

Irish Government Funds 11 New Jobs in the Voluntary Sector

DION the Irish Government Committee for Welfare Services Abroad announced shortly after Xmas the second round of grants amounting to over **£250,000** for the current financial year which was distributed between 18 voluntary organisations.

11 new full-time jobs have been created with this funding and 13 voluntary organisations have received funding for the first time.

The funds will be used by groups to provide and develop services to homeless families, women, youth, housing agencies, employment issues and health care.

Full time posts have been created in the following organisations:

Islington Women & Mental Health Group
King's Cross Homeless Project
Rugby House Project
Kilburn Irish Youth Action Group
Brent Irish Advisory Service
London Travellers Forum
CARA Irish Homeless Project
An Teach Housing Association
New Horizon Youth Centre
Sheffield Gypsy & Travellers Support Centre
Positively Irish Action on Aids.

AGIY have learned that the provisional funding timetable set by DION for the

financial year 1990/91 is likely to be as follows:

- publications of funding guidelines in **early March**
- closing date for applications forms in **early May**
- 1st issue of grants in **mid-June**
- 2nd issue of grants in **early November**.

RTE Telethon People in Need Funding Decisions

16 voluntary organisations working with Irish people in London have received funding from the People in Need Trust.

A total of **£75,000** was distributed with grants ranging from **£300** to **£40,000**.

At the presentation ceremony held in London last week it was announced that People in Need would not have an input from Britain in this year's Telethon fundraising event.

There is concern that funding by the Trust to groups working with Irish people in Britain may also be stopped.

You can express your concern at this possibility by writing to:

Mr. John Curry
Executive Director
People in Need Trust
34/35 South William Street
Dublin 2.

FAS distribute Guide to London

FAS the Irish National Training and Employment Authority have just received 5,000 copies of A Guide to London for Young Irish People which they intend to distribute in Ireland through their national network of 80 offices in cities and towns.

FAS have taken this initiative as part of their responsibility in providing information to young people who may be considering emigrating to London.

Since the revised edition of the Guide was made available at the beginning of October over 3,000 copies have been distributed to young people in both Ireland and London.

If you need more copies of the Guide please complete the enclosed order form.

Job News

Enclosed with this edition of AGIY INFO are four job adverts. for posts with **Innisfree Housing Association** (Hostel Worker), **The Soho Project** (Irish Youth Worker), **An Teach Housing Association** (Co-Ordinator) and **The London Connection** (Reception Worker)

As part of AGIY's monitoring of groups/individuals who use our services it would greatly assist, if applying for any of the above posts, to mention AGIY INFO as the source of information for the relevant job advert.

In future, for a small fee, organisations can use AGIY INFO to advertise job vacancies/appointments and at the same time

reach over 1,000 youth, community, advice and housing workers across London and beyond! **Just telephone us on 01 278 1665 for more details.**

Agency Profile

Innisfree Housing Association

Innisfree was the first Irish housing association in London to use short-life housing for single homeless Irish people.

Established in 1985 Innisfree aims to provide housing to those people who are either homeless, imminently homeless or living in unsatisfactory conditions and who also have little chance of finding suitable alternative accommodation.

Innisfree H.A. are particularly concerned with the housing needs of the older single Irish homeless with a history of living in hostels, lodgings or sleeping rough. Now with the increase in Irish youth emigration to London, Innisfree is addressing their housing needs and currently provides accommodation for over 100 people.

Innisfree is supported by Paddington Churches Housing Association, Network Housing Association and the London Boroughs of Brent, Camden and Ealing. Last year Innisfree obtained registration with the Housing Corporation which will enable it to gain access to central Government funding and develop permanent housing schemes for homeless Irish people in London.

Catherine Coleman House

Catherine Coleman House is a medium stay mixed hostel for older Irish people managed by Innisfree. It provides accom-

modation for six homeless Irish people between the ages of 35 and 59 who are not considered in priority need under the Housing Act 1985. Each resident has their own bedroom while kitchen, lounge and other facilities are shared. The hostel has a non-resident part-time worker who offers support and assistance on welfare benefits, employment etc. House meetings are held with the residents every month, so that each resident can air their views, ideas and any problems that may arise.

Ealing Hostel

In March this year, Innisfree will take into management a new high quality six bed mixed hostel which will provide accommodation for six homeless Irish people between the ages of 35 and 59. With a full time hostel worker the hostel will have similar facilities to Catherine Coleman House. Referrals are likely to come from local housing advice centres and London Borough of Ealing.

Housing Corporation Funding

Innisfree will have its first permanent housing scheme funded by the Housing Corporation coming into management in June this year. Innisfree will now be able to provide three self-contained one bedroom flats as move-on accommodation for residents from its hostels and short-life housing stock.

Short Life

Most of Innisfree's residents at present are housed in short-life accommodation in Brent, Ealing, Camden and Harrow. The maximum length of stay depends on the length of life on the property. Properties are normally licensed to Innisfree for at least six months.

Several of Innisfree's short-life residents are currently taking part in a self-build housing co-operative where they will design and build their own housing in Lon-

don. Innisfree is also working closely with the Migrant Training Scheme (MTS) and provides short-life accommodation to young people on MTS who are in housing need.

Referrals

Innisfree accepts referrals from a wide range of housing/advice agencies as well as self referrals. All referrals have to complete an application form and will always be interviewed by a member of Innisfree's staff before obtaining accommodation. Innisfree keeps a waiting list of applicants for housing which is regularly up-dated.

If you are thinking of making a referral it should be remembered that there are great demands on Innisfree's limited resources.

Further Info

A range of developments are planned in the next financial year in the boroughs of Brent, Ealing, Camden and Kensington.

For more information you should contact:

Innisfree HA
296 Willesden Lane
London NW2 5HW
Tel. 01 451 5199.

Publications

Three publications from the Directory of Social Change offer guidance and advice to new and existing voluntary organisations on a range of legal matters and obligations.

(1) Contracts of Employment

Answers all your questions on references, health and safety, time off, sick pay, laws against discrimination etc. including sample contracts which can be copied and

adapted to the specific needs of your organisation. Cost: £19.95.

(2) A Practical Guide to Company Law for Voluntary Organisations

Covers the advantages and disadvantages of registering as a company, and explains how to set about it. Cost: £3.00.

(3) Charitable Status: A Practical Handbook

A fully revised and up-dated edition outlining the legal implications of becoming a charity.

Details categories of charity, the various legal formats available, the tax situation, allowable political activity and other relevant areas. Cost: £5.95.

All publications are available from:

Directory of Social Change
Radius Works
Back Lane
London NW3 1HL.

Payment should be by cheque and for orders under £10 there is a postage and handling cost of 95p.

Orders exceeding £10 are post free.

AGIY INFO IS A SIX WEEKLY PUBLICATION. SHOULD YOUR GROUP WISH TO PUBLICISE ANY EVENTS, NOTICES ETC. SEND DETAILS TO EITHER JOAN OR DAVE AT THE ACTION GROUP FOR IRISH YOUTH ON TEL. 278 1665

AGIY INFO is produced by the Action Group for Irish Youth, 5-15 Cromer Street, London WC1H 8LS.

AGIY is funded by the London Boroughs Grants Scheme and DION the Irish Government Committee for Welfare Services Abroad.

London Irish Youth Forum

(LIYF)

The date of the next LIYF meeting is

Thursday 1st February 1990

at 2.30 p.m.

Irish Centre

50 Camden Square

London NW1

The main agenda item will be: Issues Facing Irish Women in London

Speaker from London Irish Women's Centre