

CAD Annual Report 2001



Community Awareness of Drugs

'Drug Prevention through Education'

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CAD is a voluntary organisation and registered charity in receipt of core funding under Section 65 of the 1953 Health Act

Patron: Mary Mc Aleese, President of Ireland.

Introduction

Since 1983, CAD has sought to provide parents and the voluntary/community sector with information and training most pertinent to the prevention of/or earliest possible intervention in substance misuse related problems. The year 2001 was no exception, as a number of indicators, signalled increased prevalence rates related to the varying levels of engagement with mood altering substances by young people. While the more recent surveys continue to demonstrate that the vast majority of Irish young people refrain from regular use of illicit substances, experimentation, more regular and dependent usage rates, remain a significant cause for concern. In addition, a profound ambivalence to the use of alcohol continues to be quite evident in Irish society in general, and is of particular concern to those with an interest in the physical, emotional and social well being of Irish youth.

The year also brought reports from the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA) on the prioritisation of drug education programmes across Europe. Closer to home, at a more local level, CAD Tutors continued to deliver our 'Parenting for Prevention' drug education programme, primarily in local drug task force areas. Fifteen of the seventeen undertaken in 2001 were in LDTF areas while the remainder were held in Carlow and Balbriggan. In addition, the third Update Day for past participants of our programme was most appreciated by parents/guardians from throughout the province.

Our Education days' specifically targeting community workers were very well attended with nearly a quarter of participants drawn from communities in other regional health board areas. We are particularly indebted to Dr. Des Corrigan, School of Pharmacy at Trinity and Audrey Kilgallon, Drug Treatment Centre Board for their major input at CAD Education Events.

In line with more recent calls for strategic management at all levels, CAD continued to seek ways to create and partake in mutually beneficial partnerships that would enhance our 'demand reduction' work. One such collaborative partnership that CAD sought to create, coincided with a course of study at the Department of Social Studies in Trinity College. It is our sincere wish that in time, the newly established inter- agency cooperative enquiry group (ICEG) will bear significant 'fruit' and ultimately enable CAD to reach more parents – parents who wish to update their drug related information; sensitively explore attitudes and decisions on drug related issues; and, develop what they consider to be, an appropriate drug prevention strategy for their particular family.

Another partnership approach that we value is the Drug Education Workers Forum (DEWF). Confidence within DEWF has slowly grown as momentum has gathered. This has greatly facilitated the pooling of varying levels of expertise by voluntary, community and statutory drug education workers.

Thirdly, at an international level, a learning partnership between colleagues in Birmingham, and Lithuania while in its infancy and heavily reliant on our acquiring European funding under the Socrates programme and matching funding from the Ireland Funds, is seen in a most beneficial light.

Our more established relationships with colleagues in the relevant government departments along with our regular contact with the Irish Association of Alcohol and Addiction Counsellors, Coolmine Therapeutic Community and Merchants Quay Ireland will hopefully continue to flourish and impact positively on our organisation. On behalf of my colleagues, I wish to thank most sincerely our ever-widening circle of friends.

Bernie Me Donnell.
Co-ordinator CAD



CAD Office June 2001

Background to the organisation

- Community Awareness of Drugs (CAD) began as a national federation of voluntary groups who were responding to unprecedented levels of drug misuse in their communities. Initial training and on going support were provided to those who were committed to drug prevention through education. CAD worked effectively as a federation until 1989 when a number of affiliated groups disbanded. At that time in the late eighties, drug related problems were not as evident and many volunteers felt they had given enough to their communities. Not wishing to lose what been painstakingly developed, the remaining CAD volunteers gave a commitment to “mind the baby”, realizing that drug related problems might resurface sooner or later. Within two years, calls to the CAD office began again in earnest.

Following an internal review of resources in 1991, a Co-ordinator was appointed and together with a small team of highly committed volunteers set about developing a range of drug prevention/demand reduction services for both parents and community workers. These services are:

- ❖ The CAD “Parenting for Prevention” six-session programme.
- ❖ The CAD Drug Awareness Presentation for Parents / Guardians.
- ❖ The CAD Residential Training Weekend and / or Education Days for the voluntary / community sector.
- ❖ Support for Drug Awareness Groups
- ❖ Advisor and Referral Service

In 1993 our organization qualified for charitable status. We are in receipt of core funding under Section 65 of the 1953 Health Act. The remainder of our running costs are covered through various grants from a variety of sources, including the Department of Health and Children, through the Eastern Health Board (now the Eastern Regional Health Authority); The People in Need Trust; the Department of Education and Science Home / School Liaison Service; Local Drug Task Forces, Community Drug Teams; individual members of the public; corporate donations; as well as our own “not for profit” course fees.

Over the years there have been many voluntary hours donated to CAD without which the organization could not have survived. In 1998, to mark the 100th Parenting for Prevention programme, CAD were invited to pay a courtesy call on President Mary McAleese. The one-hundredth group, parents with children at the Rosary College, Crumlin, along with the staff and volunteers of Community Awareness of Drugs, spent an enjoyable morning at Aras an Uachtarain. Following this memorable visit, the President honoured CAD by agreeing to become our sole patron.

A brief overview of the year

- ❖ “Parenting for Prevention” six-session drug education programme

This, our primary service, seeks **to promote the role of parents and carers in reducing the demand for drugs.**

There were seventeen such family-focused programmes that were successfully completed during the course of the year. These programmes were delivered predominantly in the greater Dublin area, as well as in counties Wicklow and Carlow. Fifteen of the seventeen were undertaken in areas where local drugs task forces have been established. Since the launch of our ‘Parenting for Prevention’ programme in 1992, 185 groups of parents and carers have completed the six-session drug education programme. There were one hundred and ninety four participants in the year 2001, all of whom received the customary certificates on completion of the course.

The analysis of the “Parenting for Prevention” programme shows that, from 1993 and up until the end of 2001, of the one hundred and eighty-five programmes delivered in total, one hundred and forty-four of these were delivered in areas covered by Local Drug Task Force (LDTF). This means that over three quarters (78%) of the parental drug education and awareness programmes were delivered to parents, carers and guardians in areas deemed to be at disadvantage, and therefore deemed to be at greater risk from substance misuse.

Local Drug Task Force (LDTF) area	Number of programmes delivered in LDTF area	Number of parents/guardians participating in “Parenting for Prevention” programme
Ballyfermot	6 (six)	63
Ballymun	0 (zero)	0
Blanchardstown	22 (twenty-two)	269
Bray	3 (three)	42
Canal Communities	2 (two)	28
Clondalkin	22 (twenty-two)	262
Dublin 12	19 (nineteen)	264
Dublin North East	20 (twenty)	310
North Inner City	12 (twelve)	156
South Inner City	9 (nine)	95
Dun Laoghaire	6 (six)	82
Finglas/Cabra	3 (three)	30
Cork	0 (zero)	0
Tallaght	20 (twenty)	225
Total	144 of 185	1826 of 2449

Regarding the programme participants, of the two thousand, four hundred and forty nine (2449) parents to have completed the “Parenting for Prevention” programme, three quarters, or one thousand, eight hundred and twenty-six (1826) were from Local Drug Task Force areas. Further analysis of the participants has shown that 93.5% were female, predominantly mothers.

	Number	Percentage
Female	2288	93.5%
Male	161	6.5%

Nineteen programmes were delivered outside of the greater Dublin area. This means that not only were ninety per cent of participants parents and guardians from Dublin, but that the clear majority of this number (75%) lived within LDTF areas.

In LDTF areas the breakdown of the venues differs starkly from that of non-Local Drug Task Force areas. The clear majority of venues in areas that are not covered by LDTF were outside of schools and colleges. These are in the main programmes delivered to drug awareness groups, community groups, women’s groups in their own premises, or in a variety of locations outside of schools. Regarding non-LDTF areas, the figures reflect the fact that our contacts in these areas are predominantly community-based, whilst in the LDTF areas we have worked particularly hard to build links with Home School Liaison Coordinators and others that are based in school settings.

	Local Drug Task Force Area		Non-Local Drug Task Force Area	
Venue for “Parenting for Prevention” programme	Number of programmes	Percentage (%)	Number of programmes	Percentage (%)
Primary School	46	32.3	2	4.9
Secondary School/College	37	27.1	10	24.4
Total School/College	83	59.4	12	30.3
Other Venues	55	40.6	29	70.7
Total Sept 93 to date	138		41	

Listed below are the locations; the number of people attending each group; the CAD tutor who worked with the group of parents and carers, if the course was run in a local drugs task force area (LDTF) and if the course was booked through/assisted by the Department of Education and Science Home/School Liaison service (H/S).

- Ref 169 Northside Unemployment Centre, Coolock, 22 participants, Bemie, (LDTF)
- Ref 170 Scoil Mhuire, Shankill, 10 participants, Bemie, (LDTF). [H/S]
- Ref 171 Traveller Support Group, Parslickstown, 9 participants, Bemie, (LDTF).
- Ref 172 C.A.D. Group, Carlow, 19 participants, Liz
- Ref 173 St Mary's Senior School, Rowlagh, 7 participants, Liz. (LDTF) [H/S]
- Ref 174 George's Hill National School, 13 participants, Bemie (LDTF) [H/S]
- Ref 175 Matt Talbot Community Trust, 10 participants, Liz (LDTF)
- Ref 176 St Peter Apostle School, Neilstown, 7 participants, Bemie (LDTF) [H/S]
- Ref 177 St Maelruain's C of I School, Tallaght, 11 participants, Liz (LDTF) [H/S]
- Ref 178 Liberties Vocational College, 13 participants, Bemie (LDTF) [H/S]
- Ref 179 Archbishop Mc Quaid School, Loughlinstown, 6 participants, Liz (LDTF) [H/S]
- Ref 180 St Fergal's National School, Bray, 13 participants, Liz (LDTF) [H/S]
- Ref 181 St Mary's Holy Faith School, Killester, 9 participants, Bemie (LDTF) [H/S]
- Ref 182 Scoil Aonghusa, Balrothery, 12 participants. Liz (LDTF) [H/S]
- Ref 183 Rowlagh Community Centre, 13 participants, Bemie (LDTF)
- Ref 184 Balbriggan Awareness of Drugs, 17 participants, Bemie
- Ref 185 Scoil Talbot, Bawnogue, 13 participants, Liz (LDTF) [H/S]

• For further information on our plans for the wider dissemination of our Parenting for Prevention programme through an inter – agency approach, see further on

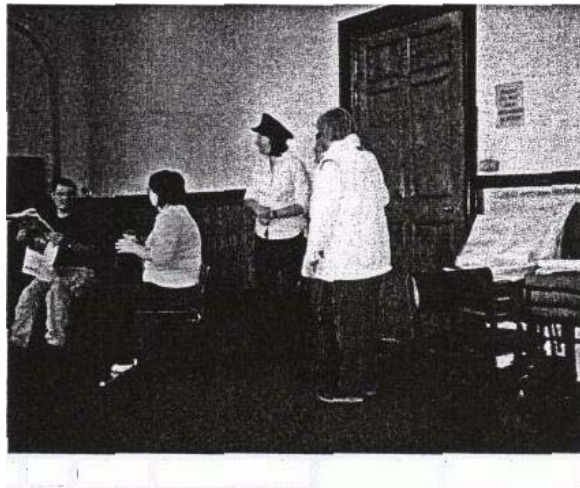
❖ Drug education update day

On the 29th of September we hosted an Update Day for past participants of the CAD “Parenting for Prevention” programme. This is the third such Update Day CAD has offered to past participants since we began working in a more comprehensive way with parents in September 1993. Such events are organised in recognition of the fact that such ‘booster’ type initiatives are considered highly relevant in the drug prevention through education literature. The day was deemed a great success by the participants, with over one hundred people in attendance. Eoin Ryan TD, Minister of State with special responsibility for the National Drugs Strategy kindly opened the proceedings with a short address.

❖ CAD Drug Education opportunities for community workers

In addition to our work with parents, CAD regularly offers educational opportunities to those whose lives bring them in regular contact with young people. Two such events were held during 2001. The first was an Education Day at which there were 37 delegates. This event was originally planned for March, but was unavoidably postponed because of the Foot and Mouth crisis. Held on Saturday 28th of April, at All Hallows College, the theme for the day was “Drugs, Choices and Experiences”.

In attendance at the Education Day were representatives from St Cronan’s S.N.S, Swords; S.P.H.E. Support Services (post-primary), Marino Institute of Education; St John’s College, Ballyfermot; Colaiste Eoin, Finglas; St Andrew’s Resource Centre, Dublin; N.A.H.B./Damdale Treatment Centre; Howth Drug Awareness Group; St Conleth’s Vocational School, Newbridge; St Joseph’s Secondary School, Rush; Templeshannon Community Development Project, Enniscorthy; Sacred Heart Secondary School, Westport; HAIL Housing Project, Dublin; Pathway Project, Dublin; Jobstown Community College, Tallaght; Firhouse Drug Awareness Group, Tallaght; Haddington Road Primary School, Dublin; O’Connell’s Boys National School, Dublin; Ringsend Technical College, Dublin; and Cavan Drug Awareness Group.



Group work at the CAD Residential Training Weekend, October 2001

The second drug education event for community workers was a residential training weekend again held at All Hallows College on the 20th and 21st of October. There were 38 participants taking part in this intensive training session. They represented: Our Lady of Lourdes School, Rosbrien, Co Limerick; Cork Local Drugs Task Force; Matt Talbot Community Trust, Chapelizod; Parents Making Children Aware, Dublin; Meath Drugs Education Group; Finglas Youth Service; Killinarden Drug Primary Prevention Group, Tallaght; Mary Immaculate National School, Lisdoonvama; FOCUS Ireland, Dublin; Dublin North East Local Drugs Task Force; Clondalkin Addiction Support Programme; Community Development Network, Moyross, Co Limerick; FADO Project, Cork; Blanchardstown Youth Service; Kilbarrack Coast Community Programme; Finglas Community Drugs Programme; Tallaght Youth Service; St Raphael's Youth Club, Dublin; West Clare Drugs & Alcohol Awareness Project; Balbriggan Youth Development Project; Crosscare Drug Awareness Project; St Munchin's Youth Project, Limerick; St Dominic's Community Response Project, Tallaght; and PACE Project, Dublin.

Guest Speakers

We offer our sincere thanks to our trainers and guest speakers. Firstly, to Dr. Des Corrigan, Director of the School of Pharmacy, Trinity and Chair of the National Advisory Committee on Drugs (NACD) for his continued support in relation to CAD education and training. We also thank Audrey Kilgallon, of the National Drug Treatment Centre Board, for her invaluable input during the year and our friends at both Coolmine Therapeutic Community and Merchants Quay Ireland. The shared personal experiences of both the young people in recovery and members of family support groups provide clear reminders of the need to remain vigilant around our young people. Last but not least, for an update on the Juvenile Diversion Programme and related matters we thank Sgt. Eamonn Tuohy from the National Juvenile Office.



Minister of State Eoin Ryan TD, at our Parents Update Day September 2001

❖ Drug Awareness Presentations

As in previous years CAD responded to a small number of requests for single-session drug awareness presentations. In the course of the year CAD delivered three one-off drug awareness presentations, these talks were conducted at various locations in Dublin:

- Cavan Wider Horizons Group – at Liberty Hall prior to international student placements
- Newlands Training Centre, Tallaght

Fig. 1 Drug prevention through education – CAD services

Target: Parents/Guardians/Carers Community Workers Students

Year	Parenting for Prevention Programmes		CAD Drug Education Update Days for Parents	CAD Drug Education Days for Community Workers	Residential Training Weekends	CAD Presentations/ Training days	Requests for Information from students
	Number of groups	Number of participants	Number of events (Participants)	Number of events (Participants)	Number of weekends (Participants)	Number of events	Number of requests, approximately
1998	28	440	1(175)	0	3(92)	8	200
1999	23	250	0	1(48)	2(53)	4	140
2000	13	130	0	1(54)	1(24)	4	100
2001	17	194	1(103)	1(45)	1(38)	3	150

❖ Advice and Referral

As an integral part of our advice and referral service CAD distributes information on a variety of organisations and agencies from both the voluntary and statutory sectors. During the course of the year we estimate that we distributed several thousand leaflets and information packs that are produced by the Health Promotion Unit. Each participant of the “Parenting for Prevention” programme, as well those attending the Update Day, Education Day for Community Workers and Residential Training Weekend received a broad range of materials relating to substance misuse and its effects. Every student that requests information also receives similar materials to assist them in their studies. Several mature students have also visited the office to research the materials in our archives.

National cooperation

Community Awareness of Drugs is fortunate to be associated with a variety of different collective bodies involved in the drug awareness and prevention field. As one of the few community/voluntary organisations to specialise in drug education for parents, we believe we play an important role in promoting the role of parents in reducing the demand for drugs. CAD is grateful for the assistance it receives from the South Western Area Health Board (SWAHB) in terms of resources and funding. Where requested we believe that we offer an ancillary service that compliments those normally provided by the health service.

The SWAHB provides core funding to CAD under Section 65 of the 1953 Health Act. In addition to this, practical assistance in terms of the cooperative enquiry process (outlined below) and other links has been offered to CAD on a regular basis from staff members of all three Area Health Boards within the Eastern Regional Health Authority catchment area. *On* occasion, CAD has had contact with Regional Health Board staff members, again in relation to the collaborative process. We are grateful for all their assistance in this regard.

We are affiliated to several local initiatives and some national bodies involved in the drugs education and prevention field:

Drug Education Workers Forum, (DEWF) established at the beginning of this year, is comprised of professionals drawn from the voluntary/community and statutory sectors. Members[♦] actively work in both the design and delivering of drug education programmes. The aims of the DEWF are to facilitate networking, peer support, information exchange and lobbying – with a view to enhancing the resources and coordination of drug prevention work through education. CAD is delighted to be able to contribute to all aspects of this collective body. As members of the Quality Assurance sub-committee, this includes working on the development of a working model of good practice, as well as general principles for drugs education workers.

AONTAS, CAD is an affiliate member of this organisation[♣], the adult education association for the both the statutory and voluntary sector in Ireland. We share their aims and view of the importance and value of life-long learning in the field of adult learning and community education. CAD hopes the expertise and advice of AONTAS will enable us to develop the recruitment process for additional programme deliverers, as well as benefiting the gaining of accreditation for the Parenting for Prevention tutors.

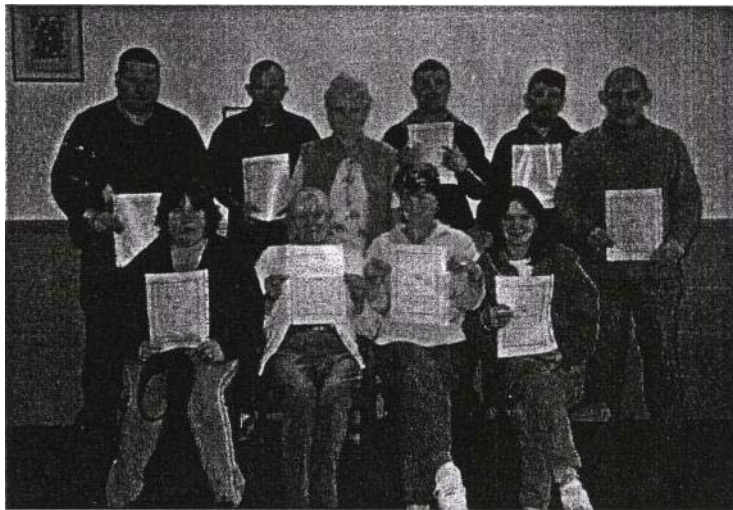
[♦] The Drug Education Workers Forum, whilst open to all working in the field, is currently examining criteria for membership. Further details are available from the Secretary (see contacts page).

[♣] Affiliate membership of AONTAS is open to all organisations engaged in community and/or adult education. Further details are available from the AONTAS coordinating office (see contacts page).

Irish Association Of Alcohol and Addiction Counsellors, the IAAAC aims to promote the highest ethical and professional standards within the counselling field, with the CAD Co-ordinator representing the Associate Membership on the National Executive Committee. Our coordinator has been an Associate Member of the Irish Association of Alcohol and Addiction Counsellors since 1993 representing the Associate Membership* on the National Executive for the past two years.

Dublin North East Drug Task Force Prevention/Education Sub-Group, this sub-committee acts as the monitoring body for the prevention and education work across this particular local drugs task force area. The CAD Co-ordinator was invited to serve on the Prevention and Education sub – committee of this local drugs task force in October 2000.

The Wheel, a voluntary/community sector movement, the Wheel enables organisations and groups to network and discuss ways in which we can all make a more positive impact in terms of policymaking here in Ireland, by developing partnerships between statutory and non-statutory bodies. CAD has a specific interest in the addictions spokes with respect to both gaining knowledge from, and providing support to, other members ♥.



Parenting for Prevention group. Matt Talbot Community Trust

• Associate membership is open to anyone who: (a) supports the aims of the Association; (b) is working in the Addictions field; (c) has an interest in alcohol and addiction counselling; (d) wants to be a member of a National Association inclusive of all aspects of addiction; (e) is willing to be involved in the development of the Association; (f) and, may be in pre- accreditation stage of their own professional development.

♥ Membership of the Wheel is open to all organisations from the Voluntary and Community Sector. For details see the contacts page

International Cooperation

➤ Grundtvig partnership

As an organisation with some years experience of delivering drug awareness education programmes, Community Awareness of Drugs has been fortunate to develop a network of international links with a variety of statutory and non-statutory bodies. Recently we have been building on such links, links that were first established when CAD was invited to make a presentation at a conference in Vilnius and facilitate a subsequent workshop in November 2000.

Over the past year we have entered in to a cooperative learning partnership through the Grundtvig action of the European Union SOCRATES programme*, with the hosts of the Vilnius conference. Parents Against Drugs, as well as Parents for Prevention, ^ Birmingham, UK, an agency that “supports parents and carers of drugs users”. CAD met our collaborative partners at an initial preparatory visit to Dublin in October 2001. (This meeting was specifically scheduled to coincide with one of CAD residential training programme for community workers).



CAD & our European partners

Both of the partner agencies have experience in the field of drugs prevention, some involving parents in general population work, others working directly with families of drug-dependent clients. We in CAD regard ourselves very fortunate to be working with these our friends, and hope to continue to build on the links formally established at the preparatory visit.

This meeting allowed all the partners to examine ways in which we could work together on future longer-term projects. This culminated in an application to the European Union SOCRATES Programme for funding for a three-year project. Whilst the initial pre-proposal under Grundtvig 1 was rejected, the meeting in Dublin enabled all the partners to agree a detailed programme of events that would allow us to, at minimal cost, learn from one another and animate developments in our localities. The partners plan to submit another proposal, this time under the aegis of Grundtvig 2, in the spring of 2002.

* The Grundtvig action of the European Union SOCRATES Programme is administered nationally by Leargas. For further details see the contacts page.

In order that our partners gain the maximum benefit from this connection with an Irish-based organisation, we hope to link in with some of the projects associated with the Drug Education Workers Forum. Their specialist knowledge in areas outside the remit of the work of Community Awareness of Drugs will enable us to develop a comprehensive training programme for the partnership. To mark the visit of our international guests CAD took the opportunity to host a modest networking dinner. In attendance on the night were the following:

Jim Doyle, Area Operations Manager, SWAHB; *Dermot Gough*, Education Officer, SWAHB; *Laura O Reilly*, Education Co-ordinator Clondalkin Local Drugs Task Force, *John Lahiff*, National Co-ordinator SPHE Support Services at post primary level; *Treasa Leahy*, Regional Development Officer SPHE; *Tony Jordan*, Chairman Irish Association of Alcohol and Addiction Counsellors (IAAAC) and *Kathleen Meagher*, Membership Secretary, IAAAC. Our visitors and guests were suitably impressed with our multi-disciplinary networking dinner – a very pleasant evening was had by one and all at the QV2.



Grundtvig networking dinner

➤ Overseas assistance & professional development

■ *European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction*

As one of the few voluntary/community organisations that concentrate on actively delivering drugs education to parents, Community Awareness of Drugs tries to keep abreast of the latest research and trends. The work that is taking place throughout Europe, particularly through the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA), is vital in expanding our knowledge database. Recent developments in evaluation tools for prevention work are especially interesting, and feed in to the work that CAD undertakes alone and in conjunction with collective bodies.

Throughout the coming year we will also be working on a project whereby our Parenting for Prevention six-session programme becomes part of the European Union's Exchange on Drug Demand Reduction Action (EDDRA) database. If we are to achieve this aim, then our programme will be viewed as an instance of good practice in the area of drug awareness and education. In order to do this the national focal point, the Health Research Board, and their European partners in the EMCDDA will critically evaluate our programme outline and guidelines, the idea being that drug education and awareness projects elsewhere can access this database, for their own programme development. The website at www.emcdda.org has further details.

There is a wealth of information that is published on a regular basis by two UK organisations Drug Prevention Advisory Service (www.dpas.gov.uk) and Drugscope (www.drugscope.org.uk). CAD uses this information in terms of the professional development of the organisation and by disseminating it to colleagues in the field. Other European cooperative organisations that we have links to include:

■ *European Cities Against Drugs*

CAD is affiliated to European Cities Against Drugs (ECAD). This international organisation is against the legalisation of drugs and is in favour of new methods to combat drugs, developing care for drug users, proactive and assertive preventive measures and for increasing international co-operation. More than 240 capitals, cities and municipalities in European countries have now joined ECAD, and this represents almost 100 million citizens Europe-wide. More details are available at www.ecad.net.

■ *National Drug Prevention Alliance (UK)*

A UK organisation, NDPA defines drug prevention as the facilitation, encouragement and validation of health-enhancing lifestyles, free of drug misuse. CAD has been affiliated to this organisation since 1993. More details on this agency can be found at its website, www.drugprevent.org.uk.

Meetings and Conferences

As part of our commitment to on-going training and professional development, CAD representatives attended numerous conferences and seminars, over the course of 2001. These events included:

- *Exhibition/or drug education & prevention organisations, hosted by Citywide Drugs Crisis Campaign*
- *Celsoft information training day*
- *Conference on alcohol and alcohol-dependency, organised by the Rutland Centre*
- *Report launch by the Edenmore Drug Intervention Team*
- *Seminar on working with parents groups, hosted by Drug Awareness Project Crosscare*
- *Question & answer session on drugs & alcohol issues in Ireland, hosted by Trinity College Dublin & East Coast Area Health Board*
- *Attention Deficit, Hyper activity Disorder seminar*
- *Report launch on prevention projects, National Advisory Committee on Drugs*
- *Conference hosted by the Child Research Centre, TCD: “When parents use drugs”*
- *ECAD 8th Mayor’s Conference, Belfast*
- *1st Annual Conference, Addiction Research Centre, TCD*
- *Fundraising Institute of Ireland conference, at Belfield – UCD*
- *Launch of the Dublin Nth East Local Drug Task Force website*
- *Report launch, Community Workers Forum, Clarence Hotel, Dublin*
- *Merchants Quay Ireland, annual report launch*
- *Information session on the National Drugs Strategy, hosted by the SWAHB*
- *Blakestown/Mountview Community Drugs Team launch*
- *Report launch by National Drugs Treatment Centre*
- *Lower Crumlin Family Support Group, information evening*
- *Conference on the role of the community in implementing the National Drugs Strategy, hosted by Citywide*
- *Adult education workshop organised by the Dublin Corporation Development Board, at Marino Institute of Education*



Parenting for Prevention group, Parslickstown

The development of the organisation

Over the next year or so Community Awareness of Drugs will re-examine the issue of recruitment, staff development, training and peer support and supervision, encapsulating these in a clear and unequivocal policy statement. We believe that our work within the drug education sector is important, and cooperation with other drug education workers is a vital part of the process of prevention through education. By achieving active and effective representation on both existing and emerging partnership agencies involving statutory and voluntary/community agencies, we can contribute to the overall development of the sector.

We have long recognised the need to carry out some form of external evaluative research in to the work that we do. To date our efforts have centred on developing high quality services. External evaluation is important for a number of reasons: primarily, we can see how best to continue the improvements in the services that we currently offer, as well as quantifying the success of the programmes such as Parenting for Prevention. All the current programme deliverers have pressed for this, having seen first hand the potential of the six-session programme, and the impact it has had at a community level. Such development will ultimately have an impact on the future direction of the organisation, particularly with regard to the need to put in place a recruitment process for the wider dissemination of the programme. This will entail increased coordination, logistical and administrative work.

The appointment of a support/development worker to assist the organisation with this was therefore seen as a priority. CAD was able to attract partial funding from the South Western Area Health Board for the post, for an initial period of six-month, and for this we are very grateful. This post has enabled us to devote both time and energy to the long-term strategic development of the organisation, without detracting from our core work of continuing to provide quality awareness education programmes to parents and others. Recent governmental initiatives have talked of the need to build capacity among the voluntary sector, particularly those agencies like CAD who work with statutory agencies.

The board of management are firmly committed to farther exploring this area, and have foreseen that it could be based around the Masters in Drug and Alcohol Policy that our coordinator began at Trinity College, Dublin in 2000. As a part of our commitment to on-going training, as well as personal and professional development this course has allowed both the coordinator and CAD to gain in terms of a clearer understanding of the policymaking environment that we operate in, and how we can better contribute to this process.

M.Sc. in Drug and Alcohol Policy at Trinity facilitates inter- agency partnership

Those familiar with CAD ethos will know that the single most important issue for our organisation is to seek to find the most effective and efficient way to engage parents in drug education programmes that are aimed at reducing the demand for 'drugs'. In order for this to happen, careful consideration needs to be given to all areas of policy making that impact on our organisation and our 'clients'.

To this end, an opportunity was seized by our Board of Directors to release our coordinator in order that she may undertake a two- year part time course of study, at the Dept. of Social Studies, University of Dublin, Trinity College. The course runs from 2000- 2002 and is titled the M.Sc. in Drug and Alcohol Policy. A decision was then taken to link the subsequent research project with current organisational change in the first instance and more specifically the planned wider dissemination of our primary service the CAD 'Parenting for Prevention' Programme.

An inter-agency co-operative enquiry group (ICEG) was established during 2001. The group is comprised of Social, Personal and Health Education (SPHE) Regional Development Officers at post -primary level. Health Board Education Officers from the three area health boards within the ERHA, the Director of Drug Awareness Programme -Crosscare, the Vice- President of AONTAS and three representatives from CAD

The group meets monthly with a view to developing a sustainable training programme for additional parental drug education programme deliverers, such as CAD Tutors. Reports from the monthly meetings will form the basis of the thesis '*An Inter- Agency approach to forging closer links between school and parent drug education programmes*'. In addition to the holding of monthly meetings, a mapping exercise, to determine the extent to which parents' nation-wide has access to multi- session, parental drug education programmes was planned during 2001. All partners view the collaborative project as one of the many demand reduction initiatives currently under development or review in Ireland under our national drugs strategy 'Building on Experience' 2001- 2008.



Parenting for Prevention group, Coolock

Other developments

- Policy document:

Over the past number of years Community Awareness of Drugs has begun to look in more depth at the area of policy, in all its forms for the organisation. There has been a gradual realisation in this complex and challenging area, for the need for each organisation to have clearly definable aims and objectives set out in a policy document. Said document should also include suggested guidelines for the handling of specific drug related situations should they arise. CAD, in line with many of our community and statutory colleagues, are currently examining our current policies against what is perceived to be 'good practice' within our particular sector. This is another important area of work for CAD personnel, work that will undergo constant review as we seek to provide the best possible service our available resources will allow.

It is envisaged that the policy work will include areas such as: a mission statement outlining future plans; our view on the definition of drugs and the differing levels of engagement with substances, the ethos of the organisation; our approach to drug prevention through education, our suggested management of the handling of drug related situations and how best to structure our educational group – work contracts.

- Development of a website & the wider use of telematics:

With a wide variety of groups working in the drug education and treatment sector at present, we think it is important to clearly signpost access-points to the information and services that people want. To this end we are very grateful to Comhairle for providing funds in support of our project to establish a CAD website. Whilst we will continue to refer people on to appropriate agencies, we also recognise that there is a need to utilise the new and innovative technology in order to compliment the existing services available. The target audience for any web-based developments remains predominantly parents and guardians, although we also envisage both home school liaison and social, personal, and health education teachers will access the information included on the website. Some of the young adults that contact us seeking information for a variety of drugs related project will no doubt also access the website. Whilst they will be able to visit all parts of the site, we will also clearly signpost the more age-appropriate information and research sites from which they can glean the information they require.

As a provider of drug education programmes to parents/carers and community workers we will of course include information on the services that we offer: principally the CAD “Parenting for Prevention” programme, our education days for the voluntary/community sector and the residential training weekends for community workers that we host annually. We also believe that we need to include some form of directory of agencies, both statutory and voluntary, in the drug education and drug treatment sectors. Providing local contact details for these is a priority.

As a first stage in the process CAD carried out a postal survey of past participants of the “Parenting for Prevention”, peer organisations and other key contacts. The analysis of the survey clearly showed the requirements expected of our proposed Internet presence were extensive. Having discussed the project with other organisations we have decided to build an Internet information portal, whereby we create over time a series of links to quality information websites.

There are a surprising number of excellent websites providing information on drugs and drug related services based in Ireland. Over the past year we have also researched websites in the UK, the USA, across Europe and throughout the world. Whilst we do not wish to replicate the work that other agencies have done, the links will give people who access our website a brief description of what they contain. Plans are still being developed, however CAD feels that by working in tandem with partner organisations we will be able to achieve a credible, high-quality information portal. As a first step, we joined a pan-European collective, PREVNET, an organisation of drug prevention workers who use Internet-based materials as a key part of their day-to-day work.

- Fundraising:

The question of funding has long been a matter of concern for all involved with CAD, especially with regard to the actual core funding. This was brought home at the end of 2001 with announcement of the ending of the People in Need Telethon, from which we received several grants in the past. Whilst we have been awarded some additional funds under Section 65 of the 1953 Health Act, for which we were very grateful to the SWAHB, like all organisations in this field we continue to find it difficult to access adequate levels of both core and developmental funding.

The additional funding granted to CAD under Section 65 funding was used to offset the cost of employing a project support/development worker. Apart from being a major capacity building measure, this post has also allowed CAD to begin to look more actively at securing a wider variety of sources of funding. This year we have examined in detail the grants available from semi-state bodies for specific projects that we are undertaking, either acting alone, or in conjunction with others. Such grants are also made available periodically from agencies within the structures of the European Union, often administered at a national level here in Ireland. In addition to these, we are actively looking at the ramifications and in some cases ethics, of taking on corporate sponsorship for certain areas of our work. The need to explore new avenues, possibly combining our fundraising activities with events that raise our public profile have often been considered by our Board of Directors.

Donations

In addition to the core funding and “not-for-profit fees”, over the past year we were extremely fortunate to receive other sources of funding for a variety of projects. Whilst the SWAHB provided us with an additional grant to cover the costs of the Update Day and Comhairle granted funds for the development of the website project, we also received funding from: Aer Rianta, Batchelors Ltd., First Active pie. General Electric Superbrasives (Ire.) Ltd., the Irish Financial Services Centre Dublin Inner City Trust and the QV2 Restaurant. CAD would like to thank the companies and people involved in the granting of this sponsorship, and we look forward to working with them again in the future. Special thanks should also go to Mary Heduan who once again completed the Ladies’ Mini-marathon in May 2001, kindly donating her sponsorship to CAD.

Year of the Volunteer

As a voluntary organisation we rely so much on the energy, expertise and enthusiasm of our dedicated volunteers. Whilst all of our volunteers generously give of their time, particularly mention must go to a member of our Board of Directors and CAD Tutor, Liz Corbett who is rarely ‘off duty’. Liz’s ongoing commitment to our drug prevention work with parents, particularly outside Dublin is greatly valued. On matters related to finance and I.T. we have John Murphy to thank profusely. For presentation skills – Aine Meagher continues to instil tremendous confidence on those embarking on more public speaking engagements. In our view every agency needs to have an impartial voice to call on particularly when it comes to the more difficult of decisions – in this regard we thank another board member Alice Gallagher. In administration, regular volunteer Geraldine Me Bryan, is a godsend. Most regrettably however Geraldine will have less time to give to CAD in the future as she embarks on I.T. training that will undoubtedly lead to her securing employment. Our thanks must also go to Sally O’Gara and Carmel McDonagh for their help with the training events.

When it came to specifically marking the International Year of the Volunteer and in order to show the centrality of the volunteers in our organisation, the Board of Directors was delighted to invite another committed volunteer Lil Doyle, to consider co-option to the board of directors and help shape our future direction. Lil’s innate understanding of the needs of both young people and their parents has and will continue to be a tremendous asset to our organisation.

Members of the Board of Directors during the year 2001 were:

Elizabeth Corbett
Elizabeth Doyle
Alice Gallagher
Aine Meagher
Bernadette Me Donnell
John Murphy

Summary of Audited Accounts (2001)

Community Awareness of Drugs (Company Limited by Guarantee)

Summary of Audited Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2001 as prepared by John McElhinney & Co., Chartered Accountants, 7 Seville Place, Dublin 1.

	2001	
	£	€
<u>Operating Income</u>		
Statutory Grants (Section 65)	71,825	91,200
Statutory Grants (other)	-	-
Non-statutory Grants	3,460	4,395
Affiliations & Course Fees	10,706	13,590
Donations	2,133	2,710
	<u>88,124</u>	<u>111,895</u>
 <u>Operating Expenditure 2000</u>		
Labour Costs	48,757	61,910
Overheads	43,956	5,810
	<u>92,713</u>	<u>17,720</u>
 Operating (deficit)/surplus	 <u>(4,589)</u>	 <u>(5,825)</u>

Our main financial support, the Section 65 funding, we receive from the South Western Area Health Board who also gave an extra bursary towards the cost of an update day for parents who had completed the “Parenting for Prevention” six-session programme. Comhairle also kindly provided CAD with a grant towards the cost of developing an Internet presence.

Donations towards our on-going work were gratefully received from the following companies and charitable foundations: Aer Rianta, Batchelors Ltd., First Active pie. General Electric Superbrasives (Ire.) Ltd., the Irish Financial Services Centre Dublin Inner City Trust, the QV2 Restaurant and one generous individual.

Contacts

Addiction Studies – Department of Social Studies, Trinity College, Dublin 2, T 01 608 3647

AONTAS – National Association of Adult Education, 22 Earlsfort Terrace, Dublin 2, T 01 475 4121, www.aontas.com

Comhairle – Hume House, Ballsbridge, Dublin 4, T 01 605 9000, comhairle@comhairle.ie

Coolmine Therapeutic Community – Coolmine House, 19 Lord Edward Street, Dublin 2, T 01 679 4822

Drugscope – 32-36 Loman Street, London SE1 OEE, UK, T 0044 20 7928 1211, www.drugscope.org.uk

Drug Awareness Project Crosscare – The Red House, Clonliffe College, Dublin 3, T 01 836 0911, drugprev@eircom.net

Drug Education Workers Forum – c/o Dermot Gough (Secretary), Education Officer SWAHB, Bridge House, Cherry Orchard Hospital, Ballyfermot, Dublin 10

Drug Prevention Advisory Service (UK) – Horseferry House, Dean Ryle Street, London, T 0044 20 7217 8631, www.drugs.gov.uk

Drug Treatment Centre Board – Trinity Court, 30/31 Pearse Street, Dublin 2, T 01 677 1122

European Cities Against Drugs – Paulina Lonroth (Administrator), City Hall, S-105 35 Stockholm, Sweden, T 0046 8 5082 9362

European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction – Rua da Cruz de Santa Apolonia 23-25, PT-1149-045 Lisbon, Portugal, T 003 51 21 811 3000, www.emcdda.org

Irish Association of Alcohol and Addiction Counsellors – All Hallows College, Grace Park Road, Drumcondra, Dublin 9, T 01 837 3745

Leargas – 189 Pamell Street, Dublin 1, T 873 1411

Merchants Quay Ireland – Merchants' Quay, Dublin 8, T 01 679 0044, www.mqi.ie

National Advisory Committee on Drugs – 3rd Fl. Shelbourne House, Shelbourne Road, Ballsbridge, Dublin 4, T 01 667 0760, www.nacd.ie

National Drug Prevention Alliance- PO Box 594, Slough, SL1 1AA, UK, T 00 44 1753 677917, peter@drugprevent.org.uk

National Drug Strategy Team – 4/5 Harcourt Road, Dublin 2, T 01 475 4119

National Juvenile Office – Garda Headquarters, Harcourt Square, Dublin 2, T 01 666 6666

Parents Against Drugs – Vilnius – P/d 3518, Vilnius-2001, LT-2001, Lithuania, T 00 370 2 223396

Parents for Prevention – Birmingham – 2nd Floor Ruskin Chambers, 191 Corporation Street, Birmingham B4 6RP, UK, T 00 44 121 200 2008

PREVNET – c/o Teuvo Polteimi, A-Clinic Foundation, Fredrikinkatu 20B 18f, FIN-00120, Helsinki, Finland, www.prevnet.net

Social and Personal Health Education – Support Services – Marino Institute of Education, Griffith Avenue, Dublin 9, T 01 845 7744

The Wheel – 10 Grattan Crescent, Inchicore, Dublin 8, T 01 454 8727, www.wheel.ie

Community Awareness of Drugs
(Company Limited by Guarantee)

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Donations towards our on-going work were gratefully received from the following companies and charitable foundations: Aer Rianta, Batchelors Ltd., First Active pie, G.E.S.L, the I.F.S.C. Dublin Inner City Trust and one individual.

Informed parents are better equipped to deal with a drug problem.

Parents need to understand the drug issues that effect our young people.

Drugs of today are more varied and dangerous than those that have gone before.

Community workers who avail of C.A.D. education programmes are given an in depth insight into the prevention of drug misuse.

The C.A.D. “Parenting for Prevention” Programme.

The programme is a series of six, two and a half hour sessions which aims to:

1. Provide information on drugs and their effects.
2. Explore attitudes, beliefs and decisions about drug misuse.
3. Encourage participants to develop a family drug prevention strategy.

The C.A.D. Drug Awareness Presentation.

This presentation focuses mainly on the “Gateway Drugs” and the signs and symptoms of early drug misuse.

The C.A.D. Residential Training Weekend.

In keeping with the philosophy of C.A.D., prevention is the focus of this training weekend. The course, which is offered three times a year, is primarily for voluntary community workers. Information on drugs and their effects, an understanding of addiction and presentation skills are some of the areas covered during the course. As places are limited to thirty, advance booking is necessary.

Support for Drug Prevention Groups

Information, training and on going support are offered to communities who wish to set up a Drug Awareness/Prevention Group.

Advisory and Referral Service

A phone call to our office can put you in touch with C.A.D. personnel who, once familiar with your problem, can refer you to an appropriate agency.

History of C.A.D.

Founded in 1983, Community Action on Drugs was a federation of community groups who were responding to unprecedented levels of drug misuse. It worked effectively until the late eighties when many of the groups disbanded. By this time the organisation had become a company limited by guarantee and in 1993 registered the name and became known as **Community Awareness of Drugs**. That same year C.A.D.'s application for Charitable Status was finally approved. By now the very important role of prevention was acknowledged and C.A.D. directed its energies to developing drug education programmes. The success of this policy is reflected by the ever increasing numbers of parents, community workers and agencies who avail of our services.

C.A.D.

31 / 31A Central Hotel Chambers,
Dame Court, Dublin 2, Ireland.
Ph: 01 - 679 2681 Fax: 01 - 679 7818

Do you, have enough information to debate the following issues with young people ?

Whether Cannabis should be legalised?

Whether 'E' is physically and psychologically harmful?

Whether it is all right to drink alcohol, underage, just because 'Everybody else is doing it'?

Whether drug use is harmful if the addiction is 'only' psychological?

Your C.A.D. contact is:

Community Awareness of Drugs

C.A.D. Community Awareness of Drugs, is a voluntary organisation which provides drug education programmes for parents and community workers



Patron: **Mary Mc Aleese**,
President of Ireland.

C.A.D. Registered Charity No. CHY 6742