



off  
the  
streets

annual report 2004/2005



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Writing for you in my capacity as Chairperson of Off the Streets Community Youth Initiative for the first time I would like to begin by thanking former Chairperson, Frank Rafferty, who stepped down at our AGM in February of last year. I would also like to thank previous members for their contribution whilst relaying my appreciation to the current membership for their effort and energy over the last 9 months.

Being the chairperson of any organisation can sometimes be fraught with difficulties, not to mention lonely, arduous and time consuming with little or no appreciation. When accepting the nomination I was acutely aware of the level of responsibilities not only that goes with being Chair but also that of an organisation that has seen much growth over the last few years. I certainly didn't enter with my eyes closed but wide open in fact, knowing that the organisation was approaching its 10th year and that in itself brings many responsibilities.

Like all voluntary organisations, surviving against a background of uncertainty in terms of funding whilst attempting to ensure that programme commitments are fulfilled is a tall order. Against the rising tide of expectation among young people that comes with being successful, the challenge to maintain and build upon these achievements creates news pressures.

It is to the credit of Off the Streets, and staff in particular all of whom, have very specific tasks to play, that they have not only maintained and increased levels of service provision but that they have established a credible and quantifiable medium for engaging young people on the street. The challenge we all face as organisations working in this area is great, not only in terms of resources and funding and co-ordinating services together, but responding positively to the many expressed needs throughout the community.

Off the Streets has assumed the responsibility for trying to engage young people who do not for whatever reason choose not to access mainstream provision. This is a difficult position to adopt particularly as it involves one fundamental approach that many would not be prepared to engage in - Street Work. It is not the only position that Off the Streets adopts recognising the need for progressionary routes so as to allow young people to build upon their experiences of the Street Work Leadership Programme. In addition to Street Work and as you will see from this report, many valuable and worthwhile projects have been organised.



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This report briefly documents the last 14 months in the life of Off the Streets. In that time it has not only maintained levels of provision but its growth and development has ensured that it is now the biggest provider of youth services across the Greater Shantallow Area and arguably across the Derry City Council Area with a registration of almost 600 young people and provision that operates 7 nights per week. I was amazed to learn that in the period that this annual report covers, Off the Streets has engaged almost 10, 000 young people in over 400 activities through the Street Work Leadership Programme alone. Can any other youth provider boast those types of figures? Of course I'm at pains to point out that the success of any organisation and its role is not determined by the 'numbers game.' However, it makes impressive reading and certainly is an indication of the commitment and dedication of staff to reach out.

In concluding my first Foreword as Chairperson of Off the Streets, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all staff and volunteers for their time, energy, dedication and enthusiasm. As we move into 2006 and more significantly as we enter our 10th year, I am pleased to be overseeing Off the Streets at a very exciting time. When I come to address you again at the end of next year I hope that we are able to look back on a highly successful year not only in terms of delivery to young people but also in our efforts to mark 10 years that have just elapsed, a period which has firmly put Off the Streets on the map.

**Cahal McCauley**  
**Chairperson.**



## Introduction

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As 2005 draws to a close, it is with pride and immense satisfaction that I can look back yet again on the achievements of Off the Streets. This is my third annual report that I have had the privilege of writing the introduction for. It seems we are doing something right and as we enter 2006, the year of our 10th anniversary, we will be organising a wide range of programmes to mark the occasion. However, this report looks back over the last 14 months (as opposed to the normal 12 month period) and it's this that I want to focus on.

What is remarkable in many ways about 2005 is the growth of our organisation symbolised by the number of staff we now employ and in addition to this, features such as our currently operating 7 nights per week. We have spent quite a bit of time in the past concentrating on not only developing our Model of Practice but establishing its very credibility as key to our future success.

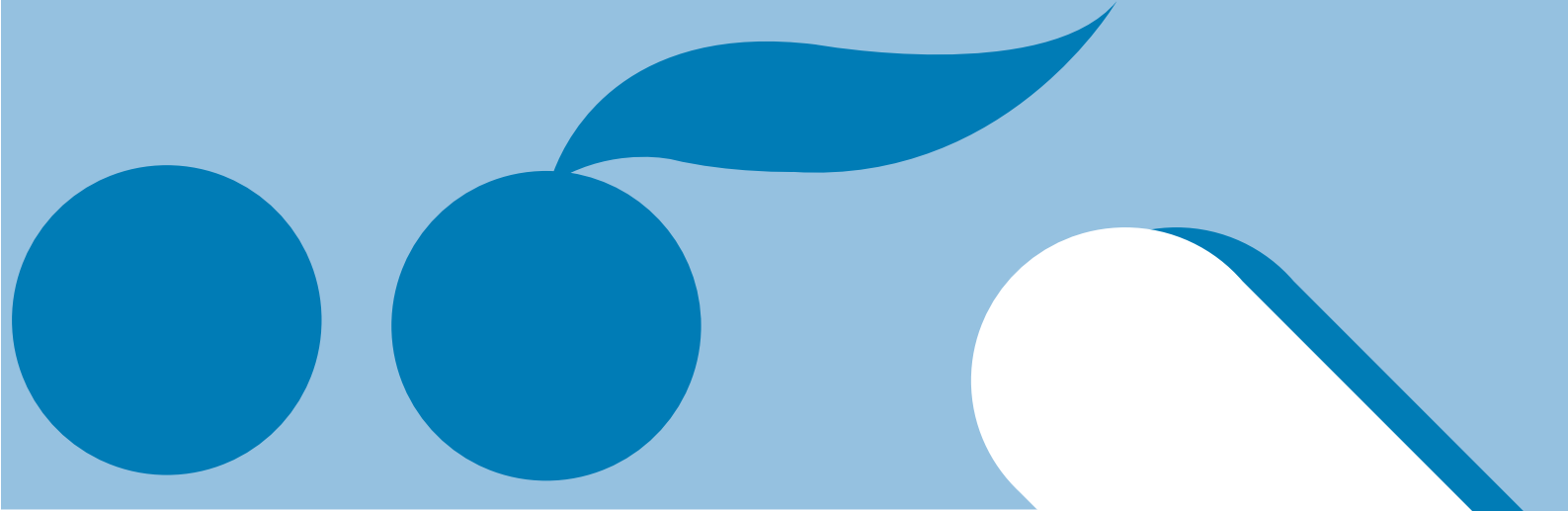
At the end of my introduction in last years annual report I said I looked forward to the next 12 months 'as a period when Off the Streets finally emerges as a key player in the lives of young people in the Greater Shantallow Area.' I think it's fair to say that we have arrived at that point. However, that's not to forget the effort that was required to reach there and only by the same dedication and commitment can we ensure that we continue to remain there. Being a key player is not in any way a reflection of our ambition to compete with others providing services to young people but rather a sense of our commitment to ensure that young people have as many opportunities as possible.

When reflecting on the different aspects of our work we can see how a picture is emerging of the practice we have developed. The Street Work Leadership Programme is now well established and is our 'frontline' in our battle to engage with young people. Youth Outreach and Millennium Volunteers provides an outlet for those who wish to begin to take ownership of their learning and in effect start to lay down the path that their lives will follow. Our Cross-Border Project which, incidentally has just received another 2 years funding from PEACE II, offers young people the opportunity to challenge themselves with more in-depth experiences around diversity and identity. All projects combined provide a strong foundation for young people for their future development.

This report outlines in greater detail the various elements that make up these projects and in doing so offers an overview of what we have achieved in 2005. I hope by reading this report you will begin to understand the contribution that Off the Streets is making to the lives of young people.

**Fergal Barr**  
Project Director





**Overview** This overview will in a few words, paint a picture of events over the past 14 months. It's broken into a number of sections so as to give it structure and illustrate how the various elements contribute to the running of Off the Streets.

Activities concentrates specifically on our programmes and projects  
Organisational focuses on operational matters  
Developments highlights new and often exciting features



Since November 2004 the Street Work Leadership Programme has gone from strength to strength. We are currently operating 7 nights and 3 afternoons per week and have established 20 street groups currently numbering 595 young people registered with us. We have been concentrating most of our efforts on 12 of these groups which we have identified as needing a greater level of intervention.

During this fourteen month period up to and including the end of December 2005 the total number of people engaged through 407 different activities including Street Work, 'Dusk to Dawn', Site Visits and Workshops the has amounted to just 70 short of 10, 000. Whilst the vast majority of this is made up of young people we are pleased to record that we have concentrated on developing stronger links with parents and adults and this has resulted in meetings with over 625 adults. The street work project is operating 7 nights a week and 3 afternoon sessions to deliver this output.

We began 2005 with 2 months of weekly workshops which concentrated on building up participants portfolio work and in doing so developing the relationship we have with young people so as to get to know groups a lot more through low level initiative & team games.

During April and May we have concentrated to a large extent on our 'Dusk to Dawn' programme, which focuses on providing a range of outdoor activities to young people at key times, i.e., Friday and Saturday nights, when they might otherwise be engaging in anti-social, risk taking or criminally related behaviour. Due to our securing extra funding from PEACE II Funder, YESIP, we have been able to facilitate extra activities taking most of our groups on ice skating trips to Belfast.

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We have also run a number of successful projects such as a 4 week Media project with the Children's Express and an 8 week Photography Project with Opportunity Youth. A number of special one-off events included taking a group of young people to a Lobbying Conference organised by the Northern Ireland Youth Forum in Belfast and 'A Soccer Special' designed to reduce the potential for civil disorder on Election Night in May. Run in conjunction with Greater Shantallow Area Partnership and Shantallow Community Residents Association, the competition attracted 16 teams with 100 teenagers participating.

In September 2005 we began a new 'Dusk to Dawn' Programme on Friday and Saturday nights. The Programme was again funded by additional monies from YESIP and a successful application to Derry City Council's Community Safety Unit. Activities included hill walking, orienteering, nightline, canoeing, coastal walks, bouldering, rock climbing and abseiling. Extra activities organised, most notably in response to interests expressed by young people we are working with included paintballing and a weekly Boys Football night which ran for 7 weeks at the astroturf pitch at the home of our Cross-Border partner, Lifford & Clonleigh Resource Centre.

Street Work staff has also been involved in the delivery of programmes at St. Brigid's College in Carnhill. Programmes Worker, Darren Mongan supported Youth Outreach Worker Alison McDaid earlier in the year as she delivered an activity programme to Year 8 pupils as part of the Citizenship Module. Street Worker, Damien Mc Sorley was involved in the delivery of a mentoring programme within the school. The benefit of both Darren and Damien's involvement was to increase familiarity with young people, develop more enhanced communication, raise the profile of Street Work whilst acting as a link between school and work on the streets and increasing trust between members and ourselves.



Building a new  
image for  
young people





## Youth Outreach

The publication of our last annual report coincided with the beginning of a new three year funding cycle for Youth Outreach thanks to continuation funding from BBC Children In Need. Youth Outreach is essentially made up of 4 strands, namely street work, schools based programmes, projects including support for the Galliagh Youth Forum and the development of a Mentoring Programme.

December marked the beginning of a successful period for the Galliagh Youth Forum with the awarding of £200 in sponsorship from local organisations for use of images from their Suicide Awareness posters followed by a grant for £500 in February 2005 from The Honourable Irish Society to cover the costs of printing additional suicide awareness posters. In June 2005 the group secured a further £950 to design and print information booklets for young people on the issues of alcohol, drugs and sexual health. The group also worked for 4 months with Galliagh Women's Group to produce a 30 minute play that addressed adult's perceptions of young people. The play was shown in Galliagh Parish Hall in September 2005 and attracted an audience of approximately 80 residents and young people. The group also received a Credit Union Award for their suicide awareness project in 2005.

Whilst December proved to be important for the Youth Forum it also kicked off project based work with the Celebration of Young People Day at the Millennium Forum. A day long event began at midday with the launch of research into 'Values, Attitudes and Opinion' of Young People in the Greater Shantallow Area followed by the launch of The Galliagh Youth Forum's 6 Suicide Awareness posters and the first part of the day concluded with a Question and Answer session in the early afternoon with representatives of local media and politicians. Later in the evening we presented over 100 certificates to young people who had been through courses with us in the previous 12 months.

Project work in 2005 included a broad range of theme based programmes. A focus on Risk Awareness work with young people included the development of three different projects involving 30 young people. In February 2005 a group of 9 young males began a Family Planning Association accredited course entitled "Bout Ye" but had to be postponed after 3 weeks due to a lack of funding but resumed again in September and is expected to finish by February 2006.

This was followed in May by REAPPLY (Risk Education and Practical Physical Learning for Youth), a 9 week risk awareness programme that addressed issues such as drug and alcohol awareness, diet and nutrition and smoking. Fourteen young people aged eleven and over took part whilst 6 young women completed a 6 week photography project in conjunction with Context Gallery that addressed fear and paranoia in their community. An exhibition of their work was displayed in two local Libraries in October 2005.

Taking the concept of risk awareness further two other events were organised. A trip to Magilligan Prison in May involved 11 young people aged 15 and over. Part of the 'Prison Me No Way' initiative, young people get a tour of the prison and a chance to meet with prisoners. In July a meeting with the Northern Ireland Ambulance Service provided the opportunity for 8 young people aged 16 and over to engage in discussion with ambulance staff.



Other programmes in 2005 included an 8 week project in partnership with Children's Express enabling young people to access and use the media positively. A group of 4 young women put together a Radio Package that examined the perception of young people in the media. It is hoped that this will be aired on local radio in 2006. Also in August 2005 a group of 12 young people began a year long film programme with the Nerve Centre. The group have attended training sessions, workshops by professionals in the film business and have a weekly Cinema Club. The group will undertake further training in 2006 and produce their own short film. In 2005 young people who had been involved in a photography project jointly organised by Off the Streets in partnership with Derry Travellers Support Group in 2004 received an Impetus Award to recognise their contribution to shared values and human rights work. One final aspect of Project work in 2005 included the co-ordination of a consultation exercise with young people on measures to deal with anti-social behaviour. A total of 246 young people responded to the Anti-Social Behaviour Order questionnaire drawn up by Off the Streets and the Institute for Conflict Research.

Two of three new features included School's work which began in January with a Term-long pilot programme with a Year 8 group in St Brigid's College. A further 31 Citizenship sessions was completed with 54 young people before the end of the year. Like the schools programme the setting up of a Mentoring/Referral programme began for the first time earlier in the year. However, only three young people have been involved in the programme and only for short periods. The response from referral agencies hasn't been as forthcoming as we had anticipated. In an effort to ensure uptake improves in 2006 the programme will receive a greater profile using a wide variety of means. The fourth and final aspect of Youth Outreach has been that of linking with the Street Work Leadership Programme in the delivery of Street Work one evening and one afternoon a week.

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### Millennium Volunteers Programme

Between November 04 and December we enrolled 48 young people on to the MV programme with 16 completing their 200 hours and a further 11 of these young people due to receive their award in March. A total of eight young people have also completed 100 hours of volunteer work.

These young people have volunteered in a variety of Community Placement Organisations which include - Children's Express, Reach Across, Young Independents, Triangle Residents Association and The Gallagh Youth Forum. This year links have also been made with the Physical Disability Team in Slievemore House. This organisation will offer training and hands-on experience with children with Autism.

At the beginning of November 04 a presentation explaining the MV programme was given to a class of students studying HND in Care Practice at the North West Institute in Derry. A number of students expressed a desire to volunteer and this actually led to the setting up of the Street Work Training Programme. In March we held a Celebration Event in recognition of the contribution volunteers had made to their respective communities and organisations whilst in July 16 young people travelled to Burnavon Arts and Cultural Centre, Cookstown to receive their Awards of Excellence. Four young people from Off the Streets also performed a Hip Hop dance exhibition as part of the entertainment organised for the awards ceremony. Another Celebration Event was organised in



September for all street work volunteers. Also in September, three volunteers, two from The Galliagh Youth Forum and one from REACH Across attended a workshop in Limavady, where they met with other volunteers to discuss volunteering as an expression of citizenship, encouraging participation and benefits to the community.

Young people from a wide variety of backgrounds have volunteered with us. One young person who had actually come to visit Derry from New York volunteered for Children's Express during her 5 month stay in Derry and went on to achieve her certificate of excellence.

In October, four volunteers attended in a conference at the BBC Northern Ireland in Belfast. They were asked to present findings of a workshop they attended September to a panel of policy makers and political representatives from four main parties as well as invited guests and other MVs in the audience. The conference was very interesting and informative and all the volunteers made a contribution on the night. It is hoped that as a result of this conference volunteering will be placed higher on the political agenda.

### **Cross Border Project**

Since November, 2004, the project has recruited a new group of young people onto the project and continued with another year of programming and training. All in all it was a successful year. The group completed a single identity workshop prior to meeting the other two groups and then met together on four separate occasions at the Lifford-Clonleigh Resource Centre's drop-in throughout the year.

Participants were also offered site visits to Magilligan prison, a Right to Hope residential at the Táin Centre in Omeath, Co. Louth, an 8 week DJ-ing course, Star 1 kayaking/canoeing at Gartan Outdoor Education Centre, Peer Education with Opportunity Youth (OCN accredited level 1 & 2) and Conflict Resolution with Peace and Reconciliation Group (OCN level 2).

Another important aspect is that a core group of participants want to continue with more Peer Education training in 2006 as well as stay active in the group by helping to recruit and train new members.

Also, with the help of the Community Foundation for Northern Ireland, the project co-ordinator and youth workers from the three areas have been working on a booklet highlighting the project's successes and challenges as well as disseminating good practice and advice for other groups interested in cross-border/cross-community work. The booklet will be launched at the end of January at a cross-border conference in Lifford.

The project's main challenge remains that of trying to ensure that an equal number of participants from each area are represented, especially from Tullyally.

Overall number of participants in project for 2005 (from all three areas): Males 24 and Females 24. The number of those participants receiving accreditation 31 with 21 being Male. So far there have been 100 participants (57 male, 43 female) and 57 have received accreditation (33 male and 24 female).



## International Programmes

Earlier in the year we submitted an application to host our aptly named 'Variations II' Hip-Hop Exchange Programme. This programme has been in the planning for some time with the Feasibility Meeting for it first held back in July 2003 with representatives from partner organisations in Romania and Portugal. However, because of the desire to include representatives from organisations in Egypt, Israel and Jordan, in response to their expressed interest in the programme, its development had been slowed.

We submitted an application to the International Committee of the Youth Council for Northern Ireland which was approved in principle. However, upon further inspection by the British Council in London, it was noted that Romania couldn't be included in the application because it was a Pre-accession country and under funding rules that govern The European YOUTH Programme Pre-Acc and Euro-Med countries could not work together.

Whilst naturally disappointed, it actually provided us with the opportunity to develop the idea further, i.e., two simultaneous exchange programmes with slightly different themes but still based on Hip Hop. In January 2006, we will once again submit an application to host two simultaneously run Feasibility Meetings to discuss and develop proposals for hosting 'Variations II: Hip Hop Arts' (Graffiti & Audio Visual) and 'Variations II: Hip Hop Music and Dance' (Break Dancing & Rapping). Portugal and Romania will be involved in the Arts programme whilst the rest will help deliver Music and Dance. Music and Dance will also hopefully include two new partners from France and Germany.

Building on the links developed between Off the Streets and YOFI (Youth Forum of Israel) the Project Director took part in a Job Shadow to Ashdod in Israel in December to look at practice employed by the organisation in working with young people. The visit proved successful in terms of a number of proposals being touted to take place in 2006 including reciprocal Job Shadow visits. A full report will be available in February 2006. Back in April, Fergal also travelled to Budapest to take part in a Study Session.

### RITE (Re-Introduction to Employment) Programme

Off the Streets has recently developed a history of delivering employment-related programmes for young unemployed in the Greater Shantallow Area. Within the last 2 years we have delivered two specific programmes, ACCORD & RITE, funded by EQUAL (CRESCO Trust) & Targeted Initiative (Greater Shantallow Area Partnership & Careers Office) and Community Development (Probation for Northern Ireland) Funds respectively.

We kicked off 2005 with recruitment for the very successful RITE (Re-Introduction To Employment) Programme which ran up until the end of September. The programme consisted of two phases: a structured programme of activities followed by individual one-to-one mentoring support so as to ensure motivation and learning was not lost after the first phase finished and individually tailored support for participants as they looked for a Job.

The aim of the programme was to enhance the employability prospects of young people aged 17 and under who did not access mainstream provision and for what ever reason were already or likely to become involved in anti-social, risk-taking and criminally motivated behaviour.



The programme offered a number of qualifications: CCEA Certificate in Essential Skills, New Clait Certificate in ICT, City & Guilds 6135 in Joinery, Certificate in DJing, Star One & Two in Canoeing and the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme. Activities were pitched at 3 levels: Academic, Vocational and Personal Development. Academic elements included Training in Essential Skills (literacy and numeracy) and IT. Vocational Training included Mechanics, Painting and Decorating, Joinery and DJing whilst Personal Development involved Outdoor Activities, theme based workshops, Careers Advice, Residential Elements, Site Visits and Guest Speakers.

Thirteen young people registered whilst eleven completed the programme - ten males and one female. Twelve of the thirteen participants had no formal qualifications, with only one having qualifications at grade Level One or above. The age of participants ranged from 15 to 18; four of the participants were aged 17, four were 16 and 15 years respectively and one 18 year old.

The programme proved highly beneficial as eleven achieved Introduction to DJing Level One, ten participants achieved Essential Skills and part-certificate in City & Guilds 6135 (Joinery) and nine achieved New CLAIT. However, certificates were not the only sense of achievement for participants as one member of the group described his experience:

***“I sat in the house for two years doing nothing, I got into a rut and the doctor said I was depressed, my career officer told me about the R.I.T.E programme and then Rachel (Programme Co-ordinator) came over to my house to tell me more about it. I was really interested in the sessions from joinery to computers and it was within my local community.”***

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The programme proved very successful and only a lack of funding meant the programme couldn't continue. However, in 2006 we will work to try and identify funding sources to run the programme again.







|Section Two | Organisational



In addition to the completion of Audited Accounts for the period 2003/04, Off the Streets was subject to a successful Financial Verification Visit by the Volunteer Development Agency. During 2005 a high number of Funding Applications have been made to a variety of sources, most of which have proven successful. Applications to funders included Community Safety Partnership (x 2), Children & Young People's Committee (Youth Sub-Committee), Vodafone, Ulster Bank Sir George Quigley Awards, Lloyds, YESIP, Proteus, (DSD) Careers Development Fund, LSP & Probation Board for Northern Ireland (RITE), Big Lottery Fund, Derry City Council and Barrow Cadbury Trust.

**Policy Update**

Work begun in 2005 to review our existing policies and to look at what gaps there was. This as you can imagine is a lengthy process but hopefully will be completed by end of March 2006.

**Strategic and Operational Plans**

In April 2004 we launched our Strategic Plan. It sets out a number of objectives so as to ensure we are working towards our overall vision and mission. Contained within our Operational Plan are measures for ensuring that these Strategic Objectives are implemented. All members of staff have individual work plans informed by our Operational Plan. All of these are reviewed on an on-going basis. We have continued to work towards meeting our commitments as outlined in our Strategic Plan.

**Membership**

The Project Director has continued to represent Off the Streets on a number of organisations including the Board of Directors for the Young Independents Group and Management Committee of Derry Travellers Support Group. In addition to this the Project Director was also asked to sit on the Western Investing in Health Teenage Transitions Group

**Staff Induction Pack**

Due to the increase in staff it was necessary to develop a resource that could be presented to new employees. This has been developed over the last 6 months. The pack is designed to ensure that all new staff members are informed, prepared and accountable for their own learning in a process that guides them in a multitude of areas. This includes information on Office Systems and Procedures, Off the Streets, existing Staff and Programmes, Roles and Responsibilities, Terms & Conditions, Job Descriptions, Working Practices, Pro-formas, and Administration. The pack has been designed in such a way that new members of staff will demonstrate they have taken the necessary steps to ensure they understand all facets of the organisations practice and operations and this will be counter-signed by existing staff to verify this to ensure they have received the support necessary to make them feel welcome. The pack which is in it's final stages of development will be available in the New Year.

**Staffing**

In 2005 Off the Streets experienced what was it's largest increase in staff in any one year. Four volunteers secured part-time posts with us when funding from Derry City Council's Community Safety Programme became available and when a former member staff



moved on and his post was turned into a job-share arrangement. This took our number of staff to 12. In addition to the growth in staff we have also taken on a number of short and long-term placements. One student, whilst a full-time employee with the Health Board in Donegal is completing a Social Care course through the Technical College in Sligo. She chose us to complete her placement with Off the Streets after learning about us on the internet. She has been with us since September and will continue through to March. She has proved to be a valuable addition to our staff team and has blended in well with all staff members. Finally, staff member and Programmes Worker, Darren Mongan started his Certificate in Youth Work course at the University of Ulster at Magee earlier this year whilst most recently, just before the close of the year, Alison McDaid, Youth Outreach Worker, was conferred upon her a Diploma of Higher Education in Community Youth Work.

### **Profile**

Going into 2005 we were very conscious that our profile was not as it should be and made a commitment to address this during the course of the year. We have received quite a positive coverage over the last 14 months including many comprehensive articles. This included focusing on different aspects of our work, be they various strands of our work, e.g., Street Work Leadership Programme or a specific project. A list of articles and photographs is available under appendices.







## | Section Three | Developments

## Street Work Training Programme

Over the last 14 months we have seen many exciting developments. One of the most exciting has been that of our Street Work Training Programme. The programme was created in response to the level of interest expressed by young people interested in volunteering with Off the Streets. The programme consists of 15 sessions and covers areas such as Issues facing Young People, Youth Work Practice, Equality, Child Protection, Engaging with Young People, Logistics and Practicalities and Evaluation.

In order to facilitate this and to help cover costs associated with the programme we co-ordinated it through the Millennium Volunteers Programme. We opened it up to those aged between 18 and 25 and our initial response resulted in 15 people signing up. As with many programmes the initial level of interest dropped for a variety of reasons but a core group of 8 volunteers emerged, 4 of which incidentally ended up working with us. The Training Programme was also made available to staff and whilst our initial plan to complete the programme was a little ambitious (giving the difficulties in co-ordinating times to suit all) we now hope to complete this by the end of February 2006. We hope to recognise the achievements of 15 staff and volunteers together.

The programme was set up with accreditation in mind and although an application was made to the Open College Network for accreditation at Level 3, the decision was deferred on condition that the Northern Ireland Youth Work Training Board would endorse the programme before being awarded accreditation. As a direct result of our work, the Youth Council for Northern Ireland set up a working group with a view to developing an accredited training course for detached youth workers. We are part of this working group and have been tasked with designing one of the modules. It's quite similar in many ways to our own programme and in the New Year we will examine what parts of our programme can be eventually used to ensure that both staff and volunteers achieve accreditation.

### 'The Case for Supporting our Work'

In recognition of the need to look beyond endless funding applications and now that we have clear evidence of the impact of our work a fundraising document 'The Case for Supporting our Work' has been developed. This document has been developed over the last 6 months in particular and will be available in the New Year for circulation to a wide range of individuals and agencies. The document spells out in fine detail the benefits of our work and argues why it should be supported. It makes provision for individuals, organisations and agencies across all sectors including public and private to access mechanisms in order to support our work including sponsorship, becoming a nominated charity, membership and setting up a direct debit. The booklet is a major document that makes it easy to convince funders and the public among others as to why they should support us.

### 'LEGACY' - 10th Anniversary Celebrations

Off the Streets celebrates its 10th anniversary in 2006. Over the last few months much time and effort has been expended in paving the way to a series of unprecedented events in the history of Off the Streets. The theme adopted for our celebrations is 'Legacy' and apart from raising our profile it's also designed to raise much needed funding. It forms part of a more pro-active approach to fund-raising and forms part of a wide strategy to reduce funder-dependency.



Events will include: 'Legacy' - our 10th Anniversary Dinner, '1996' - a theme based Ball, 'Ten Paces' Sponsored Walk, '10 Variations' Hip Hop Exchange Programme, 'Decade' - Launch of Fundraising Programme, '10 Not Out' Celebration of Young People, '10 out of 10' Young People Awards Ceremony, 'Legacy' Concert including performances from Paul Casey and Little Hooks, a number of Outreach Activities and Special 'one-off' Events.

### **Duke of Edinburgh/Presidents Award**

Recently we have developed closer working ties with this award with a view to identifying groups of young people from our Street Work Groups who can be put forward to complete this award.

### **Community Service Announcement**

As part of our commitment to raising the profile of our work we have applied to UTV to be included in list of groups to benefit from a Community Service Announcement in 2006.

### **'Proposal for Sponsorship' Package**

In our efforts to look beyond applying for funding through the usual channels, a package of proposals has been developed that will target the private sector. This includes sponsorship of 'LEGACY' events but also involves other ideas such as Street Work clothing carrying sponsors logos. A number of businesses have already been circulated with information and in the New Year we hope these developments can be taken further.

### **Research**

In December 2004, Off the Streets launched the publication of research into 'Values, Attitudes and Opinions of Young People in the Greater Shantallow Area' at the Celebration of Young People Event in the Millennium Forum. This was quickly followed in May with research into certain types of behaviour among young people, including what young people view as anti-social behaviour and crime, what kind of response is required, what were the likely age groups to be involved and what is acceptable/unacceptable behaviour. This publication will be available early in the New Year.

In November, meetings with PSE classes in St. Brigid's College began and the focus was to build on previous research by examining what young people from the Greater Shantallow understood anti-social behaviour to be and in their opinion what were the causes of it. This actually forms part of a dissertation that the Project Director is undertaking as part of his Masters Course and research should be available in the summer of 2006.

### **New Evaluation methodologies**

In a bid to provide greater evidence of the impact of our work we have introduced new methods of documenting young people's development on our Street Work Leadership Programme. 'Group Activity Assessment' process involves identifying small groups of young people within (in this case) larger 'Dusk to Dawn' groups and observing their behaviour over a fixed period and using a sliding scale agreeing a score in relation to a number of skills including communication, teamwork, leadership and motivation. This allows us to contrast development over a few weeks or a longer period time and helps establish a marker that can be used across a range of programmes. The results of the first pilot phase will be known after the current 'Dusk to Dawn' Programme finishes at the end of January 2006.







| Appendices |

## Street Work

Membership		Male	Female	Total
Total		341	254	595

Type of Session	Feedback Meetings	Outdoor Pursuits	Theme Based Workshops	Site Visits	Street Work	Total Activities
	5	71	62	37	232	407

## Youth Outreach

Project/Programme	No. of males	No. of females	Total
REAPPLY	7	8	15
FPA Sexual Health	9	0	9
Photography	0	6	6
First Light (video)	8	4	12
Prison visit	7	4	11
Ambulance Workshop	0	8	8
Drama	0	6	6
Media radio project	0	4	4
Citizenship	30	24	54
Referral	0	3	3
Galligh Youth Forum	1	4	5
Street Work	80	70	150
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>283</b>

## RITE Programme Outcomes

Participant	Sessions attended/ Possible sessions	%	Progress Report (September 2005)
1	31/ 71	43.66	Has legally another year to complete at school and because of this unable to look for full time employment or further education course. Careers Service and Education Welfare are working closely with the programme to provide alternative options.
2	53/ 71	74.64%	Has enrolled with NWIFHE and is studying for GCSE's as well as gaining part time employment.
3	49/71	68.6%	Has enrolled with NWIFHE and is also studying for GCSE's on a part time basis as well as gaining two part time jobs.
4	62/71	86.8%	Is furthering his joinery qualification and has enrolled into Springtown training Centre to complete an NVQ. Participant four also completed his Millennium Volunteers award and is still currently working with at his placement.
5	42/71	58.8%	Has registered onto another training programme and is completing an NVQ in Hospitality and Catering.
6	56/71	78.4%	Has secured full time employment in Gransha hospital as a Domestic Assistant.
7	30/71	42.0%	Has secured a placement with 'Out and About' Outdoor Specialists and is attending various courses and training in order to receive the relevant qualification needed for a future in outdoor pursuits.
8	29/71	40.6%	Successfully completed the 15 week programme and attended a few personal tutorials. However level of motivation has dipped since finishing the programme. Not interested in finding employment at present - happy to receive benefits.
9	37/71	51.8%	Since completion of the RITE programme, has failed to engage with Programme Co-ordinator irrespective of numerous attempts to contact him.
10	46/71	64.4%	Has secured part time employment in a local restaurant and was accepted onto Springtown Training Centre to complete an NVQ in Electrical Engineering. However participant ten declined the offer from the Training Centre and has applied to join the PSNI.
11	26/71	36.4%	Same as Participant 1. Again the Careers Service and Education Welfare working to provide alternatives. However participant eleven had expressed an interest in going back to school (major progress) but as yet has not followed through this. Had the project lasted longer extra personal tutorials would have greatly benefited participant and is likely that he may have returned to school.

## Record of Exposure in Local Media

Heading	Description	Picture	Newspaper
Working with Young people	Core Values and description of OTS work	Fergal	Derry Journal
"Off the Streets"	Ten years celebration	None	Derry Journal
Responding to Anti-Social Behaviour	Anti-social behaviour and OTS	Leafair group	Derry on Monday
Adult Issues Facing Derry's Young People	Times have changed	Fergal	Derry Journal
R.I.T.E. celebration day at Shantallow	Celebration of R.I.T.E.	Rachel and group	Derry Journal
PHOTO ONLY		Photography Exhibition (Alison)	Derry Journal
PHOTO ONLY		REAPPLY (Alison)	Derry Journal
Looking at life thru a lens	PHOTO ONLY	Photography (Alison)	Derry News
Protecting Our Young People	Sexual Health week	Alison	Sunday Journal
PHOTO ONLY		Margaret and Millennium Volunteers	Derry Journal
Help Improve Derry by joining the Millennium Volunteers	Information on Millennium Volunteers scheme	Margaret and Millennium Volunteers	
Volunteering recognition for young people	Awards of Excellence	Margaret and Millennium Volunteers	Derry Journal
Off the Streets Evening Event	PHOTO'S ONLY	Celebration x5	Derry News
PHOTO ONLY		StreetWork group at Derry Journal	Derry Journal
The first line of defence on cold, wintery nights	Street Work	Damien	Derry Journal
A Day In the Life of a Street Worker	Street Work	Damien	Sunday Journal
For young people by young people	Galliagh Youth Forum	Alison, Bernie & 2 young people	Sunday Journal
PHOTO ONLY		Alison at launch of First Light	
PHOTO ONLY	First Light Launch	Group member and Colin Bateman	
PHOTO ONLY	Receiving funding	Galliagh Youth Forum, Fergal and Edward Montgomery	Derry Journal
Credit Union Young People's Awards	Not specific to OTS but Youth Forum photo and received award	Galliagh Youth Forum	Derry Journal
Youth Drama at St. Joseph's Parish Hall	Youth Forum play invite	None	Derry News
Galliagh Play to look at respect	Youth Forum play invite	None	Derry Journal
Stars in the making	PHOTO ONLY	Youth Forum and Galliagh Women's group	Derry News
Youth Forum drama brings Galliagh to life	Youth Forum play invite	None	Derry Journal
Galliagh Play: Respect Works Both Ways	Write up of play	10 photos (9 audience and 1 of play)	Sunday Journal

**Record of Exposure in Local Media**

Heading	Description	Picture	Newspaper
Celebrating Young People	Celebration event	2 photos audience and panel from Media Q & A	Derry Journal
Building a new image for young people	Celebration event	3 photos	Derry News
Galliagh applauds Off The Streets Team	Background to OTS	Youth	Derry Journal





off  
the  
streets

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