



# Northside Partnership Newsletter

Issue 6 - June 2014

## Healthy Lifestyle Festival Hits Northside Shopping Centre

On Friday, 23<sup>rd</sup> May, the Northside Health Festival was held in Northside Shopping Centre. Shoppers were presented with information on healthy eating, exercise, fitness and mental health at stalls dotted throughout the shopping centre as well as live demonstrations from local dance and sports groups. The event was organised as part of Northside Partnership's Healthy Communities Initiative. Under the theme of Healthy Eating, attendees received cookery demonstrations from Northside Partnership's Healthy Food Made Easy programme as well as samples and tasters of healthy option products from suppliers and shops. Under the theme of Healthy Lifestyles, Dublin City Council Sports Development officers were also on site to raise awareness of the many facilities available to people in the local area. Michelle Waters of Dublin City Council was very happy with the high number of people stopping to speak at her stand and to do a brief fitness test. She said, "We are getting lots of questions and queries at our stand here today. We are trying to promote people being active as well as the services and facilities that Dublin City Council can offer. I'm very hopeful that we will get more people using them after being here today."



## In This Issue

- Minister Launches Preparing for Life ABC Programme
- Student Grant News—Education Trust & Partnership Fund open for applications
- CHANGE Community Garden is Blooming
- New STEPS course starts 19th June
- New Publication Shows Success of Tús in Dublin
- Challenger Students Celebrate Graduation in DCU
- Full House at Northside Community Forum
- Young Community Leaders Programme Now Recruiting
- Northside Companies Get Together to Support Their Community
- LISTEN project extended to 18—21 year olds



Like us on Facebook: Northside Partnership



Follow us on Twitter: @NS\_Partnership



## Minister Launches Preparing for Life ABC Programme

On Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> May, Preparing for Life's Area Based Childhood Programme was officially launched by Minister for Children and Youth Affairs, Charlie Flanagan TD in the Dublin Airport Hilton Hotel. Also present on the day, was Dublin footballer Ger Brennan who visited the children's fun zone at the event to meet some of the children and families from the local area who will benefit from Preparing for Life's programme. Before the formal launch, attendees were able to visit information stands at the event to find out more about the different elements of Preparing for Life's expanded programme of activities for 2014—2016 that will include:

- Provision of antenatal care and education in the community.
- A home visitation and mentoring programme to equip parents with the knowledge and skills they need to help their child develop.
- Delivery of 'Triple P' positive parenting courses.
- A quality support programme for Preparing for Life's partner early-childhood settings.
- Coaching in speech and language development for partner early-childhood settings.
- An 'early years to school' transition programme.
- Coaching for teachers in partner primary schools in literacy, play and self-regulation programmes.



Preparing for Life are currently looking to recruit new families for their Home Visiting programme. Anyone who is pregnant and who lives in the following areas can join the home visiting programme: Darndale, Belcamp, Bonnybrook, Kilmore West, Moatview, Priorswood or Newtown Court. If you, or somebody that you know would like to join the programme, just call 01-8771509, email [info@preparingforlife.ie](mailto:info@preparingforlife.ie) or simply text JOIN to 087-2908386.



## CHANGE Community Garden Is Blooming

The CHANGE Community Garden was officially launched by Cllr David Healy on Thursday, 22<sup>nd</sup> May. The garden continues to bloom and new developments are being added all the time including its recently built new composting area. The garden is open to the public every Wednesday and Saturday from 10am to 1pm. If you are interested in getting involved as a volunteer, contact Linda Devlin on 01-8484811. The garden will also be hosting a Family Fun Day on 23<sup>rd</sup> July with all welcome.



## Student Grant News

It's that time of year again when students have completed their Leaving Certificate or another year of college exams and are starting to think about how they will pay for next year. Northside Partnership is currently offering a number of supports to help students address these funding needs.

We are now accepting applications for our Education Trust and Partnership Fund grants. The Education Trust enables students from low income or welfare dependent backgrounds to study outside the greater Dublin area. The Partnership Fund is a small fund that supports students studying within Dublin with college expenses such as books, transport and fees. The closing date for applications to the Education Trust is Friday 20<sup>th</sup> June and the Partnership Fund closes for applications on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> August.

In collaboration with the Citizen's Information service, our Guidance Counsellor Paul Hayes will also be hosting a series of student grant talks throughout the summer of 2014 to help students apply for financial support for college. The student grant talks will cover the SUSI Grant and the Back to Education Allowance, in addition to other supports that students can access. All grant talks will be held at Northside Partnership, Bunratty Drive, Coolock from 10am – 12.30pm on the following dates: 18<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> June; 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> July; 20<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> August.

To register your place at a grant talk, or to request a grant application form, please contact Linda Shanley on 01-8485630 or email [linda.shanley@nspartnership.ie](mailto:linda.shanley@nspartnership.ie).



## **New STEPS Motivational Training Course Starts 19<sup>th</sup> June**

---

Our Local Employment Service will be running another STEPS course beginning on 19<sup>th</sup> June 2014. The course which will be run in Northside Partnership's offices in Bunratty Drive, Coolock will help participants to:

- Identify how their thinking influences outcomes in their lives
- Recognise areas where change or growth is desired or required
- Set goals and give them the self-belief to achieve them

For more information, contact Lisa Bornemann on 01-8320995.

## **A Busy Time for Speedpak's Learning Centre**

---

Speedpak is a social enterprise that was established by Northside Partnership to provide work experience and accredited training for long term unemployed people.

2014 has been a busy year for the company so far as it focuses on supporting 17 of its Community Employment trainees to obtain a full Level 4 Award under the new Common Awards System (CAS) which is accredited by Quality and Qualifications Ireland (QQI). QQI is the new agency that has replaced FETAC.

The Level 4 Award is equivalent to completing the Leaving Certificate. For trainees to obtain the full award, they must complete a minimum of 8 modules. In order to avail of an exemption for modules which trainees have completed under the old FETAC system, they must achieve the qualification before the end of 2014.

While this is quite a time pressure, Speedpak and their trainees are well on the way to achieving this target.

The training is being delivered in collaboration with Colaiste Dhulaigh onsite in Speedpak's Learning Centre and trainees have now com-



pleted **Communications** (Level 4) with excellent results - 14 Distinctions (80-100%) and 3 Merits (65-79%). This is particularly significant as 70% of the trainees are early school leavers. They have also completed **Career Preparation** (Level 4) and are awaiting the final results.

Computer training has been taking place since mid-May and will finish in mid-June. This covered **Computer Literacy** (Level 3), which is a good introduction for people with little or no experience of using computers, and has been followed by **IT Skills** (Level 4) and **Word Processing** (Level 4).



### New Publication Shows Success of Tús in Dublin

---

On 19<sup>th</sup> May, Minister for Social Protection, Joan Burton TD launched the Dublin Local Development Companies' report on "*Tús in Dublin – Getting Back to Work; a Community led Response.*"

The primary objective of Tús is to provide much needed quality work experience for the long term unemployed to increase their prospects of securing full time work. These quality work placements also provide much needed support within the Community and Voluntary sector.

This report demonstrates the success of the Tús initiative in Dublin. Since 2011, over 1,500 job placements have been provided in more than 700 voluntary and community organisations.

Northside Partnership have accounted for 24.5% of the total number of participants placed in the Dublin region to date (368 placements within 62 organisations). The report also demonstrates the invaluable support of the Tús initiative to local voluntary and community organisations.



### Hand on Heart Moves to Coolock

---

Hand on Heart Enterprises have moved to the Coolock Development Centre. To date, 11 quality work placements have been created by Hand on Heart for Tús participants as well as offering employment to people with disabilities. Jamie Regan of Hand on Heart is also working with Jacqui Ward from our Young Community Leaders programmes to create youth employment and engagement through various events.

### A Busy First Half of 2014 for Our Enterprise Training

---

Our 4<sup>th</sup> "Start Your Own Business" course of 2014 was completed in May. This brings the total of people who have attended enterprise training this year to 75. The feedback from participants overall has been excellent. Further training will resume in the Autumn 2014.



## Challenger Students Celebrate Their End of Year Graduation in DCU

On Thursday, 22<sup>nd</sup> June our Challenger students and their parents gathered in Dublin City University to celebrate their end of year graduation. At the event, the students and families



heard from a number of speakers including Northside Partnership's Chairperson Lorcán O hObáin and Ita Tobin from DCU's HEAR Programme. Individual students spoke about their experiences taking part in Challenger activities this year such as reading club, conversational Irish classes, public speaking classes, cultural tours, maths club, mind mapping workshops, presentation skills courses as well as grinds for Junior Certificate and Leaving Certificate students. A number of students also received outstanding achievement awards. Those present at the event were shown a video looking at the Challenger highlights for this year that can be seen at: <http://animoto.com/play/5v7z7ALntmXBr5ngTOq2bw>.

## Full House at Northside Community Forum Meeting

Over 30 members attended a recent meeting of the Northside Community Forum on 8<sup>th</sup> May in the AFL Sports Centre. Over the last six months the Steering Committee has focused on rejuvenating the Forum and bringing together new and existing members. Delegates at this meeting received up to date information on the role and functions of the Forum and inputted into the Forum's revised constitution. The meeting also explored current issues facing local and community organisations with respect to employment schemes such as CE and Tús. A number of external speakers provided some insight into emerging trends and their impact on communities. Such speakers included Niall Crowley, former CEO of the Equality Authority,

Bríd O' Brien, Irish National Organisation for the Unemployed (INOUE), Dr Deiric O Broin, DCU and Edel Moloney, Psychologist. The Forum is currently recruiting for new members, for more information contact Kate Mitchell at 01-8485630.





## Youth Leadership Programme Winds Up for Summer 2014

On 6<sup>th</sup> June, 15 young people completed the Youth Leadership Programme after taking part in eight programme days that included visits to the Ombudsman for Children's Office, Dóchas Women's Prison, the Bar Council of Ireland, Sean O' Casey Community Centre with Catapult Design and Production Company and Filmbase Ireland. The young people also took part in a full programme day with the Hilton Dublin Airport Hotel where they had the opportunity to work with senior hotel management and to get an in-depth insight into the hospitality industry with a full tour of the premises. The Hilton team worked closely with the group in planning and organising their own mock event at the hotel, enhancing the group's teamwork, communication and marketing skills. All of the organisations which participated in the Youth Leadership Programme contributed greatly to increasing the young people's awareness of various current issues at both a local and national level and to improving their core skills.



## Young Community Leaders Programme is Now Recruiting

Our Young Community Leaders programme is now recruiting for participants for the next course which will run from September 2014 to June 2015. The course is for young people who are eager to learn good leadership abilities and aspire to being leaders in the future. During the course, the young people develop the skills and confidence to be leaders and make a positive difference to their society. Participants will gain a FETAC Level 6 Foundation Certificate in Youth Leadership and Community Action and will have opportunities to start or become involved in initiatives in their local community. The course will run on Wednesday evenings from 7—9pm in Northside Partnership's Contact Point offices in Greendale Shopping Centre. There will also be five full Saturdays and two weekends over the course of the year. The programme is open to all 16-25 year olds living in the Northside Partnership area (with priority given to Belcamp, Bonnybrook, Darndale, Donaghmede, Donnycarney, Edenmore, Harmonstown, Kilbarrack, Kilmore or Priorswood). For an application form or more information, email [ycl@nspartnership.ie](mailto:ycl@nspartnership.ie) or call 087-2890251.



## Northside Companies Get Together to Support Their Community

On Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> May, Northside Partnership and Mondelez Ireland came together to host the Northside Business Supporting Community Event at the Cadbury factory in Coolock. The aim of the event was to encourage companies located in north east Dublin to take a fresh look at the area of corporate social responsibility and to consider the role that their company could play in supporting their local community.

The event was opened by Minister for Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation Richard Bruton TD who spoke about the importance of companies being involved in the social and economic development of the areas where they operate.

Justin Cook, Managing Director of Mondelez Ireland spoke about the company's commitment to supporting its local community stating that, "We are proud to support Northside Partnership's mission to improve people's lives in Dublin 3, 5, 13 and 17, through initiatives such as our sponsorship of the Young Community Leaders programme. We really value the role we can play in helping to improve the community that we work in and hope that others companies in the area will join us in this mission."



At the event, Northside Partnership presented attendees with 5 Big Ideas for Action to get involved in which included committing their time to volunteering to support the local community, tackling youth unemployment, supporting education, supporting enterprise start-ups and making north Dublin a healthier place to live. There was huge enthusiasm from the companies present about getting involved in these projects. Northside Partnership will be following up with these companies with a view to getting concrete new projects off the ground in 2014 that will benefit our communities. For more information, contact [alex.scannell@nspartnership.ie](mailto:alex.scannell@nspartnership.ie).





## Listen Project Extends Its Services to 18-21 Year Olds

The Listen Project which offers free Listen sessions with fully trained counsellors for 12 to 17 year olds in the north east Dublin area is delighted to announce it is extending its service. The project will now be offering Listen sessions to anyone aged between 12 and 21 years of age. If you, or anyone you know would like to avail of this service please contact the free phone service @ 1800 303 638 between 4 and 6pm, Monday to Friday. Alternatively, you can call and leave a voicemail at any time and someone will return your call.



## 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](http://www.northsidepartnership.ie).

**Click on the buttons below to follow us:**



Northside Partnership



@NS\_Partnership



Subscribe to this Newsletter

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](mailto:Sinead.murphy@nspartnership.ie) or call 01 8485630.