

“Walk with Rights”

5<sup>th</sup> October 2011



Presented by: Margaret Keogh and  
Olwyn Butler.

## Mission statement

To support people with intellectual disabilities to lead self determined lives within socially inclusive communities.

# Overview.

- Walk discuss the ‘Walk with Rights’ committee and the importance it has played in allowing people who use the service to be more effective participants in the decisions made within the organisation and nationally.



# Margaret Keogh

- In the background you will see a DVD clip showing the committee in action and evidence of some of the training we have delivered.
- Margaret will answer questions about how the committee began and why the committee was formed.



‘Walk with Rights committee’

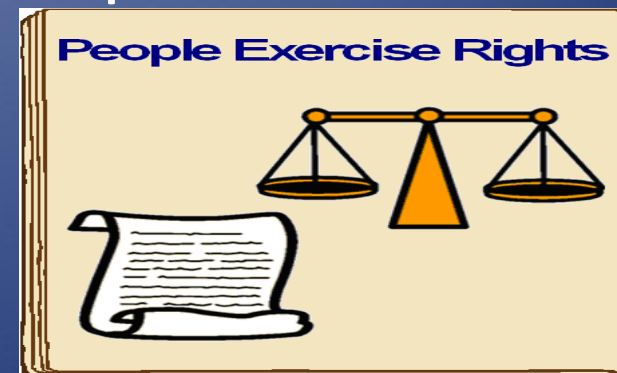
**WALK WITH  
RIGHTS**

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# What it is for?

- A committee formed by service users to:
- Educate
- Promote Rights and Responsibilities
- Lobby with relevant groups
- as necessary with people who use the service/staff and relevant groups.



# Aim

- Provide a forum for discussing rights.
- Meet on a monthly basis.
- Provide training on different topics in an easy to understand manner.
- Training is provided by service users.

# Who and when?

- Committee consists of Service Users and service user reps, Day Service Staff, Residential Staff.
- We set up the committee over a year ago and its still going strong.



# Reason for training

- To be involved in decision making you first must be educated to be able to make informed decisions. This is the reason we developed a training schedule for the year.
- Some topics for training come from POMs plans.

# Past training

- We have always been involved in educating people about their rights - 'Human Rights peer training project'.
- We have done this in different ways:
- Drama, Music and Art.
- 'I am' project
- DVD's
- Big respect little respect day
- POM's
- Rights assessment booklet

# How has the committee developed?

- Training in Rights and other topics to peers and training staff and FAS students at induction.
- DVD's also available on our website
- Presentations
- Booklets
- Committee numbers strengthened
- Involved in recruitment of staff
- Involved in Focus groups with Inclusion Ireland
- Rights Now consultation on Irelands Human Rights record for the UN

# How has the committee developed?

- Identification of training that others may need to facilitate like Self administration of medication training for service users , first aid and Manual handling training in accessible easy to understand formats.
- Attendance at events and workshops
- Strategic planning focus groups

# How has the committee developed?

- Involved in preparation of service user satisfaction survey.
- Involved in review of the survey results and identification of recommendations.
- Review of the NFVB person centred medication management plan policy.
- Review training materials and ensure they are easy to understand.
- Have begun work on developing a Terms of reference for the committee.

# Original Plans

- To lobby Government in relation to housing and individualised budgets.
- Contacted local politicians
- Discussed this and thought we needed to work on increasing knowledge about Rights to housing and other rights firstly.
- So we planned what's needed?
- And discussed how do we do it?

# What training covered so far?

- What is the Freedom of Information Act 1997 and 2003?



- Purpose: Education about Rights and to improve their understanding in relation to deciding when to share personal information.

# What training covered so far?

- What is the Data Protection Act 1998 and 2003?

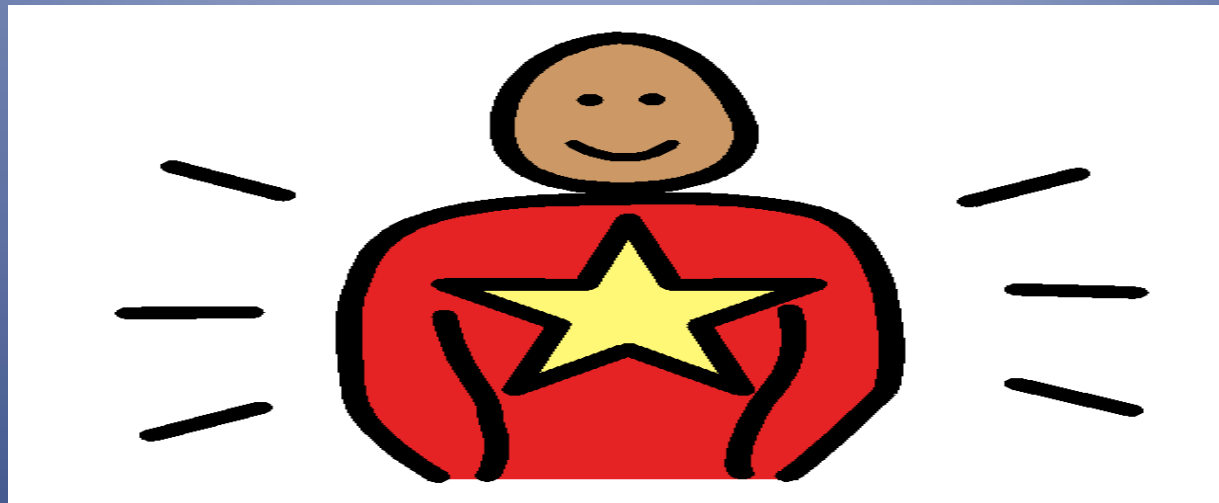


- Purpose: Education about Rights and to improve understanding in relation to deciding when to share personal information.



# What training covered so far?

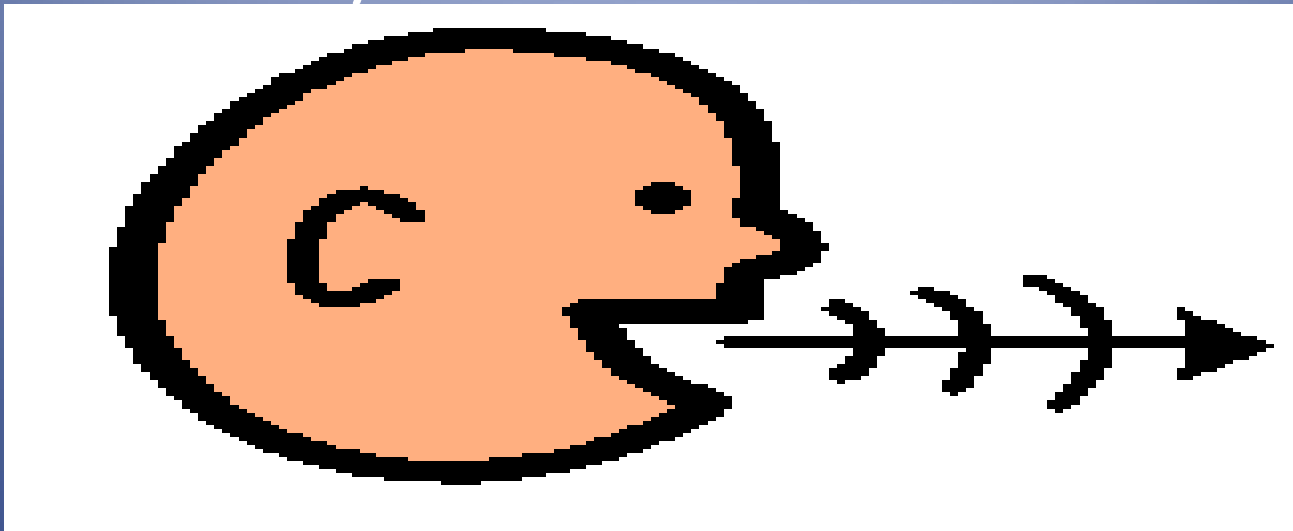
- What is POMs (Personal Outcome's Measures)?



- Purpose: Further Education about POMs and to support people to make choice.

# What training covered so far?

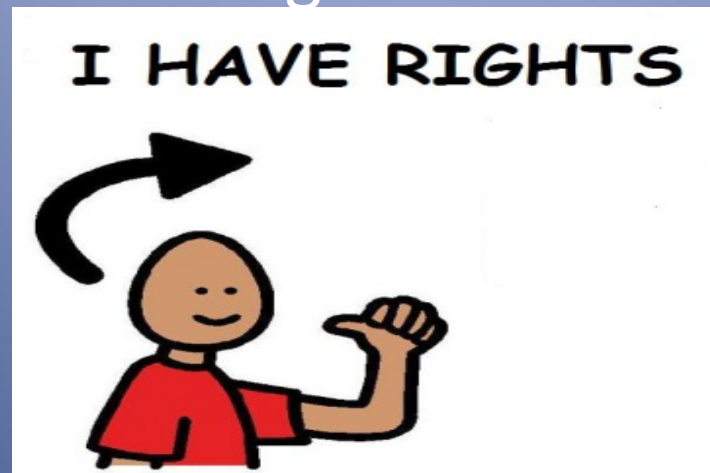
- What is a Keyworker?



- Purpose: Improve understanding of the role of a keyworker.

# What training covered so far?

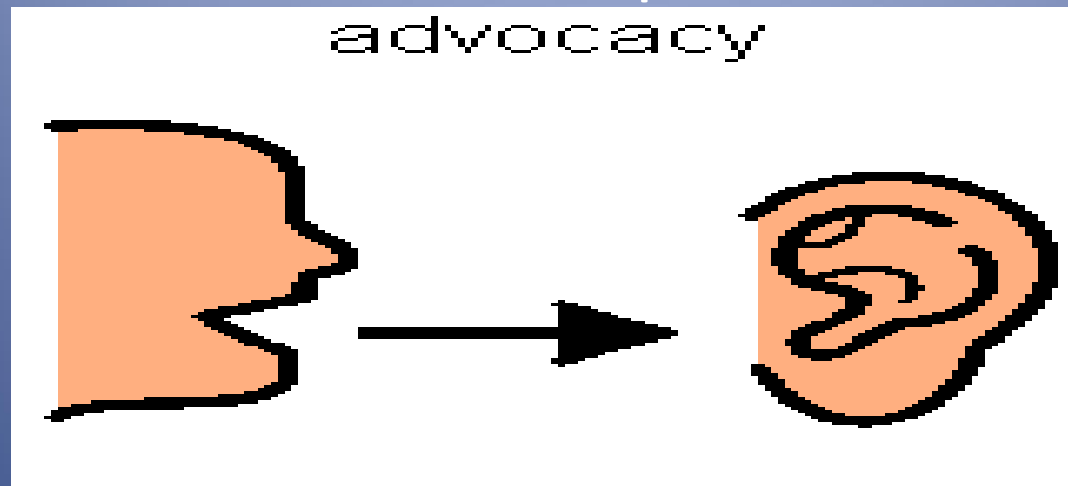
- What are Human Rights?



- Purpose: Through Poms process it was an area identified as being a concern for people. Further education and awareness was provided.

# What training covered so far?

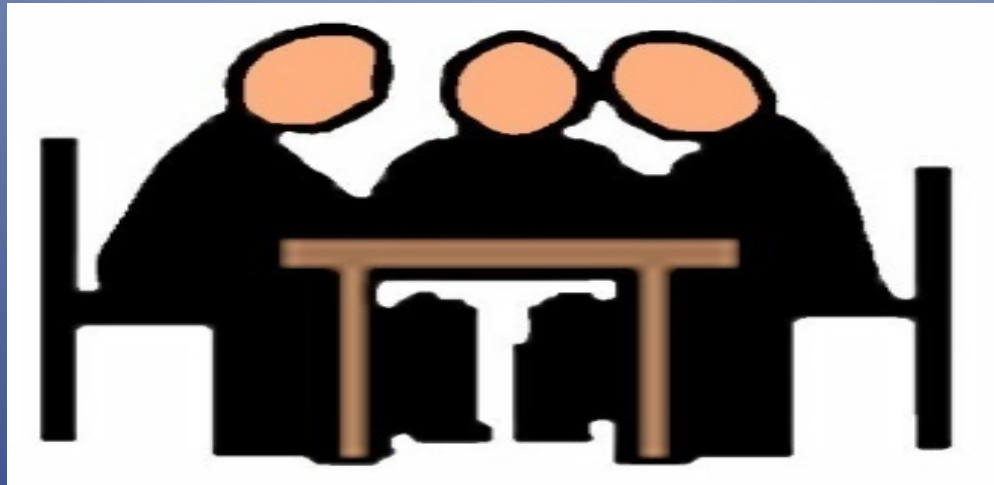
- What is a service user representative?



- Purpose: Developed as an induction for new service users but presented to all service users to further educate them on the role.

# What training covered so far?

- What is a Human Rights Enhancement Committee?



- Purpose: Provide information and education in relation to the purpose and role of the committee

# What training covered so far?

- What is HIQA?



- Purpose: provide information on the working's of the authority and how it may impact on people living in residential houses.

# What training covered so far?

- What is diversity and equality?



- Purpose: Education about diversity and equality and how it can be promoted daily.

# Schedule for the year

- Planned schedule for 2011.
- Schedule always developing and growing to include new topics.
- Each presentation delivered minimum of 2 times
- Involved in induction of staff and FAS trainee's.



# Who delivers the training?

- Members of the committee and other service users with support if necessary.
- photo

# Why?

- People who use our services have a stronger voice.
- We are empowered to share our experiences.
- We make decisions on what and how to participate in the organisation.
- We want to educate people.
- We want to influence change internally and externally.
- It works.
- People need to stand up for what they want in life.
- We need to look to the future not the past.

# Future Plans



# Future plans

- Accessible leaflets on topics decided by service users: Benefits of exercise, Fire evacuation, Smoking, Rules of the road and Healthy eating.
- Induction for service users including on the RT programme.
- Review of the organisation residential houses in relation to HIQA standards.
- Involvement in action plans for HIQA.
- Direct link to board of directors
- Booklet's, DVD's
- Families forum – information sharing.
- Show other people how to set up similar committee's.

# Future plans

- Identify other training topics like 'Rights of the environment'.
- Increase people trained to recruit staff.
- Investigate individualised funding
- Share information about individualised funding throughout the organisation.
- Be involved in planning for individualised funding options.
- Inclusion in external advocacy projects e.g. amnesty petition/shoe box kids appeal.
- Review website and input advocacy related information when needed.

# What has this committee meant for members of the committee?

- “Built my Confidence”
- “Learned so much new things”
- “I have helped with making the presentations, I never knew how to do that before”
- “I think it has shown us all what we can do”
- “We have been teaching staff, sure there is loads more we could be teaching them”
- “thought me how to stand up for myself and not be rude about it”

# What has this committee meant for members of the committee?

- “We can make better decisions cause we know more stuff”
- “Very good feeling for us who set up the committee”
- “We can talk to each other and we don’t have to use big words”
- “Can discuss things openly and decide”

# What has it meant for staff who have received training?

- “Very insightful”
- “Great interaction, open and honest and I put that down to the delivery”
- “Learned loads in short space of time”
- “Anything when hearing from people who use the service has a lot more meaning”
- “ Real interesting experience to receive training from service users. The table’s are turning”
- “This is why I want to work for this organisation – they have the same values as me”
- “ Makes me feel that the service users have more ownership of the organisation”



# What has it meant to other service users who received the training?



- “Great fun”
- “I’d like to teach people to”
- “We need to do this more often”
- “They were so good teaching that, I really understand it”
- “The pictures helped me understand it”
- “We have loads of ideas of other things we need to learn, sure we could go and teach the government now”
- “People listen to us”
- “I understand”

# What has it meant for the Organisation?

- Joe Mason said “It has really allowed us to be true to our mission statement ,people lead self determined lives - it is a major step forward”
- “Service users have been fully involved in creating our strategic plan, reviewing policies and decision making within both the organisation and nationally”

## DVD clips

- This clip shows some of the people that use the services of WALK discussing Rights.
- For more video clips log onto our website [www.walk.ie](http://www.walk.ie) under advocacy.

# Conclusion

- The 'Walk with rights' committee has provided education, strength and determination to all who use the organisation and allowed people who use the service to become more effective participants in decision making within the organisation and with

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# Thank you

**WALK  
WITH YOU**  
IN STEP WITH  
OUR COMMUNITY



Walk 2011

# Questions?

