

February 2020

Volume 6

WELCOME

Alan Smyth, Editor.

COVID19 - During this time of crisis across the country we are focussed on ensuring we can provide a safe service for our service users and staff in St Joseph's House and across the organisation. Boarding pupils are all at home and we are looking to see what supports we can give them remotely and are working on plans around this. The team in St Joseph's house are doing a tremendous job keep the residents in the house and the community users safe. We also have our teams in boarding providing back up support to both St Joseph's house and some are on call now to the wider HSE Thank you to all involved across the organisation in keeping CIDP going

2019 was another busy year for CIDP across all our services and as we head into 2020 there is a lot more activity planned.

In 2019 it was fantastic to see our first service users in St Josephs house moving into their own homes in the community. This has been going really well and will be covered in more detail later in the newsletter. However, it is worth noting here that we are having challenges with the HSE in terms of ongoing funding to support our service users both in St Josephs House and with the move to the community. We will keep you posted on this as we progress our discussions with the HSE

2019 also saw us go to tender for a company to work with us on our brand/identity. This work is underway and you will all have been given an opportunity to partake in a survey on this. There is also a representative steering group working on this and we expect to see the outputs of this work towards the end of March this year and will update you all as soon as we have detail.

2020 also sees the current strategic plan come to an end and we have been working on our new strategic plan. We are aiming to launch this in Q2 this year.

As part of our drive to continually improve our services we have also been doing work on our boarding model and looking at what is the best service model we can provide as we move to an amalgamated boarding. To lead this we have appointed a new Head of Care and Lisa Moriarty was successful in the interview process and started her new role on the 6th January. We wish Lisa well in this role and look forward to the outputs of the work she and the wider boarding team will drive in 2020.

Finally in this piece we want to acknowledge the great work that Joanne Chester has done in promoting awareness around the challenges of employment as a Deaf person and congratulate her on this and the Tedx Talk she did last year. If you haven't seen this click on the link

www.youtube.com/watch?v=lvR1RtgPa3w



NEW BOARD MEMBERS

CIDP would like to announce the appointment of three people as board members of CIDP



Dominic McGreal was born in Louisburgh, County Mayo and educated at St. Joseph's School for the Deaf Boys in Cabra. He has been involved in the Deaf community for nearly thirty years. He was a committee member and honorary secretary of Greenbow LGBT society of Ireland for the last fifteen years and was board member with various organisations such as Irish Deaf Youth Association, Old Deaf Men's Shed, Broadcasting Authority of Ireland and the subcommittee for Deaf Adult Literacy Services and Irish Sign Language Recognition. Dominic was involved in the Dublin Theatre of the Deaf for more than 25 years as an actor, writer and director, producing *The Deaf Ghost* and *The Great Epidemic of 1919* for the 100 year centenary for the Dublin Theatre of the Deaf. He is a graduate of; Drama Studies at Gallaudet University in the USA, Equality Studies in UCD and Archival Skills in Maynooth University.

Rosemary Grant graduated in social work from Trinity College Dublin in 1978. She worked in the Coombe Women and Infants University Hospital from 1978 to 1983 at which point she moved to the Maternity Unit in St. James' Hospital as Senior Medical Social Worker. She returned to the CWIUH in 1985 as Principal Medical Social Worker and remained there until her retirement in September 2019. During her career she had regular contact with members of the deaf community. She hopes to bring to CIDP her experience in the areas of safeguarding and risk management

Andrew Fagan is Director of the Child Safeguarding and Protection Service of the Archdiocese of Dublin, a post he has held since 2010. A social worker, Andrew previously worked in the fields of child protection and residential child care as a practitioner, manager and inspector of services for children. Andrew has been associated with CIDP for the past ten years offering advice on matters relating to safeguarding and child protection.



Tree Removed

Six horse chestnut trees located at the Green Village of the CID Campus, were removed in the interest of safety reasons in October/November 2019 after three trees fell within 16 months. In July 2018, a certified tree surgeon examined the trees and the trees had significant bleeding canker, basal trunk showing signs of infection with armillaria, a root decaying fungi, and large amounts of deadwood in the upper canopy, which recommended they be removed within 3 years. We are committed to planting new trees in Spring 2020

CIDP was recently shortlisted for the Good Governance Initiative Awards 2019. This was a fantastic achievement for the organisation as there was a huge increase in entries this year. The awards were attended on the night by Keith Adams(CEO), Geraldine Tallon (Chairperson) and members of our governance focus group (Mary Stringer, Mary Sheridan, Alan Smyth).

CIDP's entry for The Good Governance Initiative was based around our drive towards Good Governance and the introduction of a Good Governance Induction Module to be introduced in early 2020. In the entry we highlighted the ongoing work that the Board and management have been doing towards improving and driving Good Governance. The entry also highlighted that CIDP want Governance to be understood and practised by all staff across the organisation. A video is currently being created at the moment as part of the Good Governance Module and all staff will have the opportunity to view this in the coming months. The aim is that staff will then understand the 6 principles of Governance and how Good Governance impacts our roles and the services we provide for our service users.

CIDP would like to congratulate the Governance Focus Group on their entry and although they were runners up in their category for 2019, it was a great achievement to be shortlisted.



ST JOSEPH'S HOUSE

St Joseph's House is in the midst of change and it has been a busy few months for both service users and staff.

The St Joseph's Community model is up and running with 4 service users having transitioned to their new home. An additional 8 service users are currently preparing to move within the next few months. Staff and service users are working together to ensure a smooth transition. We are currently running two models of service. Whilst this is no small feat with on the job learning as we go the results already are clear to see that community living is having a positive impact on service users lives. However, as mentioned on our front page we have been in ongoing discussion with the HSE around the appropriate financial support to complete the move of our service users into the community. This has been slow process but we are making progress although this has unavoidably been interrupted by the COVID19 pandemic. Now our focus is on ensuring our service users both in St Joseph's House and in the community as well as the teams supporting the are protected as well as we can during this pandemic crisis. As we progress our position with the HSE we will keep service users and their families, staff and the wider Deaf Community updated - as we are determined to ensure every person in St Josephs services gets to live the life of their choice

Painting and decorating has been ongoing at St Joseph's House and the house is looking fresh and bright.

Following the HIQA inspection CIDP met with HIQA to go through the report and a number of areas have been identified for improvement. We have a dedicated team working to ensure all actions are followed up and completed and would like to thank all our staff and service users for working with us to put into place revisions. It is important we keep up the good work to ensure a quality service for all our service users who remain in the house during this time of transition. The HIQA report is available online to review and any queries should be sent directly to kadams@cidp.ie

In other news the Christmas party went very well and a number of service users living in the community came back to the house for the party which was fantastic as it was a great opportunity to catch up and also share their stories with other service users about their experiences to date.

A group have been cooking up a storm on a weekly basis with Anna Maher and Justin Smyth. So far, they have mastered many dishes to cook in their new homes.

We are delighted to advise Linda Tierney returned back to work after maternity leave and a number of new staff have joined us including Keith Silvester and Eire Mc Glip-Quinlan. Monique Lima has joined the discovery team and is working with two service users who have secured community housing and will be moving to the community soon

Joanne Chester took up permanent position with boarding and we are delighted that she continues to work within the organisation.

2020 is set to be a very busy year for the service and we are thankful we have such a dedicated team of staff to help us as we journey through the year to a community service model



Thank you to all our service users and staff for their assistance in 2019. We are looking forward to 2020 with excitement.



BOARDING (ST MARY & JOSEPH)

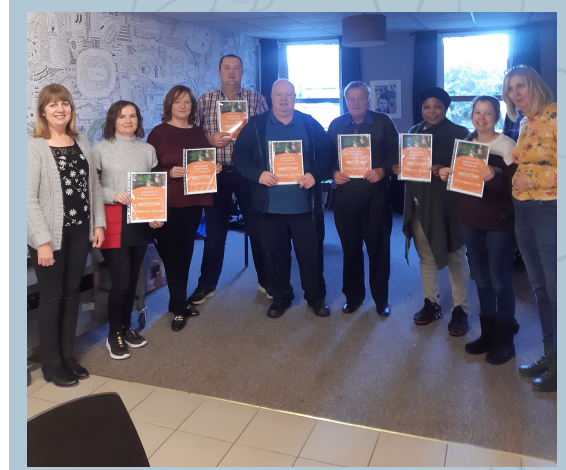
Half way through the academic year, we are excited to share what we have been up to - we have been very busy! We have new additions to our staff team in Mary's , Joanne Chester and Liz Quinn are our new Social Care Workers, welcome on board guys!

We would like to congratulate Charlene, she is now our Social Care Leader while Nikita is on her maternity leave. We had a baby shower party for her and we played some funny games. Nikita, enjoy the break and we cannot wait to see you and your new addition when you are back.

There's been a few changes around the building, we have upgraded our sensory room with the funds raised from the VHI mini marathon- thank you to those who walked or ran in the mini marathon. We also have a new study room, both staff and boarders from the Converse group worked together on the room and the girls are free to decorate the room however they like. We hope it will help them in their studying. We have a new games room with lots of new games thanks to the generous donation from St. Vincent de Paul.

We cannot forget the parties - We had our Halloween party in St. Josephs, there were prizes for most-scariest costumes and they went to well-deserved candidates! The senior group of boys went to Farmaphobia, it was a great experience, all the boys seemed to enjoy it and one could hear the screams from the tearoom! The junior boys went to the cinema, carved pumpkins and enjoyed the joint party with the girls.

Congratulations to Finn for winning a prize for best dressed, he makes a great American footballer! For our annual Christmas activities, some girls went roller skating and there were plenty of stiff legs the next day! The other girls enjoyed the cupcake decorating workshop, led by Lynda Cardiff. She taught them how to make buttercream and how to decorate the cupcakes using different techniques. The older girls had a workshop from Noeleen Cunningham, a Deaf make up artist. She taught them about skin care and how to apply makeup. The girls thoroughly enjoyed the workshop. For Christmas the senior boys went Go karting and bowling in The Zone . The junior boys went to Zero Latency a virtual gaming room, which they thoroughly enjoyed , followed by a Chinese back in the house. Both boys and girls enjoyed the Christmas party and enjoyed a visit from Santa (thanks PJ)! Many thanks to Anne our chef for helping some of the junior boys make Christmas cakes for their families, they all did a great job!



The Parents Plus Adolescent programme finished on the 13th December and 12 parents got their certificate, well done to all Parents for your commitment and for attending this eight week course. We hope that you have learnt new skills for going forward, and we hope to see you all again for the Follow – up session in the New Year.

The Parents Plus Children's Programme is due to start in spring for Parents of young children in primary school. You can contact the school for more information on this.



ISL WEEK

We also celebrated ISL week in September- we had a range of activities to mark this occasion; painting rocks, Caoimhe and Abbey interviewing different people about what ISL meant to them and we all wore blue. The boys put a lot of effort into celebrating ISL week, making a special cake for everyone and putting together a Power-point Presentation, whereby they celebrated famous Deaf people of interest to them and showed an Astronaut in space signing. Our own staff did a poem/rap in ISL and we invited Brenda as our special guest to reminisce on signs old and new through the ages.

We are proud of Shauna Hamilton, our boarder, who was selected to represent Ireland in World Deaf Futsal Championship 2019 in Switzerland. Cheyanne has been attending Cake Decorating classes with Irish Deaf Society and created two lovely cakes which she kindly shared with us. We had a group of girls visiting Pavee Point to learn about the Traveller community which was an interesting visit.

Japhet Ogu is in the process of trying to organise a place in Gallaudet College in Washington. He is over in the States at present working on his application. We wish him all the best with this.

The GAA coach is considering entering Simon Stokes into football competitions in the local community, which is a great achievement as he has huge potential. Well done to Simon for this.

Elvinas has shown a keen interest in developing the garden area at the back of St. Joseph's into a sensory garden. Staff have assisted him in creating a box area around the tree and have planted some winter plants with funding received from the Lotto grant. They plan on adding to the garden in coming months.

Finn, Simon, Julians and Elvinas filled shoeboxes with gifts for children in need in association with Team Hope.





NCDP

November

Bereaved Families shared in our Remembrance Mass in the Emmaus Chapel and joined together afterwards for light refreshments. The Mass of Remembrance hosted by The Deaf Heritage Centre for all past pupils and staff of St. Joseph's and St. Mary's School for Deaf was well attended. Remembering Services were also held in the Senior and Junior Holy Family School.

December

Our annual Christmas Families in Need project was a huge success. Our community gave generously of their time and money to ensure this success.

Our thanks to all of you who voluntarily gave your time to sell raffle tickets.

Hampers and voucher were distributed to those in need.

In total our Family in Need appeal came to €1,230



Welcome 2020

- Weekly Communion and Prayer Services in St. Joseph's House Chapel each Sunday
- Weekly masses in St Joseph's House Brewery each Monday
- Weekly masses in Emmaus Chapel are held at 7.30 pm each Saturday

Dates to remember are:

- Ash Wednesday 26th February
- St. Patrick's Day 17th March
- Holy Thursday 9th April
- Good Friday 10th April
- Holy Saturday 11th April
- Easter Sunday 12th April

Pilgrimages

We now have dates and cost of our annual pilgrimage to Lourdes 2020
The pilgrimage will take place from 9th – 14th September 2020 and the cost €765.00 per person sharing.

We look forward to a good year in The National Chaplaincy for Deaf People.



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