YOUTH WORK IRELAND

ANNUAL REPORT 2008

"working for a more equal and sustainable world where all young people are valued and involved"



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Introduction

2008 has seen a number of significant changes for the sector, which have presented challenges for Youth Work Ireland and for its Member Youth Services. The Government's Budget indicated a cut of in the region of 10% to Youth Affairs funding which will undoubtedly impact on service provision and on staffing. Other funding sources are likely to be similarly impacted upon. Primary responsibility for Youth Work also moved from the Department of Education to The Office of the Minister for Children henceforth to be known as The Office of the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs. This brings with it the necessity to convince those who work in a multidisciplinary environment that Youth Work is a distinct and professional discipline with a non-formal educational focus and with a major contribution to make to an integrated strategy for meeting the needs of young people. Despite this we have been busy and this report bears testament to a productive year.

We have engaged in wide consultation, both internally and externally, in order to develop our Strategic Plan for the period 2009 - 2013 and this we believe to be a robust and focused strategy which will support us in navigating our way through the period ahead so that we might work towards achieving; 'A more equal and sustainable world where all young people are valued and involved.'

Youth Work Ireland at a glance... 75,000 Young People

Our media and campaigning work continues to strengthen increased exposure both in challenging inequalities and injustice experienced by young people and in presenting a positive image of youth. We have continued to improve in the quality of our work and we have continued to support the development of quality practice. We have worked collaboratively and in partnership with a range of agencies and individuals in pursuance of our objectives and in particular we have been active in promoting the greater involvement of young people as active citizens. We can, with some justification, be proud of our achievements.

Board of Directors Report

The Board of the National Youth Federation (Youth Work Ireland) have focused significantly on improving our governance, fiscal management and strategic performance during the course of 2008. This has included setting a budget for 2009 that takes into account anticipated reductions in funding. Unfortunately this has included the necessity for making one post at national office redundant and reducing working hours for some staff. We are confident that these actions will avoid any immediate difficulty, but, as with our Member Organisations and the wider environment, we are acutely aware of the need to anticipate any further difficulties and put in place strategies for sustaining our capacity to deliver.

The process of developing our new Strategic Plan created significant opportunity to hear the voice of many of our stakeholders. While the strategic priorities identified do not record the detail of what was said, the Board are acutely aware of our need to build our federal infrastructure in a manner that affords young people, volunteers, staff, managers and Boards of our member organisations the opportunity to engage increasingly in the life of the federation. We will also prioritise the improvement of communication within the Federation and clarity in decision-making processes.



Volunteer Achievement Awards 2008 – (L-R) Diarmuid Kearney, Liz Dermody, Orla Tinsley, Minister for Children & Youth Affairs Barry Andrews T.D. & John Creedon

We have continued to promote greater collaboration and partnership between agencies and this has been reflected in a number of ways through, for example, working in partnership with Foróige and The Office of the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs to support Dáil na nÓg. We have also renewed our partnership with Youth Action Northern Ireland (YANI) and continue to work collaboratively with them on a range of issues. Our work with the Youth Services Interagency Group has initiated significant research on the purpose and outcomes of Youth Work in a Youth Service setting which will be an important resource in articulating our role and function in an increasingly complex world. We do however have concerns that reduced availability of resources has introduced increased competition to the sector and are resolved in promoting partnership at every opportunity.

Throughout the year the Board have received regular updates on the work of the Federation and its membership and we hope to continue to support their efforts on a practical and strategic level in the coming year.

Member Youth Services Reports

The work of our Member Youth Services continues to develop and expand. Considerable energy has been expended in consolidating recent growth however significant further expansion of services seems unlikely in the immediate future. This has not deterred the members of the Federation from focusing on the continued improvement of the work with high levels of investment in developing both the organisational capacity and quality of practice.

Developments have been supported through increased engagement in the various federal fora, which provide opportunities for mutual support and joint working. These fora include clusteral meetings, the Regional Directors Network, a number of 'Soundings' meetings and joint working on themes such as International Work, Quality, Participation, Programmes and Training.

Youth Work Ireland at a glance... 22 Member Youth Services

Individual Member Youth Services have seen specific developments in services, improved governance, building programmes and collaborative working, continuing the tradition of creativity and responsiveness, which has been a hallmark of the Federation over many years.

Some Member Youth Services have also seen changes in staffing that have brought both the challenge of change and the opportunity for reflective adjustments to their work. They continue to work in partnership with other agencies for the benefit of young people supporting them to find their place in a rapidly changing environment.



Opening of the Phoenix Youth Centre in Youth Work Ireland Roscommon & N.E. Galway, 2008

National Office Report

2008 saw a significant range of activities delivered from National Office which have been grouped under a number of broad headings as follows:

QUALITY STANDARDS AND TRAINING

We have continued to roll out our Quality Standards Framework and are indebted to the many volunteer panel members who give of their time to support the process. This is not always an easy process but we are convinced that it is supportive in helping us deliver the best service possible for young people. In addition we have been active in the development and piloting of a Quality Process for the sector lead by the Youth Work Assessor and feel this will be a further contribution to improves practice.



Quality Standards Awards Presentation to KDYS by Minster for Children & Youth Affairs Barry Andrews TD, 2008

The Irish YouthWork Centre continues to deliver a range of training events and produce resources for the benefit of Members and the sector in general and feedback continues to be positive.

We have engaged with the sector in developing child protection training and have worked to achieve consistency in this area.

Cross border work continues with a number of our Member Services engaging primarily with YANI and initiatives have included training and international support work.

Youth Work Ireland at a glance... 7,000 Volunteers

A Youth Media Group has been established with the active engagement of a number of young people from Member Services having received training and support in public representation with considerable success. We have also continued to deliver media training for Local Youth Services.

The IYWC has delivered a range of workshops including: Recording and Report Writing Skills; Developing Your Promotional Strategy and Responding to Challenging Behaviour in Young People.

FEDERAL SUPPORT

Maintenance of existing supports to the Teen Between Project has continued including the training of additional staff, and expansion of service provisions.

NYF members have played a lead role in developing a framework for Youth Information and in considering the future of Youth Cafes.

The development of federal communications has been supported through the issuing of the IYWC E-zine.

Youth Work Ireland at a glance... 550 Youth clubs

NATIONAL PROGRAMMES

Building on the annual delivery and ongoing success of our National Programmes (National Games and Variety Show) other significant achievements included:

- ▶ The development of the Irish Youth Music Awards.
- "Nollaig" Christmas card competition continues.
- Games and Variety Programmes continue to provide a major attraction.
- A review of Programmes has been carried out with a view to further developing their value for young people.



INTERNATIONAL WORK

We have reviewed this area of our work and developed a strategy for future work.

We have engaged in international exchanges with young people.

We have worked in partnership with NYCI and Leargas.

We have continued to engage with ECYC and EFYSO and currently Ken Keogh is President of EFYSO.

YOUTH PARTICIPATION

A successful Summer School was held with participants from many Member Services engaging on the theme of Youth Participation.

We have worked in partnership with the National Children's Office and others in supporting work in this area with a particular focus on Dáil na nÓg and Comhairle na nÓg.

PUBLICATIONS

During the course of 2008 we have produced a number of publications including;

- Youth Studies Ireland (2 Editions)
- Directory of Youth and Community Work Courses
- Irish Youth Work Scene
- Current Awareness
- Flying the Coop (Youth Work Ireland Roscommon and North East Galway)

Youth Work Ireland at a glance... 400 Staff

ADVOCACY AND LOBBYING

Our advocacy and influencing work was also significant during 2008 with our exposure on national media expanding further.

We have developed a resource bank of images for use in promotion of our work.

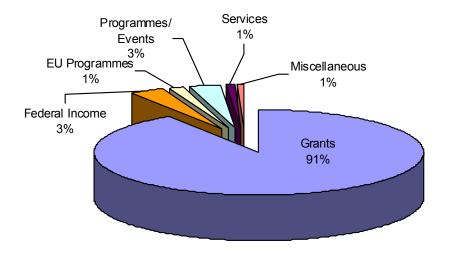
We continue to work actively in a number of fora for the development of our work and promotion of the interests of young people and youth services.



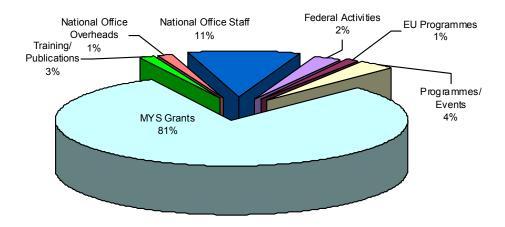
Youth Work Ireland members protesting against cut backs outside Dáil Eireann 2008 (L-R) Jessica Ní Breathnach, Hannay Furey & Audrey Walsh

Financial Report

INCOME 2008



EXPENDITURE 2008



9

DETAILED INCOME 2008

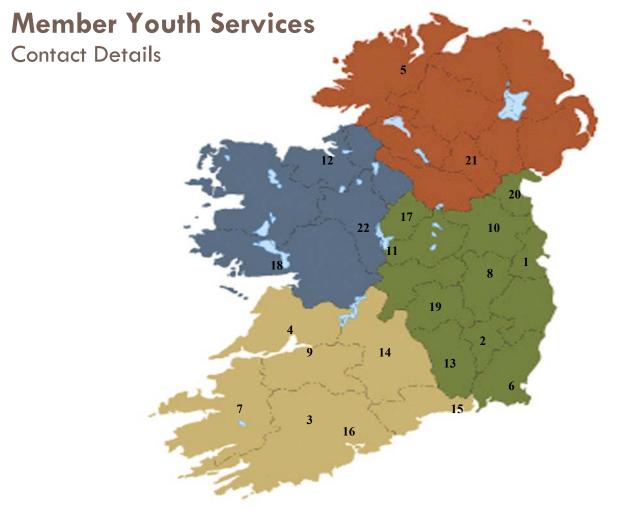
INCOME	2008	2007
	€	€
Grants	9,259,442	8,873,088
Federal Income	356,063	315,151
E.U. PROGRAMMES	127,345	120,890
Programme/Events	318,819	264,733
Services	86,123	73,430
MISCELLANEOUS	55,102	36,737
	10,202,894	9,684,029

DETAILED EXPENDITURE 2008

	2008 €	2007 €
Federal Activities	241,838	e 269,606
E.U. Programmes	127,345	120,890
Programme/Events	397,614	315,798
M.Y.S Grants	8,076,041	7,718,567
Training/Publications	126,467	120,906
National Office Overheads	144,456	179,735
National Office Staff Costs	1,042,132	895,373
	10,155,893	9,620,875
SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR	47,001	63,154

BALANCE SHEET 2008

	2008	2007
FIXED ASSETS	€	€
Tangible Assets	348,143	361,080
CURRENT ASSETS		
DEBTORS	33,780	28,695
Cash at Bank and in hand	308,658	237,692
	102,301	193,494
CREDITORS (amount falling due within one year)	(339,120)	(323,007)
NET CURRENT ASSETS / (LIABILITIES)	<u>3,318</u>	(56,620)
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES	351,461	304,460
Funded by		
ACCUMULATED FUNDS	<u>351,461</u>	304,460



1. CANAL COMMUNITIES REGIONAL YOUTH SERVICE

23 Tyreconnell Road, Inchicore, Dublin 8. (†) 01-4738439 (f) 01-4738440 (e) ccrys@eircom.net (w) www.ccrys.org Regional Director: Brónagh O'Neill

2. CARLOW REGIONAL YOUTH SERVICE

Montgomery House, Athy Road, Carlow. (†) 059-9130476 (f) 059-9140903 (e) carlowys@iol.ie (w) www.carlowys.ie Regional Director: Kathryn Wall

3. CDYS YOUTH WORK IRELAND

Mallow Community Youth Centre, New Road, Mallow, Co. Cork. (†) 022-53526 (f) 022-53456 (e) admincdys@eircom.net (w) www.cdys.ie Regional Director: Brian Williams

4. CLARE YOUTH SERVICE

Carmody Street, Ennis, Co.Clare. (†) 065-6845350 (f) 065-6829416 (e) info@clareyouthservice.org (w) www.clareyouthservice.org Regional Director: Margaret Slattery

5. DONEGAL YOUTH SERVICE

16-18 Port Road, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal.
(†) 074-9129630
(f) 074-9127612
(e) dys@eircom.net
(w) www.dongealyouthservice.ie
Regional Director: Lorraine Thompson

6. FDYS YOUTH WORK IRELAND

Francis Street, Wexford. (†) 053-9123262 (f) 053-9123880 (e) fdys@iol.ie (w) www.youthworkieland.ie/wexford Regional Director: Kieran Donohoe

7. KERRY DIOCESAN YOUTH SERVICE

Fairhill, Killarney, Co. Kerry. (†) 064-31748 (f) 064-36770 (e) killarney@kdys.ie (w) www.kdys.ie Regional Director: Tim O'Donoghoe

8. KILDARE YOUTH SERVICES

Canal Stores, Basin Street, Naas, Co. Kildare. (†) 045-897893 (f) 045-897893 (e) yic@kys.ie (w) www.kys.ie Regional Director: Liz O'Sullivan

9. LIMERICK YOUTH SERVICE

5 Lower Glentworth Street, Limerick. (†) 061-412444 (f) 061-412795 (e) lys@limerickyouthservice.com Regional Director: Catherine Kelly

10. MEATH YOUTH FEDERATION

14 Ludlow Street, Navan, Co. Meath. (†) 046-9022707 (f) 046-9075239 (e) myfed@eircom.net (w) www.community.meath.ie Regional Director: Geri Hogarty

11. MIDLANDS REGIONAL YOUTH SERVICE 13 Church Street, Athlone, Co. Westmeath.

(t) 090-6477075
(f) 090-6477076
(e) midyouth@eircom.net
(w) www.mrys.org
Regional Director: Nicola Johnston

12. NORTH CONNAUGH YOUTH SERVICE

5a Market Street, Sligo. (†) 071-9145578 (f) 071-9145578 (e) youthservice@eircom.net (w) www.nyycs.ie Regional Director: Pat Forde

13. OSSORY YOUTH

Desert Hall, New Street, Kilkenny. (†) 056-7761200 (f) 056-7752358 (e) admin@ossoryyouth.com (w) www.ossoryyouth.com Regional Director: Mary Mescal

14. TIPPERARY REGIONAL YOUTH SERVICE

Croke Street, Thurles, Co. Tipperary. (†) 0504-23426 (f) 0504-23854 (e) trysmanager@eircom.net (w) www.trys.ie

15. WATERFORD & SOUTH TIPPERARY COMMUNITY YOUTH SERVICE

Edmund Rice Youth & Community Centre, Manor Street, Waterford. (†) 051-351105 (f) 051-355715 (e) wrys@iol.ie Regional Director: Eoin O'Neill

16. YOUTH WORK IRELAND CORK

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17. YOUTH WORK IRELAND COUNTY LONGFORD

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18. YOUTH WORK IRELAND GALWAY

41-43 Prospect Hill, Galway.
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19. YOUTH WORK IRELAND LAOIS

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20. YOUTH WORK IRELAND LOUTH

Rivercourt Business Centre, Dundalk, Co. Louth (†) 042-9338323 (f) 042-9337953 (e) kevin@lyf.ie Regional Director: Kevin Matthews

21.YOUTH WORK IRELAND MONAGHAN

Enterprise Centre, Castleblaney. Co. Monaghan. (t) 042-9751000 (f) 042-9751932 (e) info@ywimonaghan.ie (w) www.youthworkireland.ie/monaghan Regional Director: Mary Lynch

22. YOUTH WORK IRELAND ROSCOMMON & N.E. GALWAY

19 Abbey Street, Roscommon. (t) 090-6625395 (f) 090-6627398 (e) yicrosc@eircom.net (w) www.roscommonyouth.ie Regional Director: Liam Moroney Regional Director: Cora Horgan



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