

YPAR | Young People at Risk Dublin North Inner City

Creating a place of hope, equality and opportunity where young people's dreams are realised

2021 Annual Report



Comhairle Cathrach
Bhaile Átha Cliath
Dublin City Council



Acknowledgements

YPAR would like to thank the following for their support in 2021.

Our core funders, Tusla- Child & Family Agency, Irish Youth Justice Service and City of Dublin

Youth Services Board,

The YPAR Steering Committee and their agencies,

*The Children, Young People and Family Service Workers whose skills, knowledge and dedication
make a real difference to the lives of so many young people and their families,*

*The young people and their parents, whose resilience and courage is our motivation, the North East
Inner City Initiative and its Programme Implementation Board and Sub-groups.*

Contents	Page
<i>Introduction</i>	4
<i>YPAR Vision, Mission, Goals, Values and Principles</i>	6
<i>YPAR Operational Approach and Structure</i>	7
<i>YPAR Funding</i>	9
<i>YPAR 2020 Activities and Outcomes</i>	9
<i>Other YPAR Activities</i>	16
<i>Note on Monitoring and Evaluation of YPAR Activities</i>	18
<i>Continuing Challenges in supporting YPAR and their Families</i>	20
<i>Conclusion</i>	21
<i>Appendix 1: YPAR 2020 Income & Expenditure</i>	23
<i>Appendix 2: YPAR Steering Committee Members 2020</i>	24

Introduction

YPAR (Young People at Risk) is an interagency initiative in Dublin North Inner City that works to support, facilitate and implement an integrated approach to meeting the needs of young people at risk and their families. YPAR defines a young person at risk as a child/young person aged 0 to 24 years experiencing significant personal, family, educational or social problems. Numerous government reports and policy documents have identified interagency working as a crucial element in improving the quality of services delivered to young people at risk. YPAR provides a model of how this policy commitment can be delivered at a local level in Dublin North Inner City. YPAR operates as the TUSLA Child and Family Support Network (CFSN) in Dublin's North East Inner City and has actively engaged with TUSLA Children Services as we continue to work to improve the lives of children and young people in the North Inner City of Dublin. The experience gained by the statutory, voluntary and community staff involved in the collaborative and interagency approach by YPAR provides a valuable resource pool and a vital platform as we endeavour to deliver the best possible social, economic, health and educational outcomes for children and young people in our community.

The persistent inequality and poverty in the North Inner City have led to intergenerational social exclusion in some areas of this community. This exclusion increases inequalities in education, health and income poverty; and is compounded by dysfunctional family living, homelessness, addiction, violence, crime and various forms of neglect, family breakdown and exclusion from school and early school dropout. In addition, the North Inner-City communities has been traumatised by the violent gangland feud that has affected many families adversely in the different NEIC communities. Added to this, is the impact of Covid-19 that has affected the mental wellbeing and increased further the alienation and stress of some of our families and young people. Young people continue to be drawn into the drug dealing culture that has damaged their lives and those of their families. Together these factors continue to put children, young people and families at risk. Many children and young people are presenting to services with issues of trauma, toxic stress & anxiety or a combination of adverse childhood experiences (ACES). This in turn increases the demand on social service workers who become overwhelmed and find it difficult to cope.

In 2021 YPAR has continued to build relationships with children, young people and family service workers from the NIC. We have adopted to a hybrid working environment combining face-to-face work with on-line and remote working. While challenging, everyone in the NIC and especially children and family service workers have risen to the challenge of maintaining services to families in extremely difficult circumstance. For this they should be commended.

YPAR and its Network of services providers has continued to work to break the cycle of poverty and inequality by working together to develop services, supports and interventions that will respond

meaningfully to address the causes, consequences and emerging needs to give real hope for a better life for vulnerable and at-risk families, children and young people in the NIC.

Some of the important and positive initiatives that YPAR have shown leadership in 2021 include

- Development of a collective and interagency response to Early Years
- The management of fast access to counselling services for young people and families
- Building local leadership among young adults.
- Managing the Meitheal interagency community case management for specific families in need.
- Developing a Meitheal Plus to target and support families experiencing particular harmful and damaging behaviours
- Responding to Hard-to-Reach young people caught up in violence (gun and knife crime), addiction and drug dealing)
- Working with local youth services and youth diversion projects to develop and implement positive and pro-social pathways for young people at risk to isolation and alienation.
- Developing a trauma informed approach to working with children and families in the NEIC
- Convening a forum of senior mental health and community services manager to promote improved coordination and access pathways into mental health services and supports in the NEIC
- Working with CDYSB to improve the integration and alignment of youth services
- Developing a response to the dearth of after schools' services for 6-10 year-olds
- Coordination of services to homeless families and young people
- Improving services to minority ethnic (particularly ROMA) young people.
- Providing signposting support to services for the increasing numbers of refugees and asylum seekers living in the NEIC

YPAR, advocates for multiagency and multidisciplinary planning and is managed by an interagency Steering Committee made up of representatives from the following statutory, voluntary and community sectors:

HSE/TUSLA, Dublin City Council, an Garda Siochana, Probation Service, City of Dublin Youth Services Board, Education Welfare Service, Social Protection, Neighbourhood Youth Project 1, Neighbourhood Youth Project 2, Community After Schools Project (CASPr), Inner City Organisations Network, Ozanam House Resource Centre (SVP), Lourdes Youth and Community Services, Hill St. Family Resources Centre, Youth Workers, and Home School Community Liaison Teacher.

YPAR provides support and leadership in the drive towards improving the lives of young people and families at risk in Dublin North Inner City.

YPAR Catchment Area

YPAR works primarily in the area of the north east inner city, with some elements of the work in the periphery or hinterland of that area. This area is from Dublin Bay to the east and Drumcondra Road/Dorset Street/Bolton Street and Arran Street East to the west. To the south the area is defined by the River Liffey, while to the north the border is a wide arc made up the Tolka River to the west and all East Wall. This is inclusive of all of Dublin 1 and parts of Dublin 3. The area has seen large changes in the profile of the North Inner City (NIC) Communities with more affluent families and minority ethnic families living in the area. Over 40% of the communities of the NIC are from minority ethnic backgrounds.

YPAR Vision Mission and Goals

Vision:

‘To live in a place of hope, equality and opportunity where young people and their family’s dreams are realised’

Mission

‘To promote and develop an inclusive approach through integration and partnership of services and agencies working with children, young people and families that serve their needs and enables them to realise their potential.’

Goals

1. To identify and respond to gaps and deficiencies in systems, structures and supports, working in partnership with services and agencies that will result in better outcomes and brighter futures and protect the safety and welfare of children, young people and families
2. Promote, support and maintain appropriate interagency mechanisms including the Meitheal & Practice Model and other multiagency best practice.
3. Identify and overcome blockages to progressive pathways of education, training and employment for children, young people and families in the NIC.
4. Combat all forms of discrimination and enable minority ethnic children, young people and families to realise their potential and be active members of their community.
5. Explore and deliver creative ways to ensure the meaningful participation and voices & views of children, young people and adults are heard and acted upon.
6. To promote and advocate for responsive policies for children, young people and families and promote this through active lobbying of appropriate agencies.
7. To evaluate, monitor and measure progress of YPAR interventions to learn what works and what doesn’t.

Principles

YPAR is a champion for collaboration and partnership to build on trusting relationships between children, families, workers and agencies in the NIC. We will operate through a non-hierarchical and

appreciative voluntary participation where authority and accountability are collectively owned. YPAR takes a child, young person and family centred approach which is interagency, and practitioner led.

Core Values of YPAR’s work include

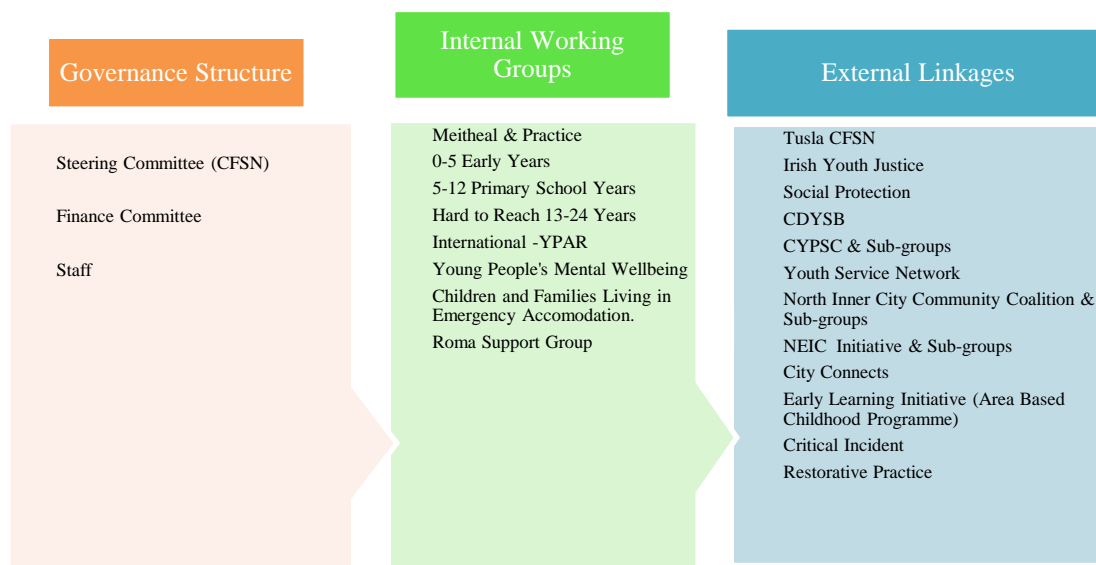
Trust, Dignity, Humility, Non-judgement, Respect, Critical Inquiry and Exploration, Collaboration, Partnership, Inclusiveness, Accountability, Equality of Access and Opportunity, Listening to all Voices, Collective Action, Social Justice, Empowerment, Advocacy – Flexibility, Rights-Based, People Centred and Anti-Discrimination.

YPAR Operational Approach and Structure

The YPAR network and its partners continue to provide leadership through its local statutory, voluntary and community partners. YPAR’s vision, ethos, beliefs, values and collective energies will continue to advocate and demonstrate the value of interagency cooperation and collaboration to improve services and quality of life outcomes to young people at risk in the North Inner City of Dublin.

YPAR offers a Community of Practice (CoP) approach that encourages agencies, services and peers with a common or similar professional purpose to work together to share information, build knowledge, develop expertise and solve problems. This CoPs approach is characterized by the willing participation of all children and family service workers to interact in developing common or similar work practices in order to achieve individual and collective objectives, targets or goals. CoPs supports an integrated process or learning forums where members teach and learn from each other. The approach enriches strategic facilitation to enhance service and development outcomes.

The YPAR infrastructure is governed by an interagency Steering Committee and operates through a number of age or themed specific working groups and involvement on relevant external linkages:



YPAR is the Tusla Child and Family Support Network in the North East Inner City (NEIC). The YPAR age specific and themed Working Groups are the key mechanism in which the network delivers its Community of Practice. Bringing together the relevant interagency services providers in a supportive and safe forum where participants can speak their truth with courage, compassion and empathy as they network, share information, support peers, develop peer education and capacity by drawing on each other's expertise and talents, enabling solution focused problem solving and enhancing best evidenced-based and trauma informed practices in support of their work with children, young people and their families.

YPAR has taken the lead in several initiatives endeavouring to break the cycle of young people being exclude from school and leaving school early to prevent their drift into crime, drug dealing and the associated violence. As a network of children services YPAR continues to play an important role in building and maintaining relationships within and between services to maximise their effectiveness to support vulnerable families to offer them and their children hope for a positive future in the north east inner city, the place they call home.

Partnership with Tusla (Child & Family Agency

YPAR continues to develop a special relationship with the Tusla management and staff and to support and actively facilitate the effective rollout of the various Tusla structures including acting as the Child and Family Support Network (CFSN) and participate in the Safe and Protected from Harm Sub-Group and the local implementation of the Tusla Meitheal; the national practice and prevention model for supporting children's welfare. The issues addressed for the young people and their families through the Meitheal include school attendance, lack of supervision, recreational needs, antisocial behaviour,

criminal behaviour, mental health concerns (both for parents and children), physical health, accommodation, parental addiction and domestic violence.

North-East Inner-City Initiative

YPAR through its members and network partners continue to play an active role in the development and delivery of innovative interventions through the North East Inner City (NEIC) Initiative. This initiative emerged as a result of the violent killings in 2015/16 and recommended by the 2016 Mulvey Report *Dublin North East Inner City - Creating a Brighter Future* which was commissioned and establishment by the then Taoiseach Enda Kenny. Subsequently it resulted in the setting up of a North Inner City Task Force and its Programme Implementation Board (PIB) whose role is to develop alternative visions for the area that support its social and economic regeneration while combatting the causes and consequences of the poverty and social exclusion that has blighted the lives of many children and families in the NEIC communities for decades. As a network, YPAR has been an active participant on the NEIC planning and implementation structures which has funded the development and delivery of some creative and innovative initiatives including:

- Increase in flexible childcare places for children under 3 years
- Strategic development of a childcare strategy of the NEIC
- Development Multi-disciplinary Teams for the under 5s
- After school support programmes for 6-10 year olds.
- Fast track counselling for young people (over 90 families have benefited in 2018)
- Research to identify the needs and support for Hard-to-Reach Young People
- Youth Training Bursary Initiative
- Youth Leadership Training Programmes
- Youth Staff Capacity Training
- Critical Incident response

Dublin's North Inner City is a community with a long history of resilience and rising to the challenge of tackling social and economic disadvantage. It also has a strong history of community led collaborative and integrated responses to social and economic exclusion. The community response has been based on strong local and visionary leadership within its statutory and voluntary partners. Unfortunately, since 2008 there has been a hollowing out of some of the key community development programmes in the NEIC which has resulted in the loss of programmes aimed at developing community capacity and leadership. This is something that is needed more than ever if the community itself is to have the capacity and capabilities to sustain progressive changes for the community while challenging harmful and destructive behaviours from within the community. The community have many assets at its disposal and the current mix and blend of community, voluntary and statutory provision has provided

an extraordinary level of knowledge, expertise, creativity and experience, enabling the community to develop innovative responses to produce better outcomes for children at risk and their families. YPAR will continue to play a leadership role in developing and coordinating these responses. However, there continues to be huge challenges for families, communities and services providers in endeavouring to deliver on YPAR’s vision ‘to live in a place of hope, equality and opportunity where young people and their family’s dreams are realised’...

YPAR Funding

In 2021 YPAR received its core funding from TUSLA (€64,250), Probation Service (€20,000) and City of Dublin Youth Services Board (€20,000). This funding was used to maintain the work of the full time YPAR Coordinator and part time YPAR Meitheal and Services Support Coordinator. YPAR is also provided with a fulltime Administrator seconded from The Employment Network and funded under the Whole-Time Jobs Initiative.

YPAR 2021 Activities and Outcomes

The following section below sets out the objectives, inputs and outcomes from the YPAR 2021 programme of activities.

YPAR Monitoring Outcomes 2021		
Goal 1: To identify and respond to gaps and deficiencies in systems, structures and supports, working in partnership with services and agencies that will result in better outcomes and brighter futures and protect the safety and welfare of children, young people and families		
Objectives	Activities/Inputs	Outputs & Outcomes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Actively promote interagency cooperation and the effective delivery of the Meitheal Practice Model in the North East Inner City (NEIC) Coordination of interagency services in the NEIC through the YPAR Working Groups, including; Meitheal & Practice Working Group Meitheal Plus Working Group 0-5 Early Years Working Group 5-12 Primary Schools Working Group 12-24 Hard to Reach Working Group 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Convening over 40 Interagency YPAR working group meetings of services providers. Coordinating joint proposal to address gaps and blocks in services such as; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Childcare After Schools Hard to Reach YP International Young People Support to Roma families Mental Wellbeing Supports Homeless Services Identifying gaps and blocks in existing services. Facilitating joint interagency planning and family supports. Active involvement in the Child and Family Support Network 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Over 1500 services workers have participated in YPAR working groups and activities in 2021 Over 60 local services have collaborated in YPAR activities and Working Groups 30 Children and families have benefitted from Meitheals Over 80 Children have benefited by fast-tracking mental health and therapeutic supports Increased interagency collaboration in working with families. Ongoing identification of needs of YPAR and their families. Increased access to services for YPAR & their Families including; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Childcare services Respite for early years parents

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International-Young People at Risk Working Group (I-YPAR) • Youth Mental Wellbeing Working Group • Children in Emergency Accommodation Working Group • Roma Support Working Group • Work with the NEIC to develop a ‘New Way of Working’ 	<p>and the Partnership and Prevention Subgroup of CYPSC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working with Children services workers to promote and enhance their engagement in the Tusla Meitheal. • Participation by frontline agency staff CFA, HSE, Schools, Garda Diversion Projects, Community children services and Youth Projects) • Working with CDYSB and CDETb to develop an Alignment Plan for youth projects and youth related services in the NEIC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Mental Health Services ○ Addiction services ○ Homeless services ○ Employment and Training ○ Primary Care Services ○ Income support ○ English languages <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved access to services for families and young people. • Peer support and enhanced knowledge, and improved involvement of service users. • Increased efficiency and reduced duplication of service provision between service providers.
--	--	--

YPAR Monitoring Outcomes 2021		
<p>Goal: 2. Promote, support and maintain appropriate interagency mechanisms including the Meitheal & Practice Model and other areas of integration best practice.</p>		
Objectives	Activities/Inputs	Outputs & Outcomes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the delivery and leading out on Meitheal Interagency practice cases. • Improved access to childcare and early years supports • Improve services to support primary education and after school supports. • Coordinate services to reach hard to engage young people. • Coordination of Mental Wellbeing services. Support the inclusion of International-YPAR. • Coordinating Services providing support to homeless families and children. • Providing interagency training. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting collaboration between early years and preschool providers. • Producing collaborative proposal to support increase in access to childcare for vulnerable parents/families. • Supporting interagency actions to provide specific after school activities to children under 10. • Developing interagency responses to address the emerging needs of hard to engage young people between the ages of 12-24 • Enabling joint actions to support the social and economic inclusion of YPAR for new Irish and minority ethnic communities • Coordinating collaborative actions to support mental health/wellbeing services access. • Coordinating the material and social supports to homeless families. • Supported the stronger alignment of youth services, in their work in 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivery of an early years research project to identify the current and future needs of the early years sector in the NIC • Developing proposal to increase the after school provision to children under 10. • Coordinated an interagency response to the needs of Hard-to-Reach young people support services to combat alienation, violence and other harmful behaviours. • Supporting the integration and alignment of NEIC Youth Services and Projects • Signposting into relevant services children young people and parent from minority ethnic backgrounds. • Delivering practical support for young people experiencing mental wellbeing difficulties including creating access to services for assessment and referrals to appropriate services. • Delivered trauma informed supports to 25 practitioners and

	<p>offering strong supportive relationships, in the informal education system</p>	<p>30 young people through funding from the NEIC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivering a coordinated support to homeless families to support their practical transition out of homeless accommodation, provided meals, homework spaces and laundry facilities. • 120 families provided support through our Christmas activities providing food and toys • Provide mindfulness sessions weekly for practitioners and parents.
--	---	---

YPAR Monitoring Outcomes 2021		
Goal 3: Identify and overcome blockages to progressive pathways of education, training and employment for children, young people and families in the NIC.		
Objectives	Activities/Inputs	Outputs & Outcomes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enabling parents return to work through supporting the provision of flexible childcare places. • Engaging with Pre-school, Primary and Post Primary School providers to support school transitions. • Identifying the needs of hard-to-reach young people from the NEIC. • Working with Community Training Workshops to support access to training for YPAR • Supporting collaboration of Youth Projects and Garda Youth Diversion Projects to support youth leadership & capacity development and education, training, and employment pathways for young people at risk. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working with local childcare providers to increase access to flexible childcare and respite for vulnerable families with children under 24 months. This is to enable parents to access employment. • Coordinating activities to support children’s transition from pre-school to primary school and from primary to post primary school. • Continuing to develop an after schools activities strategy and lobby for funding for these activities for the 6-10 year-olds. • The hard-to-reach 12-24 age group bring together local services working with hard to engage young people to find collaborative and shared ways to support young people’s future aspirations and pathways to rewarding life and work practices. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local childcare providers are offering flexible childcare services which has benefited 25 families in accessing childcare to support parents respite and employment training. • Transition support protocols in place to support school transitions for vulnerable children. YPAR has worked with TESS, local community and schools services to ensure that every child in the NIC has access to post primary school • Increased collaboration between primary and post primary school teachers to support the safe and comfortable transition between these schools. • Increased awareness between teachers on sharing information on the issues and needs of vulnerable and at risk children during school transition.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of Youth Leaders programme to support the capacity development of community youth leadership. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • YPAR continues to implementing the key finding of the hard-to-reach young people research. Particularly in the areas of Street Work and targeting YP aged out of services. • 15 young (adults) from local youth services are benefiting from a tailored youth leadership training programme.
--	---	---

YPAR Monitoring Outcomes 2021		
Goal 4: Combat all forms of discrimination and enable minority ethnic children, young people and families to realise their potential and be active members of their community.		
Objectives	Activities/Inputs	Outputs & Outcomes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting the inclusion of International-YPAR • Coordinating services to support the social inclusion of I-YPAR • Actively supporting intercultural integrations and awareness. • Supporting the parents of I-YPAR • Support an interagency response to the needs of Roma children • Supporting refugee and International Protection Families living in the NEIC to access social, statutory and community services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting Integration of I-YPAR through access to health, education and welfare services. • Over 60 young people participated in residential trips from I-YPAR to Cavan Centre to support confidence and capacity building. • Supporting the local schools to organise specific intercultural initiatives to build intercultural relationships. • Convened a series of meetings to respond to the practical needs of Roma families experiencing particular difficulties. • Supporting the Saturday Morning International Youth Club. • Advocating for individual cases to support access to services for minority ethnic, refugees 7 IPAS families. • Coordinating services for homeless families many of 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 40 minority ethnic parents participated in consultation and integration awareness workshop on their rights and entitlements. • Improved interagency supports for I-YPAR improving their access to education, health and welfare supports. • The establishment of an interagency Working Group to support a more coordinated approach to the needs of vulnerable Roma families. • 40 minority ethnic young people participated in a workshop to build their confidence to seek support from health services, Gardai services and educational supports. • 20 families living in IPAS (international protection accommodation services) supported with signposting into local services.

	<p>which are from minority ethnic backgrounds.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working with the wider Minority Ethnic led organisations to identify and address the isolation and discrimination experienced by their communities. 	
--	--	--

YPAR Monitoring Outcomes 2021

Goal 5: Explore and deliver creative ways to ensure the meaningful participation and voices & views of children, young people and adults are heard and acted upon

Objectives	Activities/Inputs	Outputs & Outcomes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supporting the engagement and capturing the voices and views of YPAR Supporting the participation and capturing the voices and views of parents of YPAR Promoting a culture of listening to YPAR. Building a culture of resilience of YPAR Appreciating the view of frontline workers articulating the voices of YPAR and their parents. Developing a strategy to include the voices of international and minority ethnic young people, their parents and community representatives on YPAR structures. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitating several Voice of the Child remote Workshops in the local primary schools. Ongoing feedback from young people participating in youth & community services. Consultation with parents on the needs of their young people through the parenting forums and community based consultations. Interactive residential with young people participating in the SWAN/NYP2 International Youth Club Generic feedback from therapeutic counsellors on the general patterns linked to young people’s anxiety and stress. Through the Meitheal Practice model, getting direct opinion of young people in relations to their needs and interests. Feedback from youth and community workers representing the voices of YPAR and parents. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 32 young people participated in workshops in the Cavan Centre articulating their concerns of living in the NEIC 15 Young people involved in story telling of their lives of living int eh NEIC Issues emerging: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fear of Violence and knife crime Fear of living in the NEIC Mistrust of the Police Stress and anxiety as a result of Covid-19 Family disfunction Anti-social behaviour and criminality. 35 Meitheal Practice Cases are operating in the NEIC and some of the issues emerging for young people include <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Young people expressed the need to continue in school and get a good education. Difficulty in school with some teachers Lack of qualifications and

		<p>employment opportunities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Fear of the future and not having a home and a job ○ Lack of supports for minority ethnic YP particularly if you do not have permits or are living in Direct Provision.
--	--	---

YPAR Monitoring Outcomes 2021		
Goal 6: To promote and advocate for responsive policies for children, young people and families and promote this through active lobbying of appropriate agencies.		
Objectives	Activities/Inputs	Outputs & Outcomes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Through Consultations, Research and Monitoring develop evidenced informed policies and practices to support YPAR • Research Produced and led by YPAR <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Early Years ○ After Schools ○ Hard to Reach ○ Response to Fear and Violence ○ English Language for Non-English Speaking Students ○ Munti-agency Care Plans in Schools • Meeting with the relevant and appropriate policy makers and agencies to lobby for informed responsive changes that will have a positive impact on young people and their parents/families. 	<p>Throughout 2021 YPAR has met with key policymakers and agencies to discuss how interagency working can be facilitated and supported both at a practical and a policy level.</p> <p>YPAR has been engaging with local services and state agencies to address the following policy issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DCEDIY on access to childcare for vulnerable parents and families • HSE in response to Mental Wellbeing, Early intervention and detection, Assessment, Disability Access and Multi-Disciplinary Teams for the under 2s • Department of Justice in response to International Young People and Youth Diversions supports. • DES in relation to Multi Agency Care Support teams in School and After School support to YPAR. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • YPAR produced the following research and policy documents <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Early Years ○ After Schools ○ Hard to Reach ○ Response to Fear and Violence ○ English Language for Non-English Speaking Students ○ Munti-agency Care Plans in Schools • Ongoing lobbying with relevant Government Departments on the following issues <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Early Years Supports ○ After School Supports ○ Support for IPAS families ○ Developing School Care Teams for the Hard to Reach and Students on Reduced School hours or not attending school

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Supporting the coordination of mental health and wellbeing supports to YPAR and their families.
--	--	---

YPAR Monitoring Outcomes 2020		
Goal 7: To evaluate, monitor and measure progress of YPAR interventions to learn what works and what doesn't.		
Objectives	Activities/Inputs	Outputs & Outcomes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Track progress of Actions, Objectives, Inputs, Outputs and Outcomes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compile maintain and retain YPAR Working Group Minutes and records of Workshops, Seminars and Conferences. • Record quantitative outputs on participation rates of Working Groups, Seminars, Workshops and Conference. • Case Studies and feedback from beneficiaries of interagency services, workshops, training programmes and community of practice networking events and conferences. • Annual Steering Committee review of the outcomes and impact of YPAR in the North Inner City. • General Network Meeting Reviews • Active feedback from WG Chairs on the work in improving the lives of young people. • Measuring Staff support and wellbeing through regular reviews. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evidenced based analysis of the outcomes and impact of YPAR from the YPAR Working Group's actions relating to the various YPAR priority Goals.

Other YPAR Activities

Interagency induction programme

In 2021 YPAR organised 3 interagency area induction visits to services for 40 new service practitioners from 8 different Statutory, Voluntary and Community agencies. This is done to speed up the period of

settling in for new staff, by visiting key agencies, who offer a brief introduction to their service. New staff benefit from the information shared, the location identified and can put a face to the staff member, easing future contacts.

ABC Programme

Members of the YPAR network have participated in the development of the Docklands/NIC Area Based Children's Programme Consortia. The Consortia continues to successfully implement the programme in the area.

Response to Homelessness

During 2021 YPAR's Children in Emergency Accommodation Working Group has continued to work to address the difficulties being experienced by children and their families living in the NIC area. In particular YPAR operated as the point of first contact to support families experiencing food poverty during the second Covid-19 lockdown. YPAR has continued to work in close partnership with the Children and Youth Action Group (CYAG) in Dublin's North West Inner City, as many families are required to move between accommodation centres and the range of supports offered through YPAR and CYAG together is enhanced. Many families in emergency accommodation continue to experience; overcrowding, no or limited access to laundry/cooking facilities, accommodation is often a long distance from schools, no space for homework, no family space or teenagers to have friends over, carrying the burden of travel costs between different accommodations or in their moves to a permanent home, eating in fast food restaurants to name a few. YPAR's Children in Emergency Accommodation Working Group provides a forum where workers share information, pool resources and access information in relation to the needs of children and their families living in emergency accommodation. Supports identified are primarily offered by YPAR member agencies and groups to the staff working directly with families in emergency accommodation including Focus Ireland, Crosscare, Simon Community, Foundations and TUSLA as needed. The responses from services have included transport, food, clothes, toys, and information.

YPAR Network Hub

YPAR also provides a Central Hub for young people, parents and local children services. It operates as a one-stop-shop in which various individuals, groups and services can avail of:

- Information exchange and knowledge sharing of practical services and supports.
- Coordination of services
- Connecting and referral to appropriate services
- Practical material support for families in crisis such as baby clothes, pushchairs, furniture, transport, toys, respite etc.), all provided by the services in the YPAR network.

- Peer to Peer support and training for workers in all services.
- Providing an area/community induction to new workers (walking tours of services & Brown Bag Lunches).
- Advice and consultation on matters of concern from workers in all services.

Role of YPAR Staff

The role of the YPAR paid staff is to implement the decisions of the YPAR Steering Committee and in collaboration with the Working Groups facilitate the effective and efficient smooth running and operations of the YPAR Network and to facilitate the implementation of its agreed objectives and actions. In addition to overseeing and driving the specific actions in partnership with local practitioners; staff will also oversee complementary services including;

- Coordinating, minuting and facilitating various working groups, etc.
- Functioning as a point of contact for agencies and their staff, in relation to:
 - i. Information
 - ii. Support and information around issues of concern with children, groups or critical incidents.
- Ensuring the flow of relevant information on developments and concerns.
- Operationalising actions, as a support, where needed by parts of the network.
 - i. Representing YPAR with and within relevant interagency groups
 - ii. Administration support for the network, including finance, recording, communication etc.
- Organising Brown Bag Lunch, and facilitating interagency service walkabout of the YPAR area inducting new child and family service workers into the area and introducing them to various statutory, voluntary and community children, young people and family services
- Managing funds on behalf of the YPAR network.

Note on Monitoring and Evaluation of YPAR Activities

The aim of YPAR is to improve the outcomes for young people at risk. Therefore, it is essential YPAR collect the evidence that shows whether its work is bringing about improved outcomes for the young people in the first instance but also as a secondary benefit for services workers and their agencies. The YPAR Co-ordinator and Meitheal and Services Support Co-ordinator will continue to implement monitoring and evaluation procedures which it is hoped will allow YPAR to capture both the learning and outcomes from the YPAR interagency process and activities and enable it to share this learning to inform future policy and practice.

High attendance at Steering Committee and Working Group meetings, and other events such as annual evaluations held through public meetings, provide evidence of the value of YPAR. YPAR's 'connectedness' in local service networks will evidence the effectiveness of its interagency role. For example, YPAR acts as the Child and Family Support Network in the NEIC and coordinates supports through the Children and Young Persons Service Committees (CYPSCs), the national interagency model that brings together statutory, community and voluntary providers of services to children and young people. As outlined, YPAR has greatly informed the NEIC Initiative (2017- 2020), and how contributing statutory agencies and community/voluntary organisations coordinate and deliver services in the area. YPAR strategic plans (typically renewed every 3-years) are informed by the activities of each Working Group and, typically, concern aims, objectives, and targets. To assess progress within the NEIC, general meetings, seminars, and workshops are convened where YPAR actions can be assessed (and recorded) against experiences, views, and relevance to communities and groups in the area including practitioners, parents, children, and young people. In addition, research and practice reports have been commissioned and completed including the Afterschool Supports and Activities Report (2020), the 'Hard to Reach' Report (2020), and YPAR Annual Reports (2011, 2013, 2018). As part of YPAR's person centred and learner centred approach to capturing the positive or negative outcomes of its approach, YPAR continues to develop ways to involve its stakeholders particularly young people and their families who are engaging in the network to feedback their views to help the organisation in its critical analysis of the strengths and weakness of the YPAR interagency model.

YPAR's Qualitative Outcomes

When we look at the Outcomes it is difficult to assess the long-term qualitative impact of YPAR's work. We can count the number of people that participate in our working groups and our training programmes or workshops. We can get good feedback from young people, parents and workers on the benefits they feel they get from the programmes and interventions, but we rely on national statistics to give us the information of the long-term changes in relation to the five National Outcomes as set out in the Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures policy document;

1. Healthy, physically, mentally and emotionally
2. Supported in active learning
3. Safe from accidental and intentional harm
4. Economically secure
5. Connected, Respected and contributing to the world

There are so many factors in the NEIC that influence people's lives and so many factors that undermine the positive interventions by statutory, voluntary and community agencies and their frontline practitioners. This community still experiences high levels of anxiety, stress, criminality, drug selling,

poverty, homelessness, family breakdown, mental health (including loss of life due to suicide), poor living environment and housing conditions. These are all key social determinant that continue to work to undo the progressive work by many agencies operating in the community.

However, YPAR will continue to record, collate and analyse information & feedback from services, services users and our statutory, voluntary and community partners. The evidence is that the YPAR network does make a difference and continue to have a positive impact through our interventions which;

- Increase collaboration, cooperation and the more effective and efficient use of resources
- Enable joint interagency planning and development
- Increase peer to peer learning, sharing and support.
- Enhance professional capacity development
- Provide a safe independent forum to enable deliberative dialogue between frontline children service practitioners.
- Improved family communication and relationships
- Addressed unresolved and complicated grief and loss
- Improved parental listening and coping mechanisms
- Increased use of restorative practices to resolve/reduce family tensions
- Increases an understanding of the root causes of issues such as social exclusion, trauma, stress, anxiety, anger, isolation and alienation.

Continuing Challenges in supporting YPAR and their Families

While YPAR would like to complement, appreciate and celebrate the fantastic work of the Statutory, Voluntary and Community frontline workers in the NEIC, and some great initiatives from the NEIC Task Force that have had very positive impacts on some families lives in the NEIC. However, it is important to point out that there still lies many challenges ahead to address not only the symptoms of intergenerational poverty and social exclusion but their causes. Below are some of the persistent problems and challenges;

- High levels of arrested development of children because of lack of early years supports and interventions
- Low levels of educational attainment and a dearth of after school educational and leisure support
- High levels of family dysfunction
- High number of children in institutional care
- High levels of unemployed, working poor and welfare dependency

- High numbers of poor non-English speaking minority ethnic families (including high numbers of ROMA families),
- High levels of families living in appalling housing and homeless conditions
- High increase of refugee and asylum seeking families accessing social supports
- High levels of people experiencing mental health and addiction
- High levels of our young people in prison including high recidivism among offenders
- High levels of suicide
- High levels of harmful behaviours, anti-social crime and drug selling.

Conclusion

The YPAR Network of Statutory, Voluntary and Community Based Services promote interagency collaboration as an effective way to deliver creative, innovative and diversionary services to address issues of inequality, poverty social exclusion, crime and violence, From childcare, after schools services, youth services, health & wellbeing, employment services, community development, building capacity and leadership for practitioners, young people and parents. YPAR will continues to consolidate its core work and develop new initiatives by drawing on the generous and collaborative interagency support of its statutory, community and voluntary children and family services partners. In 2021 YPAR continued to develop a community of practice by bringing together service providers, services users and community support organisations to develop a safe and confidential way of interagency working that enables multi-agency supports to address the service needs of vulnerable children and young people. YPAR staff and Partners have been proactively involved in supporting the development of local mechanisms to enhance integrated services delivery based on mutual respect, trust and parity of esteem.

YPAR has also worked at several levels to support and develop youth and family participation through local neighbourhood and community youth projects, engaging with the schools and pre-schools and seeking the active involvement of young people in YPAR structures and activities. YPAR continues to recognise the additional problems facing local minority ethnic young people and their families and will continue to provide supports and responses to their needs. YPAR will continue to respond to new and emerging needs such as supports to refugees, early years services, youth mental health, anxiety and trauma and work with its partners to develop innovative and trauma informed approaches to support youth justice and diversion from anti-social and harmful behaviour. YPAR will also continue to respond to children and families that are homeless and living in emergency accommodation.

Many positive initiatives have continued to be developed and delivered through additional investment from the NEIC Task Force in 2021. Many social support services are under enormous strain and have large waiting lists. Many agencies are having great difficulty in recruiting staff. YPAR will continue to

provide leadership in partnership with its local statutory, voluntary and community service partners in the NEIC; to address both the causes and consequences of intergenerational social exclusion. The YPAR Network's vision, belief, commitment and collective talents will continue to advocate and demonstrate the value of cooperation, collaboration, the pooling and sharing of resources at local level to improve the quality-of-life outcomes to young people at risk and their families in the North Inner City of Dublin.

YPAR May 2021

Appendix 1

YPAR 2021 Wage & Overheads Income and Expenditure														
Income	B/F from 2020	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Running Totals
Reserves Accumulations/ & monthly B/F	29,908.26	49,908.26	75,979.23	72,860.12	63,165.39	54,300.37	45,552.26	36,512.56	59,889.76	49,518.99	61,362.85	48,977.87	42,711.73	49,908.26
YPAR Management & Admin Fees		3,500.00								7,800.00				11,300.00
Department Justice & Equality (Youth Probation)			10,000.00							10,000.00				20,000.00
CDYSB (B/F)	20,000.00													-00
Child & Family Agency (CFA)		32,125.00						32,125.00				3,213.00		67,463.00
Integration Funds										170.00				170.00
Chq Re Ellie Meitheal Coord - SCA Delay Refund													1.11	1.11
Total Income	49,908.26	85,533.26	85,979.23	72,860.12	63,165.39	54,300.37	45,552.26	68,637.56	59,889.76	67,318.99	61,362.85	52,190.87	42,712.84	148,842.37
Expenditure Salaries														
YPAR Coordinator		3,346.17	3,346.17	3,346.16	3,346.18	3,346.18	3,346.16	3,346.16	3,346.17	3,346.17	3,346.17	3,346.17	3,346.17	40,154.03
YPAR Protocol Coordinator		2,176.55	2,176.52	2,176.54	2,176.55	2,176.54	2,176.54	2,176.53	2,176.54	2,176.54	2,176.55	2,176.53	2,176.55	26,118.48
Revenue		3,092.58	2,155.19	4,030.02	3,092.57	3,092.58	3,092.60	3,092.61	3,092.59		6,185.17	3,092.60	3,092.58	37,111.09
Total Wage Expenditure		8,615.30	7,677.88	9,552.72	8,615.30	8,615.30	8,615.30	8,615.30	8,615.30	5,522.71	11,707.89	8,615.30	8,615.30	103,383.60
Expenditure Overheads														
Rent		800.00											1,200.00	2,000.00
Phone		89.09	87.10	90.58	100.20	102.68	102.37	102.37	946.38	103.62	110.37	109.75	110.06	2,054.57
Stationary			147.49		106.97				751.47	252.15	98.49	55.63		1,412.20
Room Hire		20.00												20.00
Members Expenses/Thank you Dinner													604.60	604.60
IT		29.64	29.64	30.13	42.55	30.13	300.73	30.13	57.62	55.96	468.23	55.96	55.96	1,186.68
Audit														
Petty Cash														-00
Training & Workshops														-00
Bank Charges				21.30			21.30			21.70			21.00	85.30
Activlink			177.00											177.00
Staff Training/Transport														
Staff Supervision														-00
YEPP Expenses														
YPAR Insurance												642.50		642.50
ICON Management Fees			5,000.00											5,000.00
Total Overheads Expenditure		938.73	5,441.23	142.01	249.72	132.81	424.40	132.50	1,755.47	433.43	677.09	863.84	1,991.62	13,182.85
Total Overheads and Wage Expenditure		9,554.03	13,119.11	9,694.73	8,865.02	8,748.11	9,039.70	8,747.80	10,370.77	5,956.14	12,384.98	9,479.14	10,606.92	116,566.45
Balance of Wage & Overheads I&E	49,908.26	75,979.23	72,860.12	63,165.39	54,300.37	45,552.26	36,512.56	59,889.76	49,518.99	61,362.85	48,977.87	42,711.73	32,105.92	32,275.92
Balance of Programme and Core Costs Com	132,917.17	152,208.14	144,944.03	147,369.31	115,301.29	100,193.18	80,248.69	169,677.29	155,096.53	153,345.39	135,850.41	118,094.27	95,389.71	84,069.71

Appendix 2

YPAR Steering Committee Members 2020

Name	Organisation
Tony Rock	Independent Chairperson
Janet Colgan	Education Welfare Service
Teresa Nyland	Child and Family Agency (TUSLA)
Daniel Morrogh	DEASP
Margaret Hayes	CDYSB
Sian Muldowney	ICON
Gerry Cullen	City Connects
Cecil Agar	Tusla – Duty Social Worker
Sarah Kelleher	LYCS
John Peelo	Tusla
Brian Hoey	Garda
Shane Boyne	DCC
Catriona Flood	Early Learning Initiative (ABC)
Sheena Quigley	Probation Service
Ann Carroll	CASPr
Eileen Smith	Hillstreet FRC
Paul Flynn	Crosscare
Emma Nugent	City Connects
Evelyn Ryan	SWAN Youth Service
Evelyn Ryan	International Youth Club
Eleonora Sozzi	Tusla (Meitheal)

Staff

Frank Mulville	Part-time Meitheal and Services Support Coordinator
Mary Meehan	Full-time Administrator
Patrick Gates	Full-time Coordinator



Contact Details:

YPAR (Young People At Risk) North Inner City

Ballybough Community Centre

Ballybough Road

Dublin

DO3 C995

Tel: 01-8194779

E-Mail: infoypar@gmail.com

Web: www.ypar.ie