

# Comhar Chathair Chorcaí Teo.

Cork City Partnership Ltd.

Heron House,  
Blackpool Park, Blackpool, Cork

Tel: 021 - 4302310  
Fax: 021 - 4302081  
email: info@partnershipcork.ie



## *Cork City Partnership Newsletter* April 2010

### Gurrabraher CDP



The Lord Mayor of Cork, Cllr. Dara Murphy and Lorraine O'Sullivan, Chairperson, Gurrabraher / Churchfield Youth & Community Resource Centre pictured left with the members of the Local Board of Management at the opening. (Centre) a picture of the new building and right is Ann Long the Development Worker attached to Gurrabraher CDP.

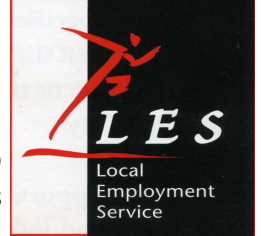
The Gurrabraher Community Development Project is a host project of Cork City Partnership and is based in the heart of the Gurrabraher community in a building formerly but affectionately known locally as "The Hut". The Project moved to this new Community Centre in June 2009.

One of the main objectives of this project is to promote the development of initiatives in the area to tackle poverty and social exclusion. The project also strives to work in a supportive way towards meeting the Community Development needs of residents of Gurrabraher. This is achieved through ongoing direct contact with the Community and by organising community events such as fun days and sports days. Other elements of the project include making submissions on behalf of residents to Cork City Council and organising meetings with elected representatives to discuss residents and Community issues. The project is also assisting with the redevelopment of the Spriggs Road Regeneration Programme. Another action identified is to recruit and train Volunteers to support existing voluntary groups and develop new community groups in the Gurrabraher Churchfield area. A Citizens Information Service has been secured on a pilot basis and is available on the last Thursday of each month. An Adult Guidance in Education Service is providing services for local residents within the Project. The Project has developed a Directory of Services for the Gurrabraher Churchfield area and this was widely distributed. The project also assists with the Local Community Newsletter titled 'Northern Lights' which is well received in the local community. The Outreach work also supports the needs of Carers and people with disabilities in Gurrabraher / Churchfield on an ongoing basis.

One of the projects key objectives is to promote the development of services and facilities for the older people living in the area. Tea Dances are organised monthly to support older people and older carers within the Community. Outreach visits are also regularly organised to homes of older people in the community. Funding for the new "Buddy System" has been secured through Dormant Accounts funds. The Buddy Phone Call System operation will give added security to the more vulnerable members of the community. They are a busy lot above in "Gurrabraher".



## Cork City Partnership Local Employment Service



Tim Meagher pictured left is the Coordinator for the Local Employment Service Network in Cork. The Cork Local Employment Service (LES) is a Community based resource to support people in their search for work. The LES, was established in the late 1980's at a time when employment lev-

els in parts of Cork City were very high. Since then Local Employment Service offices in Blackpool, Churchfield, Knocknaheeny, Mahon, Mayfield, O'Sullivan's Quay, Togher, and most recently in Heron House, Blackpool Park, have provided information and support to job seekers from the local community. Managed by Cork City Partnership, and funded by FÁS, the Local Employment Service is supported by a management group that includes representation from FÁS, the Department of Social & Family Affairs, Enterprise Ireland, City Enterprise Board, Cork Employment Resource Centre and representatives from local communities. Although the service was originally set up specifically for those who experience most difficulty in accessing work, education or training opportunities, the local employment service has responded to the recent dramatic economic downturn by proactively increasing its level of engagement with people who have become unemployed.

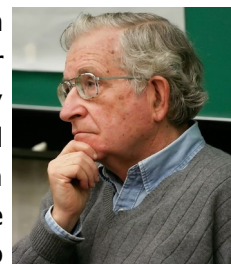
People visiting the Local Employment Service offices will find staff that are interested in understanding each individual circumstance and in providing the necessary support and information to guide them back into the workplace. Services provided by the LES also include assistance with CV preparation and cover letters, help with filling out application forms, and preparation for interviews. Access to photocopier, fax and phone, as well as to jobs advertised in daily newspapers, the internet, and on the FÁS database is also available at each office. An important part of the supports provided by the Local Employment Service is assistance in identifying appropriate training and education opportunities for clients. Staff help clients to source training through local colleges and training providers including FÁS Training Centres and Fáilte Ireland. People can access employment programme vacancies – such as the Community Employment Scheme – and register for FÁS courses through Local Employment Service offices. Information is also available on financial supports such as the Back to Education Allowance.

As a complementary service to the LES Cork City Partnership provide a support service to people who are considering the self employment route back to employment. Advice and guidance are provided in the areas of developing a business plan, marketing, book-keeping, and access to finance. Individuals are also assisted in identifying training that will help them with their business. In 2009 the LES provided support to almost three thousand individuals. Over four hundred and fifty were placed in employment, over five hundred and fifty in training, and forty eight returned to education. Two hundred and sixty people considering self employment were also supported by the Partnership. Of these one hundred and sixty four applied successfully for the Back to Work Enterprise Allowance, and fifty four started a new business. Should you wish to avail of the supports provided by the Local Employment Service contact details of our offices are as follows:

<b>Blackpool</b>	Blackpool Community Centre 90 Great William O'Brien Street Telephone: 021 4506266	<b>Head Office</b>	Heron House Blackpool Park Telephone: 021 4392310
<b>Churchfield:</b>	Lucy Hastings / Fran Kelleher Parochial Hall Knockfree Avenue Telephone: 021 4211048	<b>City Centre:</b>	Donal Coffee / Sharon O'Dwyer Government Buildings Sullivan's Quay Telephone: 021 4856436/7
<b>Knocknaheeny:</b>	Stephanie Manning / Sharon Philpott Knocknaheeny Community Building Foyle Avenue Road Telephone: 021 4211050	<b>Mahon:</b>	Mary Macropoulos / Michelle McCarthy Mahon Community Centre Avenue de Rennes Telephone: 021 4350496
<b>Mayfield:</b>	Denise McCarthy / Karen Grace Unit 1 4 Iona Park Telephone: 021 4553956	<b>Togher:</b>	Breda Long / Katrina Doyle Unit 2 Greenwood Estate Telephone: 021 4320428

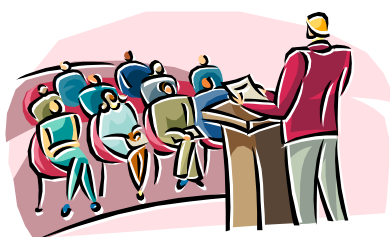
## Noam Chomsky's view on Modern Ireland

SpunOut is an independent youth organisation working to create social change in Ireland. Last month they interviewed leading international philosopher and author Professor Noam Chomsky in Boston. In the 30 minute online video interview Chomsky discusses Ireland's need to look within for solutions to current social change and challenges. Chomsky is widely acknowledged as one of the most enlightened modern day philosophers. You can check out what he has to say and his views about the direction Ireland as a country is going by logging onto <http://www.spunout.ie/>



## Training Opportunities

### Meitheal Training Summer 2010



MEITHEAL is a community development support and training organisation. Their mission is to create radical change through working for equality and social justice. They are offering the following courses.

**Advanced Facilitation Skills** ----- 10 day Training Course

**Staff Support & Supervision** ----- Skills 2 day course

**Foundation Facilitation Skills**----- 5 day training course

### Getting the Most out of Meetings Training Workshop

This is a **one - day intensive workshop** and participants will become aware of and understand skills and techniques that have proved successful in helping people achieve their aims at meetings. It is aimed at anyone who has the role of chairperson but would also be beneficial to those who regularly attend as an ordinary member of a group or committee. The course is aimed at Management in the non-profit sector.

For full details of all of the above courses log onto <http://www.activelink.ie>

## National Learning Network Park House Training Centre

**One day course**      **Learning Difficulties Awareness** on 14th April 2010 in Portlaoise

**Mental Health Awareness**                      on 11th May 2010 in Cork

**Three day courses** (FETAC Level 6) **Mental Health Awareness** 4th, 5th, 19th May in Dublin

**Assistive Technology** 9th, 10th & 11th June in Dublin

Full details from Katherine Killen Phone 01 2000155 Email: cpd@nl.n.ie

## An Bhuil tu ag eisteacht ?

**Ag Eisteacht** is a not-for-profit organisation who promote child and family well-being. They are providing a 3-day Brief encounters ® training course: The course enhances practitioners ability to engage with families in the areas of relationships and parental conflict. It focuses on prevention and early intervention. It is delivered by trainers with a combined experience of more than 30 years in this field. Social Workers, Community, Voluntary and Family Workers, and Parent Educators are among the groups who have completed the training to date.



**Upcoming Course - Cork 28th April, 12th & 13th May 2010**  
**Maryborough Hotel, Douglas, Cork. To register Contact**

[maeve@ageisteacht.com](mailto:maeve@ageisteacht.com)

[kathy@ageisteacht.com](mailto:kathy@ageisteacht.com)

Tel: 086 0455114



## Cork City Partnership assist Ministerial Initiative

Áine Brady TD, Minister for Older People and Health Promotion held a consultation meeting in the Middle Parish Community Centre, Cork on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> March last. Minister Brady wished to hear at first hand the views of older people on issues that affect their lives. Cork City Partnership Development Worker Linda McKernan worked closely with

Minister Brady's staff to ensure the consultation was as comprehensive as possible. Other members of Cork City Partnership's Community Development Unit facilitated the various workshops on the day. The event was a resounding success as older people from throughout Cork city and county thronged into the Middle Parish venue in response to the Ministers invitation to participate. The meeting was also addressed by M/s Renee Dempsey the newly appointed Chief Executive of the Equality Authority.

Lots of well known community people attended as well as prominent members of statutory bodies who work with communities. Spotted among the large crowd on the day were Ronnie Dorney and Natalie Vereker from HSE, Tony Power from Cork City Council, Siobhan O'Dowd from Ballyphehane / Togher CDP, Linda Wakefield from Mahon CDP, Peter Cox from the Carers Association and Sheila Lee from the Education and Rights Resource Centre. The venue was full to overflowing and the workshops generated some very lively debate which was subsequently fed back to the large group at the plenary session. This was the first of a series of face-to-face meetings being held around the country over the next two months as part of the Minister's work to develop a National Positive Ageing Strategy. The new Strategy will set the direction for future policies, programmes and services that will enable older people live healthy, active, independent lives in their own homes and communities.

The Minister was keen to hear the views of all interested parties in relation to the barriers that older people experience in their daily lives and how these affect their ability to participate in their local communities. She was particularly interested in issues relating to ageist attitudes and practices from the perspective of older people and from that of service providers from different sectors who were invited to attend the meeting. Minister Brady expressed her delight at attending the first of the consultations in the very historic "Marsh" as the Middle Parish is still affectionately known as. If you would like more information or would like to offer your own perspective please contact the Department of Health and Children on 01 6354000 or email: [info@health.gov.ie](mailto:info@health.gov.ie) (Pictured above are Ministers Aine Brady and Michael Martin)



### *Comhar Chathair Chorcaí Teo.*

Cork City Partnership Ltd.

Heron House,  
Blackpool Park, Blackpool, Cork

Tel: 021 - 4302310  
Fax: 021 - 4302081  
email: [info@partnershipcork.ie](mailto:info@partnershipcork.ie)



**Editorial Team: Donie O'Leary and Yvonne Quilligan make up the editorial team for Cork City Partnership's Newsletter. Articles and news items for inclusion should be forwarded to Yvonne to be considered for future publication. Call Yvonne at 4302310 or email [yvonnequilligan@partnershipcork.ie](mailto:yvonnequilligan@partnershipcork.ie)**

**Cork City Partnership Ltd can accept no responsibility for the accuracy of contributed articles or statements appearing in the newsletter. Views or opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Board of Cork City Partnership**