

Welcome to our May 2026 Ezine!

This month you can find updated information on events, training and opportunities for member groups as well as highlights from our organisation.



HIGHLIGHTS!



AMPLIFY GROUP VISIT TO GIANTS CAUSEWAY, NORTH COAST



EVANG
CONFERENCE, ARMAGH

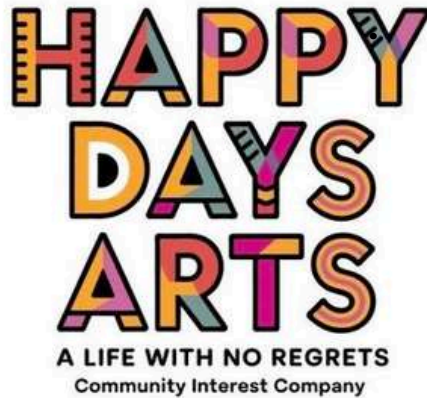


NORTH WEST AMPLIFY GROUP
CERTIFICATE PRESENTATION

MEMBER NEWS

WELCOME HAPPY DAYS ARTS - NEW MEMBER

Happy Days Arts non profit Community Interest Company, based in the historic Conway Mill in Belfast, is a vibrant, inclusive community organisation dedicated to supporting people of all ages and abilities through creativity, culture and connection.



"We are Happy Days Arts, building a more connected and confident Belfast, one creative act at a time"

BESPOKE TRAINING FOR MEMBER ORGANISATION



YouthAction NI delivered a programme of bespoke, needs-led training to staff from Cedar Foundation, tailored specifically to their organisational context and priorities. These sessions were designed to strengthen youth work practice through a focus on group dynamics, effective planning and practical facilitation skills.

This targeted approach supported continuous professional development, enabling participants to build confidence, reflect on their practice and apply new skills directly within their work. The interactive nature of the training ensured learning was grounded in real-life scenarios, reinforcing high-quality, responsive youth work practice.

CONGRATULATIONS!



**PATRICIAN YOUTH CLUB, DOWNPATRICK
& THE JIMS PROJECT, KILKEEL**

**HAVE COMPLETED BRONZE AND SILVER
YOUTH ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS, ENDORSED BY OCN NI**

NORTHWEST ISLAMIC ASSOCIATION



This month YouthAction NI staff worked with member group Northwest Islamic Association and completed a youth consultation session.

Young people talked about the challenges they face and shared ideas for the year ahead. They suggested ways for youth workers to build stronger connections with young people from different backgrounds.

LET'S TALK PEACE PLUS PROJECT

38 young people from our member organisations Drummond Centre, YMCA and Fountain Youth Club in the North West region have been actively engaged in the Let's Talk Peace Plus project. The groups are making positive connections through creative workshops and conversations around peace, community and connections. This project is supported by SEUPB through Derry City & Strabane District Council and delivered to members by YouthAction NI.



PEACEPLUS
Northern Ireland - Ireland

Co-funded by the



European Union



UK Government



Derry City & Strabane
District Council
Comhairle
Chathair Dhoire &
Cheantar an tSraitha B ain
Derry C itlle & Str abane
Distric  Council

ACCESS TO RESILIENCE PROJECT

Rural member groups including Crocus Special Needs Association and the Rainbow Club are making strong progress through the Access to Resilience project, benefiting from tailored governance, leadership training and strategic support aligned to their individual needs. CROCUS SNA is strengthening safeguarding practice and volunteer recruitment, while the Rainbow Club has developed a new organisational charter and is progressing Access NI checks – building solid foundations for future growth.

As we move into Year 2, Access to Resilience will offer bespoke capacity-building support for staff and volunteers, alongside a £500 small grants award to help groups enhance their impact and sustainability.

If your group is based in a rural area and would like to get involved, please contact helen@youthaction.org



CROCUS SPECIAL NEEDS ASSOCIATION, GALGORM



RAINBOW CLUB, CROSSMAGLEN

ACCREDITED TRAINING: OCN NI LEVEL 1 AWARD IN YOUTH WORK PRACTICE

Omagh Pride was founded in 2021 and aims to enhance the rights and wellbeing of LGBT people in West Tyrone. Omagh Pride are involved as a partnership group in the Access to Resilience project. Their committee members and event volunteers are completing OCN NI Level 1 Award in Youth Work Practice alongside governance support workshops.

**Omagh Pride Parade
13th June 2026**



Rural
Community
Network



Dormant
Assets NI

Delivered by

THE NATIONAL LOTTERY
COMMUNITY FUND

GOOD GOVERNANCE TOOLKIT

Member groups from Newry and Mourne participated in a recent cluster meeting and interactive training session. The introduction to the Good Governance Toolkit encouraged practice sharing and creative solutions designed to support staff and committee volunteers. What a great introduction to our new office venue, Ballybot House!

"I liked the group setup and the activities really got me thinking!"

"I'm glad we have so many of our volunteers attending today. The resource will really help us, particularly with recruitment and planning."

"We plan to use the youth committee exercise and the governance health check will help with our inspection tomorrow."

"I feel more aware about what skills I bring to my role and will try and create good governance habits."



**Shared
Agenda
for Peace**



PEACEPLUS
Northern Ireland - Ireland

Co-funded by the



OUR GENERATION PROJECT

StreetDoctors is a national charity which trains young people across the UK, in the physical and psychological consequences of street violence and develops their confidence and willingness to protect themselves.

The training is delivered through a network of young healthcare volunteers and youth workers in 18 cities across the UK, who share lived experiences and provide inspiring role models. The focus of the training of sessions is to empower young people affected by violence to become lifesavers in their community.

"Young people from Our Generation programme took part in 3 day training to become Street Doctors but also facilitate the delivery of this programme to other young people across Northern Ireland.

The Fatal Question Film:

https://youtu.be/ujR3HyyQNpk?si=_0hh7kcKciUXEoHC



BBC News:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6vrr9eoGh4o>

"I didn't know what to expect, but it was really enjoyable and I learnt a lot that I can now use in real life to help others"



YouthAction
NORTHERN IRELAND



A project supported by PEACEPLUS, a programme managed by the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB).



INSPIRE OTHERS & SHARE YOUR STORY

As part of Volunteer Week celebrations
YouthAction NI is shining a spotlight
on past & present volunteers,
local & international!



Please complete
a short survey about
your volunteering
experience.

<https://gqr.sh/VmYv>



For more information email: mschatzle@youthaction.org

MANIFESTO FOR SAFER COMMUNITIES



The Executive Office

END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN & GIRLS

GIVE AND TAKE



01. Strengthen Legal Protections Against Women

We call for the urgent reform and reinforcement of laws addressing all forms of violence—domestic, street, and youth-related. These laws must be robust, enforceable, and reflective of the lived realities of vulnerable communities, ensuring justice and deterrence.



02. Mandatory Values-Based Education in School

Launch nationwide campaigns & compulsory school presentations that embed positive values such as respect, empathy, and non-violence. These programs should be co-designed with youth, educators & community leaders to ensure relevance and impact.

03. Visible and Supportive Police Presence at Night

Increase community-based policing during night time hours to deter crime and build trust. Officers should be trained in youth engagement and trauma-informed approaches to ensure their presence is protective, not punitive.



04. Community-Led Awareness and Prevention Campaigns

Fund and support grassroots initiatives that raise awareness about violence and promote community resilience. These campaigns should be inclusive, culturally sensitive, and youth-led wherever possible.

05. Violence is not Culture

Challenge Harmful Norms. Reject the normalization of violence in any form—whether in homes, communities, or media. Government and civil society must work together to dismantle harmful cultural narratives and promote values of peace, dignity, and mutual respect.



Belfast City Council



UPCOMING EVENTS:

YouthAction
NORTHERN IRELAND

END
VIOLENCE
AGAINST
WOMEN
& GIRLS

✨ **‘Learning Out Loud’** ✨

Connector Workshop

‘Gender Based Youth Work Practices’
led by Naomi English, EVAWG Co-Ordinator

followed by launch of the
Paul Hamlyn Foundation Small Grants

Thursday 11th June 2026

10.30am - 1.00pm

14 College Sq North, Belfast BT1 6AS



<https://forms.office.com/e/t8RPux90zT>

or email: helen@youthaction.org

Light lunch will be provided



phf Paul Hamlyn
Foundation

 Dormant
Assets NI

Delivered by

THE NATIONAL LOTTERY
COMMUNITY FUND



Opportunity for Youth Workers & Teachers

‘Using Youth Achievement Awards in your work’

Are you looking for an effective way to demonstrate the impact of your work to funders, supporters and EA/ETI?

The Youth Achievement Awards empower young people 14-25 years to share their own stories by documenting their learning and the difference your project has made in their lives.

Recognised by ETI as a robust tool for Quality Assurance, Youth Achievement Awards can help you:

- Record and evidence outcomes
- Monitor progress
- Capture powerful stories of impact

Wednesday 17th June 2026

11.00am - 12.30pm

Microsoft Teams Meeting



Come along and discover how YAA can strengthen your evaluation, reporting and storytelling.

To register email: helen@youthaction.org



Keeping Children & Adults Safe Training Module 2 Integrated

Safeguarding Training

**Tuesday 2nd June &
Tuesday 9th June 2026**

NB: both dates have to be attended

6.00pm-9.00pm

Online via Zoom

To register please contact
Donna Salt: donna@youthaction.org



Keeping Children & Adults Safe Training

Module 2 Integrated

Safeguarding Training

**Thursday 23rd July and
Thursday 30th July 2026**

NB: both dates have to be attended

6.00pm-9.00pm

Online via Zoom

To register please contact

Donna Salt donna@youthaction.org

SUMMER CAMP



**Shared
Agenda
for Peace**

FOR AGES 11+

Take your group on residential
to meet other young people!

- ✓ Fun activities
- ✓ Sharing experiences
- ✓ Building connections
- ✓ Transport provided



INTERESTED? CONTACT TERESA

028 30256040

teresa@youthaction.org

Free to YouthAction NI
member groups



PEACEPLUS
Northern Ireland - Ireland

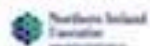
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YouthAction
NORTHERN IRELAND



BRIGHTER DAYS

festival

A day of performing arts and
creative workshops for
mental wellbeing.

20TH JUNE 2026

10AM-4PM

14 COLLEGE SQUARE NORTH

Sign up now!

EMAIL COURTNEY@YOUTHACTION.ORG



PEACEPLUS SAILING

PeacePlus Sailing is a cross community youth sailing programme designed for young people who are new to sailing. Delivered through local sailing clubs, this 6 week programme offers a fun, safe and inclusive introduction to sailing while building confidence, friendships and new skills on and off the water.

Programme Outline:

- ✓ 6 week programme; however there is flexibility as long as 15 hours of delivery are achieved.
- ✓ Two short workshops are required to be delivered. These can be two 30 minute sessions which we can source for you.
- ✓ Participants must be **new** to sailing.
- ✓ Data collection is required.



What participants will experience:



Learn to Sail

Gain hands on experience and develop new skills on the water with qualified Instructors.



Make Friends

Meet young people from different backgrounds & be part of a positive, inclusive community.



Build Confidence

Try new things, challenge themselves and grow in a supportive setting.



Have Fun

Take part in Active, exciting sessions that they'll look forward to each week.



Connect with Nature

Enjoy the amazing environment and learn about protecting the waterways.



Buoyancy aids and wetsuits can be provided.

If Interested please contact jordan.conway@rya.org.uk



CLIMATE SMART TRAINING FOR YOUTH WORKERS



UPCOMING TRAINING DATES:

26th May (9.30am - 12.30pm) @ room2, Queen Street, Belfast

18th June (9.30am - 12.30pm) @ Youth Action NI, College Sq. North, Belfast

10th Sept (9.30am - 12.30pm) @ room2, Queen Street, Belfast



<https://www.liveherelovehere.org/cgi-bin/generic?instanceID=100>

The 2.5 hour training session is designed to inspire your thinking and develop your confidence in working with young people around themes of climate, environment and sustainability. All participants will get a CPD (Continuous Professional Development) certificate and a free youth worker designed 'Wake Up to Climate Change' resource to inspire and support your practice.

These workshops are led by Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful and funded by DAERA (Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs) via the Carrier Bag Levy.



MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL 2026-2027

YouthAction NI is a membership based, regional organisation supporting a network of 190+ local community and voluntary youth work organisations.

Full Membership

Membership is available to local voluntary youth and community groups aligned with YouthAction NI's values. Rates are based on annual income and number of young people supported:

- £30 for groups with less than 100 members and income under £150k
- £50 for groups with over 100 members and income above £150k.

Associate Membership

Organisations who share the values and aims of YouthAction NI and are committed to supporting young people. There are two main categories:

- Umbrella organisations from statutory and voluntary sectors.
- Agencies, training organisations, and businesses with an interest in or commitment to young people.
- £75

Key Benefits

- ✓ Free Access NI checks for Volunteers. Small fee applied for paid staff Access NI checks.
- ✓ Small Grants opportunities.
- ✓ Discounted OCNNI Youth Work Training Level 1-3 and Youth Achievement Awards.
- ✓ Free Youth Work Resources and Toolkits.
- ✓ Designated Youth Worker.
- ✓ Governance Support for committees, volunteers and staff.
- ✓ Free Youth Work programmes for young people.
- ✓ Safeguarding Training for staff and volunteers.

Small Grants Opportunities

Coca Cola Thank You Fund
Irish Youth Foundation UK Small Grants
Paul Hamlyn Foundation £500
Access to Resilience Small Grants £500

To register click the link below:

<https://register.enthuse.com/ps/event/YouthActionNIMembershipRegistrationForm>

Scan the QR code or email Donna Salt.
donna@youthaction.org



YouthAction
NORTHERN IRELAND

**Renew your
membership today!**



Join our network of **190+**
local Youth & Community
groups and benefit from a
range of membership
services and support
including:

- ✓ Small Grants Opportunities
- ✓ Youth Achievement Awards
- ✓ Curriculum resources
- ✓ Accredited Youth Work Training
- ✓ Programmes for Young People
- ✓ Governance support and much more
- ✓ Access NI checks & Safeguarding support



**Scan QR Code to Register
or Email** Donna@youthaction.org

YOUTH ACTION NI MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION FORM
YOUTH ACTION NORTHERN IRELAND

