

PRESS RELEASE

7th April 2025

Youth Work Ireland Week launches with an urgent demand to Government to act now to secure the future of youth work services.

Youth Work Ireland and its national membership have launched their annual **Youth Work Ireland Week 2025.** This annual celebration is a chance to showcase the incredible work happening in youth services across the country, highlight the vital role youth work plays in young people's lives and urge government to properly fund and resource local youth services.

Each year, Youth Work Ireland Week shines a light on a key issue that young people and youth workers tell us is important to them. For 2025, we are focusing on our Youth Work for All campaign—calling for proper funding and resources for youth services so that every young person, no matter their background, has access to the support they need.

Speaking ahead of the week Dr Patrick Burke, CEO of Youth Work Ireland said:

"Youth Work Ireland Week is all about celebrating the amazing things happening in youth services across the country. This year, through our 'Youth Work for All' campaign, we're putting the spotlight on the need for proper support and funding—so every young person, no matter where they're from, can access the opportunities they deserve. It's not just a celebration—it's a moment to stand up for youth work and everything it makes possible."

Throughout the week, we'll be hearing directly from young people, youth workers, and volunteers about the impact youth work has had on their lives and communities. Expect powerful stories, creative activities, and a national push to ensure youth work gets the recognition and support it deserves.

ENDS

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Notes to Editor

Youth Work Ireland is a membership organisation who deliver quality supports and services to young people aged 12-24 years all over Ireland. Each week our member work with over 76,000 young people through a range of services and supports. We are a rights-based organisation who believe in the power of youth work and young people to affect positive change.

For more information, visit: <u>www.youthworkireland.ie</u>