

Comhar Chathair Chorcaí Teo.

Cork City Partnership Ltd.

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Partners in Partnership

Each edition of Cork City Partnership Newsletter will profile some of the groups and the work they carry out on behalf of Cork City Partnership. This edition profiles one of the projects recently undertaken by the Education unit in collaboration with the Community Development section. The 'Glen Early Language and Learning Project is one of the most recent projects undertaken by Cork City Partnership in association with the HSE (South) and was piloted in the Glen area of Cork city. The findings of the project were launched in the Glen Resource Centre by Mr Micheál Martin TD, Minister for Foreign Affairs. The project came about in response to the need for extra attention to speech and language development among young children as identified by the schools and by speech and language therapists. Cork City Partnership consulted with the principals and infant teachers in the two local primary schools in The Glen and the Preschools, who welcomed the project because they saw it as a direct response to the needs they had themselves identified. Parents were also supportive of the initiative. The project comprises two initiatives based on the need to pay more focused attention to the speech and language development of young children. The first was a speech and language programme for junior infants classes which was designed and implemented by a senior HSE speech and language therapist. The second part of the project involved five preschools and had two elements; providing the Hanen professional training programme *Learning language and Loving It* for pre-school supervisors, and developing an oral language programme, which was implemented by childcare workers in the pre-schools. Anne Horgan, HSE South Speech and language therapy manager said "Links have long been made between literacy and economic development and many countries have begun to invest in the teaching of literacy to raise educational standards." Ronnie Dorney, HSE South, Principal Community Worker commented "The early indications of impact from the pilot project are good as it has produced clearly measurable improvements in children's speech and language." Ann O'Sullivan CEO, Cork City Partnership concluded "The Project demonstrated clearly the added value to be gained from working in partnership. We are delighted to partner the HSE in this innovative project and look forward to seeing it benefit children and families". A steering committee is now in place made up of representatives from all of the stakeholders to progress a project called 'Happy Talk' in the Glen area. Pictured above left at the recent launch of the Glen Early Language and Learning Project are Lord Mayor Dara Murphy and Mary Lenihan Education CoOrdinator Cork City Partnership. Above right are members of the Education Subcommittee / Advisory Council. L/R Mary Kelly (Community Rep) Dr. Joan Power (IBEC) Cllr. Tony Fitzgerald, Ted Owens, Chairperson (VEC) Bob Burns (Amputees Federation) Mary Lenihan (Education CoOrdinator) Con O'Donnell (Cork City Council) John O'Callaghan (IBEC) and Siobhan Duggan (HSE)

Cork City Partnership and the Immigrant community



As part of the Cork City Integration Strategy (CCIS) 2008-2011 a project called *Connecting Communities* was initiated. Cork City Partnership facilitates the CCIS Monitoring Group. Pictured left is Mary Sheehey who is a member of the CCIS Monitoring Group. Mary is a Community Development Worker in Cork City Partnership and part of her brief is supporting the immigrant community in Cork city. On the right of the picture is Jacqui Sweeney Community Development CoOrdinator in Cork City Partnership and the CCIS Monitoring Group Chairperson .

The INTERFAITH EVENT: Friday 22nd of January was a magnificent occasion when the President of Ireland, Mary McAleese, attended the Interfaith Event organised by Cois Tine at Cork City Hall. The theme of the Event was "Unity

in Diversity" and it was organised as part of the on-going implementation of the "Connecting Communities" in the Cork City Integration Strategy. One of the strands of the strategy is to challenge discrimination and promote an inclusive, intercultural city in which everyone is valued." President Mary McAleese and her husband Dr Martin McAleese were led into the Auditorium accompanied by African Women dancing and singing a traditional song of welcome. The event included prayers, songs and blessings delivered by various faith leaders in what was a very spiritual and moving ceremony. Over six hundred people gathered to listen to the concert and also participated in the prayers by members of the Christian, Muslim, Jewish, Bhuddist, Hindu and Baha'i faiths. The concert consisted of African drumming performed by the Cois Tine Drumming Circle led by Mr Yasir Yonis. There were also choral pieces by the Cois Tine Intercultural Choir directed by Fiona O'Reilly and finally Irish Music provided by members of Douglas Comhaltas Ceoltoirí Eireann. In her address President McAleese referred to the metaphor of Cois Tine - *being by the fireside*, she spoke of the inclusion and integration that needs to take place in Ireland. She emphasised the common humanity that unites us all and the need for people of all faiths and ethnicities to be open to sharing the warmth of being *Cois Tine*- together by the fireside respecting and valuing each other. A Candle of Unity was lit by the President and from this six smaller candles were kindled representing each faith group. At the same time prayers, from the six religious traditions were read and responded to by all those attending. The light was then spread to candles held by all in the auditorium symbolising the unity we share even in our diversity and also the commitment to integration that we all need to make. Cork City Partnership wishes to acknowledge the work of Cois Tine and the members of the different faith communities who helped organise, prepare and present the event. City Partnership CEO Ann O'Sullivan and staff members Jacqui Sweeney and Mary Sheehey were also delighted to be associated with such a worthwhile project. (Pictured are President Mary McAleese and Dr. Martin McAleese among the guests in City Hall.)



Meet Michael



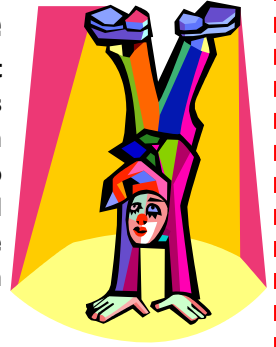
In this edition we profile staff member Michael Lee. Michael is from Churchfield and he started on a Community Employment Scheme with the Partnership in January 2001. The training he received paid off as he was subsequently given a permanent position as a telephonist on a part-time basis. He is the first points of contact when someone visits or telephones Cork City Partnership. Michael is visually impaired and by his own admission his disability has not stepped in the way of doing his job. Michael loves music and likes to tune into current affairs and debates on radio. Socialising and meeting "the lads" is what he likes to do in his spare time and says he likes the "odd" pint of Beamish. Michael is very happy in Cork City Partnership and says his only ambition is to carry on doing what he is currently doing.





Camden Community Arts Centre

The old Atkins Garden Centre and former temporary courthouse at No1. Camden Quay) now offers space and opportunities for artists and performers to participate in a dynamic working experience on a scale which has not been seen in Cork City to date. Part studio and rehearsal space, part collective project, Camden Palace Hotel provides facilities and support for artists who are willing to take up the challenge and responsibilities that come with joining in this exciting new project. Check it out!



Free workshop in Partnership office

Treoir the National Federation of Services for Unmarried Parents and their Children is offering free workshops on shared parenting for workers working with unmarried parents

Shared Parenting – supporting parents in making it work
Venue: Cork City Partnership Heron House, Blackpool, Cork.

Application and full details from Treoir 01.6700120



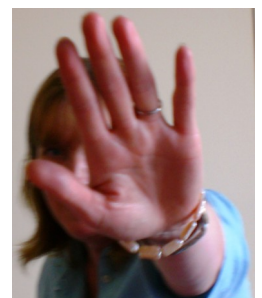
If you get a gift doesn't that means its free !.



So what is a free gift then ?

Competition Time..... Who is this person

Our competition this week is for you to identify this "community " person hiding behind the hand. All answers by postcard to "Partnership News and Views", Heron House, Blackpool Retail Park, Blackpool, Cork. The first winner out of the hat will receive a voucher for a Big Mac. Ok ! Ok ! So we will throw in a large coke and a fries. Money doesn't grow on trees you know. Budgets and all that !



Community Outreach Drug Awareness Project (CODAP)



The Community Outreach Drug Awareness Project (CODAP) has been up and running at Cork City Partnership since 1998. It came about as a result of consultation with communities which highlighted the need for local people to be involved in a drugs strategy development. The project employs two full time community development workers, Mella Magee and Jackie Daly, who are based in Cork City Partnership in Blackpool. Their job is to work with communities to develop drug prevention strategies locally through four main areas of action: (1) education and prevention, (2) awareness raising actions, (3) networking (4) technical assistance/capacity building.

Education and Prevention: Under this strand the project recruits and promotes the UCC Certificate / Diploma in Non-Formal Guidance. Interested individuals can contact Jackie Daly for more information or an application form. **Training Opportunities:** The project supports and organises short term prevention courses for parents including; Parent to Parent, Family Communication and Self-Esteem, Personal Development and Stress Management Contact Mella or Jackie if you or your organisation wishes to apply for this type of training. An information resource library containing CDs, DVDs, books, leaflets etc is based in Cork City Partnership and open to any interested members of the public. **Awareness Raising Actions:** The project produces a directory of services for drug and alcohol misuse in Cork. A new directory has just been completed and will be launched at a public event towards the end of February. Contact the project from March 2010 to pick up a copy. COPAP organises and supports community Drug Awareness Seminars/Workshops & Conferences citywide. **Networking** The project supports a citywide network of volunteers, community representatives and Community Drugs Workers. If you want to get involved or join an email information update list contact Mella or Jackie. CODAP also supports Community Representatives on Cork Local Drugs Task Force. The project also links between local and national initiatives through initiatives like study visits etc. **Capacity Building / Technical Assistance:** The project provides much needed support to community/voluntary groups e.g. funding applications, drug prevention initiatives/strategies etc. If you would like to highlight an emerging need in your area please contact the project for assistance. Support is available to raise topical issues with a drug prevention focus. The project supports ethnic minorities including new communities, the Traveller Community and LGBT (lesbian, gay, bi-sexual and transvestite) groups around drug prevention/awareness activities. If you would like information about a Family Support Group in your area, or about joining the FSN, please contact the Mella or Jackie @ Cork City Partnership Tel 021 4302310 for information on all of the above, or check out www.corkcitypartnership.ie. CODAP is funded by the Cork Local Drugs Task Force through the HSE South.



think my CAPS LOCK KEY HAS JUST BROKEN !



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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

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