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Dear Colleague,

The Children Acts Advisory Board's 'Awards for Services to Children and Young People' was established in 2007 to recognise the invaluable work and contribution made by service providers to children and young people nationally. These awards aim to promote and bring together organisations working in partnership with children and young people, acknowledge their individual and collaborative efforts and to further support effective practice in service delivery.

We are delighted to inform you that the awards competition for 2008 was a great success and for a full overview of the successful entries and the categories in which they won an award, please see our Awards Report available at www.caab.ie.

We are also delighted to inform you that the 2009 competition is now open. The closing date for entries is the 31st of October 2008 and the Awards Ceremony will be held in Croke Park in Dublin on the 19th of February 2009.

We have enclosed several copies of our Awards Information Booklet for you to read and we are asking you to pass them on to your colleagues and/or staff members. We sincerely hope you will encourage them to enter for an award within a relevant category for the 2009 competition, as it is all about recognising the 'many silent successes' in children's services.

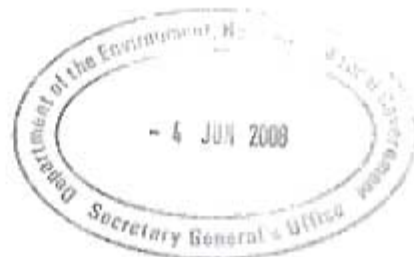
Please visit our website at www.caab.ie to view and download the following literature related to the awards competition:

- Awards Information Booklet 2009;
- Awards Poster 2009;
- Awards Competition Rules;
- Judges Scoring Sheets.

We look forward to hearing from you in the near future and if you decide to enter, we wish you every success in the 'Awards for Services to Children and Young People 2009'.

Yours sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Bronagh Gibson
Bronagh Gibson
Advisory Officer
Children Acts Advisory Board.





An Bord Comhairleach um Achtanna na Leanai
Children Acts Advisory Board

'AWARDS FOR SERVICES TO CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'

Meeting the needs
of Children and Young
People through Effective
Practice in the Delivery of
Services provided for under
the Children Acts

2008 Awards Report

REPORT AVAILABLE AT: www.caab.ie

March 2008





Children's Act Advisory Board

'AWARDS FOR SERVICES TO CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'

2009



Meeting the needs of Children
and Young People through
Effective Practice in the
Delivery of Services provided
for under the Children's Act

INFORMATION BOOKLET

Entry Forms and further information

Please see our website www.caab.ie or contact us at
01 672 4100 or info@caab.ie for:

- Competition Rules;
- Information Booklet.

'Entries must be suitable for public display. Entries that contain classified or sensitive information, or that violate copyright laws will not be accepted. It is the responsibility of the submitter and not the CAAB to determine that entries do not contain classified or sensitive information and that the holder of all copyrights has granted permission for the entry's submission. Neither the CAAB, nor anyone associated with the competition, can be held responsible for loss or damage to an entry.'

The closing date for entries is 5pm 31st October 2008.

Awards Process

- Applications are screened for completeness upon receipt;
- Valid entries are disseminated to panels of judges for shortlisting under each category;
- These successful entries will present their service/practice to a judging panel;
- Five winners (one under each category) will be identified;
- Of the five category winners, one entry will be identified as the overall award winner;
- Award winners will be announced at the Awards Ceremony and not before;
- As part of the Awards Ceremony, all successfully shortlisted entries will present on their practice/project to invited guests.

What are the judges looking for?

- How well were the **needs** of the service/practice demonstrated?
- How well were the **practice goals and objectives** demonstrated?
- How well were the **practice content** demonstrated?
- How well were the **benefits** of the practice/service demonstrated?
- How well was the evidence on **service outcomes and benefits** demonstrated?
- How well was the relationship with **any of the following key areas** (inter-agency working, service co-ordination, marginalised groups) demonstrated?
- How well were the **possibilities for replicating the service/practice** in different settings demonstrated?
- How does this practice/service **meet the needs of children and young people** through effective practice in its services delivery?

Note: Please familiarise yourself with the scoring sheet for judges available on our website: www.caab.ie





The Children's Act Advisory Board's 2008 Awards for Services to Children and Young People' was successful in addressing its overarching objective of celebrating

effective practice across the wide range of services focused on addressing the needs of vulnerable children, their families and communities.

It is hugely heartening to experience the commitment, energy and enthusiasm which were demonstrated across the range of projects presented for consideration for the 2008 awards. This was matched by the professional approach to the management of these projects and the focus on outcomes.

Anyone who attended the Awards Ceremony in Croke Park on the 14th of February 2008, or who has reviewed the Awards Report (available at www.caab.ie) cannot but be impressed.

I would ask service managers to encourage their staff to participate in this scheme and we look forward to a high level of interest in these awards for 2009. I would also like to take this opportunity to wish all entrants every success in their current and future endeavours.

Aidan Browne
Chief Executive, Children's Act Advisory Board

About the Awards

The Children's Act Advisory Board 'Awards for Services to Children and Young People' was established in 2007 in order to recognise the invaluable work and contribution made by service providers to children and young people nationally under the relevant Irish Children Acts. It is hoped that these awards will help promote and bring together agencies working in partnership with children and young people, acknowledging their individual and collaborative efforts and further support effective practice in service delivery.

Award Aims

- To recognise and reward the many 'silent successes' of teams and individuals operating under the Children Acts in delivering services to children and young people in Ireland;
- To promote excellence and effective practice;
- To seek out initiatives and practices that are transferable thus promoting a sharing and learning environment across agencies delivering services to children and young people.

Who can Enter?

Competitions are open to those providing services (State & Voluntary) for children and young people under the Irish Children Acts. Entries in all categories must contain any information requested at entry stage and have sufficient information available for presentation to judging panels when requested (see awards process).

Please Note: A project (i.e. a specific service or practice) that won an award in the 2008 competition (overall winner or category winner) cannot be re-entered in the 2009 competition. An organisation or service provider that won an award in the 2008 competition (overall winner or category winner) may enter the 2009 competition but should enter a project different to the one for which it won an award in the 2008 competition.

Submissions

Submissions may be in the form of a publication, film, poster campaign, project etc. Regardless of the media used, each submission must be accompanied by an application form and any written documentation requested.



Entry Categories

Category A: Effective Practice in the Community
Practices that are community-based, people-centred, equitable and accountable.

Category B: Effective Practice in Education
Practices that are education-focused, people-centred, equitable and accountable.

Category C: Effective Practice in Juvenile Justice
Practices that are offender-based or take preventative measures with children/young people at risk of offending. They should be people-centred, equitable and accountable.

Category D: Effective Practice in Residential Care
Practices within residential care that are proven to enhance the lives of young people, capitalising on their resilience. These practices should be equitable and accountable.

Category E: Effective Practice in Inter-agency Working
Practices that have improved services to children and young people through collaborative working across agencies and sectors. These practices should be equitable and accountable.

Entry Process

The following is a brief checklist of the entry process:

- 1 **Decide on your entry.**
- 2 **Determine the category under which you wish to enter your practice.**
 - A practice may only be entered under one category heading;
 - Different practices may be entered by the same service provider under several headings.

Please note: This is a process of self-selection. Therefore, the category heading under which you make an entry (or entries) will require approval from senior management.
- 3 **Complete the entry form.**
- 4 **Prepare three copies of the entry and entry forms** and post to the Awards Coordinator at the offices of the CAAB.

The closing date for entries is 5pm 31st October 2008.

