

PRESS RELEASE

Issued by Colin Neighbourhood Partnership



2014 Leap of Faith Awards

Parents and Care-givers from the Colin area were recently honoured at a gala style awards ceremony in the Balmoral Hotel hosted by UTV's Frank Mitchell.

The Leap of Faith Awards, now in their third year, recognise and celebrate good parenting and parenting support services in the Colin community of West Belfast. Individuals were nominated by members of the community who put their names forward to win one of six awards.

Nomination categories included the Parenting Award, to recognise those parents that go that extra mile for their children; the Main Man Award, which recognises male caregivers who have made a significant impact on an individual's or family's life; the Main Woman Award, which recognises those female caregivers who have made a significant impact on an individual's or family's life; the Foster Carer Award; and the Parenting Support Award.

Awards organisers, Colin Neighbourhood Partnership, received many nominations by members of the community keen to nominate individuals and organisations who made a great impact in the world of parenting and care-giving.

Winners of the awards and their categories are:

Catherine Brunty - Main Woman Award
Gary Cusack - Main Man Award
Parenting Award (Primary aged) - Marc Byrne
Parenting Award (Post Primary aged) - Amanda McCourt
Parenting Support - Shauna Doyle
Foster Carer - Cathy and Darren McNally

Gina Biggerstaff, organiser of this year's Leap of Faith Awards and worker at Colin Neighbourhood Partnership, said of the awards:

"We organise the Leap of Faith Awards each year in order to recognise and celebrate good parenting and care-giving in the Colin community. The people we read about in each and every nomination form was truly inspirational and heartfelt. Great work takes place every day in this community and we hope these awards serve as a way to highlight that."

"The Leap of Faith Awards were kindly supported by the following companies and organisations. We would like to acknowledge their support, without which these awards would not have been possible: Titanic Belfast, Annie's Bakery, Belfast

City Sightseeing, Funky Monkeys, Lisburn Leisureplex, Movie House, Lisburn Omniplex cinemas, and Sky Trek.”

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Word Count: 339

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