

Easter

Newsletter

2016

DONEGAL CENTRE FOR
INDEPENDENT
LIVING



NEWSLETTER

Donegal CIL Newsletter

Easter 2016

HAPPY
EASTER

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March 2016

Disable Inequality Campaign

DFI Disable Inequality Campaign in conjunction with the Donegal Centre for Independent Living.

The General Election 2016 was a time for people with disabilities and their families to get active on issues that affected them. As a member organisation of Disability Federation of Ireland (DFI) - Donegal Centre for Independent Living (DCIL) encouraged our members to support and get involved with their election campaign, Disable Inequality. The campaign was all about YOU, and YOUR story of living with a disability.

The voices of people with disabilities were heard nationwide in the various debates around the 2016 General election. This is not only because 1 in 8 Irish people have a disability but, more importantly, because they are deeply affected by so many of the issues at the heart of political debate.

DISABLE 
INEQUALITY
**VOTE to end discrimination for
people living with disability**

Election Candidates Meeting



Election Candidates who took part in the successful debate in the Radisson.

On Wednesday 17th of February 2016, 2 - 4.15pm in the Radisson Blu Hotel, Letterkenny, people with disabilities and their families had an opportunity to come together and highlight our main priorities for Election 2016. This public meeting was hosted by DCIL as part of the Disable Inequality Campaign. It was an opportunity for a wider group of organisations, individuals and their families with disabilities to have their voices heard pre-election. All election candidates were invited to explain to us what they will do in the forthcoming government to eradicate the inequality of the treatment suffered at the hands of the state.

Election 2016 was a great opportunity to create a fairer and more inclusive society where people with disabilities are treated on par with other Irish citizens.

Candidates attending the session included Joe McHugh, minister of state (FG); Pádraig MacLochlainn, TD (SF), Cllr. Niamh Kennedy (Ind); Paula Flanagan (Greens); Thomas Pringle, TD (Ind); Cllr Frank McBrearty Jr (Ind); Cllr. Gary Doherty (SF); Tim Jackson (Ind); Michael Mooney (Ind); Paddy Harte (FG); and Pat “the Cope” Gallagher (FF).

March 2016

DCIL Christmas Party & Annual Awards 2015

The DCIL Christmas Party and Annual Awards Ceremony was held in the Radisson Blu, Letterkenny on 10th December, 2015.

Many thanks to all of you who attended, a great night was had. Here are some of our Award Winners from the night.



Rosaleen presenting our 2015 Leader of the Year, Owen McGirr with his award, also pictured is Owen's PA, Darren McGroarty.



DCIL Chairperson, Roisin presenting our 2015 PA of the Year, Marion McLoughlin with her award.



Pauline Larkin accepting the Fundraiser of the Year Award on behalf of Donna Russell.

Better Together Event

The Donegal Centre for Independent Living celebrated winning at the Better Together Awards Ceremony in Dublin Castle on Wednesday 9th December. We were proud winners on the night having won the **Better Together 2015 Large Organisations Award** after a successful video entry based on the Independent Living philosophy.



Our Award!

Disability Awareness Training

This is an awareness raising campaign carried out by DCIL leaders in Donegal primary and post primary schools since 2010. It encourages positive attitudinal change among students towards people with disabilities, not only locally but also globally.



Our Manager, with Jennifer Doherty and Richard Alcorn. Taken when Jennifer passed on the Disability Awareness Officer role to Richard.

Since Richard took over this role from his predecessor Jennifer in November last year he has travelled many miles up and down the county. Visiting 13 schools in total, county-wide. The training takes place over 2 days.

Richard educates the students regarding the need for equality and justice on Day 1. The message is that it is not people's impairments that disable them but the people they deal with and the environment around them that create the barriers to their integration and inclusion in society.

After Richards presentation the students then have around a week to reflect on this and when Richard returns for Day 2, they present him with their projects based on their new understanding of people living with a disability.



Students from Crana College in Buncrana along with Richard Alcorn, our Disability Awareness Officer

Special Thanks to Martin Orr

Everyone here at DCIL would like to thank Martin Orr for his fundraising efforts in aid of our organisation. We really appreciate his help and kindness.

Martin & his band, The Honky Tonk Heroes played in Voodoo on Sunday 24th January 2016 from 6pm to 8pm. With all proceeds from the sale of raffle tickets being donated to Donegal CIL. There was a big turnout which lead to an electric atmosphere during the session.

Donegal CIL would also like to thank everyone else who assisted in making this happen. Most notably Nuala O'Hagan and her friend, Marion who were a great help on the evening.

All fundraising efforts are really appreciated during these restricted times so many thanks.

The Berkeley Suite at “Ballymacool House”

We also offer a fully accessible Training/Meeting venue that provides for an extensive range of uses to the local community. The Berkeley Suite is located here at the DCIL premises at Ballymacool House, Ballymacool, Letterkenny. For booking enquiries please contact us to check availability and obtain a quote.

What the Berkeley Suite has to offer?

- Free Wi-Fi
- Accessibility
- Video Conference Call Facilities
- Interactive Whiteboard
- Overhead Projector
- Board Room Table and Chairs
- Car Parking On Site
- Kitchen Facilities
- Classroom Facilities
- Flipchart
- 12 PC's
- Printer
- Bathroom Facilities
- Spacious Training Room
- Idyllic Views



For Your Attention...

2016 AGM

This years *Annual General Meeting* will be held in DCIL premises, *Ballymacool House*, Ballymacool, Letterkenny on **Tuesday 12th April** at 2pm. It would be greatly appreciated if as many of you as possible would make an effort to attend.

DCIL Membership forms are available from the office and we encourage any leader/ supporter to please complete this before the AGM.

DCIL also hope to have Jason Black speak at the event where we look forward to his motivational words in challenging times.

Service Survey

In an effort to have the HSE reinstate some of the harsh cuts it has inflicted on DCIL over the past 7 years, we plan to circulate a survey that will hopefully help identify the necessity of DCIL and it's services in Donegal. We plan to present these findings to both our funders and our local representatives in our strive to become an organisation that operates without financial deficit going forward.

We really need your help in completing and returning these surveys.

Thanks in advance.

This Newsletter is to keep you informed about anything related to DCIL. If you would like to contribute in any way please feel free to contact us by sending your email to **dcil@eircom.net** or by phone on **074 91 28945**.

DCIL Board of Management

Chairperson : *Roisin Kavanagh*

Treasurer : *Martin McIntyre*

Secretary : *Cath Waugh*

Board Members

Donal K. O'Boyle

Frank Larkin

Sorcha Ward

Paul Fagan

Contact Us

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