



CONFERENCE
WESTLODGE HOTEL,

NOVEMBER 16th 2015
BANTRY, CO CORK

A conference to share our learning in progressing our Organisational Vision
To support people to live their own lives in the way they choose
as a 'whole of organisation' approach.

Our intent on the day will be to share the opportunities and challenges we are encountering. We also want to place our journey within the context of the shared learning we experience as members of the NFVB 'Next Steps' project. We will share the practical approaches which we are finding most helpful in engaging differently with people and families around planning for a good life. We will also share the approaches which are working for us in supporting front line staff into a different way of doing personal planning through discovery, based on building trust and relationships.

We have invited key speakers to contribute from their point of expertise on a number of core concepts that are central to this journey. These include building roles and relationships within community through 'Asset Based Community Development' thinking and enabling 'Organisation Change' within a desired and intended direction.

The day will also be an opportunity to hear the wider story of the outcomes from the NFVB 'Next Steps' project nationally.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND The conference is open to those with an interest in enabling people who use support services to live fulfilled inclusive lives of their choosing. The conference will pay particular attention to the concepts of Supported Self Directed Living (SSDL) and the importance of social roles as acknowledged in Social Role Valorisation (SRV). As such the day should be of particular interest to service leaders and managers, advocacy leaders, members of multi-disciplinary teams, front line support staff, families and a range of people from statutory and community groups and organisations who provide supports and services in community settings.



CoAction
EMPOWER • SUPPORT • CARE

Speakers

NEXT STEPS – THE JOURNEY SO FAR - ALISON HARNETT

Alison will speak on the background to the 'Next Steps' project within the voluntary organisations of the National Federation of Voluntary Bodies and the recently launched report. Alison is project co-ordinator of the national Next Steps Project, and Director of Policy at the NFVB. Alison's work over the past 11 years in the National Federation has included the co-ordination of the Informing Families Project (which developed good practice guidelines and training to guide professionals in the sensitive and positive ways to inform families of the diagnosis of their child's disability) and is now focused on the development of individualised supports through the facilitation of a national community of practice and learning; the Next Steps Project.

NEXT STEPS IN COACTION – A WHOLE ORGANISATION APPROACH - PAUL HENRY

Paul will outline the approach and learning within CoAction through adopting a whole organisation process for supporting people to "live their own lives in the way they choose". This will cover the actions and learning in progressing this objective with People (who avail of supports); Families; Staff; Community Connecting and Organisational Change. Paul has worked in frontline and management roles for 25 years. Since 2008 he has worked on number of development projects with individuals / families and on the Transitions to Socially Inclusive Living Project (Pobal) and Social Farming Across Borders (SEUPB).

COMMUNITY CONNECTING - CORMAC RUSSELL

Being intentional about being part of community means appreciation our own and others gifts, assets and strengths as well as knowing our unmet needs and ambitions. Belonging to community and having meaningful contributing roles requires a level of deliberative thinking and actions - it just doesn't happen by itself - giving and receiving are relational activities between people in community. Our next steps journey won't be what we intend without being intentional in the community space. We have asked Cormac to share his wide experiences around community connecting with us on November 16th. Cormac is Managing Director of Nurture Development and a faculty member of the Asset Based Community Development (ABCD) Institute at Northwestern University, Chicago. He has trained communities, agencies, NGOs and governments in ABCD and other strengths based approaches in Kenya, Southern Sudan, South Africa, the UK, Ireland, Canada and Australia. In January 2011 Cormac was appointed to the Expert Reference Group on Community Organising and Communities First, by Nick Hurd MP, Minister for Civil Society in the UK.

SUPPORTED SELF DIRECTED LIVING - FOR THE PERSON AND WITH THE ORGANISATION - DR. PAUL DOHERTY

It is often said that a key requirement for enabling people to achieve Supported Self Directed Living (SSDL) is an ability to 'imagine better' - to recognise new possibilities and to move beyond the limits of our mind-sets. According to Dr Paul Doherty, this ability to imagine better must be matched by an ability to deliver better - to move beyond imagination in order to make SSDL a firm reality. Paul is a leading organisational development specialist whose 'Art of the Possible' approach to organisational transition is focused on achieving optimal outcomes for people - outcomes that, whilst always ambitious, are both deliverable and sustainable. For more than 25 years, Paul has been involved in empowerment-related capacity building and, in recent years, his work has been closely aligned with 'Next Steps'. As Leadership Development Manager with Genio, he supported the delivery of Social Role Valorisation training and produced the 'SSDL Reference Framework' (a guide to good practice). He subsequently designed and delivered Genio's SSDL Foundation Training and a corresponding Training of SSDL Trainers. Paul has extensive experience of working alongside organisations in the disability sector to facilitate both strategic and practice-related change. He now works as an independent consultant and trainer.

Agenda

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| 9.00 | Registration |
| 9.45 | Welcome and Opening by Maurice Walsh CEO CoAction |
| 10.00 - 10.30 | 'Next Steps, The Journey So Far' - Alison Harnett, NFVB |
| 10.35 - 11.15 | Next Steps in CoAction - A Whole Organisation Approach - Paul Henry |
| 11.15 - 11.35 | Tea / Coffee |
| 11.35 - 12.15 | Community Connecting and ABCD - Cormac Russell |
| 12.20 - 1.00 | Supported Self Directed Living - Steps for the Person and Steps for the Organisation - Paul Doherty |
| 1.00 - 2.00 | Lunch |
| 2.00 - 3.00 | Workshops |
| | 1 Progress Through Shared Learning in the Next Steps Project - Alison Harnett & CoAction |
| | 2 ABCD - Cormac Russell |
| | 3 SSDL - A Framework for Leading Change - Paul Doherty |
| 3.15 - 3.45 | Plenary Session with speakers |

