

September 2019

Volume 5

WELCOME

Alan Smyth, Editor

Dear reader,

I hope you will enjoy the 5th edition of our newsletter,
In this edition we have updates from the different areas of CIDP.



We in CIDP consider education as one of the core elements of our service delivery supporting the creation of better opportunities for Deaf children through quality access to education. As a result we are continually reviewing our approach to enhancing education.

In late 2018/ early 2019, when considering how best to use the remaining funds in a bequest from the late Esther Foy, the executive and board of CIDP discussed supporting third level education for Deaf students and the possibility of providing access to affordable student accommodation.

After discussions with Anne Looney, Executive Dean, Institute of Education, DCU & Dr Elizabeth Matthews, CIDP agreed to support the B.Ed ISL by providing funding to the students taking part in this ground breaking pilot which will see four students who communicate through Irish Sign language (ISL) become Ireland's first Deaf primary school teachers using Irish Sign Language. This commitment is very much in line with our values and purpose and we in CIDP are delighted to be part of this pilot. It was great to be involved in the launch of the degree programme last week and to have a funding partnership with Folens to provide the scholarships for the students.

We wish the four students Kevin Dudley (Dublin), Aimee Ennis McLoughlin (Dublin), Sinéad Leahy (Cork) and Aisling O'Halloran (Galway) all the very best for their studies. We look forward to seeing these four students qualify and become the teachers of the future to Deaf & Hard of Hearing children thus ensuring these children have the best opportunities to access college and employment in the future

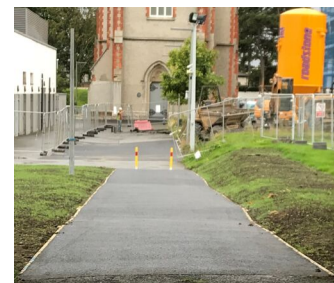
In other related news, we spent the summer developing Edmund Rice house and this has now been opened as third level student accommodation with a first priority for Deaf and hard of Hearing Students and those studying the related areas. We welcomed our first student residents two weeks ago. A big thank you to Paul Ryder and all the facilities team as well as the DVI CE scheme team who worked so hard over a very short time to get this building stripped out and refurbished in time for the opening.



Deaf Enterprises in Cork provide re-upholstery, sewing, french polishing and furniture manufacturing and restoration. We would like to thank the team in Deaf Enterprise for the excellent job on the furniture.

Refurbished access ramp is opened

Paul Ryder is pleased to announce that the refurbished access ramp is now opened since early September. CIDP would like to thank KnockRobin Nursing Homes and Esmonde Development Ltd for the wonderful job.





ST MARY'S BOARDERS

A lot has happened since the last newsletter. We said our goodbyes to school leavers Florence and Emma before the summer. The girls were in St Mary's for a long time and completed the Leaving Cert Applied. They worked extremely hard before the summer and should be proud of their results. We hope they enjoy the next chapter of their life! This month we welcomed Chloe, Abigail, Jade and Sheena to our residence. We are looking forward to working with them and seeing them grow during their time here.

We also welcomed Conor Byrne, Sinead Crean, Emma Shaw, Shauna O'Connor and Ciara Duignan to our team. Conor, Sinead and Emma are our new Social Care workers, Shauna is our new night support worker and Ciara is our new Social Care Leader. We, the staff and the girls, are looking forward to getting to know them over the next year.

This year we have a new team for our boarding committee and we look forward to working with them in a bid to continue improving our service. The boarding committee is responsible for representing the girls and they will share feedback and ideas in meetings with a member of staff. We will keep you reported on how they are getting on.

We are keeping our fingers crossed for the girls who are waiting to receive their Junior Cert results and we are proud of the hard work they put into their studies before the summer.

This year we have a new yoga teacher, Laura O' Grady, she is a CODA (Child of Deaf Adult) and the boarders are excited to learn more about yoga from her.

We had many celebrations this year. We had four girls who made their Confirmation in May and it was a lovely day, celebrating with their families. Kiera, Chloe, Tori and Sona all looked lovely and so grown up. We wish them all the best as they start their journey into post primary school.

We had our annual Family Fun Day at St. Mary's this year. We always like to end the year with a day filled with entertainment, laughs, family and friends. We had guests from St. Joseph's House too and it was nice to see everyone joined in for some dancing and games.

We are very much looking forward to the new school year. We are excited to work with the girls and see them grow and to celebrate their achievements over the next year. Here is too many more celebrations!

We bid a sad farewell to some staff this year. We would like to thank Cathy, Anthony and Mary for all the work they have done at St. Mary's. Cathy has left after 13 years with us and we will miss her very much. Anthony has gone on an adventure to America and we wish him all the best. We hope Mary is enjoying her retirement. You all are always welcome to visit!



NCDP



We were delighted to welcome Fr Paddy Boyle as Chaplain to the Deaf Community in September.

Fr Paddy is a familiar face around the Deaf Community through his previous work with the Deaf Community and as Chairperson of the Board of Management in the Holy Family School for the Deaf. We are looking forward to working with him in the future.

The last three months has been a busy time of change for the Chaplaincy.

In June, we said goodbye to Fr Joe O'Neill who left us after six months to move to America.

While he was only with us for a short time, he made a big impact on the team and in the wider Deaf Community. A farewell mass was held at the end of June in the Emmaus Chapel and was well attended by the Deaf Community. We wish Fr Joe all the best.

Over the past three months, we have had two pilgrimages which have taken place. The first was a pilgrimage to Knock in August. The pilgrims who took part enjoyed the day and we hope that this will take place again next year.

The second pilgrimage was the annual Dublin Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage. Each year the Deaf Community come together both as pilgrims and volunteers and make this the huge success that it has always been. We would like to thank the volunteers who work so hard each year to make this successful.

These pilgrimages would not be successful without the enthusiasm of the members of the Deaf Community who take part each year and our two Chaplains Frankie Berry and John Patrick Doherty.

Our Chaplain Denise Flack continues to be busy working with the Deaf Community, in the northern counties providing spiritual support through Rosary evenings, celebratory masses and continuing to provide general pastoral support.

If anyone is interested in volunteering or taking part in any upcoming events please contact the Chaplaincy service.

The next few months will be a busy time for the Chaplaincy as we prepare for Advent and the Christmas season. Please keep an eye on our Facebook page for updates on future events.



@NationalChaplaincyForDeafPeople



ST JOSEPH'S HOUSE

We are delighted to announce that 10 service users have signed tenancy agreements for their own homes to date. Our first service user transitioned into the community in June 2019. They are enjoying their new home and have settled into their new apartment very well. We are very grateful to all who have assisted with making their transition to the community a successful one.

The Hidden Hearing Awards took place recently. We are delighted to let you know that our colleague Joanne Chester won in the 'Hearing Hero' category for her relentless commitment to improving the lives of Deaf people in the community.

Joanne Chester joined the discovery team to focus on IT for the community service and Assistive technology for service users. (see more below)

A number of new staff joined us in the last few months who will be moving to the community to support service users. This included our Community Team Leader Tony Moore who is working closely with the community teams and the service users who will be transitioning to the community over the coming year.

St Joseph's House has acquired a new wheelchair accessible car for service users. Since taking ownership, the car has proved a hit with both service users and staff. Two groups of service users made good use of the summer weather this year, they went off to Wexford and Waterford; everyone enjoyed the break and came back looking forward to their Lourdes trip.

17 service users travelled to Lourdes this year, the largest group we have had for a long time.

Recently we had a one day unannounced HIQA inspection in July, a full report will be published and on their website in the coming months.

Service users, staff, family members and friends of SJH enjoyed a bbq in the grounds of SJH in August. We were blessed with the weather which helped make it a success. A big thank you to all the staff who worked hard to ensure everyone enjoyed the day.

In other good news we are delighted to announce that Linda Tierney, Service Transformation Manager had a beautiful baby boy in July 2019.



Barry Whickham and Eddie Ryan getting the keys to their new home



Hello! My name is Joanne Chester.

My role is Community Integration Coordinator at St. Joseph's House for Deaf and Deaf Blind Adults. I am working with the Discovery project in line with HSE's Time To Move On policy transitioning service users to secure homes in the community so that they can live self-directed lives with support from our Community service.

I am currently working on two main workstreams which are the IT solutions and Assistive Technology.

IT Solutions - Discovery program

One of the major changes in St. Joseph's House service includes the administration of all paper work such as documentation, rostering, support plans and many more. This is due to the fact that the management and especially the support workers will be scattered across Dublin and counties in different locations. The most effective solution to manage the administration is through IT which uses a cloud based care management system. This is a system that consists of different features such as rostering, support plans, handover notes, payroll, incident reports, allocation of support workers, and more. The management, administrators, and support workers can access the system through computers, laptops, tablets and mobile phones. They will have different levels of access to the system.

The IT system will be effective for the service users as it is person-centred software that focuses on the needs of the service users.

Therefore, as part of my role, I have been leading the IT discovery program with a first round of demonstrations of the systems delivered by different IT organisations. It is still a work in progress with the aim to select a preferred supplier and implement the new system in November 2019.

Assistive Technology

Assistive Technology enhances the lives of people with disabilities in terms of functional capacity. Assistive Technology empowers people to live as independent as possible through the supports from different technology products. Assistive Technology is a very broad area which ranges from the most simple to the most complex product.

As part of my role, I am working on creating Ireland's first ever database of Assistive Technology products bespoke for Deaf and Deaf Blind people such as: video interface doorbell with a mobile application, night lights, special kettle, magnifier application on mobile phones for the blind, and many more. I am also working on building an individualised database of each service users with a list of suitable and relatable Assistive Technology in preparation for their transition to community living.



ST JOSEPH'S BOARDERS

We welcomed all the boarders back after the summer holidays by holding a 'Welcome Back BBQ'. This year we have three new boarding boys and we would like to take this opportunity to welcome Callum, Simon and Finn to the house, you are very welcome boys and we look forward to working with you and your families in the future. The BBQ was a great success and gave the boys and girls a chance to catch up with each other and to form new friendships. The weather was on our side and we had a lovely sunny day. Many thanks to Niall and Dave for looking after the BBQ and to Anne our chef for the lovely food. The boys and girls played outside for hours in the sunshine.

We also had a trip to the Phoenix Park as a way of helping all the boys get to know each other. We enjoyed a well-deserved ice-cream, and played football and were able to roll down some hills, fun in the sun!

We have introduced cooking as part of life skills in the house, well done Finn on cooking Taco's for the boy's supper in his first week. Well done Elvinas for being so creative, look at the wooden tower you created!!!

Congratulations to our four senior boys Dean, Johnny, Eoin and Ronan who sat their Leaving Cert and Leaving Cert applied. We would like to wish you all the best in the future, don't be strangers!

The boys enjoyed a fun day in Zero Latency a virtual game followed by a take away from Camile Thai.

Welcome back from maternity to our nurse Sharon, congratulations on the birth of your beautiful baby girl!

Parents Plus Adolescent Programme is starting on the 4th October and will run until the 13th December. On behalf of CIDP and Holy Family School for the Deaf, we are delighted to offer you the opportunity to attend a Parenting course for parents of children aged 11 plus. It will be held in St. Joseph's Boarders and will start on Friday 4th October from 12.15-2.45pm and will run for 8 weeks, finishing up on 13th December. If you have any questions or concerns or to find out more information please do not hesitate to contact the school or the boys boarding house.



On a recent Saturday visit to Carrick on Shannon, I popped in to Our Happy Place, a welcoming café just a two-minute walk from the river.

I was aware that Evan Maguire, one of the boys in Boarding at The Holy Family School for the Deaf, worked there every Saturday from 10am to 3pm.

Evan was happy to see a familiar face and despite being busy, made me a cup of coffee.

Evan has a number of duties in the restaurant, including helping with the washing up, organising the tables and serving the customers.

Evan has been working there for quite a while and is a valued and popular member of the staff team.

It is great to see that Evan has secured a Saturday job and we wish him well in this.

As Carrick is on a regular route for me, I look forward to returning to the restaurant for a snack and to say hello to Evan at his workstation in Our Happy Place.



@CIDP1845

Catholic Institute for Deaf People
Deaf Village Ireland
Ratoath Road
Cabra
Dublin 7

Tel : 01-830 0522

Email: info@cidp.ie

CHY 1394

Editor: Alan Smyth Email: alan@cidp.ie



www.idonate.ie/cidp