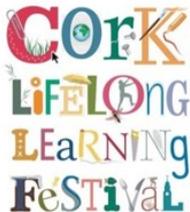


## WELCOME

To the Cork City Adult Guidance Service's (CCAGS) summer newsletter which keeps you informed about our service and developments in adult education in Cork city.

### Lifelong Learning Festival



As part of the recent Lifelong Learning Festival, Cork City Adult Guidance Service and CIT's Mature Student Office collaborated on a public event 'Your Operation Transformation'. Over 50 attendees packed into the Seminar Room of the Nimbus Centre in CIT on a wet Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March. The aim of the event was to provide inspiration and encouragement to those who may be looking for new opportunities to up-skill or re-train. The

event was officially opened by Dr. Irene Sheridan, Head of Extended Campus. The event hosted a range of speakers from representatives of the Cork City Adult Guidance Service, the Mature Student Officer in CIT, a representative from Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL), to current and former mature students of CIT and service users of the Adult Guidance Service.

These included Gavin Wilmott, Mature Student graduate of the National Maritime College's Higher Certificate in Nautical Science and currently 2<sup>nd</sup> Officer with Arklow Shipping Ltd., Donal Kenneally, Mature Student, Higher Certificate in Good Manufacturing Practice and Tracey Ryan, Mature Student graduate of the Herbal Science Degree and PINC Programme participant who has set up her own business [www.biabeauty.com](http://www.biabeauty.com).

Guest speaker, Business Consultant Veronica Perdisatt, provided a very inspirational, honest and evoking account of the academic and experiential

journey which has resulted in her current profile in the field of business. Veronica is a successful business woman with over 30 years experience at Senior and Executive Management level across a range of industries and sectors both in indigenous and multi-national companies.

Each participant had their own story to tell but all had the common theme of the value of lifelong learning and the positive impact that guidance had in helping

them to progress in their lives. The importance of support services such as the Adult Guidance Service, RPL and the Mature Student Officer was also highlighted.



'Your Operation Transformation' Lifelong Learning Festival 2013

Left to Right: Joan McSweeney, Adult Guidance Counsellor, Cork City Adult Guidance Service; Tracey Ryan, Bia Beauty; Veronica Perdisatt, (MBS) Business Consultant; Sinéad O'Neill, Mature Student Officer CIT; Oonagh Maher, Adult Guidance Counsellor, Cork City Adult Guidance Service; Claire Nagle, Guidance Information Officer, Cork City Adult Guidance Service; Phil O'Leary, Recognition of Prior Learning CIT.

### Inside this issue

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- Deans Street — Client Stories
- Springboard
- Group Work in Adult Guidance
- CCAGS Contact Details

### In Summary

- *Free*
- *Confidential*
- *Impartial*
- *Information*
- *Education Options*



## Careers News



Student Universal Support Ireland (SUSI), the online student grant application system, is now open at [www.grantsonline.ie](http://www.grantsonline.ie). The closing date for applications is Thursday, **1st August 2013**. To become familiar with all relevant information about student grants and to read the Guidance Notes for completing an application before you apply online please visit [www.susi.ie](http://www.susi.ie) and [www.studentfinance.ie](http://www.studentfinance.ie). Contact details for SUSI Support desk are Email: [support@susi.cdvec.ie](mailto:support@susi.cdvec.ie), Tel: 0761 087874 or Facebook: [www.facebook.com/susisupport](http://www.facebook.com/susisupport).



Keep up to date with new training & education courses, careers news and educational events by 'liking' our Facebook page:

**[www.facebook.com/corkadultguidance](http://www.facebook.com/corkadultguidance)**



*Article by Triona Crowley, Recruitment Consultant, CPL Healthcare*

Cpl Healthcare is the exclusive provider to the HSE for Health Care Assistants for the Southern region of Ireland 'HSE South'. We are proud to be Ireland's premier healthcare staffing agency with over twenty years of experience in this sector.

### Why Cpl Healthcare?

With agency work flexibility is paramount. You control your work/life balance. Our booking office is open 365 days per year from 7am to 9.30pm and we work to get you booked shifts matched to your availability, while we cannot always guarantee work we will always do our best. Since we are the exclusive provide in 'HSE South' for Health Care Assistants we cater for a wide range of HSE facilities throughout the South of Ireland.

### Sign me up!

Applicants must be qualified in FETAC Level 5: Healthcare Support, or have experience and are working toward this qualification. Since we place staff into a clinical environment (i.e. hospitals and nursing homes) there are a number of compliance and training requirements that must be completed beforehand;

Healthcare Provider CPR  
Patient Moving and Handling  
Infection Prevention and Control  
Recognising and Responding to Elder Abuse  
Non Violent Crisis Intervention

We will guide you through this journey as part of the recruitment process and will be able to assist with any queries that you have.

*\*Employment through Cpl Healthcare is dependent on satisfactory Garda Vetting, interview, references and full compliance.*

### Now the question on the tip of everyone's tongue, what kind of pay can I expect?

In accordance with the TAWD (Temporary Agency Working Directive) all agency workers are paid the same as their HSE counterparts. This means that your pay is determined by your experience, each full year of service equates to an increment point (with the maximum being the 7<sup>th</sup> point). More information on this can be found on the Department of Health and Children website.

We pay weekly on Fridays (one week in arrears) on receipt of your completed timesheet.

### Get in touch!

For informal enquiries or to arrange an interview you can contact us on our dedicated recruitment line (01) 4825452 or simply e-mail us on [recruitment@cplhealthcare.com](mailto:recruitment@cplhealthcare.com) Looking forward to hearing from you.



## Centre for Education Dean Street

The Centre for Education in Dean Street (beside St. Finbarr's Cathedral) began offering classes to adults under the BTEI scheme eight years ago. The BTEI course is run by the City of Cork VEC and is aimed at adults who, for whatever reason, have not fully completed their studies at second level. The course is offered on a part-time basis either in the morning or afternoon giving learners who may have additional family or work commitments flexibility. Class numbers are generally small giving students the chance to benefit from customised learning plans.

Most importantly, the programmes are fully accredited by FETAC at Levels 3 and 4. Success at L4 will enable learners to fulfil the entry requirements for further studies at Level 5 which are operated locally in Further Education Colleges.

The Level 4 course is an intensive one year course which allows learners to address any shortfalls that they might have in their learning. The course consists of classes in core skill areas such as Maths, Communications and Computers. There is also a term of Work Experience. Over the years the BTEI programme has forged a strong link with the Cork City Adult Guidance Service (CCAGS). The cooperation between both services helps our students to fine tune their overall career and education plans. Those who successfully complete the programme report that their confidence, organisation skills as well as their academic ability are much improved thus enabling a smooth transition to further studies.

In general, applicants are approved by Social Welfare to retain all of their allowances. The programme is open to applicants of all ages and is conducted very much in an adult style of learning. Currently the centre is processing applications for its BTEI programmes due to start in early September 2013. Anybody who is interested should contact CCAGS or the course coordinators directly on 4966950/4312031 to discuss their learning options.

### Dean Street Client Stories

#### Calvin O Callaghan



'I decided to return to education back in September 2012. My time at the centre of education was exciting as every day I was learning new things and found the different subjects interesting and challenging. It wasn't always easy but the teachers really helped me reach my full potential in completing my FETAC Level 4 and helped me find out what I wanted to pursue as a career continuing from there. As Art is my favourite subject I am now going to progress further in that field and go onto St. Johns College to do a FETAC 5 in Graphic Design'

#### Trevor Kelleher



'After 20 years out of education, I was reluctant and nervous about returning. With the help of Joan McSweeney at Cork City Guidance Service I got a place on the BTEI FETAC L4 course in Dean St. The staff were very friendly, gave great encouragement, and were very patient through-out the year. It was extremely fulfilling and I would recommend it to anybody returning to education'



Cork City Adult  
Guidance Service



Coiste Gairmoideachais Chathair Chorcaí  
City of Cork Vocational Education Committee

## SPRINGBOARD



***The Springboard initiative in Higher Education offers a choice of free, part-time courses in higher education from certificate, to degree, to post-graduate level.***

***Springboard has identified in demand qualifications among employers. All courses lead to qualifications in enterprise sectors which are growing and need skilled personnel, including information and communications technology (ICT); the medical devices sector; bio-pharma, pharmachem; green energy; international financial services; and the food and beverage sector.***

***Qualifications are also available in cross-enterprise skills such as Six Sigma; Lean and Quality Systems; sales; business-start up and entrepreneurship. All courses are part-time, enabling individuals to keep social protection supports.***

***Springboard 2013 will be launched on June 21<sup>st</sup> 2013. For more information and details of courses available please see: [www.springboardcourses.ie](http://www.springboardcourses.ie)***

# Group Work in Adult Guidance

Cork City Adult Guidance Service has engaged with over 8,500 individuals through group meetings in the past 7 years. The service frequently receives invites from groups in the city centre and in community based locations. Group guidance is tailor- made to the needs of each group. Group guidance may consist of:

- on-going, intensive engagement with a smaller number of groups;
- workshops supporting tutors who deliver specific career related topics;
- service introduction presentations to adult education classes and agencies;
- service representation on interagency fora and events.

## ***What does group work entail?***

Identifying the needs of the group with the tutor/ agency, preparing and planning the session, presenting and delivering the session; following-up on emerging queries and organising one-to-one sessions.

Meeting people in groups is a good use of resources, sessions can be delivered to several people simultaneously and for the individual there is a feeling of safety when meeting in an established, familiar setting. After group sessions individuals are invited to make follow-up, one-to-one appointments to enable collaboration between the individual and the Adult Guidance Counsellor to develop a personalised progression plan for the future.

In this quarter the Adult Guidance Counsellors met with a variety of groups in different organisations including :

- Dean St. Adult Education Programmes
- Study Skills for Citizen Information Centre staff
- Bessborough Adult Leaving Certificate Programme
- FETAC Level 5 Healthcare Programme - FÁS
- Welcome English Language School
- Gurrabraher Forum for the Unemployed

## Contact Details



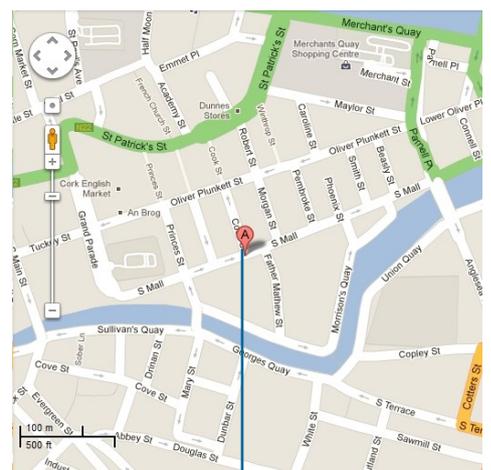
### Cork City Adult Guidance Service

Information Resource Centre  
22 South Mall  
Cork  
Phone: 021 490 7149  
E-mail: [guidanceinfo@corkvec.ie](mailto:guidanceinfo@corkvec.ie)  
Website: [www.corkadulthoodguidance.ie](http://www.corkadulthoodguidance.ie)

 [www.facebook.com/  
corkadulthoodguidance](https://www.facebook.com/corkadulthoodguidance)

**WALK IN TIMES:**  
Monday & Tuesday 2.30pm - 4.30pm  
Wednesday & Thursday 10.00 am – 12.00 noon

**Postal Address:**  
21 Lavitts Quay, Cork



**Information Resource Centre,  
22 South Mall (beside Threshold,  
opposite AIB)**