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eBulletin

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New Yellow Flag Schools 2017/18

The Yellow Flag programme is pleased to announce the following schools to join the programme and commence the 8 steps towards achieving their Yellow Flag in September 2017:

Secondary Schools:

- Colaiste na Ríochta, Listowel, Co, Kerry
- St Brigid's Presentation Secondary Girls School, Killarney, Co. Kerry
- Merlin College, Doughiska, Galway
- Skerries Community College, Co. Dublin
- St Tiernan's Community School, Ballally, Dublin 16
- St Oliver's Community College, Drogheda, Co. Louth

Primary Schools:

- Holywell Educate Together, Swords, Co. Dublin
- St Catherine's Senior National School, Cabra, Dublin 7
- St Mary's National School, Saggart, Co. Dublin

We welcome these new schools on board, bringing to 78 the number of schools engaged with the Yellow Flag programme to date. We look forward to working with them over the next year as well as to continuing to support our existing Yellow Flag schools, especially those continuing their work on the 8 steps.

Thank you

Elva O'Callaghan
Yellow Flag Programme

[ITM Accommodation Update](#)

NTACC

As members will be aware the NTACC met on the 28th of August to discuss the, Review of the Traveller Accommodation Act 98, and how best to advise the Minister on this process. It was decided to advise the Minister that an independent expert group be established to oversee the review of the Act and Traveller Accommodation in general. The expert group will consist of four experts from a legal, social policy, human rights background, and an expert at a European level. The first task of the expert group will be to review the current Review of Traveller Accommodation funding and provision of Traveller Specific Accommodation from 2000 to date which was an action from the states Rebuilding Ireland Strategy. This research has yet to be published but once

ITM is in a position to circulate this document to our members we will do so. After the expert group has reviewed the Research they will then be tasked to consult with all relevant stakeholders via written and oral form after which they will advise the Minister of the next steps needed.

The three Traveller Representatives will be forwarding our nominees of experts for this group this week to the Chair of the NTACC who will then advise the Minister on this matter. The Minister will then select members for the Expert group. ITM will keep our members updated on this matter as we receive updates ourselves. Any queries please email itmaccommodation@gmail.com

NTACC Cluster Meeting:

The next NTACC Cluster Meeting will take place in Cork City on the 13th of November. It will take in LTACCS from Cork, Kerry and Limerick. Each LTACC will be asked to give a collective presentation to the NTACC based on Best Practice on the operation of the LTACC and the provision of Traveller Specific Accommodation in their area along with what is not working well with both local and national solutions to address these issues. An Invitation letter will issue shortly to all LTACC chairs in the region seeking them to arrange a LTACC meeting to discuss and develop the collective presentation. . ITM will be linking in with our members in this region very shortly.

ITM Accommodation Working Group Sept 26th

The Next ITM AWG will take place in Dublin in Exchange House on the 26th September at 11am-230pm. Please Advise / confirm your attendance via email to itmaccommodation@gmail.com

For further information please contact Rose Marie at itmaccommodation@gmail.com

[Upcoming ITM Events](#)

The National Traveller Survey (attitudes of and to the Traveller community)

which was carried out in 50 locations around Ireland December 2016 – February 2017, will be held on **Wednesday October 4th 2017 11.00 – 1.00pm** in **Dublin venue (TBD)**.

[Policy Update](#)

Additional funding allocation for students to attend third level - Travellers targeted.

More information [here](#)

Minister Stanton calls for greater diversity in the Dail and Seanad to include Travellers

More information [here](#)

[Information Sharing](#)

- comediversity-

Comediversity: November 11th at the Roisin Dubh in Galway city

Comediversity is a combination of comedy and diversity. This initiative is to promote more Equal lineups within the Irish comedy circuit, which at present has a history of having a lack of diverse acts and a major lack of a gender Balance. We aim to provide Ireland's first real diverse event with 13 acts. The acts include 7 women, A member of the Trans community, a drag queen , a straight LGBT+ ally , people in direct provision, members of the LGBT+ Community and the event will be hosted by Ireland and the UK's only Comedian from the Traveller community that also happens to be a gay man(hint-thats me).

The proceeds made from the event will be divided between two charities which are chosen by the acts. One charity will be one that works with Women and women's rights while the other charity will work with the LGBT+ Community.

We are hoping to document the whole event from planning stage to performances on a professional camera set up with a director already attached.

The event will take place on Saturday November 11th at the Roisin Dubh in Galway city. Doors open at 8:30pm with the show kicking off at 9:15-11:30 pm.

Tickets will be €12.50 and will be on sale on the night at the door as well as online at comediversity on Facebook. For more details please feel free to contact the event organiser and host, Martin Beanz warde

M.warde85@hotmail.com

National Traveller Survey

The National Traveller Survey (attitudes of and to the Traveller community) which was carried out in 50 locations around Ireland December 2016 – February 2017, will be held on Wednesday October 4th 2017 11.00 – 1.00pm in Dublin venue (TBD).

We now extend an invite to research participants, research assistants and Traveller organisations.

Please RSVP to Jacinta Brack on travellerresearch@gmail.com before Monday Sept 25th

Sponsored by the Community Foundation for Ireland, coordinated by Jacinta Brack and Damien Peelo and overseen by a steering Committee represented by all National Traveller organisations; the focus of the research was:

- Life satisfaction
- Health / Identity
- Accommodation
- Traveller Culture
- Travellers and the Settled Community
- Education

Traveller Mediation and conflict training programme

The Programme is a basic introduction to mediation skills and will equip students with skills and competencies to apply in conflict situations in the

community.

Programme content: Conflict Resolution & Intercultural Studies will be the two main programme modules. They will be accredited nationally, through the QQI Framework at level 5.

Guidance and support will be provided to the participants during their training to assist with any difficulties that they may have in completing the programme work.

Timeframe: Proposed start date for the programme is September 2017. The programme will run one day a week over a 6 month period in Tullamore, and will begin with a short preparation course to assist students to take on the programme work.

For further details please contact:

Aileen O'Brien on 0852010897/Chris McDonagh on 0834322076

Or Email:mtcmicoordinator@mtcmi.ie

The National Plan for Equity of Access to Higher Education 2015-2019

Programme for Access to Higher Education (PATH) Fund

Background

The National Plan for Equity of Access to Higher Education 2015-2019 ('National Access Plan') was published in December 2015. The overall vision informing the goals, objectives and actions of the Plan is to ensure that the student body entering, participating in and completing higher education at all levels reflects the diversity and social mix of Ireland's population.

The National Access Plan contains a number of targets to increase participation by specific categories of students. Target groups include entrants from under-represented socio-economic groups and communities; entrants with disabilities; mature entrants; members of the Irish Traveller community; students entering on the basis of a further education award; and part-time flexible learners.

The implementation of the National Access Plan is an integral part of the overall

reform and landscape changes being progressed as part of the National Strategy for Higher Education to 2030.

Subsequent to the launch of the National Access Plan, the Department of Education and Skills (DES) established the Programme for Access to Higher Education (PATH) Fund. This Fund comprises dedicated funding to support access to higher education, which is allocated on a competitive basis to higher education institutions to support particular priority areas as determined by the DES.

Funding of €2.4m was made available in April 2017 for widening access to initial teacher education under

- Bursaries may be provided to full- or part-time students. It is expected that a number of the bursaries will be provided to students studying on a part-time basis.
- Bursaries will be available to undergraduates who are progressing to higher education for the first time and to undergraduate students who are currently in the system.
- Students must be attending a full-time or part-time course that meets the guidelines of the fund. Courses attended must be an undergraduate course in a publicly funded institution that: (a) takes not less than two years to complete, and (b) on the successful completion of which a student is awarded a major higher education and training award at level 6 or above on the National Framework of Qualifications.

The following conditions will also apply:

- Each bursary will be in the amount of €5,000 per annum. This applies to both full and part-time students.
- Bursaries may be approved for study across all disciplines. There will be no restriction on programme of study.
- Students are not entitled to receive the 1916 Bursary in conjunction with any other bursary or scholarship.
- Students will be entitled to hold the 1916 Bursary and the student grant simultaneously, where they meet the eligibility conditions of the student grant scheme. The 1916 Bursary will be an income disregard for the purposes of 'reckonable income' in the student grant scheme.
- It will be a condition of funding that necessary data sharing arrangements are in place, subject to data protection considerations.

- A bursary will be awarded for the normal duration of an undergraduate programme, subject to continued compliance with the bursary guidelines.

Funding will be initially provided for the award of 200 bursaries in each of the next 3 academic years, commencing in 2018/19. Continuation of the scheme, for new bursary awards, will be subject to review in Year 3. Existing bursary holders will continue to be eligible to receive their bursary for the duration of their undergraduate programme, subject to their continued compliance with the bursary guidelines.

Funding for the bursaries will be distributed through HEI Regional Clusters on the basis of a competitive call for proposals (PATH 2).

- Entrants from socio-economic groups that have low participation in higher education.
- First time, mature student entrants
- Students with disabilities.
- Part-time/flexible learners.
- Further education award holders.
- Irish Travellers

Proposals will also be expected to target the sub groups mentioned in the National Access Plan: namely, lone parents and ethnic minorities (including recently arrived programme refugees). At least 10% of all places should be targeted at lone parents.

Exchange House Ireland National Traveller Education Achievement Awards 2017

Nominations are now open for the Exchange House Ireland National Traveller Education Achievement Awards will take place on Friday, October 20th at 5pm in The Venue, Wood Quay, in the Dublin City Council building. These awards are presented to Travellers who have completed the Junior Certificate, Leaving Certificate, GCSEs, A Levels and Third Level Courses, in recognition of their hard work and commitment in reaching their education goals. This event also highlights positive role models within the Traveller community.

This event is a celebration of the academic success of the nominees. All

nominees who attend the event will be entered into a draw for fantastic prizes!
Please find attached a nomination form.

Please nominate any eligible people at www.exchangehouse.ie or call the
Education & Training Service on 0187021094

BeLonG To Youth Services

Hi

Will you share your story with us? We know that the support we provide at BeLonG To can change lives. But we can only be effective if the people who need our help, know about us and the difference we can make.

One of the best ways of doing this is by telling the real-life stories of people who have used our services and can talk about it. One of the most powerful ways of communicating the reality of growing up LGBT+ is through your words.

We are looking for people who are over 18 and interested in sharing their story and/or joining our media panel and acting as spokespeople for BeLonG To.

How Do I Sign Up?

We are holding a Storytelling and Media Training Workshop (with pizza!) on Wednesday, September 20th from 5pm-8pm at our office in Dublin.

If you are interested in coming along, email press@belongto.org to confirm your attendance and let us know your name, phone number and relationship to BeLonG To (e.g. do you attend one of our groups).

If you cannot make the workshop, but are still interested, let us know. Email press@belongto.org with your name and phone number, and we will get in touch with you. We plan to host another workshop in November.

We hope to post the stories on our website and include them in newsletters and other marketing materials. You can choose to submit your story with a different name to maintain privacy

We look forward to hearing from you!

All the best,

Sinead

Communications Officer, BeLonG To Youth Services

Wired FM Limerick are running a media course for marginalised groups

Ray Burke here from Wired FM in Limerick. I don't know if you have heard of us, but we're the student station in Limerick City, we're fully licensed by the BAI,

and broadcast on 99.9FM here in the city.

Wired FM are running a media course for marginalised groups in September this year, and I thought you might know people living in Limerick that would like to take part, or if maybe recommend people to get in touch with?

The course is specially tailored for marginalised groups, and specifically Travellers. No prior knowledge of the media is required, and it is suitable for any level of education, or literacy. It is open to anyone from the travelling community over sixteen, and would suit both young and old participants. The course will be held in our studios at Mary Immaculate College and a multi-media classroom at MIC.

Participants will get to learn in a fun and friendly atmosphere, and explore how radio and TV shapes the world we live in. In a group, they will make a radio programme that represents them, and advocates for changes they would like to see happen.

That course begins in early September, it runs from the September 8th to October 20th (no class Sep 29th). The closing date for applications is the 1st of September. Over six Fridays trainees will learn how the media works and get involved in radio that represents and advocates for them. Overall the classes are about empowering the participants, and building communication skills.

The course is completely free, but places are limited. Expressions of interest can be made via manager@wiredfm.ie or by calling 087 169 6999.

Wired FM have a proven track record delivering such courses, just last year we ran courses that saw over 30 trainees be certified with QQI level 3 and level 4 certificates. This course is a nationally accredited course leading to a QQI Level 3 Media Expression on the National Framework of Qualifications, awarded by QQI.

if you have any questions; please don't hesitate to mail me or call me on the mobile below..

Tel: 061 315773/061 454205

Web: www.wiredfm.ie

[Job Opportunities](#)

Laois Travellers Action Group

Peppers Court, James Fintan Lalor Avenue, Portlaoise, Co. Laois. 057 8682210

Community Development Worker for Men - Part-time (19 hours per week)

Laois Travellers Action Group (LTAG) was founded in 1996 under the name Laois Travellers Views to work for the equal rights of Travellers living in the county. LTAG is looking to implement a Men's Health Plan aiming at achieving equality of access and outcome in health, education and employment for Traveller Men, increasing Traveller Men self-determination and capacity and increasing Traveller Men engagement & participation.

The purpose of the post will be:

- To implement Laois Travellers Action Group Men's Health Programme through the areas of health, sports, and capacity building in coordination with LTAG staff and LTAG's overall work-plan.
- To outreach and consult with Traveller Men and other stakeholders.
- To develop a programme of activities based on Traveller Men needs and interests.
- To support Traveller Men representation.
- To support the implementation of a horse project.
- To establish channels of communication with all Traveller men and promote Traveller men engagement and participation.
- To ensure equal access and representation to all Traveller Men living in county Laois.
- To work in partnership with statutory agencies promoting the understanding of factors affecting Traveller Men.

The successful applicant will be required to have:

- A thorough understanding of Traveller issues, particularly in relation to Traveller Men and Traveller Men's health.

- Three years of community development experience
- Excellent communication, facilitation and interpersonal skills
- A demonstrable understanding of community development approaches
- Commitment to human rights and social justice and to work from an anti-racist work perspective
- Demonstrated capacity to work on own initiative and as part of a team
- Ability to work with a wide range of stakeholders
- Access to own transport with a full driving license

Desirable: A qualification in community development to degree level or equivalent

Please submit a Curriculum Vitae and a detailed cover letter outlining qualifications, experience and skills specific to the position to the LTAG Manager, Julie Nevin at: laoistravellers@gmail.com by **Friday 8th September 2017 by 5.00pm.**

Interviews will take place week commencing 25th September 2017.

This post is funded by the HSE.

Laois Travellers Action Group is an equal opportunities employer.

Laois Travellers Action Group

Peppers Court, James Fintan Lalor Avenue, Portlaoise, Co. Laois. 057 8682210

Horse Project Facilitator – part-time post (7 hours per week)

LTAG is looking to implement a Horse Project in County Laois as part of the organisation's Men's Health Programme.

The successful applicant will be required to have:

- Skills and experience in relation to horse care and management
- Thorough understanding of Traveller issues, particularly in relation to Traveller Men and Traveller Men's health.
- Excellent communication, facilitation and interpersonal skills
- A demonstrable understanding of community development approaches
- Commitment to human rights and social justice and to work from an anti-racist work perspective

- Demonstrated capacity to work on own initiative and as part of a team
- Knowledge and ability to work with a wide range of stakeholders
- Access to own transport with a full driving license

Desirable:

A qualification in a related discipline (Equine Science, Equine Studies, BHS qualifications, Community Development, Adult Education).

Please submit a Curriculum Vitae and a detailed cover letter outlining qualifications, experience and skills specific to the position to the LTAG Manager, Julie Nevin at: laoistravellers@gmail.com by **Friday 8th September 2017 by 5.00pm.**

Interviews will take place week commencing 25th September 2017.

This post is funded by the HSE.

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**Northside Travellers Support Group (T/A TravAct) Youth Worker
TravAct Youth Work Programme**

Northside Travellers Support Group (T/A TravAct)

Job Title and Reporting:

- Youth Worker
- Reporting to TravAct Manager

Main Purpose of Job The Youth Worker will be responsible for identifying young people at risk in the Traveller Community within the TravAct catchment areas through contact with local schools, youth groups, Gardai and other relevant services. He/she will be also responsible for assessing the potential and needs of the identified young people and then developing and delivering specific programmes to meet their potential and needs as agreed with the Manager. The Youth Worker will fully participate in the implementation of the National Quality Standards Framework for Youth Work (NQS).

An * NSETS (North/South Education and Training Standards Committee for

Youth Work) recognised professionally endorsed qualification in Youth Work or Youth and Community Work **Desirable**

- Two years experience of working with young people at risk in a full time paid capacity, in a youth work setting **To Apply** Applications will only be accepted by post.

Please send CV (including names of two referees) with a detailed cover letter to:

Manager

Northside Travellers Support group (T/A TravAct)

TravAct Outreach Centre, Clonsaugh Drive

Priorswood, Coolock, Dublin 17 Tele: 01 848 6515 / 01 848 2198

Closing date for completed applications will be 14 Sep 2017

No late applications will be accepted and incomplete applications will not be considered

Interviews will be held between 2nd to 6th Oct 2017

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[Latest News From National Traveller MABS](#)

National Traveller MABS Info

National Traveller MABS is a leading advocate for financial exclusion of Travellers in Ireland, we are also a free and confidential service, you can contact us by:

Phone : 0761 072230

Email: info@ntmabs.ie

Website: <http://www.ntmabs.org>

Social Media: <https://www.facebook.com/National-Traveller-MABS>

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All ITM members who wish to circulate positions available and upcoming events etc can simply send information to be circulated to the membership.

Please send details and information to info@itmtrav.ie

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