



This is the eighth monthly newsletter of the National Family Support Network, a way for us to promote events and spread news throughout the network.

## News

### Re-affiliation process

We're beginning to roll out our re-affiliation process, in which we ask our members to complete the forms necessary to re-affiliate. This is a great opportunity for us to touch base with our members and their needs. All existing affiliated members will have received an email or letter with the affiliation forms and will soon be receiving a check-in call from a member of our staff. We ask you to please complete these forms as soon as you can and get them back to us, either through post to **NFSN, 5 Gardiner Row, Dublin 1**, or by scanning and emailing them to **development@fsn.ie**. A timely response will greatly help the process go smoothly. We're looking forward to hearing from you all soon.

## Upcoming Events

### Young Persons' Support Programme Information Seminar - Postponed

We regret to announce that due to unforeseen circumstances the information seminar on the **Young Persons' Support Programme on the 24th of April** has been **postponed**. We'll be in touch regarding the rescheduled dates soon.

## Facilitators' Network Meeting

NFSN is hosting the next meeting of our Facilitators' Network on **Friday the 20th of April, from 10.30 a.m. to 1.45 p.m.**, in the **NFSN Offices, 5 Gardiner Row, Dublin 1**. (Tea, coffee etc. will be available at 10.30 a.m., and we will start the session at 10.45 a.m). Our draft agenda is below:

- 10.45 a.m.            Introductions
- 10.50 a.m.            Peer Group Supervision
- 12.00 p.m.            Break
- 12.10 p.m.            Peer Group Supervision (continued)
- 12.45 p.m.            Planning some joint activities between groups (e.g. visits, joint information/discussion sessions)
- 1.15 p.m.             Sharing news and information
- 1.25 p.m.             Planning meetings of the Facilitators' Network for the rest of 2018
- 1.45 p.m.             Ends

If you have any items to add, please let us know as soon as possible.

## Glendalough Peer Supervision Weekend

This year's annual peer supervision respite weekend for facilitators will take place in **Glendalough** on the **25th and 26th of May**. We will have sessions on Friday evening and all-day Saturday and will stay overnight on Friday and Saturday in the Crosscare houses. If you are a group facilitator, we really hope that you will join us as it always proves to be a very fruitful and enjoyable weekend for all involved.

## Network Highlights

### Numbers of affiliated groups

Thanks to a recent census, we are delighted to be able to announce that we now have **72 affiliated groups**. This means that there are now at least 72 family support groups up and running in Ireland, and we continue to work to develop more. Of these

72 groups, exactly half, or **36** are peer-led, with the remaining **36** being facilitated by a paid family support worker. **65** of these groups are associated with an organization, while **7** are entirely independent.

### **5-Step Method Accreditation**

We would like to congratulate Aine O'Brien who has recently completed her 5-Step accreditation. We're sure that the skills she has gained will aid her in supporting family members into the future. More 5-Step training will be announced throughout the year. If you are interested in attending any of these please contact Christy at [training@fsn.ie](mailto:training@fsn.ie) or **01-8980148**.

**If you have any events or information that you would like to be shared in future newsletters, please contact us directly before the 23rd of April. You can email us at [development@fsn.ie](mailto:development@fsn.ie) or call 01-898-0148.**

All the best,

The NFSN team