages, purpose, processes and epistemological underpinnings of the Delphi Technique. In the current development the adoption of the Delphi Technique enabled the collation of a large number of varying viewpoints.

The Development of a National Set of Child Well-Being Indicators

(Executive Summary) (2005)

by National Children's Office

The identification of a national set of child well-being indicators to form the basis for the State of the Nation's Children Report was identified as a key objective in the National Children's Strategy. A child well-being indicator is a measure that assesses well-being at a point in time over time and across geographic areas and population groups. This report sets out the forty-two child well-being indicators and seven socio-demographic indicators which will be used to contextualise children's lives in Ireland.

HEALTH ISSUES

The Sexual Health Strategy (2005)

by Department of Public Health

Report produced in response to the National Health Strategy Quality & Fairness. The aims of this strate-

gy are to ensure the promotion of sexual health, the prevention and management of infection and the prevention of unintended teen pregnancies. The report concludes that good sexual health is essential for physical and social well-being and that there is a clear relationship between sexual ill health, poverty and social exclusion.

Working Things Out:

A therapeutic resource for adolescents dealing with depression & other mental health problems (2005)

by Parents Plus

Working things out is an interactive CD Rom/DVD that contains the personal stories of eleven adolescents who have managed difficult problems in their lives such as depression, bullying, eating disorders and self-harm. The stores are illustrated by animation and graphics, narrated by the young people and backed up by professional information and hand-outs. The focus of this resource is on raising awareness of mental health issues and helping young people to identify and develop their own coping skills.

LITERACY

NALA Literacy Tools

by NALA

CD Rom produced by the National Adult Literacy Agency which provides tutors and learners the ability to use some of the interactive exercises and games found on their literacy tools website. The CD Rom includes tutor resources, print exercises, games and interactive exercise and is a valuable tool for adults who would like to improve their spelling, reading and numeracy skills.

PEER EDUCATION

Fair and Square:

A book of games helping children make new friends (2005)

by St. Edwards National School, Sligo

Fair & Square is a child-centred integrated play programme which aims to encourage integration in the school yard and thereby moving the process into the school. A peer-education model has been adopted to enable older and younger children to work together. The programme is based on friendship building and for the older children involved, training in leader-

ship, communication, observation and safety. Central to the process is fun.

SUICIDE PREVENTION

Reach Out:

National Strategy for Action on Suicide Prevention 2005-2014 (2005) *by HSE, National Suicide Review Group & Department of Health & Children*

Ten year strategy that sets out a range of actions to be taken by various State and non-governmental agencies on four different levels in relation to suicide in Ireland (i) the general population, (ii) specific target groups such as young men, prisoners, unemployed etc (iii) responding to suicide (iv) information and research. The aim of this strategy is to assist in identifying actions that could be undertaken in a coordinated way through partnership working between statutory, voluntary and community groups in suicide prevention.

Supporting Life

Suicide Prevention for Mental Healthcare Service Users (2005) *by Schizophrenia Ireland*

Research has show that certain at-risk groups are more likely to attempt suicide, particularly those with schizophrenia, bipolar disorder and depression. The purpose of this document aims to encourage discussion around these at-risk groups and suggests ways that can assist in risk reduction. The document also provides information on suicide prevention for people with severe mental illness and encourages the mental health services to adequately address the needs of the people it serves.

VOLUNTEERING

Volunteering for All: Exploring the Link Between Volunteering & Social Exclusion

by Institute for Volunteering Research

Report that summarises the findings of research undertaken by the Institute for Volunteering Research (UK) into the questions of whether volunteering is inclusive. It looks at what volunteering can do to reduce social exclusion, the challenges faced in making volunteering more inclusive and the steps taken by organisations in the UK to overcome these barriers. The report highlights the barriers to

formal volunteering faced by individuals from the black and minority ethnic groups, disabled people and people with a record of offending - all of whom have been identified as being under-represented in formal volunteering and as being at risk of social exclusion

DEIS - Delivering Equality of Opportunity in Schools: An Action Plan for Education Inclusion (2005) *by Department of Education & Science*

Action plan focusing on addressing the educational needs of children and young people from disadvantaged communities, from pre-school through second level education. The action plan is one element of a continuum of interventions to address disadvantage, which include second-chance education and training and access measures for adults to support increased participation by under-represented groups in further and higher education.

YOUTH INCLUSION

Education & Language Needs of Separated Children (2005) *by Tanya Ward*

Report that focuses on the education and language needs of separated children in Ireland. The report is in response to the White Paper on Adult Education which made adult asylum seekers eligible for language and literacy support through the VECs. During the research separated children were identified as experiencing immense difficulties accessing and remaining in education. Thus the aims and objectives of this report include compiling a profile of separated children in Dublin; evaluating current educational provisions for separated children paying particular attention to profile, resources, childcare, equality and anti-discrimination. The report also formulates recommendations to meet the language and educational needs of separated children.

Education & Language Needs of Separated Children (Executive Summary) (2005) *by Tanya Ward*

Executive report focusing on the education and language needs of separated children in Ireland. The report is in response to the White Paper on Adult Education which made adult asylum seekers eligible for language and literacy support through the VECs.

**Second Level Student Councils in Ireland:
A Study of Enablers, Barriers & Supports
(2005)**

by NCO

Report presenting the findings of a study carried out by the Children's Research Centre. The research was conducted in two phases, the first aimed to describe barriers, enablers and supports to the development and operation of student councils in Ireland as perceived by key stakeholders. The second phase profiled three "good practice models of student councils". The findings are based on research conducted with 11 schools in phase one and 3 schools in phase two. Focus group interviews and individual interviews were conducted with students, teachers, principles and parents.

**Young Voices -
Guidelines on How to Involve Children &
Young People in youth work (2005)**

by NCO, NYCI & Children's Rights Alliance

Guidelines that have been devised with the aim of encouraging agencies and organisations in both the statutory and non-statutory sectors in Ireland to explore ways in which they can develop a culture of participation by children and young people. It shows how participation can become an integral part of an organisations policy-making, planning and activities and provides practical guidance on initiating and developing different forms of involvement. Young Voices focuses primarily on participation by children and young people over the age of twelve.

**Can Youth Make a Difference?
Youth Policy Facing Diversity & Change (2002)**

by Lasse Siurala

Today's challenges for youth policy in Europe is the diverse and constantly changing youth scene. This book explores the current variety of youth life-styles and elaborates on their implications for youth policy and youth work. For example, how should youth policies respond to the increasing heterogeneity of youth cultures and sub-cultures? How are current models of youth participation to be developed? And how should policies reflect young people's interest in their artistic, cultural and cyber world?

YOUTH POLICY

Ending Child Poverty (2005)

by Combat Poverty Agency

Policy statement which reviews existing

Government policies that aim to have a positive impact on children's wellbeing and compares the levels of support in Ireland with those found elsewhere. The statement focuses primarily on income support measure and services for families with children as key policy mechanism. Some of the findings include - child poverty has fallen over the past decade, however the number of families with children in relative income poverty has remained static over this time; Ireland has among the highest rates of child poverty in the EU. The relatively low levels of subvention in the education sector results in some children in Ireland are attending school hungry, inadequately dressed and without prescribed books & equipment necessary for their schooling.

**Supporting Young People in Europe
Principles, Policy and Practice (2002)**

by Howard Williamson

The concept of 'youth policy' while broadly accepted throughout the world as a necessary dimension of public policy, remains unclear and contested in relation to both its breadth and depth. The objective of this report is to seek to capture some of the key themes, issues, lessons and perhaps omissions arising from the seven Council of Europe international reviews of youth policy carried out between 1997 and 2001. These have covered Finland, the Netherlands, Sweden, Spain, Romania, Estonia and Luxembourg.

All of these titles and others on related topics are available **ON LOAN** (NOT FOR SALE) to IYWC members. The IYWC is an official sales agent in the Republic of Ireland for Combat Poverty, DEFY, Directory of Social Change, NYCI, Nightshift Publishing & Russell House Publishing. For further information & to request any of the resources on loan please contact:

Fran Bissett / Gina Halpin

Irish YouthWork Centre

National Youth Federation

20 Lower Dominick Street

Dublin 1

Tel: 01 8789933 Fax: 01 8724183

Email: fbissett@nyf.ie / ghalpin@nyf.ie

Website: www.iywc.com

Notice Board

DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION IN VOLUNTEERING

Date: Thursday 13 October
Time: 10.00am - 4.00pm
Venue: Victoria Hotel, Eyre Square, Galway

Course Content

The aim of this course is to explore the issues of diversity and inclusion in volunteering, primarily focusing on multicultural issues. This course will look at practical ways to manage diversity to optimise effectiveness in volunteer programmes.

Objectives of the Courses:

- To have an understanding of diversity, its implications and benefits
- To develop awareness and responses to multicultural issues within volunteering
- To develop practical strategies for managing diversity

VOLUNTEER SUPPORT AND SUPERVISION

Date: Thursday 17 November
Time: 10.00am - 4.00pm
Venue: Limerick

Course Content

One-day course aimed at anyone responsible for managing volunteers. It is useful for any organisation that is interested in improving methods that help to retain volunteers & encourage good performance.

Objectives of the course:

- To understand the benefits of effective forms of support and recognition.
- To understand what elements constitute effective support
- To develop appropriate and effective supervision structures.

For further information & costs please contact:

Volunteering Ireland

Coleraine House
Coleraine Street
Dublin 7
Tel: 01 8722622

Email: info@volunteeringireland.com

SENSE AND SEXUALITY:

ADDRESSING THE ISSUE OF SEXUAL HEALTH WITH YOUNG PEOPLE IN YOUTH WORK SETTINGS

Date: Tuesday 4 & Wednesday 5 October
Venue: Wexford
Cost: €100

Course Content:

Two-day training course, which will explore issues in relation to sexual health and sexual health promotion for young people. It will also examine the role of workers and organisations in this regard. Issues of good practice and policy will be examined.

Objectives of the course:

- To examine the context for addressing the sexual health needs of young people
- To discuss the role of organisations in relation to this work
- To examine the support needs of workers & organisations in the area of sexual health
- To identify a rationale and process for policy development
- To explore good practice with regard to sexual health education programmes

OPENING ROUND:

AN INTRODUCTION TO WORKING WITH DIFFERENT GROUPS.

Date: Friday 7 October
Venue: Dundalk
Cost: €50

Course Content:

One-day introductory course that explores a range of skills and strategies for working with different groups. These include skills in relation to presenting, chairing meetings and facilitating groups.

Objectives of the course:

- To identify the specific skills in working with different groups
- To examine a range of strategies for working with different groups
- To consider the practical application of these skills through group work exercises

**POLICY IN PRACTICE & DRUGS WORK:
DEVELOPING A STRATEGY & POLICY FOR DEALING
WITH THE DRUGS ISSUE IN OUT-OF-SCHOOL
SETTINGS**

Date: Thursday 24 & Friday 25 November

Venue: Sligo

Cost: €100

Course Content:

Two-day training course based on the Support Pack for Dealing with the Drugs Issue in Out-of-School Settings, revised and produced by the National Youth Health Programme in 2003 and funded by the Regional Drugs Co-ordinators of the Regional Health Boards. The course offers workers from both statutory and Youth Work settings an approach for dealing with the drugs issue. The primary focus of this course is to facilitate and support workers towards the development of an organisational strategy and drugs policy for out-of-school settings.

Objectives of the course:

- To examine a variety of responses in relation to drugs work
- To explore the practicalities of organisational policy development in relation to drugs work
- To explore best practice in this area.

**CHALLENGING ENCOUNTERS:
STRATEGIES FOR ADDRESSING DIFFICULT AND
PROBLEMATIC BEHAVIOUR WHEN WORKING WITH
YOUNG PEOPLE**

Date: Wednesday 26 & Thursday 27 October

Venue: Dublin

Cost: €100

Course Content:

Two-day course for those working with young people in out-of-school settings. It is designed to introduce participants to the theory and skills required to engage young people at points of difficulty and to assist young people to learn from such events for the future. This programme is a combination of theoretical input, demonstration and practice of practical skills and case study review.

Objectives of the course:

- To understand the purpose of anger in human behaviour
- To identify their own anger at points of challenge and conflict and how to manage it
- To explore the triage of relationships in the

work environment and the role group contracts have to play in behavioural management

- To identify behaviour management techniques
- To begin to develop the skills to appropriately engage young people at times of difficulty
- To begin to develop the skills to assist young people to problem solve and plan for the future after difficult events

**WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT?
ALCOHOL AND YOUNG PEOPLE**

Date: Thursday 3 & Friday 4 November

Venue: Galway

Cost: €100

Course Content:

Two-day training course which aims to present a rationale for addressing the alcohol issue with young people. This course will highlight current research findings and issues of good practice. Participants will also be invited to explore creative methodologies.

Objectives of the course

- To establish a rationale for addressing the alcohol issue with young people
- To explore some creative methodologies in addressing this issue
- To examine the current legislative implications in relation to the alcohol issue and young people
- To examine issues of good practice in relation to this area

**GOOD HABITS OF MIND: A MENTAL HEALTH
INITIATIVE FOR THOSE WORKING WITH YOUNG
PEOPLE IN OUT-OF-SCHOOL SETTINGS**

Date: Wednesday 9 & Thursday 10
November (Cork)

Tuesday 15 & Wednesday 16
November (Dublin)

Cost: €100

Course Content:

Two-day training course which aims to examine how the issue of mental health impacts on young people. It will also offer participants an opportunity to explore issues of good practice from a worker and an organisational perspective.

Objectives of the course:

- To examine how the issue of mental health

impacts on young people

- To raise participants awareness of mental health theory
- To explore good practice with regard to mental health promotion
- To examine referral and explore the practical implementation of mental health promotion

For further information please contact:

National Youth Health Programme

3 Montague Street
Dublin 2
Tel: 01 4784122
Fax: 01 4783974
Email: nyhp@nyci.ie

**CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE:
WORKING WITH THE FAMILY**

Date: Tuesday 22 November
Venue: Dublin

Course Content:

One-day training course which will provide guidance and support on working with families and/or individual family members where sexual abuse has occurred. The course will explore the particular dynamics involved in family work, and how these dynamics are magnified in those cases involving sexual abuse. The particular issues involved in working with families where incest is suspected or proven will be examined.

For further information & costs please contact:

C.A.R.I.
110 Lower Drumcondra Road
Dublin 9
Tel: 01 8305929
Email: info@cari.ie

ADVOCACY IN PRACTICE

Date: Tuesday 18 October
Venue: Ashbourne, Co. Meath
Time: 10.00am - 4.30pm

Course Content:

One-day course aimed at providing an overview and practical understanding of the range of advocacy

work in which an information provider may engage.

Objectives of the course

- To name & identify different types of advocacy
- To identify steps to be taken when advocating on someone's behalf
- To identify the areas in which an advocacy function may be necessary when dealing with a query
- To pursue the link with social policy in acting as an advocate

HOMELESSNES - POLICY AND SERVICE

Date: Tuesday 29 November
Venue: Dublin
Time: 10.00am - 4.30pm

Course Content:

One-day course aimed at providing participants with an overview of the current homelessness policy and services in Ireland and to provide a working knowledge of the Residential Tenancies Act 2004

Objectives of the course

- To demonstrate an awareness of the experience of homelessness and its links to health and drug use
- To outline homelessness policy in Ireland
- To provide an overview of homelessness services to clients

IMMIGRANTS' RIGHTS AND ENTITLEMENTS

Date: Tuesday 15 & Wednesday 16 November
Venue: Waterford
Time: 10.00am - 4.30pm

Course Content:

Two-day course to update and increase participants' knowledge of the different categories of immigrants living in Ireland and the rights and entitlements associated with each category

Objectives of the course

- To explain the different categories of migrants in Ireland
- To outline Irish immigration policy & recent developments
- To explain the key points in the proposed immigration legislation & Residency Bill
- To explain the employment permit system and issues facing migrant workers.

PUTTING STRATEGIC PLANNING IN PRACTICE

Date: Wednesday 5 October
Venue: Cork
Time: 10.00am - 4.30pm

Course Content:

One-day course aimed at increasing participants' skills and confidence in the development and implementation of effective strategic plans in their organisation using the necessary tools.

Objectives of the course

- To apply the strategic planning process
- To involve stakeholders to identify the organisation's strategic issues
- To engage in situational analysis identifying the gap between where their organisation is now & where it needs to be in the future

For further information and cost breakdowns, please contact:

Comhairle

Hume House

Ballsbridge

Dublin 4

Tel: 01 6059000

Fax: 01 6059099

Email: comhairle@comhairle.ie

Website: www.comhairle.ie

CREATING & COMMUNICATING THE VISION

Date: Monday 28 & Tuesday 29 November
Venue: Carmichael House, Dublin
Time: 10.00am - 4.00pm

Course Content:

Two-day leadership course that focuses on the importance of leadership and vision within an organisation. Course examines the transformational nature of leadership and focuses on maintaining and renewing a strategic vision.

Objectives of the course

- To identify a personal leadership style
- To increase confidence in leadership abilities
- To use new techniques to stimulate creative thinking
- To communicate a vision in a way that influences others

INTRODUCTION TO MEDIA SKILLS

Date: Wednesday 19 October
Venue: Carmichael Centre, Dublin
Time: 10.00am - 4.00pm

Course Content:

One-day course examining a range of media topics including, the role of the media, how journalists operate, defining your message, targeting particular audiences through different forms of media and drafting effective press/news releases. The course will be very participative and will focus on practical exercises to develop skills and confidence in dealing with the media.

Objectives of the course

- To define your message
- To identify and target your audience
- To draft effective press releases
- To deal more confidently with journalists.

WRITING FUNDING PROPOSALS

Date: Tuesday 8 November
Venue: Carmichael Centre, Dublin
Time: 10.00am - 4.00pm

Course Content:

One-day workshop aimed at demystify the funding application form and develop practical skills to help secure funding. While proposals need to be tailored for specific funders, this course will cover the basic rules that apply to all funding applications.

Objectives of the course

- To compile the background information for a funding proposal
- To write a clear project description
- To produce a detailed and compelling statement of need
- To identify and estimate relevant costs

For further information & costs please contact:

Carmichael Centre

North Brunswick Street

Dublin 4

Tel: 01 6059000

Fax: 01 6059099

Email: info@carmichaelcentre.ie

Website: www.carmichaelcentre.ie

Round Up

BOARDMATCH IRELAND

Boardmatch Ireland is a new web-based skills matching service between non-profits and business. For the first time in Ireland, non-profit organisations can register their specific board level skills needs by simply logging on to <http://www.boardmatchireland.ie>

On the other side of the equation, professionals such as accountants, IT specialists, financial advisors, solicitors or project managers, for example, will also be encouraged to log on to offer their specific skills and expertise.

The Boardmatch website will match the skills needs with the skills offer, based on time available, location and area of interest. The concept has already been very successful in Canada and the United States. Ireland is the first European country to offer the service.

For more information contact:

Edel Hackett
Tel: 087 2935207
Or
Brian Sheehan
Director
Boardmatch Ireland
Tel: 086 2330417

MASTER OF ARTS IN MANAGEMENT: PASTORAL & VOLUNTARY SERVICES

The Degree programme is taught jointly by the faculties of All Hallows College, Dublin, and De Paul University and is validated by Dublin City University. Students who complete the coursework and do not wish to undertake a dissertation may exit the programme with a Graduate Diploma.

Currently, there is great need to provide opportunities for those working at the level of middle managers in the voluntary sector to study the principles and practice of Management for non-profit organisations. This programme hopes to open up theoretical

models, best practice and skills training for effective management, organisation, administration and decision-making in this specialised field.

The programme aims to enable managers to gain an integrative and strategic approach to organisation, planning and decision-making in non-profit groups. Students will be able to relate the theory and practice of voluntary and service management to their own non-profit organisations, reflect on their own experience as managers and plan for future change and development.

The twelve inter-disciplinary modules and Research Project will include:

- Non-profit Management: Basic Concepts of Administration & Organisational Structure
- Social Justice: a Context for Management
- Financial Administration for Non-Profit Organisations
- The Manager as Communicator: Public Relations and IT Communication
- Human Resource Management
- Leadership and Management
- Marketing and Fundraising
- Spirituality in the Workplace
- Law and Voluntary Organisations
- Strategic Planning and Managing Change
- Policy Design and Analysis
- Research Methods.

The course is part-time consisting of one evening per week during the academic year for two years, and two weeks full-time during the Summer Sessions. Students from both institutions work together during the Summer Modules to facilitate good inter-cultural exchange and enrichment.

The normal entry standard for Master's degrees is an honours Bachelor degree (minimum level: 2nd class honours) in a field cognate to the subject matter of the degree e.g. anthropology, economics, pastoral studies, psychology, spirituality, the social sciences, religious studies or theology.

A candidate holding qualifications different from

those specified above, e.g. professional training in the social sciences, nursing, education, professional theological studies, community care or chaplaincy, may be admitted to a Master's degree programme subject to satisfactory performance in such examination, test, or other requirements as shall be decided by All Hallows College and approved by Dublin City University.

Mature students who do not fulfil the academic requirements outlined above may be awarded a place on the programme. A system of Accreditation of Prior Experiential Learning (APEL) will be implemented to select these students.

For further information please contact:

**Margaret Doyle
BA, Programme Secretary
All Hallows College
Gracepark Road
Dublin 9
Tel: 01 8373745, Fax: 01 8377642
Email: mdoyle@allhallows.ie**

**DIRECTORY OF COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTARY
HEALTHCARE ORGANISATIONS**

The Wheel's Health Spokes Directory of Community and Voluntary Healthcare organisations (first edition) is now available online. The Directory marks an important stage in the public recognition of the contribution of hundreds of community and voluntary healthcare organisations to the health and well being of Irish people. For too long the outstanding work of these organisations has gone without sufficient recognition and support from Government and the responsible statutory agencies.

Go to: www.wheel.ie/healthdirectory to download your own copy.

**"GET WITH IT!!" AWARENESS CAMPAIGN ON NEW
TECHNOLOGY LAUNCHED FOR PARENTS**

On 12 September the Internet Advisory Board (IAB) launched its three-week awareness campaign today called 'Get With IT!'. The campaign aims is to make parents aware of how new media works and encourage them to engage with, and use, new technologies with their children. This will help keep children safe when they are using technologies from digital

games, mobile phones to the computer.

The campaign, in association with the Information Society Fund, was developed in response to IAB research carried out by Amarach Research, which found that while the majority of parents (83%) discuss the potential dangers of using the Internet with their child, this declines as children reach 13-14. However the pace at which children adopt new technologies increases between the ages of 10-14. Research has also found that only 13% of parents consider their child's mobile phone to be a high-risk technology although the new generation of mobile phones can give Internet access / video messaging.

The campaign includes the publication of a free booklet, a parents' guide to new media, which contains all the information parents need. It will be supported by an intensive nationwide radio advertising campaign with the voice of RTE sport's personality and dad, Des Cahill, which runs across national and local radio from September 12th. The radio campaign has two different adverts featuring humorous family situations with children and parents handling new media tools and jargon.

"The 'Get With IT!' booklet gives details on all new media technologies, including Digital TV, the Internet, mobile phones and interactive game consoles. It gives advice on how to recognise if a child is using new media technologies in a potentially dangerous way and what steps a parent can take to prevent or stop this.

Parents can obtain a free copy of the booklet by calling Freephone 1800 242595, emailing getwithit@justice.ie, or by downloading it from the IAB website www.iab.ie. Copies of the booklet will also be available nationally in all public libraries and from citizen information bureaus. It will also be available to download from IAB partner websites: www.justice.ie, www.eircom.ie, www.city.ie, www.nccri.ie, www.barnardos.ie, www.ncte.ie and www.hotline.ie.

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