

Celebrating Creativity

Winners of Innovation Awards Announced

OVER THE LAST YEAR, MANY SERVICE USERS, staff members and supporters of Rehab have been developing innovations that bring countless benefits to the organisation's services.

The Innovation Awards were developed to recognise their groundbreaking ideas and ingenuity. Rewarding examples of best practice, improvement and creativity, the awards

shine a spotlight on new and improved services in different parts of the Rehab Group.

By putting a project forward for an award, the applicants also had the possibility of winning a cash prize. The huge volume of entries received shows that the entrepreneurial spirit is alive and well in Rehab. In short, Rehab is full of innovators.

Drum roll please...

The winners of the 2009 Innovation Awards are...

★ **Service user-led innovation category**

Raiders of the Last Park, Momentum Skills, Glasgow, Scotland

Students developed specially-designed travel packs for members of the public to use when using public transport to visit five parks across Glasgow.

★ **Partnership in health and social care category**

HeadsUp Text Service, Rehab Group, Ireland

Part of Rehab's mental health promotion project, HeadsUp Text is a text support service targeted at young people aged 15-24 years.

★ **Partnership in training and education category**

Summer Accommodation Scheme, National Learning Network, Hollyhill, Cork, Ireland

As an extension of their independent living skills programme, a group of National Learning Network students moved into college student accommodation to give them a taste of living on their own.

★ **Innovation in service delivery category**

GP Early Intervention/Job Retention Scheme, Momentum Skills, Aberdeen, Scotland

An employment support worker works with GPs to assist people experiencing mental health difficulties and to provide them with the supports that they need to retain employment.

★ **Partnership with external groups category**

Fork to Fork Project, National Learning Network, Athy, Co. Kildare, Ireland

This project enabled participants in the 'Choices' mental health course to grow their own food, learn about healthy eating and produce a cookbook.

★ **Eco Award**

Rainwater Harvesting System, National Learning Network, Bantry, Co. Cork, Ireland

A rainwater harvesting system was designed to gather and store rainwater for use in the centre.

☆ *Highly-commended projects*

Service user-led innovation

- Creative Dance and Movement Programme, RehabCare, Lifford, Co. Donegal, Ireland
- Pathways Art and Design Project, Momentum Skills, Glasgow, Scotland

Partnership in Health and Social Care

- Families in Focus, Momentum Skills, Aberdeen, Scotland
- Youth Summer Camp, RehabCare, Dundalk Resource Centre, Co. Louth, Ireland

Partnership in Training and Education

- Red Hill School, Rehab Group, Co. Limerick, Ireland

- Sporting Chance Programme, National Learning Network, Tralee, Co. Kerry, Ireland

Innovation in Service Delivery

- Specialist Outpatient Physiotherapy Service, The Chaseley Trust, Eastbourne, England
- Prospects Pilot Programme, National Learning Network, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal, Ireland

Partnerships with External Groups

- Groundforce in the Local Community, RehabCare, Douglas, Co. Cork, Ireland
- Complementary Workforce Model, Haven Products, Scotland

CASE STUDIES

Here's a quick introduction to just some of the winning and highly-commended projects in the 2009 Innovation Awards. Well done to all!

WINNING PROJECTS

Thank heaven it's raining The ECO-Award – Rainwater Harvesting System Bantry, Co. Cork, Ireland

It mightn't be immediately evident but Bantry town, with its lush green surroundings overlooking the spectacular Bantry Bay, often experiences water supply shortages. National Learning Network in Bantry decided to overcome these shortages, save money on water rates and do their bit for the environment by harnessing the benefits of West Cork rain showers.

Switching to the use of free and natural rainwater through a new rainwater harvesting system will significantly reduce the centre's use of mains water. The water harvested from the sky will also be put to good use in the horticulture unit and the community garden being developed. Rainwater collected on the roof is passed through a natural filtration process before being pumped into water storage tanks.

The system makes financial sense too – by reducing the use of mains water by 80 per cent, it will pay for itself within eight and a half years.



Great expeditions in Glasgow Service user-led Innovation – Raiders of the Last Park Drumchapel, Glasgow, Scotland

Following in the wake of film director, Steven Spielberg, who sent Indiana Jones to recover the Ark of the Covenant, students on Momentum's 'Inclusive' (Drumchapel) programme instigated and developed a



Pictured above: Participants on Momentum Skills' award-winning Raiders of the Last Park project are, (back row, left to right) Colin Baird, Senior Tutor, and service users David Brown Kielbasinski, Thomas McKenna, (front row, left to right) Mark Bradley and Kevin Butler.

Pictured right: Momentum client, Robert Sturgeon, proudly stands before a mural designed and painted by participants of the 'Pathways' programme. The mural was highly commended in the Rehab Group Innovation Awards.



raider's mission of their own for members of Glasgow's commuting public. During the Raiders of the Last Park, expedition members of the public are tasked with following a series of treasure maps and clues produced by the students through five of Glasgow's city parks. The aim is to increase awareness of how easy it is to access Glasgow's parks by public transport and to encourage people to make use of these urban sanctuaries.

Head wrecked? Give us a text
Partnership in Health and Social Care – HeadsUp Text Service, Ireland

Part of a wider mental health promotion project, the HeadsUp text service, which is supported by Meteor, provides information and advice to young people in crisis.



By texting HEADSUP to 50424, followed by the issue affecting them, such as sexual health, drugs, debt, etc., they will receive a text message listing relevant helpline numbers/support services. The free service is available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, ensuring that when young people decide to seek help, they know who to contact.

HIGHLY-COMMENDED
Pathways Art and Design Project
Momentum Skills, Savoy Tower, Glasgow, Scotland

Clients in the 'Pathways' programme for people with acquired brain injuries designed and painted a 30-foot full-colour wall mural in their relaxation room. The wall, which is divided into three parts charting the growth and development of people before and after they came to Momentum, was devised as a monument to the achievements of the programme's clients.

Red Hill School
Rehab Group, Co. Limerick, Ireland

The establishment of the Red Hill School for young people with autism is a historic and pioneering development for Rehab in being recognised for the first time as a school patron. The school aims to provide each child with the opportunity to achieve their maximum learning and life skills' potential.

