NATIONAL FEDERATION OF VOLUNTARY BODIES

Providing Services to People with Intellectual Disability

Welcome to the National Federation Newsletter



Summer 2018

Budget 2019 Campaign Message



In order to ensure that public representatives are fully briefed on the needs of the disability sector, the National Federation of Voluntary Bodies was instrumental in the establishment of an Oireachtas Committee on Disability. The Committee comprises members of both Houses of the Oireachtas together with representatives from the National Federation, DFI, Not for Profit Association and Inclusion Ireland. We have been working hard with the Committee on a Pre-Budget submission for inclusion in the estimates process for Budget 2019. The infographic overleaf, which was launched in Leinster House on 26th June, 2018, contains the key messages which we want to communicate to Government. You will note that we are calling for a Multi Annual Investment Programme of €211m per annum over the 5 year period 2019-2023, commencing with Budget 2019. The infographic was presented at our General Assembly on 27th June, where it was commended. As a National Federation we are actively working to articulate the messaging contained in the infographic to best effect in the context of a Budget 2019 campaign.



1: The ODG is the Oireachtas Disability Group – a cross party/non-party group of Dáil Deputies and Senators. Chair: Senator John Dolan. Vice-Chair: Caoimhghín Ó Caoláin T.D

2: Based on figures in the HSE Transforming Lives Working Group, 'Report on Future Needs for Disability Services'. February 2018 As stated in the Programme for a Partnership Government, this also includes the cost of improved administration. 3: As stated in the Programme for a Partnership Government, this also includes the cost of improved administration.

4: The AT Passport can support Assistive Technology users to access the training and supports they need across education, work and independent living.

The National Federation's conference "Accountable Autonomy" May 30th & 31st 2018



The National Federation hosted a very successful conference in the Mullingar Park Hotel on 30th & 31st May, 2018. Attended by some 200 people and featuring a large range of high quality speakers the Conference addressed the issue of meeting compliance requirements and being accountable for public funding received in a way that allows focus on primary purpose to be maintained.

There was reflection on the damage which the period of austerity

retrenchment had caused and also on the disappointing level of post – "recovery" investment, but a recognition also that each organisation needed to be fully accountable to assure the public that their taxes are being used to best effect for their intended purposes.

Service Providers are under increasing pressure to meet ever-growing compliance and reporting requirements, without any commensurate appreciation that the accumulation of the compliance and reporting burden brings with it serious bureaucratic and information infrastructure challenges.

Major resource-implicating compliance requirements such as the need for an internal audit function, the management of GDPR, upgrading of an aged transport fleet, etc. introduce stark prioritising choices for voluntary agencies who are struggling to maintain existing levels of service and responding to emergencies and changing needs on a daily basis.

During the conference there was heightened recognition of the distinctive value-adding role that is played by the voluntary agency within the provision of health-funded services in particular, and within civil society more broadly. The capacity of the voluntary agency to:

- Accelerate the pace of response to local need;
- Optimise the appropriateness and quality of such response;
- The capacity to innovate;
- Consolidate its investment in a manner which expands and deepens social capital in local communities;

were identified as the distinctive value-adding impact.

A recurring narrative during the Conference was that the voluntary sector is well positioned to deliver these outcomes since voluntary agencies are not driven by the need to generate a profit, nor are they operating under the alternate pressure of statutory obligation. However, it was noted that the restricted access for voluntary agencies to development funding is interfering with the competitive pitch and is resulting in a growing entrenchment of the for-profit sector within the landscape.

After much rich discussion in the plenary sessions and parallel workshops over the two days the following summary conclusions were reached:

- 1. Where the rules are reasonable, proportionate and aligned with vision and core purpose, they must be honoured.
- 2. The provisions in the Service Arrangement provide significant scope for providers, where appropriate, to provide an alternative accountability explanation in their own terms.
- 3. The Comply or Explain approach to accountability provides significant scope to give an alternative accountability than the compliance conforming option. The scope for such alternative accountability increases in areas where the compliance rules have not been validated as appropriate and proportionate in the particular sector in which they are being applied.

Where the voluntary agency decides to step outside the rules and substitutes alternate guidance, there is an obligation on that agency to explicitly articulate the change in guidance and the associated reasons. There is a corresponding obligation on the statutory side to consider what scope there is for recasting and enhancing rules and guidance so that they are better fit for purpose. In essence, the 'comply or explain' approach accommodates scope for the exercise of discretionary judgement.

4. Accountability methodologies should not impede reality-testing and learning opportunities for the accountable agency. They must retain an openness to feedback and willingness to review, recast and fine tune the accountability requirements.

It was generally felt that this alternative approach will enhance dialogue between funder and provider and will stimulate alternative review in a manner that optimally aligns accountability and core purpose within the sector. It was agreed that there is no tension between being both responsive to individuals and accountable to the tax payer.

Perhaps the single most important contribution of the conference was the resetting of focus, a reinvigorated recognition of the primacy of core purpose and founding vision and values. The conference recognised that accountability methodologies need to align with and reinforce the primacy of core purpose rather than displace attention from what should be the paramount focus.



Delegates at the National Federation's Accountable Autonomy conference



Bernard O'Regan, Brian O'Donnell, Prof. Charles Sable, Minister Finian McGrath

Inclusive Research Network

The IRN has had a busy summer with seven Focus Groups taking place in Galway, Clare, Roscommon and Limerick as part of the IRN *"Doctors and Us"* Research Project. Prior



to each focus groups an Information Day was held where IRN invited other people to learn about the project and also to explain what was involved in taking part in a focus group. Consent forms were given which people brought away to think about and decide if they were happy to sign and take part in the focus group.



The focus groups were led by IRN members themselves with minimal guidance from their supporters. Each focus group would start with the ground rules, checking if everyone had given consent and explaining about confidentiality. The age range for participants was 20-70 years old with a mixture of men and women.

Nancy Salmon from UL will make a presentation on our behalf in Halifax Canada in September on the initial findings from the Doctors & Us Study. Laura, Greg and Brian are working on preparing this presentation with Nancy.

An article has been written and submitted to the British Journal of Learning Disabilities about the 2015 '**Our Homes**' research project - Brian, Laura and Greg

worked with Nancy Salmon on this.

There will also be a presentation made by Brian Hayes, Michael, Fionn and Martin called **'How We Work: The Inclusive Research Network Story**" on September 5th at the IDEA event in NUI Galway.

The IRN have written an article called *"How We Work"* and the article was finished by a working Group of IRN Members. It has been sent to other inclusive research groups in France and Spain to be peer reviewed before we put it up online. The French group have said they are going to translate it into French. The IRN is spreading its message on how to do Inclusive



Research around the world.

Focus Group taking place being led by IRN members Fionn, Brian and Martin.

Human Resources Matters

NFVB CPD Masterclasses for HR professionals - Save the Date!

The National Federation in conjunction with the Chartered Institute of Personnel & Development (CIPD), Ireland, is hosting a series of Continuous Professional Development (CPD) Masterclasses for HR Professionals working across member organisations during autumn / winter 2018. Key topics to be focused on will include:

- People Analytics Driving Performance with People Data
- Talent Management
- > The Changing Role of the HR Business Partner
- Managing Change Effectively

We are inviting HR personnel to sign up to all 4 sessions – the programme and booking form will be circulated in early September.

Human Resources Sub-Committee



Membership of the National CPD

Resources Group is open to all human resources personnel across National Federation member organisations. The Group is chaired by Ms. Olive Leonard, Director of Human Resources, Muiriosa Foundation, and its primary role is to ensure that National Federation members are supported

to address key human resource issues and the human resources related provisions contained in relevant national policy documents / agreements.

The next meeting of the Operational HR Group will take place on Wednesday, September 12th – for further information contact Jillian Sexton – <u>jillian.sexton@fedvol.ie</u>

Social Care Workers Task Group

A National Federation Social Care Workers Task Group was established in late 2017 to address the following:

- Registration process with CORU
- Clarity of role of Social Care Workers;
- Progression Routes for Social Care Workers/Leaders.



As part of its work the Task Group is liaising with CORU to address the issues / concerns arising for Service Providers in relation to the registration process for Social Care Workers. During autumn 2018 we will be contacting National Federation members to gather information on the number / profile of Social Care Workers employed within organisations.

A representative of Social Care Ireland will be attending the September meeting of the Task Group to discuss the findings of the survey published in May 2018 - 'Statutory registration awareness amongst social care workers survey'.

If you would like to get further information on the work of the Social Care Workers Task Group or to join the Task Group please contact Jillian Sexton – <u>jillian.sexton@fedvol.ie</u>

Coming Soon: National Health Sector Staff Survey "Your Opinion Counts 2018"



The national Staff Engagement Survey, Your Opinion Counts, is to be carried out by the HSE across the Health Sector commencing this September. The Survey will be available at <u>www.youropinioncounts.ie</u> from the Go Live date, September 1 next.

This important survey is being conducted to assess current staff opinions in order to identify opportunities for improvement and builds on the work of the national staff surveys carried out in 2014 and 2016.

The survey will seek employees' views on a range of themes concerning them directly, such as: culture and values, working environment, career progression and development, equality, diversity and inclusion, leadership direction and communications, staff engagement, managing change, terms and conditions and job satisfaction.

The results of the 2018 survey will be benchmarked against best practice and used to improve the working lives of staff, leading to better service for healthcare users and better care for patients.

The survey is being carried out by Ipsos MRBI, an independent research company, and will take approximately 15 minutes to complete. Your participation in the survey, together with your responses, will be completely confidential. All staff within the Health Sector are being invited to participate and this will be your opportunity to get your voice heard and help shape our future working lives.

It is widely recognised that staff who are fully engaged at work are better able to give their best to patients and service users so positive staff engagement is in all our interests. A FAQ document relating to the survey, along with other support documentation, is available on the HSE's website: <u>www.hse.ie/staffsurvey</u>

Supported Employment - Podcasts Resource

 Supported employment is one of the key processes a service can use to implement New Directions. Support for accessing vocational training and work opportunities is one of the twelve personal supports that should be available to an adult with disability.



- In July, the Open Training College interviewed Marian Hennessey- Roache, an Ability@work Co-Ordinator with Cope Services in Cork. Marian talked about how she engages with an employer when trying to support an individual to access work.
- The Programme Director for short courses within the OTC including the popular <u>Certificate in Supported Employment</u> Claire Hopkins, interviewed Marian. The outcome is 2 informative podcasts that provide great insight into the complexities of setting up employment opportunities; and the success that every successful job placement brings to agency and service users/job seekers.
- Listen to the podcasts by searching for 'OTC Podcasts' on any podcast platforms. OTC podcasts have been published on most platforms including iTunes, SoundCloud, Spotify, Anchor and Podcast Addicts.
- <u>Click here</u> for a link to the podcast on Anchor
- Contact cmurray@opentrainingcollege.com for more information on the 12-week Supported Employment course mentioned in the podcast

The College would like to thank Marian for her time, experience and enthusiasm in recording these podcasts.

Quality Updates

Open Disclosure - Communicating with Service Users and their families following adverse events in healthcare: Train-the-Trainers Programme

At the 'Enhancing your Organisations Quality & Safety Measures' event run by the National Federation in April 2018 it was agreed that a 'Train-the-Trainers' Programme in relation to the National HSE Open Disclosure Policy would be arranged for National Federation member organisations. 'Open disclosure / Open communication can be described as the way staff members communicate with those who have experienced harm during healthcare – this harm may or may not be as a result of error / failure. Open disclosure is a discussion and an exchange of information that may take place in one conversation or over one or more meetings' (HSE, 2013).

To this end the National Federation worked with the HSE to deliver training to member organisations during June/July 2018. One of the necessary criteria was that prior to undertaking the 2-day 'Train-the-Trainers' Programme participants had to have an initial 4-hour workshop completed. When nominations were coming in we made a concerted effort to have a good geographical spread of participants from organisations across the country. On completion of the 'Train-the-Trainers' Programme attendees were equipped to deliver the following training in-house (a) 45 minute briefing session & (b) more detailed 4 hour workshop.

A range of support materials in relation to 'open disclosure' are available via the HSE's website:

https://www.hse.ie/eng/about/who/qid/other-quality-improvementprogrammes/opendisclosure/

Ms. Angela Tysall, Lead in Open Disclosure, HSE Quality Improvement Division, facilitated the training programme and the feedback received was positive.



Ms. Angela Tysall, Open Disclosure Lead HSE, delivering the Open Disclosure Training to National Federation members

Flow Forma

The National Federation hosted an information briefing on 4 July 2018, to provide details of the 'FlowForma' process management tool and its potential uses in the context of incident reporting, change requests and risk management. Brendan McCormack Director of ICT and Paul Callaghan project lead, both from St. John of God Community Services, gave a briefing on the system to





Brendan McCormack and Paul Callaghan, St. John of Gods Services

inform members of its features and benefits in these contexts, including a live demonstration of its use. For further information contact mary.barrett@fedvol.ie

Safeguarding Updates

Draft National Standards on safeguarding adults who may be at risk





Draft national standards for adult safeguarding have recently been launched by HIQA and the Mental Health Commission, for public consultation. The standards aim to provide a framework for best practice in providing person-centred, safe and effective care and support that reduces the risk of harm and promotes the rights, health and wellbeing of people using health and social care services across Ireland. The draft national standards contain standard statements under eight themes. Each standard statement describes an area of good practice for services. Listed under each standard statement are a number of examples of good practice, called features.

For more information on the standards and the consultation, including a <u>short animation</u> please <u>click here</u>.

In support of this work HIQA also launched a **background document** in May 2018 with a review of adult safeguarding nationally and internationally, alongside a systematic literature review of evidence and this can be accessed via the following link: <u>https://www.hiqa.ie/reports-and-publications/standard/background-document-support-development-national-standards-adult</u>

Interested parties are now being invited to comment on the draft standards during a 6-week



public consultation period, which will run until mid-September 2018. The National Federation will be making a submission on the draft standards and we would like to get feedback from our member organisations on the content of the draft standards for adult safeguarding.

Please note:

A copy of the 'Feedback Form' can be obtained from Mary Barrett – <u>mary.barrett@fedvol.ie</u>

Feedback is required by close of business: <u>Friday, September 7th 2018</u> (this will allow us time to collate the responses into a single Federation response by the closing date of Sept. 19th 2018).

National Federation of Voluntary Bodies Feedback on Updated HSE Adult Safeguarding Policy (2018).

The updated Draft HSE Adult Safeguarding Policy 2018 has now been issued by the HSE Policy Review Development Group.

The Policy Review Development Group is seeking feedback from key stakeholders in relation to the revised Policy and the National Federation of Voluntary Bodies will be making a submission in this regard. In order to gather feedback from National Federation member organisations we are inviting key personnel to:

 <u>Template</u>: To provide feedback via the official template as issued by the National Safeguarding Office - a copy may be obtained from Mary Barrett – <u>mary.barrett@fedvol.ie</u> – and completed forms should be returned by: Wednesday, August 22nd 2018.



Workshop Event: We are also inviting key personnel from National Federation member organisations to attend a Workshop Event to discuss the revised Policy. This workshop will take place on Wednesday, September 5th 2018 in Tullamore Court Hotel. If you wish to attend the workshop event please confirm your attendance to <u>mary.barrett@fedvol.ie</u> by Friday, August 31st 2018.

Based on the feedback provided from our members we will compile a single National Federation submission which will be submitted to the HSE Adult Safeguarding Policy Review Development Group (we have secured a short extension to the submission deadline - Sept. 14th for National Federation feedback on the revised Policy).

National Federation IT Sub Committee

The IT Sub Committee held meetings in both May and July in Muiríosa Foundation, Monsterevin. Meetings included a wide range of agenda items e.g. - GDPR updates, Microsoft 365, Office Hygiene, Messaging apps, Wi-Fi issues, Cyber security, FlowForma, SAP-Finance System, and highlighting the importance of IT involvement across all departments to name a few. At the meetings, external bodies are invited to speak and present on a wide range of relevant interested areas. The previous meetings included a presentation and discussion with Sarah Craig and Anne O' Donohoe from the Health Research Board and Roger Turner, Terry Brady and Rob Driver from Microsoft Unity Technologies.



Sarah Craig and Anne O' Donohoe



Terry Brady, Rob Driver and Roger Turner

The IT Sub Committee welcomes and encourages Federation members to join the group where they can share information and place their interests, issues and topics of interest on the meeting agendas. Following the most recent meeting in July, IT Sub Committee members attended the FlowForma discussion with St. John of God Community Services.

The IT Sub Committee looks forward to sharing their recommendation report with the wider Federation members at the next upcoming General Assembly where a summary report of the work and value of the IT Sub Committee will be presented.

The IT Sub Committee welcomes all interested National Federation members to contact <u>Niamh.mcgauley@fedvol.ie</u> with their expressions of interest. The next scheduled Sub Committee meeting is on Wednesday October 3rd, at the Daughters of Charity on the Navan Road at 10.30-1.00pm.





NIDD/NPSDD Art Competition



Minister Finian McGrath, Shane Molloy & Anne Marie Carew

Each year, the National Federation of Voluntary Bodies organises an art competition to select images for the covers of the annual reports of the Health Research Board's National Intellectual Disability Database (NIDD) and National Physical and Sensory Disability Database (NPSDD). As ever, this year's competition produced an outstanding set of artworks and the worthy winners were Shane Molloy (NIDD annual report) and Hillary Murray (NPSDD annual report) both from Brothers of Charity Services, Galway.

Shane and Hillary were presented with their prizes by Minister Finian McGrath at the launch of the reports on 29th June in the Brothers of Charity service in Woodlands Galway. The service were generous hosts and the enjoyable event was attended by Shane and Hillary's families and friends, along with those who helped Shane and Hillary to develop their creative talents.

The launch speakers acknowledged the value of data to illustrate the use and requirement for disability services and recognised the contribution of the services which collect this data for analysis by the HRB. This is an exciting time for disability service data collection as the new National Ability Supports System (NASS), which will replace the NIDD and NPSDD, will come on-stream shortly.



Anne Marie Carew, Hilary Murray & Minister Finian McGrath

Follow the National Federation on Twitter!



The National Federation is now on Twitter! You can follow us by linking to @NatFedVolBodies.

The National Federation's Twitter page provides update on a range of materials relevant to our members and the wider disability sector, such as policy developments, funding opportunities, training events and much more. We also live-tweet from many of our events, sharing the learning in real-time.





"Next Steps – Tech Steps" Assistive Technology Event



David Fraughen presenting at Tech Steps

Globally, technology is developing at an exponential pace, including in the area of Assistive Technology (AT). Researchers and AT experts are discovering new and innovative benefits that technology can offer to people with disabilities and the ageing population in a range of aspects of life.

Without being immersed in this world of technology, it can be challenging to keep up with developments and their potential in supporting people with disabilities.

In response to these challenges and to explore how our member organisations can harness the potential of assistive technology to enhance the independence and quality of life of people we support, the National Federation of Voluntary Bodies' **Next Steps Tech Steps Assistive Technology event** was convened on 18 May 2018.

The event planning took place as

part of the work of the Next Steps Community of Practice and Learning. Members had requested an interactive, hands-on event to showcase the available technologies that have the potential to support individuals to maximise their independence - whilst also providing an insight into the ways that AT can demonstrate value for money. Therefore the two key areas of focus of the event were:

1. How can AT support our member organisations and the people that they support to live lives of their choosing and maximise independence?

2. How can AT support service providers in achieving value for



Shelly Gaynor presenting at the conference

money whilst supporting individuals? The conference presented up to date knowledge on how AT can assist in everyday tasks that include communication; finding your way around; independence and safety within the home, learning new skills, supporting advocacy and medical support. It also shared a glimpse of the future of AT in the rapidly changing digital environment, with the potential of technologies such as Virtual Reality being showcased in ways that can support individuals in a range of innovative ways. A report will be published in September 2018 bringing together the learning from the day to share widely. Further initiatives are being planned to continue to harvest the potential that was brought together on the day between experts in the technical field and people with lived experience and their supports, who

'Incredible day because

can benefit from AT.

people with lived experience facilitated-with and without disabilities.' 'I am more informed- I can take this information back to my organisation and apply it to individuals and specific circumstances.'

Working Group on Health Outcomes for Older Adults with Intellectual Disability

The third meeting of the National Federation's *Working Group on Health Outcomes for Older Adults with Intellectual Disabilities* took place on 19 June 2018. The remit of the group is to support good health outcomes for older persons with intellectual disabilities in Ireland, in line with the Healthy Ireland Framework. In this endeavour the group is working in partnership with the Trinity Centre for Ageing and Intellectual Disability, and is informed by the findings of the IDS-TILDA research.

At its third meeting the Terms of Reference were signed off, and the first focus of work was agreed – the work of the group will initially focus on brain health in older adults with ID, and on the monitoring of age-related change. An important feature of this work will be to explore preventative strategies to provide timely and individualised psycho-social supports to maintain or improve brain health as people age.

The group will also link with relevant initiatives taking place locally and nationally that are important for the health and well-being of older adults, in order to share learning across the National Federation networks and with the wider disability sector.

The next meeting of the Working Group will take place on 12 September 2018. For further information contact <u>alison.harnett@fedvol.ie</u>.



Members of the Trinity Centre for Ageing and Intellectual Disability and the National Federation's Working Group on Health Outcomes for Older Adults with ID.

Funding call: Dormant Accounts Fund

Pobal, on behalf of the Department of Rural and Community Development and the Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection, invite applications for funding from eligible organisations under the following Dormant Accounts Fund (DAF) Measures:

Measure 1: Social Enterprise

Measure 2: Training and Support for Family Carers

Visit the Pobal website at <u>https://www.pobal.ie/programmes/dormant-accounts-fund-daf/how-to-apply-to-daf/</u> for details of how to apply and to watch an animated short film explaining the details of the scheme.



The closing date for receipt of applications is 3pm on Friday 31st August 2018.

Member's News

ABILITY WEST



As part of the €10m Government Investment for the additional respite programme for persons with disabilities, Minister McGrath visited Ability West in Galway on 29th June 2018 to view first-hand the impact of the additional respite funding for adults with intellectual disability availing of their services. Minister McGrath met with service users who avail of services in Grangemore,

their parents, staff and with the Vice-Chairperson of the Board of Directors, Breda Dolan, and Chief Executive, Breda Crehan-Roche.

We were also very pleased to welcome Sean Kyne, Minister of State at the Department of Rural and Community Development, a representative from the Department of Health, Patsy Carr, representatives from the Community Healthcare West, HSE, Gerry Tully, Breda Garvey-Cecchetti and Mary O'Donnell, and Bernard O'Regan, Western Care



Tag Rugby as a Social Event

Ability West has linked with the Monivea Rugby Club to run Tag Rugby sessions on Tuesday evenings over the summer months. This event is open to anyone who wishes to attend. This is the third year it has run successfully. The weather, of course, has greatly helped this. While the quantity of numbers attending may be small, the quality of fun is always great. We are very fortunate that we have a core group of young volunteers who come along each week and share their time.

What is great about Tag Rugby is that it gives people a chance to catch up while on holidays,



to make new friends not just with other participants but with the new group of volunteers who join us each year and of course, running around is great exercise too. We do ensure the activity is not too strenuous but some are more competitive than others and strive for a win! At the end of the evening we treat ourselves to an ice-cream to cool down and plan the next Tag session.

BROTHERS OF CHARITY SERVICES GALWAY

Street Feast, Gort, Co. Galway



Street Feast is a national event to celebrate community.

This year on June 10, Acorn Studios co-hosted Street Feast in the grounds of Orchard Centre. Linking in with Anna O' Donnell, Flights of The Dishes, it was decided to have a Multi-Cultural Menu of salads and desserts so as to suit the diverse cultures within the Gort area.

Whilst some communities have an excellent support network there can be many within communities that feel isolated. The idea of the Street Feast is to invite all neighbours and communities to join together and share lunch, thus building and strengthening communities.

Street Feast is also a great way to explore different ways your community can work together to make great things happen, you might discover new neighbours, new interests and new ways to improve your community together.

What a great day we had at Gort Street Feast. Thanks to Comhaltas Ceoltoiri Eireann Gaillimh Theas, and Nick Thomson for the music. Anna O'Donnell and Flight of The Dishes, Kates Cafe, The Field, Lumberjacks, Sullivan's Hotel, and The Gallery who made beautiful cakes and other

dishes. To Rachel Cunniffe for the face painting. Mary Ford Flaherty for the photography. То Gort Men's Shed and The Burren Lowlands for their help and support, and to The Brothers of Charity Services Gort.

The Street Feast is about communities. We believe Gort really shows great community spirit and inclusion.



ST. JOHN OF GOD COMMUNITY SERVICES

SJOG Liffey Service and DIT Computer Science Co-Design Projects



Left; Ethan Dean, Dean Mc Evoy, Minister for Higher Education - Mary Mitchell O'Connor TD, Linda Mc Cormack Support Staff SJOG, Graeme Meehan, Eric Nolan.

Friday the 4th of May 2018 was an exceptional day for our participants in Mobile App Co-Design projects in DIT Kevin Street when the Minister for Higher Education Mary Mitchell O'Connor TD came to award our codesigners, support staff and the DIT 3rd year Computer Science, students with their award of participation from the Students learning with Communities initiative in Dublin Institute of Technology. The President of DIT Brian Norton, Director Michael Devereux, head of the school of Computing Deirdre Lillis, Teresa Mallon Director of Programme, Quality and Safety for SJOG and most importantly the students from DIT, co-designers from SJOG along with support staff, parents family and

friends were all together for the celebration.

There have been 12 projects over the last three years co-designed by men and women who are supported by SJOG and including; communitylife.ie website, accessible login app, a self-advocacy app, a Sign In app, a money management app and even a dating app.

This partnership is about building digital solutions that can be accessed, understood and used to the most significant extent possible, by all people regardless of their age, size, ability or disability.



(R-L) Dr. John Gilligan DIT Computer Science, Brendan Casey Co-Designer, Claire Middleton Co Designer, Sarah Gavra Boland Assistive Technology Facilitator Liffey Services, (back) Paul Bourke, Alan Byrne Co-Ordinator SJOG



(L-R) Damien Bourke Computer Science lecturer DIT, Brian Norton President of DIT, Minister for Higher Education Mary Mitchell O'Connor TD, Liam Keenan, Teresa Mallon Programme Quality Director, Eoin Mooney Programme Manager Liffey Services.

It is not only the students in DIT who benefit from this partnership but also the academic staff, the general staff across the campus and

the co-designers who are supported by SJOG Liffey service, the support staff and broader circle of support. To find out more watch these videos made by the co-designers from SJOG <u>https://vimeo.com/album/5226698</u>



The World Congress



Sarah Jane Lavin, Speak Up Kildare Representative and Niamh Fortune, Menni Voice Dublin Representative for Saint John of God Community Services Liffey Services

Sarah Jane Lavin and Niamh Fortune, self-advocates from SJOG Liffey Services, travelled to Birmingham for the World Congress. A number of the people across Liffey Services wanted to go to the conference. The World Congress programme was titled Learn, Inspire, Lead.

Sarah Jane and Niamh took part in many events over the three days including:

- 'How-To' style workshops: starting a local self-advocacy group; closing institutions; delivering inclusive education training for teachers.
- Inspirational talks by self-advocate leaders; families; supporters and thought leaders who shared their stories of motivation and social change.
- Discussions and presentations on critical policy issues such as inclusive education; employment; poverty and support to families will help shape our agenda for the future.

The World Congress also hosted Europe in Action to celebrate the 30th anniversary of Inclusion Europe. Sarah Jane and Niamh attended many events over the three days including:

- 1. The Self-Advocacy Summit where they talked about the Big Issues for self-advocates and shared some Calls to Actions.
- 2. The Inclusion Europe General Assembly.

The European Platform of Self-Advocates General. With over 30 different talks and workshops on offer Sarah Jane and Niamh spent three busy days at the Congress, and you can check out their video about the congress here: https://vimeo.com/274639904



Niamh Fortune with members of the National Self Advocacy Committee at the Europe in Action event to celebrate the 30th anniversary of Inclusion Europe.

Congratulations!!

21 Students attending the QQI – Level 1 programme were celebrating their Major Award Graduation in the Louis Fitzgerald Hotel on the 26th of June 2018.

To gain a Major Award the students would have completed 4 Modules.

The QQI Level 1 programme in General Learning includes Personal Decision Making, Life Science, Visual Art, Drama, Food Choice and Health, Personal Care, Drama and Health related Exercise.

Saint John of God Liffey Service is guided by New Directions and the programme is provided by the Day Service in Islandbridge and Las Granadas who support Lifelong learning in Adult education.

Never stop learning, because life never stops teaching you.



Eimear Mc Creary



Emma Lawless and Paul Farrell



Eleanor Sheehan receiving her Major

ST. MICHAEL'S HOUSE

St. Michael's House funding application success in partnership with DCU on 'Ability'

The Minister for Employment Affairs and Social Protection, Regina Doherty, T.D., together with the Minister of State with special responsibility for Disabilities, Finian McGrath, T.D., announced on 1st



June, funding of €16 million for 27 projects to deliver a new pre-activation Programme for young people with disabilities, called "Ability".

The Ability Programme will provide supports to over 2,600 young people with disabilities aged between15 to 29 years old.

€534,878 was awarded to St. Michael's House in partnership with Dublin City University as part of the Governments 'Ability' programme.

St. Michael's House programme will promote the employability of 100 young people with disabilities by supporting them to gain the skills, competencies and experience needed to be career-ready. These skills are essential to reduce the barriers to employment.

Adults will be offered opportunities to engage in a University based project that focuses on personcentred supports. Students will be able to progress at their individual pace and empower their own career ambitions. These supports build partnerships that will address more long-term barriers that many young people face in getting employment. By harnessing the whole of DCU facilities and expertise and building a strong partnership with St Michael's House, the project will create a sustainable model of best practice.

Overall this project will also build capacity for DCU as a large multi-campus University to create a long term sustainable programme that has the ability to be mainstreamed within the University. Thank you to St. Michael's House leads Teresa Gadd, Paula Smyth and Sabrina Barrett in developing the funding application with DCU.

Successful application for Nursing Midwifery Planning and Development Unit (NMPDU)

The Nursing Department submitted applications for new initiatives to the NMPDU. St. Michael's House was successful in receiving part funding for;

- Clinical Nurse Specialist in Dementia
- Extending the role of Nurse in Bed Prescription
- Support for a house in Nursing metrics and
- Monies to support staff and service users in self-care and Resilience and Schwartz Rounds programmes

Nursing Showcase - Health & Wellbeing of Older Adults



Our Nursing Showcase took place on May 16th in conjunction with International Nursing Day on May 12th. Many service users, staff and invited guests attended throughout the day. The format and topics for the day were requested by staff and service users.

The attendees enjoyed talks from our external speakers namely; Daragh Rodger, RANP, Care of the Older Adult in the Community with special interest in Falls, Frailty and Health Active Ageing, and Maree Barry CNSp on Tissue Viability. Our internal speakers included; Dr. Maeve Murphy, Head of the Medical Department and Alison Buggie CNSp MHID presented on Ageing. Our Nursing team members; Anne Spencer and Lorraine Ledger spoke on the Beds Project and Live Binders.

Our poster presentations on various topics excelled; Rachel Browne, Val Mullen (Nutrition), Alison Buggie (Mental Health), Dawn Coyle (Medication), Anne Spencer (My Health Guide), Ann Marie O Reilly (GI Management) and Daragh Rodger (A Sense of Ageing). It was a welcomed and thought-provoking showcase of St. Michael's House Nursing. Congratulations on the success of the day to Director of Nursing Grainne Burke and her team.

St. Michael's House and GDPR

The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) came into global effect from 25th May, 2018 and will replace current data protection laws in the European Union. GDPR builds on existing laws to enhance the rights of anyone whose personal information is processed by organisations including organisations like St Michael's House. We are working and planning to update systems and processes in our organisation. We have produced an Easy to Read poster guide to inform all.



One Week, Many Sports-Turas sports initiative #SMHActive



Our young adults in Turas tested a different exercise each day in the month of June. This new initiative is to give the young adults support and confidence in trying and testing new sports in their local community.

The week started with circuit training with Shona and Zumba class with Louise. The remainder of the week took on athletics in Bushy Park with Raymond Cavan GAA player and our staff team and pedal with Dublin City Sports Partnership.

The Turas team also participated in the inaugural Aquathon which took place in St. Michael's House Leisure Centre. The week drew to a close with cricket supported by Cricket Leinster in Belgrave Square and GAA skills in Bushy Park. With a nod to the World Cup there was a Soccer Astro match in Spawell Templeogue and training exercises with peers from Gheel Hive Services. And finally, game, set and match with tennis in Ashbrook Tennis Club.

Well done to Manager Orla Murray and all the team in Turas for giving all the young adults a good sporting chance in the community.

Back in 5 – Disabled parking awareness campaign



On Friday, 6th July, the Irish Wheelchair Association Galway ran a campaign highlighting the misuse of disabled parking bays in conjunction with Galway City Councils transport and parking department, community guards, parking wardens, other interest groups as well as our members and their family and friends. The Brothers of Charity Services in Galway supported the campaign on the day and also handed out leaflets. Advocates Martin Dooher, Justin O'Halloran, Peter Hickey, Marie Conneely and support staff Nicola Ruddy, Grainne Kavanagh and Jackie Moran, complimented the work of the IWA and felt the visual campaign was extremely effective. Plenty

of passer-by's on foot and driving praised the initiative and agreed more accessible parking was needed in the city and people should not park for any reason in an accessible place. We would also like to thank Jillian Marelich, the Programme Assistant with the Irish Wheelchair Association and all her colleagues on organising a powerful campaign.

Aim

The rationale behind this initiative is to encourage motorists to consider the consequences of using accessible parking bays when they have no valid reason to do so. It asks drivers to consider the issues drivers/passengers with limited mobility encounter when the misuse of accessible parking bays occurs on a daily basis and how the actions of a few have major consequences.



On the day

Together with Galway City Council's transport authority they blocked off 10 standard car parking spaces, putting wheelchairs in the spaces instead. These wheelchairs had signage attached stating slogans like "back in 5", "popped into

the bank, shop etc." For the two hours allocated to the campaign, drivers experienced what it felt like for disabled drivers/passengers when their spaces are taken up with non-badge holders that have to pop into somewhere for 5 minutes.

Desired Outcomes

- 1. Create an awareness of the misuse of accessible parking bays and how it can impact on the daily lives of people with limited mobility.
- 2. Highlight the need to maintain and increase the number of accessible parking bays.
- Text alert signage has been made available at disabled parking bays as an outcome to this campaign in other locations – "To report the misuse of these spaces simply text the number displayed"
- 4. Parking badges checked by wardens on the day.



Training, Education and Events

Free online course from Trinity College Dublin aims to improve health assessments for people with an intellectual disability

The Trinity Centre for Ageing and Intellectual Disability at Trinity College Dublin is launching a new Massive Online Open Course (MOOC) geared to healthcare professionals, care providers and others who work with people with an intellectual disability. This MOOC is partially-funded by the European Institute of Technology through their Health Knowledge and Innovation Community (EIT Health) which was established in 2008 to promote innovation and entrepreneurship across Europe.

ONLINE COURSE

Improving Health Assessments for People with an Intellectual Disability



Learn how to improve healthcare for people with intellectual disabilities with this course for healthcare professionals.



For decades, health and health care inequalities among people with an intellectual disability have been an issue, due to inaccessible healthcare information and service provision. These challenges can increase exclusion from preventative screenings, delay regular health assessments, impact on quality of life, and further marginalise people with an intellectual disability. Trinity's free three-week online course will explore how to improve health assessments for people with an intellectual disability. Learners will explore best practice

techniques for communication, assessment, and developing accessible materials for people with an intellectual disability. It is open for registration on the FutureLearn platform and starts on the 15th of January 2018. The lead educator is Dr Eilish Burke, Ussher Assistant Professor in Ageing and Intellectual Disability at Trinity College Dublin and the Associate Director of the Trinity Centre for Ageing and Intellectual Disability.

To register for Trinity's free online course, starting on the 15th of January 2018, please visit: <u>https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/health-assessment/</u>

For more information please contact Sarah Bowman Director of Engagement for the Trinity Centre for Ageing and Intellectual Disability <u>https://www.tcd.ie/tcaid/</u> bowmans@tcd.ie

UCD Master of Science in Rehabilitation & Disability Studies

Further your career with a postgraduate degree

UCD's Master of Science in Rehabilitation & Disability Studies

Our two year programme is designed for individuals currently working or planning to work in the disability sector. The MSc in Rehabilitation and Disability Studies equips our students with knowledge, analytic and practice-based skills promoting a rights-based approach to disability. Our curriculum draws on relevant theory, research and practice, with modules delivered by professionals with significant experience in the sector. Teaching approaches include lectures, small group work, practical tasks, case studies and individual projects.



LEARNING OUTCOMES INCLUDE:

- Understanding the role of legislation and policy
- Applying organisational change and core management concepts
- Developing and critiquing educational programmes using QQI frameworks
- Promoting the application of evidence-based practice

Informal enquiries should be directed to: Associate Professor Christine Linehan

Telephone: +353-1-716 8678. Email:disabilitymasters@ucd.ie



UCD School of Psychology

Intimacy and sexuality in residential aged care: Ethical challenges in upholding sexual citizenship and a duty of care

Dr. Catherine Cook School of Nursing, College of Health, Massey University, New Zealand

As part of the School of Nursing, Midwifery & Health Systems Gerontological Masterclass series, Dr Catherine Cook will facilitate an opportunity to reflect on person-centred care, with a particular focus on the intimacy, sexuality and privacy needs and preferences that individuals and couples may have in aged residential care. Discourses of ageing readily construct people in residential aged care as post-sexual, vulnerable and at risk of sexual exploitation, and therefore expressions of intimacy and sexuality may be responded to as deviant and inherently risky. Staff may manage decision-making tacitly, without recourse to policies and education. Where there are unattainable cognitive preconditions, the emphasis on curtailing risk may result in excessive paternalism, breaching resident rights and diminishing quality of life. An assessment of wellbeing is an essential component of ethical decision-making. This class provides valuable insights for people practising in aged care and related fields who are keen to promote all dimensions of person-centred care, with the aim of balancing a duty of care with people's wellbeing and right to autonomy.

Catherine Cook PhD, RN is a senior lecturer in the School of Nursing at Massey University, Albany, New Zealand. She has for many years had clinical and research interests in the areas of sexuality, sexual health and sexual identity, particularly as these topics relate to marginalised and vulnerable populations.

DATE: 29th August 2018

Venue: B109/B110, Health Sciences' Building, University College Dublin, Belfield, D4.
Time: 14.00-16.00
Book: Via Eventbrite: https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/intimacy-and-sexuality-in-residential-aged-care-tickets-48687529712?aff=ebdssbdestsearch
Further Details: Associate Professor Amanda Phelan (Amanda.phelan@ucd.ie/017166482)

For further information, please contact: Associate Professor Amanda Phelan Amanda.phelan@ucd.ie +353 1 7166482

DISCUSSIONS IN DISABILITY

ASSISTED DECISION MAKING

UCD Centre for Disability Studies is delighted to announce our annual Discussions in Disability seminar for 2018. This year the seminar will address the topic of Assisted Decision Making. The seminar will take place in UCD Belfield campus on Monday 27th August 2018.

GUEST SPEAKERS INCLUDE:

Áine Flynn, Director of the Decision Support Service in the Mental Health Commission Jacqueline Grogan, Assisted Decision Making Project Manager, Quality Improvement Division, HSE Patricia Rickard-Clarke, Solicitor and former Commissioner of the Law Reform Commission Finbarr Colfer, Deputy Chief Inspector of Social Services, HIQA

DETAILS OF ONLINE REGISTRATION WILL FOLLOW.

UCD Centre for Disability Studies

UCD School of Psychology

SAVE THE DATE!

27th August

2018

Save The Date Praxis Care Conference 2018 Thursday 15th November

"Creative Solutions for People with Intellectual Disability, Autism and Mental Health Difficulties"

Praxis Care wishes to give you early notice of this important conference.

It is widely recognised that there is a national shortage of responsive services for people with complex needs, intellectual disability, autism and mental health difficulties. Praxis Care is delighted to bring together practitioners who specialise in personalised focused responses for individuals, advocates and family members.

This conference is an opportunity to hear from speakers such as Dr John Hillery, President of the College of Psychiatrists Ireland and Consultant Psychiatrist in Intellectual Disability; Adam Harris, Autism Activist and Founder of AsIAm Charity; Dr Fionnuala Kelly, Clinical Lead, HSE National Mental Health Intellectual Disability Programme; and Gavin Davidson, Praxis Care Chair of Social Care, Queen's University Belfast.

There is no cost for this conference, so please register your interest now to avoid disappointment with clodaghconlon@praxiscare.ie,

or telephone 041 6871904.

Venue: City North Hotel, Gormanstown, Co. Meath



Praxis Care is a leading charity in Ireland, Northern Ireland and the UK providing services to children and adults with complex needs.

8:20-9:10	REGISTRATION, INSTITUTE FOR LIFECOURSE & SOCIETY, NORTH CAMPUS, NUI GALWAY		
9:10	OPENING ADDRESS, EILIONÓIR FLYNN, CENTRE FOR	RESS, EILIONÓIR FLYNN, CENTRE FOR DISABILITY LAW & POLICY	
9:15-10:45	L LAW & THE LEGAL SYSTEM Chair: Cliona de Bhailis, NUIG Meredith Raley, Disability Federation of Ireland DFI and the UN CRPD: Research and Awareness-Raising Dona McNamara, DCU The Criminalisation of Persons with Disabilities: Historical and Socio-legal Perspectives. Charles O'Mahony, NUIG Q & A	II. HISTORICAL APPROACHES & FORGOTTEN STORIES Chair: Sarah-Anne Buckley, NUIG Lorraine Grimes, NUIG "Concealing the illegitimate children of these reckless girls": The secret journeys and the hidden past of Irish unmarried mothers in Britain 1926-1967. Jane O'Brien, NUIG "I must call attention to the necessity of vigilance in observing when children are mentally or physically unfit for industrial training," - Some attitudes towards and treatment of disability within the Irish Industrial School System 1886 - 1915 Brian Casey, UCD Bishop Peter Birch and the establishment of L'Arche in Kilkenny Q & A	
10:45-11:00	TEA & COFFEE		
11:00-1:00	III. CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES Chair: Alison Harnett, National Federation of Voluntary Bodies Breda Crehan-Roche, Ability West The landscape of evolving service provision in intellectual disability in Ireland with an emphasis on opportunities and challenges in the 21st century. Perspectives from a voluntary service provider, Ability West. Amie Lawless, Arts & Disability Ireland 'Leading change in Arts and Culture' Anne Nally, Western Care Moving from Group to Individual Models of Service – Success and Challenges Des Aston, Trinity College Dublin Q & A	IV. NEW THINKING & FRESH APPROACHES Chair: Donna McNamara, DCU Geraldine Leader, NUIG Susan Carton & Peter Kearns, St. Angela's Re-Imagining Disability Claude Madec, Brothers of Charity Services That's Life Art Program: supporting people with ID engaging in the arts in the context of the Brothers of Charity Services, Galway Yvonne O'Sullivan & Paul Alford, Inclusion Ireland The Public-Sector Duty – Making Rights Accessible Q & A	
1:00-1:45	LUNCH		
1:45-2:45	KEYNOTE: JACQUELINE WILSON, FEDERATION UNIVERSITY, AUSTRALIA Out-of-home care, personal agency, and justice: examining models of equity in research & redress		
3:00-5:00	V. INSIGHTS & PERSPECTIVES Chair & Facilitator: Emma Burns, NUIG 'How We Work: The Inclusive Research Network Story' Martin Dooher, Inclusive Research Network Fionn Angus, Inclusive Research Network Public Relations Officer Michael Sullivan, Inclusive Research Network Member, Brian Hogan, Inclusive Research Network Member Joseph McGrath, National Platform of Self-Advocates Christina Burke, National Platform of Self-Advocates Discussion	VI. FRONTIERS & PERENNIAL CHALLENGES Chair: Niamh Hennelly, NUIG Christine Linehan, UCD Implementing deinstitutionalisation: Exploring Stakeholders' Views. Claire Edwards, UCC Disability and everyday geographies of un/safety Caroline Forde, NUIG Marginalised Voices: The Ethics of Gender-based Violence Researd Caroline McGregor, NUIG Histories of the Present and the Future: Informing a Call for Action	

To register: <u>https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/idea-network-inaugural-event-registration-48329489805</u>

Registration is open for the 2018 International Short Break (Respite) Conference 2018.

Join us in Reykjavik 9 - 11 October 2018. Welcome to Iceland! <u>http://www.isba.me/</u>



If you are a caregiver, respite provider, or part of an organization that provides respite supports for individuals and families caring for a loved one with special needs, this international Respite Conference is for you!

This year's conference, **Opportunities and Co-Creation**, will provide opportunities to

learn and contribute to a common understanding of the development of good short breaks/ respite care for supporting individuals, families and caregivers. Join us and become a part of a global exchange of knowledge that will improve your practices and inform the practices of our international colleagues.

ISBA has been bringing people together to share ideas, research and inspirational practice in supporting children and adults and their families/carers through a biannual conference around the world since 1996. Each country brings its own perspective to include new people and ideas. This keeps it fresh and inspirational.

In 2016, it was Scotland. In 2018, it is Iceland's turn. Join us to listen, learn and to add your voice!

To register, visit <u>http://www.isba.me/registration/</u>.We look forward to seeing you in Iceland!

HCI Training Schedule 2018



HCI will be hosting the following

training days which are relevant for Disability Services:

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Incident Management Training

Specifically for Nursing Homes, Disability Services and Homecare 11th September 2018, Clayton Hotel Leopardstown

Quality Audit Training

Suitable for all Health and Social Care Services 27th September 2018, Clayton Hotel Leopardstown

Policy and Procedure Management

Suitable for all Health and Social Care Services

7th November 2018, Clayton Hotel Leopardstown

Becoming a PIC – Theory and Practice

Suitable for Nursing Homes and Disability Services

21st November 2018, Clayton Hotel Leopardstown

For full training agenda's, see HCI Training Schedule

Training days are pending CPD certification and each attendee will receive a certificate of completion.

Training costs are €295 ex VAT and payment must be made in advance of training days.

For more information please contact **rosemarie.pollard@hci.care** or call +353 (0)93 36126.



Training College: Continuous Professional Development (CPD) - relevant, flexible, accredited, short term courses this autumn:

1. <u>Managing for Regulations and Inspection</u> (QQI, level 6) €395

This course encourages the student to reflect on the importance of getting regulation right within their role and the impact regulation has on the organisation, staff and service users. Applications: 8-10-18.

2. Focus on the Individual: Person Centred Planning (QQI, level 6) €395

This course examines how a person centred plan is implemented, facilitated and evaluated. Applications: 28-9-18.

3. <u>Training and Development</u> (formerly Train the Trainer) (QQI, level 6) €699

This programme provides participants with the tools to identify training needs and design, plan, deliver and evaluate quality and engaging training. Applications: 31-8-18.

4. Fast Track PIC Management Training (QQI, level 6) €790

Enhance your leadership and team-building skills on this 2-day (plus eLearning) accredited management course that meets the HIQA training requirement for managers. Applications: 17-8-18.

5. <u>Certificate in Supported Employment</u> (QQI, Level 7) €995

This course is suited to aspiring job coaches, employment officers, day centre staff, etc. who aim to assist people with employment support needs to make the transition into integrated paid employment. Applications: 17-9-18.

Enquiries: Conor 01-2990580 or cmurray@opentrainingcollege.com