



GRANTS PRESENTATION

8TH MAY 2006



Irish Youth Foundation (UK) Limited
(incorporating The Lawlor Foundation)

The Irish Centre
Blacks Road
Hammersmith
London W6 9DT
T: 020 8748 9640
F: 020 8748 7386
E: info@iyf.org.uk
W: www.iyf.org.uk

PRESS RELEASE

**IRISH YOUTH FOUNDATION
DONATES £280,000 TO WELFARE PROJECTS & THE
ADVANCEMENT OF EDUCATION**

PATRON
Mary McAleese
President of Ireland

PRESIDENT
Norma Smurfit

CHAIRMAN
John O'Neill

VICE-CHAIRMEN
David Murray
Jim O'Hara

TRUSTEES
Frank Baker
Mary Clancy
John Dwyer
Fred Hucker
Paddy Kelly
Virginia Lawlor
Colin McNicholas
Nessa O'Neill
Sean O'Neill
John Power

TREASURER
John McGrath

ADMINISTRATOR
Linda Tanner

**FUNDRAISING & EVENTS
MANAGER**
Cecilia Gallagher

**FUNDRAISING
COMMITTEE**
Patrick Bailey
Laura Byrne
Tracey Byrne
Laura Canavan
Katrina Cannon
Tara Cronin
Mark Griffin
Ciara Horgan
David Hunter
Loreto Kane
Michelle Laven
Edel Mooney
Ronan Prendergast
Jacinta Scannell

On Monday 8th May, the Ambassador of Ireland, Mr Dáithí O'Ceallaigh, hosted a reception at the Embassy for the annual awards of grants made by the Irish Youth Foundation in the United Kingdom.

The Irish Youth Foundation has now raised £3 million and donated over £2½ million in grants since its inception in 1989. 2005 was a milestone for the charity with the formal incorporation of The Lawlor Foundation on 30th June 2005. The Irish Youth Foundation also welcomed Virginia Lawlor and Frank Baker on to the Board of Trustees to help facilitate a smooth transition. An Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2005 has been produced this year for the first time to reflect the new dynamic and additional funds of the merged organisation which will continue to help improve the lives and opportunities of young Irish people in the future.

John O'Neill, Chairman, was delighted to announce the highest ever Irish Youth Foundation awards of £280,000 since the merger for Irish welfare, educational and cultural groups working with disadvantaged young Irish people in Britain and Northern Ireland. The work of The Lawlor Foundation has been continued with support for troubled adolescents, the relief of poverty and the advancement of education in Northern Ireland, and financial assistance for Irish students in the UK.

John O'Neill announced the winners of the two special awards: the Innovation Award for the project judged to be the most innovative in addressing the changing needs of the young disadvantaged Irish community, and the Quality Award for outstanding achievement and excellence over time. These awards were recommended by the Advisory Committee over and above the grant recommendations made to the Board of Trustees from applications received.

The Innovation Award 2006 was presented to Manchester Irish Education Group for their Irish Music Day which involved 380 children from 14 Primary schools. The Irish Music Day was held on St Patrick's Day in the magnificent Great Hall of Manchester's Town Hall, and was one of the highlights of this year's Manchester Irish Festival. The event is organised in partnership with the Manchester Music Service and includes six weeks' preparation, workshops and performances on the day. The children experienced workshops on dance, fiddle, whistle, bodhran, banjo/guitar and accordion followed by a great Fleadh in the afternoon. Children came from many areas of the City including those



Calendar of Events 2006

Saturday 13th May

Spring Ball

Crown Moran Hotel, Cricklewood, London NW2

Wednesday 24th May

Golf Day

St George's Hill Golf Club, Weybridge, Surrey

Friday 24th September

The Great Wine Lunch

Central London

Saturday 25th November

Annual Ball

London Hilton, Park Lane, London W1

for further information, please contact:

Cecilia Gallagher, Fundraising or Linda Tanner, Administrator
Irish Youth Foundation (UK) Limited
The Irish Centre, Blacks Road, Hammersmith, London W6 9DT
Tel: 020 8748 9640 Fax: 020 8748 7386
email: cecilia@irishyouth.f2s.com web: www.iyf.org.uk
Registered Charity No: 328-265

PRESS RELEASE

IRISH YOUTH FOUNDATION DONATES £280,000 TO WELFARE PROJECTS & THE ADVANCEMENT OF EDUCATION

..12

with high numbers of Irish and ethnic minority children. Mr Pat Hoswell, representing the Manchester Irish Education Group, and Mrs Gerry Smith, representing the Manchester Music Service, accepted the award.

The Quality Award 2006 was presented to Irish Community Care Merseyside for the consistently high quality of their funding proposals and practical delivery of their services for young Irish people and young Irish Travellers in Merseyside over the years. Ms Breege McDaid, Manager of Irish Community Care Merseyside, accepted the award.

Mr John O'Neill, commented: "Our ability to help young Irish people who are ill-equipped to deal with life in Britain and Northern Ireland depends upon the efforts of our voluntary fundraising committee and the generosity of our many Irish and English supporters. I would also particularly like to thank the members of the Women's Irish Network for their wonderful donation of £36,000 last year, making a total of £166,000 donated by WIN over the last 6 years, which we have again directed towards welfare groups working with young Irish women and children."

He continued: "As always our activities aim to raise funds but the emphasis will be on people enjoying themselves, continuing the Irish Youth Foundation's well-established reputation for organising fun events. We hope that our friends in the Irish and British business communities will continue to support us in helping to make a difference to the lives of young Irish people in need in this country."

Grants were awarded to 44 projects representing the largest voluntary contribution to Irish youth projects in the UK. Each recipient organisation is selected by an independent Advisory Committee satisfying well-defined criteria to "make a difference" to the lives of needy young Irish people in this country.

- ends -

Monday 8th May 2006

IRISH YOUTH FOUNDATION (UK) LTD

Each grant application was carefully assessed by an independent Advisory Committee, comprising:

Joe Flynn	Chairman, Advisory Committee Co-ordinator for City Wide Teams, Diversity & Inclusion Team, Manchester Education Partnership
Fiona Calnan	Finance Director, UK Specialist Hospitals
Tracey Clarke	Therapeutic Careworker, The Amicus Community
Sean Hutton	Community Policy Officer, Federation of Irish Societies
Brendan Mac Lua	President, The Irish Post
Pauline Roche	Senior Policy Officer, Birmingham City Council
Tommy Walsh	Chairman, St Michael's Irish Centre, Liverpool and Member of Management Committee, Irish Community Care, Merseyside

AWARDS FOR PROJECTS IN ENGLAND, SCOTLAND & WALES

ARTSWAVE, Wales

West Wales Art Centre, 16 West Street, Fishguard, Pembrokeshire SA65 9AE Tel: 01348 873867

£500 has been awarded towards early tuition in creative writing, traditional music, dance, singing, story telling and Irish language to encourage awareness of cultural roots and identity amongst young people. Artswave aims to raise the profile of the region through its rich and diverse culture, including strong Irish presence, by forging links between Wales and Ireland through cultural workshops, exchange visits and festivals.

BIAS (BRENT IRISH ADVISORY SERVICE), London

Suite 102, 156-162 Banderway House, Kilburn High Road, London NW6 4JD Tel: 020 7625 4268

£10,000 has been awarded towards the salary of a London Prisons Development Caseworker to expand and develop a Resettlement component of the existing Prison Project, aiming to increase the number of young Irish and Irish Travellers accessing accommodation and resettlement support services on release from prison.. BIAS is a community development and welfare agency providing a range of advice, information and specialist support services to the Irish community in North-West London primarily and London generally.

BRANDON CENTRE FOR COUNSELLING & PSYCHOTHERAPY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE, London

26 Prince of Wales Road, Kentish Town, London NW5 3LG Tel: 020 7267 4792

£5,000 has been awarded towards the provision of a priority counselling and psychotherapy service for young Irish people aged 12-21. The Brandon Centre was formerly The London Youth Advisory Centre which was founded in 1968. The principal objective of the centre is to provide an accessible and flexible professional service in response to the psychological, medical, sexual and social problems of troubled young people aged 12-25 and their families. It aims to relieve distress, mobilise personal resources and facilitate growth in adolescents towards responsibility and self-fulfilment.

BRENT ADOLESCENT CENTRE (BRENT CENTRE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE)

51 Winchester Avenue, London NW6 TT Tel: 020 7328 0918

£10,000 has been awarded towards the Mental Health Project. The service has been available to vulnerable young people since 1967. It provides advice and psychotherapeutic treatment, independently of any formal referral, to disadvantaged adolescents who otherwise would not be able to afford this kind of therapy. The Brent Adolescent Centre provides a comprehensive service to young people 14-21 years of age in the following areas: Mental Health, Drugs & Alcohol (Advice and Treatment), Sexual Health and a Connexions Personal Adviser Service. These services are provided mainly to residents (including Irish) of the borough of Brent, and other London boroughs.

BRISTOL PLAYBUS

24 Bright Street, Barton Hill, Bristol, BS5 9PR Tel: 0117 955 1561

£12,000 has been awarded towards salary costs for the development of culturally sensitive play & youth provision for young Irish travellers in the Bristol area. Bristol Playbus is a mobile community development play and youth resource first established in 1974 which aims to work with people isolated from community provision throughout Bristol and the surrounding areas. Running a fully converted double-decker bus, the project provides training, crèche facilities, youth and play sessions and liaises with other agencies to provide a high quality service and help achieve equal access to mainstream services.

CAMDEN WOMEN'S AID, London

incorporating Sólás Anois Irish Women's Domestic Violence Project
136 Royal College Street, London NW1 0TA Tel: 020 7428 7656

£12,000 has been awarded towards the salary costs for a specialist Child Worker at the Sólás Anois refuge and a contribution towards staff training costs. Sólás Anois integrated into Camden Women's Aid in April 2005 to preserve a specialist service to Irish women and children escaping domestic violence. CWA is a large domestic violence specialist with a thirty-year history of successfully managing refuges and services. This arrangement maintains the Sólás Anois refuge as a culturally sensitive specialist project within a larger organisation and enables clients to access a wide range of services including a Children's Service, a Floating Support scheme, and Parenting Project and a Legal and Advice Service.

CAMDEN WOMEN'S AID, London

incorporating Sólás Anois Irish Women's Domestic Violence Project

£9,000 has been awarded towards the annual Play Scheme and summer holiday for the Sólás Anois refuge.

CAUSEWAY IRISH HOUSING ASSOCIATION, London

Haringey Irish Cultural & Community Centre, Pretoria Road, London, N17 8DX Tel: 020 8365 1751

£5,000 has been awarded towards the Life Skills Co-ordinator's salary, and a contribution towards administration and general running costs of the Lifeskills Project, newsletter and website production, sports, social activities and a music festival. An Teach officially changed its name to Causeway Irish Housing Association on 3 October 2005. An Teach was set up in 1986 to provide culturally sensitive housing and support services for young Irish people emigrating to London in urgent housing need. It aims to provide an affordable housing service which responds flexibly to the individual needs of young Irish people and to enable tenants to maintain maximum independence and achieve their full potential.

HAMMERSMITH & FULHAM IRISH CENTRE, London

Blacks Road, London, W6 9DT Tel: 0208 563 8232

£6,000 has been awarded towards the Irish Arts & Education programme for children and young people incorporating a children's Irish Saturday school, 2-week Irish Summer School and afterschool Irish education courses including drama, dancing & language. Hammersmith & Fulham Irish Centre aims to provide a high quality Irish Arts and Education programme which is available to all Irish people and to everyone who wishes to share and participate in Irish arts, education and cultural activity.

HARINGEY IRISH CULTURAL & COMMUNITY CENTRE, London

Pretoria Road, London N17 8DX Tel: 020 8885 3490

£500 has been awarded towards a Child protection training programme to enable the Centre to develop its activities and services for children. Haringey Irish Cultural & Community Centre is a focus for a wide range of community activities including the Advice & Information Service, Social Club and a Resource Centre.

icap IMMIGRANT COUNSELLING AND PSYCHOTHERAPY

79½ Tollington Park, London N4 3AG Tel: 020 7272 7906

£4,000 has been awarded towards clinical costs for the Young Irish Mothers Project: a pilot project to provide one-to-one therapeutic support, on a weekly basis for 8 young mothers of Irish origin. **icap**, established in 1996 aims to provide accessible, culturally sensitive professional counseling and therapeutic services to people of Irish origin. Whilst the target group is Irish, immigrants from any ethnic background are also welcomed. **icap** is focused on working with community based organisations as well as with the Primary Care Services to provide specialist support through counselling and psychotherapy.

IDL JUNIOR MEMBERS CLUB, Lancashire

George Street, Haslingden, Lancashire BB4 5RX Tel: 0970 380 362

£1,500 has been awarded towards the expansion of the junior section. The Club is situated in an area of nationally recognised deprivation. Members indicated that young people had few recreational/sporting opportunities and, with parental and local community agreement, the junior section was formed to provide a safe and stimulating environment in which junior members could be involved in sporting, cultural and recreational activities.

IRISH COMMISSION FOR PRISONERS OVERSEAS, London

50-52 Camden Square, London, NW1 9XB Tel: 020 7842 4148

£4,000 has been awarded towards the salary costs of the Administrative Assistant. ICPO's work focuses on providing information for the prisoners, their families and friends with regard to status and conditions of imprisonment, welfare benefits, international law and other relevant matters; establishing and

defining the precise rights of people in prison overseas, irrespective of the crime;
making representations on behalf of prisoners to the appropriate authorities.

IRISH COMMUNITY CARE, MANCHESTER

289 Cheetham Hill Road, Cheetham Hill, Manchester, M8 0SN Tel: 0161 205 9105

£4,000 has been awarded towards a Repatriation Service for Irish youth arriving in the UK completely unprepared in respect of job prospects and accommodation. Irish Community Care, founded in Manchester in 1986, aims to promote the welfare of the community in general and Irish people in particular in Manchester and surrounding districts regardless of gender, sexual orientation, disability, religious, cultural or political considerations.

IRISH COMMUNITY CARE, MERSEYSIDE

60 Duke Street, Liverpool L1 5AA Tel: 0151 707 4302

£12,000 has been awarded towards ICCM's work with young Irish people and young Irish Travellers in Merseyside. Irish Community Care Merseyside is a small dynamic needs-led agency aiming to identify and respond to the needs of Irish people, offering a range of professional and culturally sensitive services. This funding will assist ICCM to continue to offer a comprehensive range of services to vulnerable young Irish people and young Irish Travellers presenting with a range of complex needs including homelessness, poor physical and mental health, drug and alcohol misuse, isolation and poor literacy.

IRISH COMMUNITY CARE, MERSEYSIDE

£2,500 has been awarded towards ongoing financial and material support for young people using ICCM's services.

***IRISH COMMUNITY CARE, MERSEYSIDE has also been awarded the Irish Youth Foundation Quality Award for 2006 and £1,000 for the consistently high quality of their funding proposals and practical delivery of their services for young Irish people and young Travellers in Merseyside over the years.**

IRISH MUSIC PROJECT LEEDS

West Park Centre, Spen Lane, Leeds LS16 5BE Tel: 0113 275 5665

£4,000 has been awarded towards the costs of two additional Irish music tutors for capacity building and further development of the after school music club, family events & activities. Irish Music Project Leeds is a community based youth and cultural development inner city project providing access to and participation in Traditional Irish music and cultural activities.

LONDON GYPSY AND TRAVELLER UNIT

Westgate Street, Hackney, London E8 3RN Tel: 020 8533 2002

£5,000 has been awarded towards a life skills training project for young Irish Travellers aged 15-17 in the Hackney, Haringey areas. London Gypsy and Traveller Unit provides direct services, support and advocacy to Irish Travellers living in Hackney, Haringey and adjacent London boroughs. It aims to influence and improve policy and practice, particularly on accommodation issues in London and nationally, and to provide an information and resource service.

LONDON IRISH CENTRE

50-52 Camden Square, London NW1 9XB Tel: 020 7916 2222

£12,000 has been awarded towards the salary of a dedicated Youth Resettlement Project worker. The Youth Resettlement Project aims to prevent or alleviate homelessness among young vulnerable Irish people by providing a service including advice, information, referral, advocacy, counselling and practical help. The London Irish Centre charity provides a culturally sensitive service to Irish people including welfare, information, advocacy, training and advice, and promotes Irish culture and the counteraction of discrimination towards Irish people.

LONDON IRISH CENTRE

£2,500 has been awarded towards the Repatriation Project. The Repatriation Project is a long established service provided by the London Irish Centre which facilitates the emergency repatriation of vulnerable and at risk young Irish people.

LONDON IRISH CENTRE

£500 has been awarded to the Return to Camden Town Festival towards the cost of Irish traditional dance and music workshops, concerts and ceilis for young people. The festival is London's flagship Irish music, song and dance Festival. Started in 1999 it has become the largest annual festival of its kind in the UK, featuring a ten-day programme of showcase concerts, music and dancing workshops, ceilis, talks and sessions. Central to the festival will be a series of Irish music and dancing workshops given by leading artists, catering for all levels of participants and in particular for children and young people.

LONDON IRISH WOMEN'S CENTRE

59 Stoke Newington Church Street, London, N16 0AR Tel: 020 7249 7318

£9,000 has been awarded towards the continued development of the established advice and culturally sensitive counselling service for young disadvantaged Irish women across London into a holistic counselling, advice, information and healthy living service. London Irish Women's Centre aims to provide a specialist advice service tailored to individual needs, information, counselling, group work and outreach work with women of Irish origin and descent. The service targets vulnerable and disadvantaged groups of women, homeless women, Travellers, women with mental and physical health problems and women in abusive situations.

MANCHESTER IRISH EDUCATION GROUP

Tel: 0161 223 3158

£1,200 has been awarded for the Irish Music Day run in partnership with the Manchester Music Service: towards funding for musicians to provide workshops in 14 participating schools prior to the festival on 17 March. Manchester Irish Education Group was founded in 1986. Its aim is to promote a positive image of Ireland and the Irish in schools, community, colleges and universities in the belief that the large Irish community should have access to its cultural background and that this should be shared with others. It also gives support to people of any age who want to explore and reaffirm their Irish identity.

***MANCHESTER IRISH EDUCATION GROUP has also been awarded the Irish Youth Foundation Innovation Award for 2006 and £1,000 for their Irish Music Day organised in partnership with the Manchester Music Service involving some 380 children in a one-day event.**

NEW HORIZON YOUTH CENTRE, London

68 Chalton Street, London NW1 1JR Tel: 020 7388 5560

£12,000 has been awarded for the Women's Open Space – Irish Project: to provide a culturally sensitive service to help young Irish women involved in drug abuse and prostitution in the Camden/Kings Cross area, combining outreach work and in-house support and advocacy. This project will attempt through a range of services to support and divert young Irish women involved into housing, health and other related services providing an alternative to their street activity. The New Horizon Youth Centre provides a 7 day a week service including advice and tenancy sustainment as well as facilities such as food, laundry, showers and clothes store to young homeless people from 16-21 years old. The street outreach team complements the day centre services and operates in the boroughs of Camden and Islington. Projects provided in-house include drugs education, literacy & numeracy training, basic skills training, counselling, peer education and training programmes that focus on young people between 16-21 as well as sex workers 16-35.

NEW HORIZON YOUTH CENTRE, London

£2,500 has been awarded as a contribution towards funding to cover fares for training courses and for securing identification/birth certificates to accessing benefits and hostel accommodation for young Irish homeless people.

ROUND TOWERS/SEAN TREACEYS MINOR GAELIC FOOTBALL AND HURLING CLUB, Surrey

Wrayfield Road, North Cheam, Sutton, Surrey SM3 9TJ

Tel: 07970512709

£3,000 has been awarded to allow underage Gaelic games to continue in South London and to introduce new young people in the area to Irish culture and sports with improved facilities, coaching etc.

Round Tower Minor Gaelic Football Club and Sean Treacys Minor Hurling Club have been training South London youth since 1985 and now provide 6 under-age Gaelic football teams and 4 under-age hurling teams.

SANDWELL IRISH SOCIETY, West Midlands

367 High Street, West Bromwich, West Midlands B70 9QL Tel: 0121 525 0567

£500 has been awarded towards the provision of Irish set/team dancing in the Sandwell area of the West Midlands. Sandwell Irish Society was established in 2003 to raise the profile of Irish culture and the Irish community in the borough.

SHEFFIELD GYPSY & TRAVELLER SUPPORT GROUP

697 Attercliffe Road, Sheffield, S9 3RE Tel: 0114 244 4377

£5,000 has been awarded towards the salary of the Youth Skills Development Worker to help young Travellers develop confidence and learning skills to increase their opportunities for employment. Sheffield Gypsy and Traveller Support Group provides welfare rights advice, pre-school playgroups, women's and family support, skills development and drop-in services to the Gypsy and Traveller community.

SOUTHWARK IRISH YOUTH, London

34 Champion Hill, London SE5 8AP Tel: 020 7737 5244

£1,000 has been awarded towards the development of a promotional video/DVD involving the young people in the creative process – editing, filming, production and distribution. Southwark Irish Youth provides an Irish and Arts Education programme which ensures that Irish traditional culture is kept alive and passed on to future generations in a disadvantaged area of London where Irish are the 2nd largest ethnic group.

ST JOHN BOSCO YOUTH CLUB, London

Convent of Mercy, 88 Hardinge Street, Commercial Road, London, E1 OEB Tel: 020 7790 1459

£1,500 has been awarded towards the running costs of the Youth Club. St John Bosco Youth Club runs Irish dancing classes and sporting activities in the deprived Tower Hamlets area of East London.

ST MICHAEL'S IRISH CENTRE, Liverpool

6 Boundary Lane, West Derby Road, Liverpool L6 5JG Tel: 0151 263 5808

£5,000 has been awarded towards the salary of an Activities Facilitator to continue the provision of activities for young people and increase the use of the centre. St Michael's Parish Centre was given to the Irish Community on Merseyside by the Liverpool Archdioceses in May 1999. In October 2001 it became St Michael's Irish Centre and a registered charity with its own constitution and management structure, since when it has been the centre of Irish social, cultural, sporting and recreational activities in the area.

THE MAYA CENTRE: COUNSELLING FOR WOMEN, London

Eastgate Buildings, 131B St John's Way, Archway, London N19 3RQ Tel: 020 7281 2673

£1,500 has been awarded towards a Therapy Group for Young Irish Women: the provision of culturally sensitive counselling support for young Irish women including mothers of young children who may have suffered violence or alcohol-related abuse in childhood. The Maya Centre's aim is to develop the inner strength of the most vulnerable women and children in the community to enable them to break out of generations of social and economic disadvantage and improve their personal relationships.

TIR CONAILL HARPS, Glasgow

St Patrick's Primary School, 10 Perth Street, Glasgow G3 8UG

Tel: 0141 221 4553

£5,000 has been awarded towards the salary of a full-time Development/Health Promotion Officer to continue to develop the club's impact on the young Irish people of Glasgow.

Tir Conaill Harps is a community-based club in Glasgow, founded in 1994. Although its principal activity has been the playing of Gaelic games and promotion of Irish identity among young people in the city, the club has taken on a youth development role in the inner city communities as it has become more established. This includes tackling issues such as sectarianism, racism, diversionary activities relating to youth crime and an award-winning programme focused on health promotion and drug awareness training aimed at primary school children.

TYNESIDE IRISH CULTURAL SOCIETY, Newcastle upon Tyne

Bridge Hotel, Castle Garth, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 1RQ Tel: 0191 222 0398

£2,000 has been awarded towards the North East Ceili Revival Project Phase 2. This is the continuation of a successful project which has attracted children and young people firstly to ceili dancing and subsequently to music workshops and associated activities. Tyneside Irish Cultural Society's Irish youth project organises music, drama, cultural and educational activities for young Irish people.

IRISH YOUTH FOUNDATIONS (IRELAND AND UK)

NORTHERN IRELAND GRANTS COMMITTEE

Garry Granville

**Chairman, Research Committee,
Irish Youth Foundation (Ireland)**

Liam O'Dwyer

**Executive Director,
Irish Youth Foundation (Ireland)**

Jim O'Hara

**Vice Chairman,
Irish Youth Foundation (UK)**

John McCormack

Youth Council Northern Ireland

June Trimble

Youth Action Northern Ireland

AWARDS FOR PROJECTS IN NORTHERN IRELAND

ARDOYNE YOUTH CLUB, Belfast

£4,000 has been awarded to provide support to the educational, cultural and social development of young people. Ardoyne Youth Club aims to provide support structures for the most vulnerable young people in Ardoyne. Benefits envisaged include increased social and life skills, educational ability, support services and a reduction of alienation.

CAUSEWAY WOMEN'S AID, Derry

£3,000 has been awarded to refurbish and refresh existing crèche facilities in order to improve the quality of play opportunities available to children accessing services at Causeway Women's Aid.

CORPUS CHRISTI YOUTH CENTRE, Belfast

£3,000 has been awarded to help support and develop the Youth Council for Upper Springfield, Ballymurphy and Whiterock estates through a training and capacity building program.

EAST BELFAST MISSION

£4,000 has been awarded towards the Youth project aiming to offer young people alternatives to street pressures, taking them away from violence and building their confidence in their abilities and hope for the future through creative, cultural and life skills workshops.

HARMONY COMMUNITY TRUST, Strangford, Co Down

£3,000 has been awarded to provide socially excluded young people aged 14 –17 with access to personal and skills development through cross community volunteering opportunities, enabling them to achieve increased confidence and self esteem, which will benefit them in education and general life skills. It will operate within the aims of Harmony Community Trust.

PUBLIC ACHIEVEMENT CITIZENSHIP IN ACTION, Belfast

£4000 has been awarded towards work with groups of young people in a community setting, youth clubs, community centres, schools, museums, etc identifying issues important to them in their community and to develop and deliver a project related to that issue, helping young people from a diverse range of backgrounds, perspectives, and beliefs to develop important skills, knowledge and values central to active civic engagement.

R.E.A.C.H. ACROSS, Derry

£3,000 has been awarded towards the Spring Induction Residential Programme. The principal aim of the project is to establish cross-community contact between young people, primarily from disadvantaged /isolated areas or young people who have limited opportunities for personal development. The project is to include training courses to be decided on following consultation with their youth committee.

THE NERVE CENTRE, Derry

£3,000 has been awarded towards a project addressing rural reconciliation and regeneration through the provision of a music access and development programme, to provide opportunities on a cross community basis for those who have been excluded from the arts and to increase the opportunities for creative participation in music activities in the rural areas of Northern Ireland.

VOICE OF YOUNG PEOPLE IN CARE, Belfast

£3,000 has been awarded towards the development of a communication tool kit for care experienced children and young people aged 12-15 years with varying ability, to ensure that their views are vocalised on issues that affect them. The tool kit will be developed and designed in partnership with young people and the project will evaluate the usefulness and effectiveness of the toolkit in enabling children and young people to have a voice and contribute to decision-making that affects their lives.

YOUTH INITIATIVES – LIFELINE INITIATIVE, Belfast

£3,000 has been awarded towards The Lifeline Initiative which aims to reach out and connect forty 15-18 year old young people from East and West Belfast to a dynamic multi-faceted model; of youth work that trains young people in volunteer leadership roles and equips them to fulfil their potential, enter the world of work and contribute to their local communities.

IRISH YOUTH FOUNDATION SPECIAL AWARDS

Two special awards were inaugurated in 2004:

The Innovation Award for the project judged to be the most innovative in addressing the changing needs of the young disadvantaged Irish community, and

The Quality Award for outstanding achievement and excellence over time.

These awards are recommended by the IYF Advisory Committee over and above the grant recommendations made to the Board of Trustees from applications received. Previous award winners were:

INNOVATION AWARD 2004

West Midlands Schools GAA

The Innovation Award 2004 was presented to **West Midlands Schools GAA** for its major initiative which, in its 3rd year, involved 4,000 children in 81 primary schools, as well as parents and communities, across a large and socially deprived area of the Midlands.

QUALITY AWARD 2004

Hammersmith & Fulham Irish Centre

The Quality Award 2004 was presented to **Hammersmith & Fulham Irish Centre** for excellence and consistency over a period of 9 years, enriching the lives of a large number of children and young people through its dynamic and flourishing Irish Arts & Education Saturday and Summer School programme.

INNOVATION AWARD 2005

BIAS (Brent Irish Advisory Service)

The Innovation Award 2005 was presented to **BIAS (Brent Irish Advisory Service)** for its **Prison Project** for the innovative approach it has adopted to work amongst the most vulnerable people in the community. The Prison Project is a 3-year project which aims to offer Irish prisoners in London-based prisons a culturally sensitive support service.

QUALITY AWARD 2005

Bristol Playbus Project

The Quality Award 2005 was presented to **Bristol Playbus** for its unique and sustained support over a long period of time for isolated Irish traveller communities in rural areas. Bristol Playbus is a mobile community development play and youth resource established in 1974 to work with people isolated from community provision throughout Bristol and the surrounding areas.