

Chairman's Statement



The time covered by this report includes some momentous changes in the life of the Ana Liffey Drug Project. From its foundation in 1982 the project enjoyed the hospitality of the Salvation Army at its premises in Lower Abbey Street. After that was no longer possible we rented premises in Middle Abbey Street. Then in October 2004 President Mary McAleese opened our new home at 48 Middle Abbey Street, the purchase of which was made possible by the National Drug Strategy Team and the North Inner City Local Drugs Task Force who supported our application to the Cabinet Subcommittee on Social Inclusion.

The consolidation of the project in the new premises enabled us to continue to offer services grounded in a client friendly and non-judgemental approach to individuals, families and children living with the reality of problematic substance use. This has been the aim and the policy of the project for the past 23 years.

In 2005 Brian Melaugh resigned as our Project Director. Brian had been Director since 2002, prior to which he had been the Team Leader of our Children's Project. Our regret at Brian's leaving was tempered by the welcome addition to the team of Tony Duffin our new Director who took up his role in November 2005. We wish Brian all the best in the future, thank him for all his services to the project and warmly welcome Tony.

"I feel welcome as I walk through the front door. They give you support and if you want one-to-one counselling there's always a staff (member) there very well educated in knowing what you need, that is very important to me." Julie

I am personally very grateful for the work and dedication of the members of our Management Council and on their behalf express our thanks to all the staff for their professional and committed work. We continue as a team to endeavour- in the words of President McAleese - "(to) create a positive network of support and encouragement that reaches deep into the complexities of peoples lives, into their context, coming at their problems not with a one size fits all answer but with a range of opportunities . . . The project will not concede to either the addict or society the comfort of believing that nothing can be done."

DAVID POOLE
November 2005



Directors Statement



Having recently joined the Ana Liffey Drug Project in November 2005 I find myself in admiration of the teams achievements in 2004. The logistics of a move to a new premises and the organisation of a high profile opening day is by anyone's standards a busy time. Add maintaining the day-to-day opening of a project of this nature and you get the sense of a very busy year in 2004.

My first impression of the project is one of a group of people; the professionals that run the service and the community that use it, working together to improve and enhance the quality of life for those affected by problem substance use in North Inner City Dublin and wider afield.

Now that the Ana Liffey Drug Project has a home it is time to consolidate further. We aim to collaborate closely with our private, public and voluntary partners to develop new and innovative ways of working. With regards to our existing services, focussing equally on the individual and families (children and parents), in 2006 we will be further developing and enhancing our work in 48 Middle Abbey St, our prison work and our community work.

"To me it's a safe place - with great help and advice" Georgina

I would like to thank all those that support the Ana Liffey Drug Project in any capacity. Your support whether in time, finances or other resources enables us to continue our work at the cutting edge of problem substance use.

Finally, if you turn this Annual Report over you will find the Ana Liffey Drug Project 2006 year planner. Please put this up on your office or kitchen wall and use it to plan for a successful 2006. This will help to keep us in your thoughts. If during 2006 you feel that we can be of help to you, or indeed that you may be of help to us, in whatever way, then, please do contact us.

TONY DUFFIN
November 2005

Treasurer's Report for the year ended 31st December 2004

The Income for the year was €717,249 while Expenditure amounted to €698,210 leaving a Surplus on Operations of €19,039.

Grants from Statutory Authorities totalled €713,160 and were provided by the Northern Area Health Board, the National Lottery, the North Inner City Drugs Task Force and the Probation and Welfare Service. Monies also came from the Irish Youth Foundation and from fund raising activities.

The main Expenditure during the year was the cost of Staff Salaries, Employers PRSI and Pension Contributions, which amounted to €575,259 or 82% of the total. The remaining Expenditure was €122,951 of which Depreciation of Fixed Assets accounted for €34,026. Other headings of note in Expenditure were Rents where there was a fall as a result of the Project moving into new premises at 48 Middle Abbey Street and Repairs and Maintenance, which rose to €13,630 due to the fitting out and decoration of the new premises. The increased activity of the Project resulted in a rise in Client Expenses, Staff Meetings, Training and Seminar Expenses.

The Net Assets of the Project stood at €902,969 on 31st December 2004 which were represented by
Company General Fund €164,378
Government Grant €738,591

The Management Council wish to thank the Statutory Authorities and other donors most sincerely for their support of the Project and are confident that the Director and Staff will continue to provide a first class service to their clients. Stringent controls are in operation to ensure that funds are spent on the basis of obtaining the best value and in turn all accounting procedures are kept up-to-date by the Administrator so that the Council are aware of the financial affairs at all times.

FRANK WOODS
November 2005

2004 Securing Our Future

The Ana Liffey Drug Project

2004 Annual Report and 2006 Wallplanner



Our Mission

The Ana Liffey Drug Project aims to respond to the needs of drug users, their families, children and their communities in a flexible, person-centred way. The project endeavours to create a welcoming and open environment where service users are respected, accepted and encouraged to manage the issues impacting on their lives. The project works with service users to reduce the risks associated with drug use, improve overall quality of life and advocate for the rights and needs of drug users.

Our Objectives

- To provide a safe environment in which drug users and their families can look at issues affecting their lives
- To promote a better understanding of and awareness of the issues of drug use, HIV, AIDS and Hepatitis
- To take account of and initiate responses to the ever changing needs and developments in drug use.

We currently achieve this by providing the following services:

OPEN ACCESS SERVICE

A 'Low Threshold' drop-in service designed to accept people involved in problem substance use. A gate keeping service that enables Service Users to access relevant services and support.

PEER SUPPORT PROGRAMMES

Based in 48 Middle Abbey St, this eight-week programme aims to reduce harm to those involved in problem substance use. Imparting clear Harm Reduction messages to those attending and enabling those Service Users that graduate to carry the information back into their own communities.

CHILDREN'S PROJECT

A safe and welcoming space staffed by childcare professionals. Services include a Family Breakfast, Children's Afternoons, Toddlers Groups and Family Cooking Afternoons. A large part of the Children's Projects work is advocating on behalf of the Children and Families that attend the Ana Liffey Drug Project.

PRISON WORK

Working closely with the Probation and Welfare Service and the Prison Service. Ana Liffey Staff operate in a drug free wing of the medical unit, the majority of the participants come from the main unit in Mountjoy Prison; the programme is however, also open to people from Wheatfield Prison. Participants who require medical detoxification undergo a 10-day methadone detox prior to the start of the programme.



Other Satellite Services available

- Alternative Therapies including Massage, Indian Head Massage and Oracular Acupuncture.
- Access Visits.
- A GP Service (Beginning in January 2006).
- Legal advice by an attending Barrister.
- Literacy provided in conjunction with the VEC.
- Outreach, home and hospital visits.

"We find Ana Liffey very helpful. We can talk to staff and our key worker about anything. We would be lost without it." Paul & Joanne