

**DÚN LAOGHAIRE REFUGEE PROJECT
TIONSCNAMH DHÚN LAOGHAIRE UM
DHÍDEANAITHE**

EIGHTH ANNUAL REPORT OF ACTIVITIES – 2009

**Incorporated under the Charities Act 1973
Tax Number/Uimhir Chánach CHY14507
recognized as an 'eligible charity' for donations under the Taxes Consolidation Act, 1997
email/riomhphost:dunlaoghairerefugee@ireland.com**

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1. Background

The Dún Laoghaire Refugee Project – DRP – was founded in June 2001 when a group of concerned people in Dún Laoghaire Rathdown met and decided to set up the DRP Trust. The object was to befriend and support the asylum seekers then accommodated in hostels in Dún Laoghaire: many were unaccompanied and separated children. The last such hostel in our area was closed in April 2006. Since then, the DRP has continued to help the young people from the former hostels, along with newcomers mostly young Africans from the wider Dublin area. Their claim to asylum is based on the United Nations Geneva Convention on Refugees, ratified by Ireland over fifty years ago.

Asylum seekers, including unaccompanied children, continue to arrive in Ireland from countries where civil disorder and violation of human rights prevail. In all, 2,689 applications for asylum were made in Ireland in 2009 - by comparison with 3,807 in 2008. There is more information on the website of the Office of the Refugee Applications Commissioner - www.orac.ie.

The present Annual Report - our eighth - for the Year 2009 comes at a time of economic difficulty in Ireland. Our young friends have been affected by the recession in many ways, not least when seeking or holding down jobs. For the DRP raising funds has become a problem. The DRP is administered entirely by voluntary workers; we employ no paid staff and have no rented premises. We spend a minimum on our own administration. Ours is an “office-less” office but we do our best to make it an efficient one.

2. Programmes & Main Activities

2.1 Education & Training mainly at Third Level VEC (Vocational Education Committee) Colleges in Dún Laoghaire and Dublin - Public Transport Costs for Students.

During 2009, the DRP helped 41 young men and women to pay fees either to enroll or continue in third level education courses, compared with 47 in the previous year. The majority of these students – between the ages of 19 and 24 - were enrolled in Vocational Education Colleges (VEC) with one repeating a year and four at University.

The courses, beginning with the academic year in the autumn, were practical in nature aimed at qualifying the participants for skilled work. They included: nursing studies, child-care, medical laboratory technician, mechanical engineering, business studies, computer technology and accounting. They cover full daytime as well as night-time diploma courses: the young people who have obtained residency - either refugee status or leave to remain - must support themselves or, if job-seeking and on social welfare, may take only night courses.

Bryan MacMahon – retired Careers Guidance Teacher - began a programme of guidance in January. The young people – and the DRP – are fortunate to have Bryan's timely and expert advice.

At the examinations in May/June 2009, the success rate was good and we reviewed the results in August/September with the participants. One young man was awarded a scholarship to take a master's degree course at Dublin City University. Two students, one taking a nursing aid course and the other taking an architectural technician course at a VEC College, graduated in November and were awarded Student of the Year in each of their respective classes. Yet another young man was awarded a Bank of Ireland scholarship to begin a BA course in computer science in UCD. This practical help towards the education of young asylum seekers is the most important of the DRP programmes: it also draws down the most funding. In addition to course fees in 2009 the DRP helped with student travel tickets.

Cost: The expenditure incurred in respect of education includes €16,246 for fees (40% of total expenditure) and €12,754 for transport (31% of total expenditure) - mainly bus fares to and from college.

2.2 Drop In Centre in Dún Laoghaire, as a weekly point of contact for the asylum / refugee community, especially young people with links to the former Dún Laoghaire hostels.

Drop In meetings, held on Monday evenings from 19.00 to 21.30 at the Dún Laoghaire Community Training Centre (DLCTC), York Road, have been the main platform for the work of the DRP since they began in June 2005.

In 2009, the Drop In meetings at the DLCTC took place on 49 Mondays - including Bank Holidays, the only exceptions being: 2nd February, on account of bad weather, 22nd June when World Refugee Day was celebrated at the Institute of Art Design and Technology, Dún Laoghaire, (IADT - see below) and 28th December over the Christmas period. Our final Drop In meeting for the year was the Christmas party on Monday, 21st December. We are most grateful to the DLCTC for allowing us to use their premises and for their continued good will, support and help.

Attendance in 2009 was good and varied between 10 and 40 young asylum seekers with an average of 30 each week. As in the past, old-timers brought along new recruits, including some separated children. At the end of the year, our register of regular participants showed a total of

171 – 55% male and 45% female from 22 different countries. Nigerians comprised 29%, Angolans 13%, Somalis 12% and Kenyans 6%. Other countries represented include Burundi, Cameroon, Congo Brazzaville, Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Eritrea, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea Bissau, Iran, Iraq, Ivory Coast, Liberia, South Ossetia, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Uganda and Zimbabwe.

During the year, twenty-eight of the group received either Refugee Status or “Leave to Remain”. There was a total of ninety-two with either Refugee Status or “Leave to Remain” on our register (many of these are not included in our Drop In attendance roll as they live and work outside the greater Dublin area and only occasionally touch base with us). Some of these now have Irish Citizenship and many more are in the process of making their application for citizenship.

Organisation of Drop In Sessions: the usual form is: -

- A talk, by a DRP Committee member or guest speaker on a topic of interest, followed by a discussion.
- “One to one” meetings are held at the same time in smaller rooms to discuss individual problems and how to solve them, often with a follow-up later during the week.
- Refreshments with an emphasis on items (e.g. fruit), likely to be lacking in the diets of those eating hostel meals or self-catering on a limited budget.
- All new comers are made welcome and are interviewed by a volunteer during which the DRP process is explained and basic information such as age, address, country of origin, level of education and status is recorded.
- Administrative work is carried out, writing cheques for school fees, welfare items etc.

Visitors to the Drop In meetings in 2009: Visitors contributed to and took part in our work, under several headings, namely: *Guidance on Life Skills, Cross Community Links, Donors to the DRP and Information Seekers.*

Life Skills:

- *Garda “Get Wise Programme”:* as in previous years, the Community Garda and the Garda Ethnic Liaison Officers from Dún Laoghaire and Cabinteely Stations organised their “*Get Wise Programme*” over three weeks in the latter part of May. In particular, the Garda presentation on 25th May on “Public Order” was much appreciated. Earlier, on 2nd March, the Gardaí organised a discussion on substance abuse. The Gardaí throughout the year have “dropped in” and given support. We are very grateful.
- *MABS (Money Advice and Budgeting Services)* helps low-income families with problems of consumer debt, and operates nationwide with a presence in Patrick Street, Dún Laoghaire. Catherine Scallan Collins of MABS gave a very useful talk on budgeting on 16th February. We had previous contact with MABS in the days of the Dún Laoghaire hostels.
- *Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Council - Voter Registration and Information:* On the 23rd March, Rebekah Fozzard (DLRCC) and Neill Healy (Country Development Board / Human Resources) spoke on the importance of voting in a democracy and for residents to register before the Local Government election on 5th June. Participants then filled in registration forms, signed by Garda Dermot O’Meara, Cabinteely Station.
- *AkiDwa (Akina dada wa Africa – Swahili for “sisterhood”),* – Gave a workshop on women’s health organised by Siobhan O’Brien Green and Alwiye Xuseyn, a mid-wife and qualified nurse. The workshop, during four Mondays (10th -31st August), covered: relationships, women’s health - myths and fact -, health matters including HIV/AIDS and services and supports and where to get information.
- *Irish Family Planning Association (IFPA),* Martin Naarendorf held a similar health workshop for the young men on two consecutive Mondays, 24th and 31st August.

Cross-Community Links:

- Susan Burke, Cultural Liaison Officer, *Dún Laoghaire College of Further Education (DLCFE)* paid a visit to us on 23rd March and *Michael McLaughlin*, Youth Arts Officer, *Dún Laoghaire Rathdown CC (DLRCC)*, came on 20th July.

Note: for 2010 we plan further talks on a wider range of topics including invited guests to discuss: Irish history, Irish political system, Irish language, European Union (post-Lisbon), human rights, the economy and other current and local issues. As to cross-cultural links, in 2008 we explored with DLRCC a link with local youth groups but found that *Comhairle na nÓg*, (Irish Youth Council), concentrates on under 18s. We will follow up our contacts with IADT and DLRCC.

Donor Visits

We received donor visits from

- *Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Blackrock*, 20th July (Alan Lennox).
- *Two Coats Initiative, Justice Group, Greystones Catholic Parish*, 23rd March (Paul Dillon). “Two Coats”, inspired by the Biblical injunction that those who have “two coats” share one coat with a person who has none (Luke 3.11), made a generous donation earlier in the month.

Information visits

- On 30th March we welcomed *Karla Charles* from the *Ombudsman for Children’s Office*, who prepared the Report of that Office on Separated Children Living in Ireland.
- *Stephen Hayes* from the *Jesuit Refugee Centre* visited on 28th September.
- *Mary (Molly) S. Baldwin*, Executive Director, *Roca (USA)* visited us on 16th November. Roca (Spanish for “rock”) is an NGO that works with high-risk young people in disadvantaged areas of Boston, Massachusetts. Molly kindly made a donation.

Research Project:

- *Itayi Viriri, Research on Challenges Faced by former Separated Children Seeking Asylum who have refugee / leave to remain status*. Itayi began his research in October. The research is supervised by UCD (Social Justice Department) and funded by Combat Poverty (now part of the Department of Social & Family Affairs). The DRP plan to host a public launch of the report on the research.

Christmas Party

- The year ended with the Christmas party, attended by 40 young people including eight separated children, by many DRP Committee members and ordinary members (volunteers). Gabriel Akujobi presided over the candle-lighting ceremony with assistance from Purity Wairimu Ndirangu, Shanette Buddhai and Josh Jenkinson. Candles of joy for new babies, and for achievements during the year, candles of sorrow for those who have died, for missing friends, for those who have been deported, as well as candles for family and friends in Ireland and at home, were lit by all who attended. We welcomed former Committee members, Maureen McCullagh, Sr. Laura Peelo and Joan Gallagher. Many of our “past-pupils” attended.

Visits Out by Drop In Participants and Volunteers in 2009 included:

- *Meet and Greet evening* at Parkes Hotel, Stillorgan, *Deputy Eamon Gilmour TD*, 9 March. Committee member, *Abraham Wahid*, represented the DRP.
- *Social Inclusion Week Dún Laoghaire*, 12 October. The Group attended the launch of the Dún Laoghaire Rathdown Garda Diversity Committee. Committee member, *Abraham Wahid*, spoke at the event
- *Dáil Éireann Debate on Human Trafficking*, 17 / 18 November. DRP members and asylum seekers attended the debate in Dáil Éireann on a private member’s motion by *Deputy Denis Naughten TD* (Roscommon / South Leitrim).
- *Crosscare Migrant Project*, 18 November. This Catholic Church Dublin Diocesan body launched an updated version of its publication “Living in Ireland”, a useful handbook. Several Committee members and asylum seekers attended - www.livinginireland.ie.

Contact with Statutory / Non-Statutory Bodies on Refugee Matters

- Two volunteers attend the bi-monthly meetings of the Churches Asylum Network (CAN) where information is shared by members from the whole of Ireland.
- The DRP is represented on the quarterly meetings between CAN and the Reception and Integration Agency (Department of Justice ELR).
- The DRP is represented on the Dún Laoghaire Rathdown Co. Council Anti-Racism and Diversity (ARD) Committee.
- In December two volunteers were elected to the committee of the Dún Laoghaire Rathdown Garda Diversity Committee.
- The DRP is also a member of the Children's Rights Alliance.

Cost: Thanks to the great help of the DLCTC, the cost of this important programme is small - €1,330 (3% of total expenditure).

2.3 Welfare Support

Welfare support is needed especially when asylum seekers gain residency and must move from accommodation provided free by the State to rented quarters. They can then legally work and must, in fact, seek and find work to support themselves. This is often a difficult transition period, especially for single mothers with young children. The type of welfare needs for which the DRP provided funds in 2009 included:

- Deposits for rents.
- Mobile phone credits.
- Cash for food.
- Light & Heat.

When a recipient seems capable of repaying, we give these welfare payments as loans (e.g. rent deposits which are repayable, provided the rent has been paid to date) but even those granted refugee status or permission to remain are finding it difficult to find jobs in the increasingly harsh economic climate, and we are well aware that some of the loans may never be repaid. We stress that in all cases help should be sought from Social Welfare first.

Cost: €5,235 (12% of total expenditure).

2.4 Legal Matters, Permission to Remain and Support at Deportation or Voluntary Return, Passports / Official Documents.

During the year, a small but steady number of young people at the Drop In meetings were granted residency – i.e. refugee status or humanitarian permission to remain - with the total in 2009 coming to 28. None qualified for the new category of “subsidiary protection”, to our knowledge.

Several large-scale deportations of unsuccessful asylum seekers took place in 2009, some in conjunction with other EU countries through FRONTEX (European Agency for the Management of Operational Cooperation at the External Borders of the Members States of the EU). One young man, attending the Drop In meetings, was deported in May and another in October. Unfortunately, the DRP cannot help returnees after they reach their countries of origin, though individual volunteers often keep in touch with them. We may provide, however, small cash sums before departure.

In January, we advised one Nigerian woman with two children, who wanted to return home voluntarily, to contact the International Office for Migration (IOM).

DRP members attended a Judicial Review hearing arising out of an asylum application in the High Court on 18 June; and at the end of November, we contacted Cloverhill prison about a young man, held there for evading deportation.

A more mundane but urgent problem was the requirement by the Garda Naturalisation and Immigration Bureau (GNIB) from May 2009 onwards that those granted leave to remain must have a national passport before they can be given the Green Card - stamp 4 permission – which gives the holder the right to reside and to work and may lead to permanent residency. This insistence on passports (understandable from the State's perspective) is serious for those concerned. If they are not given the Green Card (stamp 4) because they do not have a passport, they cannot:

- get social welfare benefits
- move out of hostel accommodation
- obtain work.

Many African countries do not have consular offices in Dublin and those without passports cannot travel to their respective consular offices (mainly in London) as they cannot obtain a visa as they are unemployed nor can they obtain a re-entry visa back into Ireland. There are often long delays before a passport is issued (a year or more in a number of cases). Some consular offices make periodic visits to Dublin to provide consular services. We are grateful for advice given to us by the GNIB on how to avail of these services.

In addition to the Green Card (stamp 4), the lack of a passport causes difficulties when the young people try to obtain *Age Cards*. The local Gardai have been very helpful.

All these official identity documents - and the difficulty in getting them - cost money as well as effort.

Cost: €1,974 (5% of total expenditure).

2.5 Annual World Refugee Day Celebration in Dún Laoghaire

World Refugee Day – which the DRP first commemorated in 2004 by the seaside at Newtown Smith - was once again celebrated in Dún Laoghaire on the evening of Monday, 22nd June at the IADT (Institute of Art, Design and Technology) in the Carriglea Building, Baker's Corner, Dún Laoghaire. Our co-sponsors were IADT, DLR County Council and Southside Partnership.

The DRP feels that it is important to bring home to people at the local level the issue of refugees and their rights, as provided by the United Nations Geneva Convention on Refugees. This local action is in keeping also with the Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Council social inclusion policy under the Anti-Racism and Diversity (ARD) Plan 2007-2010. The most recent Annual Report of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees – Global Trends, published before World Refugee Day - states that there are over 42 million people uprooted worldwide - 16 million refugees and asylum seekers and 26 million internally displaced people. About 80% are in developing countries, where governments are often weak and resources minimal.

At this year's celebration, which had an attendance of over 150, *Mr Jim Devine*, President of IADT, gave the address of welcome. *Ms Marie Baker*, Cathaoirleach Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Council and *Ms Marie Carroll*, Manager Southside Partnership, drew attention to the contribution that refugees and other immigrants make in our community. The DRP is most grateful to all of those who spoke - for their participation in the celebration and also for the practical help, including facilities and refreshments provided.

DRP Committee Member *Abhram Wahid* was the Master of Ceremonies. The main event was the performance of four dramatic sketches, performed by *Gabriel Akujobi* and *Gelson Gomez*. Certificates were awarded to the participants in the Garda "Get Wise Programme". *Joythi Kanics* of the Irish Refugee Council, (who was about to transfer to her new post at UNICEF in

Geneva), was presented with a bouquet, as a token of appreciation for her dedicated help to the DRP. *Barbara Eustace* handed over donations (collected through sponsorship she received when she completed the women's mini-marathon) to our Treasurer, *Maurice McCann*. West African High Life band *Ife-olu*, comprising Drop In members *Gabriel Akujobi, Abiola Tubi, Rilwon Jaiyeola and Segun Akano*, provided lively musical entertainment throughout.

Cost: DRP cost for the event was €400.

2.6 Irish State - Asylum Policy Issues

Two developments of importance occurred during the year regarding (a) "aged out" adolescents and (b) *separated children seeking asylum* as follows:

2.6.1 Definition - Aged Out: a child "under the age of 18 years who has arrived at the frontiers of the state...not in the custody of any person" legally comes under the care of the Health Services Executive (HSE) and "the provisions of the Child Care Act apply". Once such a child seeking asylum reaches 18 years of age - and is described as "aged out" - responsibility is transferred to the Irish Naturalisation and Immigration Service (INIS), except for those under medical care and in some other cases.

A new policy was introduced by the Irish Naturalisation and Immigration Service (INIS) in the early summer to disperse outside of Dublin such separated "aged out" adolescents. Those taking Leaving Certificate were allowed to remain until after the examination. All were to be moved, starting as of 5th June 2009, from Dublin to hostels mainly in Cork, Athlone, Salthill Galway and Galway City. The DRP brought to the attention of the authorities the lack of adequate support networks and services in a number of the areas of dispersal and the serious consequences that may result. This concern was voiced also by the Ombudsman for Children's Office (Report on Separated Children Living in Ireland, 2009, page 51).

By year end eight of those participating in the Drop In sessions were affected. The DRP helped them to organise their transfer especially young mothers with children, has stayed in touch with them after the transfer and has encouraged them to join - or form their own - support groups in their new places of residence.

2.6.2 Separated Children Seeking Asylum

As to children *under 18 years* of age and so coming under the provisions of Child Care Act, the HSE stated in November 2009 that it was "working to phase out the use of hostel accommodation before December 2010, and develop ongoing appropriate care services at local and national level for Separated Children Seeking Asylum".

This policy is in accordance with the concerns and recommendations in the Report of the Ombudsman for Children's Office about hostel accommodation as follows: -

"Separated children receive a lower standard of care than children in the mainstream care system. The inferior care provided to separated children living in unregistered hostel accommodation is unacceptable and contrary to the legal provisions set out in our national child care legislation. It also places the State in breach of its obligation to prevent discrimination in accordance with Article 2 of the UNCRC" (UN Convention on the Rights of the Child) "and Article 14 of the European Convention on Human Rights. The practice of accommodating separated children in hostel accommodation should cease" "It is of concern that children are being accommodated in hostels that are not subject to any mechanism of inspection. All services for children, including hostel accommodation as an interim measure, should be subject to regular, independent inspection" (Report – Summary of primary concerns & recommendations, page 53).

This Report reflects the criticisms in similar previous independent reports, including the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child (2006).

The result of the new policy appears to be that all such separated children will be assessed by the Dublin based HSE “Intake and Assessment Team”. If, however, they are found to be at risk after working hours when they first come to official attention after arrival, they will be placed “in a family setting” through an Emergency Place of Safety service - and not be held overnight locally (e.g. at a Garda station or other state institution) as in the past.

After assessment, most such children will be placed in foster care / supported lodgings throughout the country and there is to be a newly developed residential care service. The type of care will depend on the child’s age.

As to the six hostels in existence, two in Dublin have already been closed; another in Dublin will close early in 2010 and the remaining three will close on a phased basis. The use of hostels with unqualified staff will have ended during 2010, and in those still functioning, there will be improved facilities so that all HSE care services “conform to the child care legislation, regulations and standards”.

The HSE Statement gave an average figure of 13 separated children being received into care each month.

2.7 Organisation of DRP, Deed of Trust and Constitution, Policies

No amendments to the Deed of Trust or the Constitution of the DRP Association (texts on www.drp.ie) were made in 2009. Combined meetings of the Trustees / DRP Committee took place each month except February.

A list of Trustees and DRP Association Committee and ordinary members (volunteers) as at end of year is attached *Appendix 1*. There are several new ordinary members (volunteers). All changes in the Trustees, Committee and Ordinary Members (volunteers) of the DRP are made by a resolution in accordance with the Deed of Trust / Constitution and are recorded in the Trust / Committee meeting minutes.

Child Protection, Substance Misuse, Volunteer / Equal Opportunities policies have been adopted and are in force.

2.8 Finance and Fund Raising

In accordance with the Deed of Trust, the accounts for the year 2009 - which are the *accounts of the DRP Trust* – are audited independently. *CDK Associates*, Accountants and Registered Auditors, Dún Laoghaire have acted for the DRP since 2002. The signed Financial Statements together with the Auditor’s Report for each year are entered on the DRP website. These documents are sent to the Commissioners of Charitable Donations & Bequests (pending the establishment of the Regulatory Authority under the Charities Act 2008) and to the Revenue Commissioners (Charities Section, Nenagh).

The DRP made a major effort to raise funds in November / December by writing to all our previous donors and to other interested organisations (including business) and individuals. While many contributed, the result especially from the business community was disappointing, as was to be expected in the current economic situation. We are all the more grateful to those who gave so generously - to the local official bodies (Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Council and Southside Partnership), to charitable bodies (Two Coats Initiative, Greystones and St Vincent de Paul), to the Foundations (Community Foundation for Ireland and Irish Youth Foundation), to AdiKwa, to the banks and businesses, to the students and staff of St. Gerard’s School, Bray and to the many private citizens in Dún Laoghaire and elsewhere.

Our accounts for the year 2009 show an expenditure of just over €40,000 and an income (donations) of just under €23,000. Our balance at the bank at the end of year was €27,862. We must accordingly either raise more funds or cut expenses in 2010.

2.9 Annual Programme of Activities and Budget for 2010

In accordance with Article 12 of the DRP Constitution, the Committee considers its Annual Programme of Activities and Budget Estimates for the year ahead at its December meeting and also its fund-raising strategy. The December Committee meeting, however, had to be cut short, because of building works in progress.

During 2010, the DRP will continue to pay special attention to its programme for education and training, as well as the ongoing needs of asylum seekers / refugees that are registered as participants at the Drop In meetings.

Specific policy decisions for action have been taken by the Committee to cut costs during the coming year and these will be strictly implemented.

One important result of the policy changes (section 2.6 above) introduced by the INIS and the HSE during the past year will be that the DRP in the future will increasingly deal with young people *with residency*. This could mean new programmes for helping them to seek and hold jobs, for enhancing their job and promotion prospects by further education, for cross community links with Irish young people and, generally, for their integration as future citizens in the community. There is likely to be a continuing useful role for the DRP to play, and the costs may be less. As with the changes of policy in the past, it is difficult to plan with certainty for the future.

3. Acknowledgements

My sincere thanks, as Chairperson, to all who have taken part in making our work for these young people a success and to the many organisations and individuals who have helped in 2009 and ever since we began in 2001.

Most importantly a big thank you to all the young people who attend the Drop In meetings and allow us to share their happy and sad times. They live their lives to the full, in spite of the many obstacles they must overcome. We admire their courage, their commitment, their good humour and their courtesy.

Sincere thanks to Gerry and Catherine at the Dún Laoghaire Community Training Centre (DLCTC), York Road, without whose cooperation we could do no work.

Southside Partnership (Sandra King and Aileen O'Brien) have continued to help in these difficult times.

The Community Gardaí and Ethnic Liaison Officers at Cabinteely and Dún Laoghaire have given great and continuous help: all at the DRP are grateful.

DLR County Council (Rebekah Fozzard) and the Institute of Art, Design and Technology (IADT) - Patricia Byrne and Jim Devine, thank you for great help.

For legal advice, Albert Llussa of Daly, Lynch, Crowe and Morris Solicitors has given generous and invaluable assistance over many years.

The Children's Rights Alliance (Maria Corbett and Ken Reid) and the Churches' Asylum Network (Sr. Joan Roddy) assisted generously again this year as in the past, as did Spirasi.

The Irish Refugee Council has constantly responded to our numerous requests for advice: we will miss Joythi Kanics from the IRC. Jyothi represented the Separated Children in Europe Programme. She came regularly to the Monday night Drop In sessions and gave us the benefit of her advice, great knowledge and good sense.

Out thanks to St. Breege Keenan of the Vincentian Refugee Centre.

The Crosscare Migrant Project (Richard King and staff), Ruhama, YMCA (Angier St.) and others have provided support to our young clients and we are grateful.

Our thanks to the many schools and colleges where the young people are studying, for the support and encouragement provided.

Our donors, both great and small, private individuals, business firms and charitable foundations and trusts, are owed a special debt of gratitude from us and from the young people that we - through their generosity - are able to help, especially with education.

Finally, I want to thank most sincerely all volunteers who have made the year a successful one, for the young people that we support. Thank you for the time you give so generously, for your commitment, dedication, concern and friendship.

Nár laga Dia bhur lámha cúnta.

Mary King, Chairperson
April 2010

Appendix

**MEMBERS DRP TRUST
& DRP ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE
AS ON 30/12/2009**

TRUSTEES	COMMITTEE	OFFICE HELD
Mary King	Mary King	Chair Trust & DRP
Liam Ryder	Liam Ryder	Secretary Trust & DRP
Joan Dobbyn	Joan Dobbyn	
Maurice McCann	Maurice McCann	Treasurer Trust
Andrew McDonnell	Andrew McDonnell	
	Abraham Abdul-Wahid	
	Rita Canavan	
	Brian Gallagher	
	Sara Connington	
	-vacant-	Record Secretary DRP
	Vivienne McCann	
	Bryan MacMahon	
	Aimé Ndarbetse	
The Chair, Treasurer and Secretary hold the same offices in relation to the Trust & Association. The Trustees are solely responsible for money matters.		
VOLUNTEERS - 'ordinary members' acting under the auspices of the DRP	Shanette Buddhai Paulo Chavez Barbara Eustace Phobe Fraités Joan Gallagher Erik Goodbody David Hicks	Emma Jenkinson Clare Kelly Jonathan Larkin Peggy Lawlor Sr.Bridget Shannon Anthony Wilkie

