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**DIRECTORS:**

Padraig Fleming (Chairperson)  
Liz Dermody  
Monica O Shea  
Eamonn Daly  
Ian Coulter  
Seamus Morrissey  
Brenda Whitely  
Treaasa Forristal

*“The big challenge” Carlingford*

## Introduction

Ossory Youth is a voluntary, non-profit youth work organisation working with and for young people within the Diocese of Ossory, covering Kilkenny and parts of Laois and Offaly.

Ossory Youth is committed to providing a quality service to young people it works with by employing principles of best practice in its work.

The work of Ossory Youth is greatly enhanced by volunteers at local level. This voluntary effort cannot be overstated and the Board of Ossory Youth wishes to thank all those who contributed to the success of the organisation in 2010.

The Board also wish to acknowledge and thank all the organisations both statutory and non statutory who supported the work of Ossory Youth both financially and in kind.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Padraig Fleming". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a solid orange horizontal line.

**Padraig Fleming (Chairperson Ossory Youth)  
Ossory Youth Board of Directors**

### **Board of Directors Report:**

The Board of Directors of Ossory Youth continued to oversee the implementation of the strategic plan which focused on providing more opportunities for young people to participate in quality youth work programmes, developing strong and positive partnership with other service providers and funders to ensure an effective and coordinated approach to service delivery and building a strong organisation that has the capacity to deliver innovation and excellence in its provision, services and opportunities to young people in the region.

2010 marked the final year of the five year strategic plan. On review of the plan the board noted the following successes

- a)** The Launch of 5 Year Way in Lyrath Hotel at Youth Work Ireland Conference
- b)** Achievement of Youth Work Ireland Quality Standards Framework.
- c)** Policy Development including Health & Safety, volunteer policy and staff handbook.
- d)** Review of memorandum & articles of association to include young people's participation on the Board.
- e)** Securing 21 year lease on Desert Hall which allows for the development of a state of the art youth centre on the grounds of Desert Hall.

- f)** There is still a strong network of youth clubs and our volunteer numbers remain high. All club leaders are vetted, trained and registered as Ossory Youth club leaders in line with child protection best practice procedures.
- g)** Ossory Youth staff engaged in more direct youth work than previously, resulting in increased participation and recognition by young people of the service.
- h)** Young people are participating in the interview process of youth work staff.
- i)** Strong branding of Ossory Youth including the Website, media presence, streamlining of annual report and other Ossory Youth publications.
- j)** Volunteer recognition events
- k)** Some really good flag ship projects Malawi, Morocco, Sudanese Project, Life-Line, 4-2-1.
- l)** Development and review of implementation plan annually.
- m)** Good strong relationships built with the HSE, the Gardai, and the County Council and some FRC's.
- n)** The 25 year celebrations.
- o)** Staff and volunteers received quality training over the period of the strategic plan.

Board Members and Councillors celebrating Ossory 25 Years



There were also disappointments

- a)** Planning permission for Desert Hall not achieved in the lifespan of the five year way.
- b)** Volunteer Forum and its purpose not fully realised in the lifespan of the five year way
- c)** No success in attracting additional core funding for rural youth work.
- d)** Uncertainty about the Youth Work Act.
- e)** Economic downturn makes it difficult to provide a management tier needed to build the capacity of staff and volunteers.
- f)** Not enough resources to assist youth clubs particularly ones that are struggling.
- g)** Not securing youth café funding to assist with refurbishment of Desert Hall.

As a Board of Directors we are compiling all of these successes and disappointments and we will take them into account in the development of the next 5 year plan which we will construct in 2011 with the organisation and its stakeholders.

## Snap Shot of what happened under our strategic aims in 2010:

**Strategic Aim 1:** To widen opportunities for young people to participate in a manner that positively contributes to their lives and well being.

### COMMUNITY BASED WORK

Ossory Youth is funded to deliver the following projects which are all community based projects:

- Callan/Castlecomer (Special Project for Youth) serving Callan and Castlecomer
- Rural Outreach (Special Project for Youth) serving all of Rural Kilkenny and parts of South Co.Laois.
- Kilkenny Rural Drugs Initiative (serving Rural Kilkenny)
- Gateway (Special Project for Youth) serving Kilkenny City
- Kilkenny City Drugs Initiative (serving Kilkenny City)
- Compass Garda Youth Diversion Project (serving Kilkenny City)
- Youth Information (serving Kilkenny and South Co. Laois)

### VOLUNTEERS

Over sixty trained volunteers throughout the Diocese of Ossory work with young people on a weekly basis through a network of eighteen youth clubs and two community youth groups. These are dedicated and committed people who give their time freely to young people in their communities. Volunteers are involved at local and national levels of the organisation through their work on Ossory Youth and Youth Work Ireland's Board of Management and Advisory Group. Volunteers also support staff in the delivery of programmes such as International Youth Exchanges, 421 Peer Education and Summer Camps. Ossory Youth and Youth Work Ireland value and recognise their enormous contribution to youth work in Kilkenny (City and County) and South Laois through Volunteer Recognition Events. All volunteers are subject to Ossory Youth's recruitment process and work within the guidelines of Ossory Youth policies and best youth work practice.

### YOUTH CLUBS

The purpose of a local youth club is to provide a safe and comfortable place where young people from the area can meet and socialise together. As well as providing a meeting place the club may also serve other needs of young people. These include:

- Accessing sport
- Learning new skills
- To engage in their wider community in a positive way
- To belong and feel part of something
- To mix and make friends
- To have a place where they can safely discuss issues and topics which interest them
- A place where they can have fun
- A break from home/family life
- The need to participate and be involved in decision making
- The need to have positive adult role models outside of home and school

"Goresbridge in the spring time" Photo shoot for Goresbridge calendar



Youth clubs operate one night a week for two hours. The venue is usually the community hall/centre and a team of local people who volunteer their time staffs the club. Young people attend on a voluntary basis. The club programme is varied and includes sport, music, song, dance, outings, talks, discussion group, community involvement and in the wider youth service programme. In 2010 there were 18 youth clubs affiliated to Ossory Youth.

### SPOT LIGHT ON YOUTH CLUBS THROUGHOUT THE REGION

#### Johnswell

Johnswell Youth Club has been in existence for the last 9 years, during which time it has grown from strength to strength. The members range in age from 12 to 16 years and they meet on a weekly basis in the local hall where they can learn new skills and socialise together in a safe environment. The club is run by a number of local volunteers who organise various activities and projects which the members undertake with enthusiasm. Some of the activities include; Cookery, Hill Walking, Ju-jitsu, Table Quiz, Bowling, First Aid and Speed Stacking. One of our members is an All Ireland Champion in Speed Stacking and will represent Ireland in the World Championships in Dallas, Texas in April 2011.

The Club have also been involved in various activities run by Ossory Youth, such as the Residential Programmes, Ossory Games, Art Competition and last summer they went on a very enjoyable trip with a number of other Ossory Youth Groups, to see the "Britain's Got Talent" show in Dublin.

#### Kilmacow

Kilmacow Youth club has been in operation since 2005, at present we have 64 members, our main aim is to give the members a safe and fun place to hang out.



A hotly contested pool competition in Kilmacow YC.

#### Freshford

Freshford Youth Club first affiliated in 2010 and have 20 members. The youth club operates one night a week and activities include tag rugby, soccer, pool, darts, and playstation. The group has availed of the jewellery making workshop and hope to get involved in community programmes in their second year. We hope to see more of them in 2011.



## PROGRAMMES & ACTIVITIES OFFERED BY OSSORY YOUTH IN 2010

### Youth Club Programme

#### Mini Tops

The mini-tops programme provides youth clubs with an opportunity to show case their talents. It promotes team work, articulation of creative expression, performance, appreciation of talent, and fun. It requires dedication from youth club members and youth club leaders. The programme is planned and organised by a volunteer working group who were supported by Ossory Youth's Martina Maher.

The 2010 Mini Tops was a victim of the snow and was postponed until January 2011. However the show must go on, and it did with higher standards than ever before. The mini tops took place in St. Michaels Theatre, New Ross and a full house was there to see each act perform. The show was a great success, with youth clubs displaying great stores of talent.

#### Ossory Games

The Ossory Games are part of Youth Work Ireland National Games Programme. The Games are hotly contested as your club and parishes pride is at stake. While competition is a part of what the Ossory Games the games also provide an opportunity for association, confidence building, teamwork, participation and fun.

The Ossory games include Table Tennis, Soccer, Basketball, Freestyle Disco and Table Quiz in two age categories, under 15 and under 18.

#### Christmas Card Competition

The Christmas card competition for 2010 had the theme of dreams, and all age groups were represented, with huge competition for each category.

#### The Big Challenge Residential

The Big Challenge aims to provide individual young people with an opportunity to get a stronger sense of self as well as gaining a personal insight of their strengths and weakness. The programme encourages participants to explore how these strengths contribute to their participation in the completion of a number of group tasks. The Big Challenge includes outdoor activities, team challenges and team tasks. It is a fun and challenging programme that all participants really enjoyed.

#### Summer Trip

This year the summer trip saw young people head to Dublin for the live show of Britains Got Talent! The show was fantastic and all who attended really enjoyed the experience.

### CAMP OSSORY PROGRAMME

Camp Ossory on the Move is an outreach programme which supports communities to run summer camps for young people between the ages of 4-12yrs, by designing, planning and assisting with the delivery of an exciting and varied programme of activities.

The camp consists of games, activities, art and craft, cookery, sports and hip-hop. Programmes are designed to utilise the resources in the local communities; therefore activities may include special excursions to places of interest locally.

Community involvement is key to the success of the camps, with local young people and adults becoming thoroughly involved in the

planning, delivery and evaluation of the camps. Training is provided locally to enable volunteers to take on a leadership role and deliver the programmes within the guidelines of our policies and best youth work practices.

In 2010 Camp Ossory was delivered in Goresbridge, Moneenroe and Clogh. Over 140 children took part in the summer camps, which were delivered by 15 young leaders in conjunction with 15 trained adult volunteers.

### PEER EDUCATION PROGRAMMES

Peer Education is a methodology that builds social capital through the development of young people's skills. Peer education programmes educate and train motivated young people about a particular topic e.g. drugs or sexual health issues to become "peer educators" so that they are able to communicate accurate information and messages to their peers in a variety of settings and circumstances.

### AN GAISCE

The President's Award is Ireland's national challenge award for young people between 15 and 25 years old. The challenges of the award programme are designed to encourage initiative, self-discipline, leadership and caring skills in young people. A number of young people are currently undertaking the challenge in four areas, community involvement, physical recreation, personal skill and an adventure journey.

### YOUTH BANK

Youth Bank is a national and international programme. Youth Bank Kilkenny is based in Callan. It involves young people becoming grant makers through specific Youth Bank training. The project's grant making committee is made up of ten young people, who meet on a weekly basis. They organise grant rounds, award grants to local projects which are youth led, run a grants awarding evening and follow up on progress on the grants awarded. They also provide support to groups that have been funded.

The committee completed Money Sense training in 2010. Money Sense is a new initiative helping young people to be more confident around managing money and dealing with financial organisations.

The committee met with other Youth Bank committees and participated in a number of workshops and activities which were designed to enhance decision making skills, team work as well as having the opportunity to meet new people and share the learning experience. Youth Bank also worked on publicity and developed a Face Book page along with more local PR in the local newspapers and radio station. In 2010 YouthBank allocated grants totalling €5000 to the following groups:

#### MoneySense Grants:

- Evolution Martial Arts €1500 – Super world Karate Championships
- Slieverue Outreach group €1000 – Camping equipment and budgeting programme

#### Open Grant Round:

- 4-2-1 Parish Mooncoin €1355 – Educational trip to Belfast
- Urban Sports Kilkenny €1145 – USK Open Skate project

Slieverue YC: Lives a climb and the view was hard but the view is great





**OUTDOOR EDUCATION PROGRAMME**

Each summer Ossory Youth through the gateway project engages a group of young people from a variety of social backgrounds to participate in an outdoor education programme. The rationale for the programme is to engage with young people and build solid positive relationships between young people and youth workers as they engage in outdoor activities together. These relationships will support young people to engage in other programmes and support personal development and learning.

**IRISH YOUTH MUSIC AWARDS**

“Irish Youth Music Awards” (known as the Band Competition in Ossory) is an inclusive music based project for 12 to 19 year olds. The project is open to both groups and solo acts. The project was a huge success in 2010. There were seven acts that entered with a huge crowd attending the event in Desart Hall. Johnny Scribble was the act selected to represent Ossory Youth at the National Event in Liberty Hall in Dublin and they performed extremely well on the day.

**AFRICA DAY**

Africa Day has become a week of events to celebrate the positive aspects of African culture. Events included a talk, held in the Kilkenny campus of Maynooth College, on the theme of education in Africa. Speakers told interesting and funny stories of their experiences of education either growing up there, or studying/researching as part of their Irish degree programme, followed by an African Braai (BBQ) serving boerewurse sausages. Loreto’s astro turf then hosted the African Cup Challenge where the Model School playing as Zimbabwe triumphed in

the national school soccer blitz facilitated by KRSP. They also won the cash prize for best project. The family fun day was held at the Kilkenny Rugby Club, and was packed with activities- collage art workshop, Irish Traditional Dance Troupe, authentic African Braai, African Dress Parade, Djembe drumming workshop, face painting, hurling workshop, Irish Trad. Band and arts and crafts stalls. Counsellor Mary White opened the event and over 150 people attended throughout the day.

### COMHAIRLE NA NÓG

Comhairle na nÓg are local youth councils which give children and young people the opportunity to be involved in the development of local services and policies. There is a Comhairle na nÓg in every city and county. Comhairle na nÓg were set up under the National Children's Strategy (2000) in the 34 City and County Development Boards around the country.

In 2010 Kilkenny Comhairle na nÓg were busy throughout the year having recruited 15 members at awareness blitzes across the 5 electoral areas in late October 2009. The members hosted a Transport Conference in 2010; they took part in a residential trip to develop their action plan for the year and as a team building exercise. The Comhairle members carried out a survey on the Affordability and Accessibility of the Watershed Sports Complex to young people in County Kilkenny. They represented Kilkenny at Dail na nÓg and they hosted the AGM in October 2010 where 18 new members were voted onto the council for 2010-2011.

Comhairle na nÓg is a multi-agency initiative funded in part by the Office of the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs (OMCYA) which is administered by the County Development Board. As well as committing resources Ossory Youth is delivering the programme and is supported by an advisory group established through the local authority.

### OSSORY YOUTH MEDIA GROUP

In 2010 this group received film training delivered by Young Irish Film Makers and made the cracking 'Court Room Killer' short film. The group made a film about bio-diversity, which was presented as part of an Eco-Unesco national competition. As part of the research for the film the group went to Dublin to see an Irish Film Institute showing of a US film about the decimation of the honeybee population. This group is also responsible for developing and maintaining Scooch as a social networking site which is part of the Ossory Youth website.

[www.ossoryyouth.com/scooch](http://www.ossoryyouth.com/scooch)



### LUNCH TIME DROP IN

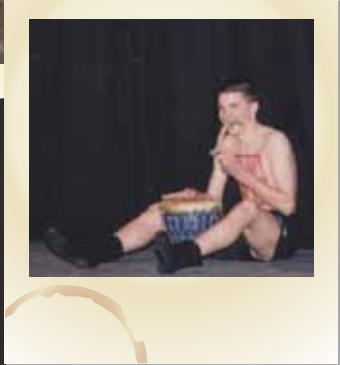
Desart Hall Youth Centre opens its doors to secondary school students in the form of a lunch time drop in staffed by youth workers on three days each week. The young people predominantly from Kilkenny City Vocational School and St Kieran's College use the pool room and the facilities of the Information Centre. 20 to 30 young people avail of this lunch time drop in each day.

# 25 Years (1985-2010)

Ossory  youth

*Our story  
through the camera lens*











## School Based Work

### CAIRDEAS

The Cairdeas Programme involves Ossory Youth working in partnership with secondary schools to facilitate young people in 5th year being trained to mentor and support first years in their first year of secondary school. In 2010 this school peer support training was delivered to students in CBS Kilkenny. This programme is delivered by the Gateway SPY project.

### 4-2-1 SCHOOLS

In the city the traditional 421 programme was delivered to the Loreto Secondary School Kilkenny City. 4-2-1 was also delivered in Castlecomer Community School and Scoil Mhuire Johnstown with sixteen 4th years in each school trained to educate the first years in their respective schools about drugs and alcohol. This programme is delivered by the Kilkenny Drugs Initiative and Gateway in the City and by Kilkenny Rural Drugs Initiative and Callan/Comer SPY project rurally.

## SERVICES OFFERED BY OSSORY YOUTH

### Information Provision

This service provides free, confidential information, in a relevant and understandable format to all young people and those who work with them. Subjects covered include Travel, Health, Education, Work, Sports and Leisure, European opportunities, Rights and Entitlements and many, many more. The service is open to the public Tuesday to Friday with late opening on Tuesday. In 2010 the service dealt with 1,500 queries.

### Career Guidance Service.

The Youth Information project provides a Career Guidance Service by appointment. This service is provided by a qualified Career Guidance Counsellor and was fully subscribed to in 2010.

### Drug Initiative One to One Support Service.

2010 saw the Drug Projects continue to work with concerned persons, families and individuals seeking support around drug use. From 2009 there was a steady increase in the number of people accessing both projects this year. This service continually developed throughout the year with KRDI and KCDI adding to the range of supports available to service users through arranging social activities & programmes, sourcing & funding outside expertise to help with specific client needs and through group support.

### Volunteer Support Services:

Ossory Youth provides supports to registered volunteers who are working with both affiliated youth clubs /groups and also volunteers working with associate members groups. The supports offered include the following:

- Volunteer Recruitment process which includes Garda Vetting and two local references are required.
- Volunteer Foundation Level Training (12hrs)
- Child Protection Training (3hrs)
- Regular contact through mail outs, over the phone and drop in.
- Club visits

Ossory Youth also provides a service to communities who would like to initiate activities for young people. The initial step is a needs analysis to find out what the community needs. In order to make this happen we look at opportunities and ways of recruiting volunteers. Next step is to design and develop programmes which the community feel would benefit their young people most. Volunteers are recruited, registered and trained and programmes are promoted in the community. A series of meetings follows in order to take this initiative to the next level. We liaise with and support Community volunteers at every step along the way and ensure that all programmes are delivered within our Child Protection guidelines and best practice in youth work.

## TARGETED WORK

### Gateway Project

**Official launch of Desart Hall Youth Centre:** In mid 2009, Youthreach ended their long-term lease and vacated the first floor of Desart Hall, leaving a 3000 sq. ft. space and providing Ossory Youth with an opportunity to develop the first floor into a fully equipped and fully staffed youth centre for young people from Kilkenny City and environs. This refurbishment took place in the first half of 2010 and Desart Hall Youth Centre was officially opened by Mayor Martin Brett on Fri November 5th 2010.

The youth centre is now a comfortable, multi-purpose and multifaceted centre for young people, incorporating a large hall with stage used for a range of youth programmes and activities such as music gigs, various workshops, training etc, billiards room, games room, large 'chill out' or meeting room, smaller meeting room, bathroom and the hub of the centre– a fully equipped kitchen.

**SKY (Sudanese Kilkenny Youth):** In June 2008 a number of Sudanese families settled into the community in Kilkenny as part of the UNHCR Resettlement Programme. Ossory Youth has successfully assisted the Sudanese young people to feel welcome and supported since their arrival through the SKY Project. The project finished in June 2010 having completed a full 2 year cycle with the young Sudanese teenagers incorporating English classes, art projects, delivering Summer camps, peer education, career guidance, cultural awareness training, drug awareness training among others. Some members successfully progressed to other Ossory Youth programmes such as Comhairle na nÓg and various groups delivered through the Desart Hall Youth Centre.

**HQ (Headquarters) – Club for 6th Class Students:** H.Q. is the new space for young people in 6th Class, who would like somewhere to go to hangout with other young people their age. The club opened in November 2010 every Tuesday evening from 5.00pm-6.30pm in the newly refurbished Youth Centre in Desart Hall. Activities include, pool, wii, PS3, scavenger hunt, movie nights, quizzes, art project among others. A 3 week programme on transition from primary to secondary school will be delivered to the group in June 2011 in preparation for entry to second level school in September 2011. 18 members regularly attended the group on a weekly basis.

**Desart Hall Youth Centre – Friday Night Drop-in:** Ossory Youth opened a new Friday night drop in club. The club which operates from 7:00pm to 9:00 pm is open to young people aged between 14 and 18. The

Lean on me  
Big Challenge, Carlinford



purpose of this drop in is to provide a space for young people to meet new people, make friends, learn new skills, take part in activities, play pool, Wii games, music gigs, 'themed' nights, chill out @ movie nights, participate in organised activities and above all, have fun!

**COMPASS (Compass Garda Youth Diversion Project):** The Project engaged with approximately 30 young people over the course of 2010. Outside of individual work, three of the lads completed Kickstart Level 1 FAI Coaching Training and assisted in a number of community summer camps whilst the Newpark boys group completed a course in Kenpo Karate, which was about avoiding fights and bullying in their day to day lives. This programme was supported by the South Eastern Drugs Task Force SE-18

The girls horse riding group continued throughout the year in Rockafoyle Stables in Castlecomer and have visibly reached a high level of proficiency. A younger group have been really active and worked hard on a number of craft projects. Special mention goes to their cooking achievements in the kitchen and the fantastic meal they put on for their mothers for Mother's Day.



They also spent an overnight in the Wexford Youth Centre in Blackwater, which was brilliant fun.

Four young people and their parents completed an intense alcohol and drug awareness programme in conjunction with the Aislinn Adolescent Treatment Centre and congratulations to them for sticking with it. The project also took part in the delivery of the Strengthening Families Programme in the Fr. McGrath Centre and this proved to be hugely beneficial and rewarding for all who were involved.

Compass was successful in applying to become one of the ten trial sites to work in partnership with the Irish Youth Justice Service in 2011. Coupled with the introduction of new operational requirements, 2010 really set the foundation for improving the effectiveness of the project in 2011 and beyond.

**Rural Outreach Project**

**Goresbridge Girls Group:** This programme has been running for a number of years and its primary aim has been to facilitate a group of young women to come together in a structured setting where

they can meet, identify their needs and actively participate in the development and implementation of their own programme. This group of young women have grown confident and they have a strong sense of community. They are regularly involved in the organisation and delivery of community events. They have grown in self confidence and belief as well gaining new skills and abilities.

In 2010 the GB GALS focused on healthy lifestyles, looking at different physical activities and challenges and healthy eating. The group concluded this programme with a healthy but tasty Mother's Day dinner in Goresbridge using their favourite dishes. The GB GALS also got creative with photo shoots to create a calendar for 2011.



Do the Youth Bank dance!

**Goresbridge Boys Group:** The Bridge Boys began 2010 with a boxing programme where they learned commitment, team work and developed a new skill. The Group were identified as ideal candidates for the H2O Project and this will form the core of their programme for 2011.

**Goresbridge Summer Programme:** The GB GALS and the Bridge Boys got involved in the Goresbridge Summer Programme, which took place throughout the month of August. This involved circus skills, tag rugby, soccer, gaelic football, cycling, crafts, jewellery making, photography, hip hop, fishing, bowling, swimming, and day trips. The camp had over 20 teenagers involved from both groups.

### Callan/Castlecomer Project

**Pals Summer Camp:** Thirty five young people aged between five and twelve participated in the Pals summer camp. The camp was run on Friday evenings from 7pm to 9pm over a nine week period (June to August). The camp was run by youth club volunteers, and six junior leaders

**DISC Group:** There were a number of committee meetings held towards the end of 2010 to investigate programme possibilities for 2011. DISC was not active in summer 2010 because the leaders had other obligations and were unable to commit.

**Lads Soccer Programme:** A Drop in style soccer session operated one evening each week for boys from Castlecomer with a total of 18 boys interacting with the session on a regular basis throughout the year. An

application was submitted to the Galway World Cup competition but we were unsuccessful unfortunately

**Leaving Cert Applied Group:** Work was completed with the 6th years for Feb-May with all nine participants going on to complete their leaving certificate. Work commenced with eleven 5th years in November and will continue in 2011, work is being done with the group in relation to self esteem and confidence building.

**Young Irish Film Makers:** Ossory Youth engaged the Young Irish Film Makers to deliver training to Volunteers from Slieverue, Freshford, Castlecomer and other Ossory Youth Initiatives on how to script shoot and edit short films. Those trained hope to use this training in 2011 to provide opportunities which will encourage young people's creative expression in 2011.

**4-2-1 Ballyragget:** 4-2-1 peer education programme was delivered within Foroige Youth Club in Ballyragget with 10 young people aged 13-15 who created an information leaflet and poster for north Co. Kilkenny. This project was delivered collaboratively by Kilkenny Rural Drugs Initiative, Callan/Castlecomer Spy Project and Foroige Youth Club Ballyragget.

**4-2-1 Callan:** In Callan a different approach to 421 was taken based on feedback from the transition year participants in 2009 and a greater scope peer drug education programme was delivered which moved away from the traditional model. 14 young people from Callan took part in the programme for 8 weeks incorporating activities alongside the traditional drug education work with the option of a peer education delivery requirement with a clear progression path continuing on into 2011.

This project is a collaborative piece of work between the two Callan Schools, the Kilkenny Rural Drugs Initiative and the Callan/Castlecomer Spy project and supported by South Eastern Drugs Task Force SE18.

**PARISH WORK**

**4-2-1**

421 (Parish) Programme aka the Gifts of the Holy Spirit Programme was delivered in St. Patricks Parish and St. Johns Parish. This project was delivered collaboratively by Kilkenny City Drugs Initiative, and Gateway Spy Project.

The 421 parish programme ran for its fifth successive year in Piltown and Mooncoin parishes where 14 young adult leaders were trained by local volunteers and over 80 confirmation children received drug education from the leaders as part of their confirmation programme. This included a residential to Carlingford with the Mooncoin group. This programme is run by the Mooncoin Parish Group and supported by the Rural Kilkenny Drugs Initiative.

**Slieverue Outreach Group**

Slieverue Outreach Group which is a group of 15 young people aged 15-17years. The purpose of the group is to re-connect young people with their parish and give them an opportunity to explore their faith and spirituality. The group is facilitated by volunteers and activities included camping trips, a project to restore a Holy Well, climb Croke Patrick and a visit to Our Lady's Shrine, Knock.

**Strategic Aim 2:** To promote, develop and maintain effective working partnerships as a means of ensuring quality youth work provision in the region.

In 2010 Ossory Youth worked in partnership and with An Garda Síochána, Irish Youth Justice Service, The HSE, The Diocese of Ossory, Kilkenny County Council, The South East Regional Task Force, The VEC, The Department of Justice Equality & Law Reform, Youthreach, KCAN and the Kilkenny Recreational Sports Partnership, ESF, Office of the Minister for Integration, Office of the Minister for Children. Examples of effective working partnerships include Youth Fest, Africa Day, Comhairle na nÓg, Life Line and collaborative work with the Fr McGrath Centre.

**Strategic Aim 3:** To build an organisation of staff, volunteers, and young people that work together in a manner that is flexible, innovative, and committed to the highest standards of youth work practice.

#### Ossory Youth Celebrates 25th Anniversary

Ossory Youth was formally established by Bishop Forristal in 1985 and marked its 25th Anniversary in 2010. Twenty five years on, Ossory Youth described itself as a confident, young youth service that has remained true to its founding principals of valuing and caring for young people as well as promoting their personal growth and development.



Volunteers from Johnswell Youth Club Attending the Ossory Youth 25th Anniversary Ball

It is a company limited by guarantee, its annual budget is managed by a Board of Directors and has an annual budget of €900,000. The organisation continues to be a Diocesan Youth Service and its services are available to all young people irrespective of creed, race, gender. The Service in 2010 continues to see volunteers as key to the delivery of services to young people particularly through local community initiative such as youth groups or summer camps. The Service actively supports 15 youth clubs who in turn provide youth work opportunities to over 400 young people in their local communities. The number of funded projects has increased to 8 and the youth service employees 14 staff. Desert Hall continues to be the hub of the organisation and development of this resource is constantly on the agenda. The organisation is still listening to and placing young people at the core of its business and practice and constantly strives to achieve excellence in all aspects of its work.

Jenny O'Keefe, Sarah O'Rielly Brenda Holden & Ann Crowley O'Neill - Mooncoin Youth Club attending the Ossory Youth 25th Anniversary Ball



Volunteers have always played a key role in Ossory Youth. To mark this contribution a special 25th Anniversary volunteer awards nights honoured 30 volunteers. Pádraig Fleming, Chairperson of the Board of Directors presented Kilkenny Crystal awards to volunteers, some of whom were there at the very start in 1985 and others who contributed over the years. Current youth club volunteer leaders were presented with awards for their work with young people in their local communities. Diarmuid Kearney, Youth Work Ireland presented Pádraig Fleming with an Outstanding Contribution Award for his dedicated contribution to the youth service over the past 25 years.

**OSSORY YOUTH STRUCTURE**

Ossory Youth is a voluntary youth work organisation. It is a company limited by guarantee and has charitable status. It is governed by voluntary a board of Directors.

Mayor Brett and Pádraig Fleming unveiling the plaque commemorating 25 years of Ossory Youth



**THE FIGURES**

In 2010 Ossory Youth worked with 2,758 young people and 293 volunteers in the region. This work was carried out by 12 full time youth workers, 6 sessional workers. The total Budget for the year was €918,800 therefore the average cost per person participating in activities, training and support was €301 per year or €5.70 a week per person.

## OSSORY YOUTH SERVICES

(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE AND NOT HAVING A SHARE CAPITAL)

### BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2010

	31ST DEC.2010	31ST DEC. 2009
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>		
Tangible assets	€191,012	€170,895
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Debtors	€51,529	€36,574
Cash at bank	€216,090	€173,049
	<u>€267,619</u>	<u>€209,623</u>
<b>CREDITORS</b>		
Amounts Falling Due		
Within One Year	<u>(€61,416)</u>	<u>(€16,028)</u>
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<u>€206,203</u>	<u>€193,595</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	€397,215	€364,490
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<u><u>€397,215</u></u>	<u><u>€364,490</u></u>
<b>RESERVES</b>		
<b>ACCUMULATED SURPLUS</b>	<u>€397,215</u>	<u>€364,490</u>
	<u><u>€397,215</u></u>	<u><u>€364,490</u></u>

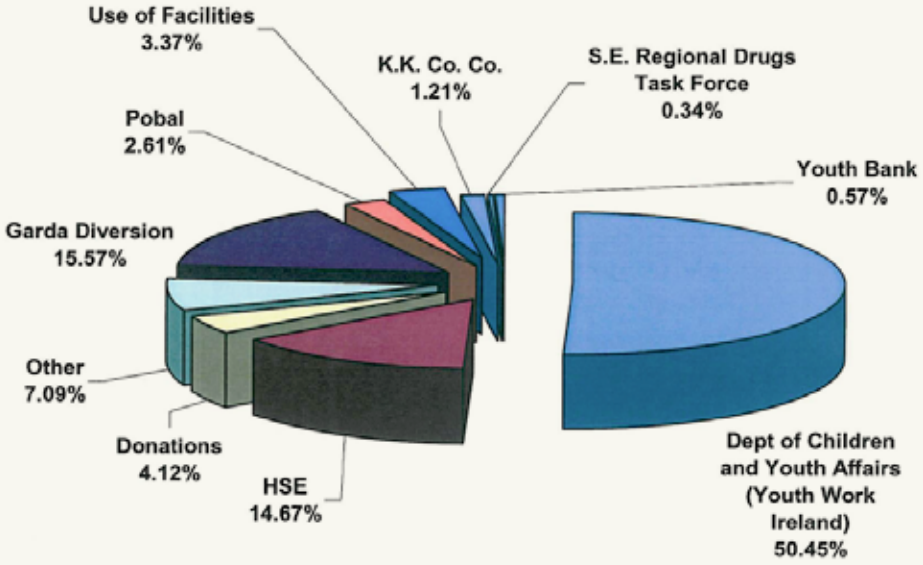
On Behalf of the Board

Padraig Fleming  
Liz Dermody

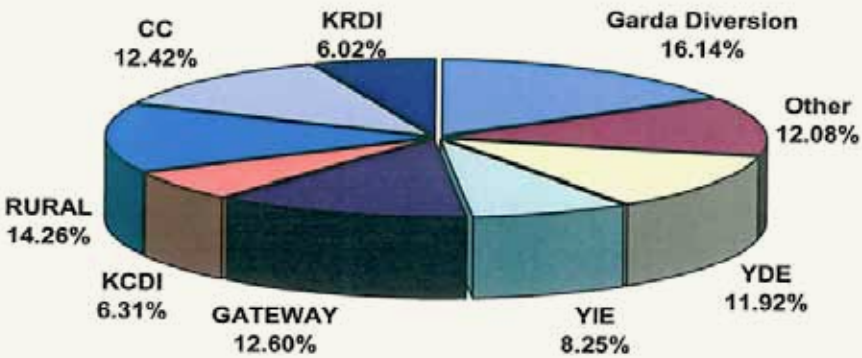
Date: May 2011



## INCOME



## EXPENDITURE



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# OSSORY YOUTH ANNUAL REPORT 2010



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