

# Bellaghy Youth Inclusion Group



# Background and context

- Cookstown CYPSP locality group identifies issue of rural isolation of young people from main stream youth provision
- Because of its brief around rurality, DARD identified as potential funder
- Barnardos apply for funding using elements of the Choices Model delivered in partnership with Action for Children
- Approval Process - July 2011 - April 2012
- Steering group and identification of the areas
- Recruitment - deployment from May 2012 - role
- Diversity (Different areas = different styles, however there are common themes of isolation, alienation, potential future)

## *Wilson Cochrane Intro*

- **Getting Started**
  - **The Team**
  - **First session**
  - **Networking**
- **Setting Aims & Objectives with Young People**
  - **Group Formation / Activities**
    - **The Future ?**

# Introductions



**Name: Wilson Cochrane**

**Role: Outreach Youth Worker  
Barnardos**

**Facilitates group work with  
young people each week**

**[Wilson.cochrane@barnardos.org.uk](mailto:Wilson.cochrane@barnardos.org.uk)**

# Introductions



**Name: Carmel Milne**

**Role: Therapeutic Worker  
Action for Children**

**Offers confidential family  
support and  
1-1 individual sessions  
with young people and  
their parents**

**07889 603 860**

**[Carmel.duggan@actionforchildren.org.uk](mailto:Carmel.duggan@actionforchildren.org.uk)**

# Introductions



Name: Sabrina Mc  
Menemy

Role: Barnardos  
Volunteer

Attends and supports  
the group on a weekly  
basis

# Bellaghy Youth Inclusion Group



# Our Aim

- Reduce Labels
- Make Bellaghy a better place
- Promote Bellaghy as an inclusive, welcoming community for everyone
- Make Bellaghy socially acceptable
- Promote a sense of community spirit
- Keep this programme going
- Be involved in the new building/ have our voice heard and views ascertained
- Improve facilities for young and old



# **Our Objectives**

- **Keep young people engaged**
- **Provide opportunities for young people for now and in the future**
- **To change perceptions/ reduce labels**
- **We would like to have a place where young people can come together as a group and associate instead of standing around the streets**

# Our efforts...

- We all worked hard during group sessions. Our group is structured and focused on topics which promoted bonding in our group. We have had group discussions on the effects of labelling and how to change people's perceptions which may not be positive. We have endeavoured to turn up every week and to all the outings that we have been invited to.
- We invited guests into our group, including Christina, who did healthy eating sessions with us, Tyrone, who taught us ceramic skills and the police, whom joined us for a pizza and peeler evening. When the guests joined us throughout the numerous evenings we were on our best behaviour and we displayed impeccable manners.
- We have had discussions on how we can make Bellaghy better and how we can improve relations with the community members and actions that we may take such as tidying up areas that are neglected and unattractive.

# New Skills We Would Like To Learn

- Interview Skills
- Communication Skills
- Listening Skills
- Confidence Skills
- Patience Skills
- Concentration Skills
- Trade skills (Mechanic, Chef, Plumbing)



# We are planning ahead

- We are designing an art project
- Interested in John M Awards
- Hanging baskets
- Flowerbed
- Interested in cleaning up the area
- We hope to have “fixers” publicise our efforts and journey through UTV live
- We are currently planning a sculpture

# Planning even further..

- We are going to train to be mentors...  
.....*we have started this!!!*
- We want to offer programmes to future young people
- We will help fundraise
- We want to co-operate and share our ideas with everyone, for everyone

# Our Suggestions For Future Bellaghy

- Youth Club
- Learning Facilities
- Computer/ICT Room
- Gym/Sports Hall/Fitness Suite
- Library
- Games/Pool Room
- Tuck Shop
- Park
- Outside Seating
- Boxing Club/ MMA

# Activities



On this occasion a chef came in and took us for a healthy eating class, where we made our own healthy burgers and wraps. This was funded by the 'living and learning together' project.









# Our Ceramics!



# \* Activities

On this occasion our youth group, took a mini bus to Glenariff Forest Park. We took a walk around the park and then went for a picnic. Doing activities like this, will help our group work with one another.





FORESTSERVICE  
www.forestservice.gov

DARD  
Department of Agriculture, Resources, and Development

0.9km  
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# Our Residential







# Group work on our residential



😊 THANK YOU 😊



Questions?  
Comments?  
Suggestions?

**Requests for information welcome**



**Wilson Cochrane**

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