

# CHILD LINKS

SUMMER 1995

THIS ISSUE: FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES

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*The purpose of the National Children's Resource Centre is to provide information and training relevant to the welfare of children (0-18) in response to current issues and likely future developments in child care in Ireland. If you would like your training events considered for entry in the National Children's Resource Centre TRAINING EVENTS GUIDE please contact:*

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## Editorial

Over the next two years the focus of those working with children and their families is likely to be concentrated on the implementation of the Child Care Act 1991. The provisions of the Act, and attendant regulations, covers the broad spectrum of preventative work with children and families, identification of children who may be at risk, validation where abuse is suspected, the provision of appropriate care for children or young people who are out of home and aftercare for young people who are leaving the care system. All of these activities are underpinned by principle that it is generally in the best interests of children to be reared in their families of origin and the long-term effects of separation for children and young people from their families of origin:- within the 'care' system are well documented. Models of preventative work with children and families need to be developed and resourced in each Health Board area if the principle of the family as the primary carer of children is to be honoured. Family resource centres are one vehicle through which preventative work can be undertaken. The work of such centres should be characterised by a shared sense of purpose, a link between formal and informal support services and an active partnership with parents and communities. Three main models of family resource centres have been developed, that is, the client focused model, the neighbourhood model and the community development model. The implementation of the Child Care Act with new legal provisions like the Supervision Order will increase the need for clarity of purpose in Family Resources Centres to be defined. An impact study focusing on the outcomes for children, families and communities who use Family Resource Centres, if undertaken, would aid future planning and the most effective use of resources. The preventative work needs to be clearly defined and evaluated if it's true significance and worth is to be recognised and resourced by our policy makers.

NORAH GIBBONS  
Team Leader

# THE INFORMATION SERVICE

The past six months have been extremely busy for the information service. On average we have had over 100 enquiries a month, drawn from parents, professionals and students throughout the country. The collection of resources has grown considerably to over 6,000 items. These include books, official publications, videos, resource packs and a large collection of leaflets, pamphlets, newspaper cuttings and other unpublished material. The coming summer will be spent preparing for the autumn and introducing a number of developments which will further enhance service to our members. These include:



## ACCESS TO THE INTERNET

The N.C.R.C. will soon be connected to the Internet. The services of particular benefit to the N.C.R.C. will include:

**Electronic Mail (email):** This powerful communication tool will save time and money. It can be used to contact other libraries, organisations and individuals world-wide. It will facilitate the electronic ordering of resources from booksellers and the processing of requests.

**World Wide Web** provides a usable and friendly interface to vast information resources throughout the world. Conversely, it can be used to promote the services of Barnardo's and the N.C.R.C. The library catalogue could, in the near future, be made available to the Internet.

**Newsgroups** provide unique opportunities for sharing knowledge, for contacting people with

similar interests and for reaching the expertise you need.

## CURRENT AWARENESS SERVICE

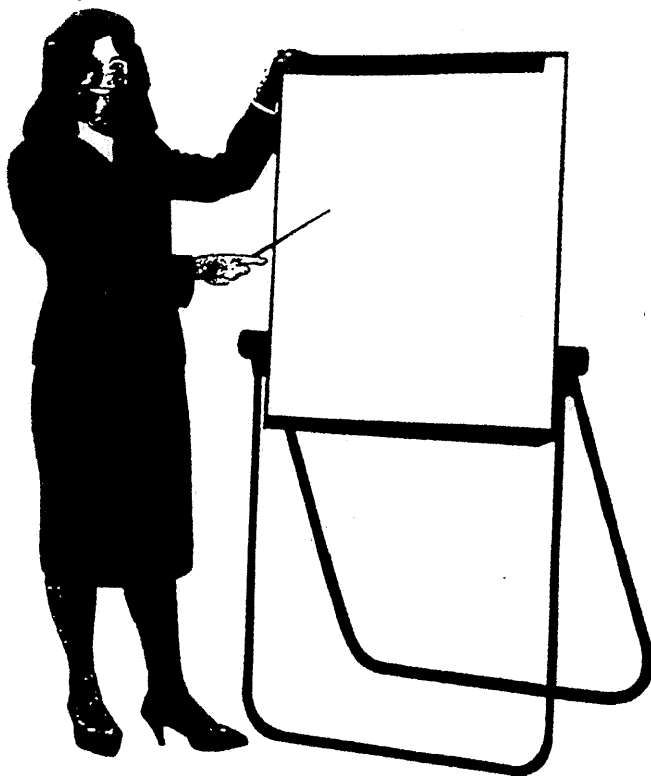
In order to promote greater usage of all N.C.R.C. library resources, a *Current Awareness Bulletin* will be issued to members monthly. This will incorporate a full listing of library acquisitions and the contents pages of current journals.

## CAREER BASE

A comprehensive update of the database of Child Care Courses in Ireland will be available in the autumn. This will incorporate a wide range of courses and will give full details about cost, qualification, venue and external validation.

## WELCOME

A warm welcome to all the staff on our recently established Community Employment Scheme. The scheme is playing a vital role in supporting the work of the N.C.R.C.



# TRAINING

## ❖ Professional Training Events

Organised tri-annually to help meet the need for ongoing updating skills for workers.

As we at N.C.R.C. aim to promote child centred good practice, which means being anti-discriminatory and of good quality, it is essential we consider our service delivery. Consequently the next few weeks will allow one of the very important parts of the process to occur, namely evaluation and review. As trainers we always want to know if what was offered hit the spot, answered the need or not. Just like parents and childcare workers the necessity to listen and respond to feedback is often cited as important but doesn't always happen. That is why we have set up systems to try and ensure we get the feedback. We have developed, for example, a feedback sheet which is sent to all who requested us to provide training to let us know if what was given proved suitable. This, in conjunction with the participants' evaluation of training sheets, is used to aid our evaluation. Negative and positive comments are both equally valid (and we hope equally well received) in the search and commitment to quality training and a quality service.

Indeed the N.C.R.C. sees itself as a unique island of information and training, focused as it is on Children/Young people. The possibilities for learning and change can only increase if we get feedback.

So anyone out there who has ideas or comments on our training or other services available from the N.C.R.C. don't hesitate to let us know. We are committed to giving you quality, equality and what you want.

Summertime is upon us and the frantic activity of Training Courses and Programmes has now reached a level where we can draw breath and reflect on the work done. The work falls into the following main categories:

## ❖ Statutory Agencies

The N.C.R.C. has undertaken child protection multi disciplinary training in the various health board regions.

## ❖ Community Employment Schemes

The N.C.R.C. has developed a ten Child-Care training programme for CE workers.

## ❖ Parenting Courses —

Requested by School and Community Parenting Groups.

## ❖ Child Care Courses

The N.C.R.C. devised and presented a City & Guilds Child-Care Course for fourteen traveller women. The City & Guilds course was also presented to women in Laois on request from the Laois Community Network.

*Watch this space!*

# **EDENDERRY FAMILY CENTRE**

On 15th December, 1994 the Edenderry Family Centre was launched by Barnardo's in conjunction with the Midland Health Board. This was in response to needs identified by the community. The centre is child focused and echoes the ethos of Barnardos. Barnardos is a voluntary child welfare agency. As well as working with children in our after-school groups we also support them in their homes and in their community settings. We focus on children but we are conscious of the fact that parenting is not easy, so we provide simple practical skills to help parents be more effective and provide an opportunity for parents to share skills. The centre supports lone parents, accepting the difficulties they experience. We provide additional supports through recreation, training and a place to meet.

**CURRENT ACTIVITIES:** 7 - 9 years old on Tuesdays  
13 - 14 years old on Wednesdays  
10 - 12 Years old on Thursdays  
Parent and toddler group.  
Lone parents group.

We held a successful series of talks on Wednesday mornings with approximately 50 people attending.

**TOPICS:** Nutrition and exercise for daily living  
Changing families and parenting  
First aid in the home  
Talking to your teenager  
Preparing your garden  
Social Welfare entitlements

In order to maximise the involvement of community people in the planning and running of the Centre, we have called to houses and asked for their views and extended an invitation to forthcoming events which included two open days when we invited people to come in to see what we are doing. At the last open day on 15th June 1995 approximately 200 people visited the centre. The children who have attended the centre have gone on holiday. Seventeen children and five adults, including parents, went to Birr Outdoor Education Centre. The centre is facilitating community development through the setting up of a group of people to organise 3 separate Summer camps.

A day for children from 4 - 7 years old on 4th July.  
A week from 10 - 14th July for 7 - 10 year olds.  
A week from 14 - 18th August for 11 - 14 year olds.  
Activities will include drama, arts, crafts and sports.

## **PLANS FOR THE FUTURE**

Creche facilities will be provided in partnership with V.T.O.S. with 2 people on a Community Employment Scheme to enable women to attend courses. It is proposed to do training in Assertiveness and Personal Development with assistance from V.E.C. We also hope to work with older children. Edenderry Family Centre is a significant resource in the community and we aim to make a difference in the lives of children

**MOLLY BUCKLEY,**  
Co-Ordinator.

# F E A T U R E

## PREVENTION IN CHILD CARE <sup>No.</sup>

*This article has been written by Marion Murphy for the NCRC. Ms Murphy is Director of Social Work/Administration at University College, Cork. She is also a member of our advisory panel.*

Professionals who trained in child-care related fields in the 60s and 70s optimistically adapted Caplan's notions of primary, secondary and tertiary prevention from mental health service provision to conceptualising provision for children<sup>(1)</sup>. A cursory reading of current Irish newspapers hammers home the fact that these largely remained notions - we have not managed to prevent child abuse, neglect, child poverty or the separation of children from their families. In fact, we may have unwittingly facilitated the further abuse and neglect of children in State care, perpetuated children's experience of alienation and isolation by allowing them to become 'lost in care' and failed to make an impact on the public or legislative consciousness about the need for such preventive measures. In the health care field some progress has been made in moving from just trying to prevent illness and disease via vaccination, clean water and sanitation to health promotion, by encouraging the community to look after its own health. Society has moved nowhere near this concept in regard to promoting the welfare of children. Just as medicine, hospitals and medical technology developed from the need to deal with disease and illness, most child care agencies, both voluntary and statutory, developed to deal with problems - of children who were being neglected, abused or abandoned. Just as hospitals will always be needed to deal with sick people, no doubt problem-solving intervention will always be required in child care. Most of us, however, no longer leave the care of our own health to doctors and hospitals. Similarly, it is time to move on from leaving the welfare of children to the professional 'curers'.

We are reluctant to do so. By confining public care of children to professionals, it has been possible for most of us to believe that our way of living and caring for children in the private domain of family life was 'good' and natural. We demonised and still do, the monsters who hurt children, the parents who neglect them, the abusers who deviously groom and trap their victims. As late as 1991 in passing the Child Care Act our legislators expressed the view that the State only needs to be concerned with those deprived children, who are 'in need of care and protection', even if they did add the revolutionary idea that Health Boards should 'promote the welfare' of children<sup>(2)</sup>. This societal approach has allowed us to conveniently ignore the fact that traditional child-rearing methods contribute to legitimising violence and abuse within families. Although we are beginning to reluctantly face the fact that many of our children are unsafe in their families, we have yet to address the fact that violence is sometimes directed by children, particularly adolescents, towards their parents. Research in the U.S. has shown that parental assault is extensive, that sibling abuse is the most frequent and acceptable form of violence within families and that violence within other intimate relationships such as mistreatment of elderly relatives and violence between dating couples in their teens and twenties commonly

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# THE FUTURE

involves sexual aggression, coercion and rape<sup>(3)</sup>. If we are to move on, therefore, from our old and obviously ineffective notions of prevention, towards a way of effectively promoting children's welfare, we must map out the territory, consider how far we have journeyed, how far we have yet to go, our directions, the pitfalls into which we may fall and the resources we need to take with us.

As far back as 1981 the Task Force Report on Child Care Services mapped out the territory for prevention very well: 'Services for deprived children must be seen in the context of the whole range of provisions by the State for children and in the even wider context of government planning which affects the quality of life of all children' and in the Supplementary Report: 'The problem of child deprivation must be tackled at its roots; and its roots are in the social circumstances of the children's 'families' and measures designed to redistribute some of the financial costs of bringing up children, especially in the case of large families, should be an urgent priority'.<sup>(4)</sup> Significantly, these latter points have never been tackled seriously by successive Irish governments nor indeed by Irish society. It is more convenient to hive off responsibility to specific institutions such as the family, the education system and the social work and child care professions than it is to ask ourselves: what are the real costs of ensuring that all our children are safe, nurtured and given opportunities to learn and grow?

If we were to seriously address this question the consequences would be far-reaching and uncomfortable. Would we be willing, for example, to give some of our income that we currently use for foreign holidays to ensure that all our children had a decent at-home holiday? Would we be willing to change the nature of workplaces so that children had more access to their fathers as well as mothers as caretakers? Would we be willing to risk getting into trouble with our neighbours because we genuinely suspected their children were being neglected or abused and did something about it? Would we be willing to expose our own emotional illiteracy, a term coined by psychologist Susie Orbach who believes we are endemically lacking in abilities to deal with intimacy and conflict in our relationships?<sup>(5)</sup> Such exposure happens when we attend conflict mediation or assertiveness training groups but the majority of us are still reluctant to identify ourselves as in need of such training, preferring to believe these kinds of things are only necessary for 'inadequate', 'addicted' or 'ineffective' people. We might realise that the old authoritarian ways of dealing with children in school and home are defunct but how willing are we to give up our adult power by admitting we actually have to learn new ways? There are signs for optimism, however. Much has been achieved in the past few years, even if some of it is driven by public shock following the Kilkenny Incest and Kelly Fitzgerald cases. New government guidelines for professionals working with children will surely prevent some of the abuse that hitherto was unchallenged for long periods. Public outrage about sentencing will surely ensure that there are observable deterrent to abuse of children. Government funding that is currently aiding in the recruitment of social work and child care personnel will surely go some way towards prevention of ongoing abuse and neglect of children. Strauss & Gelles are convinced that their research in the U.S. demonstrated that when such a national effort is made with child abuse programmes, national change can result and point to the results of their study showing

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# F E A T U R E

a reduction in the rates of physical abuse of children between 1975 and 1985 (3). The Staysafe programme in Irish schools has already brought about an increase in public knowledge and awareness of the nature of child abuse and given parents, children and teachers tools for stopping abuse and for preventing it in the future.

Partnership projects such as the new Barnardos/Mid Western Health Board one in Limerick where families will be provided with ongoing practical, educational and emotional support in caring for their children will undoubtedly prevent some children from being separated from their families and obviate the need for State care.

At the secondary level also, the increased funding for Family Centres, Neighbourhood Youth Projects and day care ventures mounted in partnership with our European colleagues through Now and Horizon can only bring the care of children into a more public arena. This places the care of children in a more central way on the agenda of the labour market stakeholders such as employers, trade unions, training institutions and community groups. Homestart and community mother programmes, as well as day fostering schemes and counselling and therapeutic services for couples and families are getting off the ground in many more areas of the country and are beginning to attract state and other funding. The work of our President in visiting and thus validating the efforts of women in neighbourhoods to provide child-care services that are communal and developmental has been very important and powerful encouragement. More wide-spread dissemination of knowledge about the needs of children by various bodies will undoubtedly have the 'trickle-down' effect on family care that can only be positive for children. This has taken a variety of forms from informal dissemination through newspaper articles by psychologists and social workers like Ciaran McGrath and Harry Ferguson, to formal courses such as those provided by Barnardo's in Dublin and the Certificates in Child Care provided by U.C.C. in centres such as Wexford and Tipperary. The public interest in this area exemplifies a new expression of public concern and interest in children's welfare. Harnessing this interest and moving it on from preoccupation with the salacious details of individual abuse cases will be one of the challenges to be taken on by concerned organisations and individuals. The movement of voluntary child care agencies into roles involving child advocacy and public education and training is already taking place and to the good of keeping children's issues in the public arena. There is a sense of excitement, movement towards change and potential for development in the child care field which is lifting morale in both public and voluntary sectors.

The pitfalls we have to avoid have been clearly demonstrated in other countries. If as professionals we take onto ourselves the role of experts, either in child welfare or abuse, we will set ourselves up as scapegoats when, as they inevitably will, things go wrong. Instead we can act as resource people - continue to disseminate knowledge and encourage participation in service provision not just by parents but by all interested and concerned parties including children themselves. Let us not become too 'precious' seeing child care as something that is increasingly provided only by trained 'experts'. Instead, let us try to break down the barriers between economic/work activities and family and child-care involvement and responsibilities by encouraging and fighting for flexibility in the workplace for both men and women and recognise that we can all

do with training, support and encouragement when rearing children. The Report of the European Commission Network on Childcare 1993 suggested that public policy has a major role to play in child welfare, not least through employment leave arrangements for carers of children.<sup>(7)</sup> It suggests that not alone do such arrangements contribute towards the reconciliation of employment and family responsibilities. They also contribute towards other social and economic objectives including equal opportunities for men and women, the health and well-being of children and parents, the well-being of families, improved economic performance and reduction in unemployment. The achievement of this latter objective alone would considerably reduce stress on some families.

Let us take the message of the need to promote child welfare to communities, using whatever means are necessary to do so. Let us recognise and accept the fact that many people have varying roles to play in the societal care of children, which they may approach very differently from the way we do it.

What are the resources we need to pursue these strategies? Obviously, continued public funding of the whole range of services already mentioned and many more is required. Courage is needed in taking risks to engage in work that requires different skills from those we have been using, trained as we are in our narrow professional perspectives. Clarity is required in defining the tasks that we can legitimately tackle and hope to achieve and those that we can, with an openness of spirit, entrust to other groups and organisations. Reflection and debate are crucial on the questions that have concerned people from the dawn of time but tend to get lost in the technocratic era of child expertise. What are we about? What does 'quality of life' mean to us? How can we improve the quality of our relationships, including those with our children? In my view this kind of public and private reflection is the most crucial resource of all, if the needs of children, including those often unheard children that still occupy the hearts and minds of adults, are to be listened to and responded to. We might have some hope then of moving beyond prevention to the promotion of all our welfare.

## REFERENCES

1. Caplan, Gerald. Approaches to Community Mental Health 1963.
2. Child Care Act 1991. Government Publications Office.
3. Eshleman, J. Ross. The Family 1995.
4. Task Force Report 1981. Government Publications Office.
5. Orbach, Susie. Guardian 1991.
6. Strauss, M.A. & Gelles, R.J. Physical Violence in American Families. New Brunswick N.J. 1990.
7. Report of the European Commission Network on Childcare 1993. Brussels.

# BARNARDOS FAMILY SUPPORT PROJECT: MOYROSS, LIMERICK

In the context of the Child Care Act 1991 an agreement was reached between Barnardos and the Mid Western Health Board for the development of a Family Support Service in Moyross Limerick.

Built on the north side of the city, Moyross is a densely populated area with 1,200 households. Unemployment has been a central concern for people living in the area.

The aim of Barnardos Family Support Project in Moyross is to develop services that identify and meet the needs of families in the area who do not participate in group activities and have few supports within the wider community. It is these families that come to the attention of the statutory authorities as being most at risk.

The Project seeks to achieve this by working closely with voluntary, community and statutory agencies, in running a number of family support services for the community and in designing specialised programmes for families experiencing particular difficulties. In addition the Project is committed to ongoing research to evaluate its effectiveness and the information will be published and disseminated annually.

The Project has secured premises on the estate and is due to run a F.A.S. Community Employment Scheme to provide work experience and training for local people. Positions for 15 Participants have been approved by FAS in the areas of caretaking, cleaning, security, clerical work, receptionist work, secretarial work and child care.

Over the Summer holiday period the Project has established a parenting programme for young families living in the area and linking up with other holiday schemes run by the community.

The arrival of the Barnardos Play Bus to the area has done much to win approval for the Project from local residents and their children and the staff are planning to use the mobile training centre in all areas of the estate throughout the months of July and August.

The Project intends to be actively involved in the annual Moyross Festival which takes place in August, in which a number of different activities and events take place that are run by the community. In September the Project intends to establish a Parent and Toddler Group and to run a number of information seminars for groups interested in developing family support services in the Moyross area.

The Barnardos Family Support Project is the first of its kind in the Mid West area and hopes to establish itself as an innovative and responsive approach to working with disadvantaged families and looks forward to the challenges ahead of it in Moyross.

BLAIR McCLURE  
Team Leader

SINÉAD HICKEY  
Community Child Care Worker

# Family Support : A Select Reading List

- An Emotional Stitch in Time, by Susannah Strong 1993 (Journal Article) Careweekly
- At the Centre of Family Life, by Yvonne Healy 1995 (Journal Article) Irish Times E&L supplement.
- Carraigfoyle - 6 years on, by Mary Anderson (Report) Barnardo's N.I.
- Counselling Today's Families, by Herbert Goldenberg/Irene Goldenberg. Book 1994 Brooks / Cole Publishing Company.
- Claidhe Mor Family Centre Report.(Report) 1994 Dublin.
- Dundee Family Support Team, by Amanda Brown 1988 (Report) Barnardo's U.K.
- Families and Self Help, by Erica D'Ath/Gill Webster 1986 (Resource Pack) N.C.B. England
- Family Centres, by John Fitzgerald/Kathy Walsh 1990 (Booklet) Bridge Child Care Con. Service, London, England
- Family Centres, Highlight No. 111 -1992 (Information Sheet) N.C.B. England
- Family Centres: Different Expressions, Some Principles by Joe Hasler 1984 (Report) The Children's Society, London, England
- Family Centres and the Children's Act 1989 by Chris Warren 1991. (Handbook)
- Family Support and Prevention by Jane Gibbons/Sally Thorpe/Patricia Wilkonson 1990 (Book) H.M.S.O. London
- Family Therapy, by Eia Asen 1995 Book. BBC Books London
- Family Work in Residential Care by John Kelsall/Billy McCullough 1988 (Book) Boys & Girls Welfare Soc., Cheshire England
- Fulford Family Centre by Christine Stones 1986 (Report) Barnardo's U.K.
- Heather Grove Family Centre Consumer Study by M.J. Hughes 1991 (Report) Barnardo's U.K.
- Home-Based Family Therapy by Leonard J. Woods 1988 (Journal Article)
- Hull Family Day Centre - 1986 (Report) Barnardo's U.K.
- Love Thy Neighbourhood Family Centre by Owen Gill 1987 (Journal Article) Community Care. 15 October 1987
- Partnership in Practice by John Kelsall/Billy McCullough 1988 Boys & Girls Welfare Soc., Cheshire England
- Rebuilding the Family from Within - 1994 (Report) The International Initiative England
- Salford Families Project: by Amanda Parish/Godfrey Travis 1991 (Report) Barnardo's U.K.
- Supporting Families: by Ruth Gardner 1992 (Report) N.C.B. London
- The Evolution of Bo'Ness Family Centre and the Views of other Agencies on the Services Offered by Nora Dixon/Stella Scott 1988 (Report) Barnardo's U.K.
- The Transition of a Day Care Unit from Child Oriented to Family Oriented: Methods of Practice by Chris Curran 1989 (Report) Barnardo's U.K.
- The Triangle Project by Keith Brownlee, Chris Curran, Tess Duncan, Janet Hughes, Russ Humphreys, Amanda Parrish, Dorothy Porter 1989 (Report) Barnardo's U.K.
- Using Role plays in Teaching and Assessing Family Therapy Skills by John Carpenter/Jeanne Deshner 1982. Journal Article
- West Beckton Children's Community Centre by Jean Fletcher/Margaret Adams 1989 (Report) Barnardo's U.K.
- What's He Doing at the Family Centre? by Sandy Ruxton (Report) N.C.H. London England
- Windsor Avenue Family Support Unit by Bridie May/Maurice Leeson 1994(Report) Barnardo's N.I.
- All of the above theses are available for loan to members of the National Children's Resource Centre.



## FROM EUROPE



Minister of State at the Department of Health, Education and Justice, Austin Currie TD, was a keynote speaker at the recent Annual Conference and General Meeting of the European Forum for Child Welfare, held in Rome from 27 to 29 April. The conference theme was 'Rights of the Child in the Wider Europe: Local, National, European and International Dimensions'. Other speakers included an Italian Government Minister and two MEPs. Minister Currie attended a number of workshop sessions and his participation was favourably received by delegates.

The Annual General Meeting approved the recommendation of the EFCW Bureau that next year's AGM and Conference would be held in Dublin from 16-18 May 1996. Two Irish member organisations of EFCW, Barnardo's and Focus on Children, will be jointly organising the event which will also be open to other Irish organisations.

The Rome meeting also expressed its support for the current draft EFCW proposal for a European Programme

of Action to Promote the Rights and Interests of Children and Young People and for the strategy to influence the revision of the Maastricht Treaty in 1996 to include a specific reference to children. Colleagues in a number of European countries are combining their efforts in order to achieve the desired outcome for children.

In May, Radda Barnen/Swedish Save the Children held a conference in Stockholm in conjunction with the European Forum for Child Welfare. This conference, which had as its theme, 'Children's Rights in Europe: The Political and Legal Status of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child' was directed at parliamentarians, senior governmental officials and representatives of NGO's, and produced the May 1995 Stockholm Declaration on the Application in Europe of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. EFCW also held a conference in Brussels in June on Child Pornography and the Sexual Exploitation of Children and Young People and speakers included EU Commissioner Anita Gradin.

OWEN KEENAN, E.F.C.W.

# FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES and RESOURCE CENTRES

## ***THE 1995 CHILD CARE ACTION PLAN***

Family Support Services are among the provisions that are to be established or increased under the Child Care Action Plan. The following is a summary of what is planned in each Health Board area.

In the Eastern Health Board area increased staffing to strengthen Child Care and Family Support Services is indicated.

In the Midland Health Board area there is provision for additional funding for the Family Centre run in conjunction with Barnardos.

In the Mid-Western Health Board area funding is to be provided to voluntary organisations to provide Family Support Services.

The North-Eastern Health Board has identified the need for a Family Resource

Centre in Navan and it is to be established under this plan.

The North-Western Health Board is to provide increased funding to a number of voluntary organisations to increase their work with families and children.

The Family Resource Centres in Clonmel, Dungarvan, Wexford, Waterford and Carlow are to receive increased funding from the South-Eastern Health Board.

Also the Western Health Board are to develop and support Family Resource Centres in Ballinasloe and Tuam.

These commitments to enhance Family Support Services and increase the number of Family Resource Centres available is welcome and if implemented can have a positive and enhancing effect on the lives of children and families.

# DIARY . . . DIARY . . . DIARY . . .

**August 19:** Title: "Children and Families - Creating Stability in an Unstable World". Congress of International Soc. Prevention of Cruelty and Neglect. Contact: Clifton House, Fitzwilliam Street, Lower, Dublin 2.

**August 19-26:** Title: "Holotropic Breathwork (G.R.O.F) Workshops". Venue: Los Dana, Inch, Co. Kerry. Cost: £345. Contact: Martin Borbson, 38 Moyne Rd., Ranelagh, Dublin 6. Tel: 01-4960389

**August 23-26:** "Towards an inclusive Society". 3rd European Downs Syndrome Conference. Venue: O'Reilly Conference Centre U.C.D. Belfield, Dublin 4. Cost: Early Registration Late (After June 1st) Registration Parents £75 (£100). Family £125 (£150). Professional £125 (£150). Contact: The Conference Office, Agenda Ltd., 10 Hagan Court, Lad Lane, Dublin 2. Tel: 01-6769235

**August 24-25:** "Breaking the Shackles to Women's Spirits - Finding a Key through Creative Arts Therapies." Venue: 35 Exchequer Street, Dublin 2. Cost: £45. Contact: Noel Roche/Jane O'Hanlon, c/o 16 Newmarket Street, The Coombe, Dublin 8. Tel: Noel 01-4537889. Jane 01-8332156.

**September 1-3:** "Cape Clear International Storytelling Festival." Venue: Cape Clear Island, Cork. Contact: Chuck Kruger, Glen West, Cape Clear Is., Cork Tel: 028-39157

**September 2:3:** "Introducing Sexuality Training". Venue: Limerick. Cost: £160 (Inclusive of all materials). Contact: Education Officer, I.F.P.A. Education Service, 36/37 Lower Ormond Quay, Dublin 1.

**September 8:** "Programme Planning for Relationships and Sexuality Education". Venue: Dublin. Cost: £80 (Inclusive of all materials). Contact: Education Officer, I.F.P.A. Education Service, 36/37 Lower Ormond Quay, Dublin 1.

**September 18-22:** "Working with the Aftermath of Sexual Abuse". Venue: Newtown House, Donenaile, Co. Cork. Cost: £400 before July 28. £475 thereafter - includes accommodation and full meals.

**Sept. 30-Oct.1:** "Working with Alcohol and Drug Problems". Venue: Marino Institute, Griffith Ave., Dublin 9. Cost: No Details. Contact: Solutions in Therapy, Suite 3, Swan House, 9 Queens Rd., Brentwood, Essex. C.M.14.4 H.E. Tel: 0044-1277-299992.

**October 7-8:** "Introducing HIV/AIDS". Venue: Dublin. Cost: £160 (Inclusive of all materials). Contact: Education Officer, IFPA Education Service, 36/37 Lower Ormond Quay, Dublin 1.

**October 13:** "Professional Groupwork Training". 2 yr. part-time course. Venue: All Hallows College, Gracepark Rd., Dublin 9. Cost: £1,200 per annum. Contact: Irish Centre for Groupwork, 48 The Pines, Howth Road, Dublin 5. Tel: 01-8328-16

**October 17:** "3 yr. Clinical Training Prog. in Systematic Therapy". Venue: Dept. of Child & Family Psychiatry, Mater Hosp., Dublin 7. Cost: Fees for year 1 will be £1,900, payable in 3 instalments. Contact: Mater Hospital, Eccles St. (as above). Tel: 01-8300700.

**October 19-20:** "Supported Employment- More than just a job?" Venue: Dublin. Cost: £130. Accommodation £32 p.p. sharing (extra). Contact: The Conference Secretariat, Irish Union of Supported Employment, Lr. Eyre Street, Newbridge, Co. Kildare. Tel: 045-31544.

**October 24-26:** "Teaching Relationships and Sexuality Education". Venue: Dublin. Cost: £240 (Inclusive of all materials). Contact: Education Officer, IFPA Education Service, 36/37 Lower Ormond Quay, Dublin 1.

**Oct/Dec:** "The Main Theories of Social Work". Cost: £35. Postal Apps. only. Contact: Social Studies Department, T.C.D., Dublin 2

**November 3/5:** "Developing the Counselling Profession in Europe". Venue: Royal Marine Hotel Conference Centre, Dun Laoghaire, Co. Dublin. Cost: E.A.C. Full/Founding Member £155. E.A.C. Affiliate Member £175. Non-E.A.C. Member £175. Delegates from Europe £100. Students £100. Contact: E.A.C. Conference, C.I.E. Tours International, 35 Lr. Abbey St., Dublin 1. Tel: 01-7031830

**November 4-5:** "Advanced Course in Sexuality Training". Venue: Dublin. Cost: £160 (inclusive of all materials). Contact: Education Officer, IFPA Education Service, 36/37 Lr. Ormond Quay, Dublin 1.

**November 11-12:** "Sessions 2 and beyond" - 2 day follow-up workshop on Solution Focused Therapy. Venue: Marino Institute, Griffith Avenue, Dublin 9. Cost: £80. Contact: Solutions in Therapy, Suite 3, Swan House, 9 Queens Rd., Brentwood, Essex. CM14 4HE. Tel: (0044 1277) 229992.

**November 17:** "Responding to Crisis Pregnancy". Venue: Limerick. Cost: £85 (inclusive of all materials). Contact: Education Officer, IFPA Education Service, 36/37 Lr. Ormond Quay, Dublin 1.

## NATIONAL CHILDREN'S RESOURCE CENTRE

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