
NATIONAL FEDERATION OF VOLUNTARY BODIES

Providing Services to People with Intellectual Disability

Research Subcommittee Action Agenda for the Topic Living Options 2009:

Research Strategy consultations in 2008 identified 11 Priority areas for Research. At a meeting of the Research Subcommittee in December 2008 it was proposed to pursue one topic for 2009. The suggested topic was

Living Options

To pursue this priority it was proposed at the Research Subcommittee meeting in December 2008 that 2009 should be devoted to developing our knowledge base on this topic. An Action Plan has been developed to pursue this goal

Action Agenda 2009:

- Develop and expand our knowledge base on this topic through the provision of up-to-date reading material and resources on the topic. These will be made available to our member organisations through the National Federation Website
- Consult with Research Collaborators on this topic by asking them to answer four questions outlined below
- Collate the responses from the data gathered
- Develop a comprehensive literature review on this topic
- Organise a residential weekend to debate the issues and discuss the options in an Irish context. The outcome of this weekend would take account of the literature review discussed above and would result in a discussion paper based on the questions posed to collaborators
- Have a series of presentations from recognised 'experts' or researchers in this area present to the Research Subcommittee following each meeting
- Link with other national and international projects who have this as a central theme

- NDA are having a conference on the topic Independent Living in October - in what ways can we link with this conference?

Questions to be answered in 2009:

- 1. What is the range of living options for people with intellectual disabilities currently available? We are familiar with some of the more common options available e.g., large residential homes including institutions, group homes, professional foster care etc.? Are there others that you are aware of?**
- 2. Are you aware of literature that we can access on the costs and outcomes of these options? We include in this literature, published research, policy documents, and other documentation on the evidence of cost associated with different models.**
- 3. What does the data /evidence tell us results from different living options in terms of cost and quality of life?**
- 4. What does the data tell us from inclusive research on this topic?**