

THE CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE

Annual Activity Report 2018

Overview of 2018

2018 was a productive year at CDI during which our core programmes ATTI, Chit Chat, Doodle Den, Doodle Families, Parental Support in Early Years and Restorative Practices continued to develop and reached out to a further annual cycle of children, parents, staff, young people, adults, schools, service providers and community organisations.

The year saw the launch of Tallaght Welcomes Breastfeeding, the Parenting Engagement and Relationship Toolkit (PEAR) and the broad expansion of Restorative Practices training.

In 2018 CDI launched the How is our Neighbourhood research, developed the Quality Services, Better Outcomes Workbook and provided more training and support on a consultancy basis.

Antenatal to Three Initiative (ATTI)

A policy brief on better coordination of information sharing, learning and service provision was published and the programme's inter-agency steering group met seven times.



Tallaght Welcomes Breastfeeding was launched – a community breastfeeding programme to encourage women and families to reap the benefits of breastfeeding.

<https://www.cdi.ie/what-we-offer/ante-natal-to-three-initiative-atti/>

Chit Chat

Therapeutic speech and language support was offered in **three primary schools and nine Early Learning and Care Services** in Tallaght West.



71 Children received therapy including:

- 23 new referrals
- 20 were discharged within normal limits post therapy
- 17 were transferred to the HSE for continued intervention
- 11 remained in the service.

71 parents engaged with the service, 45 parents attended coffee mornings and nine teachers attended training.

<http://www.cdi.ie/what-we-offer/chit-chat/>

Doodle Den

Doodle Den was provided in Tallaght, Dublin 5 and 7, Dublin Docklands and Limerick at:

- **19 different sites**
- **to 285 children**



Six Communities of Practice were held and training was delivered to teachers. A new edition of the Doodle Den manual was published.

<https://www.cdi.ie/what-we-offer/doodle-den/>

Doodle Families

Doodle Families was delivered in Dublin, Limerick, Galway, Mayo and Donegal at:

- **11 sites** including
- **165 children and their parents.**

Doodle Families

A second Evaluation Report was finalised and the Programme Manual and Doodle Diary were updated. A Facilitator's portal was developed on the CDI website.

<https://www.cdi.ie/what-we-offer/doodle-families/>

Parental Support in Early Years

Eight Parent Carer Facilitators (PCFs) delivered *Parental Support in Early Years* to **214 families** in Tallaght West.

The PCFs also delivered the **Parents Plus** course and helped to develop the **Parental Engagement and Relationships (PEAR)** Toolkit.



<https://www.cdi.ie/what-we-offer/early-years-service/>

Restorative Practices Programme

RP training was delivered to almost **500 people** including:

- 48 young people
- 136 parents
- 314 service providers.



Training of RP Trainers was delivered in new areas of the country in Cork and Waterford. A new Summer Course manual was developed and courses expanded to Kildare, Cork, Sligo and Monaghan.

A major new project got underway with the Professional Development Service for Teachers, introducing an **RP pilot project in 25 schools.**



<https://www.cdi.ie/what-we-offer/restorative-practice/>

Restorative Practices Ireland

Restorative Practices Ireland, which is coordinated by CDI, finalised a five-year strategic plan. Membership continued to grow, reaching almost 400. CDI supported RP's **successful seminar on RP in Education.**



<http://www.restorativepracticesireland.ie>

Training and Consultancy Service

CDI further developed its training and consultancy activities into a social enterprise within CDI. Income generated will go towards sustaining CDI's work into the future.

Quality Services, Better Outcomes

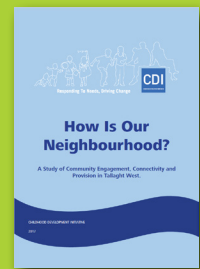
Development of the *Quality Services, Better Outcomes* (QSBO) **Workbook and training** was completed. The offering is designed specifically for professionals and organisations working in the child and family sector.



Research and Policy

Further publications launched in 2018 included:

- How is Our Neighbourhood: A Study of Community Engagement, Connectivity and Provision in Tallaght West; and
- Review of Policy in Support of Literacy Development in DEIS Schools.



<https://www.cdi.ie/research-policy/community-research/>

Monitoring and Evaluation

CDI's internal monitoring and evaluation system was strengthened for collection, analysis and usage of data. A plan was developed for each programme including indicators, targets and tools.

Communications

- Briefings took place with Ministers, TDs and political spokespeople.
- High-quality programme and community videos were produced.
- Media interview training took place with all staff.

Ongoing activities included news releases, development of www.cdi.ie, newsletters, content sharing on Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn.

<https://www.cdi.ie/resources/videos/>



CDI would like to warmly thank our core funder Tusla for continued support in 2018.

It is through engagement that our work comes to life and CDI would like to sincerely thank the children, parents, staff, young people, adults, schools, service providers and community organisations that worked with us in 2018. We look forward to 2019 with confidence.

For our Annual Governance and Finance Report, see here <https://www.cdi.ie/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/2018-Audited-Accounts.pdf>