



volunteer centre

Ionad d'Obair Dheonach Contae Átha Cliath Theas

SOUTH DUBLIN COUNTY



south dublin county volunteer centre ANNUAL REPORT 2016



www.volunteersouthdublin.ie

the volunteers

what are volunteers interested in (based on their applications)?

Addictions and Recovery	11
Animals	52
Arts, Culture and Media	72
Carers	11
Children	66
Community Development	72
Crime/Safety	6
Education/Literacy	72
Emergency services	9
Environment & Conservation	28
Families/Parenting	9
Health/Hospitals/Hospices	67
Heritage/Museums/Galleries	17
Homelessness/ Housing	39
Human & Civil Rights	20
Intellectual Disabilities	14
Law/Legal Support/Justice	12
LGBT	5
Mens Groups	0
Mental Health	33
Minority Groups	1
Older People/Active Retired	43
Overseas Aid/Development	7
Physical Disability	1
Politics	2
Prisoners/Ex-offenders	1
Refugees/Asylum Seekers	11
Religion/Faith based	2
Sensory Impairment	3
Social Inclusion	16
Sports/Outdoor activities	18
Unemployment	12
Volunteering	24
Women's Groups	16
Youth	31

about us

Mission Statement

Our mission is to offer equal opportunities to all sections of the community to participate in meaningful voluntary activity.

We aim to provide a free, high quality volunteer placement service in a friendly and professional manner where volunteering is the focus of our work.

We also offer professional support, advice and training to organisations around their volunteering needs so that they can achieve best practice principles in volunteer management

Our understanding of volunteering is that:

- Volunteering is always a matter of choice and is done of the volunteers own free will and without coercion.
- Volunteering is a legitimate way in which citizens can participate in the activities of their community.
- Volunteering benefits both the community and the volunteer and gives people a sense of ownership of their local community.
- Voluntary work is unpaid.
- Volunteering is a vehicle for individuals or groups to address human, environmental and social needs.

We believe that:

- Volunteers should be treated with respect and dignity.
- Everyone should have an equal opportunity to volunteer.
- Volunteering should respect the rights, dignity and culture of others.
- Everyone should have a positive experience of volunteering.
- Volunteering should be a "win - win"situation for both the volunteer and the organisation.

Therefore, we are committed to:

- Promoting the value of volunteering to all sectors of the local community.
- Offering a service that will be inclusive, accessible and high quality.
- Serving as best we can every volunteer who accesses our service and ensuring that volunteers are the focus of our work.
- Resourcing and supporting volunteers to make informed choices about volunteering and maintaining relevant, up-to-date information on volunteering opportunities.
- Developing new opportunities and projects involving volunteers in their local community
- Referring volunteers to a wide range of community and voluntary projects across all sectors of the community.
- Working with organisations so that they can achieve best practice principles in volunteer management.
- Ensuring that volunteers do not replace paid workers nor constitute a threat to the job security of paid workers.
- Promoting the principles of equity and participation within the volunteer sector.
- Raising the profile of volunteering in organisations, government and the community in general.

key volunteering statistics 2016

SOUTH DUBLIN COUNTY VOLUNTEER CENTRE

Key Statistics on volunteering in South Dublin County in 2016.

1053

The number of **volunteers** who engaged with our service and sought to volunteer in the community

518

The total number of **organisations** who are registered with us and **seeking volunteers**

5023

The number of **garda vetting forms** processed by us on behalf of local community groups

28,282

The **number of hours** given by volunteers **placed by us** in community groups

15.5

The number of **full time jobs** it would require to replace volunteers placed by us in the community.

639,173

The **euro value** of all volunteers placed by us in 2016

198

The number of new **volunteering opportunities** published to IVOL in 2016.

62

The number of **nationalities** of volunteers who registered in 2016

11,582

The **total number of volunteers** registered with South Dublin County Volunteer Centre



volunteer involving organisations

In 2016, **26 new voluntary and community organisations** registered with the Centre - well above our target of 15.

These organisations (plus previously registered organisations) added 198 new volunteering vacancies across a whole range of categories.

With many community and voluntary organisations still experiencing reductions in funding, organisations increasingly spent more time exploring how to involve volunteers in helping them achieve their objectives. While volunteers should never replace paid staff, organisations are always able to look at how to increase volunteer involvement sustainably, with some bringing in volunteers in new and exciting ways.

Our web site (www.volunteersouthdublin.ie) continued to be a source of information on good practice for organisations on all aspects of volunteer management. There were 35,587 unique visitors to our site during the year with 389,816 page views!

We continue to benefit from a **Google Adwords** grant that has seen a large increase in volunteers finding our Volunteer Centre on Google.

Organisations can register directly online as well as adding new vacancies to volunteer on an ongoing basis. This has proved to be very useful for organisations.

We continued to "tweet" and "facebook" upcoming and urgent volunteering opportunities and our social media pages are updated weekly with urgent and interesting upcoming vacancies.

We continue to operate a vast mailing list of "time limited/once off" volunteering vacancies that get posted to our website plus mailed on a monthly basis to over 4000 volunteers. Over 50 organisations

have availed of this service - mainly for fund-raising purposes.

South Dublin County Volunteer Centre continues to provide support and consultancy to volunteer involving organisations on all aspects of volunteer management.

During 2016, we again provided our modular volunteer management training to organisations in the South Dublin County area. This is a 4 module training course and covers planning for volunteer involvement, recruitment & selection, support & supervision and policy development.

As well as this course, we also provided one to one support and consultancy to over 70 local organisations, advising them on such topics as volunteer expenses, volunteering and social welfare, dealing with problem volunteers, developing a volunteer policy, garda vetting and screening and volunteering and the law.

We participated in the following outreaches and talks.

Outreaches

Tallaght Library x 9
Tallaght I.T. Volunteer Fair
Health Fair - Killinarden
Lucan Library x 4

Talks

Get Women Working
An Cosan
Cheeverstown
South Dublin PPN
Bealtaine
Tallaght Probation Project
Mojo Mens Group

volunteer management training feedback:

"I would also like to thank you for a very informative and enjoyable presentation, I certainly feel more confident in what I am doing after completing the course."

"Thank you for providing us with a very well constructed and well delivered Course."

"Colette is an excellent trainer."

Trainees 2016

Cherry Orchard Equine Centre
The Park Community Centre
Fettercairn YHP
Foroige Tallaght Youth Service
Trocaire
Sickle Cell Society Ireland
Super Troopers
Killinarden
Clondalkin & District Horticultural show
Clondalkin towers
Afra-Eorpach
Clondalkin Tidy Towns
Irish Academy for Coaching and Development
Crosscare
Irish Academy for Coaching and Development
New Hope Residential Centre
NCBI

key events during the year

charities regulator

In 2016, as part of a national pilot, we worked with the charities regulator to act as a **local hub** to support groups in the county to become compliant with the new charities regulations.

We made contact with over **60 groups** who were non-compliant and identified those who were no longer in existence as well as those who were non-compliant and gave support and advice to get them over the compliance line.

We also provided a workshop for the PPN on compliance with the charities regulator with over 30 groups in attendances



south dublin chamber awards

We were thrilled in December 2016 to attend the South Dublin Chambers' inaugural business award and to win the category of **Best Not for Profit Organisation**.

This was awarded to the volunteer centre to acknowledge our excellence in the not for profit field in particular in relation to our **innovation and leadership in the sector**.



volunteer managers forum

In 2015, we resurrected the local south dublin county volunteer managers forum. During 2016 we held 2 events for the volunteer managers forum. We looked at "selling your role on i-VOL" for the first meeting in 2016.

Our second event in 2016 was a celebratory event for **international volunteer managers day** on November 5th. Gerry O Connor from Cheeverstown gave an input on the work they do in managing volunteers and the mayor was in attendance to thank all of those who manage volunteers within the county.



Other workshops

We continued to give workshops on volunteer management issues on request from organisations and also at several national conferences where we spoke on the issues such as:

- volunteer recruitment
- garda vetting
- selling your role on i-VOL
- volunteer corps and event volunteering.

other services

garda vetting

As well as our placement service and supports to community and voluntary organisations, the Volunteer Centre also provides several other services to local groups.

Most importantly, the volunteer centre acts as an “liaison person” for **Garda Vetting** for local groups.

Currently over 100 groups avail of the service from large national organisations such as Make a Wish and Junior Achievement Ireland to small local community groups in the South Dublin area.

Over 5000 vetting applications were processed in 2016.

As well as providing our Garda Vetting service, we offer advice, support and consultancy to local groups on the “ins and outs” of Garda Vetting and help them with implementing an effective and efficient Garda Vetting System in their organisation including support with policy formulation.

In early 2016, we carried out large piece of work in **moving all of our affiliate organisations to the new national e-vetting system**. This included developing and delivering workshops and engaging in a process of up-skilling all of our groups to use the new electronic system.

Our manager was also involved in the pilot group that designed the system.



south dublin county volunteer corps

The South Dublin County Volunteer Corps is a volunteer led movement of citizens of the county who make themselves available to volunteer at various events and/or emergencies in the county. The corps was set up as a pilot in 2011 as part of European year of volunteering. The volunteer corps are available to be contacted and mobilised to respond to extreme weather events but mainly they serve as volunteers to help at events in the county.

The numbers in the corps continue to grow and grow (as does demand for the Corps). 2016 saw us continue to grow in numbers. During the year we held a thank you event for the Corps which the mayor attended. All volunteers were given a gift and recognition of their work.

The Volunteer Corps participated in 16 events during the year including:

- PPN Plenary
- Careers Seminar
- Irish Kidney Association Run for Life
- World Karate Championships
- Tallaght Health Fair
- Health and Wellbeing Family Fun day
- Tallafest
- St Patricks Day Clondalkin
- Traveller Pride Festival
- Meet the Politicians event
- SDCC Cross Country events
- Darkness into Light
- Lucan Festival
- Cross Country Events.
- Nitro Circus
- Halloween Fun Day

More information can be found on the volunteer corps website at www.volunteercorps.ie



other services



ppn support

In 2015, South Dublin County Volunteer Centre **won a competitive tendering process** to employ the Public Participation Network Co-ordinator.

As part of our support for the PPN, the Volunteer Centre also **built the database** (county register) for the PPN in South Dublin County.

During 2016 we continued to provide support and the employment contract to the PPN co-ordinator.

Staff of the volunteer centre also provide support and assistance to the PPN at various events organised by the PPN.

The manager of the Volunteer Centre is elected as a community rep of the PPN onto the Housing Strategic Policy Committee.



comm-IT putting the IT in Community

There has been a growing awareness from us in the volunteer centre that many community groups have real support needs in terms of developing their IT capacity but also in terms of using solutions to manage their volunteers in a more impactful way.

In 2015, the Volunteer centre began providing a support service for not for profits on IT development, particularly assisting them with building solutions to manage their members in a more stream-lined way.

Using the Salesforce not for profit donation program, we worked with several organisations in 2016 to assist them with IT developments including:

- South Dublin County PPN
- South Dublin County Seniors Database
- South Dublin County Sports Partnership
- Gaisce (i-PAL) database

Our largest piece of work in 2016 was project managing the development of **a national database for all PPNs**. This is a project that we “pitched” to the department and was driven forward by us in partnership with Enclude.

Our manager also continues to provide super-admin **support to and upkeep of the I-VOL, the national volunteering database**.



company details



management committee

Our Management Committee for 2016 consisted of: Niamh O Doherty (volunteer representative), Marie Price Bolger (trustus), Cecil Johnston (SDC partnership), Paul McAlerney (south dublin county council), Frank Kelly (Chair), Eamonn Donoghue (volunteer representative), Elena Rossi ([salesforce.org](https://www.salesforce.org))

staff

Brigid Dunne	IT Support Officer
Sharon Crowe	Placement Officer/ Garda Vetting
Colette Gallagher	Placement officer/Trainer (Clondalkin)
Pat Kavanagh	Placement officer (Tallaght)
Deirdre Mc Nicholas	Organisational Support Worker
Jamie Moore	PPN Co-ordinator
Tricia Nolan	Manager

audited accounts summary

Income	2016
Dept. of HPELG	155,528
South Dublin County Council	12,000
IT services	35,575
Training	1,900
Garda Vetting	19,370
Volunteer Corps	3,000
Program Management	4000
Miscellaneous	1,228
PPN Budget	79,681
PPN Infrastructure Database	38,300
Total	350,582

Expenditure

Employment costs	224,218
Administration & Programme	119,377

Total 343,595

funders & supporters

South Dublin County Volunteer Centre was funded in 2016 by the Department of Housing, Planning, Community & Local Government & South Dublin County Council and supported in its work by Volunteer Ireland.



An Roinn Tithíochta, Pleanála, Pobail agus Rialtais Áitiúil
Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government



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