



Linking Generations NI

DECEMBER 2011 – ISSUE 2

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Key dates:

10 January OFMDFM Meeting with LGNI

17 January Introductory Training – Belfast

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21 February 'Theme' Training – Belfast

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LGNI Staffing Activities

Two additional part-time Regional Development Workers have been hired to work with the LGNI Team as part of continuation funding from The Atlantic Philanthropies for the period 2011 - 2014. Both Lynn Johnston and Linda Barclay have a wide range of experience in the Community & Voluntary Sector spanning over 20 years. This includes work and academic studies in areas relevant to Intergenerational Practice and Community Health & Education.



Lynn Johnston (above) and Linda Barclay (below) facilitating discussion at LGNI training

LGNI Manager David McConnell has announced that he will be retiring effective from the end of 2011; he will continue to support the work in a voluntary capacity including membership of the Steering Group. Vicki Titterington will assume the new role of Acting Northern Ireland Manager. We wish him all the best in the future and look forward to seeing him on a *fairly* regular basis in the New Year!!



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LGNI Evaluation Report Launch



Above: Belfast City Hall

*Below: David McConnell (LGNI),
Lisa Healings (BJF),
Vicki Titterington and (LGNI) and
Alan Hatton-Yeo (BJF)*

The Linking Generation Northern Ireland Evaluation Report covering work between 2009 – 2011 was launched at Belfast City Hall on 15 November. Guests included funders and supporters of the Initiative. Beth Johnson Foundation Chief Executive Alan Hatton-Yeo welcomed guests and Sarah Cherry of Juniper Consulting gave an overview of the Evaluation Report. In addition, William Winchester from Belfast City Council and Northern Ireland Youth Forums spoke from a young person's perspective; Harry McCammon, LGNI steering group member since its inception, provided an older person's perspective.

Copies of both the Overview of Finding and the full Evaluation Report can be viewed on the Northern Ireland pages at www.centreforip.org.uk.

A further evaluation of Linking Generations Northern Ireland will be carried out by Juniper Consulting to cover the new funding period 2011 – 2014.



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LGNi Free Training

LGNi would like to take this opportunity to invite you to attend one of 2 types of training in 2012, 'Introductory' and 'Theme' training. Please contact our office for information on further training or to register; places for these free sessions go fast!

Introductory Training Sessions on Intergenerational Practice

The first *Introductory* session in the new year will take place on 17 January at NICVA in Belfast from 9.30 – 15.00. This training is suitable for anyone interested in learning about the general process of setting up an intergenerational project from recruitment stage through to evaluation. It is anticipated that these *Introductory* sessions will run every two months.

'Theme' Training Sessions

The first *'Theme'* session in the new year will take place on 21 February at NICVA in Belfast from 9.30 – 15.00. This training is suitable for anyone interested in applying for a small grant focusing on the new prescriptive intergenerational 'themes' (Social Justice, Generational Equity, Age Friendly Initiatives, Shared and Safer Communities and Peace Building).

At these *Theme* sessions participants will be given the opportunity to discuss these topics and explore their relevance to Intergenerational Practice while coming up with ideas for the planning and implementation of an intergenerational project. **Small grant application packs will only be available at these sessions and attendance will be a criteria for application. N.B Please note that our small grants and funding opportunities are only available in Northern Ireland.**



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LGNi to welcome important visitors

In January 2012 LGNI will welcome leading intergenerational practitioners from England, Scotland, Wales and the Republic of Ireland to Belfast for two days. The group will include representatives from Beth Johnson Foundation/Centre for Intergenerational Practice, Generations Working Together, Scottish Mentoring & Befriending Network, Age Action Ireland and RSVP Wales. During the stay the visitors will learn more about the work of LGNI and explore the possibilities for increased cooperation and the exchange of information and ideas across the various jurisdictions. This group will continue to meet on a regular basis to promote the continued development of Intergenerational Practice on these islands.



European Year for **Active Ageing**
and **Solidarity between Generations 2012**

EUY2012



LGNi staff have been preparing a programme of activities for 2012 which will promote the European Year for Active Ageing and Solidarity between Generations (EUY2012). This blueprint will be presented to the new LGNI Steering Group at its first meeting in January 2012 for discussion and agreement. The draft proposals are wide ranging, reflecting the breadth of interest in Intergenerational Practice and the EUY2012. A key to success is the emphasis on building and sustaining partnership with the statutory, voluntary and community sectors. Details of specific events will follow in our next newsletter and will be available on the Northern Ireland pages of our website.



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Meeting with OFMDFM

LGNI, Age Sector Platform (ASP) and the Northern Ireland Youth Forum (NIYF) have been discussing a number of joint initiatives to take place during 2012 which will be of mutual benefit to the younger and older communities. We felt that given the increasing interest in and activity in support of IP, the EUY2012, and specific references to intergenerational relations in the Programme for Government, we should request a meeting with Ministers Martina Anderson and Jonathan Bell. We are delighted that we have had a positive response and the meeting will take place early in 2012.



Eddie Lynch (Age Sector Platform) with Vicki Titterington (LGNI) and Chris Quinn (NI Youth Forum)



Thanks
David
We'll miss
you!!