



Disability Federation of Ireland Newsletter

June / July 2006

Supporting Organisations to Enable People with Disabilities

An Advocate for the Voluntary Disability Sector.

Social Partnership DFI Ratifies “Towards 2016”

The under-12 hurler whose team had just won a competition goes through the local newspaper report with only one thing in mind: to see if he is specifically mentioned and what is said about him. If he is not mentioned, the gloss is gone from the victory and its significance may even be forgotten.

A first reading of 'Towards 2016' was probably approached from the very specific interest or reference point of one's own organisation. We need now to move on to see the groundbreaking commitments and possibilities inherent in the Agreement for disabled people and their families. These include:

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- Implementation of the National Disability Strategy and its wide variety of commitments is set firmly within the Agreement.

The National Disability Strategy is not a new commitment but it needed to be noted, not only for Government to restate its importance within the Agreement, but in order to get the express commitment of all Social Partners to its implementation. This Agreement is strongly based on the NESC Strategy Report 2006 and the *Developmental Welfare State* (2005). Therefore there are no surprises in the approach which it took to have a longer-term period—the ten year framework, and to build social provision around the lifecycle framework. While there are no surprises in that regard, it is a fundamental shift away from previous agreements and we need to take that into account when reading it.

- The National Disability Strategy will take account of linkages with other national strategies and policies giving it greater strength and possibilities.
- In accordance with the policy of mainstreaming, disabled people will benefit from measures across all stages of the lifecycle (children, people of working age, older people).
- For the first time ever the parallel importance of social provision, along with economic development, is being committed to by Government and the Social Partners. We have long sought to have social infrastructure given parity of esteem with economic infrastructure because of the liberating possibilities which social infrastructure brings to people with disabilities.

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DFI Ratifies “Towards 2016”

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In the section on people with disabilities (pgs. 60—64) it states that “the Government and the Social Partners share a vision of an Ireland where people with disabilities have, to the greatest extent possible, the opportunity to live a full life, with their families, as part of their local community, free from discrimination”. It then sets out five focused goals relating to:

- Income
- Care, health, education, employment and training and social services
- Accessibility and housing.
- Supports for personal autonomy
- Support for carers

Inherent in these goals are opportunities and challenges for each and every disability organisation to address on behalf of the people they serve. Each organisation needs to reassess how well prepared it is to promote these possibilities.

Ensuring delivery becomes the key issue for the next ten years. It is up to us, as a sector, to ensure that we benchmark the implementation of the commitments. If there is cause for sober reflection on reading the Agreement, it is surely around the realisation that we have to take up the challenge of working consistently to extract maximum benefit for people with disabilities from the provisions of the Agreement

DFI Member organisations will be aware that the Board met on 27th June with the specific purpose of considering the Agreement. This was ratified unanimously by the Board.

For further information and analysis of *Towards 2016*, see pages 3 and 4.

John Dolan

July 2006



“Towards 2016”- New Social Partnership Agreement.

Months of negotiations culminated on 14th June for DFI, with the publication of the new Social Partnership Agreement, “Towards 2016”. Negotiations began in February and DFI, as part of the Community and Voluntary Pillar, has been working over the last year to prepare for the negotiations. There are many commitments in the Agreement relating either directly to people with disabilities, or mainstream commitments which are also relevant to the sector. All DFI proposals were put into play throughout the negotiations, keeping with the approach agreed by the Board and the National Council in October, 2005.

DFI member organisations have been kept up to date as the negotiations have progressed. The DFI Board met on 27th June and ratified the terms of the Agreement. The following are some key overarching comments in relation to the Agreement:

- The life cycle approach adopts the perspective of the citizen as the centrepiece of building a new social policy approach within this ten-year framework agreement. The key lifecycle phases include children, people of working age, older people and people with disabilities. Chapter 3 of this agreement sets out the key goals and strategies across these key phases for the provision of three critical and overlapping types of interventions identified by NESC: key services, income supports and activation measures requiring new and innovative responses.
- Chapter 3, (Part 1, Page 30), opens with the statement that “The key lifecycle stages are Children, People of Working Age, Older People and People with Disabilities (who, in accordance with the policy of mainstreaming, will benefit from measures at all stages of the life cycle).” This ensures that disability is present throughout the life cycle and consequently where relevant, commitments relating to children, people of working age and older people, are also inclusive of people with disabilities, at whatever stage in the lifecycle. DFI influenced this statement, which is of critical importance for the inclusion of people with disabilities throughout the lifecycle framework.
- The shared overall goal for the Agreement, as set out at the commencement of Chapter 1, is to realise the NESC vision for Irish society of “*nurturing the complementary relationship between social policy and economic prosperity.*” It further states that “*Economic policy and social provision can be mutually reinforcing and complementary.*” This reasserts that the economic and the social are the two sides of the one coin, as expressed through the NESC Strategy and the “*Developmental Welfare State*”. The importance of including this has been articulated by the Community and Voluntary Pillar since the beginning of the negotiations and is a major high level breakthrough for the Pillar, and it provides valuable support for the implementation of the National Disability Strategy.

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“Towards 2016”- New Social Partnership Agreement

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- Chapter 3, *Lifecycle Stage- People with Disabilities* (P. 60) states that *“Implementation of the National Disability Strategy will take account of linkages with other relevant national strategies and policies”*. This is crucial, especially in terms of mainstreaming for people with disabilities and streamlining policies with other elements of social policy. It should ensure coherence throughout all elements of policy and also will provide a challenge for DFI to ensure that this is followed through, e.g. the National Development Plan, the National Spatial Strategy, the National Anti-Poverty Strategy etc.

Implementation of the National Disability Strategy is central to the programme of work for the ten year framework of the Agreement, and the Government and Social Partners are committed to delivering an Ireland in which people with disabilities have the opportunity to live a full life with their families, as part of their local communities.

Commitments relating primarily to people with disabilities are contained in the *‘People with Disabilities’* section of the lifecycle approach (pp 60-64) although there are other commitments relating to people with disabilities throughout the Agreement.

Five long term goals will be addressed:

- Income
- Care, health, education, employment and training and social services
- Accessibility and housing.
- Supports for personal autonomy
- Care and caring

The above represent a high level statement of outcomes to be achieved over the next ten years.

DFI have put together the following documents to assist organisations to analyse the key issues of relevance to the Disability Sector contained in the Agreement.

- “DFI Guide to issues of relevance to the Disability Sector contained in the new Social Partnership Agreement *“Towards 2016”*”
- Initial analysis of issues of relevance to the Disability Sector contained in the new Social Partnership Agreement

These documents can be downloaded from the DFI website.

Further information from Aisling Walsh, aislingwalsh@disability-federation.ie

Budget 2007

DFI Preparation

DFI will meet with representatives for each of the political parties and the Independents on the 6th July in relation to Budget 2007. Building on our approach over the past number of years DFI will call on Government to invest in income supports and services for people with disabilities in the following areas:

- Cost of Disability Payment
- Disability Allowance
- Community Employment
- Supports for People who experience mental illness
- Adults with Significant Disabilities
- Children as Carers
- Disabled Person's Grant

DFI will publish and launch a pre Budget submission in September. Organisations are actively encouraged to use the DFI submission to promote their own organisation's issues with members of the Oireachtas. For further information contact pjcleere@disability-federation.ie

National Disability Strategy

Sectoral Plans

As part of the National Disability Strategy six Government Departments must each produce a Sectoral Plan showing how they will address key disability issues. The six Departments are:

- Department of Transport
- Department of the Environment, Heritage & Local Government
- Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment
- Department of Health and Children
- Department of Communications, Marine and Natural Resources

- Department of Social and Family Affairs

On 15th June The Department of the Taoiseach chaired a meeting of the DLCCG and the Government Departments which are compiling the Sectoral Plans. The Departments of Finance, and Justice Equality and Law Reform were also present at the meeting.

The process for compiling each Sectoral Plan is coming to an end. The Plans are to go to the Cabinet Sub-Committee on Social Inclusion by 5th July, and will be placed before the Houses of the Oireachtas by 28th July. DFI's Submissions to each of the Sectoral Plans are available on the DFI website, www.disability-federation.ie

National Physical and Sensory Disability Database

The National Physical and Sensory Disability Database Annual Report 2005 has recently been published. Please contact the Health Research Board for copies, or visit their website www.hrb.ie.

Meeting between DFI and DoHC

DFI met with Frances Spillane, Assistant General Secretary at the DoHC, with responsibility for Disability, Food and Medicine, Health Promotion, and Mental Health, on 25th May. The discussion centered around developing a corporate relationship between DFI and the DoHC in the new structures.

National Economic and Social Forum

The NESF will pursue Mental Health issues as their next Project. Maria Fox, DFI, will be one of the Community and Voluntary Strand representatives on the Project Team. The focus of the Team will be on the Population Health approach to Mental Health.

Other projects currently underway within the NESF are: *Delivering Quality Public Services* and *Cultural Inclusion*

Further information from Aisling Walsh, aislingwalsh@disability-federation.ie

Comhairle (Amendment) Bill Update

As part of the National Disability Strategy the Comhairle (Amendment) Bill sets out to introduce a Personal Advocacy Service for disabled people. DFI has made a submission to the Department of Social and Family Affairs which highlights two major concerns, the establishment of a Director of Advocacy who would have the remit over the range of advocacy functions under Comhairle as well as our concern at the passive nature of the Personal Advocates outlined in the proposed legislation.

The Department of Social and Family Affairs remains committed to placing this piece of legislation before the Houses of the Oireachtas in the coming weeks. However, the content of the Comhairle Amendment Bill will now be incorporated, slightly revised, into a new broader piece of legislation, the Citizens Information Bill.

DFI continues to raise concerns about the proposals outlined in the Comhairle (Amendment) Bill, both directly to the Department and working through the DLCG. We urge organisations to continue to do the same, raising these issues with their local representatives. For a copy of the DFI Submission on the Comhairle (Amendment) Bill, please look at the DFI website at www.disability-federation.ie or contact DFI on 01-4547978.

Assessment of Need under Part 2 of the Disability Act

There are provisions under Part 2 Section 7 of the Disability Act to arrange for and undertake the assessment of a person with a disability to determine the health and educational needs and services required. The regulations pertaining to the Assessment of Need determine that this process is to commence in September 2006, or two years following the implementation of the Disability Act.

DFI compiled a submission to the Department of Health and Children following the regional consultations organised by the HSE / Department of Health. In particular, DFI is anxious that the assessment process is responsive to the needs of people with disabilities, identifying the broad disability and non-disability health needs of people, based on strong cross departmental working arrangements that allow for non health and education specific needs to be captured by relevant

Department and agencies, and a commitment to timely progressivity of unmet needs.

The means to introduce and develop the assessment of need process will be outlined in the Department of Health and Children's Sectoral Plan. Through the above submission, and through the ongoing work of the DLCG, DFI will continue to prioritise the above concerns, in an effort to secure for people with disabilities an effective and responsive assessment of need process. For a copy of the DFI Submission on the Assessment of Need, please look at the DFI website at www.disability-federation.ie or contact DFI on 01 - 4547978.

DFI Seminar

The DFI Seminar on the topic of *Challenges for Voluntary Disability Organisations in a Rapidly Changing Environment* took place on 9th May in Dublin.

Health Service Reform, the National Disability Strategy and Mainstreaming Policy have changed the environment in which voluntary disability organisations operate, developments which have been further informed and situated within two recent NESC Reports, *The Developmental Welfare State*, and the *NESC Strategy 2006: People, Productivity and Purpose*. Bringing about change, and the ability of organisations to shape and respond to change will continue to challenge voluntary disability organisations over the coming years. The aim of the Seminar was to address the challenges and opportunities presented to organisations, and to discuss how organisations would respond to these challenges and opportunities.

The Seminar was addressed by Rory O'Donnell, of NESC, who presented a paper entitled *Following Through on the Implementation of the National Disability Strategy: Challenges and Opportunities for the Voluntary Disability Sector*. Aidan Horan, IPA, spoke on the topic of *From Organisational Development to Service Delivery*, and Michael Scanlan, Secretary General of the Department of Health and Children, discussed *The Role and Challenge for Voluntary Disability Organisations within the Reformed Health Services*.

Copies of the papers presented are now available on the DFI website, www.disability-federation.ie.

DFI Eastern Region Platform Meeting

At the June meeting of the DFI Eastern Region Platform, Hugh Kane, Local Health Manager, Wicklow, with regional responsibility for disability, offered a clear overview of the role of the Local Health Office (LHO). Under Health Service Reform the Local Health Office is now recognised as the primary entry point to health and personal social services for all people in the community, including people with disabilities. At the LHO, people can access a wide range of community health and personal social services. Although the responsibility of each Local Health Office includes services for people with disabilities, at a regional level one Local Health Manager will take regional responsibility for coordinating services to people with disabilities. Hugh Kane outlined these developments under the following headings;

- The current role of LHOs nationally
- The specific responsibilities of the Lead LHM in Disability
- The working relationships with voluntary disability organisations

For further information, please contact Joanne McCarthy, SO HSE East Coast Area at joannemccarthy@disability-federation.ie or on 01- 4547978.

DFI Activity Events Eastern Region

The series of Eastern Region Activity Events recently continued with an event on Volunteers and Volunteering, which was presented by Yvonne McKenna, National Development Officer of Volunteer Centres Ireland (VCI), Jim Woods, Manager of the Dublin City South Volunteer Centre (DCSVC), and Maeve Halpin, Development Officer of CARE Local

Three very interesting and informative presentations were made. These outlined the history of volunteer centres, services provided, and current development plans, the celebration of volunteering and practice assistance provided by volunteer centres to organisations looking to attract and retain centres, and finally, experiences with CARE Local in recognising the need for proper volunteer policies and procedures, and development strategies for policies and procedures.

This event followed on from the previous one on PR and Communications, and which proved extremely interesting and informative, and, for many, shed new light on the working of professional PR companies and how they can be utilised by Community & Voluntary organisations.

Further Activity Events to be held during 2006 will include Children First (in conjunction with the HSE), and Human Resources (in conjunction with Adare HR Consultancy).

If you have suggestions for themes for 2006 and 2007 contact Anthony Carrick, Tel: 4547978, anthonycarrick@disability-federation.ie

“Roles and Responsibilities of Board Members of Community & Voluntary Organisations”

The Wheel and BoardMatch Ireland (www.boardmatchireland.ie) recently co-hosted an information seminar to explore the role of the board of directors, the specific responsibilities of different positions within the board and typical challenges facing organisations in relation to voluntary board membership. Presenters were Brian Sheehan of BoardMatch, and Justine McCarthy, Manager, Prospectus.

Further details from www.wheel.ie/events.

Insurance: Fact versus Fiction Wheel Member Briefing

The Wheel held a lunchtime Member Briefing, *Insurance: Fact versus Fiction*, on 20th June. The aim of the briefing was to provide a comprehensive understanding of insurance, meet and network with peers, and to provide answers to queries.

Representatives from The Wheel and Arachas (Insurance Brokers) examined the various aspects of insurances and the challenges facing the Community and Voluntary Sector, and this was followed by a question and answer session.

Further information on this event from Danielle, Tel: 4548727, email: Danielle@wheel.ie

Optimal Service Design Course

Cheshire Ireland is hosting an intensive, two-week leadership course on individualised service design. The course is aimed at agencies in the physical, intellectual and mental health sectors. The course will take place from 18th to 22nd September 2006 and 9th to 13th October 2006. Further details from Aoife O'Toole, Tel: 2974120, Email: aoife.otoole@cheshire.ie

Higher Certificate in Arts in Advocacy Studies

The programme is offered by the Institute of Technology, Sligo, and is the only one of its kind in Ireland. The course is aimed at those with an interest or involvement in the rapidly developing field of advocacy. It is delivered via distance education, so as to make it accessible to as many as possible.

Further information on the programme is available from the Life Long Learning Secretary, Tel: 071 9155252, Email: advocacy@itsligo.ie

The Open Training College

The Open Training College, a quality approved provider of accredited training courses to staff working in the disability and related health services, has just produced an updated information pack for 2006. The pack outlines all of the courses on offer by the College, and highlights the course delivery model, module descriptions, commencement dates and prices.

Please contact Grainne Brennan for a copy of the new information pack. Tel: 01 2988544, Email: info.otc@smh.ie

Official Opening of Inclusion Ireland Offices

Uachtarán na hÉireann, Mary McAleese, officially opened Inclusion Ireland's new premises in Foley Street on April 5th. The organisation looks forward to welcoming members and others to the new building.

The office has a fully equipped training / meeting

room available for use at a reasonable cost. It is fully accessible and in a central location adjacent to Connolly Station, Bus Áras and Luas. Enquiries about using the facility to Inclusion Ireland, Tel: 01 8559891, Email: info@inclusionireland.ie

National Federation of Voluntary Bodies Website

The National Federation of Voluntary Bodies has announced the launch of its new website, www.fedvol.ie, an up to date, professional, accessible, information resource for member organisations, people with intellectual disability, families, and all who have an interest in intellectual disability issues.

The website will provide key information on the range of activities taking place in intellectual disability services in Ireland and the role played by the National Federation in supporting member organisations to provide high quality services and supports to people with intellectual disability.

The Federation welcomes comments or suggestions in relation to the new website. Contact secretariat@fedvol.ie

Bodywhys Publication 'Binge eating – Breaking the Cycle' A Self-help Guide Towards Recovery

A new publication by Bodywhys – The Eating Disorders Association of Ireland for people affected by binge eating is available now. Copies available on sale from Bodywhys Central Office, PO Box 105, Blackrock, Co. Dublin t: 01 2834963 e: info@bodywhys.ie

Comhairle Funding Information Bulletin

The June 2006 Comhairle Funding Information Bulletin is now available. The aim of this Comhairle e-bulletin is to disseminate information relevant to funding and support for voluntary and community work in Ireland. The Bulletin is organised into two main sections:

- **Funding Sources:** about agencies and bodies, changes in funding schemes and criteria and application processes advertised since the last update
- **Other information:** Legislative and regulatory changes, reports and forthcoming seminars and training opportunities in fundraising

The e-bulletin is available online at www.comhairle.ie/newsletter.

National Lottery Grants Health Service Executive

The HSE Western Area, Dublin North East and Dublin Mid-Leinster has been allocated National Lottery Funding for distribution to community based groups and voluntary organisations under the following terms:

- Respite Care Grant Scheme
- National Lottery Grant Scheme

Applications are invited from groups and organisations involved in the provision of health and personal social services for one off funding for viable projects which can be completed within a reasonable period of time. Information, including application forms, is available from:

HSE Western Area, Co Donegal, Tel: 071 9852607, Email: Helen.oreilly1@mailb.hse.ie
Website: www.hse.ie

HSE Dublin North East (comprising Louth, Meath, Cavan / Monaghan and North Dublin), Tel: 042 9381384 Website: www.hse.ie

HSE Dublin-Mid Leinster (comprising South Dublin, Kildare, Wicklow, Laois, Offaly, Longford and Westmeath) Tel: 045 880433, Website: www.hse.ie

The Community Foundation for Ireland Small Grants Scheme

The Community Foundation for Ireland Small Grants Scheme is now accepting applications for its second round of grants in 2006. Applications are open to Community & Voluntary groups within the Republic of Ireland. The priority areas for the years 2004 - 2006 are to assist projects working to respond to isolation and to develop a more diverse society.

The Small Grants Scheme will have a particular focus on:

- Carers
- Older People
- People leaving institutions
- Sexual Minorities
- Ethnic Minorities
- Families at Risk

Application forms and guidelines are available from www.communityfoundation.ie, or by calling 01 8747354. Closing date for receipt of applications is 31st July 2006.

Dormant Accounts Fund ICT Initiatives for Disadvantaged Young People

The Dormant Accounts Fund 2006 Category A - Social and Economic Disadvantage is making up to €1 million available for funding of ICT initiatives under the 'Disadvantaged Children and Young People' Measure. The funding is available for projects which provide greater access to ICT and promote ICT skills development for disadvantaged young people, particularly early school leavers.

Priority will be given to projects which are innovative / creative, redirect young people back to education / training, promote the potential of technology as a lever to address disadvantage, will equip young people with the ICT skills to seek employment, involve accredited training, demonstrate a strategy for mentoring / guiding young people towards further education, training or employment, provide ICT programmes of specific interest to young people, i.e. film, digital photography, web design, robotics, music, etc. The Programme is being managed by Pobal, www.pobal.ie, Closing date 31st July 2006.

Specialist Certificate for Disability Services

The HSE Dublin Mid-Leinster Health Promotion Service and Disability Services have developed an accredited Specialist Certificate in Health Promotion for Disability Services in conjunction with the National University of Ireland, Galway. The Specialist Certificate for Disability Services is one of three specific Specialist Certificate Programmes being provided through the HSE Dublin Mid-Leinster. This certificate is fully funded and supported through the Health Promotion Service.

This Certificate offers the opportunity to provide quality training for those working in Disability Services as well as providing both disciplines with a mechanism to develop and monitor quality standards. This mechanism also fulfils health promotion's goal in terms of re-orienting the health services—moving away from the medical model towards a social model of health and well-being.

The closing date for applications is 23rd June, but late applications may be considered. For further information and a copy of the course handbook please contact David Whelan, Assistant Planner, Regional Disability Services, HSE, Tel: 057 9359925.

Person Centred Planning The PATH Process

PATH is a person centred planning tool to graphically map out a desirable future for an individual with or without a disability. Part of the unique strength of this process is the colourful visual record that is created which is dynamic, affirming, motivating and action oriented. PATH specifies achievable goals and clarifies the first steps for their implementation.

The National Institute for Intellectual Disability, Trinity College Dublin will hold two three day workshops which will provide tools to develop person centred plans that are individually focused and oriented to the needs of the student, person with disability, and family members. Materials will be provided for developing and implementing individual plans that are relevant to the person's situation, whether it be within an educational or agency setting.

The workshops will take place in July 2006 at Trinity College. Further information is available from Ailish Kennedy, Tel: 01 6083885.



DFI REGIONAL OFFICES

EASTERN REGION

Support Officers for the Eastern Regional Health Authority area are based in the DFI Dublin Office, Fumbally Court, Fumbally Lane, Dublin 8 Tel: 01 4547978; Fax: 01 4547981

SO NORTHERN AREA: Martin Naughton, Mobile: 086 8207196

Email: martinnaughton@disability-federation.ie

SO SOUTH WESTERN AREA : Anthony Carrick, Mobile: 086 8206736

Email: anthonycarrick@disability-federation.ie

SO EAST COAST AREA: Joanne McCarthy

Mobile: 086 8448488

Email: joannemccarthy@disability-federation.ie

SO SOUTH EAST: P.J. Cleere, 059 9180911, Mobile: 086 3811064, C/o St Patrick's Cheshire Home, Tullow, Co Carlow

Email: pjcleere@disability-federation.ie

SO SOUTH: Alison Ryan, Mobile: 086 3816323

DFI, C/o Comhairle, 101 North Main St., Cork Tel: 021 4271752; Fax: 4272935

Email: a.ryan@disability-federation.ie

SO WEST: Michael Corbett, Mobile: 086 3804750 DFI, Acres, Newport, Co Mayo Tel: 098 41919 Fax: 098 41065 Email: michaelcorbett@disability-federation.ie

SO NORTH WEST: Marcus Hufsky, DFI, North-side Resource Centre, Forthill, Sligo Town, Tel: 071 9144614, Mobile: 086 3811261 Email: marcushufsky@disability-federation.ie

SO NORTH EAST: Joan O'Donnell, Fumbally Court, Fumbally Lane, Dublin 8 Tel: 01 4547978, Mobile: 086 3834587

Email: joanodonnell@disability-federation.ie

SO MIDLANDS: Maria Fox Mobile: 086 3882600 DFI, Offaly Exhibition and Research Centre, Bury Quay, Tullamore, Co Offaly. Tel: 0506 28632, Fax: 0506 28607

Email: mariafox@disability-federation.ie

SO MID WEST: Toni Gleeson Mobile: 086 6004526 DFI, C/o Enable Ireland, Quinns Cross Roundabout, Mungret, Limerick Tel: 061 301830, Fax: 061 308705

Email: tonigleeson@disability-federation.ie

Forthcoming Events

Please make direct contact with the organisation for a quicker response

Red Door Autism Conference - This event will take place in Trinity College Dublin on 30th June and 1st July 2006. The Conference will be of interest to parents, tutors and professionals, and will cover topics on early, middle, and teenage years. Further information from red-door2006@iol.ie, Tel: 01 2943944.

L'Arche Retreat - This Youth Retreat is being organised by L'Arche, Faith and Light, Faith and Sharing, and Faith and Friendship, four movements founded and inspired by Jean Vanier. The retreat is open to anyone over 18 years of age, and will take place from 7th to 9th July in NUI, Maynooth. Further information from Anne McKeon, Tel: 056 7725283.

Brainwave - The Irish Epilepsy Association: A Golf Classic will take place on Friday 8th September at St Margaret's Golf Club, Dublin. The Brainwave Horse Show Ball will take place in the Burlington Hotel, Dublin, on 11th August. Further information on these events from Glenda, Tel: 01 4557500, or Brian, 086 25511609 Email: glendaw.brainwave@epilepsy.ie

Alzheimer Society of Ireland: The following events will take place during the coming year: 21st September, World Alzheimer Day; 20th October, Alzheimer Hero Day.

Training Courses, Workshops, Seminars

National Institute for Intellectual Disability, Trinity College, Dublin - Person Centred Planning Workshops to provide tools to develop person centred plans that are individually focused and oriented to the needs of the student, person with disability and family members. Details from Ailish Kennedy, akenned@tcd.ie

Omega Foundation - Certificate in Support / Key Work: This course aims to teach the fundamental principles and practices of support work and key work. Drawing from experience, this programme has been specifically created to give candidates valuable information and tools to perform their roles in an effective and professional

manner. Candidates will be either working in the area of addiction, i.e. drug / alcohol, or in the area of mental health and special needs, or will be in the process of moving into or seeking employment in these areas. Further information from Tel: 01 4563895, Email: info@omegafoundation.ie

DFI Documents Available

Social Partnership Agreement—Towards 2016

DFI Guide to issues of relevance to the Disability Sector contained in the new Social Partnership Agreement **Ref: DFI/07/06/1**

Initial Analysis of issues of relevance to the Disability Sector contained in the new Social Partnership Agreement **Ref: DFI/07/06/2**

National Disability Strategy: DFI Submissions on individual Departmental Sectoral Plans:

Department of Health and Children
Ref: DFI/07/06/3

Department of Transport:
Ref: DFI/07/07/4

Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment:
Ref: DFI/07/06/5

Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government: **Ref: DFI/07/06/6**

Department of Social and Family Affairs:
Ref: DFI/07/06/7

Department of Communications, Marine and Natural Resources: **Ref: DFI/07/06/8**

Comhairle (Amendment) Bill 2005—DFI Submission, April, 2006 **Ref: DFI/07/06/8**

Newsletters Available

Ability - Newsletter of the Irish Association for Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus, Tel: 01 4572329, Email: swilliamson@iasbah.ie

Action on Inclusion - Tel: 01-6194096 Email: jackie_coogan@taoiseach.irlgov.ie

Ahead News - 01-4752386, Email: ahead@iol.ie

Arthritis Ireland - Newsletter—Tel: 01 661 8188 Email: info@arthritisireland.ie

Aspire - Asperger Syndrome Association of Ireland. 01-8780027, Email: asperger@email.com

Asthma Society News - Tel: 01-8788511, Email: asthma@indigo.ie

Brainstorm - Migraine Association of Ireland, Tel: 01-8064121, petermurphy@migraine.ie

Brainwave - Quarterly Newsletter, Tel: 01 4557500, Email: info@epilepsy.ie

Clar na nOg - National Youth Council of Ireland Tel: 01-4784122 Email: press@nyci.ie

Cleft Lip and Palate Association of Ireland - www.cleft.ie/newsletter/index.htm

Care Alliance Ireland - cai@ageaction.ie

Community Exchange Newsletter Contact gian@activelink.ie

Connect - Irish Motor Neurone Disease Association. info@imnda.ie

Community Workers' Co-operative - News Bites, E-Newsletter. Contact heike@cwic.ie

Cornerstone - Homeless Agency - Tel: 01-6705173, Email: homeless@indigo.ie

Dailbrief - Published by Combat Poverty Agency: joycef@cpa.ie; brharvey@iol.ie

Cumhacht - People with Disabilities in Ireland Tel: 01-8721744

Debra Ireland Newsletter - Published by Debra Ireland, Tel: 01 6776855, Email: info@debraireland.org

Down Syndrome Ireland - Tel: 01-8730999, Email: dsi@eircom.net

Equality News - Tel: 01-4173333

E-Info Deaf Source: coneill@irishdeaf society.ie

Fighting Blindness - Tel: 01 7093050, Email: avril.daly@fightingblindness.ie

Frontline of Learning Disability -Tel: 01-2862649. Email: frontline@indigo.ie

GROW News - Information on Mental Health, Tel: 056 7761624m Email: info@grow.ie

Guidelines - Irish Guide Dogs Association. Tel: 021 4878200 Email: info@guidedogs.ie

Headway Ireland - National Association for Acquired Brain Injury -'Making Headway', Tel: 01-8102066, Email: services@headway.ie

Heartstrings - Newsletter of Heart Children Ireland, published quarterly—Tel: 1850 217017 Email: heartchildren@eircom.net

Heatwave - Irish Raynaud's Scleroderma Society, info@irishraynauds.com

HOPE - Huntington's Disease Association of Ireland. Tel: 01-872 1303, Email: hdai@indigo.ie

Inclusion Ireland - Tel: 01 8559891, Email: info@inclusionireland.ie

Insight - Ireland's health and social affairs monthly; 01-2057200; Email: insight@rehab.ie

Irish Deaf Journal - Irish Deaf Society. Minicom: 01-8601910; 01-8601878; ids@indigo.ie

Irish Wheelchair Association - 'Spokeout' Tel: 01-8186456, Email: Joanna.marsden@iwa.ie

Kerry Network of People with Disabilities - Network News 066-7180611, kerry@pwdi.org

MS News—Newsletter of MS Ireland. Tel: 01 6781600

Muscular Dystrophy Ireland - MDI News Update Tel: 01-8721501, Email: info@mdi.ie

National Association for Deaf People - Link Magazine - Tel: 01 8723800 Email: nad@iol.ie

NCBI News - Newsletter of the National Council for the Blind of Ireland, Tel: 01 8307033, email: Fionnuala.murphy@ncbi.ie, www.ncbi.ie

Neuro News - Neurofibromatosis Association of Ireland 01-8726338 nfaireland@eircom.net

People First - Central Remedial Clinic Tel: 01-8057400 Email: vmcutch@crc.ie

Post Polio Support Group - Newsletter, Tel: 01-8730338, Email: info@ppsg.ie

Poverty Today - Combat Poverty Agency. Tel:01-670 6746

Rehab News -Tel: 01-2057311 Email: dara.duffy@rehab.ie

Simon News - Simon Community, Tel: 01-6711606 Email: csimon@iol.ie

S.I. News - Schizophrenia Ireland, Tel: 01-2765221 Email: ifo@sirl.ie

Social Housing - Irish Council for Social Housing Tel: 01-6618334; Email: info@icsh.ie

Speaking up for Advocacy - Comhairle Newsletter on advocacy. Tel: 01 6059035, Email:mairide.woods@comhairle.ie

Volunteer Stroke Scheme News- Tel: 01-4559036

Wheel E-Mail Bulletin Email: aisling@wheel.ie



Disability Federation of Ireland, Fumbally Court, Fumbally Lane Dublin 8

Phone: 353-1-4547978 Fax: 353-1-4547981

Disability Federation of Ireland is the national support mechanism for voluntary disability organisations in Ireland covering all areas of disability and disabling conditions: intellectual, physical, sensory, hidden and mental health. DFI has ongoing involvement with over 150 organisations and groups across the country, 72 of which currently comprise its National Council., and 31 of which are Associate Members. Allied to this, it works with and supports over 200 organisations and groups around the country that have a significant and growing disability interest, mainly coming from the statutory and voluntary sectors. DFI provides

- Information
- Training and Advice
- Organisation and Management Development
- Research and Policy
- Advocacy and Representation



NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

To DFI Office - Fax: 01-4547981

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