



'Linking Generations in Northern Ireland'

Work Report July – December 2010

Introduction

The period from July – December 2010 has yet again been a busy one with continuation of the Ards area and Regional grants Schemes, intergenerational training seminars, events and a change in staffing structure. The LGNI initiative continues to contribute to concept of intergenerational practice becoming more widely recognised across the sectors in NI. This report will give a good indication of the work LGNI staff have been involved with in the last six months.

During the summer months Lyndsay Donly secured a place on a PGCE course and went on study leave. This coincided with a review of how BJB were managing LGNI and it was felt it would be more appropriate if it was managed locally. David was asked if he would be willing to fulfil this role and he agreed to this and to an increase in his hours of work.

Emily's role was also evolving and much of the activity described below would not be possible without her input. This is reflected in a change of name for her post to Project Assistant.

During this period work also began on the external evaluation of LGNI being undertaken by Juniper Consulting.

Regional Intergenerational Small Grants Scheme

(Running April 2010 – March 2011)

The combination of funding from the Atlantic Philanthropies and The Department of Justice of the Northern Ireland Office supports this programme. The initial advertisement of this funding offered 20 grants of £750 for groups interested in engaging in intergenerational practice. LGNI received 26 applications and when assessed on the 14th April

decide to award 21 as 2 projects had asked for less than £750. The successful groups at this stage are listed below –

Sunnymead Residential Home & Saints & Scholars Primary Armagh
Breakthru & St Patricks School Dungannon
Warrenpoint Community Association
Cloughmills Community Action Group
Destined Londonderry/Derry
Creggan 60th Feile & Creggan Neighbourhood Partnership
Cloney Rural Development Association
Alzheimers Society Antrim
Moyallon Primary School Portadown
Opportunity Youth Belfast
Volunteer Development Agency Belfast
COSY Club & St Ethas Youth Club Londonderry/Derry
Westwinds Residents Association
Tullycarnet Senior Citizens Group & Tullycarnet Primary School
Dunloy Community Development Association
Maghaberry Community Association
Hostelling International Northern Ireland
The Ballymac Centre Belfast
Ballykeel 2 Community Association
Good Morning Colin Neighbourhood Partnership
The Logic Cafe Moira

The above groups were awarded their grants in April and both Vicki and Lyndsay organised planning/good practice meetings with each prior to project commencing. Unfortunately due to unforeseen circumstances two groups had to return their funding Tullycarnet and the Ballymac Centre. Applications were welcomed from interested groups to reallocate this funding and grants of £750 were awarded to –

LASI Lesbian Advocacy Services Initiative Belfast
FARM Support Group & Mountnorris Young Farmers

A full account of these projects will be given in the next six month report when they have all completed.

Newtownards Area Grants Scheme

(running June 2010– March 2011)

Continuing funding from Ards Community Safety Partnership enabled a grants scheme for ten intergenerational projects with the maximum amount provided to each successful application being £600. There were 15 applications for this scheme and assessments of these took place on the 11th June. It was decided to award 13 grants of £500 with the Beth Johnson foundation offering to make up the shortfall. The successful groups are listed below –

East End Residents Association

Glenward Community Development Association

Movilla High School

Ballygowan Senior Citizens and Alexander Dickson Primary School

Killinchy Senior Citizens and Killinchy Primary School

Millisle Youth Forum

St Anne's Primary School & Parish Donaghadee

Portaferry Integrated Primary & Portaferry in Bloom

Carrowdore Primary School

Andrews Memorial Primary Comber

Comber Primary School

Ballywalter Youth & Community Cooperative

Kirkistown Primary School Cloughey

The above projects are currently underway and full account will be given of each in the next six month report.

Additional Work Activities July – December 2010

Ards area & Regional grants schemes – Vicki continued to offer ongoing facilitation and support to involved groups. LGNI continues to arrange and chair the Regional and Ards intergenerational steering meetings. The steering groups are made up of representatives from statutory and community/voluntary organisations in the relevant areas and help make decisions and offer support regarding the LGNI initiative.

Mediation Northern Ireland – Vicki continues to attend steering group meetings and events as a member of the Ards Social Partnership Programme hosted by Mediation NI.

Ards Over 50's Forum – Vicki continues to be a member of the Ards Over 50's Forum who meet monthly to discuss older people's issues in the Ards area. The Forum is made up of statutory, community/voluntary organisations and older peoples group members. The Forum regularly arranges events focusing on issues that affect older people e.g. health, safety.

Link Steering Group Research - Vicki has become a member of the Link Centre Newtownards steering group for research into older people's memories of the past and in particular the 'Troubles'. This research will hopefully lead to an intergenerational programme to address this issue.

Arts for Older People programme – In July and August Lyndsay worked on a bid idea for this programme and put a call out to artists to create a database of those interested in being involved. The draft of this will be discussed with the Arts Council in early January and the closing date for applications is 27 January.

Contact with partners re Arts for Older People – Throughout the months of July, August and September Vicki made contact and arranged meetings with potential partners for LGNI's Arts for Older People programme funding bid. These included RNID, Alphahousing, RNIB, Meadowbank Omagh (AgeNI), Tung Lok men's groups Bangor, Wahep Craigavon, An Munia Tober, Carafriend (Queerspace & GLYNI),

Introduction to Intergenerational Programming Pittsburgh University – Vicki started this online course in September and will have completed by the end of December. She intends to use this qualification to progress to the Intergenerational Specialist Certificate in the New Year.

Stratagem Art of Lobbying Training 6th July – Vicki and Lyndsay attended this training as part of the Atlantic Philanthropies grantee training programme. The training focused on lobbying skills that can be used to promote organisations within the community/voluntary sector.

CIP Advisory Group London 15th July – Vicki attended the Centre for Intergenerational Practice advisory group meeting in the Gulbenkian Foundation London. The group is composed of leading members from a cross-section of organisations involved in intergenerational work.

Stratagem Branding Training 17th August – Vicki, Lyndsay and Emily attended this training as part of the Atlantic Philanthropies grantee training programme. The training focused on how to establish a successful brand for organisations within the community/voluntary sector.

COSY Club Quilt Launch 2nd September – Vicki attended this launch in Derry/Londonderry which unveiled quiltwork produced by the older ladies of the COSY club and younger women from St Etnias Youth Club. The event was attended by the local mayor with press coverage from local media and also the Belfast Telegraph.

Unltd Launch Stormont Parliament Buildings 14th September – Vicki attended this launch of the NI Unltd initiative which focuses on the importance of social economy. Unltd are also grantees of the Atlantic Philanthropies programme and we are keen to keep contact.

Intergenerational Training Seminar SELB 16th September – David and Vicki facilitated this training for SELB youth workers in the Portadown Youth offices. The training was delivered as part of their Peace 3 initiative in preparation for the delivery of intergenerational projects.

Big Lottery Funding Workshops 21st September Braid Hall Ballymena & 22nd September Mossley Mill Newtownabbey – David and Vicki attended these events for information on the Big Lottery Connecting Older People and Empowering Young People funding programmes. Since the launch of the programmes we have been contacted by three organisations to discuss possible partnership in a Lottery bid by them. We are also working on a separate bid ourselves.

Intergenerational Training Seminar 28th September Portadown – David and Vicki facilitated this training seminar number six of the free NI wide training programme. This seminar was also held as part of the Age

Awareness Week initiative and was publicised in the promotional catalogue. Seven people attended this training.

RNNI AGM Glenavon House Hotel Cookstown 29th September –

Vicki attended this AGM which celebrated a successful years work for the network. Vicki was also elected as a new member onto the RNNI board of management and will attend bi monthly meetings.

U105 Radio Coverage 29th September –

As part of the Age Awareness initiative Vicki was asked to organise a group who had been involved in intergenerational work to attend the U105 studios. A younger and older person from the East End Residents project funded by LGNI attended and spoke of their experiences live on air.

Relations between the Generations Long Gallery Stormont 30th

September – LGNI were successful in their application for the funding of this event through the Age Awareness week funding programme. The event took the form of a roundtable discussion with mixed tables of both older and younger people and one facilitator. The mixed age groups discussed current relations between the generations and potential areas of common concern and conflict. The participants were from a wide range of groups and feedback from the event was excellent, a full report of findings is on our website.

NICVA Training Strategy for winning funding 1st October –

Vicki attended this NICVA members' session which focused on successful strategies for achieving funding. Workshops were facilitated by potential funders and also strategic advisors.

Newhill Youth and Community Centre Intergenerational Fashion

and Talent display 1st October – Vicki attended this community event aided by funds from the Age Awareness Week grants scheme. This group had previously undertaken an intergenerational project supported through the Belfast Community Safety Partnerships small grants scheme managed by LGNI.

Intergenerational Display Belfast City Hall 4th-15th October –

LGNI in partnership with OPA created a display of intergenerational projects supported through the LGNI initiative to date. The display included photographs, projects information, comments from participants and

artwork from some of the projects. LGNI promoted the display through their contacts and feedback was very good with many stakeholders visiting the City Hall to observe.

Meeting with Good Morning NI Network 4th October – David, Vicki and Emily met with Colin Dickenson of the Good Morning NI Network to discuss the possibility of working collaboratively on an intergenerational project.

Meeting with Springboard 8th October – Vicki and David met with workers of Springboard an organisation working with young people with a focus on developing capacity, valuing diversity and building peace. The purpose of this meeting was to establish possibilities of working in partnership on an intergenerational programme.

Mentoring & Befriending Network Launch of Life Journeys

Campaign Long Gallery Stormont 11th October – Vicki and David attended this launch of the ‘Supporting Life’s Journeys Campaign’. The launch focused on the importance of volunteering, mentoring and befriending programmes.

Intergenerational Training seminar 13th October Disability Action

Belfast – David and Vicki facilitated this training session number seven of the free NI training programme. This seminar was targeted towards those working within the disability sector although also took a general focus. Twenty people attended this training.

Session with Girls Model School Belfast 14th October – Vicki had previously been in touch with the extended schools officer from the Belfast Girls Model to try and encourage the set up of an intergenerational project using extended schools funds. This first session involved some single identity work with some of the pupils and the set of a management committee. They hope to team up with older people from Harmony Court to organise a performance that will be held at the school.

Destined Celebration Event Derry/Londonderry 20th October – Vicki attended this event which celebrated the success of Destined (an organisation supporting people with learning difficulties) and their intergenerational project funded through the LGNI regional grants

scheme. The Mayor of Derry/Londonderry also attended as did the local press.

Manchester Age Friendly City Seminar (29 Sept) and Conference (1 Nov) – David attended these. Manchester is one of ten cities in the pilot of the WHO's Age Friendly City Initiative. We intend promoting this concept in Northern Ireland.

Meeting with George Sproule National Museums NI 11th November – David and Vicki met with George Sproule of NMNI at the LGNI offices to discuss current work and also future possibilities. One of these possibilities is collaboration on the planning of an intergenerational recognition event highlighting the 29th April European Union Day of Solidarity between Generations.

CIP Youth Sector Intergenerational Training Manchester 15th November – Vicki attended this training facilitated by CIP staff targeted specially at those working with young people which provided useful information that will enhance the NI programme.

Trinity College Conference 16th November – David and Vicki attended this conference hosted by SPARC and CARDI. David presented information about the work of LGNI in a workshop context. This has led to contact from a Group in Naas and we will be visiting them early in the new year. **Attendance at a conference in Galway** also extended our contacts with people in the Republic of Ireland and in particular with Mary Surlis who has developed a series of projects in schools in the west of Ireland.

Intergenerational Training Seminar Millennium Forum Derry/Londonderry 17th November – Vicki and David facilitated this training session being number eight under the free NI wide training programme. This seminar was generally focused on all those wishing to engage in intergenerational practice and was attended by twenty people.

Atlantic Grantee Convening Ulster Hall 2nd December – David and Vicki attended the third grantee convening with other grantees of the Atlantic Philanthropies programme. The convening involved discussing the new monitoring and returns requirements and guidelines for all Atlantic grants.

Alan's Visit 7th December – Alan Hatton Yeo BJJ Chief Executive visited the LGNI offices to catch up with work in NI and also to plan aims and funding possibilities for the future.

Meeting with NIYF 8th December – David and Vicki met with Chris Quinn of the Northern Ireland Youth Forum to discuss the possibility of working in partnership on an intergenerational funding bid.

Meeting with Belfast City Council 8th December – David and Vicki met with Belfast City Council staff the following departments Healthy Ageing, Youth Forum, Community Safety, Community Services and parks and Leisure. This resulted from the Manchester conference which Elma Greer from BCC also attended. Plans were made to bring together the Council's Youth and Older People's Forums early in the new year.

Intergenerational Training Seminar Millennium Forum

Derry/Londonderry 9th December – Due to the high demand for intergenerational in the Derry/Londonderry area an extra two seminars were arranged. Unfortunately because of the adverse weather conditions the 9th December had to be postponed and a date for the New Year is to be arranged.

RNID and Jordanstown Schools Signs and Songs Carol Service

Stormont Parliament Buildings 15th December – David and Vicki attended this annual Carol Service which involved participants of a previous intergenerational project. LGNI hopes to establish another project with Jordanstown Schools and Kinghan Church in the New Year.

Community Safety Unit – We continue to be members of the group monitoring the Safer Ageing Strategy.

In addition to the items listed above we have provided information and advice to a wide range of organisations making inquiries to the office and have kept abreast of developments in both the younger and older people's sectors.

