

## What Do We Do?

No matter how many articles we publish about the work we do. No matter how many photos or articles are in the local media on projects we organise. No matter how much advertising we do for courses we run. No matter how many people we work with or groups we assist, people still ask us what we do. So in this copy of our Newsletter we are going to try and paint a picture of some of the activities and courses we have run and some of the projects we have developed and facilities available to Community Groups in or through Atlantic View CDP. Our day to day work comprises of administration assistance ie photocopying, filling in funding, applications, writing letters, research, sending faxes, typing, sending out minutes for groups, lobbying, networking, providing info on courses available, helping with CVs, providing meeting space, phone services or any other reasonable assistance required by community groups.

We have an Overhead Projector, Flip Chart, Laminator, Digital Camera, Coloured Photocopier, Black and White Photocopier, Binder, A3 and A4 printers and staplers, FAX and email facilities and a guillotine, use of which is available in house free of charge to community groups.

Along with all of this we bring into the area in excess of €150,000pa with the funding for the running of the Centre from the Department Community Rural & Gaeltacht Affairs and the funding we accessed for different groups and for training courses. This has a big economic impact in the area. In the following pages are examples of some of the projects we have carried out or been involved in.



**The Rossnowlagh Community Profile:** We compiled the Community Profile survey, delivered them, collated the graphs and statistics and produced the final draft. It conveys a wide sector of opinions from the people of Rossnowlagh. The Profile was done along with the Rossnowlagh Community Council and is very interesting reading, a copy can be got at the Atlantic View CDP Office

*"We have had a close working relationship with AV over the last few years and they developed the Community Profile on our behalf which is an invaluable tool when ascertaining the needs in the Rossnowlagh area." said Gerry Doherty*



**Cross Border Women's Collective:** We run this group in partnership with the Ballybeen Women's Centre, Dundonald. We work with a variety of different cultures through quarterly workshops in personal development, peace building and social and cultural outings. It is funded by Co-operation Ireland and open to women from all walks of life, culture, religion or nationality.

*"This group has had a very positive influence on many women and groups through peace building and on group intercultural work through anti racism workshops in NI and in South Donegal." said Ann Mc Gowan*

**What Do We Do** continued

**Travellers:** We work with the Donegal Travellers project to look at education, accommodation and the integration of the Travelling community. We also involve traveller women in our Cross Border Workshops.

**Unemployed:** We involve the unemployed in all aspects of our work including drama. We are also very interested in getting the unemployed involved in the everyday running of our Centre. Why not drop in and chat to us.

**Active Age:** We started the Twilight Zone Active Age group in Ballyshannon and continue to assist them in accessing funding and providing whatever support they need. We have also involved them in Radio Drama and other Arts and Crafts projects. The Active Age group in Bundoran have also availed of our services.

*“We would be lost without Atlantic View CDP and feel very lucky to have such a great facility in the town” said Mary Gillen, Secretary, Twilight Zone Active Age.*

**Carers Group:**

We were instrumental in setting up the Carers Support Group. We continue to access funding and support them in any way possible.”

*“Atlantic View CDP provide us with great support including setting up and running workshops, respite evenings, bereavement counselling and networking events” said Ann Walsh*

**Men’s Information Night:** We organised a Men’s Information Night in Dorrian’s Imperial Hotel with twenty seven agencies giving advice and information on anything from work, training, money, forestry, farming, holistic medicine, therapies and hobbies. It was a very informative night funded by Dept Social & Family Affairs.

**Lobbying:** We are involved in lobbying Politicians, locally and nationally, and others by writing letters and joining protests on issues which are unjust or that there is a need to change.

**Silver Hill Women’s Group;**

We have worked with this group in compiling ‘A Day in the Life of Bundoran’. We are also involved with Second Chance Education and Sally Davies in assisting them with the courses they are taking.

**Media:** We work closely with Donegal Women’s Network promoting women’s issues and publishing articles in the Donegal Democrat Women’s Lives, Women’s Voices page. We write articles on topics which we or others feel need highlighting.

**Training:** Atlantic View CDP organise training or educational courses on subjects community groups feel they need.

**Networking:** We work with the other nine CDPs in Donegal and are on the steering group of a research project looking at poverty in Donegal. This will be dealt with in a very realistic way and in simple language and is funded by Combat Poverty. We also work with many other agencies nationwide to combat poverty and exclusion.

**Rossnowlagh Women’s Group:**

Along with Finola Brennan of Donegal Women’s Network and Maggie Timoney we started the Rossnowlagh Women’s Group. *Atlantic View procured funding for courses, Provided photo coping,*

**Drama:** We run drama projects with members of the community who had not been involved before in the arts. We believe this is a great way of empowering people and also a great way of developing confidence and obtaining training in organising events. Next one coming soon so keep your eyes alert for posters.

**Residents Associations:** We give a lot of assistance to residents associations including organising fund raisers, accessing funding from various agencies, filling forms, research, holding meetings, free meeting space, admin assistance, banking assistance, getting tax clearance certificates etc. *“Atlantic View CDP helped Saimer Drive Res Ass lobby the Co Co for a new playground by writing letters, taking photos, photo copying and research. They also helped get funding for the upkeep of the estate and are always there with helpful advice and a friendly smile.” said Rosaleen Branley*

## Childcare

We work with childcare groups in both Bundoran and Ballyshannon and at the moment we are running in conjunction with Tirhugh the Supervisory and Management Course for childcare workers. We have also provided various other service to them over the years.

### **Residents Association cont.**

*Atlantic View CDP assist us with banking, tax issues, insurance, writing letters to the Town and County Council, funding events, photocopying, posters, raffles, dances and selling tickets. They have also been instrumental in getting the funding for the ride-on lawn mower, collecting and delivering it, all in all a vital help in the work on the estate. PJ Mc Grath*

### **A Day in the Life of Bundoran and Ballyshannon:**

We photographed, collated and published two books; 'A Day in the Life of Ballyshannon' and 'A Day in the Life of Bundoran' plus the DVD of Ballyshannon. We included Youth Reach in the work of the Ballyshannon book and the Silver Hill Women's group in the Bundoran book. This gave both groups the experience of seeing the project coming together. The Ballyshannon book flew off the shelves and very positive reports from all over the world have been coming back to us. We have heard from Bolivia, Australia, Canada, the USA. One man told us that when he gets homesick he takes out the books and the memories flood back he has a laugh or a cry and he's then fine. There are still copies of the Bundoran book available if you ring the office at the above number. The Bundoran book was funded by DLDC.

### **Brass & Reed Band;**

Atlantic View CDP have worked with the Ballyshannon Brass & Reed Band for the last four or five years researching it's history for funding and acquiring funding for a range of activities and equipment.

*"The work Atlantic View CDP do for the Brass & Reed Band is invaluable. They have sourced funds from various agencies which helped replace most of the instruments in the band. They have updated our library with material which, if it wasn't for them, would have been lost to future generations. They have supplied admin services, postering, fax and telephone service. In fact it is a bit like having our own office service."* said Michael Gallagher, Acting Chair and Band Leader.

### **Parkinson Association Support Group**

*Atlantic View CDP have given me support in lots of ways, including collecting funds, publicising our cause and understanding what we are about. They have contacted business men, workers and professionals who in turn have given their support the staff in AV understand all services have to be fought for in the NW and Parkinson's sufferers are just one of those groups who are fighting. Anthony O'Malley Daly, Parkinson Association*

### **Donegal Women's Network**

*Over the past twelve months Ann Mc Gowan, Co-ordinator, Atlantic View CDP has been a very active and creative member of the Donegal Women's Network editorial sub group.*

*At the editorial monthly meetings we discuss topical issues, plan, interview and write articles that capture women's lives and experiences in Donegal as well as highlighting women's issues. As a result Donegal Women News & Views, previously known as Women's Lives, Women's Voices is compiled and featured in the Donegal Democrat on a weekly basis in the Thursday edition. Ann, as well as bringing a wealth of her own experiences and talents to the table has encouraged local women to share their stories. In some cases the women have lifted the pen themselves and discovered their own creative talents. Finola Brennan, Co-ordinator Donegal Women's Network.*

### **Polish Integration Partnership**

*Atlantic View CDP has been a great help and support to our Polish Integration Partnership. Our group had no funds, no venue for our meetings other than somebody's house when AV offered us a free room which was a great help when preparing for the St. Patrick's Day Parade and the Welcoming Day in May. Having a venue for meetings was very valuable to the Polish Integration Partnership.*

*I would like to take the opportunity to thank both: Ann Mc Gowan and Siobhan Mc Gloin for their care and assistance on behalf of all the members. I would also like to thank them personally for their help when I was working on my assignment for college.*

*They let me access resources in their database for a case study on cross-border programmes. They gave their time not only to explain the details to me but also to provide me with all the necessary documents, photographs and other materials.*

*This is one of the examples of how Atlantic View CDP contributes to the local community and shows the openness and inclusive character of the Centre. Thank You!*

*Ann i Siobahan – dziękuję Wam bardzo za Wasza pomoc i wsparcie - za darmowa sale na spotkania naszej lokalnej polskiej grupy integracyjnej oraz za udostępnienie mi materialow do pracy zaliczeniowej na studia. From Renata Musial, Co-ordinator with the Polish Integration Partnership group.*



Members of the Cross Border Women's Collective in the Organic Centre, Rossinver; Left to right Betty Achinson, Ballybhen Women's Centre, Dundonald, Lily Mc Geough, Ardmonagh Gardens, Belfast, Vicky Logan, Ballybeen Women's Centre, Betty Mc Gloin, Cancer Support Group, Ballyshannon, and Lily Clarke, Ardmonagh Gardens, Belfast



The above picture is a familiar one of the late Lord Mayor of Bundoran Bilshie Travers surrounded by friends. We at Atlantic View CDP would like to send our sincere sympathy to his family and friends. He was a class act and a very hard one to follow. We will remember him with a smile and are grateful for all the community work he was involved in over the years.



Members of the Management Board of Atlantic View CDP with Deirdre Callaghan, placement student in the meeting room of the Atlantic View CDP meeting room which is available free of charge to Community groups. In the background is a Celtic design created by Emma Stroud and members of the VEC Youth Reach group, College St. Ballyshannon.



Congratulations from us all to Anthony O Malley Daly on being elected the Ballyshannon Person of the Year 2007. It was a very well deserved title. Rumour has it that he is trying to get a helicopter to do a Bungy Jump. If anyone know where he can access one, he says to let him know. Love the dicky bow, Anthony.

### To All Community Groups

If you would like assistance in any way from us, please drop into the office and we will do what we can to help. We are open from 9.00am to 5.00pm Monday to Friday, you might even get a cup of tea from Ann or Siobhan

We asked the groups we work with to tell us what we did for them over the years, included are the replies we got. Some long, some short

Thank you everyone it is nice to be appreciated.

Directors, Michael Tunney, Gerry Doherty, Laura Robinson, Margaret Doyle, Roisin Lee, Geraldine Mc Parlene, Mary Monaghan, Michael Gallagher, Catherine Maguire, Michael Devanney, Ann Mc Gowan.

COMPANY REG. NO. 347229 CHARITABLE STATUS REF NO: CHY14833  
FUNDED BY THE IRISH GOVERNMENT UNDER THE NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2000-2006 & SUPPORTED BY THE NATIONAL LOTTERY.

