

Background

Within the Youth Service the difficulties of working with young men is well documented. Youth workers often find it difficult to raise awareness and work creatively with young men around many issues due to the make up of the group, pre-conceived societal views and traditional 'macho' male attitudes. Whereas a great deal of work and documentation has been produced for those working with young women, young men have become the poor relation in comparison to their female counterparts. The NYF proposes to address this imbalance and look at some of the issues where it has been traditionally been difficult to work with this group such as: assertiveness/self esteem; gender roles/stereotyping; sexism; dealing with aggression/conflict constructively. The NYF began this work last year with an introductory seminar for those working with young men

Seminar Aims & Objectives

It is intended to network with a number of local and national projects, agencies and individuals concerned with responding to the problems often encountered when working with young men. The seminar will follow from the introductory workshop undertaken last year, will be practice focused and speakers will be chosen on the basis of their existing expertise in working with young men around issues traditionally regarded as difficult, as highlighted earlier. The areas to be covered in this seminar were identified by participants at the introductory event and will include the following:

- ⇒ **Managing & Responding to Aggression/Violence in Young Men;**
- ⇒ **Setting up Self-Supports/Support Groups for workers;**
- ⇒ **What are the Issues for Young Men;**
- ⇒ **Models of Good Practice in Working With Young Men.**

Target Audience

Youth & community work policy makers and practitioners with experience or an interest in Working With Young Men.

Seminar Format

The seminar will take the form of workshops and inputs including group discussion from key individuals with expertise and experience in selected areas.

Seminar Information Pack

Participants attending the seminar will receive an information pack which will include the following information on Working With Young Men:

- ◆ **Sources of Information**
- ◆ **Resources**
- ◆ **Good Practice Profiles**
- ◆ **Service Provision**
- ◆ **Practice-Based Articles**

SEMINAR OUTLINE

SATURDAY, 27 MARCH, 1999

- 9.00 A.M.** REGISTRATION, TEA/COFFEE
- 9.30 A.M.** WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS
FRAN BISSETT, NATIONAL YOUTH FEDERATION
- 9.45 A.M.** **SETTING UP SELF SUPPORTS/SUPPORT GROUPS FOR YOUTH WORKERS
& WHAT ARE THE ISSUES FOR YOUNG MEN?**

SPEAKER: ALAN O'NEILL, SOUTH EAST MEN'S NETWORK
- 11.15 A.M.** TEA/COFFEE
- 11.30 A.M.** **MANAGING AND RESPONDING TO AGGRESSIVE & VIOLENT BEHAVIOUR
IN YOUNG MEN**

SPEAKER: PAT BRENNAN, CARE CONSULTANCY SERVICES
- 1.00 P.M.** LUNCH
- 2.15 P.M.** **MODELS OF PRACTICE 1: YOUNG MEN'S DEVELOPMENT PROJECT,
YOUTH ACTION NORTHERN IRELAND (YANI)**

SPEAKER: MARTIN MCMULLAN, YOUTH ACTION NORTHERN IRELAND
- 3.00 P.M.** **MODELS OF PRACTICE 2: BALL YOUTH DIVERSION PROJECT**

***SPEAKER: GLEN LYNCH & GERRY LINNANE, BALL YOUTH
DIVERSION PROJECT, WATERFORD***
- 3.45 P.M.** TEA/COFFEE
- 4.00 P.M.** **MODELS OF PRACTICE 3: W.H.A.D. PROJECT, BALLYFERMOT**

SPEAKER: MALACHI MCCOY, W.H.A.D. PROJECT
- 4.30 P.M.** **EVALUATION, FOLLOW UP AND CLOSE**

About the Irish YouthWork Centre

The Irish YouthWork Centre is an initiative of the National Youth Federation (NYF). It acts as a one-stop research and documentation centre which has been developed to respond to the varied information, research and training support needs of youth & community workers, researchers and students, and anyone who works with young people. Its' services include:

Enquiry Services on:

- ◆ Trainers, consultants and specialists on youth & community work and related topics
- ◆ Venues suitable for hosting youth events and conferences
- ◆ Courses in Youth & Community Work and related fields
- ◆ Where to find youth & community work resources and training materials from other agencies
- ◆ Through its project database the Centre can connect people with other youth & community work projects doing exciting and innovative work within their field of interest

Sharing Good Practice

The Irish YouthWork Centre is constantly engaged in researching and documenting innovative approaches to work with young people in areas of special interest. This information is available to youth workers through hard copy resources, database information and ongoing independent research being both undertaken and commissioned by the Centre and published by the **Irish Youth Work Press**. These publications include quantitative and qualitative research, training manuals, issue-based guidelines for youth workers and policy documents.

Good Practice and Policy Development Seminars

The Centre regularly organises theme based, seminars and workshops. All the seminars are supported with; up to date analysis of the issue and what's happening on the ground in the form of information and/or research packs; the issues that youth workers are likely to meet; success stories, innovative projects, good practice; and sources of further information.

Library

- ◆ Lending service for youth & community work related books, **videos** and training materials.
- ◆ Photocopy and reference services for reports, statistics and hard-to-find articles on youth work.
- ◆ Newspaper cuttings, Dáil Debates, Government Bills/ Acts and youth related Statistical Updates.
- ◆ Profiles on over 200 organisations in the youth, community, social & voluntary sectors.
- ◆ Retention of over 80 youth work and youth work related **periodicals/journals**.
- ◆ On-line database facilities of all information stocked in the library.
- ◆ On-site study facility.

Publications and Resources

Low cost resources and training materials for sale (*the IWYC acts as an official sales agent for a number of agencies including the National Youth Council of Ireland, Combat Poverty Agency, Russell House Publishing, Nightshift Publications and the Directory of Social Change*). The Centre also offers an extensive range of research, guidelines, policy documents and programme packs for sale published by Irish Youth Work Press, the publishing arm of the NYF.

A complete **Publications For Sale Brochure** is available (see address below)

Free quarterly magazine (**Irish YouthWork Scene**) to members of the Centre.

For further information on the services of the IRISH YOUTHWORk CENTRE, why not write, call in, telephone, or Email us: **Fran Bissett/Bríd Horan, Irish YouthWork Centre, National Youth Federation, 20 Lower Dominick Street, Dublin 1.**
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