



ANNUAL REPORT 2005



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CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

The last year has been a busy time for the Network and once again has seen many changes in the North West Inner City. For us at the Network the challenge has been to keep abreast of those changes and to respond in a manner that ensures that the local community is central to, and involved in these responses.

The key piece of work the Network undertook this year was development of a new Strategic Plan. This has allowed us to reflect on where we are going as a Network and ensure that we concentrate our work as strategically as possible to bring about the most change for the most vulnerable people in this area.

One of the Network's other priorities over the last year has been to source adequate premises for local community groups, including the Network itself. We are in ongoing negotiations with Dublin City Council in relation to office space in Blackhall Place and are almost in a position to bring forward plans for the development of a new plan for setting up a Community Property Company for the area. The Network has also prioritised communication – we brought out 3 newsletters last year. We hope to bring out a number this year, as well as launching a website and developing a comprehensive internal and external communication strategy.

The Network has also developed its advocacy role by having regular meetings with senior managers in the Health Service Executive and Dublin City Council with a view to enhancing a co-ordinated approach to local development. The Network is also represented on a number of important local Development Forums including the Drugs Task Force, RAPID and Dublin Inner City Partnership.

The Network was also involved in the working group that set-up a new regional Youth Service, Bradog, which is proving a great success. Grangegorman has also figured high on our workload- study tours, submission to the Dáil and now the recent formation of the Grangegorman Forum. Our links with DIT has also opened doors for other projects- the Bradog summer project will be using facilities on Bolton Street for the first time this summer.

Our Working Groups have continued to strive to bring about positive social change in the last year, from hosting intercultural table quizzes to undertaking awareness-raising workshops on Disability. They are supported in their work by our Development Worker Noeleen Jennings. Noeleen is also involved in developing community participation in the network, especially in relation to the Drugs issue.

My work as Chairman has meant a lot of involvement in the organisation development of the Network, which saw the Network becoming a legal company and Charity last year.

The last 12 months has been a challenging time for the Network. A lot of time has been spent at meetings, workshops, and seminars- debating and discussing the best way forward.

We hope that 2006 will offer new enthusiasm and vision for the Network that can provide back-up, support and information to groups, projects and individuals in the area. This will help to ensure that we continue to work collectively and lobby for changes that will ensure that the rights of local residents in the NWICN area are realised.

Finally I wish to thank all the people who have helped make this such a successful year for the Network, from our elected representatives, members, our working groups, our staff, Steering Committee members.

Danny Pender,

Chairperson.

CO-ORDINATOR'S REPORT

I wish to highlight some of the ongoing and new work the Network will be undertaking this year following on from our New Strategic Plan.

- **Launch of Participation and Practice of Rights Project** which is working in North Belfast and North Dublin to support the community use a 'Rights-based approach' to bring about change.
- **Anti-Racism & Diversity Strategy**.-Earlier this year the Network was involved in the consultation to develop such a plan which is currently being finalised.
- **Community Seminars**- The Network plans to hold 2 community seminars in the Autumn, one of which will be on the theme of education.
- **Community Policing Forum**- The Network has drawn up a proposal for the development of a Community Policing Forum and will be approaching Dublin City Council and the Guards to develop this proposal.
- **Volunteer Party**-We plan to host a volunteer party later this year to say thanks to all the volunteers active within their community.
- **Development of Good Neighbours Close to Town Group**- The Network is on the Board of Management of this group which has recently recruited a Community Development Work to support residents in the Dorset St./Dominick. St./Hardwicke St. area.
- **Development of the Community Information Technology Project (ICT)**- This project has recently been granted money to employ a Co-ordinator to support local residents and groups easier access to various IT resources.
- **Aontas Youth Arts Initiative**- I am currently chairing this group which is planning a Halloween Carnival for the young people of the area.
- **O'Devaney Garden's Regeneration Board**-I am one of the 2 community reps nominated by the O'Devaney Gardens Community Development Forum on this Board which is overseeing the regeneration of O'Devaney.
- **Development of Participation Strategy for the Network**- To include user friendly resource as well as ongoing training.
- **Development of Community Property Co.**- Launch of feasibility report and development of this project.
- **Ongoing Staff support and organisational Development**

I would like to also thank everyone who has supported the Network's work during the year, especially my 2 colleagues Noeleen and Amanda.

Network Working Groups

Most of the Network's work is undertaken through the Network Working Groups. The Network also work closely with two other area-based Forums- The Nwic Community Forum and the Council for Services to Older People.

Drugs Working Group

Mission Statement / Aims

The Drug Working Group (DWG) meets monthly to discuss all relevant drug issues for the community designated by the boundaries of Dorset St to O'Devaney Gardens.

The DWG consists of members from the community, voluntary and statutory sector based in this area, whose objectives are;

- To share information / develop the network
- To raise issues of mutual concern
- To feed same into the NICLDTF
- To contribute to and put in place the specifics of the Area Action Plan (1999 – 2004) on drugs
- To contribute to policy development
- To advocate for improved services and the needs of those suffering drug dependency in the NWICN area.
- To get the greatest level of participation possible.

History of the Working Group

The Drugs Working Group was set up prior to the publication of the Network's last plan and therefore had the opportunity to input extensively to that plan

Current activities

- The DWG met on ten occasions in 2005.
- The community reps from the DWG attended all NICLDTF meetings in 2005.
- DWG members contributed to a policy submission to the mid-term review of the National Drug Strategy on rehabilitation via the Local Drug Task Force.
- Information presentations occurred from many of the groups who attend.
- The funding needs of the Training and Development Project were continually advocated.
- DWG group members attended and fed back from the "Vital Connection" conference in Kilmainham in October.
- DWG group members attended the International Conference on Harm Reduction in Belfast in April 2005.
- Chrysalis organised for Community Response to present a play on Hepatitis.
- DWG members met on 3 occasions to contribute the drug objectives of the NWICN Area Action Plan 2006 – 2010
- Members have linked in with the developments in Grangegorman and discussed relevant documents concerning proposals for the creation of the DIT Information Centre.

Emerging Needs Fund

In 2005 the funding needs of the Training and Development Project were frustrated by being continually obscured. The hope the emerging need fund would plug the unfulfilled commitments for funding of the Probation and Welfare services and Health Board was unrealised.

Drug Dealing / Usage

It was discussed on several occasions that drug dealing was taking a more public form in recent months. This information was fed back to the relevant structures.

Changing Trends of Drug Consumption

It was also agreed by DWG members that the changing nature of drug consumption, in particular cocaine was of concern. Also the amount of alcohol that young people were using was worrying. Indeed it was agreed there is an absence of debate around current practices of drug use. This needs to be put back on the political agenda.

Community Concerns

Throughout 2005 the clear sense from the community reps and those representing the other sectors was of government failure and indifference to the needs of drug users. This resulted in Fergus McCabe resigning from the NDST in late 2005. The community reps in the DWG have contributed to the subsequent publicity and response. The role of the Community Participation Worker is also of major benefit to the DWG, raising and linking through a whole range of relevant issues.

Future events and plans

Over the next year the DWG will advocate so the following issues are addressed:

- The emotional needs of children of drug using parents
- Childcare cuts / lack of services
- Failure of welfare support to grandparents
- Participation of Probation / Gardaí / statutory in committees - integration
- Services for those progressing in their recovery
- Strengthening of the local environment to support those in recovery
- Fathers need to be involved
- Prescribing is extremely high
- Projects need resources and funding
- Medical services need to be involved and linked in at grass roots level
- Accurate baseline information of those in services locally is essential

Links to other forums

- North Inner City Local Drugs Task Force
- Citywide
- ICON

Dates of next meetings and contact person

The working groups meets monthly- for details contact Noeleen Jennings 6174847

Current Membership

Carmel Brien	Gateway
Jimmy Normon	Chrysalis
Pam Whelan	NAHB
Bob Swords	NAHB
Roisin Mellon	The Snug
Billy McCrae	The Most Project
John Duffy	Stoneybatter Youth Services
Marie Conor (SC Rep)	The Snug
Gillian Byrne	T&D Project
Sean Dunne	T&D Project
Grainne Reynolds	Community Guards
Gerry McAleenan (Sec.)	Soilse
Sharon Power	Community Guards
Maureen McKenna	Community rep
Tracy Lismore	Community rep
Noleen Jennings (Chair)	NWICN
Ruiri McAuliffe	UISCE
Sonya Dillon	Soilse / Rutland Center



Some of the paintings on display at the recent NWIC Training and Development art exhibition.

Premises Working Group

Mission Statement / Aims

To develop appropriate solutions and supports to community groups in the North West Inner City West Inner City who are having difficulty accessing appropriate premises to undertake their work.

History of the working group

In late 2004 the Network set up a Premises Working Group (PWG) to explore the best way to tackle the fact that a number of Community-based projects and groups in the North West Inner City are having serious difficulty securing adequate premises to undertake their work. The main barriers to have been identified as

- Projects have office space but no training or activity space. (An Síól, Training and Dev. Gateway etc.)
 - Need for accessible and user friendly spaces.
- Lack of any premises
- Lack of funding for premises when found- market rate for office space in Inner City very high.
- Lack of opportunities to expand.
- Lack of knowledge of the property market- leases, security, health & safety etc- need Technical Assistance.
- Sustainability

The PWG provides a forum for exchanging information and expertise. It has also produced an audit of community spaces available among its membership and is also exploring a number of possible options for housing local groups. It has also contacted all schools at other state agencies in the area with a view to ensuring community access to their premises.

Current activities

The Premises Working Group is considering setting up a Community Property Company for the North West Inner City area to help deal with the above problems and explore the best way to use the property on Queen Street that was negotiated between Macro CDP/local residents and Fusano Developers. In May 2005 the PWG retained Tom Daly and John Everett (Consultants) to examine the feasibility of establishing such a community property company. The findings of this report will be published in early 2006. It is envisioned that such company would:

- Acquire and manage accessible and affordable premises for rental to the community sector in the North West Inner City area.
- Be community driven but have adequate expertise on Board- planners, developers, lawyer's etc

The PWG is also in negotiations with Dublin City Council in relation to community use of 3 office spaces in Blackhall Place.

Future events and plans

- Launch feasibility Study about setting up a Property Company
- Support Setting up of Community Property Co.

Links to other forums

The PWG has linked in with a number of similar Property ventures in Clondalkin, Canal Communities and Waterford

Dates of next meetings and contact person

10am on Friday 9th of June in Macro Community Resource Centre, 1 Green St.
Michael McCarthy 6174847/Michael_nwicn@yahoo.ie

Current Membership

Paul Bedford	Community Forum
Conor Casby	Step by Step
Marie Conor	The Snug
Gillian Byrne	T&D Project
Linda Quinn	Aosog
Brenda Murphy	Macro Building Management
Danny Pender	Community Forum
Larry Byrne	Macro CDP
Eva Carey	Developing Alternative Values
Kate O'Sullivan	Carmichael Centre
Michael McCarthy (Chair)	NWICN

Education Working Group

Mission Statement / Aims

The aim of the Education Working Group is to promote access education for all living in the North West Inner City area, in particular those who are socially excluded, to find ways to identify and address the barriers to, and gaps in, educational opportunities, thus promoting social inclusion. The working group adopts a rights-based approach to education, acknowledges that education comprises lifelong learning and learning within the workplace, and encompasses formal and informal education, embracing multiple intelligences and an inclusive education system.

History of the Working Group

The group has been in operation from the early 1990s. It was re-launched in 2004 with a focus on researching and planning educational factors in the planned DIT Redevelopment of the Grangegorman campus.

Current activities

Drawing up of an educational submission the re Grangegorman Redevelopment, covering all aspects of lifelong learning, which involves:

- Researching current provision in the network area
- Consulting local education providers on their hopes and fears re the Grangegorman campus.
- Investigating the education policies of other third level institutes comparable to DIT with a view to identifying good practice.

Future Events and Plans

- Education fair/seminar in September 2006 in conjunction with the DIT and CDVEC.
- Development of closer links with the Intercultural Working Group of the network with a view to joint work.

Links to Other Forums

- School Completion Programme Dublin 7.
- Local Education Committees (Home School Liaison) in area.

Current Membership of Education Working Group

Anna Dangerfield, CROSSCARE.

Tracey Dorricott, ICES, Manor St.

Valerie Bowe, St. Vincent's Trust.
Jackie Lynch, HSCL Teacher, Stanhope St. Primary School.
Carmel Clarke, CIL.
Richard Hanson, Schizophrenia Ireland.
Conor Casby, Dublin 7 SCP.
Cliona Hegarty, Step By Step.
Inspector Jim Mc Gown, Bridewell Garda Station.
Jessica Vanzenbock. CDVEC.
Amy Nyan, Foundations Project CDVEC.
Molly O' Duffy DICP.
Noeleen Jennings, NWICN.
Mark Hogan, St. Vincent's Trust.



Smiling faces at a Xmas event organised by the Education Working Group

Intercultural Working Group

Mission Statement / Aims

To generate intercultural dialogue in Dublin North West inner City and through this to develop social capital in order to eradicate xenophobia, combat racism, sectarianism and other forms of discrimination and recognise the human and civil rights of every person living, visiting and working in the area.

History

Since 2000 the working groups has been very active in this quadrant of the city engaging in projects and programmes in education and the anti-racism training, cross cultural and religious visits, publications cultural events in the promotion of our aims and objectives. The intercultural working groups are holders of a MAMA award for a publication of an 'Anti-Racism Guide for Service Providers'

Current Activities

- a) Carrying out qualitative and quantitative research on assets, needs and aspirations of the people coming from diverse ethnic and cultural backgrounds in this city quadrant. The information on inner city wide strategy Anti Racism and Diversity. This is part of Dublin Inner City partnership contributor to the national action plan against racism.
- b) Carrying out study on the language and cultural requirements of students, parents/ guardians and teachers in local schools with a view to establishing a Cultural Planning, Heritage and Translation Service in partnership with the Dublin Institute of Technology.

Future Events

- Cross cultural and religious visits.
- 'Sport for Integration' project (in conjunction with SARI)
- Intercultural projects through Social Innovators programme in local schools.
- Joint venture projects with Dublin Institute of Technology around Grangegorman Campus.
- Implementation of Anti-Racism and Diversity Plan in the context of National Action Plan Against Racism.
- Contribution to new Garda intercultural forum in Store Street/ Bridewell.
- Establishment of Intercultural Centre in the North West inner City.
- The Working Group has applied to the Dormant Accounts Fund for an Intercultural Worker for the area.

Links to Other Forum

- a) Member of Integrating Ireland
- b) Member of the Grangegorman Forum
- c) Member of the DICP/ ARD Planning Committee

Date of next Meeting and Contact Person

Monthly meetings contact Ken Mc Cue Chairperson on 087 2889921 or email kensari@iol.ie

Current Membership

Ken McCue (Chair)
Grainne Foy
Anne Marie Kennedy
Coner Casby
Zoe Sophie Healy
Ann O'Driscoll (SC Rep)
Roberto Samson
Nancy Nunez
Nasruedin Saljugi
Deirdre Tobin
Pirooz Daneshmandi
Magdelene Kierdelewicz
Sarah Tuck
Sunny Ka Sing Wong

Owen
Noeleen Jennings
Deidre Casey
Afrika Mahmouti
Aneta Chacala
Reginald Inya
Jessica Wazenbock
Deirdre Casey
Mary Mc Cormack

SARI
An Síol CDP
An Siol CDP
Step by Step
Multicultural Centre
Community Rep.
CYC
Volunteering Ireland
Afgan Community of Ireland
Bridewell Garda Station,

Polish Information and Cultural Centre
c/o city Arts Centre
Irish Chinese Art's culture and Shaolin
Centre
Vincentian Refugee Centre,
NWICN
CIS
Community Rep.
Community Rep
Nigerian Association of Ireland
CDVEC
CIS
Community Policing Bridewell Garda
Station,



Consultations to develop an Anti-Racism & Diversity Plan for the Inner City organised by the Intercultural Working Group.

Disability Working Group

Aims & Objectives

To achieve inclusion, awareness, recognition, equality and meaningful participation by disabled people in the community of the North West Inner City.

- Through raising the awareness of community groups on disability issues
- Through identifying & promoting best practice in community services & projects
- Through providing access to information regarding disability issues
- Through working with local groups

The working group works from the Social Model of Disability

History of the Group

In 2004 DESSA approached MACRO CDP with a view to looking at the disability issue in the markets area. Subsequently MACRO CDP and DESSA organised information sessions for local projects and services. Many groups expressed an interest in getting involved in a working group to raise awareness in the area. The group was set up and the Group became a working group of the North West Inner City Area Network in 2005. The Working Group has been working towards identifying actions it will take on the next year.

Current Activities

- Developing an Information resource for local projects and services
- Organising information and awareness sessions.

Future Actions & Events

- Establish a database of disability contacts and services
- Promote examples of good practice in relation to disability issues in the community
- Continue to provide information and awareness sessions to local groups

Links to other Forums

- MACRO CDP
- Other Network Working Groups

Meetings & Contact Person

The Disability Working Group meets on a monthly basis: Contact Noeleen Jennings 6174847

Current Membership

Noeleen Jennings	NWICN
Margaret Sullivan	North West Inner City Training & Development
Larry Byrne	MACRO CDP
Richard Hanson	Schizophrenia Ireland
Roberto Samson	Catholic Youth Services (CYC)
Mairead King	Market's Senior Citizen's Service
Celine Graham	MACRO CDP

Grangegorman Working Group

Mission Statement / Aims

- To review the current proposals in relation to proposed development in Grangegorman.
- To negotiate the delivery of the above agreed 'community gains' with DIT and other relevant bodies.
- To ensure that all-relevant stakeholders are consulted as part of this process.
- To ensure all relevant stakeholders are informed of developments and decisions.
- To review models of good practice in relation to all of the above

History of the working group

In September 2004, the North West Inner City Network formed the Grangegorman Working Group to try facilitate an integrated response by the community to the proposed development in Grangegorman.

The Grangegorman Working Group's first task was to lobby for changes in this legislation in order to ensure that local communities are provided with an opportunity to meaningfully participate in the GDA and the development process, so that they can ensure that the needs of the community are taken into account at all stages of the project.

Parallel to the above the Grangegorman Working Group has developed the following strategy that it feels will best ensure that the local community has a meaningful role in the proposed Grangegorman development and that this development includes aspects that enhance the educational, social and community development of the local area.

- To ensure that the new Dublin Institute of Technology (DIT) campus is an open, accessible and a welcoming resource for all the community.
- To work with the DIT to develop their current access programmes to ensure that it provides a comprehensive access service, especially for people in the North West Inner City.
- To explore, in partnership with local providers, the opportunities for developing professional training courses in DIT for local community, youth and childcare workers.
- To ensure that a world class health and well-being centre is developed on the Grangegorman site by the Health Service Executive (HSE).
- To ensure that all those responsible for the Planning/development/construction of the Grangegorman site, factor in potential employment opportunities for people in the local area.
- To ensure that a meaningful consultation process is undertaken and that the planning and consultation processes take full account of the needs of local people.

Current activities

In February and April of 2006 the Network in conjunction with a number of other local resident and community groups held 2 public meetings attended by over 50 people to develop a proposal for the setting up of a Grangegorman Forum. The Network has also had numerous meetings with DIT in relation to the planned development and is preparing , in co-operation with the Network's Education Working Group (after the consulting meeting with local schools and community educator providers), is developing a proposal for the development of a 'Local Access Programme.' Finally the GWG has a number of meetings with the HSE and has received a commitment that a community consultation will be undertaken in relation to the development of primary Health Care facilities for the area.

Future events and plans

- Compile and present report to DIT on Access and links with local education providers for consideration (with EWG)
- Develop Local Labour Clause
- Facilitate and support community participation through the Grangegorman Forum
- Ensure Health needs assessment undertaken & oversee setting up of health facility
- Use structure of the Network, as appropriate and agreed, to access resources to support the needs of the Working Group, (the recruitment of a PT worker.)
- Develop Cultural planning and Translation service (with IWG) for Schools in the area in conjunction with DIT.

Links to other forums

The GWG has linked with the Network's Education Working group in developing 'Local Access Proposal' for DIT, the Intercultural Working Group in relation to Cultural planning and Translation service. The group has undertaken a number of site visits to other similar institutions in DCU and NCI.

Dates of next meetings and contact person

Thursday 15th of June at 11.30am in Spade Enterprise Centre, North King Street.
Michael McCarthy 6174847/Michael_nwcn@yahoo.ie

Current Membership

Ken Mc Cue	Interculture Working Group
Grannie Foy	Education Working Group
Molly O Duffy	Education Working Group
Danny Pender	Community Forum
Paul Bedford	Community Forum
Larry Byrne	Macro CDP
Mairead King	Macro Senior Citizens
Ger Moore	Employment WG
Anne-Marie	An Síol CDP
Eithne Moran	School Completion Programme
John Breen	St.Vincent's Trust
Michael McCarthy (Chair)	NWICN
Noeleen Jennings (Sec.)	NWICN



An aerial view of the Grangegorm site

NWIC Community Forum

Aims & Objectives

To provide a community platform for residents to participate in the development of their area.

- a. Through sharing information
- b. Through supporting residents to participate in local initiatives
- c. Through providing opportunities to members of the Forum to utilise and/or develop their skills for the benefit of the local community
 - By having regular forum meetings
 - By Networking with other groups
 - By developing a realistic work plan
 - By participating in Local integrated processes, including the following:
 - North West Inner Area Network
 - North Inner City Drugs Task Force
 - RAPID Area Implementation Team
 - MACRO Building Management

History of the Group

The North West Inner City Community Forum was established in 2001. It is a Forum made up residents from the North West Inner City Area. Since then the Forum has undergone training, nominated reps onto local fora and made contacts with the appropriate agencies. The group has had significant success in working with the support of local development groups in negotiating community gain. Community gain includes free community days at the 'Smithfield on Ice' Event, input into events on Smithfield Square, donations to local project events etc.

Current Activities

- a. The Forum highlights and lobbies regarding the issues that are effecting local residents to by Representation the Forum on the following groups:
 - North West Inner City Network and working groups
 - RAPID Area Implementation Team
 - MACRO Building Management
- b. Completing the Review of Representation of Community Forum on local fora and groups by;
 - Strengthening and developing structures within the forum to support representatives.
 - Lobbying to develop structures and adopt good practice in order to support and accommodate community representation in general and Community Forum representation in particular.
 - Identifying Gaps in current representation
 - Identifying Training needs of Forum
- c. Liaising with DCC (Smithfield Events Section) regarding community input and community gain from the events on the square
- d. Highlight issues that effect local residents i.e. traffic, environment,

community facilities etc.

Future events and plans

- Complete review of representation and adopting best practice
- Expand membership of Forum by recruiting new members to the Forum
- Develop and sourcing appropriate training
- Continue to highlight local issues.

Links to other Forums

- An Siol Community Development Project
- MACRO CDP
- RAPID AIT and Sub-groups
- HARP
- Dublin City Council (Smithfield Events Management)
- Tenant's First

Meetings

The Forum meets on a monthly basis

Contacts

Noeleen Jennings (6174847), and Marie Harding (6775741)

Current Membership

<i>Name</i>	<i>Area</i>
May Burke	Strand Street
Robert O' Toole	Ormond Square
Danny Pender	St Michan's House Greek Street
Ann Roe	North King Street
Joan McConvey	Smithfield
Marion Hanlon	Haymarket
Jimmy Hanlon	Haymarket
Paul Bedford	Marmion Court/Blackhall Parade
Maureen Donnelly	Marmion Court/Blackhall Parade
Lena Jordan	O' Devaney Gardens
Ruth Murray	O' Devaney Gardens
Nadine	O' Devaney Gardens

Support & Facilitation

Support and facilitation is provided to the Forum by the NWICN, MACRO CDP and An Siol CDP.



The Community Forum distributes thousands of free tickets to the community for the 'The Smithfield on Ice' event every year.

Council for Services to Older People

Mission Statement / Aims

The Council for Services to Older People (CSOP) in the Northwest Inner City is a partnership of statutory, voluntary and community groups. The CSOP was established to enhance and develop services for older people through the co-ordination and integration of the different statutory, voluntary and community providers. The primary role of the CSOP is to identify ways in which services to older people can be improved and to put in place strategies and actions to enhance the quality of services being provided to older people in the North West Inner City.

Aims and Objectives

- To operate as a representative body for older people in the North West Inner City
- To support and strengthen the existing community services for older people in the North West Inner City
- To jointly address agreed recommendations from research carried out into the needs of older people in the North West Inner City
- To influence policy and planning to improve services to older people in the North West Inner City

History of the working group

The Council was set up in 2001 to explore how Community Groups could work in Partnership with Statutory and Voluntary organisations to improve the delivery of services to the community. It was also hoped that the CSOP would act as a representative body for Older

Current activities

1. Stoneybatter Older Persons Research Project

The CSOP in 2005 was particularly involved in the Stoneybatter Older Persons Research Project, which took place in the Stoneybatter area in the first half of 2005. The Research aimed to make contact with a large number of older people living in the area, so as to get a better sense of how they felt about living in the area and to identify ways in which their quality of life maybe improved and enhanced. The outcomes and recommendations from the research will be of interest and very relevant to the work of statutory agencies and voluntary organisations that are working with older people in the Stoneybatter area.

2. Christmas Meal

A sub group was formed early in 2005 to examine the possibility of having a Christmas lunch for older people in the community that otherwise may be alone on Christmas Day or without a Christmas dinner. The event was a great success. Mass took place in St Paul's Church followed by lunch for thirty people and ten meals delivered to people's homes. There were volunteers from many different backgrounds that came from CARE Local and St. Paul's and an advertisement on Community Exchange resulted in a chef and musicians for the day. Many of the older people who attended the day said it was one of their best Christmases ever and the sub group learnt many things for future reference about what did and did not work.

3. Lobbying in regards to Pendent Alarms

The CSOP were concerned with the maintenance fee that is paid by older people on the upkeep of their pendent alarm. The CSOP has found that many people discontinued the service due to the prohibitively high cost of the maintenance fee. Therefore, the CSOP wrote to the Department of Community Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs (CRAGA) who have responsibility for the administration of the security alarms, other relevant ministers and other political parties with responsibility for the area proposing that the government review the administration of the maintenance fee. The CSOP also submitted recommendations and comments to the Department of CRAGA when they were conducting a review of the Community Support Scheme for Older People

4. Information Sharing

The CSOP members keep each other updated on various activities and matters arising in the individual organisations and groups that people represent. In 2005 the restructuring of the HSE, the proposed redevelopment of St. Brigid's Court, the Grangegorman working group, upcoming events of relevance and the North West Inner City Network Review Strategic 5 year plan have all formed part of the agenda for meetings.

Future events and plans

1. Implementation of Recommendations from the Stoneybatter Older Persons Research Project

It is anticipated by the CSOP to work on the implementation of a number of specific recommendations from the research project that took place in 2005, which will bring about an improved quality of life and sense of well being to the lives of older people living in the Stoneybatter area.

2. Meals research

An area of interest to the CSOP has been the provision of meals to older people in the community. It was out of this interest and a concern for the future provision of meals in the area that a sub group was formed. The sub group investigated the possibility of conducting a review of the meals service in the North West Inner City with the view of formulating future recommendations for the service in the area. The sub group decided that this would be an important piece of work to carry out. Funding has been secured from the statutory providers and the terms of reference drawn up. The research has been put out to public tender and the research consultant selected. The review is due to get underway in the middle of 2006.

3. Set up Good Morning Service

A sub group has just been formed to investigate the possibility of setting up a similar initiative in the North West Inner City area as the one set up in Blanchardstown called "Good Morning Blanchardstown". This service phones isolated older people to make sure they are well, to have a chat with them, remind them of appointments and to check if they need anything or if they need to find out some information.

4. Further sharing of information between service providers

Continued sharing of information amongst statutory agencies, voluntary and community groups of the different initiatives, plans and events taking place that is of interest to the members of the CSOP.

Dates of next meetings and contact person

September 11th 2006 – Chairperson Nora Kirrane 087 6776406E-mail – nkirrane@crosscare.ie

Membership of the CSOP

Name	Organisation / Affiliation
	An Garda Siochana
Maeve Halpin	CARE Local
Mark Hogan	Dominic Street Senior Citizens Day Centre
Mary Hanlon	Dublin City Council
Angela Walsh	Health Service Executive
Mairead King	Markets Area Combined Residents Organisation

Noeleen Jennings	North West Inner City Network
Janet Dillon	Local resident representing older people
Avril Dooley	Age Action Ireland
Nora Kirrane	St Edidio at St. Paul's Church
Pat Gates (Chair)	Dublin Inner City Partnership
Sr. Peggy McArdle	Stoneybatter Senior Citizens Outreach Project
Anna Maria Kennedy	An Siol CDP
Eleanor Edmond	The Alzheimer Society of Ireland

Members of the CSOP with An Taoiseach, Bertie Ahern, at the launch of the Stoneybatter Older Persons Research Project



Bank Reconciliation from 01.01.05 to 31.12.05

Opening Balance at 01.01.05	€ 51,155.93
DICP	€ 79,615.00
Drugs Task Force	€ 34,154.00
Dublin City Council	€ 635.00
Membership Fees	€ 960.00
Tax Rebate	€ 918.77
Smithfield Community Gain Fund	€ <u>11,900.00</u>
 Total Income	 € 179,338.70
 Salaries.	 € 95,079.89
Rent	€ 5,808.00
Bank Fees	€ 133.82
ESB	€ 1,254.84
Insurance	€ 1,231.49
Telephone	€ 2,203.73
Postage	€ 386.00
Stationary	€ 1,916.23
Computer Repairs	€ 914.94
Companies Office	€ 60.00
Network Planning	€ 11,589.00
Newsletter	€ 651.60
Property Study	€ 5,990.00
Communication	€ 12,55.91
Miscellaneous	€ 1,609.90
New Equipment	€ 2,900.00
Staff Training	€ 700.00
LAF	€ 3,000.00
Petty Cash	€ 600.00
Community Participation Training	€ <u>1000.00</u>
 Total Expenditure	 €138,285.10
 Balance on bank account 31.12.05	 € 41,053.83
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Balance per bank statement 31.12.05	€ 46,605.42
 Deduct outstanding cheques at 31.12.05	 € <u>5,550.59</u>
Reconciled balance on bank account	€ 41,053.83

Network Steering Committee 2006

<i>Macro CDP</i>	Larry Byrne
<i>An Siol CDP</i>	Anne Marie Kennedy
<i>NWIC Women's Network</i>	Not filled
<i>Drugs Working Group</i>	Marie Conner
<i>Intercultural Working Group</i>	Anne O'Driscoll
<i>Education Working Group</i>	Mark Hogan (Secretary)
<i>Disability Working Group</i>	Roberto Samson
<i>Community Forum</i>	Paul Bedford
<i>Community Forum</i>	Danny Pender (Chair & DICP Rep.)
<i>Council for Services Older People</i>	Janet Dillon
<i>Co-option</i>	Grainne Foy (DICP Rep.)
<i>Co-option</i>	Ger Moore

Contact Details:

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Admin./Resource Worker

Noeleen Jennings
Development/Participation Worker

Michael McCarthy
Co-ordinator

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