



Linking Generations
Northern Ireland

Linking Generations Network meeting Spring 2024 ABC, MU & NMD



Age Friendly
Network NI



Agenda

- ✓ Welcome & Round the Room
- ✓ Local Intergenerational Stories
- ✓ Age-friendly Coordinators update
- ✓ Christmas Connections grants feedback
- ✓ LGNI Training Update
- ✓ All Ages April small grants
- ✓ Global Intergenerational week
- ✓ Creating Intergenerational Communities Project
- ✓ Halifax Project
- ✓ Student review of impact of LGNI reach & work





Who is in the room? Introductions

- Name, role and organisation.
- Interest in attending?



Linking Generations
Northern Ireland

Linking Generations NI

Our vision: *Northern Ireland will be a place where all generations are respected, understood, connected, and engaged together in their communities.*

Adding value with an Intergenerational Approach!



LGNi connect, inspire & support

- LGNi Network **880** Members
- Intergenerational Training
- Activity ideas and Resources
- Advice & Support Service
- Partnership activities/projects
- Grants – All Ages April & Christmas
- Voice for IG – Age-friendly, Loneliness, Education, Care Homes
- Global Intergenerational Week



What are the benefits of Intergenerational Activity?

Enhances learning & skill sharing across all age groups

Increases understanding & sharing of experience between generations

Reduces loneliness and social isolation

Reduces ageism

Builds friendships & social connections

Boosts mental wellbeing & self confidence

Creates opportunities for all generations to feel valued and part of their community

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Updates.....

- Age Friendly Coordinators update on progress of Age Friendly and activities during Positive Ageing Month





LGNi intergenerational training update

Empowering others with knowledge, confidence, resources, & support to embed intergenerational practice in their settings

Recent:

- 26 x SRC First Year Health & Social Care students
- Clanmil Scheme Coordinators
- Upcoming 'My Home Life' cohort
- We can offer bespoke intergenerational training for your organisation.





Newry Southern Regional College – Tutor Dee Franklin

Comments from students:

“I enjoyed today – it changed my perspective and I now want to take part in these activities.”

“Lots of usable information to use in my work experience.”

“I learnt about how beneficial interactions are with elderly people.”





Christmas Connections Small grants



- LGNi's Christmas Campaign was a massive success and garnered support for IG across NI.
- Approx 10 local newspapers covered stories as part of the campaign.
- The commissioners COPNI and NICCY provided support statements.
- Social media reach during December was 12.7K accounts for Facebook with 1426 page visits and 482 post reactions.





Christmas Connections Grantee

- Spelga Mews Housing Association – Louise McConville.
- Held a wreath making session with Donard School.
- What the key learning was.
- Success stories.

Wreath making with Donard school



KEY LEARNING

- SOMETIMES THE BEST PLANS DONT WORK OUT
- INTERGENERATION WORK ISNT FOR EVERYONE- PERSON CENTRED CARE
- ALL INCLUSIVE PROGRAMME- LEARNING DISABILITY/ DEMENTIA- ENVIRONMENT- NOISE/ CROWD-OVER STIMULATING- IMPORTANT TO LOOK AT COMPATIBILITY
- RESPECTFUL WE ARE WORKING IN THEIR HOME
- PROGRAMME NEEDS TO BE LEAD BY THE PARTICIPANTS- WE LEAD BY THEM!
- SOMETIMES SIMPLE IS BETTER

SUCCESS STORIES

- A NUMBER OF THE CHILDREN WHO ATTENDED SPELGA MEWS OVER THE YEARS THROUGH INTERGENERATIONAL WORK HAVE PROGRESSED TO VOLUNTEERING/ STUDENT PLACEMENTS FOR THEIR STUDIES AND CAREERS IN NURSING, SOCIAL WORK AND WITHIN THE WIDER HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE FIELD.
- POSITIVE INFLUENCE ON STUDENTS- WE HAVE BEEN INSTRUMENTAL AND PART OF THEIR JOURNEY IN THEIR CHOSEN CAREER PATH IN CARE
- SOME CHILDREN COMPLETED ACCREDITED TRAINING TO BECOME DEMENTIA FRIENDS- DEMENTIA AWARENESS- DEMENTIA FRIENDLY COMMUNITY



Christmas Connections Grantee

Newry & Mourne Home Start
Julie-Ann Hanna - Family Group Coordinator

- Visited Brooklands Care Home where the residents and the children loved the Christmas activities and bringing gifts for the residents.
- The children and parents benefitted from the social interaction from a different generation and there seemed to be an increased understanding and awareness of capabilities and vulnerabilities with an increased respect for a different generation from the parents.
- The residents loved the interaction, the fun and the cuddles.
- **32 younger and 40 older people took part.**





All Ages April Grants Scheme 2024



- Thanks to the Public Health Agency NI LGNi will providing 40 small grants to support intergenerational activities during the month of April to celebrate Global Intergenerational Week!
- Spark an intergenerational connection in your community
- Small grants of £125 for activity during month of April
- Closing Dates Thursday 29th February!



Global Intergenerational Week 24th – 30th April 2024



We are delighted to be again leading on the Global Intergenerational Week Campaign for NI! This year's campaign will take place from the 24th - 30th April and will celebrate everything intergenerational! We look forward to working alongside communities, organisations, settings and local government across NI and the globe to make this year bigger and better than ever! We hope you will join us to support #GIW24



Generations
Working
Together



Creating
Intergenerational
Communities



- Creating Intergenerational Communities is a UK-wide pilot programme funded by the National Lottery Community Fund until June 2025.
- It aims to establish 30 intergenerational flagship projects during its lifetime - 10 in NI
- Focus on quality, improving practice, sustainability and building IG capacity
- Reduce loneliness, social isolation, improve well-being and build relationships between generations
- Development of quality standards/indicators which will be piloted





Progress so far!

- Intergenerational training delivered to 28 Early Years Practitioners and 12 Older Peoples settings since July 2023.
- Each setting involved is now equipped with the knowledge of how to plan, deliver and evaluate intergenerational activities.
- 8 settings are now enrolled as pilot settings as part of the wider UK NLCF project.



Halifax project

Aims & objectives: This project is aimed at building on the resource of the youngest and oldest in our society to make a positive impact both now and for the future of our society.





Halifax project

- **126 direct beneficiaries took part. They told us:**
- **88%** of respondents said they would like to take part in another project
- **71%** said they felt better about themselves
- **84%** that they had learned new things
- **74%** of younger participants indicated that they felt more confident
- **90%** of older people felt better about themselves
- **100%** felt more active
- **70%** were surprised at what they could do



Across Borders and Generations - update

- The project has supported younger and older people from Mayobridge and Balbriggan to develop intergenerational activities in their communities to build relationships, break down age barriers and improve community cohesion.
- The groups got together in Newry to share the progress and learning from their activities so far.
- AvilaMedia were there to take some video interviews and also some content for our projects video.
- The day rounded off with a very successful jewellery workshop which went down a treat!



An Roinn Gnóthaí Eachtracha
Department of Foreign Affairs

Comhairle Contae
Fhine Gall
Fingal County
Council







Comments from feedback

- *“I have learned that older people are living their first life”. (Leader: I thought it was so insightful that they recognise that older people continue to grow, develop and learn throughout their life)*
- *Days out supported building relationships*
- *Opportunity of project enabled us to see similarities and focused our initiative – organic*
- *Comfortable setting nice to be welcomed*
- *Ripple effect. I feel more willing to engage with other young people – “I will take a risk to reach out and engage with young people now”*



Kathy Gallagher – Southern Age Well network





NORTHERN IRELAND SCREEN

Digital Film Archive

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Northern Ireland Screen's Digital Film Archive is a free resource containing hundreds of hours of titles, spanning from 1897 to the present day.

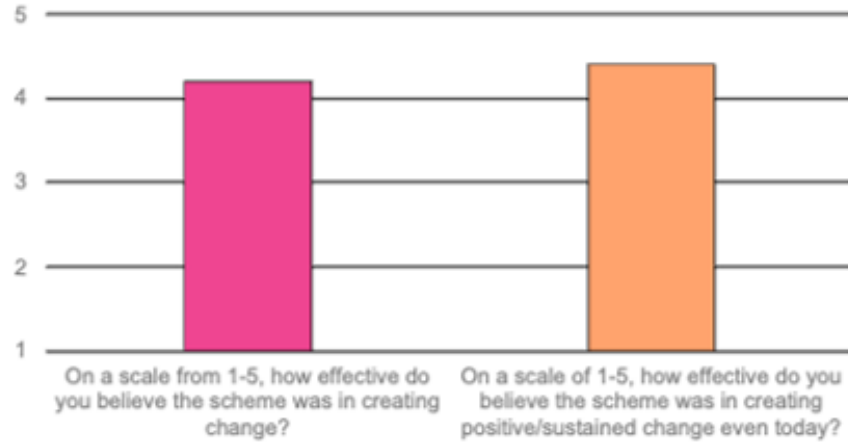
Within the archive you will find items covering broadcast news, feature films, television dramas, sport, documentaries, animation, light entertainment, amateur footage, newsreels and more.

KEY FINDINGS



ALL AGES APRIL 2022

Average Responses of Grantees



“...helped with making contact and setting up planning meetings”

100% OF THOSE WHO WERE INTERVIEWED SAID THEY WOULD RECOMMEND LGNI TO OTHERS

“I use these skills everyday”



TRAINING



All participants agreed the training was beneficial



Average score of 8.3/10

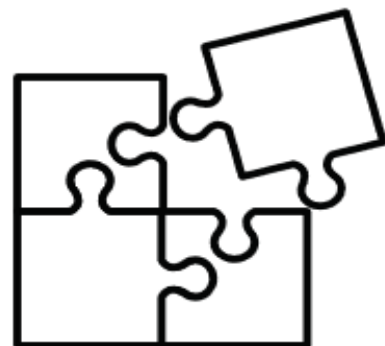


“It opened my mind to intergenerational care”

Conclusions + Recommendations



- **Access to Funding Benefits:**
 - Greater access to funding across all domains
 - Facilitates outreach and expanded membership/network
 - Enables important marketing targets
- **Sustainability of LGNI's Training and Grant Schemes:**
 - Supported by positive perceptions
 - Diverse skill application
 - Ongoing collaborations
 - High likelihood of participant endorsement
- **Insights for Continuous Improvement:**
 - Varied experiences provide valuable insights
- **Call for Future Funding:**
 - Emphasises the imperative nature of funding for future projects
 - Stresses the essential role of funding for both older and younger generations in society.





Stay Connected



@LinkGenNI

You Tube

**Linking Generations
Northern Ireland**



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www.linkinggenerationsni.com



Next Steps:

- Sign up to our network
- Need support in identifying your intergenerational match – chat to us.
- Chat to us about the All-Ages April small grants – closes 29th February
- Arrange a 1:1 chat with us – here to help!!
- Sign up to training in intergenerational good practice – we can arrange to deliver in house with your organisation.



Evaluation – Mentimeter Feedback

We really value your opinion so please complete the following survey!

<https://www.menti.com/>

Enter the code: 59146426