

# YOUTHPACT



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**Peace**   
Northern Ireland - Ireland  
European Regional Development Fund

## Peace4Youth



# Partners in Peace

 **Northern Ireland  
Executive**  
[www.northernireland.gov.uk](http://www.northernireland.gov.uk)

 **An Roinn Leanaí  
agus Gníothaí Óige**  
Department of  
Children and Youth Affairs

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# Welcome to YouthPact!

**WELCOME** to YouthPact's first e-zine.

If you are new to the Peace4Youth programme, this will introduce you to the role which YouthPact can play in supporting you in your work and Peace IV project. If you have already been involved with YouthPact this will give you more information on further events that might interest you.

The role of YouthPact is to support the EU Peace IV Children & Young People's Programme. This cross-border partnership of Co-operation Ireland, POBAL, National Youth Council of Ireland and Ulster University is to support the work and workers in the Peace4Youth programme, who are running peace-building programmes for young people aged 14-24 across Northern Ireland and the border regions.

YouthPact offers training to youth workers to improve their peace-building work with young people, with a focus on key themes which feature across all projects:

- \*Good relations and peace-building
- \*Facilitating growth for and with young people
- \*Engagement with hard-to-reach groups
- \*What is youth work?
- \*Citizenship and building social activism

YouthPact offers opportunities for project leaders and partner organisations to share and learn from each other, through reflective discussion sessions, sharing and learning events and showcasing the work through the E-zine.

We create and disseminate new and existing resources to Peace4Youth workers on youth work approaches, toolkits for specialised themes, on-line youth work materials and YouthPact Practice and Policy Papers to connect the impact of Peace4Youth practice with emerging government initiatives and policies in Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland. Feel free to forward resources to YouthPact that you wish to share on-line.

To boost the impact of the Peace4Youth projects for young people, YouthPact gather and distribute information on further programmes or opportunities that participants could join after their project ends, so if you have any further programmes or opportunities we can highlight these on-line or through this e-zine. YouthPact also brings young participants together to capture their views on their pressing issues and to feed their views on the value of the Peace4Youth projects back out to workers, organisations and funders, so that improvements can be made for the next group.

For more information on any YouthPact activity and the team, click on the link <http://www.cooperationireland.org/programmes/youth-education-programmes/youthpact>

# Young Voices

**ONE** of the roles of the YouthPact initiative is provide a Youth Participation Mechanism to compliment the work of delivery agents in this area of practice.

To deliver on this YouthPact will convene six Young Voices engagement and consultation events over the life of the programme looking at peace, the peace programme, local delivery and other themes relevant to young people. This event will create space for young people from across Northern Ireland and the Border Counties of Ireland, to come together and share their

Save the Date!

Wednesday, 29th August  
@The Junction, Dungannon

experience of participating in Phase 1 of the Peace4Youth Programme, with a view to influencing the development of Phase 2.

Contact Joe or Daryl (P7)

## SEMINAR: Bursting the bubble, or lancing the boil?

**YOUTHPACT** will host a one day seminar to look at Community relations and peace-building with young people in contemporary times. The seminar will provide space for workers to consider the different concepts and approaches to community relations and peace-building work with young people.

The themes explored emerge from a review of relevant literature by Emily Stanton, Martin McMullan and Leighann McConville. This paper will also be available at this seminar.

**Date:** Friday, 21st September

**Venue and time:** TBC

Contact Eliz for more details (P7).

# Approaches to groupwork

“The group grows by what it can share, and what it can share is what it can talk about and what it can talk about is its experience.”



**APPROACHES** to Group Work was the second YouthPact training event, as part of its support and development role.

In this one-day seminar with Jarlath Benson held in Cookstown on Thursday, 17th April, participants considered Conflict and Chaos within a group and how a group can grow through conflict. The group explored the place and effectiveness of contracting as well as the power of making the group your co-worker.

Participants used the day to share and reflect on their experiences of facilitating groups and integrating new approaches into their groupwork practices with the young people involved across the Peace4Youth programme.

Worker reflections on the day illustrated increased efficacy in their professional role with one participant stating: "Best training I have ever done. Off to work with a sense of, 'I can do this' "



# The Power of One

‘Tuning into, listening to and flowing at the person’s own pace. Yet how hard it is to really listen if our mind is full of other stuff? if our heads are turned in other directions? To be empathic, practitioners need to juggle a space in their minds to give the person individual attention’

(Johns, 2009:116)

**IN MAY** 2018 YouthPact delivered training in Belfast and Derry/ Londonderry focusing on mentoring.

Dr. Gail Neill, a lecturer in the School of Applied Social and Policy Sciences at Ulster University, facilitated the training, bringing her extensive experience in mentoring workers and young people across youth work settings.

The training moved from historical perspectives on mentoring to the range of types of mentoring relationships, pinpointing the transformative qualities and skills of mentors. Case study examples were used by Gail to bring these ideas to life.



Participants were particularly struck by the mentoring diary that Gail shared, as well as tales about Betty the mentoring dog, (highlighting walk, talk and diversion within mentoring).

The stories which practitioners shared of their mentees points to the profound impact mentoring can have on young people working with thoughtful committed practitioners.

The training was characterized by workers reflecting on their knowledge and experience with a desire to learn more in order to provide a rich quality experience for young people.

**Got a story about your project or a participant that you want to tell?**

**The next YouthPact e-zine is to feature project participants and project stories from the Peace4Youth organisations.**

**If you wish to be featured in the next e-zine in October, please forward a picture, with a caption and a short 100 word piece to Sota McCann on [sota.mccann@cooperationireland.org](mailto:sota.mccann@cooperationireland.org)**

# Cluster Groups in Derry and Monaghan

**OVER** the last couple of months YouthPact have been running geographical 'Cluster Groups', with the first North-West cluster hosted by the Verbal Arts Centre in Derry/Londonderry on May 25th, 2018; and the second on June 15th in Pobal, Monaghan.

The aim of these groups is to bring delivery staff from across the projects together, to discuss the key issues that affecting them, their young people, and their projects on a day to day basis.

The Cluster Groups are facilitated by our Development Officer Daryl Moore and are carried out in a relaxed, interactive, and issue focused way. The content for each group meeting is very much led by the interests and issues that the participants highlight, with facilitated



discussions and explorations on common themes emerging from across the projects. The Dalai Lama appreciates the power of learning through sharing: 'When you talk, you are only repeating what you already know. But if you listen, you might learn something new'.

## ➤ Save the Date ◀

**BELFAST** and Fermanagh Cluster Group half day discussion meetings will take place for project staff on the following dates:

**Belfast:** Friday, September 7th, 2018, 9.30am - 1pm

**Fermanagh:** Wednesday, September 12th, 2018, 9.30am - 1pm

Venues to be confirmed

These Cluster Groups are a great opportunity for project delivery workers from across the various PEACE4YOUTH projects to come together and discuss the main issues that are affecting and influencing their young people and their project on a day to day basis.

**Contact** Daryl Moore (P7)

# Border Lives

**THE** Border Lives seminar held on June 26 in Parkanaur Manor House was organised to give voice to the lives of those young people who live along the border.

Attendees were presented with a toolkit to help audit and understand the cross-border context at an operational and strategic levels.

YouthPact were delighted to have Ruth Taillon from the Centre for Cross Border Studies facilitating the training, with participants looking extensively at the Centre for Cross Border Studies Impact Assessment Toolkit for cross-border cooperation.

'I found it very interesting and informative'

'Brilliant'

'Information Sharing was excellent'

'Excellent training'

The one-day seminar brought together participants from all PEACE4YOUTH projects who promote cross border engagement and through guided questions, looked at how the assessment toolkit can be used for the development of funding proposals and how it can be implemented in the delivery of projects.

## Contacts



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