



2019

Citywide Drugs Crisis Campaign Annual Report



STOP
the
STIGMA

Addiction
is a health
issue not
a crime

Citywide Drugs Crisis
Campaign

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CityWide Drugs Crisis Campaign is a national network of community activists and community organisations that are involved in responding to Ireland's drugs crisis. Set up in 1995 by the Inner City Organisations Network (ICON), to bring together Dublin communities that were struggling with the heroin crisis, we now work nationally linking communities across the country dealing with a range of substance issues.

We work to promote and support a community development approach to the drugs problem - this means involving the people who are most affected by the problem in dealing with the problem - drug users, their families and communities.

Citywide is a company limited by guarantee. Our board of directors come from the community, voluntary, statutory and private sectors.

Supporting Community Involvement in the National Drugs Strategy

Drug & Alcohol Task Force (DATF) Community Reps

CityWide facilitates the Taskforce Community Representatives Network by bringing people together to support each other, exchange information and to identify key policy issues and develop responses. The network meets a number of times each year to discuss issues specific to the role of community reps.



Network of DATF Community Reps

A General meeting of DATF Community Reps took place in June. Updates were provided on a range of topics and the main discussion focused on a review of the first two years of implementing RHR.

An end of year Networks meeting took place on Dec 12th to update on policy issues. It also included inputs on some key pieces of work over the past 12 months: Stigma training, survey/research on crack cocaine, Community Impact Assessment Tool, Health Diversion Programme.

Community reps in their own DATF areas

From Jan to Dec meetings were held with Community Reps in the following Task Force areas:

RDATFs: Midlands, South East, North West, Western, North East, South Western, East Coast

LDATFs: Clondalkin, Ballymun, SIC, Blanchardstown, Cork, NIC, Dublin North East, Canals

A consultation process has been initiated into the arrangements for representation of the RDTF Community Reps and the challenges identified by Reps, which will proceed in early 2020. Citywide submitted to the review of the PPN handbook in relation to supporting Regional DATF Community Reps

Community Reps Resource Pack

Community Reps in all Task Force areas have received resource packs and relevant sections will be updated as required. We produced this information pack to provide DATF Community

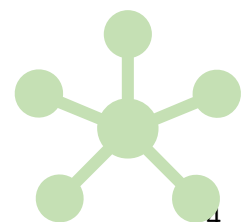
Representatives with information that is relevant to their role on the Task Force as a support to them in carrying out their role. The pack contains information on:

- ➔ The Drugs & Alcohol Task Forces
- ➔ The Role of Community Reps
- ➔ The National Drugs Strategy
- ➔ Citywide

Participate in the national structures of the National Drugs Strategy (RHRSR)

Citywide has attended all meetings of the NOC & SCC. Meetings take place with the Regional Community Representative on a regular basis to support him in his role.

Citywide has attended all meetings of the DATF Handbook Working Group on behalf of the community sector overall, has circulated discussion documents to Community reps and met with Pavee Point, Uisce and NSFN to liaise with them in advance of the meetings. Also consulted with Voluntary sector Rep on a number of occasions



Community Drug Projects

Community Drug Projects provide a range of services and supports to people who use drugs, their families and to the wider community. Citywide networks local Community Drugs Projects and Community Employment (CE) Drugs Rehab projects and represents the Community Sector at NDS policy committees.



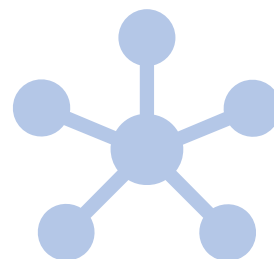
“Community Drug Projects: Responding to drug-related harms from a community development approach”

Community Drug Projects, supported through Drug and Alcohol Task Forces (DATFs), have maintained a long and impressive tradition of responding to the needs of people experiencing drug-related harms. This Citywide report by Dr Aileen O’Gorman, documents a community development approach to drug-related harms. The [report is available here](#)

Drug Rehab Projects (DRPS) network

Two meetings were organised with the DRP IN 2019. Jim Walsh, Principal Officer, DPU attended the March meeting to meet with network members and hear their views about the upcoming IDG Review on Safeguarding the Future of Social Inclusion CE schemes.

Citywide submitted to the Interdepartmental Group in May 2019 after consultation with the DRP Network. As at the end of 2019 there has been no published outcome of the IDG Review.



Supporting Communities

Citywide provides support to community and related groups in relation to planning, review, policy and related issues, as requested. During 2019 we met with the North East region FASN to support their strategic planning.

Inputs were delivered to the following programmes:

- HSE diploma in Addiction Studies in Bridge House
- Clondalkin LDATF/ NUI Maynooth certificate in Addiction Studies Level 7
- HSE Mid-West Addiction Training
- ALDP Safer from Harm public meeting
- SICTF Chair, Comm and Vol sectors meeting
- North East FASN Open Day and Seminar
- ALDP event on Policing in Changing Policy Environments
- TU Dublin BA Community & Youth Development
- Ballymun YAP/DATF seminar on crack cocaine
- Pavee Point seminar on Travellers and Drugs
- Community Addiction Studies courses in Ballymun and Ballyfermot

Black & Minority Ethnic Communities



Citywide, New Communities Partnership (NCP) and Cairde, along with Drug and Alcohol Task Forces and Pavee Point, presented the learning from our work to date on approaches to engaging with Black and minority ethnic communities in relation to the drugs issue.

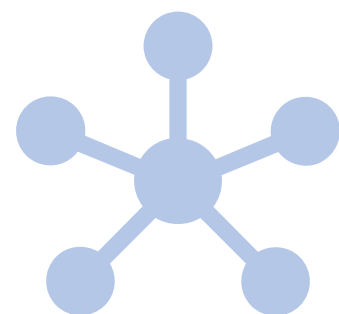
The launch included presentations from Cork Local DATF and North Inner City Local DATF about how they went about making links to more effectively engage and communicate with Black and minority ethnic communities. There was a musical performance from Waveculture, Creative Youth Group. [Report Here](#)

Communities of Interest

Citywide meets on an ongoing basis with BeLong To and other relevant LGBT groups to ensure that drug issues specific to this community are considered at all policy levels and support their engagement at the appropriate national/regional/local level in delivery of the NDS.

We work with Pavee Point Drug & Alcohol Programme and other Traveller representative groups to support them in addressing the Traveller drugs issue. Support their engagement at the appropriate national/regional/local level in the delivery of the NDS.

We work in partnership with the Family Support Network on relevant policy & campaign issues and in supporting participation of Family Support reps on DATFs. During 2019 we met with the NFSN regularly and participated in a Family Reps workshop at the NFSN annual conference.



Increase general awareness and campaign on relevant issues

Crack Cocaine

In July we surveyed Community Drugs projects and DRPs about the level of crack cocaine use in their communities and by their clients

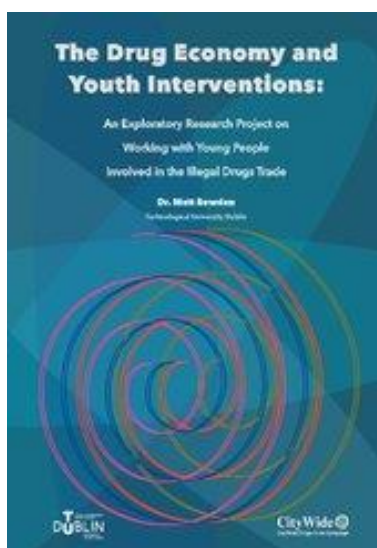
Feedback from our networks suggested an increase in the availability and use of crack cocaine in local communities in the past year. 84% of projects confirmed a rise in crack cocaine availability and use locally and 79% saw an increase in clients of their services using this drug. [Findings of the survey are available here](#)

Alcohol

Citywide worked with Alcohol Action Ireland to draw up a plan of action to support the speedy implementation of the Public Health (Alcohol) Act 2018.

We met with ICAAN (Irish Community Action on Alcohol Network), Alcohol Action Ireland and a number of DATFs on developing a joint plan for monitoring implementation of Public Health (Alcohol) Act. We briefed our networks on the implementation stages of the Public Health (Alcohol) Act and circulated a further briefing note on Sections 14, 17 and 20 of the Act.

Young People involved in the Drugs Trade



On April 30th Citywide launched ' *The Drug Economy and Youth Interventions: An Exploratory Research Project on working with Young People Involved in the Illegal Drugs Trade* ' at an event in St Andrews Community Centre, Rialto.

Citywide commissioned this study to undertake some exploratory research with a small, yet intensely representative sample, of practitioners working directly with or encountering drug-related intimidation and violence in the communities in which they worked.

Dr Matt Bowden, Senior Lecturer at Technological University Dublin (TU Dublin) carried out the research in December 2017. The report presents the experience of those working in youth



services and community drug projects who are engaging with young people involved in, or at risk of becoming involved in, the illegal drugs trade.

Dr Fiona O'Reilly also presented a study conducted by herself, Lynn Ruane & Carol Murphy on the 'Perspective of Drug Dealers on Dealing'

Two projects working with young people who are involved in the drug economy and/or engaged in anti-social behaviours gave an outline of their work in this area.

- *Ballymun Regional Youth Resource, Easy Street Project*, is an intervention model that is based on the Swedish Fryshuset model that builds on Community Relationships.
- *The TRY Project* is part of the Donore Community Drugs & Alcohol Team in SIC. TRY targets young people and young adults engaged in anti-social behaviour and criminality which is having a serious impact on the quality of life of residents in local communities. TRY is described as an intensive outreach bridging model.

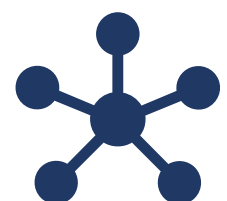
Over 90 people attended the launch. The [report is available here](#)

Open letter to the Taoiseach



Over 50 Community Drugs projects, Task Force Community Reps, Family Support & Service User groups have [signed a letter drafted by Citywide](#) calling for the Taoiseach to lead the government in accepting proposals for referral to health and support services and to draft the legislation needed to remove the criminal status of possession of drugs for personal use.

The Working Group on Alternative Approaches to criminalisation for possession of drugs for personal use have completed their report and a memo based on the recommendations of this report will shortly be brought to the Government. We are concerned at the indications that, while it will recommend a system for diversion to health services, which is very welcome, it will also recommend maintaining the criminal status) of possession of drugs for personal use. We know the huge impact having a criminal record can have on a person's life; it compounds the stigma experienced by people who use drugs and can negatively impact employment opportunities, training & education, future travel etc.



Challenge drug-related stigma and its impact in our communities



**Addiction
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A template for a training programme on drug-related stigma in partnership with the School of Nursing and Midwifery in Trinity College for delivery with professionals working with people who use drugs was developed during 2019 by Dr Michael Barron.

The programme will involve people with lived experience of drug use in its delivery. Ethical approval for this project has been granted by Trinity College. An application to IHREC under the grants scheme for funding to run the pilot has been approved. Discussions on the next phase of this programme continue with the SAOL Project and TCD.

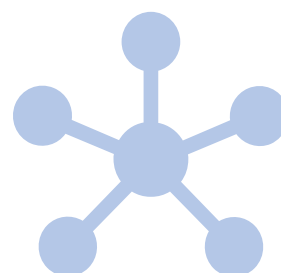
Former Drugs Ministers call on Government to restore confidence in NDS



At an event organised by Citywide in October 2019 former Ministers for Drugs expressed concern and frustration at failure of Government to honour its commitments to work in partnership with community groups

All of the country's former Ministers of State with responsibility for the National Drugs Strategy have united together to call on the Government to restore confidence in the National Drugs Strategy in particular because the partnership approach which underpins the Strategy is in danger of collapse. The [statement by the former Ministers is available here](#)

The statement was signed by all of the former Drugs Ministers between 1996 and 2016 including Pat Rabbitte, Chris Flood, Eoin Ryan, Noel Ahern, Pat Carey, John Curran TD, Róisín Shortall TD, Alex White and Senator Aodhán Ó Ríordáin.



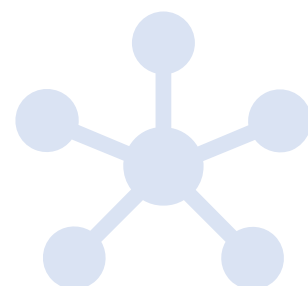
Inform public and political debate on the drugs problem in our communities



- Citywide produced an election manifesto document and key questions for candidates were circulated to all networks and also to politicians prior to GE 2020:
https://www.citywide.ie/assets/files/pdf/ge_2020_cw_manifesto.pdf?issuosl=ignore

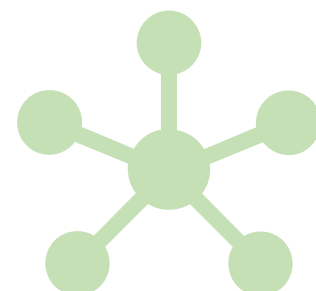


- In March we circulated all TDS in the 33rd Dáil with a briefing document:
https://www.citywide.ie/assets/files/pdf/33rd_dail_briefing_for_tds_from_citywide.pdf?issuosl=ignore
- PQs and Dáil debates relevant to the Drugs issue have been collated and circulated to our networks. PQs and debates for the remainder of the year will be circulated in Jan 2021



Working with Civil Society partners across Europe and internationally on development in drug policy and practice

- We continue our representative role in the EU Civil Society Forum and relevant sub groups. We participated in the meeting of the EU Civil Society Forum on Drugs. Key items on the agenda were the evaluation of the current EU Drugs Strategy and discussion on perspectives for drug related policies after 2020.
- Attended meeting on EU Drug Policy organised by the Civil Society Forum with MEPS on December 5th, the Irish reps (Citywide and ALDP) met with three of the Irish MEPs policy workers.
- We continued to develop bilateral links with a number of our partner agencies from other countries on the Civil Society Forum and through the CSF UNGASS Working Group, International Harm Reduction Association (IHRA) and International Drug Policy Consortium (IDPC).
- Citywide was invited to present the findings of our report on the Drug Economy and Youth Interventions at the second meeting of the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB) with the Vienna NGO Committee on Drugs (VNGOC), on the topic of 'Young People and Drugs.' Representatives of civil society and the members of INCB discussed the importance of preventing drug abuse among young people and measures to reduce harms and treat drug use among youth. Copy of the statement is available here: <http://vngoc.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/StatementINCB-Anna-Quigley.pdf>
- Awarded an International Scholarship to attend the 2019 International Drug Policy Alliance Conference in St. Louis, Missouri, USA in November and participated in a range of workshops on key policy issues.



Profit & Loss 2019

		City Wide Drugs Crisis Campaign CLG	Jan - Dec 19
Ordinary Income/Expense			
Income			
	1170 · Drugs Programmes Unit		209,180.00
	1198 · IHREC Grant 2019		7,160.00
	4991 · Drug Policy Alliance Con		1,153.88
Total Income			217,493.88
Expense			
3940 · Admin Wages			
	376 · Managers Salary		42,864.96
	377 · Managers Employers PRSI		4,693.68
	382 · Co-ordinator 1 Salary		16,053.60
	383 · Co-ordinator 1 Employers PRSI		1,396.56
	3961 · Co-ordinator 2 Salary		56,616.00
	3962 · Employers PRSI Co-ordinator 2		6,199.44
	3970 · Bookkeeper Salary		6,302.88
	3971 · Employers PRSI Bookkeeper		548.28
	3995 · Overpayment of Wages		0.00
Total 3940 · Admin Wages			134,675.40
3950 · Overheads & Administration			
	4003 · Rent		16,050.00
	4004 · Office Supplies + Moving Costs		5,613.05
	4007 · Telephone & Fax		1,847.99
	4008 · Light & Heat		1,298.49
	4009 · Insurance		1,427.45
	4010 · Bank Service Charges		260.90
	4011 · Audit/Accountancy/Legal Fees		2,521.50
	4013 · IT Expenses		2,410.57
	4054 · Repairs & Renewals		388.27
	4055 · Sundry		
	4014 · Sundry Expenses		50.00
	4017 · Canteen		343.76
Total 4055 · Sundry			393.76
Total 3950 · Overheads & Administration			32,211.98
4050 · Miscellaneous Expenses			
	4051 · Training & Development		1,500.00
Total 4050 · Miscellaneous Expenses			1,500.00
4090 · Depreciation			
	4091 · Depreciation Computers		2,984.00
	4092 · Depreciation Equipment		121.00
Total 4090 · Depreciation			3,105.00
5000 · Project Payments			
	4002 · Travel & Subsistence		523.02

		4052 · Publications/Comm Reps Video	1,174.00
		4053 · Networking	15,321.80
		5013 · Anti Stigma/Training	9,151.50
		5014 · Young People Drug Trade	7,485.00
		5015 · Drug Project Best Practice	315.00
		5016 · New Comm/BEM Follow up seminar	1,003.05
		Total 5000 · Project Payments	34,973.37
		5060 · Drug Policy Alliance Conference	1,153.88
		Total Expense	207,619.63
		Net Ordinary Income	9,874.25
			9,874.25

Balance Sheet 2019

City Wide Drugs Crisis Campaign CLG			31 Dec 19
ASSETS			
Fixed Assets			
		6730 · Computer Equipment	
		6731 · Computer Dep To Date	-18,214.98
		6730 · Computer Equipment - Other	18,521.10
		Total 6730 · Computer Equipment	306.12
		6732 · Office Equipment	3,970.64
		6733 · Office Equip Dep. To Date	-3,881.71
		Total Fixed Assets	395.05
Current Assets			
Other Current Assets			
		6693 · Wages Prepaid	-3.00
		Total Other Current Assets	-3.00
Cash at bank and in hand			
		6681 · Current Account 99/00	38,542.90
		6684 · VISA Card	-1,276.57
		Total Cash at bank and in hand	37,266.33
		Total Current Assets	37,263.33
Current Liabilities			
Other Current Liabilities			
		2100 · Payroll Liabilities	3,040.63
		2101 · SIPTU	-0.20
		8886 · DSP RE REDUNDANCY	12,000.00
		8889 · HSE NDRIC Surf Fund	798.41
		Total Other Current Liabilities	15,838.84
		Total Current Liabilities	15,838.84
NET CURRENT ASSETS			21,424.49
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES			21,819.54
NET ASSETS			21,819.54
Capital and Reserves			
		3000 · Opening Bal Equity	5,204.52

3800 - Retained Earnings	6,740.77
Profit for the Year	9,874.25
Shareholder funds	21,819.54