

# NATIONAL FEDERATION OF VOLUNTARY BODIES

*Providing Services to People with Intellectual Disability*

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## *Welcome to National Federation Newsletter Issue 28 Autumn 2009*

**CONFERENCE PROGRAMME**

**SALAMANCA - 15 YEARS ON**

**INCLUSION - A SCHOOL FOR ALL**



**DUBLIN, IRELAND, NOVEMBER 12<sup>TH</sup>- 13<sup>TH</sup> 2009**

The National Federation of Voluntary Bodies is hosting an International Conference on Inclusive Education in the Grand Hotel Malahide, Dublin on 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> of November 2009.

This conference is a follow on from the UNESCO Conference on Special Needs Education in 1994 at which the Salamanca Statement on Inclusive Education was developed. This statement promoted Inclusive Education as a way of achieving high quality education for all. The Dublin Conference programme includes a wide range of speakers providing best practice examples from both a National and International perspective.

### Conference Goals:

- To create a new European Network of all those committed to inclusive education, providing examples of good practice.
- To offer guidance and active help to all parties interested in transforming main-stream schools into schools for all.
- To agree on a Dublin Statement and Action Plan for the future.

Delegates will be provided with an opportunity to participate in study visits, workshops and plenary discussions and also to network with colleagues from other countries. A reduced delegate fee is being provided for persons with a disability and a family member of a person with a disability.

Online booking is now available on our website at [www.fedvol.ie](http://www.fedvol.ie)

For further information please contact Mary Barrett at [mary.barrett@fedvol.ie](mailto:mary.barrett@fedvol.ie)

## NATIONAL FEDERATION UPDATES

### Mr. John Gately, RIP

We were all very saddened to hear about the loss of Mr. John Gately, RIP, who passed away on 4 July, 2009. John was a hugely popular member of the National Federation of Voluntary Bodies and was held in the highest esteem by all of his colleagues. His passing will leave a huge void not just at St. Hilda's Association, Athlone, but in the wider National Federation of Voluntary Bodies also. We extend our sincerest condolences to John's wife Anne, his family and his wide circle of friends and colleagues in St. Hilda's and in the National Federation.



### Vision Statement for Intellectual Disability in Ireland for the 21st Century

In response to an invitation from Mr. John Moloney, Minister for Equality, Disability and Mental Health, the National Federation prepared a discussion paper "Vision Statement for Intellectual Disability in Ireland for the 21st Century". The paper was submitted to the Minister's office for his consideration in April 2009. The discussion paper reflects on what a new vision might look like, the principles which should underpin it, the issues to be addressed in it, and our views on the design attributes of a policy document and of a policy development process. A copy of this discussion document can be downloaded from the Publications and Resources section of our website at [www.fedvol.ie](http://www.fedvol.ie).

### Report of the Special Group on Public Service Numbers and Expenditure Programmes (An Bord Snip Nua)

With regard to the voluntary disability sector, An Board Snip Nua in its report stated that "unnecessary duplication of corporate and other services cannot be maintained in a budgetary environment where services are being curtailed and service developments are being deferred". It recommends greater use of shared services, improved administrative efficiency and sharing of professional and clinical staffing resources by voluntary bodies. It underlined the need for robust service level agreements between HSE and voluntary organisations and stated there should be close monitoring of performance against the specified service levels and financial and staffing penalties for failure to achieve them. The Group anticipates that the introduction of these measures should yield at least €50m savings.

The National Federation of Voluntary Bodies has in place a Value for Money Review Group to develop proposals which will be the basis for ongoing consultation with Member Organisations.

### Pre-Budget Campaign

The National Federation of Voluntary Bodies has joined forces with Inclusion Ireland to organise a pre-budget press conference in the Alexander Hotel, Dublin on Wednesday, 14th October, 2009. The purpose of the press conference will be to remind Government of their commitment to prioritise Disability services in the context of its Programme for Government and also to ensure that budgetary cutbacks are kept to the minimum so that front line services can be maintained.

The National Federation of Voluntary Bodies will be meeting with Inclusion Ireland to discuss how best to get our message across, the key points we wish to highlight, how best to raise momentum in advance of the press conference and how to ensure best media coverage.

## RESEARCH

### Inclusive Research Network National Survey: Where we Live?

*Written by Brian Donohoe, Community Participation & Inclusion Sub-Committee with support from John Doyle*

The Where we Live Survey is a national survey which is being conducted through Peer-to Peer interviews and involves co-researchers from all around the country.

The survey was conducted to ask people about where they live, what they like and don't like and to get peoples views on the living options for people with intellectual disabilities in Ireland today.

This survey is the first national study to be carried out by people with disabilities in Ireland and findings will be reported at the NDA Annual Conference on 6<sup>th</sup> October in the Croke Park Conference Centre, Dublin 3.

The Inclusive Research Network is a joint initiative of the National Federation of Voluntary Bodies and the National Institute for Intellectual Disability. For more information see:

[http://www.fedvol.ie/Inclusive\\_Research\\_Network\\_IRN/Default.241.html](http://www.fedvol.ie/Inclusive_Research_Network_IRN/Default.241.html)

### The Experience of a Co-Researcher

In July 2009, Brian Donohoe & John Doyle attended a meeting of the Community Participation & Inclusion Sub-Committee of which Brian is a member. At that meeting, Brian & John talked about the Inclusive Research Network (IRN) workshops and the survey that they were doing on Living Options for people with Intellectual Disability in Ireland. This was identified as a topic in the Research Strategy and the people who attended the IRN workshops also decided to do research on this subject.

Brian & John worked on the survey practicing the interviews and choosing people to survey. They emailed the details to the sub-committee so people could decide if they wanted to take part & be interviewed by Brian with John's support. On the day the interviews were to be done, six people had said they wanted to be interviewed but one pulled out. Of the five people interviewed, 3 were female and 2 were male. All had different living arrangements. All five had studied the material in advance so they understood what was involved and were very comfortable during the interviews. Two of the people interviewed had a support person with them.

Email addresses were collected from the people involved and the results of the National Survey will be sent out to them when it's completed in a few months. A presentation of the results will also be made at the NDA conference on the 6<sup>th</sup> of October. The survey will give us more knowledge of where people live and what they feel about it

### Reflections from Brian and John:

*As each interview was completed we got through the interviews quicker. We both got more confident from the process. We felt that giving people the information in advance was beneficial as the participants had time to look over the material and were not being shown it for the first time on the morning of the interview. Brian felt that maybe knowing most of the people he was interviewing also helped. If someone was interviewing or being interviewed by a total stranger a lot more preparation work would have to be done.*

### An Intellectual Disability Supplement to TILDA



In December 2008, the first ever longitudinal study on ageing in people with intellectual disability in Ireland was launched by the Minister for Equality, Disability and Mental Health, John Moloney, T.D. in the School of Nursing & Midwifery, Trinity College Dublin. The study, the Intellectual Disability Supplement to the Irish Longitudinal Study on Ageing (TILDA) is the first of its kind in Europe, and the only study with the potential of comparing the ageing of people with intellectual disability directly with the general ageing population.

In June 2009, the pilot phase of this national study commenced and the collection of data has just been completed. A random sample of people with intellectual disability aged 40 years and over receiving support from three intellectual disability service providers were selected using the National Intellectual Disability Database. Seventy-four people with intellectual disability, families/guardians and support staff participated in the pilot study from both urban and rural communities in Ireland.

Participating individuals with intellectual disabilities, families/guardians and support staff have commented that they thoroughly enjoyed the interviews, the measurement visits and being involved with such an important study. It has been particularly pleasing to the research team led by Prof. Mary McCarron, School of Nursing & Midwifery, Trinity College Dublin, that there was such a high response rate, the length of time to complete the questionnaire was not over-taxing and there was so much positive feedback from participants.

Huge thanks are extended to all those who participated in the pilot study and also to staff and administrators of the Daughters of Charity Service in Dublin and Western Care Association and Áras Attracta in Mayo. The critical support provided by the staff at the National Intellectual Disability Database, the Health Research Board and the Disability Database Managers, Anna Larkin and Karen Judge, in the Health Service Executive, prior to and during the pilot study is also gratefully acknowledged.

The pilot study is the first step in providing data to guide efforts to develop a comprehensive strategy on successful ageing, health promotion and disease prevention, and the improvement of health and social services for older people with intellectual disability in Ireland. Throughout September, the data gathered in the pilot will be analysed and a report on the findings will be launched in late autumn. Some minor changes to the research tools will also be made to better prepare for Wave One of data collection.

The national study will involve approximately 800 people with intellectual disability aged 40 years and over from across Ireland. It will be carried out over 10 years with 3 waves of data collection at 2 year intervals throughout this period. The sample is being randomly drawn from the National Intellectual Disability Database. Participation in the study will be voluntary for the selected persons and once identified there will be an extensive process undertaken to inform people about the study, to work with service providers to complete ethics committee reviews and to obtain needed individual consents. The study will need your help to achieve this.

A photo exhibition entitled "*Celebrating Ageing in Persons with Intellectual Disability*" with over 200 photographs taken by or of people with intellectual disability is currently travelling to key events and services around the country to celebrate ageing and to help promote this very important and timely study. If you see the exhibition in your service or at an event please enjoy the wonderful photographs and do not hesitate to speak to a member of the research team about this exciting study. A DVD of the exhibition will also be launched at the end the year – stay tuned for more updates.

The project appreciates the support the National Federation of Voluntary Bodies and its members have already offered to this study. In the months ahead the research study team will need additional assistance and may be in touch with your service directly. All assistance will be appreciated in meeting the requirements to extend this study to include as many people with intellectual disability across Ireland as possible.

If you have any queries about the study or require any further information please call the research team on (01) 896 3186 / 3187 or email [dstotilda@tcd.ie](mailto:dstotilda@tcd.ie).

*Together let's work towards making Ireland the best place to grow older.*

## Residential Think Tank organized to discuss the topic of Living Options for People with Intellectual Disabilities in Ireland

On the 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> of July the National Federation hosted a residential weekend think tank to discuss and debate the issue of living options for people with intellectual disabilities in Ireland.

This think tank formed part of the action agenda of the Research Subcommittee who had as its research focus for 2009 the topic of Living Options. It also was one of the key topics identified in the consultation process of the National Federation Research Strategy. Alongside this are a number of research projects happening in Ireland at the moment which has this topic as its theme, including:

- The Brothers of Charity Action Research Project on Transitions to Socially Inclusive Living funded by Pobal
- The Inclusive Research Network National Survey on 'Where we Live'
- The HSE Congregated Settings Project which has been completed and due to be published in the coming months.

It was proposed that this weekend format replace a traditional conference. This was a new style of conference or seminar aimed to be a more rigorous interrogation of the research literature and an opportunity to bring people together to look at the evidence nationally and internationally. The event was organised to promote a spirit of learning whereby we examined what we don't know about this topic. We wanted to know how we can improve people's lives and one way to do this is to examine the evidence in the literature on residential options for people with intellectual disability.

There is a hunger for new ideas and for learning by evidence. There is also a wish and a need to avoid loose and irresponsible spread of anecdotal ideas and rhetoric based on idealism and aspiration alone.

Twenty-five participants attended the residential think tank. These people were, in the main, people who are involved in research on this topic, in examining literature and practices in this area and were invited to attend on the basis that they could offer and share their knowledge and expertise in this area.

A reading list was circulated prior to the event and participants were asked to choose a piece of literature, summarise the main findings and offer some reflection on its application to the Irish situation.

- In all there were 16 presentations made on this topic.

On Saturday the focus of the groups work was to reflect on these 16 presentations and to comment about what this meant for services in Ireland today. What emerged after much discussion debate and examination of the literature were eight core questions which we will consider and answer in 2009:

1. Who has power? What are the assumptions about intellectual disability?
2. Who decides? (How do we meaningfully support people to determine how they live)?
3. What are the living options? (What is a home? How can we de-institutionalise the mindset)
4. What is quality in a living option? (Relationships, self-determination, participation)
5. What does research say is the best living option? (Data says Supported Living achieves better outcomes? What is supported living?)
6. What are the costs associated with different options? (Are group homes are expensive institutions?)
7. How should people be supported to live a good life? (Choice giving, listening, validating, respectful interaction)
8. How should the supporters be supported? (clarify objectives, monitoring, training, proactive supervision)

A report will be compiled gathering together the thoughts, reflections, and evidence discussed at this weekend and will be available on our website by the end of the year.

## Research Strategy Update

The Research Strategy of the National Federation celebrates its first anniversary this September and an update of the strategy priorities and the activities undertaken over the past year is now available on our website.

[http://www.fedvol.ie/Research\\_Strategy\\_20082013\\_and\\_Research\\_SubCommittee/Default.1329.html](http://www.fedvol.ie/Research_Strategy_20082013_and_Research_SubCommittee/Default.1329.html)



## TRAINING UPDATES – AUTUMN 2009:

### Revised Dignity at Work Policy – Now Available:

The Dignity at Work Policy for the health service has now been revised – the Policy is designed to prevent bullying, harassment and sexual harassment in the workplace and sets out a procedure for dealing with allegations of bullying / harassment. The Policy is based on the Health and Safety Authority's Code of Practice for Employers and Employees on the Prevention and Resolution of Bullying at Work, which issued under the Safety Health and Welfare at Work Act 2005, and incorporates the provisions on sexual harassment and harassment under the Employment Equality Acts, 1998 to 2008. A key objective of the Policy is to ensure that all reasonable efforts are made by management to deal with complaints of bullying or harassment at local level. The revised Policy also places a stronger emphasis on promoting the use of mediation as an alternative to formal investigation.

A copy of the revised Dignity at Work Policy along with a summary leaflet setting out the key provisions of the Policy can be downloaded from the 'Publications' section of the following website: [www.hseea.ie](http://www.hseea.ie).

### Support Contact Persons Training – Autumn 2009

To coincide with the launch of the revised Dignity at Work Policy training is being organized for those who have been appointed as Support Contact Persons. The training will be delivered in October / November 2009 and the main objectives of the training programme are:

1. To review the main provisions of the Dignity at Work Policy.
2. To provide an overview of the key pieces of legislation / Code's of Practice underpinning the Dignity at Work Policy.
3. To outline the role of the Support Contact Person to ensure that all participants are fully au fait with the key elements of the role and have the opportunity to develop the skills necessary for this role.
4. To provide a networking opportunity for Support Contact Persons whereby they can share their experiences of their role and the issues that arise.

For further information on the training please contact Jillian Sexton – [jillian.sexton@fedvol.ie](mailto:jillian.sexton@fedvol.ie)

### SKILL Programme 2009/2010:

Over 140 learners from across 25 National Federation of Voluntary Bodies member organisations have now registered to commence their SKILL training in October 2009. This is the fourth year of the SKILL Programme and to date 129 learners have graduated with their FETAC qualification and there are a further 367 learners who are at varying stages of completing their studies.

Over the summer period we have been actively working with the SKILL Programme Team to ensure that the SKILL modules meet the needs of learners who work with people who have an Intellectual Disability. This has involved reviewing a number of the SKILL modules and identifying ways in which the modules need to be customised to reflect the environment and context within which learners from National Federation member organisations are working. We will be reviewing all the SKILL modules and hope to have this work completed by December 2009.

### SKILL Video of Graduations:

A video of the SKILL graduations that took place in November 2008 has recently been circulated by the SKILL Programme Office – the video can be viewed online – [www.skillprogramme.ie](http://www.skillprogramme.ie) and a copy will also be circulated to all organisations involved in the SKILL Programme. The video provides a very positive account of the experiences of participants and their success in both enhancing their skills and also in gaining a recognised qualification.

### Health & Safety Authority – Manual Handling Seminars, October 2009.

New manual handling and people handling training standards have recently been developed by the Health & Safety Authority in conjunction with FETAC (Further Education and Training Awards Council). The development of these standards is one element of a proposed new Manual Handling Training System to be rolled out in the next two years. For those who provide training or are responsible for the management of manual handling in the workplace, it's important that they are aware of the new standards and how they will operate.

The HSA is now running a series of seminars to provide an update on the new standards and the implementation of the new Manual Handling Training System. The seminars aims to provide an overview of work completed to date and will give information on the main elements of the new Manual Handling Training System to be implemented. Further information and an on-line booking form is available on the HSA's website homepage at [www.hsa.ie](http://www.hsa.ie) under the events section.

## PUBLICATIONS

### Shared Lives

*Building Relationships and Community with People who have Intellectual Disabilities*

#### Roy McConkey, John Dunne & Nick Blitz

Written by three authors who combine a wealth of expertise as researchers, clinicians and practitioners, this challenging book presents a renewed vision for the support of people with intellectual disabilities. Its primary focus is the positive contributions that people with an intellectual disability can make to the lives of others and to their wider communities if given the opportunity. Many real-life examples are given. Central to this, is the nurturing of mutual relationships between people and their supporters, be they paid workers, community volunteers or family members. Also explored is how people can come together in supportive communities that enrich and extend their experiences of life. The building of alliances and the creation of partnership working across different organisations are essential to this. The emphasis is on the role of the paid supporter, which is still critical in the lives of many people but smaller, community-based networks of support with a shared vision of inclusive societies, are seen to be the hallmark of modern service systems.

To order: Contact Sense Publishers , Order Dept., P.O. Box 21858, 3001 AW Rotterdam, The Netherlands.  
Email: [Orderdept@sensepublishers.com](mailto:Orderdept@sensepublishers.com) Or order from online bookshops.

### New Publications on our Website

- Vision Statement for Intellectual Disability in Ireland for the 21st Century – discussion document
- Towards 2016 Strategic Document – National Disability Strategy – Vision, Mission & Strategic objectives (Section 33.2, page 66) – Update 2009
- Commission to Inquire into Child Abuse Report (Ryan Report 2009)
- Commission to Inquire into Child Abuse Report, 2009 Implementation Plan
- Public Service Numbers and Expenditure Programmes – Report of the Special Group (2009)
- Friendships and Taboos – Research on Sexual Health Promotion for People with Mild to Moderate Intellectual Disabilities in the 28-25 Age Range

## IRISH NEWS:

### National Consultation by the Office of the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs on the Workforce Development Plan for the Early Childhood Care and Education Sector

A national consultation on a Workforce Development Plan for the Early Childhood Care and Education sector in Ireland is underway. This public consultation process is the final element in the programme of research and development underpinning the creation of the Workforce Development Plan. All those who are involved or interested in the future of early childhood care and education services in Ireland are invited to participate in the consultation process. A short consultative document, which provides a brief discussion of the core questions on this feedback form, is available below. To participate on line go to <http://www.omc.gov.ie/viewdoc.asp?DocID=1144&tad=1>

A more detailed discussion document which has informed the consultation is also available below. The closing date for receipt of completed feedback forms is **30th September 2009**. Associated Documents are also available on [www.omc.gov.ie](http://www.omc.gov.ie)

## Listening to children and young people in the care of the State

### Background:

The Report of the Commission to Inquire into Child Abuse recommends that children in care should be able to communicate without fear. In order to ensure that children currently in State care are provided with opportunities to communicate without fear and are effectively listened to a consultation process with children and young people in State care will be conducted. Children and young people receiving long-term, non-episodic State care under the Child Care Act (1991) or the Children Act (2001) in the following care settings will be included in the consultation process:

- Foster care
- Residential care
- Children with disabilities living in residential care
- Detention Schools
- St Patrick's Institution
- Separated children seeking asylum
- Young people who have recently left the care system

The consultation process will be spearheaded by the Office of the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs (OMCYA), in co-operation with key stakeholders including, the HSE, the Research Division of the Department of Health and Children, the Irish Youth Justice Service (IYJS), the Social Services Inspectorate (SSI) within HIQA and the Irish Association of Young People in Care (IAYPIC), the Probation Service and other key stakeholders.

Ms. Karen Henderson, Senior Speech & Language Therapist, Cheeverstown House, and Ms. Aine McGuirk, Programme Manager, St Augustine's, St. John of Services, have been nominated to represent the National Federation of Voluntary Bodies on the Oversight Committee appointed to carry out the consultations.

## Dáil Debates & Parliamentary Questions

Inclusion Ireland has developed a web resource where users can search for references in Dáil Debates and Parliamentary Questions to issues concerning people with a disability and their families. Questions and Debates are divided by topic and date. This section is regularly updated. If you have any comments on how this resource can be more user friendly please contact Inclusion Ireland at [info@inclusionireland.ie](mailto:info@inclusionireland.ie).

## Brothers of Charity Services Galway Awarded CQL Accreditation Patrick McGinley, Brothers of Charity Services Galway

The Brothers of Charity Galway Services achieved a four-year Accreditation from the Council on Quality and Leadership on June 19th, 2009.

The Council for Quality and Leadership (CQL) is an international not-for-profit accreditation body with over 35 years of experience in evaluating the quality of services for people with an intellectual disability. Personal Outcomes Measures is the evaluation tool that is at the heart of the accreditation process. 'Quality' is defined from the perspective of the person receiving services and a quality service is one that strives to meet the needs and expectations of the people it serves.

Achieving CQL Accreditation is a positive recognition of the work of everyone associated with the organization to improve the quality of life of the people it supports. It also provides a framework for continuously improving services and responding to people's changing needs in the future.

The Brothers of Charity Services Galway has now entered into a four-year partnership with CQL where they will consistently monitor how the Service ensures it is responding to and delivering services according to people's priorities. Even though we are facing challenging times, reflecting on how we respond to the people we support must remain a vital part of how we deliver services.

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The Brothers of Charity Clare Services new website is now online at  
<http://www.brothersofcharityclare.ie/>

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## EUROPEAN NEWS:

EASPD Press Release Brussels, 16 June 2009 I

### More employment for persons with disabilities: EASPD agrees on Thessaloniki Declaration

On 11-12 June, the EASPD conference on the theme of "Bringing people to work" took place in Thessaloniki, Greece. More than 150 interested sector leaders, EASPD members and persons with disabilities attended the conference and discussed strategies on how to include persons with disabilities into the labour market and how social service providers can contribute to this process. On this occasion, EASPD agreed on an initiative underlining its commitment to adapt to the challenges of the financial crisis and the 21st century: the EASPD Thessaloniki Declaration.

### The EASPD Thessaloniki Declaration: employment for all

Today, over 50 million European citizens with disabilities represent more than 12% of the population of the European Union. While about 68% of non-disabled people have a job, only 20% of the disabled citizens are employed. 2.5 million people with disabilities are still employed in sheltered workshops. Unemployment leads directly to poverty, social exclusion and mental health problems. EASPD and its member organizations therefore call for a full implementation of Article 27 (on work and employment) of the UN Convention on the rights of persons with disabilities. These high unemployment rates are not acceptable!

Success factors are:

- Stakeholder cooperation - persons with disabilities, social service providers, authorities and the business world at one table
- Targeted actions - make sure that work pays
- Availability of support for employers and employees
- Research and evidence based innovation should be promoted

### Unlock the potential!

*"We have to unlock this huge potential of persons with disabilities who want and who are able to work!" said Franz Wolfmayr, President of EASPD. "Excluding people from the open labour market means a huge loss of economic value, skills and competencies and generates pressure on social protection schemes. We cannot accept it and therefore call on the European Institutions and the Member States to promote the correct implementation of Article 27 of the UN Convention and to provide legal frameworks guaranteeing real contracts and real salaries to all workers. Persons with disabilities have the right to work like anyone else."*

The Thessaloniki Declaration will be launched in September 2009 in the European Parliament. Further information is available on EASPD's website at [www.easpd.eu](http://www.easpd.eu).

## INTERNATIONAL NEWS:

### Update on UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

- 142 signatories to the Convention
- 85 signatories to the Optional Protocol
- 65 ratifications of the Convention
- 44 ratifications of the Optional Protocol

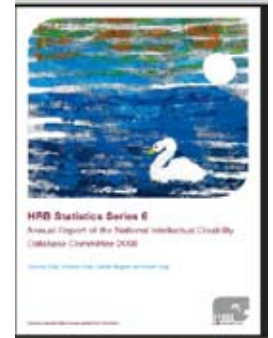
The Theme for the International Day of Persons with Disabilities - 3 December 2009 - is "Realizing the Millennium Development Goals for All: Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities and Their Communities around the World". The theme of the Day is based on the goal of full and equal enjoyment of human rights and participation in society by persons with disabilities, established by the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons, adopted by General Assembly in 1982.

Source: <http://www.un.org/disabilities/>

## CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THE ARTISTS!

### Winner of Art Competition for the cover of the Annual Report of the National Intellectual Disability Database Committee 2008

Lucy McGivney painted the winning picture for the HRB/ National Federation Art Competition. Lucy has a great interest in art and attends her art programme with tutor Fiona Reynolds every Friday morning. Lucy has an individual unique style and works at her own pace. She enjoys using a variety of media including inks, acrylic paint, chalks, oil pastels and markers. Over the last year, Lucy has achieved awards for her art work in various local art competitions. Winning this competition has enhanced Lucy's confidence and art skills. Her family and friends along with her colleagues are delighted with her success. Lucy attends day services at Cill Cuan Resource Centre in Mullingar, Co. Westmeath which is part of the Sisters of Charity of Jesus and Mary (Muiriosa Foundation).



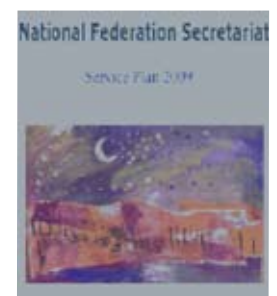
### National Federation of Voluntary Bodies Annual Report 2008 Cover:

The cover of the 2008 Annual Report is based on beautiful artwork by Shane O'Flaherty from Cork. Shane's hobbies include art, sport, music, cinema and social outings. Shane is supported by COPE Foundation in Cork.



### National Federation of Voluntary Bodies Service Plan 2009 Cover:

The cover of the 2009 Service Plan is based on exquisite artwork by Adam O'Donovan from Cork. Adam has many interests which include art & crafts, cooking, gardening, swimming, music, making jigsaw puzzles and visiting Fota, the local Wildlife Park, in Cork. Adam attends Castlehyde Courtyard Day Service near Fermoy and enjoys the diverse range of activities provided there. Adam resides in Cois Coillte on Lota Campus, Brothers of Charity Southern Services, Glanmire, Co. Cork.



The team in the National Federation would like to sincerely thank everyone who entered the Art Competition this year and would like to acknowledge the amazing standards and quality of the drawings. You can view all the competition entries on our website at [www.fedvol.ie](http://www.fedvol.ie) – go to the News and Events section, then News and then Members News. And we look forward to next year's art competition with great excitement.

## CONFERENCE CORNER

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY (NIID)  
UNIVERSITY OF DUBLIN, TRINITY COLLEGE

### Announcing a Parent Support Programme

Communication and Supporting Skills Workshops  
for Parents of Children and Adults with Disabilities  
2009

October 7th, 14th 21st 2009

At St. Therese Pastoral Centre, (above Café Bell) Clarendon Street, Dublin 2

6.30 pm to 9pm (Wednesdays)

Contact: National Institute for Intellectual Disability, Trinity College Dublin  
4th floor, 3 College Green, Dublin 2 Ph: +353 (0)1 896 3885 Fax: +353 (0)1 677 9131  
[akenned@tcd.ie](mailto:akenned@tcd.ie)

### **NDA Annual Conference:** Promoting Independent and Community Living for People with Intellectual Disabilities

**Venue:** Croke Park Conference Centre, Dublin 3  
**Date:** Tuesday, 6 October 2009  
**Time:** 9:00am to 5:00pm  
**Fee:** Free

This will include a presentation by the Inclusive Research Network and the Brothers of Charity Clare Services.

For more information, contact the NDA at 01 6080400 or details on their website [www.nda.ie](http://www.nda.ie)

### **People, Lives and Communities – Making Inclusion Possible**

Organised by the National Development Team for Inclusion, UK

**Dates:** 18th and 19<sup>th</sup> November 2009  
**Venue:** Bristol Marriott Royal, Bristol UK

For local authorities and 'mainstream' public services, the new 'Duty To Involve' places an expectation of effective engagement with excluded citizens and the delivery of better outcomes for older people and people with disabilities. For the health and social care system, the agenda is to move beyond traditional services to achieve community integration, so people have real jobs, their own housing and strong community relationships. The core aim of this two day conference is to bring together people, ideas and best practice from these two different perspectives to work through the policy agenda and the opportunities it brings.

Further information is available at [www.ndt.org.uk/](http://www.ndt.org.uk/)

### **Partnering for Success 2009 (The Wheel)**

**Date:** Thursday, 26 November  
**Venue:** Microsoft, Carmenhall Road, Sandyford Industrial Estate, Dublin 18

A conference exploring the leadership and management challenges facing community, voluntary and charitable organisations in Ireland today. The conference is a unique partnership between the charity and corporate worlds' that was developed from observing the acute need of community and voluntary organisations for practical solutions to the problems they face.

The recession, funding cuts, job losses and social upheaval all dominate the headlines, and organisations have to respond swiftly to these challenges in a rapidly evolving environment. Partnering for Success 2009 will help you manage your way through this uncertainty with a range of practical approaches, insights and tools which will have a real impact on your organisation.

The conference will include four master classes on:

- Human resource management
- Collaborative working
- Measuring impact
- New media and non-profits

Further information is available at [www.wheel.ie](http://www.wheel.ie)

## International Short Break Association



### Call for papers

Conference: 7<sup>th</sup> International Short Break Conference

**Topic:** Short Breaks: A Path to Inclusion – Whose Needs? Who's Rights? What Choices?

**Date:** 9<sup>th</sup> - 11<sup>th</sup> June 2010

**Venue:** National University of Ireland, Galway, Ireland.

Papers will focus on the following themes:

- Inclusivity
- Family Support – all aspects
- Building Social Capital
- Choice
- Cost benefits of Short Breaks
- Innovation and Creativity
- Rights Based Approach
- Coping
- Short Breaks / Respite across populations
- Equality.

For more information on criteria, format and selection, please visit [www.isba2010.com](http://www.isba2010.com)

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## Irish Sex Education Network (ISEN)

**Date:** 15<sup>th</sup> October, 2009

**Venue:** Carmelite Community Centre

Rachel Yates Senior Sexual Health Promotion Specialists (Vulnerable Young People), NHS Lothian to speak about developments in RSE curriculums (specifically SHARE Special programme) and RSE policy developments.

For more information email [isentraining@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:isentraining@yahoo.co.uk)

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## Irish Sex Education Network (ISEN) ISEN AGM

**Date:** 19<sup>th</sup> November, 2009

**Venue:** Carmelite Community Centre

This years AGM includes:

Launch of ISEN Website

Launch of Updated Database

Presentation by ISEN peer support group

All welcome. For more information email [isentraining@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:isentraining@yahoo.co.uk)