



# Northside Partnership Newsletter

Issue 4 - February 2014

## Northside Partnership Seeks Young Social Leaders

On Monday 17th February, Northside Partnership will begin its recruitment process for the Youth Leadership Programme 2014. Young people between the age of 15—17 years and/or in transition year may be nominated by any school or youth project in the north east Dublin area. The Youth Leadership Programme (YLP) is in its seventh year running and continues to encourage and empower young people to get involved in their society. The programme works with a group of 20 young people each year over a short intensive period to develop and enhance key communication, interpersonal, self awareness, teamwork and analytical skills. The programme takes place over six days between March and May 2014 at various site locations, including the Ombudsman for Children's Office, Dublin Fire Brigade Training Centre and DCU. For further details on the programme or to request an application form please contact Kate Mitchell by emailing [kate.mitchell@nspartnership.ie](mailto:kate.mitchell@nspartnership.ie) or calling 01 8485630.



*Megan Boyle and Orla Grant, participants of YLP 2013*



*YLP 2013 participants visit DCU Sports Centre*

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## **Tuning In To Online Trends— REN Cyber Bullying Workshop**

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In a timely workshop to mark Safer Internet Day, 43 teachers from schools across north east Dublin attended a workshop on "Social Networking and Cyberbullying" in St Paul's SNS in Ayrfield on Tuesday, 11th February. The workshop, organised by our Regional Education Network, aimed to improve teachers' awareness of the latest trends in social networking and cyber bullying and to provide practical information on what schools can do to prevent cyber bullying.

The workshop was delivered by cyber bullying expert Paula O'Connor who is the force behind the Don't Be Mean Behind Your Screen initiative and also a teacher in St Kevin's College, Finglas. In her talk, Paula provided teachers with a real and at times shocking picture of how young people are accessing the internet and using the latest apps and social media phenomena. In a world where 59% of 9 - 16 years olds have a social media profile and 46% of children in Ireland can access this from their mobile phone, Paula told the teachers present that the old advice of "put the computer in the living room" just did not work any more. In a wide-ranging talk which covered everything from Facebook and Twitter to Snapchat and Ask.fm, Paula covered the realities of how young people aged nine and upwards are using these sites.



## **Young Community Innovators Lead on into 2014**

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On Monday, 17th February the Young Community Innovators will begin a six week Facilitation Skills training programme. The training will provide the young people with the skills to manage positive group dynamics, to manage challenging behaviours and conflicts and to enhance individual communication, leadership, facilitation and evaluation skills. All training sessions will be held at Kilbarrack Contact Point, Greendale Shopping Centre. For more detailed information on this training programme please contact [jacqui.ward@nspartnership.ie](mailto:jacqui.ward@nspartnership.ie).



## Communiversities Programme is Now Recruiting

Unemployed? Time on your hands? Interested in doing a FREE university course? We are now recruiting for participants for the Communiversities programme which offers adults the chance to do a university level 7 course through their local library - without the need to do exams or projects.

The programme was set up by NUI Maynooth, Northside Partnership and Dublin City Council Library Service to offer adults the chance to try education at this level without the pressures associated with assessments.

The course is held in Coolock Library and lasts for 20 weeks, with one two hour class every week. Classes take place in the morning. Participants will learn about four subjects: 1) Local History and Genealogy; 2) Politics, Power and People; 3) Sociology & Me; 4) The Economy & Us.

There will be a free taster workshop on Thursday, 20th February at 10.00am in Coolock Library that is open to all adults living in the Northside Partnership area. For more information, contact [paul.hayes@nspartnership.ie](mailto:paul.hayes@nspartnership.ie).



## Brush Up on Your Computer Skills with a Free Benefit III Course

We have places available on our Benefit III computer training courses. This free, 8-hour course is open to all and teaches participants basic computer skills like how to:

- Use email and internet
- Shop online
- Book tickets online
- Use Facebook

The course takes place over

two days—on a Monday and Tuesday—in our Employment Services Centre in Bunratty Drive. Participants can choose either morning or afternoon classes. For more information and/or to sign up please call 01 8485608.

*An initiative under the National Digital Strategy funded by the Department of Communications, Energy & Natural Resources.*





## 36 People Set to Start Healthcare Support Certificate

36 clients of our Local Employment Service (LES) are set to start a FETAC Level 5 Certificate in Healthcare Support in early March following interviews held in December 2013. The certificate is one of the Department of Health's recommended qualifications for Home Care Assistants. This is the 6th time that our LES has offered this course with previous participants having used this qualification to successfully find employment with companies such as Home Care North East Bay, All in Care and Comfort Keepers as well as various other nursing homes in the area.

We wish the new recruits the best of luck with the course and hope they have the same success in finding work upon completion!



## Upcoming Training from the Local Childcare Resource Service

The Local Childcare Resource Service will hold two 3 hour workshops for childcare practitioners in the Dublin North Central area on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> March from 6 – 9pm in the Regency Hotel, Drumcondra.

The workshops will explore:

1. Participation and interactions
2. Planning children's learning
3. Scaffolding children's play

4. Planning as a team
5. Benefits of play

At these workshops services will also be supported to review their curriculum statement and links will be made to Síolta Standard 6 – Play, Síolta Standard 7 – Curriculum and Aistear, the Early Childhood Curriculum Framework. To book your place, please call the LCRS on 01 8543299.

**Call the  
LCRS on  
01-8543299  
to book  
your place  
today!**



## Challenger Reading Club is a Big Hit

As always, January has been a hectic month for the Challenger programme with a number of activities underway. One of the highlights from the January programme was the four-week reading club for 6th class students. Over the course of 4 weeks, the students read John Boyne's novel "The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas". Under the guidance of a secondary school English teacher they participated in fun activities to analyse the book's content, grammar and vocabulary such as role playing characters and scenarios and making crosswords with new vocabulary.

Other activities that took place in January and February included Public Speaking for 1st year students, grinds for 3rd & 6th year students, a Career Guidance talk for 6th year students, Conversational Irish classes for 6th class students and the beginning of FETAC Level 3 & 4 Parents



## Upcoming Northside Partnership Events

- ◆ **Story Time Meeting for New Parents**— Wednesday, 5th March at 9.30am, Marino Institute of Education. Email: emma.byrne@nspartnership.ie for more info.
- ◆ New 3-week **Start Your Own Business Courses** will begin on 18th March, 14th April and 12th May and cover everything you need to know to set up your own business from accountancy & taxation to sales & marketing. Call 01 8485630 for more info.
- ◆ **REN Workshop — Understanding Dyslexia at Second Level**—Thurs, 13th March @ 4pm in Colaiste Dhulaigh.
- ◆ **REN Workshop— Experience Local History**— Thurs, 3rd April @ 4pm in Northside Partnership, Bunnatt Drive. Contact linda.shanley for more info on all REN events.
- ◆ **Communiversities Programme Taster Session**— Thurs, 20th February @ 10am in Coolock Library. Contact paul.hayes for more info or call 01 8485630.



## Preparing for Life—Early Years Practice Programme Kicks Off

Preparing for Life's Early Years Practice Programme kicked off on Tuesday 28th and Thursday 30th January with the beginning of its Induction Programme for the staff of its eight partner early years settings. The partner settings include: Bonnybrook Community Childcare, Kilmore West Community Playgroup, Doras Buí, St Francis Community Playgroup, Jigsaw, New Life, Moatview Early Education Centre and Bunratty Community Childcare Service. Over the next three years, the programme will provide a Quality Mentor and a Speech & Language Therapist who will offer training and mentoring for early childhood professionals in these settings to support implementation of the Aistear Curriculum Framework and practices to promote language development.

These introductory session began with an overview of the programme. Participants then discussed the value and importance of Early Years Care and Education and the significance of their professional role in the lives of children. Each service was then facilitated to discuss and document a 'vision' for their setting, using materials to create a poster to display the central aspects of what they want to provide for children and families.



## Lifestyle Triple P

Preparing for Life's Family Mentoring Team have been trained to deliver the Lifestyle Triple P programme to prevent and manage childhood obesity. On the 27th January, they began delivering Lifestyle Triple P with a pilot group of six families. The participating families will take part in 17 sessions between now and the pilot's conclusion in early June 2014. For more information on this programme, contact [val.smith@nspartnership.ie](mailto:val.smith@nspartnership.ie) or call 01 8771509.



## We Can Quit Programme Reaches Out to Women in Dublin 5 & 17

Northside Partnership's Stop Smoking Programme has teamed up with the Irish Cancer Society to offer a free, 12-week programme for women who want to quit smoking.

For many women with busy, demanding lives stopping smoking feels like an uphill struggle that they face alone. This programme brings women together on a quitting journey where they can encourage each other to do something positive for themselves and their families.

The course will start on the week beginning 24th March and is open to all women living in the Darndale, Kilmore and Bunnratty areas.



To find out more or to sign up, you can call Bernie or Maureen on 01 8771500 or go to [www.northsidepartnership.ie/stop-smoking-programme](http://www.northsidepartnership.ie/stop-smoking-programme).

## Back to School for Healthy Food Made Easy

It has been a very busy time for the Healthy Food Made Easy (HFME) programme with 12 HFME courses being delivered in the Northside Partnership area in the month of January alone. Following on, HFME will get back to school this February with upcoming courses scheduled to take place with local parents in St. Benedict's School in Kilbarrack and with two groups of young people in Kilbarrack Youth Project. For more information on HFME and/or to sign up for a course please contact [linda.scanlan@nspartnership.ie](mailto:linda.scanlan@nspartnership.ie).

## Healthy Communities Take a Trip to Ballymun



On Tuesday 4th February the Healthy Communities Working Group took a trip to Ballymun to learn about how the issue of illegal dumping is being addressed in other communities. The group visited a number of projects working in this area, including Ballymun Partnership, 'Health for All Initiative' and Global Action Plan's Community Garden. The group also took a walking tour of Poppintree Park with Dublin City Council Parks Department. For more information on this project please contact [jacqui.ward@nspartnership.ie](mailto:jacqui.ward@nspartnership.ie).



## Young Community Leaders Invited to Áras an Uachtaráin

Following the success of the Belamyne/Clongriffin Family Fun Day which took place in June 2013, our Young Community Leaders Programme have been invited into Áras an Uachtaráin on Tuesday, 18th February in recognition of their role in reviving this annual community event. The family fun day was organised and delivered in conjunction with Dublin City Council and the Belmayne Clongriffin Residents Association, under the leadership of 9 of our Young Community Leaders and was a major success. Not only did it bring together a wide range of local groups it also saw the number of attendees increase significantly from 60 attending the previous year to over 1,000 people in 2013. During their visit, the Young Community Leaders will enjoy a reception with President Michael D. Higgins and a tour of the formal rooms in the Aras.



### 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).

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