



Northside Partnership Newsletter

Issue 8 - October 2014

Listen Project Report Launched To Mark World Mental Health Day

An evaluation of the Listen Project, an innovative youth mental health support service for 12 – 21 year olds in north east Dublin, was launched on 10th October to mark World Mental Health Day. The evaluation report, compiled by Quality Matters showed that the Listen Project helped 83 percent of research participants to develop a better understanding of what was going on for them and helped 92 percent of these young people to develop new cognitive or behavioural coping skills to help them deal with their problems and manage stress. The project was estab-

lished in March 2013 by a Steering Group that included Sphere 17, Northside Partnership, New Life Centre and Target Counselling. The project provided young people in Dublin 17, 13, and 5 with meaningful support that would be available within their own community and that would reduce the stigma for young people with regard to accessing counselling support. The project offered young people 'Listen Sessions' with qualified counsellors with the aim of ensuring that they felt heard on issues they were concerned about. To see the full report, [click here](#).



In This Issue

- Over 1,000 students attend Education for All Fair
- Huge interest in Challenger Programme for 2014
- Effective Numeracy Teaching Workshop
- Adult Education Fair & CV/Interview Skills Workshop are a Hit
- Families Flock to Clontarf for Health Heroes Coastal Walk
- Preparing for Life Baby Massage Courses
- Autumn Workshops for Childcare Providers
- Young Community Leaders Graduation 2014
- Northside Partnership Staff Paint it Pink
- Upcoming NSP Events & Courses
- Preparing for Life Early Years Programme Learning Seminar



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Over 1,000 Students Attend Education for All Fair

On 16th October, over 1,000 students from 15 post-primary schools in north Dublin attended our Education for All Fair in Parnell's GAA Club, Coolock Village. This annual event brings all of the major further and higher education providers to Dublin's Northside. At the fair, students have the opportunity to meet with college personnel to get information about courses and college facilities that will help them to make choices about their future education options.



In attendance at the fair in his capacity as Student Recruitment Officer for Dublin City University (DCU) was Dublin footballer Jonny Cooper. He told us that, "I do a lot of education fairs and school visits to provide information on the university. This event here today is really well organised with a lot of local schools in attendance which is great for us as we want to encourage as many young people from the community to attend DCU as possible."



Two students who dropped by to speak with Jonny about what DCU has to offer were Leon O' Toole and Craig Morrison from St Joseph's in Fairview. Leon told us that, "This is my first careers fair and I'm still thinking about what I want to apply for. DCU is supposed to be a good college so I'm interested in talking to them and also in finding out more about their sports facilities."

Anne Ryan from Our Lady of Mercy College, Beaumont was present at the fair to accompany a group of 4th and 5th year students from her school. As another first time attendee at the event, Anne was very impressed with what was on offer for Northside students, telling us that, "This is my first time attending the fair and it's a really great event. There is something here for nearly every child that we have. The biggest benefit that I can see is that as well as having a lot of the large universities here, it also helps the students to source local courses that can help them to cut down on the cost of attending college. Sometimes at the bigger fairs, students might end up looking at college places that are too far away which can contribute to a higher drop-out rate."



Huge Interest in Challenger Programme for 2014

On 8th October, 154 parents and students turned out for the Challenger 6th Class Information Meeting. Families attending the event were provided with background information on the programme and how it works. Each year, the Challenger programme recruits 40 new students drawn from our five partner schools in Dublin 5 and 17 and provides them with structured supports to help them transfer to secondary school, complete their Leaving Certificate and progress to third level education. Parents are also encouraged to take part in courses that will help them to support their child's education. At the event, parents heard about the STEPS motivational programme which will be offered to parents this year. Families also heard from a 6th class student who has completed one year of the programme about his experiences so far. Interviews for all 6th class students will be held on 17th November. So far we expect at least 75 students to be interviewed on the night for a place on the programme.



Effective Numeracy Teaching Workshop

On Thursday, 25th September, teachers turned out in force for a workshop on the topic of "Effective Numeracy Teaching" hosted by our Northside Education Support Network. 28 teachers from north Dublin primary schools turned out for this workshop with Dr Noreen O'Loughlin from Mary Immaculate College, Limerick which looked at how the Maths Recovery / Mata sa Rang programme is being used and adapted by primary schools to support effective numeracy teaching.





Adult Education Fair & CV & Interview Skills Workshop Are a Hit

On Thursday, 4th September, over 300 people attended Northside Partnership's annual Adult Education Fair in the Northside Civic Centre. The fair offered those who are considering returning to education the opportunity to meet with education and training providers based in the local area.



Also running alongside the Adult Education Fair was a CV & Interview Skills Workshop for job seekers. At this event, major local companies including JP Morgan, Mondelez Ireland (Cadbury) and Bunzl Irish Merchants kindly lent the services of their experienced HR staff to give advice to job seekers and students to help them find their perfect job.



Majella Rickard from Mondelez Ireland started the workshop with a talk on the most common do's and don'ts to remember when writing your CV. Serena McGivney from JP Morgan then followed with a talk on the most important things to remember when preparing for interviews.



Following these introductory talks, all 20 attendees had the opportunity to get one-to-one advice from the HR professionals on their own CVs and cover letters.

Marie Brown was one of the attendees who came to get advice to help her get back into working in finance after 15 years working out-

side the sector. After having a one-to-one session with Serena McGivney from JP Morgan, Marie told us: "It was really good to have the opportunity to talk to somebody who is in the line of business that I want to get back into. Serena went through my CV and gave me some pointers. She also gave me the name of agencies that specialise in finance recruitment and suggested that I take some temporary work to get experience as well."



Families Flock to Clontarf for Health Heroes Coastal Walk

On Saturday, 20th September, families flocked to the Clontarf seafront to take part in the Health Heroes 5km Family Fun Coastal Walk. Participants prepared for the walk at the starting point opposite Clontarf Post Office with a warm up routine with a qualified fitness instructor and some entertainment from the MaSamba Samba School to get everybody motivated and ready to go. With the warm up completed, the energetic families set off on their merry way, walking all the way down to the wooden bridge before looping back to the starting point again for picnics, games and face painting in the Health Heroes family fun zone.

This walk and fun day was organised as part of Northside Partnership's Health Heroes project which aims to encourage people of all ages from Dublin 3, 5, 13 and 17 to lead more active and healthy lifestyles.



Preparing for Life Free Baby Massage Course Starting Soon

Preparing for Life are offering free Baby Massage Courses for all people living in the Northside Partnership area. The next course starts on 4th November and runs for five weeks from 2—3pm in Northside Enterprise Centre. Please contact melanie.murphy@nspartnership.ie or call 01-8771509 for more information or to sign up.





LCRS Workshops for Childcare Providers This Autumn

Our Local Childcare Resource Service (LCRS) will host a number of workshops for local childcare providers this Autumn starting with a Halloween Arts and Crafts Workshop on 23rd October from 6—9pm in Northside Partnership's Bunratty Drive Office. This will be followed by two Play Workshops on 19th November and 3rd December from 6—9pm in the Crowne Plaza Hotel. For more information, please call 01-8543299 or email childcareinfo@nspartnership.ie.



Launch of ILDN Leave No One Behind Booklet

On 17th October, Northside Partnership took part in the Irish Local Development Network's Showcase Event to mark the UN International Day for the Eradication of Poverty. At this event, a booklet "Leave No One Behind - Local Development Companies, Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion" was launched. The booklet featured two case studies on Northside Partnership's Challenger and Preparing for Life programmes alongside other case studies on the valuable work being carried out by Local Development Companies throughout Ireland. Former Challenger participant, Ciara Hurley spoke at the event about her experiences of taking part in the Challenger programme and gave a passionate input on the importance of education to open doors for young people from Dublin 17. To view the full publication, [click here](#).

Young Community Leaders Graduation 2014

Congratulations to all of our newest Young Community Leaders graduates who attended their conferring ceremony in NUI Galway on 18th October. Accompanied by the YCL team, proud parents and family, the graduates received their Certificate in Youth Leadership and Community Action from the President of NUIG.





Northside Partnership Staff Paint It Pink

On 16th October, the northside of Dublin became a sea of pink as staff from Northside Partnership alongside other local organisations donned their pink props in order to raise funds for the Irish Cancer Society's fight against breast cancer. Over €730 was raised thanks to the generous donations of staff from Northside Partnership, Darndale Belcamp Village Centre, Northside Enterprise Centre, Golden Years, Darndale Belcamp Integrated Childcare Service and the New Life Centre.



Opportunities Abound at Northside Jobs Fair

Staff from Northside Partnership's Local Employment Service, Greendale Jobs Club and Enterprise Team attended a very successful Jobs Fair in The Marine Hotel Sutton on 1st October. The fair was attended by numerous employers such as All in Care, Fairco, The Wrights Group, Northside Homecare Service Ltd, Noel Recruitment, Nandos and many more and offered a great opportunity for many of our Job Seeking clients to meet with the employers about their vacancies.

Other Upcoming Events & Courses

- **New Healthy Food Made Easy Course** starts on 3rd November and runs for 6 weeks every Monday from 9.30—11.45 in our Employment Services Centre. For more info, call Linda Scanlan on 01-8485608 or email linda.scanlan@nspartnership.ie
- Northside Partnership Enterprise clients will be in attendance at the North
- **Dublin Chamber of Commerce Business Expo** on Wednesday, 5th November from 10—5 in the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Santry. All are welcome!
- Plans for another **Northside Partnership Christmas Fair** are underway—keep your eyes posted on our website for further details on the date and venue. As with last year, it will offer Northsid-
- ers the chance to shop locally and support local business start-ups at the same time.
- We have a **new STEPS course** starting on 5th November that will run for 6 afternoons from 1—5pm in Northside Partnership's Bunratty Drive Office. For more info, contact Lisa on 01-8320995.



Preparing for Life Early Years Programme Learning Seminar

On 17th September, our Preparing for Life Early Years Team held a Learning Seminar in Parnell's GAA Club to launch their 2014/15 training programme for the 8 early years settings taking part. At the event, the settings reviewed learning from last year's training programme, and heard a very inspirational and heart-warming address from early years expert Professor Noirin Hayes. Attendees were also introduced to Triona Rooney, a Speech and Language Therapist who has just joined the team to provide speech & language training for settings alongside the existing quality mentoring programme.



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 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.