



annual report 2007/2008

A PLACE TO BE YOUNG

SO, WHAT ARE WE ABOUT?
SPHERE 17 BELIEVES ALL
YOUNG PEOPLE HAVE THE
ABILITY TO ACHIEVE GREAT
THINGS; SOME JUST NEED
A LITTLE SUPPORT. WE
BELIEVE WE CAN BE THAT
SUPPORT IN DIFFERENT
WAYS, FOR DIFFERENT
YOUNG PEOPLE.



Manager's perspective

Sept 2007 to Aug 2008

AFTER OUR SECOND FULL YEAR OF OPERATIONS, WE'RE STILL A YOUNG SERVICE BUT WITH A PROUD CULTURE OF COLLABORATIVE LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT.

We've had some great achievements over the past year and we have made some mistakes too which thankfully we learn from. There is an abundance of great ideas we want to make happen and while we are entering a time of concern about resources for community based services, it is important we remember the fundamental resource that is our dynamic, skilled and committed staff team. People are what make services great, and we're no different.

Our main aim has been to provide young people of Dublin 17 with a wide range of programmes, activities and services that reflect their needs, interests and age. Our region is divided up into 3 areas to reflect the three pre-existing youth projects of Darndale/Belcamp, Priorswood and Bonnybrook/Bunratty. Each area team is made up of 5/6 workers which includes a team leader. Supporting the work of the teams are the innovative Youth Arts and Youth Health Coordinators as well as key support and administration staff. Sphere 17 RYS also hosts the Woodale Justice Project - one of the projects funded under the National Garda Youth Diversion Programme and in August 2008 we successfully recruited a second worker for the important work of this youth crime prevention initiative. I would also like to acknowledge the ongoing support from CDYSB and in particular from our CDYSB Liaison Officer.

Uppermost in our successes last year was the participation of young people in new ways in their service such as staff recruitment, staff training, event management and programme operations.

Other highlights included:

1. Events of note

- Celebrate Life Week
- Sphere 17 Regional Youth Facility Open Days
- Summer Sphere and The Big Move 2008
- Youth Health Coordinator Recruitment
- Excellence Through People Award

2. Programmes of note

- Transfer Programme
- Adrenaline Youth Theatre
- Bonnybrook Youth Leadership Programme
- The Horse Programme
- Supporting Young People and Schools (SYPS) Programme
- CTC Drug Awareness Programme
- Woodale Joyriding Prevention Programme

Mick, Sphere 17 RYS Manager



Youth Word!

on Sphere 17
very welcoming
lots

ITs fun
The Clubs make IT fun
Made new friends here.

and I love the trekking
BEST. SPHERE 17 IS THE
HA

if I could sum up Sphere 17
in 3 words I would say:
it's impeccable.
immaculate and they have
SPHERE 17 great staff
Shouse
directly
xxx
Regional Youth Service

you have a laugh
they bring you

It's a fun place and
the activities activities
fun to do.

Interesting
going

This is something
very important
and to be alive

there very kind.
It's a very nice building

I Made new Friends.
I got to know the
youth workers. It is
very fun. "Energetic".
Loads of supplies.
think it is like this
because you get to know

I think its fun and
great and its keeps young
people off the streets.

I think it is like this
because you get to know
ALL about the workers
And it keeps you off the
streets. And it gives you
lots of experience.

crips
they do good clubs
my favourite thing was
the horse programme.

At the forefront

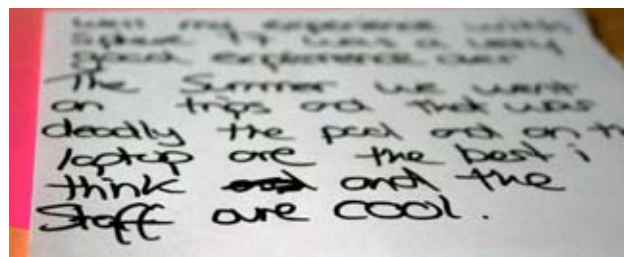
"Sphere 17 is a wonderful place to work helping the young people from Dublin 17 to reach their goals through the many programmes and activities on offer" Anne, Sphere 17 RYS Youth Worker

"It's a great achievement for me to work in Sphere 17 with the young. I grew up in the area and was involved with youth services and feel they have impacted in my life in a good way. I feel that Sphere 17 has that good impact in the Dublin 17 area and I'm glad as a local community person and a youth activity worker to be involved in the every day service." Sue, Sphere 17 RYS Youth Activity Worker

"As a community person I think Sphere 17 has made a huge difference. There is now somewhere for the young people to go, and it has made a noticeable difference in young peoples attitudes to their community." Mary, Sphere 17 RYF Host

"Youth work for me, amongst many things attempts to empower young people within their communities. A project that stands out for me would be the Pond Project (Young Environmentalist Award). This project encourages young people to become more aware of their local environment. The key to this project's success is that the young people came to us with the idea. In my opinion this is the key to Youthwork; finding out what the young people are passionate about; ownership and personal development then follow suit." Sinead, Sphere 17 RYS Youth Worker

"Sphere 17 has shown that mutual respect and a willingness to learn can only benefit both workers and young people." Leona, Sphere 17 RYS Youth Worker



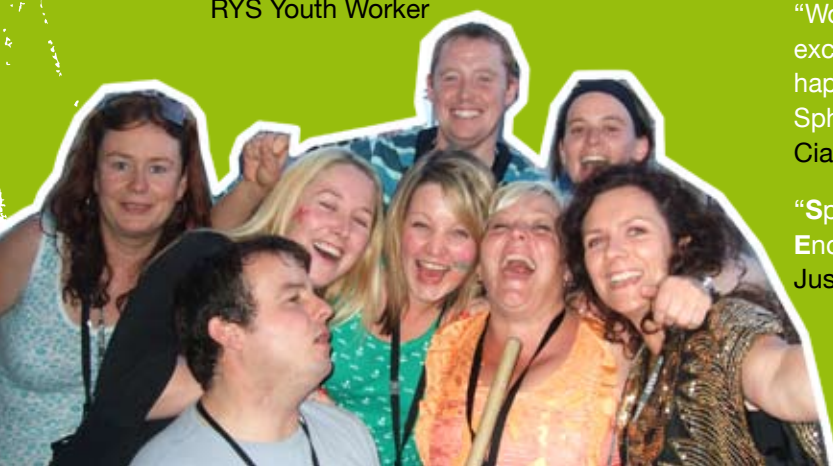
Some of the many things I enjoyed being involved in over the last year in Sphere 17 include meeting new young people, enjoying the fun over Summer Sphere, delivering a wide variety of programmes such as film production, health & well being, cooking, team building, homework clubs, environmental art. This allows me to offer young people new experiences and opportunities, which is very fulfilling as a youth worker." Ashley, Sphere 17 RYS Youth Worker

"Youth work is a tough & challenging but fun experience which presents new challenges every day and forces you to raise your game to meet the needs presented by young people." Marius, Sphere 17 RYS Traveller Youth Worker

"Working within the Woodale Justice Project has given me the opportunity to provide young people with the support necessary to make positive choices in their lives and also challenge me to see past the behaviour and look at the young person in front of me." Val, Sphere 17 RYS Woodale Project Coordinator

"Working in Sphere 17 has been challenging and exciting. Having that experience of "what's going to happen next" every time you walk through the door of Sphere 17 as a youth worker, good times!" Ciara, Sphere 17 RYS Education Youth Worker

"**S**pirited **P**ersonal **H**elpful **E**nergising **R**esponsible **E**ncouraging" Pat, Sphere 17 RYS Woodale Youth Justice Worker





It Figures

What a year – and only our 1st in the new Sphere 17 Regional Youth Facility.

Between September '07 and August '08, Sphere 17 Regional Youth Service engaged with over 1100 young people through more than 130 different structured programmes and activities. With a focus on recognising the value of casual as well as structured contact with young people, over 10,500 session contacts were recorded and 270 Street Work or Detached Youth Work sessions during the period led to over 2100 Street Work Contacts.

Income Sources

Period: 1st January 2007 To 31st December 2007

Income:	€	€
CDYSB		
YPFSF 1	119,061	
YPFSF 2	448,500	
LDTF	180,000	
SPY	328,982	
Small Grant Scheme	1,990	1,078,533
Dept of Justice: Woodale Project		74,107
Dormant Accounts Programme - Pobal		37,380
National Lottery		8,000
Any Other Income		298
Total Income		1,198,318





Exciting Stuff.

Youth Arts in Sphere 17

Engagement with an art form can provide young people with creative experiences that engage their minds, hearts and bodies. Through interaction with an art form, a young person is drawn to make a personal statement, to make a choice and to take a risk. Sphere 17 uses the arts as a method to meet the goals of young people but also as a space where arts is experienced in its own right. Exposure to these different disciplines and opportunity to engage with the arts is encouraged.

Through having access to a year long arts programme in S17 young people aged 10-21 years from Dublin 17 are given the opportunity to participate in the arts and given space to use their voice to express their true identity and a sense of where they fit in.

Many young people have had the opportunity to come into contact with different art forms and artists from a variety of disciplines in the last year in Sphere 17. Some have engaged in brief workshops/ taster arts sessions such as Samba Drumming, Hip Hop/Dj Workshops and Mask Making Workshops while others have participated in more in-depth arts projects lasting many months or more such as; Pottery, Adrenaline Youth Theatre, Shadow Puppetry and Fusion Parade Workshops as part of St Patrick's Day Festival 2008 to name but a few!

Jennie, Sphere 17 Youth Arts Coordinator



Youth Health in Sphere 17

Youth health is all about helping young people to understand and look after their health and well being. So many things influence young people and the decisions they make, so as the Youth Health Coordinator I hope that through relevant youth health education, promotion, research and training for young people of Dublin 17, they will come to know and accept themselves, increase their self esteem and make informed lifestyle choices. The service is also about supporting young people to communicate their health needs and to access important health care services.

The most important aspect however of youth health programming in Sphere 17 is fun, and learning about health happens in an innovative, creative, young person centred way.

Marion, Sphere 17 Youth Health Coordinator



Regional Youth Facility

The communities of Dublin 17 have been waiting a long time for a dedicated youth facility that reflected the value and aspirations they have for the young people and whose energy and commitment made this building happen. The collective efforts of DCC, CDYSB and various community organisations and representatives have resulted not only in a modern, aesthetic facility but one which is informed by extensive experience of work with young people.

Light, space, purpose and welcome define the building and since we opened the doors in August 2007 we have progressed the range and provision of youth service activity in a way which was previously unimaginable. Open nearly 70 hours per week with an average weekly footfall of 4-500, we also continue to facilitate other groups and organisations who work with young people to avail of this important resource in a region where quality facilities for young people are still far too few.

Brian, Sphere 17 RYF Coordinator

So Thanks...



Community Organisations, Agencies and Funders - your ongoing support makes us possible.

Young people - your involvement is why we exist, persist and enjoy it!

Thanks everyone... and remember to check out www.sphere17.ie for more info.





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Darndale
Dublin 17

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Board membership:

The Sphere 17 RYS Board of Management is made up of 3 community representatives and representatives from other local education service providers, agencies and community based organisations covering the Dublin 17 area.

Director (Chairperson):	George Ryan	Independent Chair
Director (Secretary):	John Curry	Priorswood Community Representative
Director (Treasurer):	Marie Hanlon	Bonnybrook Community Representative
Board Member:	Derry Amphlett	OLI Primary School
Board Member:	Sinead Griffin	New Life Centre
Board Member:	Mary Doheny	Travact
Board Member:	Tony Hynes	Dublin City Council
Board Member:	Mark McDonald	Northside Partnership
Board Member:	Dessie Cray	Darndale Community Representative
Board Member:	Emma Gunn	Probation Service
Board Member:	Maria Stewart	Garda Siochana
Board Member:	Alex Cahill	Bonnybrook Youthreach
Board Member:	Deirdre Kiely	D17 School Completion Programme
Board Member:	Louise Nolan	DNE Drugs Task Force