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# Irish Youth Work Scene

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**MAGAZINE FOR YOUTH WORKERS**

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# Now That We Have the Money, Let's Spend It!

by Diarmuid Kearney,  
Chief Executive, National Youth Federation

It looks like we're going to see the implementation of the Youth Work Act and the Development Plan after all! Minister of State, Sile de Valera T.D. has secured in access of an additional €5million (thanks in no small part to our collective funding campaign) and there are strong indications that further significant increases are possible. And rightly so!. Even by the Government's own estimates, published as an appendix to the National Youth Work Development Plan in August 2003, the additional €5 million provides just 50% of the increase in funding anticipated by this stage.

Full implementation of the Act and Plan will be dependent, in part, on securing the additional funding, and securing the full funding will in turn be dependent on a range of factors. Firstly, there's the Ministers ability to secure it (indications and success to date bode well). Secondly, our continued campaign will need to keep the pressure on (though not perhaps at the same pitch as last year). Finally, our collective ability to spend the current increase in an effective and efficient manner. And this is where we could have difficulties! Not because there is a shortage of developments to spend it on, but because we have difficulties in being expedient in the task.

Take the appointment of the Youth Work Assessor. This appointment is commonly agreed to be the lynchpin of the Act and Plan and is named as a priority for spending in a joint paper presented to the Minister recently by NYCI and IVEA. It seems that locating the post within the Education Inspectorate (necessary to afford the position authority) presents 'technical difficulties' which have already resulted in significant delay.

Other priorities for spending include capacity development for national and regional youth work organizations and VEC's, establishment of the Youth Work Development Unit, implementation of child protection procedures, completion of the funding review, completion of Youth Information review, upgrading current provision and assessing current models of Local / Regional Youth Services.

It seems that for once funding is not the problem. The single biggest threat to development of the youth sector is our ability to spend!

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## Disclaimer

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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# Project Profile: The Teen Between Service

By Helen Butler, Information Services Co-ordinator,  
Galway Youth Federation

## BACKGROUND

The traumas of adolescence are legend - physical, emotional, psychological, hormonal - the process of detachment from family and establishing oneself as an individual can be fraught with turmoil and teenage angst. For many young people this is enough to be going on with without adding on any more difficulties.

Family relationship difficulties can add significant stress to an already stressful time in a young person's life - the foundation begins to crumble resulting in a lot of fear and uncertainty.

Teenagers often feel isolated while their parents' relationship deteriorates. There is often an assumption that because they are young adults, they have some understanding of what is going on.

More often than not, this couldn't be further from the truth. Parents are often caught up in their own distress and are unable to understand what's happening for their children. Off the cuff assurances that things will work out aren't taken seriously.

Young people are subject to much more conflicting messages in the media and, indeed, watching their friends and what's happening in their families.

## THE TEEN BETWEEN SERVICE

The Teen Between Service, established in Dublin by MRCS (Marriage & Relationship Counselling Service) in 1995 and throughout the country since 1998 offers a safe haven for teenagers.

Providing a safe, objective, confidential environment that allows a young person work through what's going on in their family and how it impacts directly on themselves, can often be the valve that releases unbearable pressure.

## NATIONAL YOUTH FEDERATION/ TEEN BETWEEN PROJECT

Teen Between is now available in twelve Member Youth Services of the National Youth Federation - delivered by more than thirty youth workers that have been trained by MRCS. Who better to provide a listening support service for young people than youth workers?

The non-formal, encouraging environment of a youth centre offers the ideal location for teenagers to open up and discuss their difficulties. Many times, the young person needs only a shoulder to lean on for a short while as they grapple with what's happening in their lives.

In Galway Youth Federation, the service has developed from one worker in 1998 to today's figure of nine youth workers delivering the service as part and parcel of their work.

The service can be accessed in Ballinasloe, Loughrea, Tuam and in Galway city and has developed to provide parenting support in the form of courses entitled '*Parenting After Separation*' and '*Life after Separation*'.

On Saturday 12 March Galway Youth Federation, in association with MRCS, organised a conference entitled '*Changing Families - Surviving Separation*'.

With Marie Murray (Psychologist and Journalist) and Doreen Condon (Teen Between Co-ordinator with MRCS) as the speakers, the conference gave a voice to young people, addressed some of the issues that are played out in school and looked at the difficulties that are particularly associated with separation in rural Ireland.

For further information on the Teen Between service in Galway or the proceedings of the Changing Families - Surviving Separation conference please contact:

**Helen Butler**  
**Information Services Co-ordinator**  
Ballinasloe Youth Information Centre  
Town Hall  
Society Street  
Ballinasloe  
Co. Galway

**Tel:** 09096 44144  
**Fax:** 09096 44782  
**Email:** [yicbsloe@eircom.net](mailto:yicbsloe@eircom.net)

For further information on the National Youth Federation's Teen Between Service please contact:

**Mr. Fran Bissett**  
**IYWC Co-ordinator**  
National Youth Federation  
20 Lower Dominick Street  
Dublin 1

**Tel:** 01 8729933  
**Fax:** 01 8724183

For further information on Teen Between please contact:

**Ms Doreen Condon**  
**Teen Between Co-ordinator**  
Marriage and Relationship Counselling Service  
38 Upper Fitzwilliam Street  
Dublin 2

**Tel:** 01 6785256  
**Fax:** 01 6785260  
**Email:** [mrcs@eircom.net](mailto:mrcs@eircom.net)  
**Website:** [www.mrcs.ie](http://www.mrcs.ie)

# Irish Youth Work Scene: Customer Evaluation

by Fran Bissett, Production Editor

## INTRODUCTION

The following is a brief question-by-question analysis of the completed and returned Irish YouthWork Scene Evaluation Questionnaires. The questionnaires were distributed to the readership with the October, 2004 edition of the magazine in order to evaluate its current effectiveness and future direction.

This evaluation is the second undertaken and follows the first in 2001 which resulted in a number of changes to content and design. These changes included moving exclusively to a practice-based focus and away from more academic articles, the expansion of the resources and noticeboard sections and separating news items from policy and funding items.

Based on the analysis of the responses a series of recommendations/proposals are being made and will be implemented as and from the next edition of the magazine in May, 2005 edition.

However, as one will see some of the recommendations have already been incorporated into this edition, namely, Activities Supplement and Profile Section. A complete quantitative breakdown of the responses on a question-by-question basis is included at the back of the analysis.

## QUESTION BY QUESTION ANALYSIS

**Question 1: The need for a specialist Youth work magazine such as Irish YouthWork Scene for Irish youth workers.**

There is an overwhelming desire for the magazine to be continued with 100% of respondents either agreeing (40%) or strongly agreeing (60%) that there is a need for a specialist magazine for youth workers.

**Question 2: The overall quality of Irish Youth Work Scene.**

There is general satisfaction with the overall quality of the magazine with 93% of respondents rating the magazine as either good (10%), very good (57%) or excellent (26%).

**Question 3: The quality of each section of the magazine.**

There was general satisfaction with the overall quality of each section. The following are the percentages that rated each section as good, very good or excellent:

**Editorial: (100%)**

**Articles: (95%)**

**Policy & Funding: (93%)**

**Round-Up: (100%)**

**Noticeboard: (93%)**

**Resources: (93%)**

It was also felt that the Noticeboard section could be improved again, both in terms of the events included being more specifically related to the sector, and increasing the amount of advance notice being given for events included allowing for the time lapse from inclusion to the magazine being printed and disseminated.

#### **Question 4: Which magazine sections would readers like to see more/less of?**

There was a clear majority of respondents in favour of retaining the Editorial (79%) and Round-Up sections (72%) at their current size and smaller majorities to retain the Policy & Funding (57%), Noticeboard (53%) at their current size.

There was a clear majority in favour in increasing one of the sections, namely, the number of Articles (60%).

Finally there was an even 50-50 split on either increasing or maintaining the current size of the resources section.

#### **Question 5: Are there any areas/subjects and/or new sections or supplements you would like to see incorporated into the magazine? If Yes, please specify?**

The most common responses to this question related to the inclusion of more practice-based items such as an ideas/activities supplements, project profiles, worker profiles, youth service profiles, case studies, etc.

There were a small number of comments relating to more academic inclusions i.e. critical review of policy, reflective practice, book reviews, more academic focus in general.

The previous evaluation of Scene in 2001 indicated a clear desire to move the magazine away from an academic focus and make it a generalist practice-based magazine for the sector.

However, it is worth noting that the Irish YouthWork Centre will be piloting a professional journal of youth studies later this year, separate to Irish Youth Work Scene.

It is hoped that if successful this journal will

become a permanent addition to the work of the Centre on a bi-annual basis.

#### **Questions 6 and 7: Do readers have Internet Access and if readers would like to see Irish Youth Work Scene available by Internet access?**

There was an overwhelming majority of respondents (93%) who have Internet access.

However, of those with Internet access only 26% of respondents would pay to receive it by email, thus indicating a clear preference to continue with the hard copy version.

#### **Question 8: Any Other Comments**

The most common comment in this section related to the design/presentation of the magazine.

There was general satisfaction with the overall presentation and layout and the improvements made from the first Customer Evaluation in 2001.

However, it was felt that the overall look could be improved further and given a lift, making it brighter and more user friendly, via the use of illustrations, graphics, photographs etc.

As in the responses to question 5 the use of theme-based supplements was also highlighted in the responses to this question.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS/PROPOSALS**

#### **1. Layout/Design**

As and from the May, 2005 edition, illustrations graphics, photographs etc. will be increasingly incorporated into the magazine where possible in order to improve the overall look of the magazine.

## 2. Size

In response to the desire to increase the Articles and Resources sections, it is proposed that the magazine be increased to a 24 page publication.

## 3. Content: Articles

It is proposed to introduce three regular sections:

**Practice Section:** This will include any of the following: examples of good practice; guidelines that work, case studies, etc.

**Profile Section:** This will include a project profile, service profile or worker profile.

**Activities Supplement:** A four-page pull out section in the centre of the magazine containing games, ideas and activities, resources, case studies, useful contacts etc. on a particular theme - as piloted in October 2004.

## 4. Content: Noticeboard

To improve both the targeting of events included in this section and the amount of advance notice given, a specialist mailing list will be compiled, comprising of organisations who run relevant courses and events.

The organisations will be mailed in advance of each edition of the magazine requesting details of their upcoming events and training for inclusion in the Noticeboard section.

## CONCLUSION

We hope that readers will see the benefits of these changes over the coming months as was the case with the recommendations implemented from the previous evaluation. As always we actively encourage readers to pass comment and feedback to us on the magazine.

In particular we would like to encourage readers to contribute more to the content of the

magazine. Given the clear desire expressed for the inclusion of more practical and practice-based articles from the coalface, it is the audience and readership for this magazine where such expertise exists.

Our anecdotal experience has been that many practitioners have much to offer in this regard, but often lack the confidence and feel a lack the expertise in their writing skills to commit something to print.

If you are interested in submitting a piece to the magazine but are unsure about your ability to document or write up such a piece, please contact us and we will assist you in the writing and editing process. For those who may be interested in contributing, the next edition will be published in mid-May, 2005. It will be a special edition on the general theme of **Youth Health & Lifestyle**.

If you are involved in the area of health and lifestyle based work with young people and you have an initiative, project, case study or indeed a general service or worker role you would be interested in profiling for this edition, contact the details below for further information.

Please contact us if you wish to contribute to a future edition, be it an article, profile, issue, comment or letter to the editor. All contributions will be welcomed.

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# IRISH YOUTH WORK SCENE EVALUATION QUESTIONNAIRE

## Overall Scoring Analysis (N=85)

(Does not include questions 5 and 8 which were open questions)

**Question 1:** *There is a need for a specialist youth work magazine such as Irish YouthWork Scene for Irish youth workers. Please tick your most appropriate response to the above statement.*

Strongly Disagree 0%   Disagree 0%   Indifferent 0%   Agree 40%   Strongly Agree 60%

**Question 2:** *Do you think the overall quality of Irish Youth Work Scene is?: Please tick one of the following:*

Poor 2%   Average 5%   Good 10%   Very Good 57%   Excellent 26%

**Question 3:** *The following sections of the magazine are: Please tick your most appropriate answer for each magazine section:*

EDITORIAL:	Poor 0%	Average 0%	Good 47%	Very Good 43%	Excellent 10%
ARTICLES:	Poor 1%	Average 5%	Good 14%	Very Good 52%	Excellent 29%
POLICY/FUNDING:	Poor 0%	Average 7%	Good 29%	Very Good 48%	Excellent 16%
ROUND-UP:	Poor 0%	Average 0%	Good 37%	Very Good 31%	Excellent 16%
NOTICEBOARD:	Poor 2%	Average 5%	Good 45%	Very Good 19%	Excellent 29%
RESOURCES:	Poor 2%	Average 5%	Good 22%	Very Good 40%	Excellent 31%

**Question 4:** *Which of the above would you like to see more or less of? Please tick appropriately:*

EDITORIAL:	More 16%	Less 05%	Same 79%
ARTICLES:	More 60%	Less 00%	Same 40%
POLICY-FUNDING:	More 43%	Less 00%	Same 57%
ROUND-UP	More 21%	Less 07%	Same 72%
NOTICEBOARD:	More 40%	Less 07%	Same 53%
RESOURCES:	More 50%	Less 00%	Same 50%

**Question 6:** *Do you have Internet Access?*   Yes 93%   No 07%

**Question 7:** *If the answer to question 8 is Yes, would you pay to receive Irish Youth Work Scene by Internet access?:*   Yes 26%   No 74%





# Development Education Activities Supplement

By Catherine Kaye

## INTRODUCTION

Development Education is an important and valuable part of youth work. It aims to support young people in increasing their awareness and understanding of the interdependent and unequal world in which we live, through a process of interactive learning, debate, action and reflection. It also challenges perceptions of the world and encourages young people to act for a more just and equal society at a national and international level.

The Tsunami Disaster made the World stop and think. It put aid agencies at the top of the news and put governments under pressure to respond. The media gave us wall-to-wall coverage for two weeks. If you or the young people you are working with are asking why this event had such an impact on us a nation then the following activities will give your group a framework for discussion and exploration of the issues.

The first section gives you exercises that broadly look at the world and encourage young people to think about the world they live in, their relationship to others and the inequalities. The second section has exercises that specifically look at the Tsunami, how the young people feel about it, how things would have been different if it had happened in the developed world and finally how the media reacted to it. The supplement also contains a list of useful online web resources.

### **ACTIVITY 1: ONE DAY IN YOUR LIFE**

**Aim:** That young people will understand the way in which we are interconnected with people all over the world.

**Age:** 10 +  
**Materials:** Markers  
Photocopies of world map outline  
Map of the world (Peters Projection if available)



## Method:

1. Divide into small groups. Give each group a photocopy of a map of the world outline (Peters Projection if available).
2. Read out the following quotation by Martin Luther King Jr.\*\* from Concern briefing on world trade (2002)

*"Before you finish eating your breakfast this morning you've depended on half the world... We aren't going to have peace on earth until we recognise this basic fact."*

Ask the groups to think about the quote, focussing on the first part. They must discuss all the things that connect us as individuals to the rest of the world. Start from the time they get up and think about how they have relied on the rest of the world for the things they do and for things they use without thinking everyday.

For example where do their clothes come from, where did their breakfast come from? The groups then draw these items on their map, depending on where they think it comes from.

3. Display the Peters Projection map on the wall. so the young people can use it to reference the location of a particular country. Each group then displays their completed map.
  - ✦ Were there any items that they weren't sure of the origin?
  - ✦ Does anybody in the group know where they come from?
4. Each smaller group feeds back. Ask if the groups are surprised at the numbers of ways we are linked to the rest of the world.
5. If working with an older group you can then move the discussion onto to the last part of the quote.

## **ACTIVITY 2: WEALTH DISTRIBUTION GAME**

**Aim:** That young people have the opportunity to look at population and wealth distribution around the world and the relationship between the two.

**Age:** 12 +  
**Materials:** Chairs  
Labels



### **Method:**

1 Write the names of the five continents on large labels and place them around the hall/club room.

2 The young people then divide themselves among the continents according to their estimation of population distribution, e.g. if there were 30 people in the world, how many would live in Asia? Once they have agreed on their representation, read out the actual figures (see below). The groups now readjust themselves to reflect the correct representation.

3 Now explain that each chair in the room represents one dollar of the world's income if there were \$30 in the world (you can adjust the figures depending on the number of chairs you have). Ask participants to distribute the chairs in the way they feel the world's income is allocated. Allow a short discussion and then redistribute according to the actual figures.

4 The task now is for the young people to sit on their allocation of chairs. Those representing Asia will have particular difficulty. Observe carefully what is going on and how these actions might be simulating what occurs in reality. You can have a couple of young people acting as recorders to observe the following:

- ✦ Do people with lots of chairs readily share them?
- ✦ Do people try to forcibly remove or take others chairs?
- ✦ What happens in the places with too few chairs?
- ✦ Do people move from their own places to places with more chairs?

5 When the activity concludes it is important to dis-

cuss how the young people felt during the activity and what links could be made to the wider world: Where does our information come from? Why does this unequal distribution occur?

	100 people	15 people	100\$	15\$
Asia	59	9	11	1.5
Europe	15	2.5	32	5.0
Africa	12	2	4	0.5
North America	5	0.5	52	7.5
Latin America	9	1	1	0.5

## **ACTIVITY 3: OUR REACTIONS TO THE TSUNAMI DISASTER - MOVING DEBATE**

**Aim:** For the group to explore their feelings and reactions to the Tsunami Disaster.

**Age:** 12 +

### **Method:**

1. The group stands in the centre of the room.
2. The leader calls out a statement (see examples below).
3. If the young person agrees with the statement they go to the left of the room, if they disagree they go to the right, if they are unsure you stay in the middle.
4. The leader asks individuals to explain their choice; participants are free to change their minds haven listened to people's opinions.
5. The group can look at the similarities between their feelings, what did they learn from each other?
6. Ask the group what they as individuals have done about the disaster? Do they think they have made any difference? What more could they do?

*"I am sad so many people died in the Tsunami Disaster"*

*"I am annoyed that the people in Asia were not prepared for a natural disaster like the Tsunami"*

*"I am worried that a disaster like the Tsunami could happen in Ireland"*

*"I feel helpless, there is just too much devastation"*

*"It will be ok because the leaders around the world are sorting it out"*

*"I thought the coverage on the news and television was exciting"*

*"I don't care it doesn't affect me"*

*"I want to do something to help but don't know how to start"*

*"I am impressed by how much the western world has done in response to the Tsunami disaster"*

**ACTIVITY 4:**  
**GLOBAL INEQUALITY IN RESPONDING  
TO NATURAL DISASTERS? -  
ACTION MAP**

**Aim:** To explore what would have happened if the Tsunami had happened in Europe and to examine the inequalities.

**Age:** 15 +

**Method:**

1. The youth worker does some work with the group tracking the Tsunami disaster from the first warning signs to the current stage. You could do this in a variety of ways, using the Web as a source of information, looking back over articles in the papers, on the news or playing a documentary for the group.

2. Using large sheets of coloured paper the young people make time lines dating from the first warning signs to the present situation. Using drawings, cut outs from newspapers and magazines they track the events of the Tsunami in Asia.

3. Once the group have an understating of the actual events in South east Asia they can then move on to the hypothetical exercise of looking at what would have happened if a similar disaster had taken place in Europe.

4. The mapping exercise is repeated but the leader

must facilitate the group to explore the full extent of the possibilities of a European Disaster. The following questions can be posed:

- ✦ Would there have been earlier warning signs?
- ✦ Would there have been a European Tsunami Emergency Disaster Strategy?
- ✦ Could the Tsunami have been stopped?
- ✦ If the threat were European would scientists have given more attention to Tsunamis?
- ✦ If the Tsunami were a threat in Europe would people have lived in danger spots?
- ✦ What would be the similarities or difference in the response to a Tsunami in Europe by countries not affected?

**ACTIVITY 5:**  
**EXPLORATION OF THE MEDIA'S  
REACTION TO THE TSUNAMI DISASTER  
CURRENT AFFAIRS IMPROVISATION**

**Aim:** For the group to examine the different ways the media around the world covered the Tsunami disaster.

**Age:** 13 +

**Method:**

1. This activity requires the youth worker to have gathered together a wide variety of newspaper headlines from different types of newspapers preferably from different countries. You can source article on the web.

2. The group of young people sub divides into groups of two or three. Each group chooses a headline to work from.

3. Each group must examine the headline that they are working from. Use the following questions as a guide.

- ✦ What does the headline tell you about the story?



# News Round Up

## MINISTER LAUNCHES EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH

On 7 February, the Minister of State at the Department of Education and Science, Síle de Valera T.D., launched two important reports published by the Centre for Early Childhood Development and Education on quality in early childhood care and education in a national and international context. The reports are: -

**Insights on Quality - A National Review of Policy, Practice and Research Relating to Quality in Early Childhood Care and Education in Ireland** and

**Making Connections - A Review of International Policies, Practices and Research relating to quality in Early Childhood Care and Education**

Commenting on the reports, Minister de Valera stated that: *"These studies provide a fascinating insight into policy, practices and research relating to quality in early childhood care and education at a national and international level. They represent a major contribution to the debate on early childhood care and education ..... contains important recommendations which will assist in the development of a National Framework for Quality."*

Both reports will be available on the CECDE website at [www.cecde.ie](http://www.cecde.ie)

## NEW SOCIAL INCLUSION WEBSITE

The Office for Social Inclusion, located in the Department of Social and Family Affairs, is the Irish Government Office with overall responsibility for developing, co-ordinating and driving Ireland's National Action Plan against Poverty and Social Exclusion. The office recently launched its website [www.socialinclusion.ie](http://www.socialinclusion.ie). The website aims to assist people in gaining an understanding of the work of the Office and key departments who have policy responsibility for tackling poverty and social exclusion, to provide updates on progress, as well as links to relevant Departments and agencies that are to the forefront in tackling poverty and social exclusion.

For further details please contact:

Lorcan O'Malley  
Office for Social Inclusion  
Department of Social and Family Affairs  
Floor 1, Áras Mhic Dhiarmada  
Store Street, Dublin 1  
Tel: 01 7043009 Fax: 01 7043032

## MINISTER CELEBRATES GOOD PRACTICE IN YOUTH HEALTH PROMOTION

On 27 January, Minister Síle de Valera, T.D., together with Minister Seán Power, T.D., co-launched the National Youth Health Programme Strategic Plan 2005 - 2007, the *"Good Habits of Mind"* project and the *"Sense and Sexuality"* project. Both Ministers presented Health Quality Awards to a number of youth groups and organisations.

The National Youth Health Programme (NYHP) is a partnership operated by the Youth Affairs Section of the Department of Education and Science, the Health Promotion Unit of the Department of Health and Children and the National Youth Council of Ireland respectively and has been in operation for over ten years. Minister de Valera commended the Programme on the development of its innovative projects and programmes which aim to meet the changing health needs of Ireland's young people.

For further information on NYHP and the projects launched please contact:

Lynn Swinbourne  
National Youth Health Programme  
NYCI 3, Montague Street  
Dublin 2. Tel: 01 4784122

## COULD INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTEERS HELP YOUR GROUP OR ORGANISATION?

International Volunteer Projects bring people from different countries, cultures and backgrounds to live and work together on projects that benefit local communities. Projects last up to 3 weeks and have between 6 to 16 participants. The projects are run by VSI, a NGO working for peace and international understanding through the medium of voluntary work, international exchanges, education and awareness raising programmes. Examples of recent projects are helping out at a holiday centre for wheelchair users in Co. Roscommon, painting murals at a crèche in Dublin, making a video with adults with learning disabilities in Dublin, working on summer projects for Traveller and refugee children in Co. Meath and woodland conservation in Co. Wicklow.

If you have a project that you would like volunteers to help you with and at the same time to bring an intercultural element to your organisation, or for further information, contact the *VSI Development Officer, Helen Walmsley, [devoficer@vsi.ie](mailto:devoficer@vsi.ie)*.

# Policy & Funding

## MINISTER ANNOUNCES DETAILS OF MAJOR NEW FUNDING PACKAGE FOR DRUGS IN 2005

Minister Noel Ahern T.D., Minister of State at the Department of Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs with responsibility for the National Drugs Strategy has announced significantly increased funding to tackle drug misuse.

The new funding package is an 18% increase on last year's budget. The additional monies will be targeted particularly at the Local and Regional Drugs Task Forces and the Young Peoples Facilities and Services Fund. In practical terms, this will mean that:

- A new fund to tackle emerging needs in the Local Drugs Task Force areas will be put in place;
- A number of pilot projects to specifically tackle cocaine use will be rolled out in early 2005;
- Funding to implement the action plans from the Regional Drugs Task Forces will be made available;
- There will be a third round of capital funding under the Young Peoples Facilities and Services Fund in LDTF areas and further allocations in other approved urban areas also;
- A further round of funding through the Premises Initiative for LDTF community based drugs projects will be rolled out; and
- Administrative supports for the Task Forces will be enhanced so as to improve their delivery capacity at a local level.

For further details contact:

Department of Community, Rural and  
Gaeltacht Affairs  
43-49 Mespil Road  
Dublin 4  
Tel: 01 6473000  
Fax: 01 6670826  
LoCall: 1890 474847  
Email: eolas@pobail.ie  
Website: www.pobail.ie

## MAJOR STUDY ON TRAINING NEEDS IN COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS ANNOUNCED

On 1 February, the Wheel announced that it is about to undertake an important project to research and report on the professional training needs of Community and Voluntary organisations in Ireland. The Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment is part-funding the study under the National Training Fund.

*"This funding is a timely and important mark of recognition by Government of the contribution played by community and voluntary organisations to the well-being of our society ... Professional skills development is undoubtedly one of the key strategic issues facing the sector today"*

said Deirdre Garvey, CEO of The Wheel in announcing the project.

A Reference Group with in-depth experience of the sector has been appointed by The Wheel, to advise the professional team of research specialists and administrative staff who will produce the report. The members of the Reference Group are Tom O'Higgins (Chairman), Maurice Devlin, Owen Keenan, Martin Naughton, Seamus McAleavey, Kate O'Sullivan, Elizabeth Waters.

The outcome of the research phase of this project will form part of the agenda for The Wheel's annual conference in April, and will subsequently be published as part of ongoing work by The Wheel with the National Training Fund to build the skills base of the sector.

Anyone interested in the project is encouraged to check The Wheel's Website for updates or to contact:

Deirdre Garvey  
The Wheel  
Tel: 01 4548737 Fax 01 4548649  
Email: Deirdre@wheel.ie

# New Resources

## Working with Children and Young People

### **Having Their Say: Young People & Participation: European Experiences (2004)** By David Crimmens

Book that considers how different European countries have progressed in incorporating the spirit and the letter of the U.N. Convention on the Rights of the Child into domestic law, policy and practice in order to - foster participation by children and young people in the political process and involve them in decisions about how to improve relevant services. The book reveals that the voice of the child is becoming more influential in many areas in European countries.

### **Promoting Positive Adolescent Sexual Health & Preventing Teenage Pregnancy: A Review of Recent Effectiveness Research (2004)**

*By Deirdre Fullerton for Crisis Pregnancy Agency*  
Review by CPA into the area of crisis pregnancy prevention, it begins by looking at the data on teenage pregnancy and adolescent sexual behaviour in Ireland. This is followed by an analysis of current understanding of the antecedents for early sexual initiation, teenage pregnancy and/or unprotected sex.

Two main approaches to the prevention of teenage pregnancy are examined - educational interventions & the provisions of contraceptives/sexual health services. The review concludes with recommendations for health, education and social services.

### **Responding to Adolescents: Helping Relationship Skills for Youth Workers, Mentors & Other Advisers (2003)**

*By Angela M. Taylor*

Book focusing on the relationships, issues and problem areas of personal development that are of most concern to adolescents and how to approach dealing with them.

It suggests way of responding both to crises and challenges and difficulties and provides background and

supporting information on each of the issues.

It also includes full discussion of the safeguards needed for ethical practice, for the protection of both the adolescent and the youth worker, summaries of up-to-date research that put problem areas into context, ideas for helping you to contain anxiety of the time of crisis and alerts to pitfalls.

### **Spiced Up: A Resource Book for Working with Young Women (2004)** *By Gender Equality Project, National Youth Council of Ireland*

Handbook written as an update of a previous resource book, Sugar & Spice. While many of the issues contained in it are still relevant today, it was felt that there was a need to adapt & update it in order to reflect the current issues for young women.

In developing this book, the producers consulted with a number of people within the Youth Service for their comments & suggestions on what should be included. The book is aimed at addressing a wide range of issues, which are particularly important to girls today. It is by no means a comprehensive resource of all these matters but has selected some, which it is felt are the most important.

### **Working for Children and Families: Exploring Good Practice (2003)** *By Department of Health and Children*

Report which provides a snapshot of some of the models and approaches currently being implemented in child and family services throughout Ireland. Each Health Board was asked to nominate up to three examples of service provision that they feel represents good practice.

The 26 models nominated are profiled in this document in order to enable policy makers & practitioners to see good work happening throughout the country and learn from the experiences of others. A set of good practice principles as identified through empirical research and literature is presented at the outset.

## Community Action

### **The Politics of Community Development (2004)**

*By Fred Powell & Martin Geoghegan*

"Think global, act local". This slogan epitomises the contemporary context of community development, a context that is profoundly political. In this book the authors pose a fundamental question that pervades this political landscape; is community development about reclaiming civil society, or is it a means of reinventing governance.

The authors argue that community development can only be meaningfully analysed in terms of a global/local duality. The Politics of Community Development provides both a macro theoretical account of community development & a micro level of analysis of how it is practiced in Ireland.

### **Opportunity Knocks: Opening Doors for Volunteers with Additional Support Needs (2004)**

*By Volunteering Ireland*

Booklet that provides a welcome focus on the diversity of volunteers. This is an important focus in a society that is increasingly aware of its diversity and that is growing in its capacity to value and to celebrate this diversity.

This Resource provides the template for organisations to respond effectively to this challenge and to achieve the real benefits that flow from the involvement of a diversity of volunteers.

## Drug Education/Use

### **Hammered: Young People & Alcohol (2004)**

*By Fast Forward Positive Lifestyles  
& Russell House Publishing*

Hammered is a comprehensive resource designed to help you feel confident, in working with "your" young people around the issues of alcohol. This book contains enough factual alcohol information to enable the practitioner to run a comprehensive education programme. Along with the techniques and materials that will support you in passing on that information to young people.

Although the focus of this publication is predominantly on work with young people, Fast Forward recognises the importance of alcohol education with all age ranges and many of the activities provided can be adapted and used to address alcohol issues with adult groups.

### **Support Pack for Dealing with the Drugs Issue in Out-of-School Setting**

*By The National Youth Health Programme*

Support manual, which aims to be a practical resource & reference guide for those who are involved in the development of drug related policy & strategy. The training that accompanies this manual is targeted at individuals who have advanced knowledge of drug issues an appreciation of the value of Youth Work approaches.

This manual offers a comprehensive overview of the drug use in Ireland, information on Youth Work & drug prevention while also providing guidance & support on managing drug-related situations, policy development & identifying organisational needs.

It is hoped that this manual & the accompanying training will encourage comprehensiveness of service provision, stimulate interagency co-operation, illustrate best practice & provide added value in the sera of Youth Work & drug prevention.

### **The State of the Drugs Problem in the European Union and Norway Annual Report (2004)**

*By European Monitoring Centre  
for Drugs and Drug Addiction*

The EMCDDA collects, analyses and disseminates objective, reliable and comparable information on drugs and drug addiction. In doing so, it provides its audiences with an evidence -based picture on the drug phenomenon at European level.

This annual report presents the EMCDDA 's yearly overview of the drug phenomenon in the EU Member States and Norway and is an essential reference book for those seeking the latest finding on drugs in Europe.



## Development Education

### **Chilled Out Not Worn Out! (2004)** *By National Youth Development Education Programme*

Education Pack containing activities, facts and statistics, case studies, information sources and action ideas to support youth leaders/workers in engaging young people in learning and action for local and global change. Activities include simulation games, role plays, art work, stories, ranking exercises, quizzes and group tasks. It is divided into four sections.

**Section 1** explores young people's rights and responsibilities in the area's of health, education & employment. **Section 2** examines who is missing out on an education and the effects this has on their lives. In **Section 3** young people explore sexual health from a justice perspective. **Section 4** investigates the exploitation of young people at work and the effects it has on their lives.

## Literacy

### **The Health Pack: A Resource Pack for Literacy Tutors and Healthcare Staff (2004)** *By National Adult Literacy Agency*

Health resource pack for literacy tutors and health practitioners. The pack can help address some of the difficulties people experience when dealing with health issues and systems. The topics covered include Being Healthy, Taking Medication, Filling out Medical Forms & Healthcare Settings.

### **Supporting Literacy and Numeracy with ICT: A Guide for Adult Literacy Providers (2004)** *By National Adult Literacy Agency*

Guide designed as a resource to help adult literacy tutors to use Information and Communications Technology as a tool to support the development of literacy. It focuses on how to develop literacy skills through ICT rather than on ICT skills. It illustrates ways to incorporate ICT in teaching & learning.

It assumes that the user has a basic knowledge of ICT and also an understanding of how literacy skills are developed. This guide does not promote any particular teaching style or any one educational philosophy. Instead it highlights ways in which ICT maybe used by tutors and learners in pursuit of their learning goals.

## Social Exclusion

### **National Action Plan Against Poverty and Social Exclusion: First Annual Report (2004)** *By Office for Social Inclusion*

Annual report dealing with the implementation of the National Action Plan Against Poverty and Social Exclusion during it's first year from 1st August 2003. It also incorporates information on the progress made to date on the revised NAPS. The report is divided into two parts. **Part 1** contains an overview of the implementation process and of the main outcomes achieved during the first year. **Part II** provides a detail account of implementation over the relevant policy areas together with a full assessment of the plan by the EU taken from it's Joint Inclusion Report.

## Youth Issues

### **Youth Suicide Prevention Evidence Briefing (2004)**

*By Health Development Agency*

Evidence briefing is a review of the evidence of effectiveness for the prevention of youth suicide. The aims are to; Identify all relevant systematic reviews, syntheses and meta-analyses; Analyse and synthesise the evidence and highlight what works to prevent youth suicide; Highlight conflicting evidence and gaps in the evidence and provide a steer for future research

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 and Russell House Publishing

For further information and 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

# Noticeboard

## **Sense and Sexuality: Addressing the Issues of Sexual Health with Young People in Youth Work Settings**

**Date:** Wednesday 4 & Thursday 5 May 2005  
**Time:** 10.00am - 5.00pm  
**Venue:** Navan

Two-day training course, which will explore issues in relation to sexual health and sexual health promotion of young people. It will also examine the role of workers and organisations and issues of good practice and policy development. Cost: E100.00 (covers coffees, lunches & course materials).

## **Challenging Encounters: Strategies for addressing difficult and problematic behaviour when working with young people**

**Date:** Thursday 12 & Friday 13 May 2005  
**Time:** 10.00am - 5.00pm  
**Venue:** Letterkenny

Two-day training 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 assist young people to learn from such events for the future. This programme is a combination of theoretical input, demonstration & practice of practical skills and case study review. Cost: E100.00 (covers coffees, lunches & course materials).

## **The Opposites Game: Exploring Issues of Youth Health and Gender**

**Date:** Thursday 19 & Friday 20 May 2005  
Thursday 16 & Friday 17 June 2005  
**Time:** 10.00am - 5.00pm  
**Venue:** Kilkenny (May) Galway (June)

Two-day training course to provide participants with an opportunity to identify the skills and strategies required in engaging and supporting young people. To explore masculinities and femininities in adolescence; arrange of strategies in addressing young people's health and personal development; identify skills required working with young people and examine cases of good practice. Cost: E100.00 (covers coffees, lunches & course materials).

For further information on the above three events, please contact:  
**National Youth Health Programme**  
3 Montague Street, Dublin 2  
Tel: 01 4784122 Fax:01 4783974  
Email: nyhp@nyci.ie

## **Risk Management in Volunteer Programmes**

**Date:** Friday 13th May 2005  
**Time:** 10.00am - 4.00pm  
**Venue:** Coleraine House, Dublin 7  
**Trainer:** Nancy Nunez, Training Service Manager, Volunteering Ireland

One-day course aiming to explore the core principles of good practice in reducing risk in the area of volunteer involvement. It is particularly suitable for those who have direct responsibility for the management of volunteers. As the work of volunteers becomes increasingly responsible, associated risks and the potential for liability grows. Risk management systems are needed to set boundaries and to define what is and what is not acceptable. Cost: E75.00 Volunteering Ireland members E100.00 non-members

## **Diversity and Inclusion in Volunteering**

**Date:** Wednesday 25 May 2005  
**Time:** 10.00am - 4.00pm  
**Venue:** Coleraine House, Dublin 7  
**Trainer:** Nancy Nunez, Training Service Manager, Volunteering Ireland

One-day course that explores 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 your volunteer programme. Cost: E75.00 Volunteering Ireland members E100.00 non-members

## **The Relationship Between Volunteers and Paid Staff**

**Date:** Friday 10th June 2005  
**Time:** 10.00am - 4.00pm  
**Venue:** Coleraine House, Dublin 7  
**Trainer:** Nancy Nunez, Training Service Manager, Volunteering Ireland

One-day course suitable for any organisation that involves both volunteers and paid staff. It will allow you to recognise and address potential sources of conflict between volunteers and paid staff. It will develop clarity around the roles of paid staff and volunteers. It will define meaningful roles for volunteers and paid staff and develop strategies that will encourage staff to work together effectively. Cost: E75.00 Volunteering Ireland members E100.00 non-members

### **Effective Recruitment and Selection of Volunteers**

**Date:** Thursday 23rd June 2005

**Time:** 10.00am - 4.00pm

**Venue:** Innovation and Technology Centre, Dublin Road, Cavan

**Trainer:** Nancy Nunez, Training Service Manager, Volunteering Ireland

One-day course exploring the core principles of good practice for the effective recruitment and selection of volunteers. It is particularly suitable for those who have direct responsibility for the recruitment and selection process

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

For further information on the above course please contact:

**Volunteering Ireland**  
Coleraine House  
Coleraine Street  
Dublin 7.

**Tel:** 01 8722622

**Fax:** 01 8722623

**Email:** [info@volunteeringireland.com](mailto:info@volunteeringireland.com)

**Website:** [www.volunteeringireland.com](http://www.volunteeringireland.com)

### **Community Addiction Studies Course**

**Date:** Autumn 2005

**Time:** 100 hours over a 20-week period, 3 hour session each week and one weekend away

**Certification:** The course leads to an award made by FETAC (NCVA level 2- 1 Module).

This course will enable people to learn about drugs and their effects, to develop an understanding of addiction, to examine their own attitudes and to become more effective in their personal responses and to develop the skills and knowledge to become more effective in responding to drug misuse in their own communities. Community members who feel they would like to be more effective when it comes to drug/alcohol issues. There are no education requirements to be part of this course, just a willingness to learn.

For further information please contact:

**Urrús**  
Unit C, 1st Floor  
Ballymun Shopping Centre  
Ballymun  
Dublin 11

**Tel:** 01 8425726

**Fax:** 01 8425729

### **Developing Policies and Procedures**

**Date:** Tuesday 21st June 2005

**Time:** 10.00am - 4.00pm

**Venue:** Carmichael House

**Trainer:** Sheila Cahill

One-day course aimed at anyone who is responsible for developing policies and procedures for their organisation. If you have been asked to develop a policy or procedure and don't know where to start, this course is for you. Through presentation, group discussion and a series of participative exercises you will identify the steps you need to take to develop policy within your organisation. You will also have an opportunity to look at a variety of policies and procedures from different organisations.

### **Managing Successful Fundraising Events**

**Date:** Tuesday 17th May 2005

**Time:** 10.00am - 4.00pm

**Venue:** Carmichael House

**Trainer:** Isabelle Wallace

One-day course aimed at identifying and developing the concept of fundraising event. Time will be spent exploring issues related to planning the event, drawing up priorities and ensuring that you event is cost effective. Consideration will be given to finding and working with sponsors and addressing the risks associated with fundraising events.

### **Setting up a Support Group**

**Date:** Tuesday 24th May 2005

**Time:** 10.00am - 4.00pm

**Venue:** Carmichael House

**Trainer:** Breffni McGuinness and Sheila Cahill

One-day course examining some of the key questions involved in considering the setting up of a support group. What is a support group? Why run one? Who will benefit? Where will it be held and how often? How do you ensure that a group is effective? Participants will gain practical skills and understanding of the key elements of how group work, and what is involved in planning and implementing a support group.

For further information please contact

**Audrey McEvoy**  
Carmichael Centre  
Coleraine House  
Coleraine Street  
Dublin 7.

**Tel:** 01 8735285

**Fax:** 01 8735283

**Email:** [tssinfo@carmichaelcentre.ie](mailto:tssinfo@carmichaelcentre.ie)

