



## Fionn

One of the first in Ireland with cognitive impairment (Down Syndrome) to manage his own supports

With help from family, Fionn negotiated with the Irish Health Service and traditional service providers, contracted a support broker and formed limited company

Serves as Public Relations Officer for both the National Advisory Council of Down Syndrome Ireland and also the Inclusive Research Network

Addressed the Irish National Teachers' Organisation on Special Education and the Anthropological Association of Ireland on the theme of Formal and Informal Care

Guest taught dozens of primary and secondary school groups through placements as a Heritage in Schools Expert and Slingshot Academy Mentor

Presented to international groups include the International Intellectual Disability Leadership Forum in Dublin and the Claiming Full Citizenship Conference in Vancouver



## Jonathan

20 years' experience in Primary and Special Education, in Ireland and America

Directed the Resource Teacher Training Programme for Steiner Schools and Camphill Communities in Ireland

Completed hundreds of hours of training in personalised disability services, including the Federation of Voluntary Bodies' Immersion Event, the Optimal Individual Service Design Course commissioned by the HSE Midlands, Genio's Endeavour for Excellence, and many others

Nearly all of these trainings were designed for service professionals, with family members like Jonathan making up less than 10% of the attendees

Co-authored the report commissioned by the NDA on New Directions Interim Standards public feedback, as well as Good Lives: Perspectives of People with Disabilities and Families published by the Centre for Disability, Law and Policy

Pending PhD thesis on how family members can support young adults with intellectual disabilities to achieve their dreams



## Jonathan & Fionn

Researchers for and members of both the Self Directed Living Research Group and the Inclusive Research Network

Ongoing independent research project to determine what people living with and without disabilities love most in their lives

600+ interviews over six years

– Online videos more than 85,000 views

Steering group members of the HSE's Transforming Lives Working Group 3. Members of the Department of Health's Personal Budgets Task Force

Co-authored HSE Guidance Document for effective participation in decision making entitled Ordinary Lives in Ordinary Places

Led multiple focus groups to garner feedback from the wider community effected by disability

Professional involvement with Ireland's two HSE agreed agents for individual funding

Clients of and consultants to Áiseanna Tacaíochta

Producers of a short documentary film about the work of PossibilitiesPlus

Collaborations with Inclusion Ireland, Down Syndrome Ireland, Brothers of Charity Clare and Galway, and the Clare Advocacy Platform, Disability Federation of Ireland, Galway City Partnership,

First practitioners of a model of support that combines personal budgets and paid employment for the individual with disability, through the creation of a person-centered job description

Exponents of this approach as invited speakers at national conferences such as Clan Beo's Show Me the Money and Inclusion Ireland's Time for Change, and through private consultations with numerous families

Workshops and Consultations on the theme of living a good life to community groups in Ireland, UK, USA and Canada

Guest lecturers to courses at TCD, UCD, UL, NUIG, LIT, Carlow College, St. Angela's College

Co-presentations with such well-known international teachers as Hope Leet Dittmeier, Darcy Elks, Betsy Neuville, Sally Warren, and Janet Klees

Slingshot Academy Mentors

Presented to international groups include the International Intellectual Disability Leadership Forum in Dublin and the Claiming Full Citizenship Conference in Vancouver