



May Newsletter

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1. Launch of *Leading Community Change* report

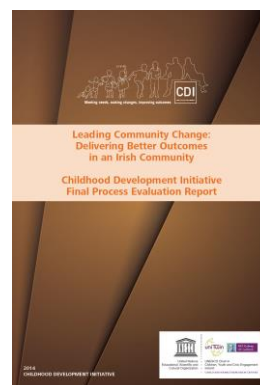
Research and evidence should play a much greater role in informing, planning and funding decisions about services for children, families and communities – according to a new CDI report.

The report *Leading Community Change: Delivering Better Outcomes in an Irish Community* was launched by the (former) Minister for Children Frances Fitzgerald and strongly recommended that child and community services be incentivised to re-align delivery and resources towards evidence-informed models.

The report says that acknowledging limited or no outcomes, and introducing change should be seen as positive rather than a failure.

The report goes on to suggest that training should be provided to policy makers and influencers to improve understanding and use of research to inform decisions.

The findings are set out in a comprehensive report on work coordinated by CDI in Tallaght West from 2007–2013.



- Read the *Leading Community Change* [Evaluation Report](#) and [Policy Brief](#)
- View [Video Clips](#) of CEO Marian Quinn’s Interview and Minister Fitzgerald’s comments at the launch.

2. Dr. Suzanne Guerin new Chair of CDI Board

CDI is delighted to announce that Dr. Suzanne Guerin has become the new Chair of the CDI Board.

Suzanne was the Vice Chair of the Board and has taken over from Joe Horan, who is remaining a Board member.

CDI CEO Marian Quinn said: “We very much welcome Suzanne as the new Chair and look forward to the future under her leadership. Joe Horan has done an exceptional job over the last two years and we are delighted that he will still be very much involved.”



3. Report says 'early intervention makes economic & moral

sense'

The Prevention and Early Intervention Network (PEIN) has launched a report which says that greater use of approaches which prevent or tackle social problems early will save money and result in better outcomes for more young people and families.

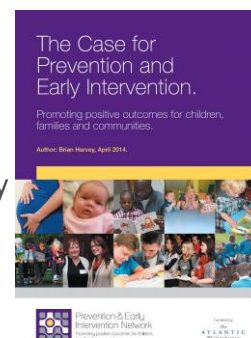
Launching the report by Independent Social Researcher Brian Harvey, the Network said that both Irish and international evidence shows that prevention makes both economic and moral sense.

The PEIN said it was not calling for additional funding, but for existing services to be re-aligned from remediation to prevention – and the report sets out specific recommendations on how this change can be structured and delivered.

PEIN Chairperson Marian Quinn said the report shows very clearly that such realignment has long term economic benefits, but we also have a moral obligation to give children the best chance in life.

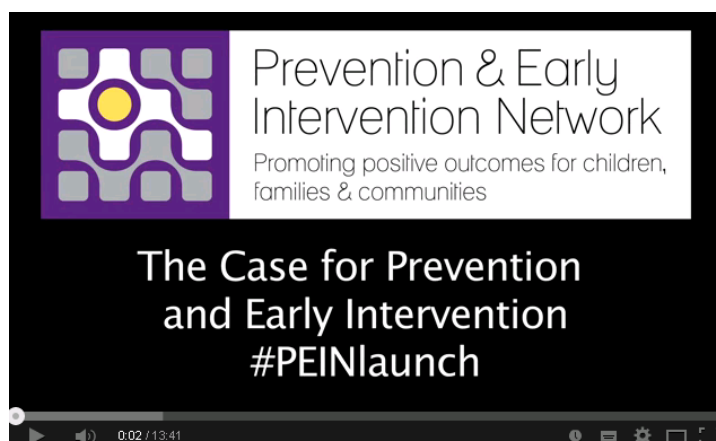
– The **full report and press release** can be read at www.preventioninpractice.ie

– [View Video Extract](#) of Brian Harvey's presentation at the launch.



4. View the 'Champion Videos'

View the '[Champion Videos](#)' developed by the Prevention and Early Intervention Network (PEIN).



The champions include:

- Michael Donnellan – Director of the Irish Prison Service
- Fr Peter McVerry – Founder of the Peter McVerry Homelessness Trust
- Joanne Kelly – Parent and participant in parenting course
- Mark Gray – Service User about his experiences of the care system
- Professor Noirín Hayes – Early Years specialist.

5. New programme: *Antenatal to Three Initiative (ATTI)*

CDI is continuing to work on a new initiative for Tallaght West called the *Antenatal to Three Initiative (ATTI)*.

We have submitted our Logic Model to Pobal and the Centre for Effective Services for approval and hope to commence with implementation as soon as possible. This sets out the core objectives as agreed through a comprehensive consultation process. Many thanks to everyone who contributed to this and we will keep you updated.

6. Launch of Restorative Schools in Tallaght West

The Mayor of South Dublin County Council, Dermot Looney, will formally launch Scoil Cnoc Mhuire Junior, Scoil Cnoc Mhuire Senior and Scoil Chaitlín Maude as Restorative Schools at 9.30am on Wednesday the 28th of May at Knockmore Avenue, Killinarden, Tallaght.

Join us in celebrating the achievements of the children and staff of these excellent schools. RSVP Holly McGann: tel (01) 490 0300 / email holly@twcdi.ie

7. Positive parenting for prisoners

CDI is delighted to announce that we have been successful in securing a small grant from The Community Foundation for Ireland and the Katharine Howard Foundation to deliver Parenting Support to prisoners.

The support service will be delivered in collaboration with John Sharry from the Child and Adult Mental Health Service (CAMHS). This programme was developed in response to the Irish Prison Service (IPS) seeking submissions to support the implementation of recommendations from a report by the Irish Penal Reform Trust (IPRT) which highlighted the benefits of positive parenting for those in prison. The report stated that the incidence of recidivism is reduced if prisoners maintain good relationships with their children.

The Parenting Support to Prisoners will involve training identified members of prison staff in the delivery of the evidenced based *Parents Plus* Course. It will also involve a prison wide ethos of supporting positive parenting.

8. Oral, Language and Literacy course for teachers

CDI will be running an online oral, language and literacy summer course for teachers, which has received approval for three EPV days from the Department of Education.

Last year's summer course was a huge success with over 80 teachers and Principals completing it. This year, the course entitled *Promoting School Improvement: Developing Capacity, Supporting Oral Language and Literacy and Adopting a Restorative Approach* comes under the Literacy – School Self Evaluation and Improvement Strand.

Participants will engage with five modules which include: Logic Modelling, Capacity Building and Evaluation, The Restorative Practice Approach, Supporting Language and Literacy in the Early Years in Disadvantaged Communities and Supporting Speech and Oral Language Development & Doodle Den.

Participants will be expected to engage with the content for a minimum of 20 hours. The course will cost €50 and opens on the 1st of July. Information on applying will be available soon.

9. New film on Restorative Practices

CDI has published a new promotional DVD on our Restorative Practices (RP) Programme, featuring interviews with people living and working in Tallaght who are using working to RP in their work, homes and neighbourhoods.

Hear what they have to say about how RP helps improve outcomes at: <http://www.restorativepracticesireland.ie/videos/>

10. Restorative Practices for teachers

CDI will be offering two Restorative Practices (RP) Summer Courses for teachers that have been approved by the Drumcondra Centre for Education. Both courses will be delivered from the 1st to the 5th of July and are:

1. *Using Restorative Practices to Strengthen Positive Classroom and School Norms*

This course is aimed at primary and secondary school teachers wishing to gain the skills to use restorative practices to support their teaching practice. The course will be delivered in a Tallaght venue

from 10am to 3pm and cost €80.

2. *Restorative Practices in Schools – Training of Trainers*

This course is aimed at teachers who are using restorative practices and wish to gain the skills and materials to deliver RP training to their colleagues and students. The course will be delivered in a Tallgt venue from 10am–3pm and cost €100.

Places are limited, so early booking is advised. To book, contact Claire Casey at CDI: tel 087 280 6450 / email: claire@twcdi.ie

11. CDI Chairperson's reunion

The past and current Chairpersons of CDI's Board recently gathered to reflect on the original vision, progress to date, and opportunities for the future.

Hosted by Senator Katherine Zappone, the group met in Leinster House, where the eclectic group had the new Minister for Justice momentarily non-plussed! All familiar faces to the Minister, the connection wasn't immediately apparent between the Senator, Dr Noelle Spring, retired County Manager Joe Horan and Dr Suzanne Guerin!



The discussion included CDI's CEO Marian Quinn and provided a valuable opportunity to consider the original motivation behind and vision for CDI, the research, learning and processes over the last seven years and the opportunities for integrating these through the Area Based Childhood Initiative.

There was a real sense of pride underpinning the discussion, a recognition of the hard work and steep learning curve, a celebration of the many achievements and a continued commitment to maximising positive outcomes for children.

Further Information?



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