



Youth Work Ireland
Tipperary

Annual Report 2016



Youth Work Ireland Tipperary

... a world full of possibilities for all young people

Welcome to our 2016 annual report. This was another extremely busy and exciting year for our youth service. Although we changed our name in 2016 we certainly didn't change our work ethic! 2016 saw us further develop, securing new projects such as the Fethard and Killenaule Youth Project, the GO Project and the GLO-CAL project. 2016 was also a very exciting year in terms of our international work which saw projects delivered across the arts, social enterprise as well as our innovative Virtual Youth Work project which we are delivering in conjunction with LIT Thurles.

This report shows a snapshot of all of the work which we delivered throughout the year. None of this would have been possible without the tremendous work our staff, board, volunteers, young people and funders put in throughout 2016 and I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge this. 2016 also saw a lot of changes within the youth service and we wish our staff who have left us for new pastures the very best of luck and I'd like to welcome all our new staff on board.

Carmel O'Neill, Acting CEO

Junior Board of Management

Our Junior Board of Management has had a very full year beginning with the LOL event in The Horse and Jockey where members of our board both hosted the event and spoke at the event alongside brilliant guest speakers Philly McMahon and Kathryn Reilly. This was followed closely by a team building day where our board welcomed and got to know our new members, this was a brilliant day which really highlighted the level of high-spirited young people on our board, and this day was filled with productive work and some fun activities such as Zumba.

The Junior Board of Management helped out with the launch of our new name 'Youth Work Ireland Tipperary' and this was a brilliant end to a continuous brand development work done by the board. Our most recent endeavour was the requested release of Ibrahim Halawa, an Irish citizen wrongly imprisoned in Egypt. Our board wrote to our public representatives including The Taoiseach and The President both of whom replied rapidly stating that it is a problem they are trying to solve, our board have not given up hope on the release of Ibrahim and are constantly lobbying for this release, our member Devin Rusk also attended the protest for his release.

At a recent meeting the board dressed in red to show their support for Show Racism the Red Card. Members of our board have had many achievements throughout the year such as helping out with the Irish Youth Music Awards, Attending the British Irish Parliamentary Assembly, winning many sporting awards, local awards and of course our amazing and hardworking member Chelsea Ryan Gibson won the Lyons Club Young Ambassador of Ireland award, we are very proud of Chelsea and look forward to what it to follow.

Our board are grateful of the eventful year we have had and we are looking forward to what is to come for the coming year.

Danielle Gayson, Chairperson JBOM

Board of Directors

In Youth Work Ireland Tipperary we see that Youthwork is changing rapidly. Our communities are diverse in a way we have not recognised or experienced in the past. It is a privilege to work with young people who are driven to develop their Creativity, to build their Confidence and to advocate for the Rights of Young People within their own communities and further afield. We are equally privileged to work with those struggling to overcome Poverty, Homelessness and Addiction as a reality in their daily lives.

We see the impact of technology, social media, gaming and mobile phones as adding a layer of rich potential and challenge in a way that previous generations have not had to deal with. We see the positive identity within the Rural Clubs, the impact of Family Support and Youth Justice Work, the emerging energy in the Gaming groups and the reassurance that our LGBT, Mental Health and Intercultural work has in helping young people define and assert their identities.

As Chairperson of Youth Work Ireland Tipperary I have enormous admiration for the young people within YWIT. I commend the work they have done over the past year and assure them of the solidarity of the Board in their journeys to achieve their full potential. On behalf of the Board I would like to acknowledge the work of the staff and volunteers of YWIT. Whether in the Clubs, Projects, CE schemes or in providing vital administrative support, you are the beating heart of this organisations and your energy, enthusiasm and effort are much appreciated.

As an organisation we have seen several staff leave over the past 12 months Joyce, Terasa, Aisling, Denis and Aoife and we have seen new people join Lorna, Jane, William and Sally we wish you well and appreciate your contribution. Finally, I would like to thank Carmel for the professional and personable manner in which she has taken on the challenging role of Acting CEO.

Paul Keating, Chairperson Board of Directors

Health Promotion

Connecting Communities/NYCI

Youth Work Ireland Tipperary is a gold standard health promotion organisation under NYCI's Health Promotion Quality Standards. As part of maintaining these standards we ensure that health promotion underpins all of our work, from planning, to delivery to the evaluation of all of our services.

Actions supported in 2016 include:

- **Strengthening Community Actions:**
 - ContribYOUTH
 - GLO-CAL
 - LOL (Live Your Life)
- **Developing Personal Skills**
 - Activ8
 - Snow White and the 7 Mental Health Helpers
 - WRAP
- **Building Health Public Policy**
 - Involvement in local policy making agencies
 - Local Community Development Committee (County Council)
 - Mind Out Review and Pilot
 - Children and Young People Services Committee
- **Creating Supportive Environments**
 - Our youth projects and clubs
 - Our buildings and staff
 - Our website and social media pages
- **Reorienting Health Services**
 - Supporting the development of Jigsaw in Tipperary
 - Securing and securing Needle Exchange Service in Cashel
 - Functional Family Therapy



YWIT Staff Training



Live Your life

CONNECTING COMMUNITIES NATIONAL YOUTH COUNCIL OF IRELAND

Live your Life was an initiative that was rolled out in early 2016 to address youth mental health issues amongst the 16-24 age cohort of young adults, developing their resilience, and supporting them to take control of their own lives. We worked in partnership with several agencies in the county as well as our own members.

YWIT employed the four key health promotion concepts, Physical Health, Social Health, Mental Health and Spiritual Health in an overall approach linking "WRAP", "Activ8", "ContribYOUTH", the "Live your Life" life skills programme and the "Moment 2 Moment" programme to address general wellbeing and resilience issues of our young people. Young people also need to feel connected to their communities, but again if they are isolated



or impacted by mental health issues this is not possible. By participating in these programmes they are learning to develop and support their own resilience.

Activ8 Summer Programme 2016

Coca-Cola



PROJECT STATISTICS:

- 243 young people participated in events in Youth Work Ireland's main locations- Tipperary, Cashel, Templemore, Littleton and Thurles throughout 2016.

The 'Activ8' programme was piloted in 2015 by Youth Work Ireland Tipperary as a way to encourage young people to be active and engaged over their summer holidays. Youth workers and young people had noticed that there were lots of camps on offer for those in primary school during the holidays but there wasn't much for those of second level age. To remedy this, we came up with 'Activ8'- the programme offers young people a wide array of fun and active opportunities of which they can pick and choose the activities that appeal to them – with the aim being to complete 8 activities over 8 weeks. Young people's participation is tracked through the stamping of their 'Activ8' card. Those who complete a full 8 activities are included in a raffle at the end of the summer- the chance to win prizes like an iPad, blue tooth speaker or clothes voucher keep young people motivated to keep going on the laziest of summer days! Our first summer of 'Activ8' was a great success and amazing fun, with activities ranging from kayaking and hiking to go-cart racing, with a bit of bubble-soccer and a trip to the National Aquatic Centre thrown in for good measure!

The programme was further strengthened in 2016 when the Coca-Cola Thank You Fund gave financial support to 'Activ8' with a grant of €25,000. This generous grant has meant that 'Activ8' was also rolled out during the autumn/ winter months and has been offered to the rural youth clubs as well as in our 4 main town centres. During this year's Activ8 programmes, young people have had the chance to build skills in kick-boxing, skateboarding, swimming, yoga, pilates, soccer and basketball, to name a few! The programme has meant a lot to the organisation, both for staff and young people. For youth workers, it gives us a framework to engage young people during the summer and a way to encourage participation in a flexible and person-centred manner. For young



people, it provides opportunities to try out new activities with support from youth worker's they know and trust, it can introduce them to local amenities that they have never accessed before and give them a taste for a hobby they may stay involved in and it rewards them for being active and getting out there! We hope to continue the programme in 2017 and beyond!!

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS:

- **Regionally:** 5 young people representing each of the towns were trained by members of LIT in film and interview skills. They then took part in an ad campaign with Coca-Cola to highlight the Active 8 programme.
- **Tipperary Activate Summer Programme:** 49 young people participated in the following activities kayaking, indoor soccer, penalty shootout competition, bubble soccer, gladiator challenge, aquatic centre trip, kickboxing workshop, roller skating, trampolining, racquet-ball, handball, table-tennis, horse-riding, tai chi, pilates, 10 participants completed a full 8 activities
- **ActivKids Junior Summer Camp:** 34 young people attended, taking part in arts, crafts, cookery, quiz, cinema trip, swimming, martial arts and team building games.



GLO-CAL

Irish Aid

In 2016 Youth Work Ireland Tipperary received funding from Irish Aid to deliver our GLO-CAL Youth project whose aim was to inform young people about global development issues and how they impact on their local lives, supporting them in developing an analysis based on principles of justice, equality and inclusion. Sally Daly came on board in August and through her links with local community groups, national and international agencies the following programmes were realised:

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS:

- Three young people from an ethnic minority background were supported to co-deliver diversity training. Two of these are refugees with no prior contact with the organisation.
- The project supported a young Syrian woman to join the Board of YWIT through mentorship.
- A range of once off and continuous training outputs on Development Education and Diversity were delivered across the organisation in conjunction with Trocaire.
- Comhairle na nÓg were supported to take on a Development Education campaign as a main action item for the year ahead-2017 : Send My Friend to School - <http://www.sendmyfriend.org/>
- The project developed an original Development Education resource in the ContribYouth pilot manual- "what use is my phone?". This six week sessional plan was delivered across three of the YWIT centres. In

addition, staff drew on the manual to deliver once off sessions with young people not involved in group work.

- The project's involvement with the Junior Board of Management led to a member taking on a subsequent training role on Development Education and Diversity on behalf of the Junior Board.
- A Development Education policy for the organisation was developed. This was completed in consultation with NYCI.
- An ethnic diversity proofing exercise was undertaken within the organisation. This was delivered over the course of the project by utilising a 'walking and talking approach' and making policy recommendations on this area.



Alternative Learning Programme

ETB / Tipperary Co. Co. / STDC / ESB

The Alternative Learning Programme was a part time 15 hour per week youth work programme aimed at tackling early school leavers.

ALP motivated young people to re-engage, remain engaged with education and learning on a full time basis and or avail of training or employment opportunities.

It provided individual work, activities and programmes that aimed to improve attitudes and build confidence and self-belief and generate a love of learning and achieving amongst the young people.

The programme was funded and supported by the ETB and run by Youth Work Ireland Tipperary with additional funding from the South Tipp Development Company, Tipperary County Council (Tipperary Sports Partnership and Local Agenda 21) and ESB.

The Project Worker was Teresa Normile and was supported by William Tate.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

- 10 young people were involved in the ALP 2015/2016.
- 2 young people participated in I-Scoil Pilot.
- 1 young person successfully completed 2 modules of I-Scoil and attended graduation in Dublin.



- Young people took part in a recycling fashion project with Gemma Morris/ artist.
- Attended an open day in LCFE and Design Fest open day in LIT Tipperary
- Young people got an opportunity to participate in different sporting/leisure activities funded through Tipperary Sports Partnership.

Youth Participation

Voluntary Youth Participation is the cornerstone of youthwork and is what sets us apart from other community and voluntary services. Youth Work Ireland Tipperary places Youth Participation at the core of everything we do. Opportunities to participate begin from the very first moment a young person comes through our door.

Youth Work Ireland Tipperary's vision on Youth Participation is based loosely on the Freechild Project Measure for Social Change by and with young people. We believe that young people should participate at whatever level they are comfortable with, which can increase or decrease depending on what is going on for the young person at that particular time. In YWI Tipperary, young people participate in the running of their groups through group contracts, planning and management, right up to project committees, Junior

Board of Management, Comhairle na nÓg and Youth Executive. Young people also have the opportunity and are supported to sit on our Board of Directors as well as Youth Work Ireland's National Board of Directors.

Youth Work Ireland Project Committees

We currently have 4 youth committees in each of our youth centres. These committees have the following in common:

- They are made up of young people from the groups/projects
- They go through a selection and interview process
- They input into the design and running of the projects
- They receive committee skills training
- They come together regularly on a regional basis

Junior Board of Management

Our Junior Board of Management has had a very full year beginning with the LOL event in The Horse and Jockey where members of our board both hosted the event and spoke at the event alongside brilliant guest speakers Philly McMahon and Kathryn Reilly. This was followed closely by a team building day where our board welcomed and got to know our new members, this was a brilliant day which really highlighted the level of high-spirited young people on our board, and this day was filled with productive work and some fun activities such as Zumba.

The Junior Board of Management helped out with the launch of our new name 'Youth Work Ireland Tipperary' and this was a brilliant end to a continuous brand development work done by the board. Our most recent endeavour was the requested release of Ibrahim Halawa, an Irish citizen wrongly imprisoned in Egypt. Our board wrote to our public representatives including The Taoiseach and The President both of whom replied rapidly stating that it is a problem they are trying to solve, our board have not given up hope on the release of Ibrahim and are constantly lobbying for this release, our member Devin Rusk also attended the protest for his release.

At a recent meeting the board dressed in red to show their support for Show Racism the Red Card. Members of our board have had many achievements throughout the year such as helping out with the Irish Youth Music Awards, attending the British Irish Parliamentary Assembly, winning many sporting awards, local awards and of course our amazing and hardworking member Chelsea Ryan Gibson won the Lyons Club Young Ambassador of Ireland award, we are very proud of Chelsea and look forward to what is to follow. Our board are grateful for the eventful year we have had and we are looking forward to what is to come for the coming year.



Youth Executive

Youth Participation is a key vision for YWITipp and in line with that we have the young executive panel which are young adults over 18. This fits with Young Strategy which allows for young adults to continue to be involved after 18. These youths were previously involved with youth groups etc. and wanted to look at new opportunities such as European work and leadership roles. The group meet 4 times a year during breaks from college. They have a particular interest in Youth Health, looking at the elements of the Ottawa Charter and how it relates to the life of a young adult in college. They are linked to our Health promotion work.

As part of our European work the Youth Executive panel hosted a youth exchange on health in March 2016 with partners from Croatia. The theme Youth Health, what is it? It was very interesting and informative and gave lots of ideas for future work in the area.

HIGHLIGHTS (TOP TEN)

- Hosted Advanced Planning Visit in Thurles in February 2016 to plan for Youth Exchange.
- Hosted 16 young adults from Croatia in March in

Aherlow House hotel to look at Youth Health.

- National linkage – members of Youth Executive are involved with the Spunout board and YWI Health Squad.
- Lisa Costello participated in European training held in Galway on coaching for life in June 2016.
- Some members also carry out leadership roles within the youth service in particular assisting with Comhairle na nÓg
- During the summer the group had a "think in" meeting where they reviewed the youth exchange and its outcomes and looked at other possible work around the area of youth health in college that they wish to do.



Comhairle na nÓg - Tipperary

DCYA through Tipperary County Council

Comhairle na nÓg are local elected youth councils which give children and young people the opportunity to be involved in the development of local services and policies. Young people across the country are represented in each of the 34 Comhairle na nÓg committees around the country. The members work on many topics – which include mental health services and facilities for young people, homophobic bullying, sexual health and many more.

In Tipperary Comhairle na nÓg but during 2016 they worked on linkage with decision makers and continued work on youth mental health as well as having a 2016 event. There are four subgroups in Roscrea/Templemore/Thurles, Nenagh/Borris, Tipp/Cashel/Cahir and Clonmel/Carrick to progress work locally, and they meet every 6 weeks.

Check out Tipperary Comhairle on Facebook

One representative from each Comhairle na nÓg is elected to the Comhairle na nÓg National Executive, which follows up on the recommendations from Dáil na nÓg to make changes for young people in those areas.

The National Executive has a term of office of two years and meets once a month. The National Executive is facilitated and supported by the Department of Children and Youth Affairs, Foróige and Youth Work Ireland, who ensure that they get the opportunity to engage with appropriate Ministers, policy-makers, Oireachtas Committees and other decision-makers.

Other members of Comhairle also get a chance to link nationally with Consultation days such as the Digital Media Consultation to which we sent members and to networking days and workshops with NYCI.



HIGHLIGHTS (Top Ten)

- Comhairle na nÓg held a "Lets Go Mental" event in Nenagh supporting positive youth mental health and promoting the 5 a day for keeping well.
- Caoimhe & Ethan attended the Aras to remember and celebrate the children of 1916. Also Tipperary Comhairle na nÓg ran an event in Cloughjordan for 1916 remembering and reflecting the changes for young people in 100 years.
- Two members of Tipperary subgroup sit on the TUSLA



Children's and Young persons services committee and in 2016 we had members on Tipperary Educational Training Board Youth committee.

- Members of Comhairle attended the showcase event in Croke Park.
- Comhairle na nÓg supported mental health events around the county such as Week of Light in Roscrea, Pieta House walk in Cashel & Roscrea, LOL event in Roscrea and Cycle against Suicide in Tipperary Town.
- Promoting active citizens we had members of Comhairle attend consultation day for European Structured Dialogue with NYCI.
- Members of Comhairle sat on the Arts committee in Nenagh.
- Tipperary Comhairle held its full county AGM in Aherlow House with 148 young people from all over Tipperary in attendance. The event had a special focus on remembering the children of 1916 and also the promotion on Tipperary Comhairle as a county voice for young people.
- At the AGM the Comhairle na nÓg announced its new Chairpersons for the year ahead which are Devin Rusk and Leon Egan
- Following a tender process Youth Work Ireland Tipperary was awarded the work of Comhairle na nÓg in Tipperary for the next two years.



INTERNATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Virtual Youth Work

Erasmus & Leargas

At the beginning of 2016 Youth Work Ireland Tipperary was awarded a significant European Project through Erasmus+ for Virtual Youth Work. The project is an extremely ambitious undertaking and is the first of its kind. Virtual Youth Work is a strategic partnership led and designed by Youth Work Ireland Tipperary in partnership with youth organisations in the UK, Greece as well as Limerick Institute of Technology. Virtual Youth Work is a response to a need identified for those working with youth people.

We are aware that young people are spending significant amounts of their time playing online games and investing much of their creativity and time in computer games. There are both benefits and challenges for young people and these games, with many of them not constructive and can carry with them many associated risks. The aim of the project is to create a model of youth work to engage young people through gaming in a positive way that sees more young people becoming involved in real social issues and community development.

Virtual Youth Work has several planned intellectual outcomes designed to inform practice, creating a tool kit for youth workers to use games and technology as an instrument in their practice including the creation of a game to engage young people in this online setting and fashion and build a "youth town" in collaboration with young people from across Europe.

This 'youth town' will see young people both building a 'town' and electing councils and committees to design and govern their town. This will result in young people learning about the economic and social issues in their own towns and across Europe in a fun and engaging way. The project will run over a thirty-month period working with youth groups in Killenaule,



Is this the future of youth work – Newly formed gaming groups at Creative Tech Fest in Google



New World Virtual Youth Work stand at Google spreading the word

Tipperary town and Cashel and as part of the programme youth workers will undertake a Master of Arts (MA) in Global Youth Work with Games & Digital Media in LIT. The project reflects Youth Work Ireland Tipperary's creative and innovative approach to working with young people.



First incarnation of Youth Town London June 2016



First Transnational Project meeting March 2016 – The start of a very long journey

ACE - Across Europe

Erasmus & Leargas

For the first time in the organisations history we are currently hosting a long term European Voluntary Service (EVS). We would like to send a massive welcome to our EVS workers Petros Mallios and Avgi Massi all the way from Florina Greece. They have been an enormous asset to the organisation and have made Tipperary Town their new home and embraced Irish culture.

Avgi: *The first thing you must learn in Ireland is "grand"!! Grand is suitable for everything...at the first days maybe you cannot understand anything...even though you know English, slowly slowly the things become better! Everybody even on street say "hello" and "what's going on?" to you, so it's easy for foreign people to feel comfortable in Ireland! Now, in Youth Centre my partner Petros and I, we have our "Greek Wall", with our flag, photos from Greece and some information for Greek language, so even in your new*



A symbol of the blossoming friendship between the two organisations in Greece and Tipperary

environment, you have your "home" with you. A lot of years now I wanted to participate at a cycling team, and here in Ireland I do it, I participate at the team, called "Tipp Wheelers" and we do some cycling in the area.

These three months are very different for me, because I learned a lot of new things, and I am looking forward to the following months and I believe the following months will be better.



Best pie ever – chef Petros exposing Tipperary to some real Greek culture!

"My name is Petros Mallios, I'm 27 years old and I'm from Greece, I'm here in Ireland for three months now and I feel "grand". When I arrived here in Tipperary it was weird for me about the weather and the English talking accent from the Irish people. After three months I can say that I spend lovely time here, I work in a youth centre with young people, after work I go to the gym, I can understand when people talk to me and I feel happy. Also I feel happy when I give my ideas and the people where we work together accept them. One day I cook Greek recipe of chicken pie and the people here they love it, one of the days we paint some walls here in the youth and we spend fantastic time with fun. I'm very happy because I learn more things and take more skills for me."

Regards Petros Mallios

European Voluntary Service (EVS)

Leargas



As part of our European work the Youth Executive panel hosted a youth exchange on health in March 2016 which partners from Croatia. The theme "Youth Health" – what is it?

It was very interesting and informative and gave lots of idea for future work in the area. Under our European work we are involved in EVS (European Voluntary Service). Youth from 18 – 30 yrs can go to any European country for up to 12 months, learn a language, learn new skills while have the opportunity to live and work in another culture. Denis Ryan and Kevin Roberts spent a month in Finland on short term EVS in July 2016.

Anyone interested can check www.leargas.ie or contact Pauline. Volunteers and staff also get a chance to gain experience in Europe. In November 2016 Rachel and Catherine from Youth Info in Thurles travelled to Austria on a training course.

In Dec 2016, Pauline attended the European Platform meeting in the Czech Republic to future enhance our European work and partnership going forward.

DEAL – Developing Entrepreneurial Abilities Laboratory

Erasmus & Leargas

50 Young People – Greece and Ireland Training programme

DEAL gathered together youth workers, youth leaders and young people with entrepreneurial spirit to empower young people and motivate them to find their passion in life and turn it into action. The aim was to create a safe learning environment where young people could learn and experiment with ideas, methods, skills and tools bringing them closer to innovative entrepreneurship. Special emphasis was given on developing their key competences. The project aimed to ensure an entrepreneurial approach to solving social and environmental problems in Greece and Ireland and to encourage and support the development of a new generation of social entrepreneurs.

The DEAL consisted of two training events:

- The first training **27th June – 4th July 2016**, with 26 participants from the two countries plus 2 trainers and 2 facilitators. Venue: Tipperary Ireland.
- The second training **29th August – 5th September 2016**, with 26 participants from the two countries plus 2 trainers and 2 facilitators. Venue: Florina, Greece.

The learning objectives of this project are:

- To boost entrepreneurial mindsets of young people;
- To equip youngsters out of the market with new competences and increase the quality of youth work;
- To raise awareness for the importance of innovation and creativity in the development of their skills;
- To empower participants to act as multipliers of good practices and disseminate relevant information and skills to involved stakeholders;



Dunhill Eco park

- To explore possibilities for future cooperation among participants and partner organizations
- To become inspired social entrepreneur or change-maker;



Certificates in hand – Final days in Florina

Creating Connexn's: Viewing Art in Youth Work

Erasmus & Leargas

This seminar connected youth workers and professionals working with youth on art projects nationally and across Europe. The seminar addressed the complexities of creating, participating and viewing art within the youth work environment.

It provided and developed strategies, solutions and discussions as well as supporting workers to seek new ways to develop and reach new partners, greater audiences and participation for arts within Youth Work.

The events were delivered through a programme of presentations, discussions, events, actions, youth participation, music, activities, walks and talks in relation to art in youth work.

These connections have created new hubs and areas of interest for future development, and a vehicle for continued learning in art in youth work as well as a provision for peer support.

This project built new partnerships, new ideas and contributes towards shaping art in youth work practices in Ireland.

Partners came from 5 European youth organisations (Greece, Georgia, Italy, Portugal and Hungary) as well as Irish youth workers/artists.

Partners are Georgia Youth For Europe, Association of Active Youth of Florina, Aventura Marao Clube, Fekete Sereg, and Euronet.



The project linked with a number of different agencies such as NYCI Youth Arts Programme, Vagabond Reviews, Rialto Youth Services, LIT Tipperary, IYMA's in Tipp, TAR Project, Dublin Castle and a number of Irish artists such as Nora Furlong, Joe McNicolas and Tricia O'Connor and YWIT Chairperson Paul Keating.



LGBT & Allies Youth Group 'OUTstanding

BelongTo



OUTstanding LGBT & Allies group has been running for the last eighteen months and has gone from strength to strength. This group is lead by LGBT youth worker Zoe Gogarty and supported by volunteers. In total the group has approximately 18 members and meets on a monthly basis all around Tipperary County in our youth centres in Cashel, Tipperary Town, Templemore and Thurles. OUTstanding youth group is a fun informal setting for young people aged between 13-18 to hang out and have fun. In 2016 the group participated in W.R.A.P training delivered by Claire Turner, the group thoroughly enjoyed this.

In June 2016 the group attended the PRIDE breakfast in Youth Work Ireland's Office in Dublin before they attended the Dublin Pride 2016 March. The march was a huge success and the group is already planning 2017's march.

In November 2016 the group participated in BelongTo's national #StandUpWeek, to celebrate this our LGBT Youth Worker Zoe and Volunteer Jay Vaughan went to local schools including YouthReach Cappawhite delivering LGBT workshops.



LGBT youth worker Zoe, Volunteers Paula and Jay

GO Project Youth Employment Initiative

Department of Children of Youth Affairs (DCYA) in partnership with the Education and Training Board (ETB)

15 Young People

Two groups of young people in Tipperary town Youth Reach

The Tipperary GO Project was a youth employment initiative designed to target a group of NEETS in Tipperary Town and develop opportunities in the key areas of employability skills. The project carried out in partnership with DCYA and ETB was tasked with considering the use of newly designed measurement tools. The tools supplied by Centre for Effective Services were designed to measure and articulate any change brought about through intervention.

The project engaged a group of 15 young people in Tipperary Town and Youth Reach in a creative media and photography training programme. The training programme ran over a 16-week period and will be guided by youth principles of voluntary and youth participation allowing young people large amounts of autonomy in the design and creation of the programme. To think and evaluate the picture and to articulate what the photograph may mean to each individual Through the programme young people built confidence and acquired 21st century employability skills; creativity,

ICT, critical thinking, communication and collaboration vital to their future success. Visual literacy is becoming more important today because of the amount of information communicated through images. The internet and mobile phone technology is continuing to revolutionise the way we interact with each other. This phenomenon is more apparent among young people where simple communications now appear in the form of images, icons have replaced the written word, emoji icons used to describe emotion, snapchat has replaced the text message of yesteryear. Young people use Photospeak every day to communicate with each other.

The project hoped to harness these skills to produce:

1. A set of ready to use photo speak pictures, portraying Tipperary town through their eyes, depicting both the people and the natural, social, physical elements within the town.
2. A business plan for selling Photospeak product.



Thurles Youth Project

DCYA

PROJECT STATISTICS:

- Thurles Youth Project facilitates on average 16 groups a week from the FCA Hall and a satellite youth space in The 4 Estates Community House. In addition to this the project runs workshops in local schools, training centres, community groups etc.
- The project worked with an average of 198 young people weekly over 2016

Thurles Youth Project works with young people between 8 and 18 years old in the greater Thurles area, from two centres, the FCA Hall on Slievenamon Rd and 4 Estates Resource Centre. We provide group work, special interest groups as well as one to one supports. We also focus on academic and progression support by working with those at risk of early school leaving; providing homework clubs and college and job advice. Our service does frontline work in physical and mental health promotion, inclusion and integration work as well as highlights on equality issues and provides psycho-social developmental education programmes. However, mostly our project is a fun, safe space for young people to come and meet friends while exploring unidentified opportunities learning new skills and building confidence. We have many travel opportunities throughout Ireland doing exciting activities such as surfing and go-karting, taking part in national programmes and events, while also training to be youth leaders and Comhairle na nÓg members. We also have international travel opportunities to theme parks and experiencing different cultures.

We moved into our brand new building on the Slievenamon Road in June 2016. This new space is larger and more youth friendly and is open to any young person between 8 – 18 years of age living in the greater Thurles, North Tipperary area.



Through a variety of activities The Thurles Youth Project raised over 3,000€ during the Summer in Fundraising from the efforts of our great young people in bucket collecting and doing sponsored stay-awakes.

In July 2016 we hosted an exchange with Finland where two young people came and worked and lived in Thurles and got to experience the Thurles Youth Project as a young person as well as a volunteer. The exchange was a great success and two young Irish people will now go to Lahti, Finland in the Spring.

PROJECT SPOTLIGHT:

The project took part in the Thurles Sports Festival with the youth worker sitting on the organising committee as well as co-hosting events. The project supported and took part in the festival opening parade which led to the Centenary re-enactment of the 1916 All Ireland hurling final. They also had several prominent GAA stars to speak in an event about mental health, alcohol and gambling. Over 50 people attended this event in LIT and it was very well received.

CHECK THIS OUT ...

Thurles Youth Project received a grant of €2,700 to run events highlighting the UN Day for The Eradication Of Poverty on October 17th. A series of workshops and trainings were held to raise awareness of diversity and migration.



The hike in the Galtees for Activ8 along with the Croatia exchange students



Young people taking part in Arts and Crafts exploring their individuality 'Me Masks!'

Youth Information Service

DCYA

Youth Information is a specialised element of youth work, whose vision is to engage young people in positive relationships to empower them to reach their own potential and enhance their active participation in creating a fairer society. Youth Information targets young people, parents & those working with them to provide them with access to information, it is operated in two ways in a youth friendly drop in facility in both Thurles & Tipperary town which is integrated with the youth service and secondly outreach where youth information works with schools, communities and through group work to give information out to youth. We aim to find new opportunities for young people in terms of employment, youth participation & life skills.

Centre based service in Tipperary and Thurles where we have a large variety of Information, public internet suite and secretarial service and have trained staff to help clients with queries on a one to one basis.

We are agents for processing Student Travel Cards

We have the Eurodesk Intranet facility in both centres for European queries & links to new European Youth Portal. www.youthportal.ie

We provide a varied Outreach service of workshops, talks, information stands on request.

We help students with Student Maintenance grants – (SUSI) and other college & education queries.

As part of our European work the Youth Executive panel hosted a youth exchange on health in March 2016 which partners from Croatia. The theme Youth health what is it? it was very interesting and informative and gave lots of idea for future work in the area. Under our European work we are involved in EVS (European Voluntary Service). Youth from 18 – 30 yrs can go to any European country for up to 12 months, learn a language, learn new skills while have the opportunity to live and work in another culture Denis Ryan and Kevin Roberts spend a month in Finland on short term EVS in July 2016. Anyone interested can check www.leargas.ie or contact Pauline. Volunteers and staff also get a chance to gain experience in Europe in November 2016 Rachel and Catherine from Youth Info in Thurles travelled to Austria on a training course.

In Dec 2016, Pauline attended the European Platform

meeting in the Czech Republic to future enhance our European work and partnership going forward.

HIGHLIGHTS (TOP TEN):

- Within information queries in 2016 and we saw an increase in CV and job supports for youth. We have also successfully used social media to promote & engagement with youth and now also receive queries this way.
- We continue to train young people in leadership & facilitation with FLIP and Youth Leadership courses. Also Student councils training days were popular in 2016
- Snow White leaders were trained up, snow white was delivered to schools in South Tipperary with 164 children in 2016.
- We continue our partnership with Eurodesk Ireland and attended network meetings in 2016.
- Our newest programme is Moment to Moment Mindfulness training for young people was delivered to TY class of St.Ailbe's in 2016.
- We have a new partnership with Spunout.ie to use social media to reach youth people needing information and one to one support.
- Successful Outreach provision to schools, groups and youth cafes was completed in 2016 with our Bullying workshop proving very popular, we have developed a cyber bullying workshop for students and parents.
- New Youth Executive panel for 18-25 was set up to cater for 18+ they aim to learn from Europe and links with our Health promotion work.
- We hosted work placement from local PLCs in 2016 allowing people to learn office skills with us.
- Promoting active citizens we had Young people attended the consultation day for European Structured Dialogue with NYC. Plus Tipperary Comhairle na nÓg is run by Youth Information as part of Youth Participation work and a highlight in 2016 was receiving the tender to continue with work for the next two years.



Rural Outreach Project

DCYA

The rural outreach project is a two worker project which supports volunteer led youth clubs throughout Tipperary County and East Limerick. The rural outreach officers are Donna McCarthy Walsh and Zoe Gogarty. At present the rural outreach project supports twenty junior and senior youth clubs. There are over 130 volunteers and 550 young people actively involved in youth clubs around the county every week. Our youth clubs cater for young people in both primary and secondary school. Our junior clubs cater for 8-12 year olds and senior clubs for 1st year students in secondary school to young people aged 18 year olds.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS:

- Volunteer training – Over the last 12 months our volunteers have participated in a range of training opportunities. Over 100 volunteers took part in the child protection awareness programme throughout the year. Other training opportunities included first aid training, induction training and arts and crafts.
- Panel meetings – over the last 12 months four panel meetings have taken place. These meetings comprise of volunteers gathering to discuss and solve pertinent issues that arise for the youth clubs. This is also a space for volunteers to catch up and share ideas. This year all clubs were presented with their brand new Youth Work Ireland Tipperary clubs signs.
- The rural outreach team hosted two soccer blitzes last year in which over 250 young people participated in and held in the Ursuline, Thurles, one junior club soccer blitz and one senior soccer blitz. The junior blitz was quite intense seeing Gurtagarry youth club compete against Cappawhite youth club in penalties where Cappawhite won on the final penalty shot. Well done to all clubs who participated. We would like to send a special thank you to the exceptional referees from North Tipperary Emerging Talent programme that made both evenings quite enjoyable.



CHECK THIS OUT ... In June 2016 over 100 young people from our junior youth clubs descended on UL Killaloe Activity centre for an awesome fun filled day of activities, the young people spent the morning on Lough Derg Kayaking and the afternoon abseiling. It was a super day enjoyed by all.

Mid Tipperary Drugs Initiative

HSE

PROJECT STATISTICS:

- The project has served over 300 people in 2016
- It has a base in Cashel and Tipperary Town Youth Service buildings and covers the surrounding rural areas
- The project is open 5 days a week from 10am-5pm

The Mid Tipperary Drugs project is a community based drugs initiative which is funded by the HSE and administered by Youth Work Ireland Tipperary. The aim of the project is to create a positive community response to substance use by working with individuals, their families and communities in a person centred, holistic and respectful manner. The project has continued and new links with community and statutory agencies with the project continuing to support the Substance Misuse Service in Clonmel.



PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS:

The MTDI Project facilitated another successful Community Addiction Programme in Tipperary town in 2016 with 19 people completing the programme. The course was run with the support of LIT Tipperary, The HSE Substance Misuse Service and Aislinn Adolescent treatment centre who kindly gave up their time to deliver a variety of workshops on the subject of substance misuse. Participants on the course came from a diverse range of backgrounds with a mix of professional and community representatives.

Other activities delivered by the project in 2016 included:

- One on One
- Brief Intervention
- Referral Service
- Family Support
- Alternative therapies
- Educational Programmes
- Policy Development
- Information talks
- Group Work
- Court Education Programmes
- Harm Reduction
- Youth work
- Community Addiction Programme
- Functioning Family Therapy



Templemore Youth Project

DCYA

Templemore Youth Project operates from the Old Courthouse, Bank Street, Templemore. It is funded by the Department of Children and Youth Affairs and targets young people aged between 10 and 24 years. In 2016 the project opened four days per week, facilitating approximately 15 groups per week including Junior and Senior Drop in, Junior Boys, 3rd class boys, 3rd class girls, 4th class boys, Junior Mixed (4th and 5th class), 3rd years, Senior Boys, Senior Girls, Anger management, Peer education/TAP group, 6th and 1st year group, Young mam's group along with 6 one to one supports during the year.

Groups worked on topics such as the following Healthy Lifestyle programmes, bully buster self defence programme, drugs awareness course, peer education movie around cannabis use, MindOut, Anger management, Teenage fitness programme; Activ8 Summer programme, table tennis, bubble soccer, Diversity Awareness, Cool Ceol Community Music Programme, Snow White and the Seven Mental Health Helpers Peer Education Programme,

Approximately 130 young people were engaged in the project throughout 2016. The project was led by Joyce Brennan with the support of Conn McGrath and Helena Spiakowska and volunteers Nicola Morrissey, Aideen Greed and William Dunne. Within the youth project, workers promote a safe, inclusive and fun environment for all young people, aged 10-24 years, in the Templemore area. Our programmes while fun and innovative, aim to challenge young people and promote confidence and self-esteem. Awareness raising, education and social justice issues are also central to the work of the project and young people are encouraged to become aware of and educated around issues that affect them and be the creators of change in their own lives. Templemore Youth Project strongly believes that youth work should be directed and led by the young people's own needs.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS:

- In July 2016, teenagers from the project took part in a cannabis awareness course and attended a residential overnight trip to Tramore where they got to engage in healthy activities such as surfing, kayaking and caving. This was a positive experience and funding was received for this trip from the Mid-Western Regional Drugs Task Force. Other cannabis focused work this year took the form of a six-week awareness programme followed by the opportunity to make a movie with filmmaker David O'Grady based around the issue.
- Our Junior drop in service was opened in 2015 and



Recruits from Templemore Garda College working with our Senior members



Soccer blitz winners 2016

has gone from strength to strength over the past year. Currently we have drop-ins for Juniors on Wednesday from 4-5 and within this space young people can use musical instruments, do arts and crafts, use computers, play pool and mix with other young people in a safe environment.

- One to one work, Group awareness and support has been a big focus for the young people in the project. Mental health education was a key focus within the project this year, with programmes ran with both Junior and Senior age groups. We also travelled to Obama Plaza to hear Bressie speak about positive mental health. In conjunction with the More Family Support Project, the project ran targeted anger management programmes and engaged in a five-week equine therapy programme during the Summer.

PROJECT SPOTLIGHT:

Templemore Youth Project developed links with Templemore Garda college this year and have had recruits helping within the Senior groups in the project. This has been an extremely positive experience and has fostered understanding between the Gardai and young people within the project.



Thurles and Templemore shared activities and challenges 2016

CHECK THIS OUT ...

Our Summer activity programme, Activ8 ran for both Juniors and Seniors This Summer. The programme aims to ensure that young people stay physically active during the Summer months for both physical and mental health benefits. The programme proved successful and included self-defence sessions, bubble soccer, roller skating, trampolining, trips to Kilkenny adventure centre, go-karting and a trip to the National Aquatic centre in Dublin.

MORE Family Support Project, Templemore

TUSLA

PROJECT STATISTICS:

- Three Adult Groups ran weekly in 2016. These were The Men's Group the "Meet and Greet" Group and the "Mams Who Meet" Group. Three Tipperary Education Training Board funded adult classes, Mindfulness/Soft Yoga, Jewellery Making and Dry Clay Art also took place in 2016 with over 60 participants availing. An adult Operation Transformation walking group and Junior Girls walking group in conjunction with the Home School Liaison Officer and School Completion Programme respectively was organised. In addition, a Senior Boys group focusing on WRAP and anger management was delivered which included 5 weeks of Equine Therapy. And finally, the Mind Out Programme focusing on mental health was delivered to 5th Year students in Our Ladies Secondary School.
- 174 people engaged in the Project in 2016.
- The MORE Family Support Project operates from the Youth Work Ireland Tipperary premises in the old Court House, Bank Street, Templemore and opens Monday to Friday from 9.30-5pm or outside of these hours by appointment.
- There is one full time Project Worker, Sara Leahy and one CE Worker, Anthony Leahy who co-ordinate the Project.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The MORE Family Support Project is a Tusla funded community based support service for parents, families, young people and individuals who are experiencing difficulties in coping with particular issues and challenges affecting their lives. It is a private and confidential free support service that operates out of the Youth Work Ireland Tipperary premises in the Old Court House, Bank Street in Templemore. The project responds to referrals made by agencies such as the Social Work Department, Gardaí, Schools and also by individuals and families who wish to self-refer. Our service is delivered in the form of one to one and group work with young people, parents and individuals, as well as providing a range of community groups and classes, Auricular Acupuncture, parenting programmes, talks & workshops on various topics.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2016:

- Almost 65 young people and 28 families were in receipt of a service in 2016. While 13 clients received Auricular Acupuncture treatments.
- Over 20 local agencies were linked with throughout the year to provide a more enhanced and holistic service to our families.
- Two family support programmes were successfully delivered; the 12 week TLC Kidz Programme in conjunction with Barnardos and the Incredible Years Baby Programme run in association with the Community Mothers. Additionally, 10 parents attended a seminar held by the More Family Support Project raising awareness on teenagers' use of drugs & alcohol.



PROJECT SPOTLIGHT:

The Men's Group meet Mondays with eight attending weekly. This versatile group of local men, of all ages, will put their hand to anything. We are so fortunate the Tipperary Education Training Board and North Tipperary Leader Partnership provide funding for tutor hours to provide an array of classes. They enjoyed a Wood-turning course followed by Acrylic Art classes before embarking on an 8 week computer course. They returned to their creative side to do a series of Mosaic classes while finishing the year honing their Cooking skills. During the Summer they even found time for a day trip to Dublin where a great day was had by all.



Tipperary Youth Project

DCYA

Tipperary Youth Project provides a supportive and stimulating environment for young people aged 10- 24 years. The project offers a broad range of activities and opportunities to young people in Tipperary ranging from skills based projects such as arts, crafts, sports, cookery and music to programme based work such as personal development, sexual health and relationships, mental health, substance misuse, physical and emotional well-being, community involvement, development education, school supports and employment skills.

PROJECT STATISTICS:

- Over the year the project worked with 12 structured groups both junior and senior. There were also dedicated safe unstructured spaces (SUS) every week. The year saw the introduction and continuation of many special interest groups i.e., Cool Ceoil Beginners music group, Cool Ceoil Advanced music group, school outreach work, which included Mind Out Mental Health and LGBT Awareness workshops , cookery skills and nutrition, X-Hale Now (smoking prevention) and ICT/ Media skills programmes. The project also did work around diversity, personal safety and friendship.
- The project worked with 284 individual participants

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS:

- On June 4 young people attended the X-Hale (smoking prevention) Movie awards in Dublin. A larger group had worked on making a movie encouraging young people not to smoke. The group worked with a film maker and had the opportunity to work with a wide range of film equipment and saw their film through from script writing to screen viewing.
- This year saw the introduction of a Gaming Group where young people get together each week to develop and explore multi-platform games. Youth workers are also using this technology and also board games to help develop social and communication skills amongst the group. 3 young people from the group attended Tech Fest in Google over midterm. In order to keep our tech space safe 18 junior girls took part in an internet safety workshop, 8 juniors in 6th class group worked on a Youtube channel project, 4 senior girls in TY group



learned DJ mixing software on iPads, 4 juniors learned filming/editing skills as part of Xhale film training, 6 young people in the Advanced Music learned set up/ use of sound desk and 4 IYMA contestants utilised social media as part of competition. Approximately 20 young people (regional) attended rebranding event after AGM, learning about importance of social media as a tool to brand the youth service through twitter etc.

- Art is very much used as a tool for both group and individual work. 20 junior girls worked on creative pieces around emotions as part of emotional literacy programme, 12 boys completed anti-racism posters as part of SRTRC programme, which were displayed in front window, 6 yp from Carrowclough worked on Community art pieces for the community house, 4 seniors from the project attended animation workshop in LIT during Easter. Art/ craft skills were an important element in the ActivKids Summer Camp. The Outsider Art group ran for 6 weeks from Oct to Dec and project worker co-facilitated sessions with art therapist Marian Clarke - 4 NEETs and 11 service users aged 18-24 from the Moorehaven centre participated.
- Music is another very engaging tool for young people – In our **Cool Ceoil Beag**, 12yp engaged throughout the year learning guitar and song writing skills. Cool Ceoil Adv: 8 yp engaged over the year where the group focused on performance and song writing skills and entry into IYMA competition. 4 young people (Silhouettes) played on the gig rig in Tipp town before St Patricks day parade, as intermission act at A factor school competition and at AGM/ Rebranding event. They also represented Tipperary in the Aviva for National competition, winning Best Radio Plug award. Members helped to organise and played at summer showcase as part of Tipperary Festival in July and at



CHECK THIS OUT ...

As part of Culture Night, 42 young people attended The 'Young Voices' event, which took place in the Times Hotel, Tipperary Town. 3 young bands performed at the event- Lost Cause Association, The Silhouettes and the Underground 3. The acts performed an eclectic mix of contemporary and classic rock, with styles varying from 60's pop to Metal, Punk and Alt Rock. The young musicians played a combination of cover songs and original compositions, showcasing their song-writing skills and abilities on the acoustic guitar, electric guitar, bass and drums. There was a great atmosphere on the evening with those who attended enjoying the entertainment, Culture Night themed photo-booth and refreshments. The young acts reported that it was a great opportunity to develop their confidence in performing and liked that it was an opportunity to take part in an event that did not have a competitive element. They said they would all be interested in taking part in another similar event in the future. The event was primarily attended by young people from secondary school, but some parents and family friend's also attended.



a Culture Night Event 'Young Voices' in the Times Hotel in September.

The project organised a Zombie walk in November which was well attended by members of the community. Our senior girls organised the face painting for the junior members. It was one of most positive community events of the year.

One of the biggest highlights of 2016 and our **Spotlight** section belongs to the Pop-up Café for Positive Mental Health. It took place in October in Tipp town in the old ESB shop. Music was very much the theme of the day. There were yukulale workshops, talks on positive mental health and of course plenty of tea and chat. The event was well attended by young and not so young alike.



Fethard & Killenaule Youth Project

DCYA

The Fethard and Killenaule Youth Project is part of an exciting group of pilot projects, which were established to support young people & their families. After years of campaigning for a youth service in Fethard & Killenaule, the three-worker project which is co-located between both towns, is now set up. The project is funded by the Department of Children & Youth Affairs and the ETB and is managed by Youth Work Ireland Tipperary.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS:

- The response to the project has been fantastic from the young people, their families and all local agencies & services. We currently have seven groups running weekly, with an average of fifteen participants in each group. In order to meet the demand and increase service provision the project has recruited volunteers and a new staff member through the Tus Scheme.
- The project has been involved in an in-depth needs assessment which has identified rural isolation, youth crime, mental health issues, poverty and a lack of access to training or employment, as being, the prevalent issues amongst young people. Staff will begin working on the design and delivery of suitable programmes, to tackle these issues.
- Both youth centres have been refurbished and equipped with excellent amenities for the young people.



Teens At Risk (TAR)

IYJS

The TAR Project is YWIT only Garda Youth Diversion Project. The project works mainly with young people aged 12-17 years. (Often younger and older).

The project works with smaller numbers of young people on an individual basis. Nationally Irish Youth Justice Service has developed a new approach to working with young people involved in Justice Projects.

The approach involves using screening and assessment tools in order to find out needs of young people. When these needs are uncovered, the workers compile amazing plan to achieve better outcomes for young people. In 2016 the project implemented this change.

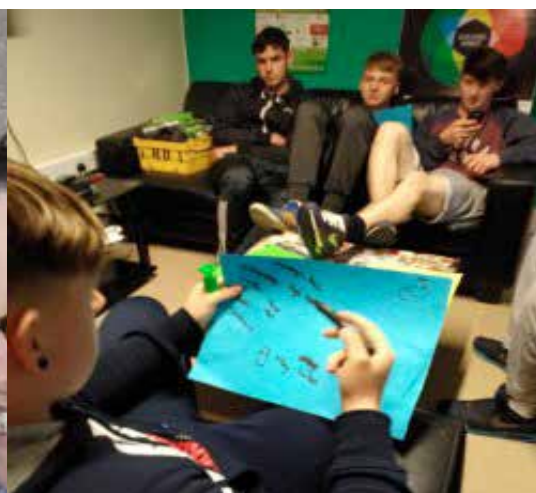
The project workers in 2016 were Aisling Reade, Teresa Normile and Aoife Ryan. We were supported by student Shauna O'Brien (2nd year student LIT), William Tate and Paula Cleary.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS:

- Darkness into Light/ sleepover in the youth service.
- Galtee climb as part of Activ8
- Night hike up the Glen
- Lions Club Soccer penalty shoot out
- TAR Project Think Tank with Brigid Kirwan (LIT)
- The use of YLS/CMI 2.0 as a tool for case managing young people
- Barbering course with Kenny's barbers- one young person is now working part time!
- 8 young people participated in the stepping up stairs arts project. Those young people launched the first step of their project by hosting a Down Syndrome Ireland Ice-cream party in July.
- Carrowclough fun day
- The project participated in Culture Night developing ideas for 'projecting ourselves' mural/installation project



- 4 young people involved in the TAR Project participated in presenting ideas during the Creating Connexn's: Viewing Art in Youth Work Erasmus+ seminar.
- 3 young people created radio ads for road safety and alcohol awareness after a series of alcohol and drug awareness work shop with Claire Turner MTDI.
- Golf lessons with professional golfer in Ballykisteen



Cashel Neighbourhood Youth Project

TUSLA

Cashel Neighbourhood Youth Project is based in Hogan Square, Cashel. The project is open 5 days a week usually from 11am to 8pm. The project works with young people 10-18 years of age across 9 groups currently on a weekly basis along with working with young people aged 7 to 12 for Easter Camp, Summer Camp etc. Our aim is to provide a safe environment for young people and their families whilst working to promote their personal, social and emotional development through their voluntary participation. We run groups, one-to-one support, SUS and events/trips throughout the year. Groups include a music group, art group, gaming group and much more. The project worked with 220 young people in 2016.



Mental Health Helpers", a mental health programme they both helped to create and implement. The young people also met the Children and Youth Affairs Minister Katherine Zappone and introduced their programme.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2016:

- 6th Class group participated in the "Show Racism the Red Card" competition. The group decided to focus on equality and to deliver a clear message against racism. They created graffiti placards showing their support for equality and their stance against racism.
- Members of the youth project participated in the rebranding of the organisation in May. Young people took part in the "Changing Young People's Lives" initiative talking about their experiences in the youth project and how much they have developed socially and personally. Members of the project also raised awareness by participating in the "Who we are" initiative talking about the positives of being a part of a youth project as well as the various groups and activities available.
- The Café Committee was very successful in 2016. They played a big part in the make up of the organisational healthy eating policy as well as the rebranding of the organisation. The committee also organised and ran successful fundraisers including bake sales and pool tournaments. Café Committee members also helped out with camps as junior leaders and played an active role in the running of the shop during drop ins.
- 3 young people attended the Youth Work Ireland Consensus conference in October where the theme was wellbeing. As part of the conference the young people from Cashel presented "Snow White and the Seven



PROJECT SPOTLIGHT:

Activ8 ran very successfully in 2016. The programme expanded this year as there were activities both in Easter and summer. Young people from the project promoted the importance and benefits of Activ8 both at conferences and events. Young people in the project participated in Easter activities including yoga and kickboxing workshops amongst others. 70 young people participated in summer activities including kayaking, rollerjam and bubble soccer. The programme continues to go from strength to strength with more varied activities emerging and more young people enjoying the different activities.



North Tipperary Traveller Youth Project

TUSLA / DCYA / HSE / Tipp Co. Co.

The North Tipperary Traveller Youth Project works with young people aged 8 to 18, with a particular focus on young Travellers and young people from Non Irish National communities in Thurles, Littleton and Moycarkey. The project operates Tuesday to Friday from 12pm to approx 8pm weekly as well as participating in Regional events and activities on weekends. The project runs two homework clubs, a senior activity group and the Transition programme in Croke Street in Thurles, a homework club in Moycarkey National School, 2 junior, 2 senior activity groups as well as the Traveller Woman's Wellness group in Littleton. The project also provides opportunities for young people to engage in activities during school holidays such as the Easter and Summer Activity programmes. The project also supports Barnardos and local residents committees in running family events throughout the year. In 2016 the project partnered with NTLP in providing 2 homework clubs for young Travellers in Littleton and a Syrian women's group in Thurles. In 2016 the project worked with approximately 103 young people on a weekly basis. The project is run by Catherine Donaghy, a part time youth worker with the support of three CE workers Aggie Maloney, Alice Connors and Siobhan Maher.

PROJECT STATISTICS:

- The North Tipp Traveller Youth Project provides homework clubs and activity groups for young people aged 8 to 18 years in Thurles, Littleton and Moycarkey. The project works with a wide diversity of young people including young people from Syria, Belarus, Poland, Bangladesh and the Traveller Community. The core aim of the North Tipp Traveller Youth Project is the social, personal and educational development of young people through participation in social and personal education programmes that increase their awareness of issues that affect their everyday lives. This allows young people to have a greater capacity to make positive informed choices that will enhance their physical, emotional and mental health. The provision of homework clubs and educational supports are key in addressing the issue of early school leaving, in particular the Transition programme that we deliver. This programme works with young people making the transition from primary to second level education, a critical time in a young person's life where they may need additional support. The project works closely with schools, parents, NTLP and Barnardos in identifying issues and providing supports for young people in the project.



Activity trip to Kilkenny Adventure centre with Transition program



Show racism the red card project ran with Littleton Senior girls

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS:

- A key success for the project was securing the Next Steps Transition programme. This is a pilot programme being funded by the Irish Youth Foundation and we are one of only 13 projects rolling it out around the country.
- The project was also chosen to showcase its work at the National Traveller Mental Health Conference in Dublin in May. The project had the opportunity to advertise the work that it is doing as well as an opportunity to learn from other Traveller projects around the country.
- Successfully working with NTLP in securing funding for the Littleton Traveller Woman's wellness group. Working with this group has increased relationships with the Traveller community- leading to women and young people from the harder to reach more disadvantaged travellers availing of our services.

PROJECT SPOTLIGHT:

One of our young people received a Tipperary Garda Youth Award for his services to his community. This young person has been with the project for nearly four years. He has always been very interested in giving back to his community which is why he completed the Future Leader Induction training so that he could become a junior leader and a role model for younger members of the project. He then progressed on to Comhairle na nÓg where he could represent the views of young people from his area on a county wide forum. He also went on to become a member of the junior board of management and volunteered with Barnardos in running Family Fun days.



Go Karting in Cork with Senior groups



20:20 Work/Training Programme

DSP

The 20:20 programme worked with a total of 41 participants throughout 2016 and is based in Youth Work Ireland Tipperary offices in Croke Street Thurles. The project works with 20-25 yr olds from Thurles and the surrounding areas. The programme is overseen by a supervisor and runs Monday to Friday, depending on participants work/training schedule.



In partnership with the Department of Social Protection (DSP), Youth Work Ireland Tipperary initiated the 2020 Activation Programme in November 2013. The programme offers young adults aged between 20-25yrs, who have been 1 year out of employment, from Thurles and the surrounding areas a route back to employment or education depending on their individual needs. The programme combines both work experience and job specific training over an 18-month period, which involves 3 days in the workplace and 1.5 days at college. The programme also offers alternative 'soft skills', which concentrates on all social issues affecting this age range.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS:

- In September 2016, the second cohort to participate in the 20:20 programme since its introduction in 2013 completed their time on the programme.
- The second group of participants have completed a total of 6,619 hours of training during their time on the programme.
- On completion of the 2nd programme:
 - 8 participants were working
 - 3 returned to education
 - 2 were offered apprenticeships
 - 2 have secured a place to start college in Sept. 2017
- The number of companies participating in the programme increased from 43 to 55 in 2016.
- Over 90 young people presented at open interviews for the establishment of a 3rd 20:20 group.
- 28 participants were selected and began their journey on the work/training programme in October 2016.

PROJECT SPOTLIGHT:

An Animation film on Blended families was created in 2016 by the second group of 20:20 participants. This film highlights the different types of families there are and the importance of family. The film on blended families has been well received and the development of a workshop from this film is being considered for a wider audience of schools and youth clubs. This film was also presented at the Open Day held in LIT in June 2016.

The film can be viewed on this link

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1NKm5_K_-34



Community Employment Scheme

The objective of our Community Employment Scheme is to provide the participants with the knowledge, skills and attitudes, which will support their transition to work, whilst nurturing their contribution to the organization's work in promoting and providing quality youth work programmes.

Our current Community Employment Scheme has 17 participants and is administered by the DSP office in Clonmel, and supervised by Caroline Burke, who operates between the Thurles and Tipperary Town offices. The scheme is based primarily in the towns of Thurles, Templemore and Littleton, with outreach workshops and training being offered to schools and communities in the region and by our Youth Information Coordinator.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS:

- "Options Information Event" on June 1st, the Information Project and 20:20 Project, with assistance from CE Scheme staff from the information office in Thurles held an Options Information Event for young people in LIT Thurles. There were several speakers on the day delivering information on the 20:20 Youth Innovation Programme, EVS Opportunities and a representative from local DSP office speaking about entitlements and training and educational opportunities available for young people.
- The CE Supervisor and Thurles Information Staff helped out at the "Lets Go Mental" event in Nenagh in July, run in conjunction with Comhairle na nÓg. There were over 70 young people in attendance on the day and the staff organised an information stand with a wide range of information available, as well as hosting an ice-cream stand with proceeds going to HB Ice Cream Fundays for Downs Syndrome. Other activities on the day included drama and Tai Chi workshops and Teen Ireland were also in attendance on the day.
- The CE Supervisor and a number of CE staff were involved in the Youth Exchange held in the beautiful surroundings of Aherlow House back in March. There were over 30 young people from Ireland and Croatia.



The agenda for the week was very varied and included Sexual Health, Mental Health, Tai Chi workshops and a hike to Lake Muskery to name a few.

PROJECT SPOTLIGHT:

Training was again high on the list of spotlights. This year the staff took part in numerous certified training courses such as Community Addiction Studies, Diploma in Childhood Social Legal and Health Studies, REAL U Training, Train the Trainer Programme, Occupational First Aid and Customer Service to name a few.



Lets go mental event 2016



Organisational Development – Rebranding

2016 saw TRYS rebrand as Youth Work Ireland Tipperary in recognition of the fact we are affiliated to a larger national youth service provider. This involved the launch of our new website in the summer of 2016 as well as a social media PR campaign to promote our new brand and target a larger audience. All youth clubs and projects received new signage. The launch of the new brand took place in April in Tipperary Town and was attended by stakeholders from across the county.

Organisational Development – Quality Standards

In 2016 six projects in Youth Work Ireland Tipperary participated in the National Quality Standards Framework:

- Tipperary YP
- Thurles YP
- Templemore YP
- Rural Outreach Project
- North Tipperary Traveller Project
- Youth Information Project

The Mid Tipperary Drugs Initiative took part in the QuADS Champion Training for Drug and Alcohol Services.

Youth Work Ireland Tipperary is also a Gold Standard Health Promoting organisation with an annual health promotion plan which we implement as part of our overall organisational workplan.

Organisational Development – Youth Work Ireland Tipperary Project Development

2016 saw Youth Work Ireland Tipperary secure the management of the new youth project for Fethard and Killenaule. This project was one of five new projects allocated nationally.

There were a number of developments in our international work; most notable was our success in receiving funding through Erasmus + which further cemented our relationship with LIT Thurles.

Organisational Development – Youth Work Ireland Tipperary Buildings

There were a number of developments in terms of our buildings in 2016. During the summer of 2016 our Thurles Youth Project and the North Tipperary Traveller Project officially launched our new building on Slievnamon Road.

We were also successful in securing a variety of capital grants through the Department of Children and Youth Affairs which saw the development of our Techspace hub in Croke Street, Thurles as well as significant capital investment in our new bases in both Killenaule and Fethard.

Organisational Development – Youth Work Ireland Tipperary Code of Governance

Youth Work Ireland Tipperary has taken on the Voluntary Governance Code as developed by the Wheel and other C&V groups in order to support organisations to provide and follow a code of practice in how they are run, something hugely important in terms of ensuring accountability and transparency. YWI Tipperary has adopted the Code and it is an essential part of our governance.

Organisational Development – Youth Work Ireland Tipperary Staff Training

The on-going training and development received by our staff in 2016 was wide and varied and reflects the commitment of the organisation to supporting staff as the core resource in our work. Training included:

- Health & Safety and Manual Handling
- Child Protection
- Brief Intervention
- Training the Trainer
- SAFE Talk
- ASIST (Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training)
- Community Addiction Studies certified by LIT Thurles
- Computerised Payroll Course
- Dealing with Challenging Behaviour
- Summer Camp training
- Disability Awareness Training
- FETAC Level 3 Digital Filmmaking
- FETAC Level 5 Occupational First Aid
- FETAC Level 5 Working With Young People
- Specialised youth work programmes such as
 - Mental Health-Mindout Programme,
 - Health Promotion Training
- WRAP training
- Techspace
- Incredible Years Training
- Experiential Learning in Health (NYCI / WIT)
- Meitheal Training
- Incredible Years Training
- Hear4u Training
- Skills for safer living
- YLS CMI 2.0
- Positive behaviour management
- Body wise Body image training
- Cardiac First Responder (TETB)
- Web safety training



Jim Finn, past board member and Sr. Mairead Ryan, the founding member of what is now YWIT

Organisational Development – Policy Development

The following policies were reviewed/ approved in 2016

- Finance Policy
- Lone Working Policy
- Asset Disposal Policy
- Risk Assessment
- Use of Facilitators Policy

Student Placement service

We endeavour to provide a comprehensive student placement service through our project and programmes in Youth Work Ireland Tipperary. In 2015 we developed our Student Induction Manual, and had numerous students on placement with us. We'd like to thank our students and express our appreciation for all their hard work.

Project	Student	Place of Education
Cashel NYP	Melissa Daly	WIT
	Aoife Ryan	Waterford College of Further Education
Thurles YP	Ola Sereki	LIT
	Claire Russel	WIT
	Cathal Stakelum	Carlow IT
	Katrina Cantwell Moore	Templemore College
NTTRYP	Claire Russel	WIT
Rural Outreach Project	Ann Magee	Cork IT
Templemore YP	Andrew Clavin	LIT Thurles
	Jason Kelly	UCC
	Jessica O'Gorman	LIT

YWI Tipperary Board of Directors

Youth Work Ireland Tipperary is governed by a voluntary board of directors, who meet 10 times per year. The board also has a number of sub committees who meet regularly to undertake key pieces of work, as directed by the board. The Junior Board of Management submits a regular report, as does the Youth Executive. Two members of the youth projects sit on the Board of Directors.

Emma O'Dea	Club Rep	2014
Aisling Sheehan	Community Representative	2015
Paul Keating	Co-option	2013
Nada Alhariri	Community Representative	2016
Fintan O'Dwyer	Junior Board Of Management	2015
Lauren Browne	Youth Executive	2015
Sheila McCarthy	Co-option	2016
John Donnegan	Club Representative	2016
Fiona Walsh	Club Representative	2015
Darren Ryan	Co-option	2016
Marie Ryan (Treasurer)	Co-option	2015

Subcommittee/other YWI Tipperary structures membership at the end of 2015:

Emma O'Dea	Club Forum
John Donnegan	Club Forum
Sheila McCarthy	Finance and General Purpose and Audit
Fintan O'Dwyer	Junior Board
Fiona Walsh	Club Forum
Darren Ryan	HR and Safeguarding Subcommittee
Paul Keating	Finance and General Purposes and Audit, HR and Safeguarding Subcommittee
Marie Ryan	Finance and General Purposes and Audit
Aisling Sheehan	HR and Safeguarding Subcommittee

Attendance 2016:

Emma O'Dea	50
John Donnegan	63
Sheila McCarthy	63
Lauren Browne	38
Fintan O'Dwyer	63
Fiona Walsh	38
Darren Ryan	50
Paul Keating (chairperson)	100
Marie Ryan (Treasurer)	88
Aisling Sheehan	100
Amanda Peters	38
Nada Alhariri	13
James Ryan	38
Mary Hanna Hourigan	25

Core Staff:

Cora Horgan	CEO (CH on maternity leave)
Janet Doyle	Finance
Caroline Burke	Community Employment Supervisor
Laura Ryan	Administration
Carmel O'Neill	Acting CEO/MTDI
Catherine Doyle	Cashel NYP/2020 Activation Project
Shirley Byrnes	2020 Activation Project (currently on sabbatical)
Claire Turner	MTDI
Joyce Brennan	Templemore Youth Project
Maira Merrigan	Tipperary Youth Project
Donal Kelly	Workwinner/Virtual Youth/GO Project
Edwina Butler	North Tipperary Traveller Youth Project (currently on Carer's leave)
Catherine Donaghy	North Tipperary Traveller Youth Project
Donna McCarthy	Rural Outreach Project
Maura Carey	Rural Outreach Project (currently on sick leave)
Pauline Strappe	Information Co-ordinator
Sara Leahy	Templemore Family Support Project
Teresa Normile	TAR Garda Diversion Project
Aisling Reade	TAR Diversion Project
Aoife Ryan	TAR Diversion Project
Laura Maloney	Thurles Youth Project
Zoe Gogarty	Rural Outreach Project
Lorna Bermingham	Fethard and Killenaule Youth Project
Jane Hayes	Fethard and Killenaule Youth Project
William Dunne	Fethard and Killenaule Youth Project

CE Staff:

Josephine O'Driscoll	CE Scheme Secretary
Ian Burke	Accounts Administrator
Anthony Leahy	More Family Support Project
Helena Spiakowska	Templemore Youth Project
Con McGrath	Templemore Youth Project
Alice Connors	North Tipperary Traveller Youth Project
Siobhan Maher	North Tipperary Traveller Youth Project
Agnes Moloney	North Tipperary Traveller Youth Project/ Thurles Youth Project
Eileen Thackaberry	Thurles Youth Project
Paud Gleeson	Thurles Youth Project
Martina Ryan	Information Project, Thurles
Rachael Cooke	Information Project, Thurles
Gill Moore	Information Project, Thurles
Paula Cleary	Tipperary Youth Project
Luke Price	Tipperary Youth Project
Denis Keane	Information Project, Tipperary
Liam Murphy	Information Project, Tipperary Town

RSS Staff:

Catherine McGrath	Youth Information, Thurles
Mary Laffin	Youth Information, Tipperary

TUS Programme:

William Tate	Tipperary Youth Project
Majella Barry	Tipperary Youth Project

EVS:

Avgi Massi	Tipperary Youth Project
Petros Malros	Tipperary Youth Project

Funding Report 2016:

Application Title	Relevant Project	Funder
SYP Projects	Thurles/Templemore/ Tipperary, Rural, NTTryp, YIC	Dept. Children and Youth Affairs (DCYA)
Fethard and Killenaule Youth Project	Fethard and Killenaule Youth Project	DCYA
MSG – YWI Tipperary	Central	DCYA
Cashel NYP	Cashel NYP	Tusla
More FSP	More FSP/Littleton	Tusla
Traveller Youth Project	NTTYP	HSE
MTDI	MTDI	HSE
TRYS Music Project	Music Project	Music Generation
IYJS	TAR	IYJS
Youth Mental Health in South Tipperary	Mental Health	Tony Ryan Fund
ALP 2015/16	ALP	ETB/STDC/ESB
GLO-CAL	Development Education	Irish Aid
Pilot Transition Programme	NTTYP	National Youth Council of Ireland
Techspace	Rural, Thurles/ Templemore/ Tipperary, NTTRY, YIC	DCYA Capital Grants
UN Day	Thurles Youth Project	Dept. of Social Protection (DSP)
Culture night	Tipperary YP	Tipperary County Council
GO Project	Tipperary YP	DCYA
National Play Day	Thurles YP	Tipperary County Council
Local Agenda	Templemore YP/NTTYP/ Tipperary YP/TAR/Cashel NYP	Tipperary County Council
Comhairle na nÒg	Comhairle na nÒg	Tipperary County Council
OutTipp	Rural	Belong To
DEAL	Work Winner	Leargas
Virtual Youth Work	Virtual Youth Work	Leargas
Here we go again/ Follow your Dreams	Thurles/Youth Information	Leargas
Creating Connexn's	Tipperary	Leargas
Across Europe	ACE Project	Leargas
School Meals	Cashel/NTTRY/Thurles	DSP
IPB Community Engagement	Rural – FLIP	IPB Insurance
Fethard and Killenaule Capital Grants	Fethard and Killenaule Youth Project	DCYA
Fethard and Killenaule Equipment Grants	Fethard and Killenaule Youth Project	DCYA
MWRDTF	Thurles/Templemore/ NTTYP/More Family Support	MWRDTF
SERDTF	MTDI	SERDTF
Arts Grants	Tipperary YP/Cashel NYP/ Information	Tipperary Co Council

Our Vision (where we want to be) :

Youth Work Ireland Tipperary's vision is of a world full of possibilities for all young people

Our Mission (the journey to getting there) :

To work through a rights-based, youth-led approach to foster learning, innovation, hope and high expectations in young people, their families and their community.

Our Value (our belief) :

We believe in young people and in youthwork.



www.youthworktipperary.ie

