

ACET News

Autumn 2014

ACET (AIDS Care Education & Training) Ireland provides care for those affected by HIV, and education & training services on HIV and related issues.



CEO's Report

Welcome to our Autumn newsletter!

As I type this our office is abuzz with project dreaming and planning. The Summer saw a remarkable and faith-full turn around in our financial situation which means that we are busy getting ready for a range of activities. A big thank you to all our funders for standing by us and supporting us. This could not have come at a more opportune time. The impact of austerity upon our client families remains profound and the need to deliver upon our expertise as we partner with migrant-led churches is significant. Please take a few minutes to read how we are making a difference.

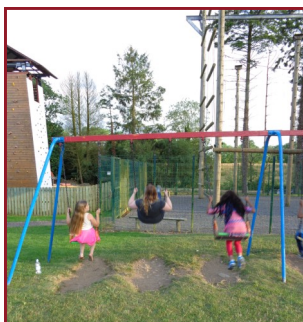
— Richard Carson, richard.c@acet.ie



It's hard to believe that Summer is already over and the kids have gone back to school! But as we look back over the Summer youth project, it's great to be able to say that there were many gems to take from the time and activities we spent with them. We really felt that we were given lots of God-given opportunities to walk alongside them and explore various needs, hopes, dreams, and positives in each of their lives, as well as have a bit of fun and make great memories with their peers.

The activities included trips out to Bray (for beach picnics and rock-skipping fun), adventure golf, 'Manicures & Milkshakes' day with the teenage girls, Aquatic Centre, cinema and Sea-Life. We had a fantastic opportunity to bring one of our biggest groups yet of young people and their families to Cavan Centre for a residential trip in beautiful, sunny July for a multitude of activities and some unforgettable moments together.

The summer proved to be an essential time for really journeying with each young person in where they are in their own lives, as well as being able to link in with their families more as a result. We felt it laid a great foundation for the continuing youth & family care work and we will continue to assess and review what the best care support would look like for each young person in the months ahead. More than anything, it was a privilege and blessing to share some laughs and special memories with these amazing young people, and to be allowed insight into their lives and how we might be able to support them.



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A big thank you to CDYSB, Crosscare and Trinity Church coffee bar for their funding and support of this project.

If you're interested in supporting this aspect of our work through finances or prayer (or both!), please contact us below to find out how to get involved. If you're interested in becoming a volunteer for future youth activities, you can also contact us to find out more details about upcoming volunteer training.

— Hansi Chisnall, hansi@acet.ie



We are sorry to say goodbye to our friends in **Open Heart House** which is officially closing its doors this September. OHH has served the HIV community in Dublin since 1997 with supports such as meals, holistic therapies, education and training, and befriending (to name only a few!). Staff and volunteers have made a huge impact on the lives of their members, and Open Heart House will be missed by those they worked with, and alongside.

How can you know where your donation goes? How can you be sure that it was fund-raised and spent appropriately? These questions really matter to us in ACET and with the regulation of Irish charities commencing on the 16th October we will be working towards adhering to good practice across a range of areas. [The Governance Code](#) and [The Statement of Guiding Principles for Fundraising](#) are important benchmarks for those working in the sector. Over the coming months we will be putting both of these in place. Please check our website to see news of our progress.

If you have received a CHY3 cert from us and have not yet returned it, please do so. If you need a replacement form, please let us know. We will be submitting our claim soon and your donation can go further with the CHY refund we receive from the Revenue Commission. For the first time, everyone — PAYE or not — is eligible.



We recently launched our **Healthy Church** training for church leaders. The goal is to address health issues within our faith communities with a particular focus on the chal-

lenges that migrants to Ireland face in relation to overcoming barriers to health. In line with our ethos the training explores the possibilities of raising a culture of empathetic listening in our churches rather than just passing on information or skills. By focusing on areas such as HIV and mental health, the experienced ACET staff team seeks to equip the leaders with all they need to bring about such change.



We are delighted to announce a new partnership with the **M-A-C AIDS Fund UK**, the largest corporate non-pharmaceutical donor in the area of HIV, which allows us to deliver this training. We are also partnering with other funders for this project, including **Dublin City Council, Community Foundation Ireland** and the **Albert Einstein College of Medicine New York**.

Healthy Church forms part of **Project Hope** - a broader initiative of ACET Ireland's which addresses HIV within church settings. For details of upcoming training in your area please contact the ACET team through the website: www.acet.ie.



— Richard Carson, richard.c@acet.ie



ACET coffee mornings coming soon! Please let us know if you are interested in hosting one of these fundraisers. We will have a coffee morning pack for you.

For information on our services, volunteering, or praying for ACET, please contact Olivia, olivia@acet.ie, or Richard, richard.c@acet.ie

If you would like to give: Bank details: Bank of Ireland, Lower O'Connell Street, Dublin 1

Acct. 60959790 Sort code 90 00 33

Standing order forms available from the office

Or click on the donate button on our website



ACET Ireland
14-15 Lower O'Connell Street
Dublin 1

01 8787700
dublin@acet.ie
www.acet.ie
www.facebook.com/ACETIreland