



# Annual Report

## 2019

Traveller Men's Health Project – Trip to Croagh Patrick



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## Staff & Volunteers



# Chairperson's Address

I approach the end of my second year as Chairperson in FDYS in what has been a strange and unprecedented time. This year we experienced a new set of challenges in providing our services and I would like to commend the management, staff and volunteers for the work and dedication they have given to their work and the organisation during this difficult time.

As we have seen throughout the year, the survival plan put in place last year, has continued to be effective and the organisation continues to move in the right direction, even with all the added difficulties experienced throughout the year. We continue to strive to provide our services to those in need of them, remotely or otherwise and to improve on them with our new Strategic Plan going forward.

Youth services are a growing sector and I would encourage anyone interested in volunteering to partake in this rewarding work. I would like to thank our staff, volunteers and most importantly the young people who make our work worth doing everyday.

*Michelle Sinnott,*

Chairperson, FDYS CLG.

# Chief Executive's Reflection

As we continue to work on our Strategic Plan 2020 vision, we commit to being the best at what we do. Our vision and values include the hopes and dreams of our stakeholders, so that we have an interesting document that tries to project a vision into the future. We could never have anticipated the additional services and supports that are now available in FDYS. I thank my staff team for identifying emerging needs, for securing the resources to meet these needs and for delivering quality youth work, childcare services and community work.

I am proud to lead an organisation where young people and their families are at the heart of everything we do. We have re-organised our company structure so that services are grouped geographically and wrap around our clients and services users. Our team of staff and volunteers in each area attempt to give a seamless response to needs.

We are committed to quality services and align ourselves to the National Quality Frameworks, so that we are the best we can be. Our governance structures have been tested by funders and other agencies and found to be robust and fit for purpose ensuring integrity, transparency and accountability in everything we do.

I thank most sincerely all those who contributed to our work in 2019, especially volunteers and staff working closely together. In 2019, our volunteers generously donated their valuable time to deliver quality youth work in every corner of County Wexford. I also thank all FDYS staff for our programmes and for the valuable work that they do.

I truly love my work in FDYS. I continue to be committed to FDYS, to County Wexford, to young people and their families, to my staff teams and management teams and to my family. Your combined support is what makes FDYS a super place to visit and work.

*Kieran Donohoe*

Chief Executive Officer, FDYS CLG

# Where we were located in 2019

## Youth Services

23 Youth Clubs (rural and urban).

Community Youth Projects in Enniscorthy, Gorey, Coolcotts and Wexford (Outreach - Bridgetown; Music Box)

Youth Information Services from “Youth Info”;

Garda Youth Diversion Project – Slaney.

Risk & Resilience (Detached Youth Work Programme - Bunclody ; New Ross; Wexford.

Cloister Youth Facility (Wexford Town)

Co Wexford Comhairle na Nog

LGBTI Programme

ROMA Community Inclusion Programme

ROMA Health Advocacy Project

Roma Employment Project

STAR – Supporting Traveler & Roma

## Community Childcare

Junglebox Childcare Centre, Wexford;

Wonderland Childcare Centre, Enniscorthy;

School Age Childcare Programme, Coolcotts, Wexford.

New Ross Community Childcare

Bunclody Afterschool Project

## Community Services

Community Based Drugs Initiative (CBDI); (Countywide)

Drugs Outreach Programme; (Countywide)

Buncody Traveller Family Support Programme

Traveller Men’s Health Programme

Traveller Inclusion Project

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### 1. COMMUNITY BASED DRUGS INITIATIVE (CBDI) *(including Education, Prevention Services, Drugs Outreach Services and Family Support)*

In relation to 2019, it is worth highlighting that we represent CBDI/FDYS on a wide variety of steering groups and committees. For CBDI project workers this includes being Community Rep with the Drugs Task Force, Connecting for Life, CYPSC, Traveller Mental Health, Slaney Garda Youth Diversion Project, SMART Recovery steering group.

The project workers role is very varied and rewarding as it involves taking a community-wide approach to reducing the harm associated with substance misuse, combining direct support work with those struggling with substance misuse issues, with taking a wider approach to addressing associated issues.

#### **Contact Details**

FDYS Francis Street - 053 912 3262

John Paul Neill - johnpaul.oneill@fdys.ie

Ann Lacey - [ann.lacey@fdys.ie](mailto:ann.lacey@fdys.ie)

Val Carley - [val.carley@fdys.ie](mailto:val.carley@fdys.ie)

Kelley Hyland - [kelley.hyland@fdys.ie](mailto:kelley.hyland@fdys.ie)

Nicola Green - [nicola.greene@fdys.ie](mailto:nicola.greene@fdys.ie)

There are plenty of highlights when working with vulnerable people in the community. In the majority of cases there are positive developments in relation to reducing the impact that substance use is having on the lives of our clients and those around them. For some it may be supporting them to plan and achieve a

reduction in the frequency and/or quantity of their consumption, for others it may be advocating for them in terms of the progress that they are making, or helping them to negotiate appointments with other services. Ultimately, each case carries its own challenges and brings its own rewards, however the effort and commitment to change that our service users demonstrate is the always the main factor at the core of any positive outcome that we are involved in.



CBDI work is very varied no two days are alike, nor no two years are the same. We take on many different roles below are two examples of work carried out in 2019.

2019 was a busy year for me as a community rep for Public Participation Network PPN. I was facilitator for the secretariat which rotates every 6 months. I was also very involved in the consultation process of developing “Our vision for community wellbeing” which can be found on [wexfordppn.ie](http://wexfordppn.ie)

Clients we work with are both substance misusers and family members of substance misusers. They often have multiple issues and traumas in their lives which consume them. However, when they are supported to address these, often change their whole lives around again. One such client was a 28 year old male who used a variety of substances for a few years, he wanted to stop all drugs but wasn't sure where to start. After doing an initial assessment with him, we developed a care plan and prioritised areas he wanted to address. We then worked through these using tools from the SMART recovery programme. We worked together for over 14 months before he felt confident enough to reduce support. I checked in with him recently and he and his partner have

a 6 month old son and he still can't believe he's drug free now for 20 months- he really can't believe he's also alcohol free and enjoying life a thing he thought was impossible in late 2018.

The primary focus of the Community Based Drugs Initiative is to provide support to individuals affected by substance misuse. This is often done by applying and offering drug education and awareness and the harm reduction approach, on a 1-1 basis. Reflecting on 2019, I recall positive changes and an overall improved quality of life by those who availed of the service, I also availed of the opportunity regularly to advance my own personal development, through various trainings such as the completion of Management of Actual and Potential Aggression (MAPA). I look forward to supporting new and existent service users in the future.

## **2. COOLCOTTS COMMUNITY YOUTH PROJECT / Drop In / Youth Café (including Afterschool Project)**

### **About our Service:**

We at the FDYS Coolcotts Youth Project believe in supporting young people to realise their full potential, to have a space where they can use their voice and develop new skills and to promote personal wellbeing for all young people. Throughout 2019 we provided a number of services and activities to accommodate these core beliefs, such as Homework Support, Circus Skills Workshops, Teen Advisory Group Meetings, Youth Cafes, Soccer Matches and programmes such as Music and Photography. We also held our annual Halloween Fest and organised trips and outings for the young people - rewarding them for their continuous engagement with the project and the programmes.

### **Contact Details:**

Debbie Roche - [debbie.roche@fdys.ie](mailto:debbie.roche@fdys.ie)  
Eimear McMahon - [eimear.mcmahon@fdys.ie](mailto:eimear.mcmahon@fdys.ie)  
Kris McGuire - [kris.mcguire@fdys.ie](mailto:kris.mcguire@fdys.ie)  
Project Mobile - 086 786 0180



### Highlights of 2019:

One of the big highlights of 2019 was the annual Halloween Fest. The young people had been learning how to stilt walk and perform through weekly circus workshops and got to show off their newly learned skills in a parade held in the Coolcotts Area. These skills were also displayed when the young people were invited down to the Cathleen Brown Festival. The young members of the Music Programme also performed covers on stage at the Halloween Fest and worked with a facilitator to write an original Christmas song which they recorded before the end of the year. Other highlights of the year included pool tournaments, days out at leisuremax, an overnight stay at Carne to reward the young people, being involved in Wexford's Suicide Awareness event and in Youth Wave Ireland and two of our young people making it onto Comhairle Na Nog.



### 3. Creche / Playschool Wexford - JUNGLEBOX

✉ Waterloo Road, Wexford. ☎ 05391 21166

📧 [junglebox@fdys.ie](mailto:junglebox@fdys.ie)

- **Opening Days and Times** : Monday – Friday 8.30am – 5.30pm
- **Referrals** : Yes
- **How to Refer** : Contact Joy Keyes
- **Eligibility Criteria** : Children from 4 months to 5 years of age. Junglebox and Wonderland are Community Based Childcare Centres that have a waiting list in operation.
- **Contact Person** : Joy Keyes

2019 has been another busy year for staff and children of Junglebox, with some staff commencing QQI Level 6 and Level 7 training in childcare, as well as up-dating their First Aid, Health & Safety, Fire Safety and Child Protection training throughout the year.



The Children have continually benefited from the staff expertise in their development through play based learning which is delivered in a fun way to babies up to our afterschool children. The pre-school children got to visit Blackwater Open Farm before they finished with us to start primary school. The 2019/2020 pre-school children treated their family and friends to a Christmas Concert of song and dance which was enjoyed by all. To finish off a great year we had a visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus.



### 4. Creche / Playschool Enniscorthy - WONDERLAND

✉ Island Road, Enniscorthy. ☎ 053 9237886

📧 [junglebox@fdys.ie](mailto:junglebox@fdys.ie)

- **Opening Days and Times** : Monday – Friday 8.30am – 5.30pm
- **Referrals** : Yes
- **How to Refer** : Contact Nicola Dobbs
- **Eligibility Criteria** : Children from 18 months to 5 years of age. Junglebox

and Wonderland are Community Based Childcare Centres that have a waiting list in operation.

- **Contact Person** : Nicola Dobbs



**5. Creche / Playschool – NEW ROSS**

☒ District Hospital Grounds, New Ross ☎ 051 441788 📧 [junglebox@fdys.ie](mailto:junglebox@fdys.ie)

- **Opening Days and Times** : Monday – Friday 9.00am – 1.00pm
- **Referrals** : Yes
- **How to Refer** : Contact Joy Keyes
- **Eligibility Criteria** : Children from 2 years 10 months to 5 years of age.

**Contact Person** : Joy Keyes

**6. BUNCLODY TRAVELLER PROJECT – Afterschool Service**



☒ Market Square, Bunclody. ☎ 053 93 75570 📧 [david.wright@fdys.ie](mailto:david.wright@fdys.ie)

**Opening Days and Times** : Monday – Friday 14.30 to 18.00

- **Referrals** : Yes

- **How to Refer** : Contact David Wright
- **Eligibility Criteria** : Children from 5 years of age to 12 years of age.

**Contact Person** : David Wright



**7. BUNCLODY TRAVELLER FAMILY SUPPORT PROGRAMM**

☒ Market Square, Bunclody. ☎ 053 91 23262

📧 [sally.murphy@fdys.ie](mailto:sally.murphy@fdys.ie); [celine.cash@fdys.ie](mailto:celine.cash@fdys.ie)

- **Opening Days and Times** : Monday – Thursday 14.30 to 18.00
- **Referrals** : Yes
- **How to Refer** : Contact Hayley Rochford
- **Eligibility Criteria** : Traveller Families in the Bunclody Area

**Contact Person** : Sally Murphy; Celine Cash



**Bunclody Afterschool Project Monday to Thursday from 1:30-5:30**

We provide a service that helps children from junior infants up to sixth class with their homework, projects and create a friendly space for the children to come. The children at FDYS Afterschool Project were all delighted to return to the afterschool.

**Drop in & Information Every Friday morning from: 10:00-1:00**

We provide a phone call service which helps people with essential needs such as car insurance, medical appointments, and filling out



forms. Our service is a great to the Travelling community in Bunclody and we get great verbal feedback from everyone in our community.

**The young girls group Every Tuesday evenings from 6:30-9:00**

We would usually have 15-20 young Traveller girls ages range from 12-16 years. We have the sisters from our parish coming to help out every Tuesday. We create a safe and empowering environment for our young girls. We promote healthy eating and life skills. We also do a lot of fun activities such as arts and crafts, drama, sewing, knitting, storytelling, music and much more!

**8. CLOISTER YOUTH FACILITY, Wexford;**



The Cloister Youth Cafe offers a service which supports the development of young people aged 11-21 years in a safe, friendly and non judgmental environment, where the youth workers place the young people at the centre of what we do. We aim to engage with young people who are most at risk of substance misuse but we are welcoming to all young people experiencing issues and struggles which challenge their daily lives. We deliver one-on-one support, mentoring and youth led groups. Through our Youth work we offer many programmes which include; Drugs and Alcohol Awareness (Which is a main focus for the Cloister) Sexual Health/ Awareness programmes, Mental health awareness, LGBT support, Life Skills and school/education support.

Our highlight was being nominated for The Garda youth awards by a local Garda who spent a year volunteering with us in the Cloister. The Garda Youth Awards celebrate outstanding young people between 13 and 21 years of age and recognizes the good work being done by young people throughout the communities The awards acknowledge the young people who by their presence make their communities and society in general, a better place in which to live.



**Contact Details** – Becky O Connell- 0860695313; Julie Dowdall-0858056697  
FDYS landline – 0539123262



**9. YOUTH COUNSELLING**

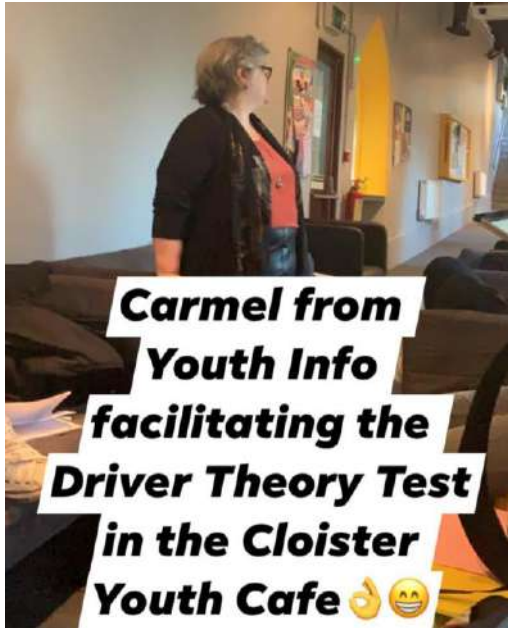
FDYS counselling service offers 1:1 support to teenagers and young people up to 25yrs old. It is an integrative service using methods such as CBT, Sand and person centred approaches in exploring issues which may cause stuckness, anxiety and stress in a young person’s life.

**Highlight:**

In 2019 the service worked with many young people with varying issues. The work of the service was very much enhanced and supported by volunteer counsellors who enabled the service to work many more young people and supported FDYS in keeping waiting times to a reasonable timeframe.

**Contact Details:**

FDYS Youth Counselling Service  
Francis St  
Wexford  
053 91 23262/0879351725  
[mairead.duffy@fdys.ie](mailto:mairead.duffy@fdys.ie)



#### 10. YOUTH INFORMATION CENTRE;

Youth Information is a universal service providing reliable, accurate and understandable information through different sources and channels to young people in Co Wexford and beyond.

In addition, the Integrated Service model provides a point of access to a range of services (under one roof) so that young people have their needs addressed in a holistic and joined up way, thus ensuring a planned approach to serving the needs of young people in a seamless manner.

**Contact Details:** Siobhan/Carmel  
0858814259/youthinfowex@fdys.ie



World Suicide Prevention Day is an annual event raising awareness and working towards the common goal of preventing suicide. Youth Information/FDYS have been to the fore in joining many others across the world in playing

their part in the prevention of suicide. The theme for 2019 was “Working together to prevent suicide”; reminding us that suicide is a community issue and is everyone's business.



#### 11. WEXFORD AREA YOUTH SUPPORTS

##### The Young Women's Programme

The Young Women's Programme is based in Wexford town, Bridgetown and surrounding areas. Young women aged between 15-25 refer themselves or are referred into the programme by family support workers, social workers and community and voluntary sector.

Youth Workers offer one to one support and often signpost and hand hold young women to other services and professionals who we feel meet their needs.

Many of the young women who are referred to us do join our groups; the focus of these groups is mainly about personal and social development. They develop positive relationships, gain support from other young women; they learn coping mechanisms and strategies. We support these young women until they feel that they are ready to take the next steps in life.

**Contact Details:** Maria Brennan FDYS Francis St. Tel: 053-9123262 email: maria.brennan@fdys.ie

##### Highlights 2019

One of the groups met every Thursday morning during the year. The women reported that they

felt less alone, listened to and supported with the issues that were affecting their lives at the time.



During the summer we had a day trip to the beach with the women and their children. It was a great day as the sun was shining and we travelled by train as most of the children had never been on a train.



### **Music Hub**

The FDYS music group provides a safe space for young people who have an interest in music to come and play an instrument, sing, rap or produce music. Young people are also given the opportunity take part in music related workshops, activities, and are encouraged to get involved in the Irish Youth Music Awards.

### **Contact Details**

Maria Brennan Tel: 085 8888388  
maria.brennan@fdys.ie  
Elaine Goldsberry Tel: 086 1383393  
elaine.goldsberry@fdys.ie

### **Highlights 2019**

The main highlights of 2019 include the Irish Youth Music Awards national day which took place on May 11th at Croake park. Young people from the music group attended with the Wexford entry 'Lively'. Through the IYMA's young people took part in music-based

education and workshops as well as being given access to the creative and music industries.



On July 19th the Music group went to the National Opera house to experience the Milwaukee Youth Symphony Orchestra play. The Milwaukee Youth Symphony Orchestra is the largest youth orchestra in the USA, it promotes diversity, equity, inclusion, and access for all and through music connects with young people, their families, and the community. A great evening was had by all.



### **12. BRIDGETOWN YOUTH FACILITY**

✉ Bridgetown, Co. Wexford ☎ 05391 75287  
📧 [gemma.cullen@fdys.ie](mailto:gemma.cullen@fdys.ie);  
[nadine.obrien@fdys.ie](mailto:nadine.obrien@fdys.ie);

### **Bridgetown Inbetweenagers**

Providing a safe space for young people to meet peers, receive homework support, engage in activities and gain information where require. Young people also engaged in programmes on societal topics such as mental health and LGBTI+ issues.



**Bridgetown Junior Group**

Providing a safe space where young people aged 15 -16 years can meet their peers, take part in programmes and have fun. Young people attended Youth Wave 2019 in Athlone.



**Rosslare Drop In**

The drop in was held every Tuesday and provided a relaxing drop in space for young people aged 15-20 years where they could meet peers, engage with youth workers and gain information where required. Youth workers worked alongside detached workers where detached workers referred young people they met on the street into the drop-in. Young people also engaged in driver theory for a period of 6 weeks. Driver theory was co-facilitated by Siobhan McMahon, Youth information.



**Bridgetown Tea and Talk**

From December 2019, Bridgetown Youth Centre started a weekend youth led drop in service, providing a safe space where young people can relax, chat with peers, gain information and receive support where required. Ages range 12pm to 3pm.



**Young Men's Breakfast Morning**

Young men aged 17 to 25 years were offered a safe space where they could engage in peer support, offered a cooked breakfast and gain information and support where required. The breakfast morning was promoted well across social media, local services and hostels. However, no young men attended the breakfast morning and was discontinued for the foreseeable future.

**13. RISK AND RESILIENCE**

This project operates an out of hours streetwork and outreach programme with young people. It is targeted at the RAPID areas of Wexford town / New Ross / Bunclody;

**Bridgetown Inbetweenagers and Rosslare Drop in Contact Details:**

Nadine O'Brien 085-8898047  
Email: nadine.obrien@fdys.ie

**WEXFORD** (Elaine Goldsberry/ Emma Whitty) ☎085 8056697 –  
✉elaine.goldsberry@fdys.ie;  
[emma.whitty@fdys.ie](mailto:emma.whitty@fdys.ie);

**NEW ROSS** (John Caulfield); ☎ 051 420044 / 087 9351754 ✉; [john.caulfield@fdys.ie](mailto:john.caulfield@fdys.ie);

**BUNCLODY** (Sally Murphy; Celine Cash);  
☎ (053) 93 75570 ✉ [sally.murphy@fdys.ie](mailto:sally.murphy@fdys.ie);  
[celine.cash@fdys.ie](mailto:celine.cash@fdys.ie) **Opening hours:** mainly  
2pm -10pm Monday to Wednesday

- **Referrals taken:** yes
- **How to refer:** by contacting the project and registering
- **Eligibility Criteria:** Live in a RAPID Area aged 11yrs plus.
- **Contact Person ;** Elaine Goldsberry / Emma Whitty

#### **14. ENNISCORTHY COMMUNITY YOUTH PROJECT & ENNISCORTHY (SLANEY GARDA YOUTH DIVERSION PROJECT)**

ECYP - Afterschool Facility, Youth Café.  
EYDP (Slaney Project) – Funded by IYJS aimed at preventing young people entering or continuing a life of crime.

##### **Contact Details**

✉ Island Rd., Enniscorthy. ☎ 053 9234574. ✉  
[pilar.loring@fdys.ie](mailto:pilar.loring@fdys.ie); [paula.kelly@fdys.ie](mailto:paula.kelly@fdys.ie);  
[terry.oneill@fdys.ie](mailto:terry.oneill@fdys.ie); [hayley.rochford@fdys.ie](mailto:hayley.rochford@fdys.ie);

- **Opening hours:** 9am to 9pm Monday to Fri., opens Saturday for certain activities.
- **Referral:** yes both self and agency referral
- **How to refer:** ring 053 92 34574
- **Contact:** Pilar Loring / Paula Kelly (ECYP)

Enniscorthy Community Youth Project's emphasis is on diversity, solidarity and inclusion. Our programmes are youth led and essentially there to support and enhance the lives of young people in the community.

##### **ECYP Highlight of 2019**

Erasmus trip to Romania with young people from Ireland, Romania, Spain & Greece worked together to explore equality, human rights and a special focus on Roma culture and the issue that this community face.



##### **SLANEY GARDA YOUTH DIVERSION PROJECT**

In 2019, we continued to work in a wrap-around way with a number of community agencies, to try to develop a continuity of service for at risk young people and their families, in order to reduce offending and enhance relationships, approaching each referral, old and new, through a focused restorative practices lens. Confidence-building and skills development took centre stage with Work to Learn and woodturning featuring as some of our more prominent programmes/interventions.

##### **Contact Details**

Terry O'Neill  
Mobile: 087 935 1764  
Email: [terry.oneill@fdys.ie](mailto:terry.oneill@fdys.ie)

Hayley Rochford  
Mobile: 085 801 1896  
Email: [hayley.rochford@fdys.ie](mailto:hayley.rochford@fdys.ie)

##### **Highlights of 2019**

Three young people completed WTL in 2019. Two of these young people remain in education; one has found part-time employment.

It was a real team effort and a piece of work to make all feel proud of their efforts.



**15. THE SHAMBLES YOUTH DROP IN / YOUTH CAFE**

✉ FDYS, The Shambles, Mary Street, New Ross ☎ 051 420044 / 087 9351754 📧 john.caulfield@fdys.ie;

- **Opening Days and Times** : As agreed with Youth Groups.
- **Referrals taken** : Yes
- **How to Refer** : Referrals taken through school teachers, school completion programme, parents and from other projects as well as young persons counsellor.
- **Eligibility Criteria** : Youth Café Drop In 13-21 years; Drugs Services and Family Support by appointment



**16. LOCAL VOLUNTARY YOUTH CLUB NETWORK**

✉ FDYS, Francis Street, Wexford ☎ 05391 23262 📧 fdysyouthclubs@fdys.ie

**Opening Days and Times** : 9.00am to 5.00 pm, Monday to Friday. Night and Weekend Activities arranged by Season

- **Referrals taken** : Yes
- **How to Refer** : Contact Mark for assistance and support in setting up or running a voluntary youth club in your area.



**17. GOREY COMMUNITY YOUTH PROJECT**

✉ 25 McCurtin Street, Gorey ☎ 053 94 80749 📧 [nadine.obrien@fdys.ie](mailto:nadine.obrien@fdys.ie); [laura.herterich@fdys.ie](mailto:laura.herterich@fdys.ie); 085-8898047

Gorey Community Youth Project covers Gorey town, Riverchapel/Courtown and surrounding areas. GCYP offers a range of programmes and activities for ages 11 to 25 including a youth cafe in Creagh College, youth clubs in Riverchapel and Ballycanew, a music group in Cois Doire, Saturday Tea and Talk and individual one to one support. Outreach is also provided to meet young people who are not engaging youth work services.



From September 2019, GCYP opened up a Saturday Tea and Talk weekend service which provides a safe space where young people can relax, chat with peers, gain information and receive support where required. Our building in McCurtin St also underwent a major renovation project to provide a more youth friendly space for young people to enjoy.

**18. LGBT+ Wexford Youth Support**

**Service**

Working with young LGBT+ young people across the county of Wexford to support them in realising and reaching their full potential through a variety of voluntary youth work activities. There are two main youth projects within FDYS that provide these supports and

services, one in Wexford and one in Enniscorthy. These involve a drop-in youth café, where young people can be their authentic selves, express who they are in terms of their sexual orientation and gender identity, and meet other young people who are on similar journeys to them, which acts as a strong form of peer support and increases social connections. One to one sessions are vital aspects to this work, where young people can chat to a youth worker on an individual basis and services as a useful platform to signpost young people to other services available to them, if required, for example counselling or mental health services. It ensures a space where young people can express themselves or their concerns external to the group setting and provides a chance for them to get to know the service before joining the group, which assists in creating a safe and comfortable environment with the young people.



*Above is our Pride Board created by the young people in the Cloister Youth Space*

### **Highlights of 2019**

Cloister and LGBT+ youth groups and young people from a variety of projects in FDYS attended Dublin Pride for the first time together. This allowed young people to meet other young people and youth groups from across the country, where they had their very own place in the parade and marched through Dublin city with their peers and with youth workers. Young people had the opportunity to attend Youth Work Ireland's and BeLonG TO's Pride breakfast event, where they met and connected with over 520 other young people from LGBT+ groups across the country. FDYS' LGBT+ Youth Strategy was also written and developed in the same year from feedback and consultations from young people on what objectives from the National Strategy were most important to them. This ensured young people's

voices were heard on matters that are important to them.

### **Contact Details:**

E-mail: [emma.whitty@fdys.ie](mailto:emma.whitty@fdys.ie)

Mobile: 086 464 5573



### **19. TRAVELLER MEN'S HEALTH PROGRAMME**

The County Wexford Traveller Men's Health Programme aims to improve the Health and Well-being of the men who participate.

The programme is funded through the Traveller Health Unit of the HSE and operates countywide.



Particular emphasis is given to providing information and support in relation to mental health, diet and nutrition, cardiovascular health, health screening and substance misuse.

One of the key successes in 2019 was the development of the Traveller Cluster group within FDYS. This brought together all the projects with a specific Traveller remit. By working together on projects and sharing knowledge and experience, the outcomes for the community we work with have benefited greatly.

Within the Mens Health Project, highlights included our trips to Croagh Patrick and Mount Melleray and our woodwork projects.



**Contact Details:**

John Caulfield  
John.caulfield@fdys.ie; 086-8152381

Denis O'Connor  
Denis.oconnor@fdys.ie; 086-7853705

**20. TRAVELLER INCLUSION PROJECT**



**Contact Details:**

Robbie Sludds (FDYS Traveller Inclusion Project Worker) 085-8011895  
Mary Helen Connors (ECC Project worker) 087-9896680



The Traveller Inclusion Project aims to work with the Traveller communities throughout County Wexford to build Traveller capacity by providing support, information and referrals through culturally appropriate needs-based services and programmes through;

- Supporting the establishment and/or development of Traveller community groups in Co. Wexford.
- Supporting capacity building and inclusion in decision making fora (e.g. Traveller Interagency Group, Comhairle na Nog, PPN)
- Supporting Traveller families in Co. Wexford.
- Linking pre-school with early childhood education opportunities
- Engaging young Travellers in youth work activities
- Education and Training.
- Health and Wellbeing
- Discrimination and racism.
- Advocacy and accessing services
- Cultural identity.
- Identifying the importance of Gender Equality and LGBTI
- Supporting the establishment and operation of a community office at Drumgoold.
- Building links with other groups and agencies and helping to raise public awareness on issues relevant to the community.
- Engaging participants in activities/ programmes based upon current and developing needs.





**Highlights of 2019**

**Traveller Singing Competition**

The first event of its kind, the Traveller Singing Competition was held on the 5th of June 2019 in FDYS, Island Road, Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford. This event was funded by the Department of Justice and ran in conjunction with *Traveller Pride Week*. The event was a remarkable success with members of the Traveller community travelling from across county Wexford to participate.

Quote from Traveller who attended on the night “Nan Moorehouse Primary Health care worker with WLD said that it was a fantastic night and great for the Traveller Community in Co. Wexford”.



**Traveller Men’s Football** - takes place in Enniscorthy, Bunclody, Clonroche and Newross with huge numbers approximately 120 men in attendance every week which is great for overall health and well being. It is also great for team building and participation. Football and sport in general is an integral part of the Traveller community especially amongst the male population.



**21. CO WEXFORD COMHAIRLE NA NOG**



Contact Details: Paula Kelly ✉ FDYS, Island Road, Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford. ☎ 053 9234574 / 📧 [Paula.kelly@fdys.ie](mailto:Paula.kelly@fdys.ie)



At the 2019 Wexford Comhairle na n’Og AGM young people from all over County Wexford gathered in solidarity with policy makers to consider needs, solutions and positive ways forward relating to real issues effecting their lives. Together with officials from Wexford County Council FDYS and the WWETB young people and teams of youth workers worked in collaboration about the needs in the community. In the County Council Chambers, over one hundred young people from diverse backgrounds, schools and youth projects spoke passionately about their views of growing up in County Wexford. The young people will be issuing their reports in the coming weeks and it is hoped that their findings will be used in planning of activities and policies effecting their lives.



## **22. ROMA COMMUNITY INCLUSION PROGRAMME**

Roma Community Inclusion Programme is an umbrella term for 5 social inclusion Roma projects in FDYS (Roma Equality Project, Roma Health Advocacy Project, Roma Employment Project, Roma Education Project and Roma Women's Group).



The programme aims at supporting Roma Community in Co. Wexford in addressing community needs, accessing services and inclusion of 600 Roma in wider Irish society. The programme is also working with National and local State and voluntary agencies in their dealings with Roma Community.

In 2019 the Roma Equality Project coordinated an Erasmus+ project with other 3 countries (Greece, Spain and Romania), event which took place in Transilvanian city of Sibiu over 7 days.

In September 2019 a community ball was organised with the Roma Community to celebrate autumn arrival. The theme of the ball was the years 1800 and this was an opportunity for the Roma community to highlight the part of the history when Roma Communities were enslaved.

**Contact Details:** Alex Petrovics, 086-0224242, [alex.petrovics@fdys.ie](mailto:alex.petrovics@fdys.ie)



## **23. ROMA HEALTH ADVOCACY PROJECT**

The aim of the Wexford Roma Health Advocacy Project is to support access to health information, health services and other social services as well as facilitating the development of health initiatives and programmes in response to health needs, providing personal advocacy supports to Roma and supporting Roma participation and representation on health related groups and in policy making fora. This project is funded by HSE Social Inclusion South East Community Healthcare.

**Contact Details:** Roma Health Advocate: Daiana (Mona) Fusteac 0860570612 [mona.fusteac@fdys.ie](mailto:mona.fusteac@fdys.ie)

### **Highlights of 2019**

The programme Music in Mind was delivered over 12 weeks in 2019. This programme aimed at improving mental health in the community. The programme was attended by over 20 people.

Over the year an approx. 200 people attended health information session organised by project staff in collaboration with Asthma Society of Ireland, Diabetes Ireland and HSE Social Inclusion.



## **25. STAR PROJECT**

STAR stands for "Supporting Travellers and Roma", the project supports students and parents from the Traveller and Roma communities in education in both primary and secondary schools. The aim is to improve the overall educational experience for these communities.

**Contact Details:** Stacey James - Education Worker - Phone- 0867853700 Email- [Stacey.James@fdys.ie](mailto:Stacey.James@fdys.ie)  
Emma Plesca - Education Worker - Phone- 0867853708 Email- [Emma.Pleasca@fdys.ie](mailto:Emma.Pleasca@fdys.ie)

## **24. ROMA EMPLOYMENT PROJECT**

Roma Employment Project is funded by Department of Justice and Equality and its main aim is to support Roma Community in accessing paid employment. Part of this project is also outreaching to Roma Community in Co. Carlow.

**Contact Details:** Liliana Brennan, 086 464 5640; [liliana.brennan@fdys.ie](mailto:liliana.brennan@fdys.ie)

In 2019, 3 weeks of employment readiness boot camp was delivered in collaboration with Enniscorthy Enterprise and Technology Centre where 16 Roma community members participated. Later in the year, a consultation was organised by the project worker to gather feedback and information for the next stage of the project.

In Carlow, a trusting relationship was established between the project, Roma community and service providers, and issues and challenges affecting the community were brought to the attention of the local service providers.

## **Highlights of 2019**

The STAR Project brought a group of secondary school students to the Exchange House National Educational Achievement awards which took place in Dublin November 2019 which is an award ceremony that highlights role models from the Traveller community, two secondary school students from the group received awards for completing the Junior Cert.



The STAR Project also provided ongoing support to five Leaving Certificate students from the Roma community all students completed their leaving certificate, four students have progressed to third level education and one is currently doing an apprenticeship.



**ROMA YOUTH GROUP**



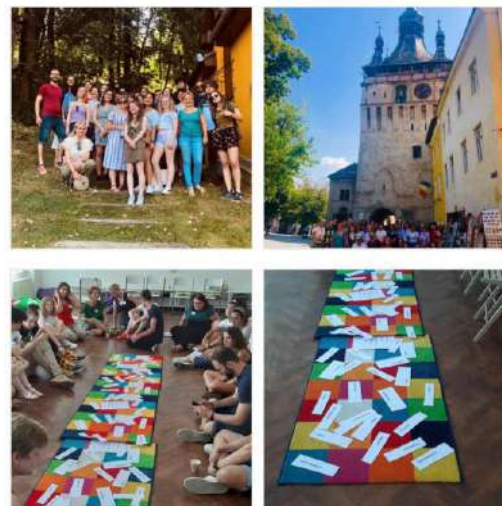
**COOLCOTT'S COMMUNITY YOUTH PROJECT**



**YOUTH INFO**



**JUNGLEBOX CHILDCARE CENTRE**



**INTERNATIONAL YOUTH WORK PROJECT**

# Mission Statement, Objectives & Principles

## MISSION STATEMENT

To work with young people and adults in Co. Wexford, to enable them to gain for themselves, the knowledge, feelings and skills to realise their full potential and, in so far as possible, to empower them to take control of their own lives.

## OBJECTIVES

- (a) To complement the roles of the family, community, school and workplace in the overall education of the young person.
- (b) To be the primary provider of community and centre-based services for young people in Co. Wexford.
- (c) To maximise ownership of and participation in the services by *adults as* volunteers and young people.
- (d) To provide a comprehensive range of social education training programmes, aimed at the physical, psychological, social, moral and spiritual development of young people.
- (e) To promote critical awareness among young people especially in the social, cultural and political spheres.
- (f) To challenge, motivate and support community based initiatives and services in their endeavour to promote youth development in discrete geographical areas.
- (g) To develop and maintain partnerships with other providers of services to young people and to speak out resolutely on issues of social justice affecting young people.
- (h) To create an effective organisational and management structure to enable it to achieve these objectives.

## PRINCIPLES

We see Youth Work as a planned, systematic, non-formal educational process through which we work with voluntarily participating young people *and adults*. This work is based on a number of clear principles which inform all of our activities.

- (a) We recognise the fundamental importance of volunteerism in underpinning all our work and in particular it provides an important opportunity to harness goodwill and commitment from within local communities.
- (b) We promote an informed and critical social and political awareness and challenge those elements which are detrimental to genuine human development and particularly to the welfare of young people.
- (c) We believe in action based on awareness and participation that gives recognition to both the process and content of Youth Work.
- (d) We encourage and facilitate local initiatives and activities in response to locally identified needs, as well as local control over resources and activities.
- (e) To promote responsibility, co-operation and decision making at all levels.
- (f) We promote the highest possible standards in our youth work practice and in the selection and support of our employed staff and volunteers.
- (g) We seek to achieve an equitable balance in our activities between addressing the needs of large numbers of young people from relatively stable backgrounds with the urgent and absolute needs of young people at risk or with particular problems.

# Our Statement of Youth Work Practice

## WHAT WE DO

We work with young people and adults in County Wexford to support them in realising their full potential. We encourage young people to achieve a state of personal holistic well-being by balancing the physical, emotional, mental and spiritual. Our work is young person centred, encourages well-being, promotes equality, diversity and inclusiveness through the provision of quality youth work and takes place in a safe and trusting environment.

Our non-formal education process is delivered through youth work programmes, youth and community support services, childcare and supports for volunteers.

Our work includes but is not limited to the following:

- Bunclody Project;
- Cloister Youth Programme;
- LGBT
- Community Based Drugs Initiative;
- Coolcotts Community Youth Project;
- Drugs Outreach;
- Enniscorthy Community Youth Project;
- Gorey Community Youth Project;
- Slaney Garda Youth Diversion Project;
- Voluntary Youth Clubs;
- Young Women's Education and Development Project;
- Youth Counselling;
- Youth Information;
- Coolcotts Afterschool Project.
- Junglebox Childcare Centre;
- New Ross Community Childcare;
- Wonderland Childcare Centre;

## WHY WE DO IT

As a voluntary organisation we value the role and contribution of volunteers in our work. Our young people participate in our

programmes and services voluntarily. We work within the Voluntary Sector with other non-government agencies and community groups.

We identify the emerging needs of young people and strive to comprehensively respond to these needs. We identify gaps in support services and, where possible, try to address them appropriately through FDYS or partner organisations. We are informed by government policy and research, by the desires of young people and by needs assessment.

Our work compliments existing educational and social structures and benefits young people in their holistic development. We advocate and encourage active and meaningful participation on an individual, project, community and societal level. We work to be a positive influence in their lives.

## WHO IS IT FOR?

Our youth services and programmes support people aged 11-25 years and those who have a role in supporting the development of these young people. Our childcare services work with children from 4 months to 11 years; our junior youth clubs from 6 years to 13 years; volunteers (over eighteen) and families. We offer our supports to all young people in County Wexford. In particular, we target our needs based programmes to those at risk or most in need or with fewer opportunities. In addition, we offer our services to those with a role in supporting the development of young people (mentioned above) including parents/guardians, teachers, schools, youth clubs, volunteers, other agencies, communities and state agencies etc.

## HOW WE DO IT

Our youthwork is a planned, systematic non-formal educational process through which we work with voluntarily participating young people and adults.

In practice, all FDYS work will:

- be linked to an identified need in the community;
- be in accordance with the principles and objectives of FDYS;
- have defined aims;
- have defined objectives;
- have a youth centred approach;
- be committed to youth participation in programme design and delivery;
- have defined outcomes in a written programme plan (annual, monthly and session plans)
- have a scheduled review of the outcomes relative to the original plan (reflective practice)

We use the following youth work methodologies - group work, experiential learning, creative mediums (including drama, media, sport, music, visual arts, performance etc), role play, skills development through asset based/strengths based youth work, 1:1 work, process orientated programmes and activities.

Our work is based on our commitment to professional quality standards. It takes place in a confidential and respectful manner, while following FDYS policies and procedures, best youth work practice in line with Government policy/research and legislative exactness.

## **WHERE WE DO IT**

Our organisation is County Wexford based, with facilities in Wexford, Enniscorthy, Gorey, New Ross and Bunclody. Our work services all rural and urban areas in the County.

Our organisation is included in various national forums: Youth work Ireland;

National Youth Council of Ireland; Dail naN'Og etc.

We also engage in international work through exchanges and collaborations with youth organisations i.e. EPTO, Learning for Wellbeing, Leargas and Intereg.



**FDYS YOUTH CLUBS**

# Staff List 2019

***With great thanks to:***

Alex Petrovics  
Alexandru Petrovici  
Andrew Mahoney  
Ann Lacey  
Arthur Bass  
Carmel O'Brien  
Carolyn Brohan  
Celine Cash  
Daiana Fusteat  
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Debbie Roche  
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Eimear McMahon  
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Emma Plešca  
Emma Whitty  
Gemma Cullen  
Hayley Rochford  
Jacinta Kenny  
John Caulfield  
John Paul O'Neill  
Julie Dowdall  
Kelley Hyland  
Kieran Donohoe  
Kris McGuire  
Lee Saunders  
Liam McCartan  
Lilianna Brennan  
Lisa Clancy  
Mailyn Venn  
Mairead Duffy  
Maura Shirley  
Maria Brennan  
Mark Carley  
Mary Griffith  
Mary Helen Connors  
Nadine O'Brien  
Paula Kelly  
Patricia Kelly  
Pilar Loring Palacios  
Rachael Donoghue  
Robbie Sludds  
Sally Murphy  
Sinead Roche  
Siobhan McMahon  
Stacey James

Suzanne Roche  
Terry O'Neill  
Valerie Carley

Shirlie Murray  
Stephanie Kavanagh  
Suzanne McGrath  
Trudy Power  
Veronica Murphy

***Junglebox /  
Wonderland Childcare  
Centre / New Ross /  
Coolcotts Afterschool  
/ Bunclody***

***Afterschool:***

Aileen Campbell  
Ann Long  
Ann Russell  
Ashley O'Rourke  
Bernadette Cleary  
Bernie McConville  
Bridget Morrissey  
Catherine Saunders  
Clare Carr  
David Wright  
Dawn Purcell  
Deirdre Doyle  
Dorah Odunlami  
Edel Kirwan  
Eileen Murphy  
Emma McGuinness  
Esther O'Brien  
Helen Fenlon  
Joy Keyes  
Kathleen McDonald  
Lynn Furlong  
Lyndsey Smith  
Marilyn O'Brien  
Martina Wall  
Mary Purcell  
Nicola Dobbs  
Olive Winters  
Ornella Luogno Haja  
Ricky Keeling  
Rose Sheils  
Sarah Flood  
Seamus Turner

***FDYS Team Event***





**CE Programme –  
Wexford/Enniscorthy**

*Patrick Breen (Supervisor)*

Alison Kavanagh  
Anthony Phillips  
Chanelle Kenny  
Chloe Dugdale  
Donna Treacy  
Elizabeth James  
Ivan Howlin  
Jackie O'Hanlon  
Kyle Walsh  
Laura Banville  
Leigha Dugdale  
Martin Cooney  
Megan Moorehouse  
Paul Flanagan  
Peter Doyle  
Stephen Curran

**CE Programme -**

**Junglebox**

*Caroline Kelly (Supervisor)*

April O'Brien  
Bronwyn Murphy  
Colm Hendrick  
Eleanor O'Connor  
Emma McGuinness  
Gerald Murphy  
Helen Dunne  
Helen Kehoe  
Jacqueline Furlong  
Jess DeGaye  
Kiera Walsh  
Mary Ann Connors  
Megan Farrell  
Noeleen Scallan  
Olive Winters  
Sarah Byrne  
Shannon Kehoe  
Suzanne McGrath  
Tara Doyle

**FDYS  
Board of  
Directors  
2019**

***With great thanks to:***

Ms Michelle Sinnott  
Ms Marie Diskin  
Mr John Howlin  
Ms Patricia Dagg  
Ms Eilish Aspel  
Rev Barry Larkin  
Mr Paul O'Brien  
Revd Nicola Halford  
Ms Hazel Percival  
Ms Emily McCann



***John Howlin's Retirement Get Together***