

NYF Local Member Youth Services Current Awareness Update

SECTION 1: POLICY DEVELOPMENTS

ACTION NOT ASBOS

The National Youth Council of Ireland (NYCI) is asking young people to sign up for 'Action Not ASBOs' by supporting their campaign on <http://www.youth.ie> to prevent the proposed introduction of Anti Social Behaviour Orders by the Irish government.

NYCI, a membership-led umbrella organisation that represents the interests of over 50 voluntary youth organisations, is a member of the Coalition Against ASBOs. It is strongly opposed to the introduction of Anti Social Behaviour Orders on the grounds that they will serve to further alienate young people from the communities in which they live, and will not address the real causes of anti social behaviour in Ireland. For further information please contact:

Sarah Gahan,
NYCI Communications Officer,
3 Montague Street, Dublin 2.
Tel: 01 478 4122 Email: press@nyci.ie

BOARDMATCH IRELAND LAUNCHED

BoardMatch Ireland was launched by Dermot McCarthy, Secretary to the Taoiseach, at the House of Lords, (Bank of Ireland), College Green on Monday 13 June.

BoardMatch Ireland is a new initiative, which aims to support the development of the voluntary and community sector (i.e. the nonprofit sector) by building the capacity of boards and management committees within these organisations. BoardMatch will do this through:

- Developing civic leadership, particularly focusing on developing new leaders through participation on voluntary boards.
- Building linkages between corporate, public and nonprofit sectors, by recruiting people from corporate and public sectors to work on nonprofit boards.
- Enhancing skill levels on nonprofit boards through the recruitment of people with specific skill sets (e.g. accounting, legal, strategic planning, marketing. IT) onto nonprofit Boards.
- Developing and providing of e-learning training packages for Board members, and training and other supports for Boards.
- Supporting Boards and Management Committees as they integrate new Board Members.
- Building the governance capacity of nonprofit boards.

For further information for those interested in working

with nonprofit boards, for community and voluntary or nonprofit organisations, please contact:

Brian Sheehan, Director,
Boardmatch Ireland,
Fumbally Court, Fumbally Lane, Dublin 8.
Tel: 01 4535023 Fax 01 4547981
Email: brian.sheehan@boardmatchireland.ie
Website: www.boardmatchireland.ie

SECTION 2: FUNDING

PARTNERSHIP FUND 2005

The Partnership Fund supports new Irish voluntary initiatives, which promote development linkages and partnerships between civil society in Ireland and the developing world, and are not in receipt of funding under other Development Cooperation Ireland (DCI) schemes, targeted at the following - Human Rights & Democracy, Partnership, Poverty Reduction, Civil Society Organisations - Missionaries & Smaller Development NGOs.

A development project is a plan of activities designed to produce a desired result and in this way achieve its purpose. The project proposal should have identifiable and measurable results, and include, where appropriate, follow-up activities following its implementation. It should be practical. A project proposal should not generate profit for the applicant organisation. The applicant is required to make a significant commitment of financial resources to the proposed project, at least 25% of the overall costs.

Applications for funding will be accepted up to a maximum of €150,000. To facilitate applications for small projects, a fast-track application procedure is available up to a maximum of €10,000. There are two closing dates for applications: **15 June 2005 and 15 August 2005.**

For more details email: partnershipfund2005@dfa.ie
Application forms and guidelines can be downloaded from: www.dci.gov.ie/grants_partnership.asp

COMHAIRLE GRANT SCHEME FOR VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS

Through its Information Grants Scheme, Comhairle funds initiatives to improve access to information. The 2005 scheme will promote innovative measures to target groups that may experience social exclusion. Particular consideration will be given to projects that address the information needs of older people.

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Comhairle invites applications from voluntary and community organisations for grant aid for projects that respond to emerging information needs and provide access to information for groups who may not be using mainstream services. As this is a national scheme, priority will be given to projects, which have a national dimension or application and are linked to national or regional networks.

Projects should seek to broaden access to information on social and civil services and adopt a partnership approach with service providers. Project proposals should not duplicate existing services.

Primary awarding criteria:

- Projects which foster social inclusion information initiatives and that focus on the delivery of information to acknowledged hard-to-reach communities and groups i.e. those not using mainstream services will be considered. Particular consideration will be given to initiatives aimed at older people.
- Projects should be innovative and broaden access to information on social and civil services.
- Project proposals that have a national dimension or application and are connected to national or regional networks will be given special consideration.

Additional requirements:

- A demonstrable capacity to engage with the target audience and adopt a developmental approach to meeting their needs
- Evidence of user involvement in the planning and delivery of projects
- Evidence that the project proposed is adding value and does not duplicate existing services. Projects should have clear outcomes in the form of a specific service or resource to be provided within the timeframe proposed
- Evidence of the establishment of on-going linkages between partner organisations including mainstream service providers
- Demonstration of the potential to adapt the project to suit the needs of other groups
- Demonstration of clear evaluation elements built into the proposal.

An overall fund of €200,000 is available in 2005. The maximum grant payable is €20,000 with minimum amounts in the region of €6,000. A small number of once-off grants will be awarded to projects, which meet the criteria. Grants will normally be provided for a one-year period only. Grants of €12,500 or more will be paid in two instalments, 80% initially and 20% on submission of progress reports. The closing date for receipt of completed applications is **Thursday 30 June 2005**.

Application forms and further information on the criteria are available from:

Information and Advice Manager,
Comhairle, 7th Floor, Hume House,
Ballsbridge, Dublin 4.

Tel: 01 605 9000 Fax: 01 605 9099

Email: informationgrants@comhairle.ie

Downloadable Application Form:

www.comhairle.ie/news/news20050602.html

EMPLOYMENT EQUALITY POLICY DEVELOPMENT GRANT

Organisations/businesses who have fewer than 250 employees can avail of a grant assisted initiative, whereby they can be assisted in developing an effective employment equality policy and/or staff training programme. Qualifying organisations/businesses can receive this service at no cost by contacting:

Katie Murphy & Associates

Tel: 04830 848088 Mobile: 086 3063943 086 1282307

Email: <mailto:info@katiemurphysolutions.com>

Website: <http://www.katiemurphysolutions.com>

SECTION 3: ROUND-UP

NEW QUALIFICATION FOR MANAGERS OF VOLUNTEERS

A new one-year part time programme, organised and delivered jointly by the Volunteer Development Agency and the Institute of Lifelong Learning at Queen's, begins in September 2005.

This course will provide participants with the skills and knowledge needed to develop a coherent system for the effective management of volunteers in their organisation and to demonstrate competence in a range of volunteer management skills. The course is for those with primary responsibility for managing volunteers within an organisation or project.

Modules will be taught in one and two-day blocks and attendance at a residential will be compulsory. Assessment will be by written assignments and a work-based project. As well as meeting the entrance requirements for a University Certificate, relevant work experience is required, but consideration will be given to those with relevant skills and capacity in lieu of qualifications.

This course is credited at Level 1 (60 cats points) - equivalent to first year undergraduate degree, and will cost £690. For further information contact:

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Debbie at the Volunteer Development Agency

debbie@volunteering-ni.org

or visit:

www.qub.ac.uk/schools/InstituteofLifelongLearning
or www.volunteering-ni.org

IRISH SOCIAL CARE STUDENTS TEXTBOOK LAUNCHED

Dr Perry Share, the head of the Department of Humanities at Institute of Technology Sligo, and Niall McElwee, head of the Centre for Child and Youth Care Learning at Institute of Technology Athlone, launched *Applied Social Care: An introduction for Irish students* at IT Sligo's Book Nest recently. The book was also launched in Dublin by John Lonergan, governor of Mountjoy prison, and the Minister of State for Children, Brian Lenihan TD.

The book is the first to be based on Irish case studies for people studying and working in applied social care in Ireland. Applied social care involves hands-on work in planning and providing care and support services for people with specific needs. It is taught mainly through the Institute of Technology sector in Ireland and writers from most of the Institutes of Technology have contributed to the book. For further information, please contact:

**Dr. Perry Share, Department of Humanities,
Institute of Technology, Ballinode, Sligo.
Tel: 071 9155340 Mobile: 086 3081429
Fax: 071 9144606 Website: www.itsligo.ie**

Or

**Mr. Niall McElwee,
Institute of Technology, Athlone.
Tel: 09064 24400**

NOWHERE TO GO RESEARCH REPORT

Bray Partnership has launched a new report on the educational needs of young people with intellectual disabilities in the Bray area. The report, entitled *'Nowhere to Go: The Continuing Education Needs of People with Intellectual Disabilities in the Bray Area at the Time of Reaching Adulthood'*, details the results of research carried out in late 2004 by the Partnership.

The report makes a total of eleven policy recommendations for the Health Service Executive and local service-providers to consider. The need for an

independent advocacy service and the lack of comprehensive services for people with intellectual disabilities are highlighted in the report, as well as the questions that arise in relation to the right of access to education in general.

The report also evaluates the current disability legislation going through the Oireachtas, setting out potential weaknesses that must be addressed. To receive a copy of the report please contact:

Michelle, Bray Partnership.

Tel: 01 2868266

www.braypartnership.ie/publications.htm

NEW COMMUNITY ACTIVISM MAGAZINE PLANNED

Plans are underway for a new monthly, professionally-produced and commercially-distributed magazine featuring reporting by, from and for communities in struggle - whether those are rural communities facing ecological destruction, working-class communities fighting poverty, or communities whose ways of life are threatened by the system. A discussion group has been formed at the following site: http://groups.yahoo.com/group/community_struggle/ for those interested in this project, with more detailed documents available online at that site.

YOUTH WEBSITE SEEKING CONTRIBUTORS

Ireland's biggest youth website (www.SpunOut.ie) is currently looking for young people from 16 to 25 to become involved as writers, editors, designers, moderators and promoters. SpunOut.ie has over 1,000 pages of information on school, college, work, travel, equality, environment, sex, drugs, relationships, mental health and many more. Contributors need to be willing, creative, enthusiastic and energised but no formal experience or qualifications is required. For further information go directly to the website or contact:

Community Creations

Tel: 071 9851330 Email: info@community.ie

**Copies of all publications and documentation
highlighted in this edition are available for
reference or loan purposes from the Irish
YouthWork Centre**