



Annual Conference, 2018
Positive Pathways
21-23 February, Hodson Bay Hotel, Athlone
www.nayc.ie / www.youthreach.ie @NAYCEXEC

#NAYC2018 #WeAreYouthreach

DAY 1: WEDNESDAY 21 FEBRUARY

9.00-10.00	Registration (with Tea/Coffee/Scones)	
10.00-10.05	Introductions	Josephine Dempsey, Chairperson, NAYC
10.05-10.15	Conference Welcome Address: Session 1	Christy Duffy Chief Executive, Longford and Westmeath ETB
10.15-11.10	Keynote Speaker 1: Youth Reach, Children's Rights and Positive Mental Health Questions & Answers	Dr Niall Muldoon Ombudsman for Children
11.10-11.30	Real Positivity	Kirsty Real, Learner Perspective
11.30-11.45	Break	
11.45-12.15	Centre Presentation: Macroom Youthreach Centre Questions & Answers	Ann O Riordan Co-ordinator
12.15-12.30	Careers Portal GAISCE	Bernadette Walsh Mary Yore
12.30-13.00	Mind Over Maher Questions & Answers	Conor Maher, Learner Perspective
13.00-14.00	Lunch (& Viewing Exhibition Stands)	
14.00-14.15	Irish Cancer Society Leargas	Sarah Chadwick Patricia Wilkinson
14.15-14.45	SOLAS TEL Strategy	Michael Mooney Online Learning Manager, SOLAS
14.45-15.15	Implementing TEL in the classroom	Keith Quille, Lecturer of Computing Institute of Technology Tallaght
15.15-16.00	Adjust the Dial: stress management and resilience training (SMART) for anxious learners	John Doran Guidance Counsellor/Author
16.00-17.00	NAYC AGM	NAYC Members Election of new officers & NAYC business
17.00	Conference Close	
19.30	Dinner	

DAY 2: THURSDAY 22 FEBRUARY

8.45-9.00	Registration	
9.00-9.05	Introductions	Lorraine O'Leary, Deputy Chairperson, NAYC
9.05-9.15	Conference Welcome Address: Session 2	Antonine Healy Director of Further Education and Training (FET) Longford & Westmeath ETB
9.15-10.15	Quality Framework: Centre Evaluation and Improvement Plan (CEIP) 2018 Facilitated Reflection and Consultation Session with NAYC members	Gerry Griffin National VTOS/Youthreach Co-ordinator CEIP Facilitator
10.15-10.30	Tea / Coffee Break	
10.30-11.30	Keynote Speaker 2: What About the Missing 10%? Questions & Answers	Noel Kelly Director of Educational Welfare Services Tusla
11.30-12.00	ESF Programme	Nicola Finnegan ESF Managing Authority ESF & EGF Policy and Operations Department of Education and Skills
12.00-13.00	Workshops: Session 1 Workshop 1: Care System Structures Workshop 2: Mindfulness Workshop 3: Personal Safety Ireland Workshop 4: Media Training	EPIC (Empowering People in Care) Catriona McColgan, Kilmore Youthreach Alex Walsh, Personal Safety Ireland Peter O'Connell, Peter O'Connell Communications
13.00-14.00	Lunch (& Viewing Exhibition Stands)	
14.00-15.00	Workshops: Session 2	As above
15.00-15.30	Tea / Coffee Break	
15.30-16.00	Youthreach and Me	Jamie Clarke, Sligo Youthreach learner
16.00-16.45	#WeAreYouthreach - The Movie	Introduced by Louise Cole NAYC Communications Officer
16.45-17.00	Youthreach 2018 Poetry Competition Launch	Ultan Mulvihill Coordinator, Sligo Youthreach
17.00	Conference Close	
19.30 20.00	Reception Gala Dinner Reflecting on Youthreach: Dr Dermot Stokes, Adjunct Professor, School of Policy and Practice Institute of Education, DCU and former National Youthreach Coordinator.	

DAY 3: FRIDAY 23 FEBRUARY

9.00-9.30	Registration	
9.30-10.30	SOLAS Review of Youthreach Panel Discussion Questions & Answers	<p>Dr Bryan Fields Director of Research and Strategy, SOLAS</p> <p>Dr Justin Sinnott, Manager FET Strategy, Policy, Research and Evaluation, SOLAS</p> <p>Dr Emer Smyth Head of the Social Research Division and Research Professor Economic and Social Research Institute, ESRI</p> <p>Dr Selina McCoy Associate Research Professor, ESRI</p> <p>Joanne Banks, Research Officer, ESRI</p> <p>Jessica O Sullivan, Research Assistant, ESRI</p>
10.30-11.30	Questions & Answers	
11.30-12.30	Conference Review & Evaluation, Focus & Aims of NAYC 2017-2018	All Youthreach Coordinators Facilitated by NAYC Executive

EXHIBITOR NOTES

Information stands will be provided by the following organisations during the conference:

- Careers Portal
- Educoot
- Safefood
- Irish Cancer Society
- Classroom Guidance
- Personal Safety Ireland
- ESF
- Leargas
- Gaisce
- Young Social Innovators (YSI)
- FIT

SPEAKER NOTES

KEYNOTE SPEAKER 1: Dr Niall Muldoon, Ombudsman for Children

Dr Niall Muldoon was appointed by the Head of State, President Michael D. Higgins, following an open competition in 2015. Dr Muldoon was previously the Director of Investigations at the Ombudsman for Children's Office. Dr Muldoon, a Registered Clinical and Counselling Psychologist, was formerly the National Clinical Director of CARI, a children's charity based in Dublin, Cork and Limerick. He has worked in the area of child protection for nearly 20 years.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER 2: Noel Kelly, Director of Educational Welfare Services, Tusla

Noel Kelly has over 35 years of experience working in the field of educational disadvantage and has been at the forefront of many of the positive initiatives that have been developed to address educational disadvantage. He took up his current role of Director of Educational Welfare Services with Tusla in 2016. Tusla Educational Welfare Services includes three strands: (1) The Home School Community Liaison Scheme, (2) The School Completion Programme and (3) The Statutory Educational Welfare Service. Noel started his career as a primary school teacher in Darndale and became one of the first Home School Community Liaison Coordinators in Ireland in the early 1990s, he developed and managed an 8-15 Early School Leavers Initiative, worked as Education Manager with Northside Partnership, where he developed and managed the Preparing for Life programme. This was an evidence based prevention and early intervention programme co-funded by Government and The Atlantic Philanthropies. Noel has also served as a director and chairperson on a number of local and national boards in the education, community and state sectors.

Michael Mooney, Online Learning Manager, SOLAS

Michael Mooney is the Manager of SOLAS eCollege, the National Online Learning Service. Before that he worked as an instructor with over 20 years' experience including the development and delivery of the first Blended Learning course in FÁS. Michael's background is immersed in technology development, in Electrical, Electronic then computer and finally software based system maintenance and support. He led the development, and is responsible for supporting the implementation, of the SOLAS/ETBI 'Strategy for Technology Enhanced Learning in Further Education and Training 2016 – 2019', as recently approved by the SOLAS board and now part of the 'Action Plan for Education 2017' and the 'National Skills Strategy 2025'.

Keith Quille, Lecturer, IT Tallaght

Keith is a lecturer of computing in the Institute of Technology Tallaght. Keith's primary area of teaching is in Software Development, CS1 and CS2 (C#, Java and Python), but has also delivered a wide range of other modules. Keith is currently in his 5th year as a part time PhD candidate in Maynooth University. The Research is in Computer Science education, with several facets: Predicting student success early in CS1, using machine learning and artificial intelligence techniques, Interventions to reduce attrition in CS1 and Gender differences in CS1 to name but a few. Keith was also a Further Education and Secondary school teacher for 7 years. This was in St Conleth's Community College. In this role and now, Keith delivers continuing professional development (CPD) to Further Education teachers in the area of software development. Keith has developed 3 coding classes for primary schools in the local area. This experience has allowed Keith to teach code and gain valuable experience in computer science education from primary school up to and including postgraduate level. Keith is also a part-time software developer in webuildweb. This company allows Keith to keep in touch with industry standards and best practices, which is then brought back to the class room.

John Doran, Counsellor

John Doran has been a teacher and guidance counsellor in the Patrician Secondary for over 23 years. He was the Chairman of the Network of School Planners from its foundation, dedicated to the ongoing professional development of teachers. He is author of the acclaimed book Ways to Wellbeing. Ireland's leading resilience and wellbeing programme aimed at senior students. It is currently taught in over 140 schools both here and in mainland Europe. John has personally trained over 300 teachers in the programme with great success. He also lectures on wellbeing on the Masters in Education programmes for primary and post-primary students in Hibernia College.

He is passionate about the transformative power of education to disrupt poverty, and help young people do all that they can, with all that they have, in the time that they have got, in the space that they are in. John speaks to management bodies, teachers, educational trusts, youth groups, parents and students on the topics of resilience, wellbeing, stress management and maximising performance, both nationally and internationally.

Dr Bryan Fields, Manager, Director of Research and Strategy, SOLAS

Bryan Fields, a labour market sociologist with an MSc in Training and a PhD in Sociology, has worked in further education and training for 35 years and has held a number of senior positions in operations and policy in both AnCO and FÁS. In his current role, Bryan is Director for FET Strategy and Research in SOLAS which includes the Skills and Labour Market Research Unit (SLMRU) and organising the evaluation of national FET programmes. Bryan is a member of the Expert Group on Future Skills Needs and the Department of Education and Skills-led FET Strategy Implementation Advisory Committee.

Dr Justin Sinnott, Manager, FET Strategy, Policy, Research and Evaluation, SOLAS

Dr. Justin Sinnott is the current Manager in the Strategy and Knowledge Unit in SOLAS. Prior to joining SOLAS in May 2017 Justin was Enterprise Programme Manager with the Irish Research Council. Previous to working with the Irish Research Council Justin spent ten years working in the Higher Education Authority in a variety of areas including, Policy, Funding, Access and Labour Market Activation Initiatives. Justin has previously served on the Dublin Dun Laoghaire Education and Training Board (DDLETB) as well as on the Board of Dun Laoghaire Further Education Institute and as Chairperson of Blackrock Further Education Institute. Justin holds a PhD in Nationalism from University College Dublin.

Dr Emer Smyth, Head of the Social Research Division and Research Professor, ESRI

Emer Smyth is a Research Professor and Head of the Social Research Division at the Economic and Social Research Institute (ESRI). She is joint research area coordinator for education. Her main research interests centre on education, school to work transitions, gender and comparative methodology.

She has conducted a number of studies on the effects of schooling contexts on student outcomes, including *Do Schools Differ?* She led the Post-Primary Longitudinal Study (PPLS), which followed a cohort of young people from the first year of second-level education onwards. Educational inequality has been an important focus of her research, with recent work on a review of the School Completion Programme and on the evaluation of the DEIS programme. Emer is on the management team of the Growing Up in Ireland (GUI) study. She has a strong interest in comparative research on education issues, acting as co-ordinator to a FP7-funded comparative project on religion and primary schooling across Europe, Religious Education in a Multicultural Society (REMC). She is currently involved in the education and stratification strand of the UK-based AQMeN network and is on the committee of the European Network on Transitions in Youth.

Dr Selina McCoy, Associate Research Professor, ESRI

Dr. Selina McCoy has twenty years' research experience, publishing in excess of 110 articles and books, addressing key education policy issues in Ireland and from a comparative perspective. Her research expertise includes all education levels from early years' education through to higher education and lifelong learning. Her research interests include gender and socio-economic inequality in educational outcomes, the experiences of students with special educational needs and the role of digital technologies in teaching and learning. She is joint research area co-ordinator for education research at the ESRI. She is also Adjunct Professor in the School of Education and the Department of Sociology, Trinity College Dublin. She is a member of the Independent Network of Experts in Education and Training, for the European Commission.

WORKSHOP NOTES

WORKSHOP 1: CARE SYSTEM STRUCTURES, EPIC (EMPOWERING PEOPLE IN CARE)

The workshop will focus on structures within the care system and how we can engage with relevant agencies to support learners in Youthreach.

About EPIC

EPIC is a national organisation that works with and for children and young people who are currently living in care or who have experience of living in care. This includes those in residential care, foster care, relative care, hostel, high support and special care. EPIC also works with young people preparing to leave care and in aftercare, and with adults with care experience. The team at EPIC offer support through advocacy and engagement. They conduct research and develop policy in relation to the experience of the care system.

WORKSHOP 2: MINDFULNESS, CATRIONA MCCOLGAN

This workshop will provide a practical and experiential introduction to a range of mindfulness practices and aim to assist you in taking better care of yourself, personally and professionally so as experience the fullness of life.

About Catriona

Catriona is the Coordinator of the Kilmore Youthreach Centre and former Director of Programmes at the Sanctuary. She has a professional background in education (H.Dip.) and has been practicing and teaching mindfulness based programmes to young people and adults for over 10 years. Catriona is qualified in Addiction Studies, is a Yoga teacher and is trained with the Institute of Mindfulness Based Approaches. Her interest throughout her career has been focused on tackling educational disadvantage. She is a firm believer that stillness has the potential to transform and that teaching people how they can experience this is important for both mental and emotional health. Catriona is both the lead teacher trainer for .b in Ireland for the Mindfulness in Schools Programme in partnership with the Sanctuary and co-facilitator for the Sanctuary Mindful Warrior Programme.

WORKSHOP 3: PERSONAL SAFETY IRELAND

This workshop will cover personal safety and awareness, positive assertiveness, communication skills, attitude and behaviour, anti-bullying, open hand techniques and justification of your actions.

About Alex

Alex Walsh was a Police Officer with the Metropolitan Police for approximately 15 years. He worked in the Borough of Greenwich when he completed training school and then quickly worked his way to the Public Order branch where he dealt with many difficult situations. He became a Personal Safety instructor within the Police and was responsible for the continuous training of many officers. Alex moved to Ireland in 2008 and started Personal Safety Ireland with Nick Feehan. They now deliver Personal Safety programmes to many schools and youth organisations around Ireland.

WORKSHOP 4: MEDIA TRAINING, PETER O CONNELL, PETER O CONNELL COMMUNICATIONS

What is news?

How to recognise and distribute news relevant to your Youthreach Centre; Show service users how to create a local news story; How to find a role for all service users in this task; Human interest stories; Identify service users who may be interested in talking about their Youthreach experience.

How to write a press release

Maximum 300 words; Identify where the news value is; Get to the point; Identify where best to place your press release; Key deadlines; Find out who the regional journalists are in local newspapers and radio stations; What journalists write for or freelance for national newspapers?; How to address a problem or controversy; How to prepare for a live interview; Who is the current affairs producer at your local or community radio stations?

Social Media

Establish what social media platforms are suitable for you; Identify strengths of various strands of social media; Ensure that social media policy works in tandem with traditional media dealings; Consistency of message; When not to use social media.

About Peter

Peter O'Connell is a news, sport and features journalist with *The Clare Champion* newspaper (2002 to present) and lectures in sports journalism at UL. He has extensive radio experience having worked for Midlands Radio (1999-1998) and Clare FM (1999-2002). He also runs a media training company, *Peter O'Connell Communications*, delivering workshops and media training for businesses and organisations similar to NAYC. poc.comms@gmail.com