



Northside Partnership Newsletter

Issue 3 - December 2013

Students Flock to Northside Partnership's Education for All Fair

Students from across north Dublin gathered at Northside Partnership's Education for All Fair, hosted in Parnell's GAA Club, Coolock Village on Thursday 17th October. The event was open to all people living in north Dublin and provided advice, information and guidance on educational opportunities. Over 35 education providers promoted their services and courses throughout the day. Exhibitors included major Irish universities and local education and training providers such as DCU, DIT, UCD, Trinity College, NUI Maynooth, Coláiste Dhulaigh, Marino College of Further Education and St. Patrick's College of Education. Over 1,000 students from 15 post-primary schools in the north Dublin area attended the Education Fair. Evelyn Conneely, Guidance Counsellor at Mercy College, Coolock spoke about the event stating; "It's an absolutely wonderful idea... For different reasons, many of our students might feel third level education isn't for them...but events like today when they speak with staff from colleges and see their peers thinking about further education help to break down barriers and expand their horizons"



Mercy College Students at Education Fair



Students speaking with education providers

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Northside Partnership Bids Farewell to Cepta and Irene

Cepta Dowling, Manager of Enterprise and Employment, and Irene Behan, receptionist at Northside Partnership, Bunratty Drive will retire this month. Cepta has been with the Partnership for 16 years whilst Irene has been with the company for 5 years. Speaking on their retirement, CEO Marian Vickers stated that "We were blessed the day they both crossed our threshold. They have been wonderful colleagues and a huge asset to the company. They have been at the heart of driving our mission to deliver high quality services and programmes in north Dublin. We will miss them greatly and wish them the best of luck in their future endeavours."



A Record Breaking Year for LIP

It has been a record breaking year for our Labour Market Inclusion Programme (LIP) with 98 new referrals this year—the highest number of referrals in a single year since the programme began in 2003. This brings the total number of clients to 431.

The programme was set up to help former drug misusers who have undergone a rehabilitation programme and who want to take the next steps towards rebuilding their lives. It is a one to one education and training programme which offers a full range of supports to help former drug misusers to get back into education and employment.

Sam and Sarah in the programme have been kept busy this year delivering one-to-one supports for clients with reading, writing and computers as well as supporting clients in educa-

tion with their first few assignments which tend to come in thick and fast at this time of year!

Sarah from the programme tells us that "Education has also helped to encourage clients to tackle coming off their methadone or at least dropping as they feel it is hindering them in their education in terms of collecting it every day etc."

Increased demand for holistic treatments meant that the programme also increased the number of treatment slots this year to respond to the needs of clients suffering from anxiety and other stress related disorders.

Finally, two LIP clients recently celebrated getting jobs in the healthcare field following completion of a FETAC Level 5 Healthcare Course. Both are delighted but it is no more than they deserve following their hard work!



A Busy Festive Season for Northside Partnership Enterprise Clients

Northside Partnership Enterprise clients got into the Christmas spirit at the inaugural Northside Partnership Christmas Fair on Friday 29th November. The fair was held in Parnell's GAA Club, Coolock Village where 25 local companies were on site for the day selling a range of products, including children's toys, jewellery, beauty products and baked goods. A steady stream of Northsiders popped by the fair throughout the day to support local business and to search for the perfect Christmas gift. Prizes were announced on the day for those who took part in the Christmas fair raffle for prizes that included beauty hampers, chocolates, biscuits and gift tokens. Exhibitors at the fair were supported by Northside Partnership's Enterprise Programme.



Northside Partnership Enterprise clients were also present at a number of other events throughout November that included a strong presence in Bank of Ireland, Coolock during Enterprise Week from 15th to 22nd November. Ten of our enterprise start-ups also exhibited at the North Dublin Chamber of Commerce Expo in the Helix on Thursday 7th November, where Minister for Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation Richard Bruton was the

keynote speaker. Minister Bruton took some time out of his busy schedule to find out more about some of the innovative new business ideas coming from north Dublin including stopping to speak with Stephen Byrne of Ex Gamer Studios and Robert Squires from Rain Shed Harvesting Systems - both of whom were supported by Northside Partnership in getting their business up and running.



Minister Bruton speaks with Stephen Byrne from Ex Gamer Studios in the Helix.



Sinead Moore from Angelic Guidance at Bank of Ireland Enterprise Week.



Healthy Food Made Easy Looks to the New Year

It has been a busy time for Healthy Food Made Easy (HFME) with the programme running 36 courses in 2013 attended by 340 participants. 2014 will begin with seven new courses in January that will be delivered by nine new HFME leaders who have recently completed their training. In springtime, HFME will introduce groups to Northside's CHANGE community garden and will encourage participants to grow their own herbs and vegetables to boost healthy lifestyles.



Healthy Communities Initiative Sets Up Dedicated Working Groups

Following on from its initial community consultation in April 2013, Northside Partnership hosted a planning meeting on Friday 18th October in Parnells, Coolock to further the development of the Healthy Communities Initiative. Key stakeholders from the north Dublin area attended this event, including local businesses and statutory, community and voluntary groups. The focus of the day was to design a framework for a practical community health plan. Three working groups have now been set up corresponding to the three themes of the WHO Healthy Cities Framework which are: Caring for People, Healthy Lifestyles and Healthy Urban Environment and Design. These groups have identified and will address one core action for immediate attention under each theme.



CHANGE Community Garden Takes Shape



The new CHANGE community garden in Coolock has made massive strides in recent weeks with over 50 volunteers from major local companies, including Hilton Dublin Airport Hotel and Mondelez (Cadburys) rolling up their sleeves and getting involved. Vegetable beds, compost piles, a spiral herb bed and a magical fairy knoll are among the many features that volunteers helped to create in the garden. The garden is coordinated by Doras Buí working with Coolock Development Centre and Northside Partnership and is part of a nationwide Community Food Initiative Programme funded by SafeFood and managed by Healthy Food For All.



Lord Mayor Welcomes Belfast & Dublin Groups to Connect 4 Conference

On Monday 18th & Tuesday 19th November, Northside Partnership, together with its partner Groundwork Northern Ireland, hosted the final conference of the Connect 4 programme. The event brought together programme participants from both North and South of the Border to explore the learning achieved over the last two years of the project on the key themes of Community Safety, Community Activism and Advocacy, Regeneration and Peacebuilding and Youth Engagement. The event also looked at the future as Odran Reid, Manager of the Connect 4 programme explained; "We want to look at how we can create a new inclusive future, where civic society can find a voice and we can start looking for solutions." Day 2 of the conference in Smock Alley Theatre was opened by Lord Mayor of Dublin Oisín Quinn and concluded with an address by An Tánaiste Eamon Gilmore, TD, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade.



Upcoming Northside Partnership Events

- ◆ **Story Time Celebration - Certificate Ceremony** @ Marino Institute of Education, Thursday 12th December, 9.30am.
- ◆ **Preparing for Life Participant Christmas Show**, Tuesday 10th December @ St. Francis JNS, Priorswood @ 3.30pm.
- ◆ **Connect 4 Photo Exhibition** @ Civic Offices,
- ◆ **Stress Control Course** starts 4th February and runs for 6 weeks every Tuesday from 7—8pm in Coolock Parish Centre. For more info, call Melanie on 01-8771509.
- ◆ **Start Your Own Business course** starts Monday, Wood Quay, January 20th January. Contact Kate on 01-8485630 for more info.
- ◆ **Career options talk** for 6th year Challenger students—Monday, 16th January, 6—7pm.
- ◆ **REN Cyber Bullying Workshop for Teachers** @ St. Paul's SNS, Ayrfield, Tuesday 11th February 2014 @ 4pm. Contact Linda on 01-8485630.



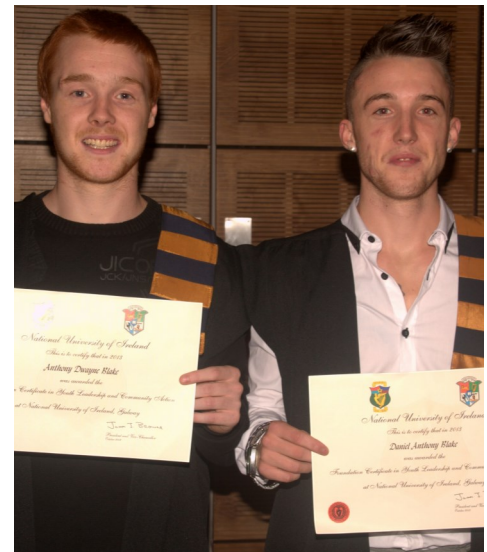
Preparing for Life—24 Month Results Released

Preparing for Life's 24 month results were presented to representatives from local community groups and schools by Dr Judy Lovett from the UCD Geary Institute on Tuesday 3rd December in the Bell Building, Darn-dale. The local service providers present on the day also heard a presentation from Noel Kelly on the expansion of the Preparing for Life programme which will be funded through the Area Based Childhood Programme.



Young Community Leaders Graduate at NUI Galway

On Saturday 19th October, 23 young people from Northside Partnership's Young Community Leaders programme attended their graduation ceremony in NUI Galway where they received certificates for their FETAC Level 6 qualification in Youth Leadership and Community Action. At this year's graduation event, three sets of siblings graduated, including Anthony and Daniel Blake, pictured to the right. Speaking at the graduation, Daniel Blake told us that "I'm feeling really proud to be honoured with this certificate. The year went by really quickly and I enjoyed every single minute of it. I can't wait to use the skills I have learnt in the community now."



Early Childhood News from the Local Childcare Resource Service



The Local Childcare Resource Service has been busy delivering a range of Practice and Policy workshops between September and November this year as part of Dublin City Childcare Committee's Quality Support Programme with workshops on Environment and Curriculum proving very popular. In other news, a National Early Years Support Service will be rolled out by the Department of Children and Youth Affairs in September 2014. Mentors will be appointed to local services to support its implementation.



REN Art Competition Winners Announced

The Regional Education Network is delighted to announce the winners of its 2013 Student Art Competition. Over 120 entries were received from 8 north Dublin schools on the themes of "Beauty on the Northside of Dublin" and "Glorious Sport". The entries were judged by an independent panel that included artist Eddie Kennedy, Clodagh MacDonagh from Marino Institute of Education, Niamh Mernagh from the REN Executive Committee and Heidi Bedell from Northside Partnership. Following intensive deliberations, the following winners were selected:

6th class:

1. Valentino Cusnir, St Paul's SNS
2. Alanna Burnett, St. Joseph's NS
3. Chloe Carney, Scoil Chaitriona Chailini

1st year:

1. Rebecca O'Keeffe, Manor House
2. Amy Collins, Manor House
3. Erin Hand, Manor House

2nd year:

1. Kieran Stokes, St Thomas ET
2. Emma Moran, Mercy College
3. Lauren Cowap, Mercy College



NSP Promotes Community Safety

On Wednesday 31st October, Northside Partnership hosted a community safety event at Dublin City Council offices. This event focused on raising awareness of the issues which present in the north Dublin area around the Halloween period. Local community groups were invited to participate in this session with key stakeholders, including An Garda Síochána and Dublin Fire Brigade to discuss the policies and practices which have been implemented to address some of these problems.

Extreme Behaviour Workshops

The Regional Education Network hosted two separate workshops for primary and post-primary teachers on Extreme Behaviour Problems on Tuesday 18th and Wednesday 19th November. The workshops were delivered by Sinead Hearne from NEPS and proved extremely popular with over 80 teachers attending over the two events which helped teachers to explore and understand the various conditions that children bring to the classroom and how these impact on behaviour.



Challenger Students Get Down to the Books

It has been a very busy few months for the Challenger programme as students get stuck into the books. Both 1st and 2nd year students have completed six week workshops with St. Patrick's College, Drumcondra in Conversational Irish and 1st year students have completed their Maths course. Junior and Leaving Cert grinds have also been delivered in core subjects at Honours and Ordinary level for ten week periods.

The recruitment of students for 2014 has also taken place, with over 100 parents from five schools attending the Challenger Information Session in Parnell's GAA Club on Wednesday, 6th November. Following the completion of student interviews with each of the five schools, 40 new students were selected to commence the programme in January 2014.



Find Out More About Northside Partnership

To find out more about the employment, education, children & family, youth, enterprise and local development programmes and supports that we offer, please visit our website

www.northsidepartnership.ie

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Northside Partnership



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Northside Partnership is a local development company. We work to improve the opportunities for people and communities in north east Dublin to bring about positive changes in their own lives and the life of their community. We offer a range of programmes and services to support individuals, local organisations, groups and communities in Dublin 3, 5, 13 and 17. Our work is funded by the Irish Government, charitable organisations and private sources.

A full listing of our funders can be viewed [here](#).

For more information on the articles in this newsletter, please contact Sinead Murphy by emailing Sinead.murphy@nspartnership.ie or call 01 8485630.