

Welcome to our July 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!



LET'S TALK PEACE PLUS PROJECT

Young people from our member organisations Drummond Youth Club, Donemana, YMCA, Currynrierin Youth Club and Northwest Islamic Association in the North West region took part In joint 'Games with Aims' sessions.

This summer all the young people will take part in two full days of activities including water park, cinema and extreme bounce, bringing their programme to an end. This project was supported by SEUPB and managed by Derry City Strabane District Council.



ROE VALLEY RESIDENTIALS

Engaging with young people from Roe Valley through emotional resilience on residentials in Carrowmenathrough meaningful contact with a purpose

DIFFERENT BACKGROUNDS+DIFFERENT EXPERIENCES

Young people engaged in group activities with others from different backgrounds to participate & work together!

Psychology/Criminology
Underground → work way up.
Married + Kids
Science, Criminology, forensics.

LIFEMAPS

Young people, along with youth worker Ryan, took part in designing their own personal life maps to reflect & think of goals



Heart: How are you feeling after today's session?
I am feeling very refreshed, relaxed calm
I have a warm feeling and I love it.
Everyone was very understanding listened to each other.

CREATIVE EXPRESSION

Young people created art & comics based on mental health/friendships/peace & hope using their love and passions

SUPERHERO SUPPORT REFLECTION & AFFIRMATIONS

Young people use the time & space to be together to support, reflect & provide positive affirmations to themselves & each other

CONTACT

Work with young people?
Want to provide them a super residential?
Don't wait!
Contact us via

Email: ryan@youthaction.org

Phone: 028 90240551 Ext 2029

I am feeling loved & appreciated

I will aim to give more compliments
You never know what some one is going through

Feet: What are you walking away to do next or differently/next steps and actions to consider?

Reflect a little more on life.
Think more positively on my journey and appreciate people.

Head: What did you learn about today's session?

I learnt a lot of new activities
lots of new conversations.
How to reflect on journeys.

Will use my gifts to help others & make the world a better place.

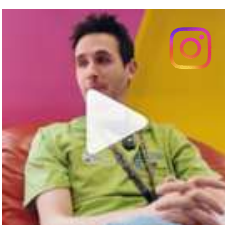


Take care of my friends

I will always appreciate everyone

Slow down. Allow myself & others time & understanding

Head: What did you learn about today's session?
-I learnt about the lifemapping
-I learnt about giving compliments and being appreciated for me



Instagram- @ourgencyp1
Our Generation Team
Highlights Video



VOLUNTEER CELEBRATION EVENT

During Volunteer Week CEO Martin McMullan welcomed guests to a special Volunteer Celebration event connecting local and international volunteers involved with YouthAction NI. Leonie and Miriam from the Freiburg partnership led reflective discussions, highlighted volunteer stories and shared their own experiences of living in Northern Ireland for a year.



*"I really connected with my fellow volunteers and interns.
These are friendships I will keep for a lifetime."*

***"Life long friendship and connection with the staff.
People I can call on for support and advice."***

*"I have become a better youth worker due to my placement
with YANI. It was great to see different ways of working."*

***"I will forever be grateful to Youth Action for the skills I
developed, I especially loved helping create two youth
work resources to help educate others in taboo issues."***



[Click Here!](#)

SHINE FESTIVAL VIDEO 2026

The SHINE programme is aimed at young people 10–25 years with disabilities, supporting them to develop performing arts skill and build self confidence in flexible learning environments.

The Brighter Days Festival brought together 7 partner organisations USEL, Belfast Met, Cedar Foundation, SENSE, Mae Murray Foundation, Tribe Autism and East Coast Day Opportunities.

The Festival created opportunities for young people to build meaningful connections, enjoy sensory workshops and showcase their performing arts skills.

GOOD GOVERNANCE & LEADERSHIP PROJECT

This 3 year project is delivered in partnership with YouthAction NI, the Rural Community Network (RCN) and funded through Dormant Assets NI. The project will identify rural groups and develop their capacity to implement and sustain programmes for young people through 3 key areas:

DEVELOPING THE ORGANISATION:

Using YouthAction NI's Good Governance Toolkit groups will participate in a developmental training programme based on their needs with support lasting over the lifetime of the project.

DEVELOPING THE PEOPLE:

Participation on the Good Governance and Leadership programme will give groups the skills and knowledge to function alongside having the correct structures in place to ensure that young people are developing youth provision in their community.

DEVELOPING THE PRACTICE:

Young leaders will engage in accredited youth work training programmes such as OCNNI Level 1 Award in Youth Work Practice, OCNNI Level 2 Certificate in Youth Work Practice and Youth Achievement Awards.

For more information contact:

Western Corridor-Dominic Bonner dominic@youthaction.org (028) 7131 8854

Eastern Corridor- Helen Coburn helen@youthaction.org (028) 90240551

Senior Leader- Sheila Morris sheila@youthaction.org (028) 41769863

LEARNING OUT LOUD EVENT & 'RIGHTS IN ACTION' GRANTS LAUNCH

For more information about small grants opportunities email: donna@youthaction.org



The Learning Out Loud Event for member groups focused on rights-based youth work with guest speaker John A Powell, a renowned leader in the field of civil rights, inclusion, developing a fairer, more equal, and more just society. John comes with a wealth of experience, knowledge and research on challenging racism in the US and beyond and will be sharing his insight into 'Belonging and Othering'.

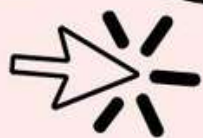
John holds the Robert D. Haas Chancellor's Chair in Equity and Inclusion and is a Professor of Law, African American Studies, and Ethnic Studies at UC Berkeley. Previously, he was the Executive Director of the Kirwan Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnicity at The Ohio State University where he also held the Gregory H. Williams Chair in Civil Rights & Civil Liberties at the Moritz College of Law. He has won several awards including the 2021 Housing Hero Award, 2021 John W. Gardner Leadership Award, and the Convergence Bridge-Building Leadership Award for 2022.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

YOUNG PEOPLE OF DONAGHADEE....

YouthAction
NORTHERN IRELAND

USE YOUR
voice
FOR CHANGE



SURVEY FOR 12-18 YEARS:



FOOD & CHAT
YOUTH EVENT
21/07/26
5PM



FOR MORE INFORMATION EMAIL:
HELEN@YOUTHACTION.ORG

DONAGHADEE
THE BEACON ON THE COAST

nickelodeon

THE

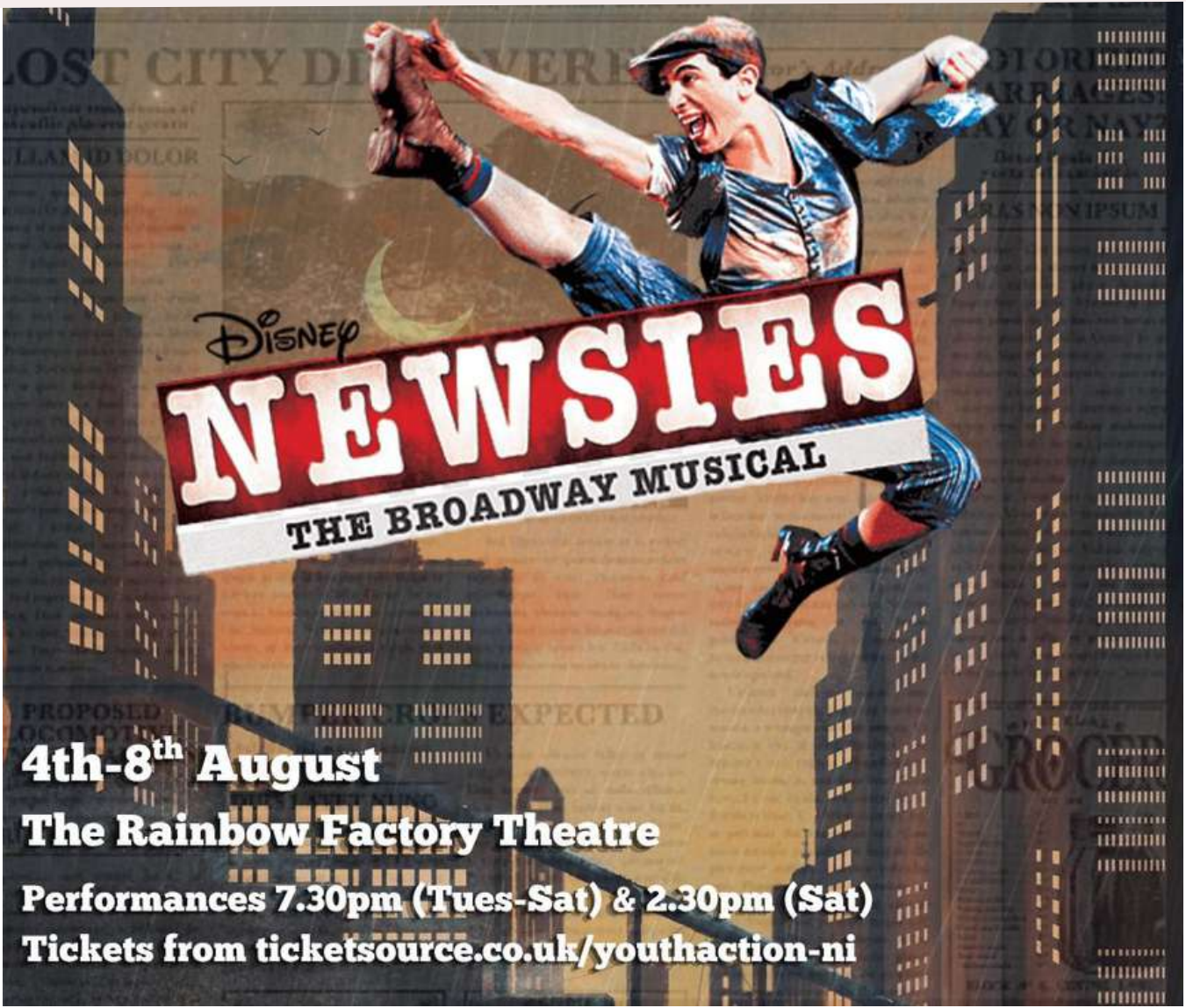
SPONGEBOB MUSICAL JR

8th - 10th July

The Rainbow Factory Theatre

Performances 7.30pm (Wed-Fri) & 2.30pm (Fri)

Tickets from ticketsource.co.uk/youthaction-ni

A poster for the musical Newsies. It features a young man in a blue jacket and cap, jumping through the air with a determined expression. He is holding a large, red, three-dimensional sign that reads "Disney NEWSIES THE BROADWAY MUSICAL". The background is a stylized, sepia-toned illustration of a city skyline with various buildings and signs, including "LOST CITY DISCOVERY", "PROPOSED OCCUPATION", "REVERSED EXPECTED", and "GROCER".

Disney NEWSIES THE BROADWAY MUSICAL

4th-8th August

The Rainbow Factory Theatre

Performances 7.30pm (Tues-Sat) & 2.30pm (Sat)

Tickets from ticketsource.co.uk/youthaction-ni

YouthAction
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School of
Performing Arts
**THE RAINBOW
FACTORY**



Belfast
City Council



**arts
council**
of Northern Ireland



ACCESS TO RESILIENCE: TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

**FREE FOR MEMBER GROUPS SUPPORTING
YOUNG PEOPLE IN RURAL AREAS**

LEVEL 1, 2 & 3 AWARD IN YOUTH WORK PRACTICE



ACCREDITED WITH OCN NI

SUMMER 2026

**FERMANAGH, COOKSTOWN,
ARMAGH, NORTH WEST REGION**

ADDITIONAL SUPPORT:

£500 Small Grants

Good Governance Support

Connector Events



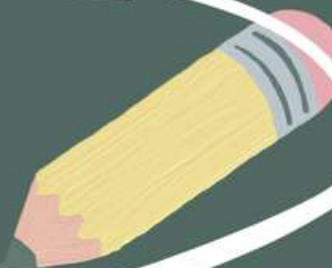
CLICK HERE!

[Access to Resilience Training 2026 – Registration Form](#)

TO EXPRESS INTEREST EMAIL: DONNA@YOUTHACTION.ORG

YouthAction
NORTHERN IRELAND

Summer School for Youth workers Belfast



Free Training and Resources!

Steeper Steps:

How to engage young people in the outdoors, connecting to nature.

Monday 20th July
2026

10.30am - 3.30pm
GROW Garden, North
Belfast.

Youth Activism:

How to inspire young people to lead change for a fair world.

Tuesday 21st July 2026

10.30am - 3.30pm
Northern Ireland Youth
Forum, Belfast.

To register email:
maria@youthaction.org



ANTI-RACISM COMMUNITY CONNECT

For youth workers and community builders to share experiences/ stories about race and racism?

OUR VISION:

- Build community support and empowerment.
- Build understanding of workers and young people's lived experiences.
- Challenge individual and systemic attitudes and behaviours.

DATE EVENT

THURS 30 JULY 2026

5PM - 6PM

**14 COLLEGE SQUARE NORTH
BELFAST
BT1 6AS**

**PLEASE EMAIL
LIANGHE@YOUTHACTION.ORG
TO CONFIRM YOUR
ATTENDANCE.**



Be well day



Sunday 16th
August 2026
11am - 1 pm

Booking Essential

Venue:

YouthAction NI,
14 College Square
North, Belfast
BT1 6AS

Experience:

Tai Chi
Breathwork
Mindfulness
Meditation
Relaxation

A morning of rest & relaxation in aid of

YouthAction
NORTHERN IRELAND



Register here

Camino challenge
Siobhan McAlister



Donate here

Donation £20



Youth Worker Conversations on Climate

Come along to a **reflective / conversational / stimulating / provocative** space to explore how Youth Work can address issues of climate, environment and power.

THURSDAY
17TH
SEPTEMBER
2026 @
12PM - 2PM

Hometel Belfast
32 Queen Street,
BT1 6EE

Lunch provided

Register your interest:
maria@youthaction.org

YouthAction
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LIVE
HERE  **LOVE**
HERE

NORTH WEST:



Co-funded by the
European Union | UK Government



waterside
WOMENS
centre



Women's Centre Derry
SOCIAL INCLUSION CHALLENGE

YouthAction
NORTHERN IRELAND



Summer vibe!

16-25
years's old

- OCNL1 Youth Work Qualification
- Free Childcare available
- Meeting new friends
- Fun free trips
- Free Lunch
- Employment support



**2nd July- 11th
August 2026**



**02871267672 Women's Centre
or**



denise@youthaction.org

Scan to enrol



**Shared
Agenda
for Peace**

YouthAction
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bytes

ymca
ireland

corrymeela®

Youth Work Ireland

youthlink

**FIGHTING
WORDS NI**
The voice is right

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

2026 Grant Applications GB & NI Now OPEN

The Irish Youth Foundation grant applications for 2026 are now open. Applications can be made up to £10,000, however grants are usually awarded in the region of £5,000. Youth and community groups are invited to apply.



To qualify your project will be in one of these areas:

Training/counselling

Mental & physical health and wellbeing
Rehabilitation for substance/alcohol abuse
Advice/advocacy
Family support

Homelessness

Educational, cultural & social activities
Cross-community initiatives
Travellers support
Disability services & support

The closing date for application submissions is Friday 31st July 2026
Please find the NI Grant Applications and guidelines click link below:

CLICK HERE 

<https://www.iyf.org.uk/2026grants/>

IRISH
YOUTH
FOUNDATION

RIGHTS IN ACTION

— GRANTS —
YOUTH VOICE. RIGHTS. ACTION.

Small Grants Opportunity-
supported by the
Hampton Trust and
Paul Hamlyn Foundation



FOR YOUTH ACTION MEMBER
GROUPS &
YOUTH ORGANISATIONS

The Rights in Action

Small Grants Programme



HAMPTON
TRUST



Paul Hamlyn
Foundation

YouthAction
NORTHERN IRELAND

The Rights in Action Small Grants Programme is a youth-led small grant that supports YouthAction NI members to provide youth programmes or one of events that promote rights - based youth work with their young people and communities.

It aims to help local member groups:

- ~ Promote youth voice, activism, and leadership
- ~ Record the difference they make to young people and communities
- ~ Respond to local needs and priorities
- ~ Connect local members to regional network



AIM:

To promote rights-based youth work by supporting young people and youth clubs to:



Build their understanding of human rights



Lead programmes that create positive change



Tackle issues that matter in their community



WHAT IS IT?

A youth-led small grants programme supporting young people and member groups to:

- Develop an Idea
- Pitch the idea
- Deliver the programme
- Share the impact



TIMETABLE

	Launch	11th June 2026 10:30am – 12:30pm (lunch provided) 14 College Square North, Belfast
	Round 1 Apply by	30th July 2026
	Regional Pitch Days	July / August
	Round 2 Launch	October 2026
	Regional Pitch Days	November / December 2026

Applications are designed to be simple and youth-friendly.

How to apply?

- Email donna@youthaction.org for an application pack
- Complete the application with support from a youth worker
- Submit at any time, during round 1 and round 2.
- Applications will be considered on a first come, first assessed basis

For support with the grant, contact sheila@youthaction.org.

Assessment Process - Pitch Days

Applications will be reviewed at pitch days by a grants panel.

The panel will include:

- Young people
- A youth worker
- A community leader
- Young people will present their idea at a local pitch day held in our membership hub regions- Belfast, Armagh, Newry, Kilkeel, Enniskillen, and Derry/Londonderry.

Feedback and outcomes will be shared with each applicant on the day.

Share Impact & Celebrate Success

Groups will be encouraged to record the impact of their project on young people and communities.

Impact reporting may include:

- Storytelling and Podcasts
- video recordings
- case studies
- YouTube content

Groups will also be asked to keep a record of expenditure.

Celebration events are planned for November 2026 and April 2027, giving young people the opportunity to showcase their work.

★ GRANTS AVAILABLE

£30,000
IN TOTAL!

(£500 – £1,000 AWARDS)

- ✓ Flexible, accessible funding
- ✓ Youth-led
- ✓ For youth and member groups

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

