

# Next Steps (.....sub-titled.....)



CoAction West Cork  
March 24 2014

# CoAction West Cork

- Founded 1972 by Parents & Friends Group
- Provide services for children and adults throughout West Cork:
  - 268 children
  - 140 adults
- 103 WTE staff (approx 190 headcount)
- Annual operating budget - €6.m
- Early Intervention, children's residential/respite, adults day, residential, respite, supported employment etc.



# CoAction Next Steps Process

- Steering Group membership:-
  - Representatives from the adults who use the services.
  - Representatives from families of children
  - Staff representatives
  - Multi-D representative
  - Managers from Day and Residential services
  - Board of Directors
  - CEO
  - Financial Controller
  - HR Manager

# Steering Group – first meeting

## May 3 2012



# CoAction Next Steps groups



- Each group includes Self advocate, family member, staff member + manager + others

# **CoAction Next Steps Vision**

To support people to live  
their own life in the way  
they choose.

Are we interested in  
providing someone with a  
service?.....or  
supporting someone to live  
a life?



# When the magic happens!





**“Each of them found it a very enriching experience and felt very sad when that part of his studies came to an end. They felt that they themselves gained more from the experience than Mark did.”**





Living my own life

**Patience.... but not too much!**



# Capacity Building - Empowerment

1. Remove them from service sphere, or at least marginalise the role of specialist services in their lives.
2. Import 'ordinary life'.
3. Change the operation of the service system itself.....user consultation or participation forums.

Empowerment in Everyday Life,

Ramcharan et al



There are only 7 days in any week  
and **Someday** is not one of them!