



Press Release

Details of National Forum Annual Conference Announced

Representatives of the European Commission and the NCCRI to address conference

- Thursday, 27th November 2008 -

The Family Resource Centre National Forum (FRCNF) today announced details for its Annual Conference on Saturday, 6th December 2008 at 10.15am. Representatives of over 100 Family Resource Centres throughout Ireland will be in attendance at the event, which takes place in the Camden Court Hotel, Camden Street, Dublin 2.

Apart from the formal business of the organisation's AGM, there will be a discussion on the European Year of Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion with Deirdre Lynam, Social and Political Society Consultant from the European Commission Representation Office in Ireland and Philip Watt, Director of the National Consultative Committee on Racism and Interculturalism (NCCRI). Deirdre will talk about the role the EU plays in Social Inclusion and she will also explore how the National Forum can become involved to maximise the Year for Family Resource Centres. Philip Watt will share the experience of the NCCRI with regard to their hosting of European Year of Intercultural Dialogue 2008.

A new report, 'Resources, Activities, Partners & Achievements Report 2007' will also be launched at the event on 6th December. The Report will be launched by Bríd Rocks, Board Member of the Family Support Agency. The report is based on information and data gathered from FRCs through the SPEAK process.

Following this, Clara FRC (Co Offaly) will give a presentation about its intergenerational project, a very successful community initiative. The project facilitates weekly group sessions where senior citizens discuss their experiences, stories, knowledge and wisdom with pupils from three local schools thereby helping to bridge the gap between young and older people in the community.

Packie Kelly, Chairperson of the FRCNF, said, "I am looking forward to meeting everyone at this year's AGM. I believe that the discussion with Deirdre Lynam and Philip Watt will give FRCs a great insight into the role of which the EU plays in Social inclusion and how FRCs can make the best of the European Year in 2010. I would like to thank both Deirdre and Philip for their time and agreement to present to our conference. I would also like to thank Bríd Rocks and the Family Support Agency, who support the work of the Forum in many ways."

The AGM will close with a celebratory lunch inviting all FRC representatives and guest speakers attending the meeting.

-ENDS-

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