



Young Carers Programme

Sonia Brady

&

Jennifer Kavanagh



History

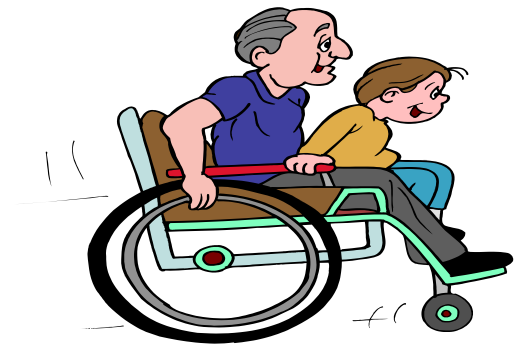
- The City of Dublin Youth Service Board (CDYSB) was invited by the CDVEC to become involved in supporting the development of a Young Carers Project as part of a collaborative process in response to the needs of young carers



The project was initiated by Crosscare
and it currently involves two schools;

- Coláiste Eoin, Finglas

- Margaret Aylward Community
College, Whitehall



Colaiste Eoin

There have been 7 young people referred and current provision includes;

- Drop-In
- One-To-One support
- Small groups

Programmes

Some of the programmes in which the young have participated in include;

- Young Women's Make-Up
- Car Model Making
- Summer Programme
- Arts and Craft Programmes
- Drugs & Alcohol

Margaret Aylward

This is an all girls school, there have been 8 young people referred and current provision includes;

- Drop-In
- One to One support
- Small groups

Programmes

Some of the programmes in which the young have participated in include;

- Arts and Crafts
- Sexual Health
- Drug and Alcohol
- Summer Programme

Aims of the Programmes

- To build relationships
- To learn new skills
- To mix with other young carers
- To participate in a new experience
- To provide a space where they can discuss their experiences as young carers
- To have fun

Outcomes

- Young people have built good relationships with the workers
- Young people have integrated Young people are openly talking about their circumstances and why they are young carers
- Young people had the opportunity to have some fun, learn new skills and experience new activities
- Young people have improved personal skills
- Wider issues and needs for some young people have become apparent to workers

Outcomes for the Schools

- The issue of young carers was raised amongst staff
- The programme has promoted educational attendance and attainment for those who attended

House visits

- After each young person is assessed, they need to be consented in order to participate in the programme
- Workers call to their homes to have Parental Consent Forms completed
- The house visit allow for workers to get a better understanding of the level of need of the young carer
- It gives parents/guardians the opportunity to discuss their needs and to get a better understanding of the programme
- The forms are done on an annual basis, which gives workers the opportunity to give and receive feedback from parents/guardians

Drop-In

- Workers have recently established a Drop-In in Finglas for the young carers to meet in an informal setting
- The young people participate in games, cooking, health & beauty or just 'hang out'
- There is a former member of the Young Carers Programme volunteering in the Drop-In

Future Hopes

- To establish a Drop-In for the Ballymun area
- To expand the programme to more schools
- To have a Young Carers Forum