

## News

# Abuse allegations at disability centres highlight need for safeguarding legislation — National Safeguarding Committee

Reports of abuse of residents in a number of centres for people with disability highlight the need for adult safeguarding legislation, the National Safeguarding Committee said today. The National Safeguarding Committee is a multi-agency forum aimed at promoting awareness of abuse, harm and exploitation of adults who may be vulnerable.

Chairperson of the National Safeguarding Committee, Patricia Rickard-Clarke said: “Unfortunately, the abuse of vulnerable adults is widespread as the alleged mistreatment of residents in a number of disability centres has highlighted recently. A Red C poll conducted for the National Safeguarding Committee found that half of all Irish adults have experienced the abuse of vulnerable adults either through being abused themselves or seeing somebody close to them abused. Almost 7,900 safeguarding concerns were reported to the HSE Safeguarding and Protection Teams in 2016, with a high level of concerns coming from the disability sector. This is likely to be the tip of the iceberg as many safeguarding incidents go unreported.

“The National Safeguarding Committee welcomes that Ireland has recently ratified the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD). However, Article 16 of the Convention commits State Parties to take all appropriate legislative, administrative, social, educational and other measures to protect persons with disabilities, both within and outside the home, from all forms of exploitation, violence and abuse. In order to achieve this commitment and given the prevalence of adult abuse and exploitation, there is an urgent need for the introduction of adult safeguarding legislation. The aim of adult safeguarding legislation should be to legislate for State agencies’ responsibilities to prevent harm and protect adults who may be vulnerable from abuse. Adults with intellectual disability are particularly vulnerable to abuse and exploitation, and we all have a duty to protect them,” she concluded.

## The Community Foundation for Ireland’s Women’s Fund now open for applications

Established by The Community Foundation for Ireland in 2010, The Women’s Fund for Ireland is a long-term philanthropic fund. Its mission is to encourage philanthropy among women, to improve the lives of women and girls through social change grant making and to educate the entire community about the benefits to society when the potential of women is realised.

### 2018 Grant Round

#### Timeline:

- Round opens for applications 26th March 2018
- Closing Date for applications 30th April 2018
- Grants will be made by Mid-June 2018
- Progress Report due 07th December 2018
- Final Outcome Reports due 10th June 2019
- Learning Network Event TBC

## Criteria:

In our current cultural climate of #MeToo and #TimesUp, sexual harassment, its perpetrators and the direct and collateral damage associated with it has never been so visible. Building on our existing partnerships with organisations such as Safe Ireland, working to make Ireland “the safest country in the world for women and children”, The Community Foundation for Ireland wants to find out what work is taking place in Ireland in the area of combatting or highlighting sexual harassment and what needs to happen to bring about real change in this area.

We are offering **grants of up to €5,000** to organisations who are undertaking **new work** that aims to centre-stage this phenomenon and instigate changes in standards, behaviours and attitudes in this sphere. If you are part of a formal or informal group/ network that is involved in research, awareness-raising, advocacy, activism or other activities that aim to bring about this kind of social and cultural change, we are interested in hearing from you.

Please download and read the full criteria document [here](#)

If you have any queries in relation to the grant criteria, application process or your eligibility for the scheme, please don't hesitate to contact Sara Stokes [sstokes@foundation.ie](mailto:sstokes@foundation.ie).

# VOICE and Repak: Grants to Support Community Groups

**Repak have provided a fund of €42,500 for Community grants administered by VOICE**

VOICE is a member-based Irish environmental charity that empowers individuals and local communities to take positive action to conserve our natural resources.

The grants will be up to a maximum of €500 per group and are being made available to community groups to support the Recycling Ambassador Programme Nationwide

VOICE and Repak have developed this grant to support community groups to engage with their neighbours to clear up the confusion around recycling through local face-to-face discussions, and to help with research into current recycling behaviour and barriers by conducting a paper survey in their community.

The Grant may be used for a specific sustainability focused project to take place between May-July 2018. Groups must commit to sharing photographs and a report on their event and the recycling message on their social media. Preference will given to projects with a waste reduction or recycling focus. In addition, we are asking groups who receive the grant to commit to:

- carrying out 50 recycling behaviour & barriers surveys helping VOICE to
- identify local groups or events interesting receiving a free workshop from a Recycling Ambassador.

**Closing date for applications: 5pm 13th April, 2018**

More details and application form available here: <http://voiceireland.org/new-community-grant/>

# The Community Foundation for Ireland: The Older Persons' Fund - Now Open for Applications

The Older Persons' Fund at The Community Foundation for Ireland is now open for applications! All applications are online and the closing date is **4.30 p.m. Thursday 12th April 2018**. Please read the criteria document carefully for the relevant category you are applying for. This year we have the following two categories that you may apply for a grant under:

**A. Inclusion of older people in active citizenship roles** - Grants of up to €7,500 will be available to organisations working towards inclusion of older people in active citizenship roles

**B. Supporting older peoples' voices at local & national level** - Grants of up to €7,500 will be available to organisations working towards supporting older peoples' engagement in advocacy.

## Social Entrepreneurs Ireland Awards - Open for Applications



**UP TO 370,000 EURO IN FUNDING AND SUPPORT AVAILABLE FOR PEOPLE WITH THE BEST IDEAS TO MAKE IRELAND A BETTER PLACE TO LIVE**

*Don't let a good idea go to waste!*

**SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURS IRELAND** has launched a callout for people across the country with ideas to tackle social issues in Ireland to apply for funding and support as the 2018 Social Entrepreneurs Ireland Awards, supported by DCC plc, opens for applications.

Interested candidates are asked to log on to [socialentrepreneurs.ie](http://socialentrepreneurs.ie) to apply and find out more about the Social Entrepreneurs Ireland 2018 Awards programme which includes a whole range of support for social entrepreneurs from start-up to scale-up.

*There will be up to 8 winners in the Awards category*, which supports people with existing projects aimed at solving a social problem. The Award is valued at 25,000 euro, with 10,000 euro in direct funding.

*Up to 30 people with early-stage ideas will win a place in the Academy for Social Entrepreneurs* where they will receive mentoring and support and the opportunity to pitch for seed funding, to spark their idea into action. The organisation also announced that it is *launching a new Academy for Social Entrepreneurs in Galway*, expanding its range of programmes due to the high quantity of applications received last year when Social Entrepreneurs Ireland first launched the Academy programme.

Previous winners of funding and support also include *FoodCloud*, which has to date delivered over 25 million meals to people in need; *The Irish Men's Sheds Association* which now has over 400 sheds

around the country, working with more than 10,000 men every week; and [CoderDojo](#), which has been a worldwide success.

## The Community Foundation for Ireland: Small Fund Available

The Community Foundation for Ireland is a grant-making and donor services charity that makes grants to not-for-profit and voluntary groups working in communities throughout the Republic of Ireland. This year, we would like to support organisations whose annual income is less than €150,000 and who are struggling to produce timely Annual Reports that tell their story, account for their funding and ultimately, tell their stakeholders what they do. These Reports are a key element of accountability and influencing policy and can act as a valuable tool for organisations marketing their activities.

Grants of €1,000 will be made available to those organisations who commit to put their annual report on their website, have a target list of stakeholders they want to receive the report and make it available to anyone who would like a copy. We have a small fund available on a first-come first-served basis and will be applied to those who best meet the criteria.

For more information on how to apply and the full criteria please click here <http://www.communityfoundation.ie/grants/types-of-grants/annual-reporting-grants>

Don't let a good idea go to waste, **APPLY today!**

## Clare PPN Newsletter August 2016

Welcome to Clare Public Participation Network's first newsletter. From now on we will be sending out a newsletter approximately every month. All registered PPN members will receive it by e-mail and it will also be available on <http://www.clareppn.ie> The newsletter will aim to share news relevant to community groups in County Clare.

### **Submitting to our newsletter:**

Please feel free to submit your news to [sarah@clareppn.ie](mailto:sarah@clareppn.ie) who will decide whether each item is more suited for sharing on Clare PPN's website, social media or in this newsletter. Don't forget too that if you want to post a notice for an event on our website you can do this yourself at this link <http://clareppn.ie/add-event/> . When you post an event on our website we will get a notice to approve it and it will go live then once we have made sure it is in line with the PPN's work. Remember to explain your event the way you want someone to read it- so tell us who your group is, what the event is and who might like it as well as when and where it is on. If you have a photo or an image you can upload it there too.

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**Important Reminder: Please register your group with us for the year ahead**



Many thanks to those of you who have already registered your groups with us online or by post we are delighted to have such quick responses. For those of you who have not yet done so please can we remind you to do so as soon as possible.

You can fill out the membership form online here <http://clareppn.ie/join-the-ppn/> or you can download a printable version on that same page.

For anyone who may have missed previous mails about this we are seeking to update the PPN's membership and to ensure that we have received appropriate permissions from each group to use their information for PPN activities and so we require all groups to register their membership. Many thanks in advance for your help with this.

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**Welcome to our new  
secretariat  
members- Graham  
Lightfoot and Mary  
O'Donoghue**



Mary O'Donoghue will join Clare PPN's Secretariat as the representative from West Clare Municipal District. We are delighted to have Mary join us. Her main interests in the area of social inclusion and she manages the West Clare Family Resource Centre. Mary also sits for the PPN on the Local Community Development Committee.



Graham Lightfoot will join Clare PPN's Secretariat as the representative from Killaloe Municipal District. We are delighted to have him join us he is a

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member of several groups in County Clare and has a wealth of experience in influencing policy particularly on transport issues.

## Update on Clare PPN's Welcome to Clare Campaign for the Syrian Refugee Families



With advice from Clare Immigrant Support Centre who are the resettlement workers, Clare PPN undertook a series of actions designed to welcome and assist 9 Syrian families who were recently resettled in County Clare from refugee camps in Lebanon. These actions which were mostly conducted through our social media were extraordinarily successful. As well as the coffee mornings organised by Anny Wise we gathered welcome cards and donations of much appreciated items for the families and our 'Go Fund Me' campaign raised €4,415 from people all over the county and beyond (shout out to the County Kerry man who spotted the campaign online and was so moved by it that he donated €1000). As a result of all of your efforts and generosity the families have received much of the equipment they need to help them and their children settling in.

The campaign has also proved that in County Clare people and business owners are willing to reach out to help people and to give their time energy and good will to these people who have suffered unimaginable trauma and now find themselves in a strange environment having to build their lives from scratch. On behalf of the secretariat and of the families- a thousand thanks and long may Clare people continue to extend the hand of friendship in this fashion. The photo above is of some of the Syrians on a day trip around Clare last



Wednesday during which they were treated to a morning coffee break by Donal Minihane from Hotel Doolin. When we act together we can do a lot.

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### **Other news that might be of interest to our members:**

#### **Heritage Week in Clare:**



75 separate events ranging from nature walks to history lectures will take place across County Clare during National Heritage Week 2014 from August 23rd to August 31st.

Co-ordinated by Clare County Council and the Heritage Council with support from the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht and Fáilte Ireland, the annual initiative will once again focus on Clare's built, natural and cultural heritage.

Some of the highlights of Heritage Week 2014 include a commemoration of the life of submarine inventor and Liscannor native John P Holland, a tour of towerhouses around Shannon Town, a lecture on the life of a Kilrush-born Boer War General Sir Thomas Kelly-Kenny, a Victorian Heritage Walk around Kilkee, a tour of Lisdoonvarna's famous restorative waters, and a recital of traditional Irish tunes on the Uilleann Pipes by Matt Horsely at Ennis Friary.

The centenary of the outbreak of World War One is also being marked with a lecture by historian Cormac O'Comhraí on life in Ireland during the Great War, while Killaloe will also be marking the millennial anniversary of the death of one of its most famous citizens, Brian Ború. Meanwhile, annual festivals such as the Tulla Week of Welcomes and the Dan Furey Weekend in Labasheeda are holding heritage events as part of the weeklong celebration.



Cllr John Crowe, Cathaoirleach of Clare County Council commented: "I wish to pay tribute to the many individuals and community organisations that are participating in and contributing to Heritage Week 2014. I would urge people to support the events happening in their community and learn a little about their heritage and history."

Speaking ahead of Heritage Week 2014, Clare Heritage Officer Congella McGuire stated: "Clare County Council, the Heritage Council and the Clare Heritage Forum are extremely grateful to the individuals and community groups who are taking part and facilitating events during Heritage Week 2014. This is one of the most wide-ranging heritage week programmes ever hosted in Clare with 75 events evenly spread throughout Clare."

"We are delighted to see that a large number of events are catering for people of all ages, therefore providing children with an ideal opportunity to enjoy the end of their summer holidays before returning to school at the end of the month. Furthermore, many events organised are free of charge and National Heritage sites also offer concession rates during the week itself," Ms McGuire added.

For further information on events being held in County Clare please click on link below:

- [Clare Heritage Week Booklet 2014 \[PDF, 11.44MB\]](#)

Heritage week is part of European Heritage Days, a joint initiative of the Council of Europe and the European Union.

Download the free "National Heritage Week" App for iPhone or Android smartphones at [www.heritageweek.ie](http://www.heritageweek.ie).

For further information contact:

Congella McGuire,  
Heritage Officer,  
Clare County Council,  
New Road,  
Ennis,  
County Clare  
Telephone: (065) 684 6408  
Email: [cmcguire@clarecoco.ie](mailto:cmcguire@clarecoco.ie)

## **Training Opportunities with EcoUnesco in August 2016**



## Education for Sustainable Development: Environmental Perspective

[Course 1: Trends & Developments](#)

**August 23rd 2016**

[Course 2: Programme Development and Curriculum Links Training](#)

**August 24th 2016**

These two short courses are suitable for teachers, youth and community leaders, Environmental Awareness officers and anyone interested in learning more about Education for Sustainable Development from an environmental perspective.

either in an informal or formal setting. Click on the links above for further details about each courses. Each course can be taken individually or as a package (including special offer discount).

**Where?** ECO-UNESCO, 9 Burgh Quay, Dublin 2.

**How much?** Daily rate: €90; €70 ECO-UNESCO Members, students, unwaged, young people under 25. €80 Voluntary and Community Sector.

*Special Package Offer:* Book Education for Sustainable Development Course 1 & 2 and get a 10% discount.

**[Click here to book online](#)**

For more information contact [training@ecounesco.ie](mailto:training@ecounesco.ie) or call Roberta on +353 (0)1 662 5491.

### **Course 1: Trends & Developments**

This short course introduces the concept of Education for Sustainable Development from an environmental perspective, what it is and how you can incorporate it into your work using activities developed by ECO-UNESCO. By the end of the training participants will:

- Understand what Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) is
- Know how ESD, in particular from an environmental perspective, complements teaching as well as

engaging the wider public in environmental issues

- Understand how ESD complements youth work
- Be able to apply ESD in theory and in practice
- Be aware of the latest trends and developments in ESD

**Who?** Teachers, youth and community leaders, Environmental Awareness officers and anyone else interested in learning more about Education for Sustainable Development from an environmental perspective.

**When?** 23rd August 2016, 10:00-16:00.

*ECO-UNESCO also run this course to groups on request; if you are interested please contact us at [training@ecunesco.ie](mailto:training@ecunesco.ie).*

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## **Course 2: Programme Development and Curriculum Links Training**

This short course explores ways to plan, develop and integrate ESD methodologies within different curriculum frameworks and/or in alignment with specific learning outcomes. By the end of the training participants will:

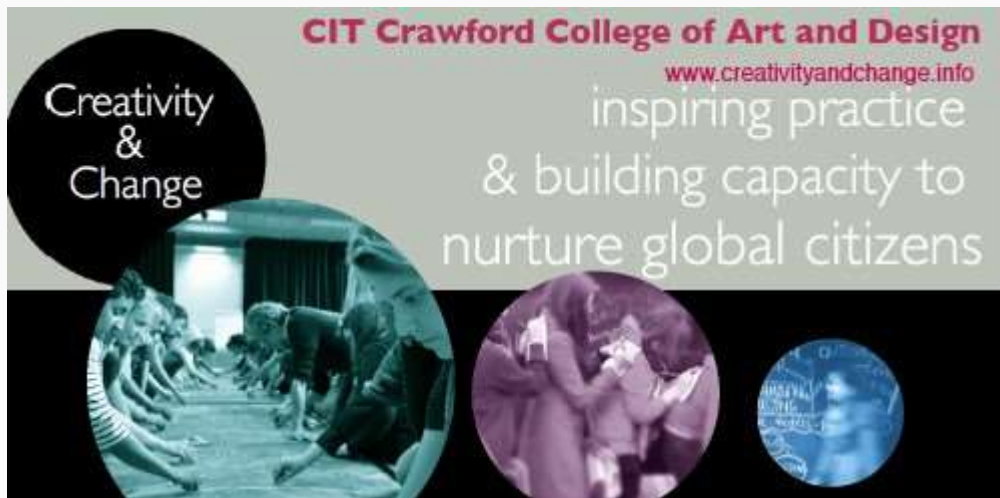
- Be able to identify relevant curriculum links to ESD activities
- Understand how to engage and motivate young people to learning about the environment within different curriculum frameworks
- Know how to plan, develop and deliver environmental activities & link them to a variety curriculum subjects
- Be inspired to engage young people in exploring environmental issues through interactive learning

**Who?** Teachers, youth and community leaders, Environmental Awareness officers and anyone else interested in learning more about about Education for Sustainable Development from an environmental perspective.

**When?** 24th August, 10:00-16:00.

*ECO-UNESCO also run this course to groups on request; if you are interested please contact us at [training@ecunesco.ie](mailto:training@ecunesco.ie).*

**CIT Crawford College of Art and Design is inviting applications for its course in Creativity and Change:**



<http://www.creativityandchange.info>

This is a CIT approved Special Purpose Award, Level 8 Certificate supported by Irish Aid.

#### **ABOUT**

Creativity & Change is about creativity and its power to ignite empathy, passion and learning about our interconnected and interdependent world.

It is about imagining more humane, just and viable ways to live in the world.

It connects how we think, live and act in the world and considers how we can live as connected global citizens becoming part of the changes we want to see.

#### **WHO IS IT FOR?**

Artists, community workers, youth workers, activists educators, volunteers and anyone who is interested in exploring the connection between creativity, learning and change in the world and in nurturing possibilities to grow as connected global citizens.

#### **COURSE CONTENT**

The course has several main strands of learning within the context of global citizenship & global and local justice themes.

- Development of confidence in personal creativity
- Creativity & learning strategies
- Facilitation skills in development education using creative methodologies
- Creative strategies for public engagement.

#### **DURATION**

Seven 2/3 day blocks Oct 2016 to April 2017

These are proposed dates:

OCT 7th/ 8th/9th

NOV 11th/12th/ 13th

DEC 2nd/ 3rd/ 4th

JAN 13th/ 14th

FEB 10th/ 11th/ 12th

MAR 10th/ 11th/ 12th

APR 21st/ 22nd /23rd

### TO APPLY

For online application, please go to the **APPLY** link on <http://www.cit.ie/course/CRAARPD8>

### FEE

The course fee is subsidized through Irish Aid funding so it can be offered at reduced rate of €680

### ENQUIRIES

Enquiries to [creativityandchange@cit.ie](mailto:creativityandchange@cit.ie) or call Nora on [086 3765686](tel:0863765686)

#### WHAT PAST PARTICIPANTS HAVE SAID

"I have a much greater understanding of how my own practice can be used as a means of critically examining the world/community around us, and also take away lots of practical skills and ideas"

"One of the things that the course does best is combining theoretical knowledge with practical approaches and bridging the gap between those two areas. In doing so the course serves in itself as a great example."

"It challenges the way you think and also many of the attitudes you have. This is done in a non confrontational way, self-reflecting way."

"I got new energy...improved my understanding and expanded my horizons and opened my eyes to the world as a bigger picture."

"Love that it can make learning fun even though the issues are very serious"

"Very inspiring to see the power of art and creativity"



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You are getting this because you joined Clare PPN

#### **Our mailing address is:**

Clare PPN

Unit 1, Westgate Business Park

Kilrush Road

Ennis, Co. Clare none

Ireland