

Momentum Opens New Scottish Head Office



Pictured left: Councillor Steven Purcell, Leader of Glasgow City Council, officially opened Momentum's new head office in Glasgow last March.

THERE WAS REAL CAUSE for celebration at the end of March when Momentum officially opened its new head office in a prestigious newbuild development in the regeneration area of Govan in Glasgow. Momentum also received a major vote of confidence from the new Scottish Investment Fund which chose it as the recipient of its inaugural award.

Glasgow City Council Leader, Steven Purcell, officially opened the premises and praised the work which Momentum carries out across Scotland in assisting disabled and excluded people to live independently, gain skills and secure and retain jobs.

To help fund its new head office, Momentum has been provided with a £200,000 grant and £300,000 in loans from the Scottish Investment Fund – a Scottish government scheme created to support enterprising third sector organisations.

Speaking at the event before unveiling a plaque, Councillor Steven Purcell, said, "I am delighted the organisation has chosen Glasgow as its new Scottish headquarters. The Council has had a long relationship with Momentum on a range of initiatives and the work they do for some of the most vulnerable people of Glasgow and elsewhere in the UK is first class. Helping more people into employment will benefit the whole city."

Ian Welsh, Director of UK Services for Rehab Group, which incorporates Momentum, said, "Since 1990 we have continually expanded and developed new innovative services and thanks to this significant award from the Scottish Investment Fund we can continue to build equal chances, equal choices and equal futures for people in Scotland."

Enterprise Minister, Jim Mather MSP, added, "I am delighted to see the Scottish Investment Fund support established third sector organisations such as Momentum. This very impressive enterprise reaches individuals where the public and private sectors do not operate, creating valuable employment opportunities." ■



Pictured: Calling out for a hero! (left to right) Superheroes Robin (Sam Foster), Superwoman (Michelle Shamolan), Batman (Eoghan Smyth Cavanagh), Batgirl (Lauren Jones Brennan) and Superman (Joshua Ryan) at the launch of the 2009 People of the Year Awards.

Holy Superheroes, Batman. It's the People of the Year Awards

Nominations for real-life superheroes are now being invited for this year's awards on September 12.

IT MAY HAVE BEEN A GRIM, GREY, CLOUDY DAY IN downtown Dublin, but nothing could dampen the spirits of these superheroes as they were pictured together in the same atmosphere for the first time to mark a special occasion – the launch of the People of the Year Awards.

Batman, Batgirl, Robin, Superman and Supergirl joined with real-life superheroes, Sonia O'Sullivan, winner of the Greatest Living Irish Sportsperson in 2004, social campaigner Fr Peter McVerry who won the award in 2005 and Ronan Hayes, who won the Joint Young Person of the Year Award last year, to mark the occasion. The launch heralded the call for people to nominate their heroes for the 2009 People of the Year Awards which this year celebrate their 35th birthday.



QUINN-healthcare is the sponsor of the awards. Speaking to Rehab News, Dónal Clancy, General Manager, said, "This is QUINN-Healthcare's third year working with the People of the Year Awards and we are delighted to play a role in recognising individuals and organisations who have achieved extraordinary things."

Angela Kerins, Rehab's Chief Executive, and chairperson of the adjudicating committee, added, "People can be nominated for great achievement in community work, international work and public service and there is also a special category for young people aged under 25 years. I would urge everyone to get behind the call for nominations before the 1st June and make our 35th birthday the very best year in recognising those who have made a difference."

Past winners of the People of the Year Awards include Sir Bob Geldof, Pádraig Harrington, Mary Robinson, Veronica Guerin, Mo Mowlam, Christy Moore, Darren Sutherland, Kenny Egan and Keith Duffy.

RTÉ will broadcast the glittering star-studded event live from Dublin's Citywest Hotel. Steve Carson, RTÉ Television's Director of Programmes, says, "This is RTÉ's 26th year to

televisé the People of the Year Awards and, as Ireland's public service broadcaster, RTÉ is proud to bring this national event to a national television audience and play our part in saluting the exemplary people who will eventually be recognised on this year's programme."

The winners of the People of the Year Awards are chosen by members of the public through a nominations process and finalised by a panel of adjudicators comprising of leading members of the public service, community, business and media sectors. The awards include the International Person of the Year and the Young Person of the Year. In addition, this year sees a new special Award for a Nurse of the Year to recognise the work of this extraordinary profession and the pivotal role that nurses play in the treatment, care and recovery of ill people.

Nominations for the awards can be submitted online at www.peopleoftheyear.com or by email at poy@quinn-healthcare.com. Nomination forms are also available from Rehab, Roslyn Park, Sandymount, Dublin 4 or by telephoning 00353 1 205 7200. All entries should include details of the nominee and the reasons why they should win an award. The closing date for entries is June 1, 2009. ■



Pictured above: Real-life superheroes, Sonia O'Sullivan, winner of the Greatest Living Irish Sportsperson in 2004, and Fr Peter McVerry, People of the Year Award winner in 2005, at the launch of this year's awards.