



Newsletter February 2008

Inner City Organisations Network

The Community Network for Dublin's North-East Inner City
22 Lower Buckingham Street, Dublin 1.

Community Participation Project to Launch Good Practice Guide to Participation

The Community Participation Project is a joint project between the two north inner city community networks, ICON and the NWICN. The project has two part-time workers, and is funded by the North Inner City Drugs Task Force.

The aim of the Community Participation Project is to encourage and support local people to get involved in the actions and decision which affect their lives and their communities. This support work had been taking place on an informal basis in the local projects working on the ground with little or no resources. The project initiated research into the level of participation by the local community and the research highlighted the lack of a structured approach when engaging with local volunteers. The *Good Practice Guide to Participation* emerged as a means by which to help organisations and local groups to involve local people more effectively.

The guide has been developed as a simple to use resource, offering solutions to some of the barriers facing people's participation and also highlighting the challenges and models of best practice in the promotion and development of community participation.

The Guide will be launched in March and will be available from the ICON and NWICN offices or to download at www.iconnetwork.ie

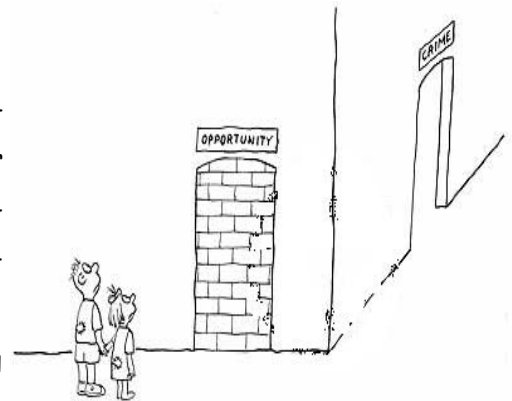
Senior Citizens Needs Analysis

ICON received funding from the Dormant Accounts Fund to carry out extensive consultation work with senior citizens living within the North East Inner City of Dublin. The main focus of the consultation work is one to one interviews with senior citizens using a questionnaire designed by an ICON sub-committee that was set up to oversee the project.

The interviews were carried out by a team of local researchers, all of whom are local residents and either are themselves over 55 or volunteer with senior citizens in the area. This method was chosen as it was felt that it was more likely that older people would become involved in the consultation process if they are being interviewed by people who they might know and/or live in the local area. The team consists of 10 people who were recruited through the ICON groups and structures.

Stephen Rourke was hired a research coordinator for the project. His role is to help and devise the questionnaire to be used, to train and to provide ongoing support to team of local researchers, to process and analyses the completed questionnaires and to compile the final research report.

The report is in the final stages and will be launched by the Taoiseach on Monday 14th April in the Gresham Hotel on O'Connell Street.



Steering Committee

- ☉ Seanie Lambe (Chair)
- ☉ Marie Harding (Secretary)
- ☉ Pauline Kane (Wexford Centre)
- ☉ Pat Carthy (Cavan Centre)
- ☉ John Lahert (NYP1)
- ☉ Marie Metcalfe (CPF)
- ☉ Sarah Kelleher (LYCS)
- ☉ Bernie Walshe (Sunflower)

Staff

- ☉ Sian Muldowney (Co-ordinator)
- ☉ Christine Taylor (Tenants' Development Worker)
- ☉ Ann Burke (Administrator and Community Participation Worker)

LYCS

Junior leadership programme

This programme has been running for the past two years, of the fifteen young people who started ten are still involved. The training completed by the junior leaders has included: Leadership skills, Programme Planning, Personal Development, First Aid, Child Protection, Water Safety, Healthy Eating and Pottery.

The junior leaders have and continue to be a valuable resource to the LYCS youth programme, they have supported the staff in the regular groups. They are positive role models to the younger members who look up to them and hope someday to become leaders themselves.



Where is my canoe? The LYCS adventure group enjoying a day out doing water sports

Adventure club

The Adventure Club is run every second Saturday from 10 to 4pm with 12 young people and is a partnership project with CYC and the LYCS Youth Programme. The group will get the opportunity to do some adventure sports i.e. sailing, kayaking and rock-climbing and to access certified training with CYC in the various adventure sports.

Water safety

The water safety programme is run on a Wednesday night in the Belvedere college, the programme is run as part of the junior leadership programme. 7 young boys aged 14-17 years have been participating. The group have obtained Level 3 and are currently training for level 4 and there are real opportunities for them to progress onwards and gain Life Guard status.

Lourdes Youth and Community Services

Community Training Centre (CTC)

Training places available for teenagers now!



What is a CTC?

A CTC (Community Training Centre) provides training, educational and employment related services for young people in a friendly and informal manner. LYCS CTC is managed by a local community group. Trainees qualify for a FAS training allowance.

Why go to a CTC?

It is estimated that, in Ireland, up to 750 children do not transfer every year from Primary to Secondary school. The number of students who leave education with no qualifications is 3% while another 15% leave with only a Junior Cert qualification.

If a young person leaves school early they have less chance of finding a job. The unemployment rate is 47% for those with no qualifications, compared with 9% for those with a Leaving Certificate. Research shows that the higher the levels of education achieved the more chance people have on gaining employment and in moving on to better jobs within the workplace.

LYCS CTC has been set up with the needs of the early school leaver and the young unemployed especially in mind. The CTC provides a fresh opportunity for young persons to get national certificates at their own pace and with the assistance of friendly and supportive staff.

LYCS CTC delivers a range of FETAC Level 3 and 4 programmes including:

ECDL - Computer Driving License, Childcare, Woodwork, Personal Development, Pottery, Customer Service, English, Communications and Maths. Safe Pass Access to work placements and employment

For information on how to apply for a place on our programme please contact:

Tom O' Reilly, CTC Manager, LYCS, Lower Séan MacDermott St., Dublin 1. Tel: (01) 836 3416

YPAR Interagency Protocol

Following on from the recommendations contained in the Final Report completed by Kieran McKeown, a representative group was charged with the task of developing an interagency protocol to coordinate integrated responses by all services for children and young people at risk. The group comprised representatives from local statutory and voluntary services. The group produced an Interagency Protocol.

This was presented to the YPAR Steering Group who endorsed the thrust and content of the protocol. It has been agreed to test out the implementation of the protocol on a pilot basis with the agencies who produced the protocol to assess its practical use and further refine if necessary.

This Protocol will be presented to all YPAR member agencies at a **General Meeting on March 12th in Ozanam House from 10 to 1.00**. Future formal agreement to operate and implement the protocol will be sought from all YPAR member agencies and groups. It is hoped to 'go live' on a date in mid-April with all agencies who formally agree to implementing this protocol.

The Protocol is a major development for YPAR in our approach to working with children and young people at all levels of intervention in the North inner City. It is hoped that this new integrated approach will have a positive effect on the lives of young people in the area.

For more information about YPAR and its activities Contact David Little at 086 3837201 or david.little@hse.ie

ICON Community Representatives on the North Inner City Drugs Task Force

The North Inner City Drugs Task Force was established in 1997 to develop community responses to the drugs problem in the local area. The NICDTF comprises of 20 representatives from the community, voluntary and statutory sectors who meet on a monthly basis to discuss matters relevant to drug use in the community.



The community representatives for the north east inner city are elected through ICON. They are

Tony Dunleavy, Bernie Howard, Joe Dowling and Esther Kelly.

The community representatives bring the benefit of their knowledge and experience of the drugs issue to the Task Force and act as representatives on behalf of the local community. If you have any issues in relation to drugs that you would like to raise at the Task Force, please contact the representatives through the ICON office at 8366890 or iconet@iol.ie



Counseling—Confidential Support and Help

Drop in Service Wednesdays 10-1pm

The drop in service provides information and referrals to services at the Deora Project and in the community. It provides a safe and confidential space for people to explore the possibility of engaging with counseling and is a useful induction for agencies who wish to make referrals to the Deora Project.

Out-Reach Service

The Deora out-reach service provides one-to-one or group counseling to clients who are unable to attend counseling at the Deora Project.

Counseling can take place at the client's house, community centre or place of work. We can arrange to see clients at projects and agencies throughout the North Inner City.

One-to-one Counseling

Group Counseling

Crisis Intervention

Mindfulness Training

Ph: 01 8550730

www.deora-project.org

Notice board

Funding

- **The Community Foundation for Ireland** supports projects involved with Carers, Older People, People Leaving Institutions, Sexual Minorities, Ethnic minorities and Families at Risk. Applications accepted by 29th February, 29th August and 31st October. For further information phone 874 7354 or email hbeatty@foundation.ie
- **St Stephen's Green Trust** supports voluntary and community organisations. It is advised to contact the Trust before completing an application to ensure the project meets the Trust's criteria. The closing dates are 2nd May and 5th September. For further information contact Orla O'Neill at 045 480 666 or email info@ssgt.ie
- **2008 Sports Capital Programme** supports the building and developing of sports facilities and the purchasing of sports equipment. The closing date is Friday 29th February. For further information contact sportsunit1@dast.gov.ie or www.dast.gov.ie/grants_funding
- **NICDTF Local Health Promotion Fund** is open for 2008 applications. Application forms are available from <http://www.nicdtf.ie/RESOURCES/RESOURCES/NEWS.html> or phone 8366592.

Jobs

- **A vacancy for Family Support Worker** has arisen at Barnardos, 22/23 Buckingham Street, Dublin 1. The position involves working with families to develop the skills to meet their children's needs. A minimum of one-year experience of working with children and families experiencing disadvantage is required. Relevant training in working with children and families would be a distinct advantage. For further information contact 8230642 or www.barnardos.ie. The closing date for applications is 28th February.
- **Cleaner** required for Barnardos, 22/23 Lower Buckingham Street for 10 hours a week. For further information contact 8230642 or www.barnardos.ie. Closing date for applications is 28th February.

Courses

- **'Learning Together, Working Together'**. The Talbot Centre will commence their 'Learning Together, Working Together' Course in April 2008, in a series of 8 workshops. This is a multi-agency course focusing on approaches to adolescent substance use/misuse. For further information or to include your agency on our mailing list, please contact the Talbot Centre on 8363434.
- **Community Health Cancer Prevention & Early Detection 'Training for Trainers' Course**. The purpose is to provide training for trainers, tutors, community leaders and facilitators in order that they will raise awareness about, and address the issues of cancer prevention and early detection with groups. For further details contact the Health Promotion Department at the Irish Cancer Society, ph. 2310539 or email ecotter@irishcancer.ie
- **Dublin Aids Alliance Sexual Health and Drug Awareness Training for Youth Workers**. The aim of the course is to update youth leaders with the knowledge and skills necessary to enable young people in their care to make informed choices in relation to sexual health and drug use. The course will run for 8 weeks beginning on 13th March. For further details contact Susan or Jane at 8733799 or email prevention@dublinaidalliance.com

Events

- **The David Foundation Race Night** will take place on Friday 29th February at 8pm in Cleary's Bar, Amiens Street. The David Hitchcock Foundation was set up in March 2007 with the objective of building houses for people with a disability in Lesotho. It is proposed to build three houses a year, starting in 2008. There are different types of sponsorship available, contact Patricia McCarthy at 087 9172749 or Mick Rafferty at 087 2351547 for further information.
- **100 Year of Struggle International Women's Day Celebration** Thursday 6th March, Wynns hotel, Abbey Street, 8.30pm Book your place through Rita Fagan or Phil Keane at 4533938
- **LYCS International Women's Day: Women's Rights are Human Rights**: A workshop Exploring Women's Human Rights. Tuesday 4th March, Killarney Court Hall, Buckingham Street 10am-1pm (followed by a delicious lunch). Contact Helena at 8230860 or deved@lycs.ie to book a place.

Miscellaneous

- **Busy Bees** High Quality Pre-loved furniture available at the shop in Summerhill at very competitive prices. We will also take away unwanted household clutter. Call for a quote 086 8339684
- **Article on Drug Treatment** based on research carried out in the Crinan Project, examining methadone treatment from the perspective of adult and community education and questions the absence of rehabilitation. The article can be downloaded from www.aontas.com/download/pdf.aontas_adult_learner2007.pdf