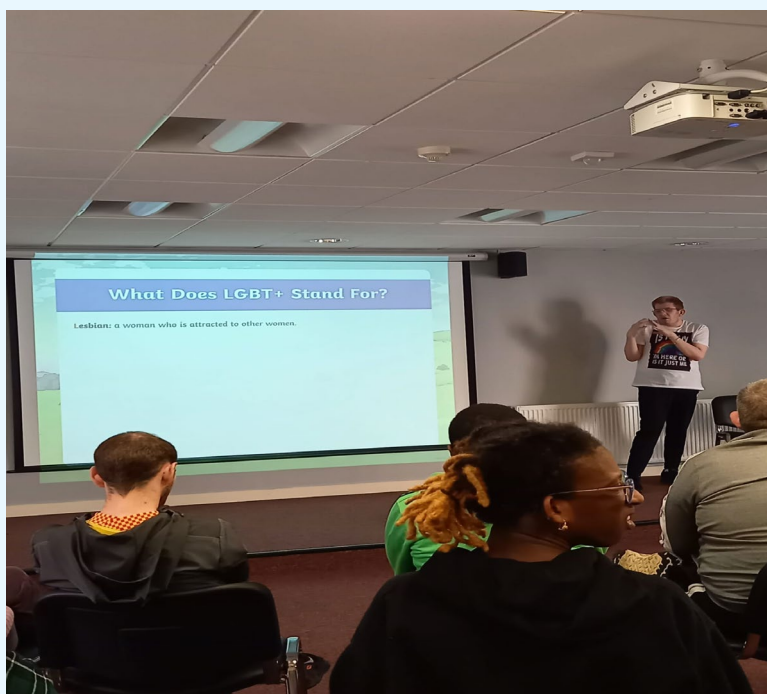


New Directions March Newsletter



Doris Delaney hosted a Love is Love presentation in Tessa House recently, read on to find out more...



Pat in Rowendale has been busy supporting staff with working through the actions on their EASI Tool



On Friday March 22nd, Day Services across the region held various fundraising events in line with Daffodil Day



Dublin's newest Day Service 'Evergreen' has revealed their amazing new signage and centre logo

This month we take a look at ‘Inclusion in One’s Local Community’

Disability inclusion means understanding the relationship between the way people function and also how they participate in society, and making sure everybody has the same opportunities to participate in every aspect of life to the best of their abilities and desires.



5 Ways To Be Inclusive of People With Disabilities

1. Do not assume what is or isn't possible. Disabilities affect all different types of people.
2. Use appropriate language.
3. Get creative!
4. Equal opportunity goes beyond hiring someone.
5. Seek input from people with disabilities.



5 Barriers That Impact People with Disabilities

- Attitudinal barriers. Such barriers result from other people's opinion that limit people with disabilities.
- Physical barriers.
- Policy barriers.
- Communication barriers.
- Social barriers.

Love is Love Presentation



Doris Delany, Lisa Condren and Ian Byrne hosted a “Love Is Love – Sexuality Awareness” workshop in Tessa house recently. The event was well attended by individuals who attend our Day Service across Dublin and Kildare.



Doris welcomed everyone and presented slides on LGBT, it's history and activism. There were short videos explaining different sexuality terms and explaining the feelings and importance around expressing your sexuality. This was followed by an interactive game about sexual stereotypes followed by an interview with Doris Delany.



The Questions and Answers at the end, demonstrated that people had understood what had been discussed in the presentation. Afterwards there were tea and biscuits in Ash Tree's kitchen, kindly hosted by Niamh Toland and her staff. Well done to all involved!

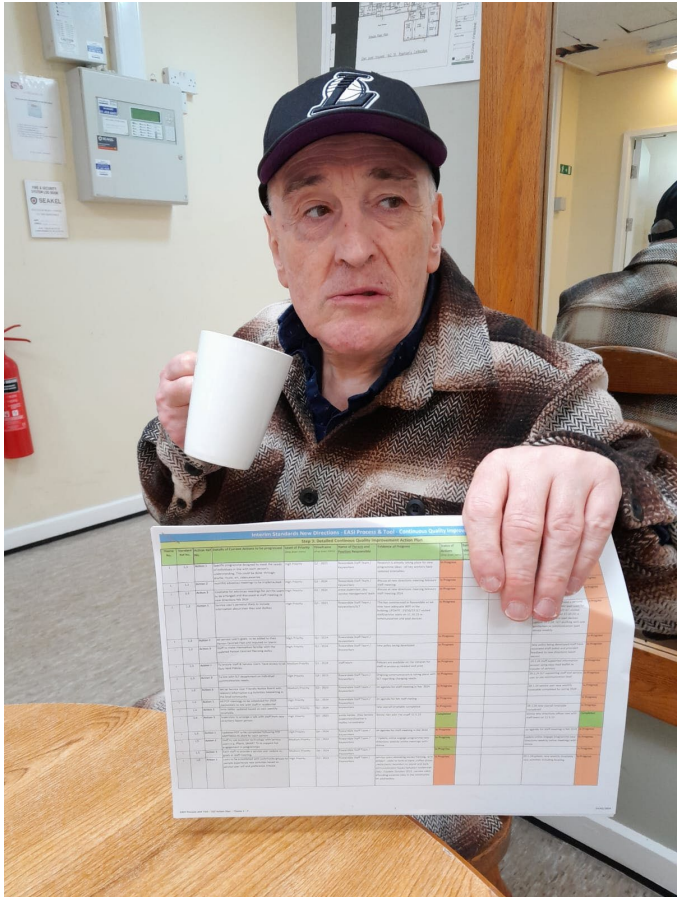
Daffodil Day at Horizons Day Service



A huge well done to the Staff and individuals who attend Horizons Day Service in Celbridge. On Friday 22nd March, in aid of Daffodil Day, the team raised a whopping €327 for cancer. The guys were out and about in the local community collecting for the worthy cause and felt so proud of the money raised. The group then returned back to Horizons for a well-deserved breakfast morning.



Rowendale Day Service



Evaluation, Action and Service Improvement (EASI) is a Self-Evaluation process by each Day Service location provider. The EASI Tool is a very important part of ongoing quality improvement and a key to the delivery of the New Directions policy. This is Pat who attends Rowendale Day Service and here is he working alongside staff on the EASI document and discussing what actions need to be completed. This demonstrates how much those who attend our Day Services are and can be actively involved in the day to day running of each location. Thank you for the pictures, they made my day and keep up the good work Pat.

Evergreen Day Service



Here are the wonderful Staff and Individuals who attend Evergreen Day Service celebrating their new signage and logo. This sign was designed by staff member Alan Burns, who works in Evergreen. Alan linked in with a friend of his who works in the digital photography industry and together they created a logo which allowed the new Day Service to put a stamp on Evergreen. The flower design on the logo indicates new beginnings, which was very relevant to this particular group.



Pathways Day Service



This is Ella Jane Moore who attends Pathways Day Service, Ella Jane has just started a new job placement with Typo coffee shop in Maynooth GAA club. The busy café also has a drive-thru window and Ella Jane has been enjoying learning the skills of a barista, as well as chatting to customers. This is an amazing example of being supported with inclusion in one's local community. Keep up the great work!



Digital Accessibility Presentation TUDublin Tallaght



Patrick Fitzgerald Doris Delaney and Sarah Boland from Liffey Services were part of a three-hour workshop and presentation to over 50 Social care students in the TUDublin Campus on the 5th of March. This was a great opportunity for the two self-advocates to show and educate social care students about the benefits of assistive technology and the accessibility features in smartphones and tablet technology.



The team learned the importance of;

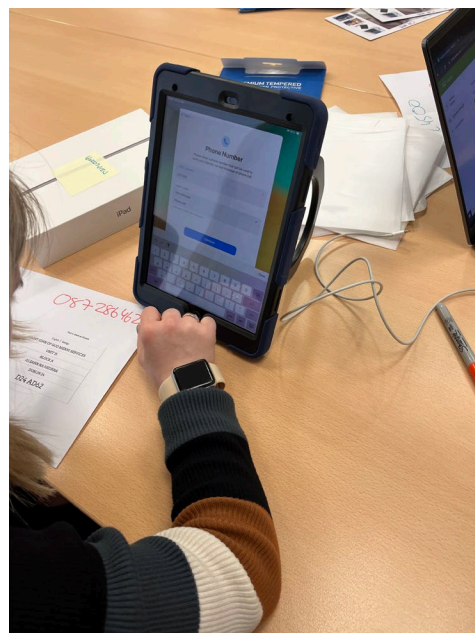
1. Using plain language and easy to read.
2. How technology helps us
2. How multimedia is helpful
3. The accessibility in devices (phones)
4. The impact of co-design
5. The Right to Connect project
6. Our new Digi-coach project SAID
7. Self-advocacy and Liffey Voices
8. Co-researchers

Digital Inclusion Assume We Can!



Thank you to the Right to Connect Group from Ashtree, Tallaght, who this month helped the Digital Accessibility team to set up 9 new iPads for the Kildare Day Service.

- The team learned the importance of
1. Screen Protectors and covers
 2. How to set up iPad from start
 3. How to add the devices to the management system





Patrick Fitzgerald, Doris Delaney, and Sarah Boland travelled to Skills4Life SJOG Kerry Services on the 25th and 26th of March to deliver two-day workshops and partner with the team in Kerry on three projects. The first was the **Right To Connect, an Erasmus+ funded** project which Patrick and Doris were a part of in Dublin, and it was great to give the people in Kerry an opportunity to be involved in the Online Community through courses co-designed by the men and women support in Liffey Services. The Skills4Life team dived into using the courses and started creating their own courses.

The second project was another **Erasmus+funded project SAID** where the team in Skills4Life will take up the challenge to train and become DigiCoaches. Four of the students will train to become Digi-Coaches and go and work in local primary school supporting children to learn with accessible digital tools. Patrick and Doris were impressed with the digital skills the students from skills4life have and how eger they were to share those skills with others. The final project we will partner on is **the Our Place project** and 10 of the students will become artists to share unique sound art pieces at a local art centre in the coming weeks funded through **ReThink Ireland**.





Liffey Voices Meeting

Thursday 28th March 2024
11am – 12:00pm



GreenRoom, St Raphaels, Celbridge
or Boardroom Cookstown, Tallaght

Please email: liffeyvoices@sjog.ie if you can come

We will also be hosting this meeting on zoom if you
can't make it to Celbridge .



Meeting ID 474389762
Password 054429



Scan Here to join Zoom

Re Nua Day Service



Some of the Gentlemen and Lady in Re Nua have commenced a literacy class with Fran. The class is extremely popular and those who attend have built a great rapport with Fran. She begins each class with fine motor skills to exercise the fingers before the group begin their writing skills. Re Nua wish to extend a big welcome to their newest volunteer Cathal who has been spending time getting to know the individuals who attend Re Nua.




Thank You for Reading...



Good News

Just a reminder that my 'What is New Directions?' Online Engage sessions will continue on the first Thursday of the month. I hope to catch up with some of you at 10am and 1.30pm on Thursday 4th April.



Please continue to send your good news stories into me and I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a happy and safe Easter.

Get in touch

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**st John
of God** 
**Intellectual
Disability Services**

This easy read booklet about New Directions information was made by Donna Hughes.

