

## ***Building from the Start - Pat Reen, Prosper Fingal***

The LINK Programme describes a Prosper Fingal training initiative to develop the skills and capacities of young adults with intellectual disabilities. Designed over the last 18 months, it has explored contemporary ways of moving people with disabilities closer to their communities and increasing their contribution to those communities. Mindful of the strengths inherent in Training Services nationally, this model progresses that learning to new places in the form of a new programme. With four elements of Independent Living Skills, Communication, Preparation for Work and Citizenship, it provides a foundation of learning to move young people into adult life while also having real and meaningful application towards moving people from the traditional centre based approach to one of community living and participation. This presentation gives a brief summary of its key elements, its development and its day-to-day delivery.