

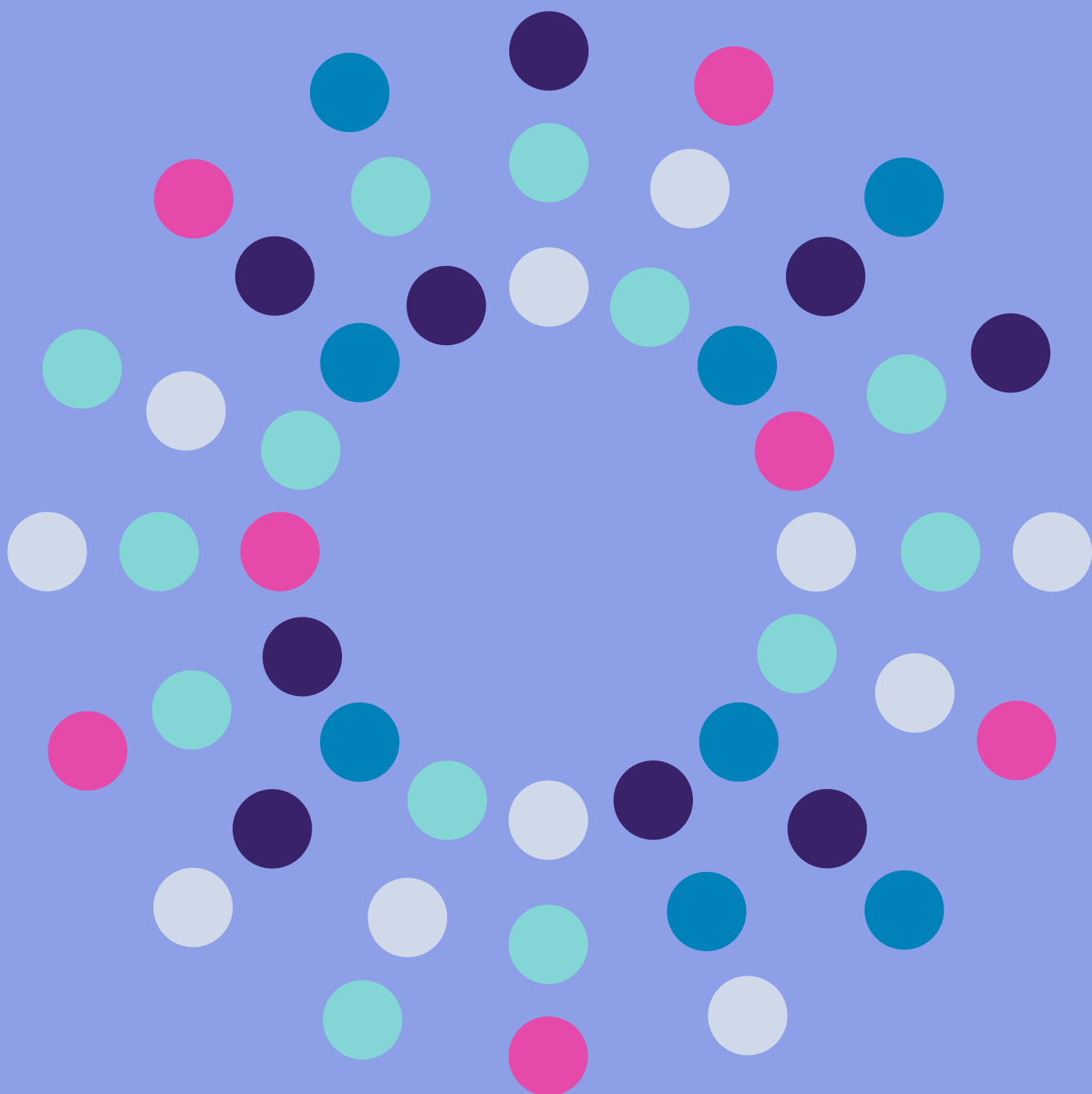
# Genio Trust

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2010 – 2011



Forging alliances for  
an inclusive society



In 2010 the Office for Disability and Mental Health; Department of Health; Health Service Executive; and Genio came together to support innovative practice in the disability and mental health areas. Innovation was defined in the context of national policy on the basis of extensive consultation with key stakeholders in the field, including those who use disability and mental health services; advocacy organisations; statutory agencies; and service provider coalitions. General consensus emerged from this consultation process concerning the hallmarks of good practice in these sectors. Genio has been supported by the Atlantic Philanthropies to assist in the disability and mental health fields since 2008.

- Putting the person with a disability or mental health difficulty at the centre of decision making about how they can be best supported was identified as paramount. This is the cornerstone of what has come to be described as a 'person-centred' approach in the disability area and a 'recovery' approach in mental health. This trend towards self-determination is not specific to these fields. All who need to access social and personal services require support to exercise as much choice and control over their lives as possible in order to become free, independent and participating citizens.

While this consultation process was carried out before the economic recession, demographic trends made it clear that a more cost-effective and fairer use of resources deployed in these areas would need to be found. Value for money became even more critical in the context of economic collapse. Supporting people to be integrated and included in their communities emerged as another key element of good practice. This goes beyond simply locating people in the community and hoping that they survive and thrive. It involves connecting people to others and supporting them to contribute and belong in their communities. A major proportion of current services are characterised by group-based, segregated and institutionalised approaches. There is a significant challenge to reconfigure resources towards individualised supports that move people to, and keep them in the community living the lives of their choice.

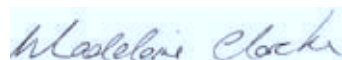
In 2010 Genio established the Genio Trust to identify and support innovative practice across the social service arena. Beginning in the disability and mental health area a fund of €3.8m was used to provide grants to innovative projects throughout Ireland. This combined contributions from Government Health Innovation funds and from the Atlantic Philanthropies. Invitations to apply for grants were sought through the national press. Over 500 enquiries were received and 383 applications were made. In all 51 grants were awarded on the basis of rigorous evaluation against criteria which emerged as a result of consultation and in agreement with funders. This grant-making process has uncovered good leadership throughout the country and has been a key ingredient in changing the lives of many people with disabilities and mental health difficulties. There were many other impressive applications that we were unable to recommend due to lack of finance or concerns about sustainability after the life of the grant.

Some of the projects are being undertaken by those who use services themselves, others by family groups. Some are in small locally based organisations, others within larger and otherwise quite traditional agencies. They exemplify creativity, determination, passion and drive. They are making progress at different rates depending on the challenges they are encountering along the way.

The Atlantic Philanthropies is also supporting Genio to help build the capacity of key stakeholders in the sector. We are working with the leaders of these projects on site and in collaborative sessions so that they can learn from each other and help others. We are also working with advocates who have used services themselves over the years and are interested in making things better for others going through similar experiences. We are supporting policy makers and key staff in the HSE to build on their expertise by providing learning opportunities here and in other countries. It has been a privilege to learn from, and complement, the work of other organisations and agency coalitions in the field who are also supporting improvement.

Gathering evidence from projects grant-aided through the Genio Trust will provide critical information for key decision-makers with policy-making and commissioning responsibilities across the system. Again, with the support of the Atlantic Philanthropies, we have been able to commission the University of Ulster to measure changes in the quality of the lives of over 100 people who are being supported to live in the community; identify costs; and describe the key ingredients to making the transition towards individualised supports a reality. Our international Research Advisory Committee is invaluable in expertly guiding this research project.

We have much to learn from these leaders as they struggle in their different situations, often against the odds and despite the system. We have more to learn from the many people who struggle to live good lives as they overcome the challenges presented by disability, mental health difficulties and a world which often seeks to separate rather than integrate them from the communities and neighbourhoods in which they belong.



**Madeleine Clarke**  
Founding Director, Genio.



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# Supporting People to Move to the Community

This collection of 8 projects all aim to move people to more independent living in the community enabling a total of 57 people to move, mostly from institutional settings. The majority of people have moved to their own homes and are being supported to be included and involved in their local communities and to live lives of their choosing.





<b>Project</b>	<b>Moving into the Community</b>
<b>Location</b>	Waterford
<b>Grant</b>	€40,000
<b>Organisation</b>	Brothers of Charity Services, Waterford (Intellectual Disability)
<b>Description</b>	This grant has been used to employ a 'Community Connector' to support eight people to move from campus-based residential settings to live in two houses in the community. The 'Community Connector' is one of the new roles that has developed in this area of work and acts as a bridge between the person and the community, facilitating the creation of links with mainstream groups. In this project, people are supported to build relationships, so that they can be involved and included in everyday life. All eight people have successfully moved from the campus to their new homes and are steadily becoming involved in their local neighbourhoods.

<b>Project</b>	<b>Supported Living Initiative (SLI), Athlone</b>
<b>Location</b>	Roscommon
<b>Grant</b>	€58,000
<b>Organisation</b>	Brothers of Charity (BOC)
<b>Description</b>	A new model of housing and support in Athlone is enabling nine people to live independently in ordinary houses in their local area. These people become members of a network so that they can support each other and be supported by a Community Living Volunteer. One member is now living in his own home with his own tenancy agreement. He has two housemates who support him. Three members are well advanced in sourcing housing and accessing housing supports (such as rent allowance). Roscommon County Council and others such as the local Community Welfare Officer have been very helpful in facilitating access to the necessary housing supports.





<b>Project</b>	<b>Moving into the Community</b>
<b>Location</b>	Waterford
<b>Grant</b>	€106,811
<b>Organisation</b>	Carriglea Cairde Services (Intellectual Disability)
<b>Description</b>	The two women supported in this initiative were living in a nine-bed residential unit which was not suited to their needs. This grant enabled the two women to move to a bungalow within the local area. This has provided much greater opportunities for them to become included in their community and to reconnect with their families. The new situation has afforded an opportunity for staff to get to know the two women in a way that would not have been possible when they were in a larger group and has also led to improvements in their quality of life.

<b>Project</b>	<b>Moving from Institutions to the Community</b>
<b>Location</b>	Dublin
<b>Grant</b>	€280,000
<b>Organisation</b>	Cheshire Ireland (Physical disability)
<b>Description</b>	This grant is being used to assist seven people to move The Barrett Cheshire Home into the community, enabling the closure of this institution. Two people have already moved to their own accommodation and housing options are being explored for the remaining five individuals who will be moving to their new accommodation by the end of 2011. Living in their own homes enables these individuals to pursue their own interests and live a life of their choosing in their local communities.





<b>Project</b>	<b>Moving from an institution into the community</b>
<b>Location</b>	Offaly
<b>Grant</b>	€43,132
<b>Organisation</b>	Sisters of Charity of Jesus & Mary Services/Muiriosa Foundation (Intellectual Disability)
<b>Description</b>	This grant has supported a woman to move from an institution to her own home within the community. This home suits her particular needs and has provided opportunities to take part in a range of activities.

<b>Project</b>	<b>Supporting staff to improve services</b>
<b>Location</b>	Laois
<b>Grant</b>	€25,269
<b>Organisation</b>	Sisters of Charity of Jesus & Mary Services/Muiríosa Foundation (Intellectual Disability)
<b>Description</b>	This grant is being used to provide training and support to staff to work in an intensive person-centred way with sixteen people. Part of the work has involved implementing person-centred arrangements for people who, to date, have mainly experienced life in segregated, group settings. The project supports each person to live a full life and also supports their families through this change. Another part of the project focuses on supporting other staff in the organisation to ensure that the people with whom they work have an opportunity to develop wider interests and roles and to live a full life.





<b>Project</b>	<b>Moving to the Community</b>
<b>Location</b>	Dublin
<b>Grant</b>	€40,000
<b>Organisation</b>	St. John of Gods, City Gate (Intellectual Disability)
<b>Description</b>	This project is supporting two women to move from an institution to live with support in the community. A 'Supported Living Instructor' has helped the women to develop Circles of Support (which include existing service representatives, family members and clinical staff). One woman has now moved successfully to her new home and is extremely happy to have her own front door key and to live independently. The second woman is currently looking for suitable accommodation and will move as soon as that is available. The success of this project has led to those running this institution to make plans to support more people to move to the community so that the institution can be eventually closed.

<b>Project</b>	<b>Moving people to Individualised Support Arrangements</b>
<b>Location</b>	Mayo
<b>Grant</b>	€100,000
<b>Organisation</b>	Western Care (Intellectual Disability)
<b>Description</b>	Twelve people with intellectual disabilities who are currently living in group residential settings will move towards more independent living in the community. Four people have already moved to their own accommodation, whilst others have made significant steps to independent living. This project also has a strong focus on reconfiguring funding currently used to provide residential care in group settings to providing more individualised and innovative support arrangements. Strong partnership working with the local HSE mental health team in Mayo is also a feature of this project.





# Respite in the Community

The availability of respite is a critical part of the spectrum of supports that enable people with disabilities to remain supported at home with their families and in other community settings. In 2010, the Genio Trust provided over €345,000 to five respite projects which offered a variety of community-based alternatives to institutional respite. These projects provided respite placements for 33 adults and children.

These five projects demonstrate the practical implementation of a range of models including Contract Families, Home Sharing, Host Families and Room to Rent. These models are feasible alternatives to respite being provided in institutions.





<b>Project</b>	<b>Contract Family Scheme</b>
<b>Location</b>	Galway
<b>Grant</b>	€206,300
<b>Organisation</b>	Brothers of Charity Services, Galway (Intellectual Disability)
<b>Description</b>	Respite for the families involved in this project often means care for their children in an institution. This scheme has identified families in the community willing to care for children with disabilities in order to provide a break for their parents. The families of twenty children are receiving respite from this project. This makes a huge difference to their lives and to the lives of the children, who now have the opportunity to make new friendships and relationships and to receive care in a family setting. Thirty two potential host families have attended training and equipment has been purchased to allow children with significant disabilities to avail of a 'home-from-home' placement.

<b>Project</b>	<b>Host Family Respite</b>
<b>Location</b>	Meath
<b>Grant</b>	€60,000
<b>Organisation</b>	Meath Adult Intellectual Disability Service, HSE Dublin NE
<b>Description</b>	This initiative aims to replace traditional respite with host family living arrangements for adults aged eighteen and upwards who live in Co. Meath. Eight host families have been identified. Six service users have completed the application process and a further two may become involved. This will provide an opportunity for the individuals to stay with ordinary families in their community, providing a break for carers and an opportunity for the individuals to form new relationships and have new experiences.





<b>Project</b>	<b>Room-to-Share</b>
<b>Location</b>	Westmeath
<b>Grant</b>	€7,605
<b>Organisation</b>	Sisters of Charity of Jesus & Mary Services/Muiríosa Foundation (Intellectual Disability)
<b>Description</b>	This grant has led to the setting up of a person-centred living arrangement for a man who was living in a large institutional setting. A host family was identified who were willing to have this man live with them on a permanent, full-time basis. The family received training and support and the man involved has moved out of the institution and is very happy in his new setting. He is much more engaged with his community and he works in the local Tesco Supermarket.

<b>Project</b>	<b>Share-a-Break</b>
<b>Location</b>	Westmeath
<b>Grant</b>	€21,772
<b>Organisation</b>	Sisters of Charity of Jesus & Mary Services/Muiríosa Foundation (Intellectual Disability)
<b>Description</b>	This grant is supporting the careful placement of four individuals with high support needs within a suitable 'Share-a-Break' and 'Contract Family' arrangement. 'Share-a-Break' provides a community-based respite with a host family; The 'Contract Family' involves a more permanent agreement between a family member availing of respite and a host family in the community. The initiative will also facilitate a fifth person to optimise opportunities within the community. The families who are availing of respite within this scheme have found it to be of great benefit.





<b>Project</b>	<b>Home Share Initiative</b>
<b>Location</b>	Kilkenny
<b>Grant</b>	€12,700
<b>Organisation</b>	SOS Kilkenny (Intellectual Disability)
<b>Description</b>	This grant is being used to develop a volunteer and home share initiative, which will encourage people to share their homes with individuals with an intellectual disability on a supported basis. The initiative also provides support to the individual through introducing new social opportunities and independent living coaching. One home share initiative is up and running and a further two are being developed.





# Individual and Family Leadership

The 15 projects described in this section represent a wide variety of initiatives all of which work in different ways to support people and families to have a greater say in designing and planning the kind of supports that meet their needs. Almost 400 family members have received training which has not only imparted information and skills, but has also enabled families in similar situations to form relationships with each other.

In several projects, informal mutual support networks have developed as a result of these meetings and training opportunities. 750 service users have received training, information and practical support in taking a lead in planning their own services. 257 others such as staff and members of community groups, have received training which will enhance their ability to support the individuals they work with to become more self-determined and to have a greater say in how their service is designed and delivered.





<b>Project</b>	<b>Family Networks</b>
<b>Location</b>	Galway
<b>Grant</b>	€26,890
<b>Organisation</b>	Ability West (Intellectual Disability)
<b>Description</b>	Families are often the experts when it comes to supporting their family member with disability needs. This project has been developing Family Networks in three areas across Galway. The objective of Family Networks is to build the capacity of families to advocate on their own and on their family member's behalf. A family-to-family network has been established which meets monthly to provide mutual support and information. Forty-nine families are involved in this network.

<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Direct Payments “Laying Down New Tracks”</b>
<b>Location</b>	Dublin
<b>Grant</b>	€60,000
<b>Project</b>	Aiseanna Tacaiochta (Physical Disability)
<b>Description</b>	This is a pilot project, supporting a small number of people with physical disabilities to receive Direct Payments to purchase the services they feel they need most. Traditionally, service providers receive funds directly from the HSE to provide services. This project shifts the purchasing power to the person with the disability. The learning from this project will inform how best to provide Direct Payment options to service users in Ireland. The option of making payments directly to service users rather than routing funding through service providers is currently available in many other countries. Some people with disabilities have been lobbying for the introduction of ‘Direct Payments’ in Ireland for several years





<b>Project</b>	<b>Peer Support in Mental Health 'R and R'</b>
<b>Location</b>	Tipperary
<b>Grant</b>	€110,000
<b>Organisation</b>	Aras Follain Peer Support Centre, Nenagh Mental Health Association (Mental Health)
<b>Description</b>	Support from people who have 'been there' is highly valued by people with mental health difficulties. This project has developed a regional network of peer support projects in the Midwest. Three volunteer coordinators in North Tipperary, Clare and Limerick provide peer delivered training for Peer Befrienders (twenty three individuals trained). 236 people have taken part in Wellness and Recovery Action Planning (WRAP), a standardised programme which can be used by individuals, groups and communities to foster and maintain good mental health. 19 people have been trained in WRAP facilitation. This project has developed great reach into diverse communities to provide peer support to those with mental health difficulties and over 540 people have attended information sessions.

<b>Project</b>	<b>Enhancing the Skills of Individuals with Autism and their Families</b>
<b>Location</b>	Louth
<b>Grant</b>	€17,440
<b>Organisation</b>	Autism Initiative Group (Cross disability)
<b>Description</b>	The transition from childhood to adulthood can be especially challenging for people with autism. This grant was used to provide a training programme that has enhanced the skills of individuals with autism and their family members. The programme gives families a clear understanding of the needs of the person with autism, of behaviour management strategies, communication strategies, social skills and life skills that are needed to transition from childhood to adulthood. A series of workshops and training events have taken place for 129 parents, siblings and those working with people with autism. Evaluations following the training have shown that the understanding of autism among participants has been enhanced and that participants feel more confident in developing a plan for their family member and themselves.





<b>Project</b>	<b>Development of Family Focus Projects and promoting and sharing Family Focus Practice in Ireland</b>
<b>Location</b>	Clare
<b>Grant</b>	€260,000
<b>Organisations</b>	Brothers of Charity Services, Clare (Intellectual Disability); Sisters of Charity of Jesus & Mary Services/Muiríosa Foundation (Intellectual Disability) and Cheshire Ireland (Physical Disability)
<b>Description</b>	This Family Focus project is supporting 15 families to identify and secure the services and supports that are most relevant for their family member to live as independently as possible in the community. This project has given families the lead role in developing a vision with their son or daughter for the life he or she wants to live. The fifteen families have completed four family workshops over the past year. The grant will also be used to disseminate information on Family Focus as an approach for other families and to share the learning from this project. A series of meetings around the country are planned before the end of 2011.

<b>Project</b>	<b>Increasing Participation of Children with Disabilities in Community Activities</b>
<b>Location</b>	Dublin
<b>Grant</b>	€30,000
<b>Organisation</b>	DESSA (Disability Equality Specialist Support Agency) (This project has a focus on Physical and Sensory Disability)
<b>Description</b>	This project aims to increase the number of children and young people with disabilities participating in mainstream activities by delivering training, mentoring and advocacy at a local level through community development organisations. Formal partnerships have been formed in 5 locations involving over seventeen agencies. Over forty people have already been trained in Community Development and Advocacy. Further training courses in Empowering Parents and Inclusive Policy and Practice will be provided by the end of 2011.





<b>Project</b>	<b>Achieving Goals with Personal Assistance</b>
<b>Location</b>	Donegal
<b>Grant</b>	€25,000
<b>Organisation</b>	The Donegal Physical and Sensory Disability Service (Physical and Sensory Disability)
<b>Description</b>	This initiative supports young people with physical and sensory disabilities to learn how they can guide their Personal Assistants to support them in achieving their goals and with their day to day activities. Twenty three young people (in two groups; aged 12-14 and aged 15-17) have received training to equip them with skills they will need as they transition to adulthood. Through these groups, the young people have had opportunities to form new friendships, to engage in mainstream social activities and to spend time with others without parental/sibling support.

<b>Project</b>	<b>Fostering Positive Mental Health</b>
<b>Location</b>	Dublin
<b>Grant</b>	€104,804
<b>Organisation</b>	Dublin City University (DCU) (Mental Health)
<b>Description</b>	This project uses a community-development approach to increase community involvement in fostering positive mental health and to become proactive in communicating about mental health through a powerful open dialogue and participatory process called ‘Triologue’ <sup>1</sup> . The project builds on successful work already undertaken in DCU to build leadership in the mental health sector. Community-based Triologue meetings take place monthly in seven locations in Ireland. Over 300 people have attended these meetings, which provide an opportunity for communities to become more informed and aware of mental health issues.

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<sup>1</sup> What is ‘Triologue’? Triologue relates to the three key groups of people who engage in an open dialogue at these meetings. These key groups are people with mental health difficulties who may or may not use services; family members or friends of people with mental health difficulties; and mental health care providers.





<b>Project</b>	<b>Moving to Independent Living</b>
<b>Location</b>	Meath
<b>Grant</b>	€40,000
<b>Organisation</b>	Enable Ireland North East (Physical and Sensory Disability)
<b>Description</b>	The grant for this project is being used to support four individuals as they move from institutional care to independent living or from home to independent living. The initiative is offering a person-centred transition plan for each of the four individuals, looking at their specific needs and training requirements. To date, the four participants have participated in group and individual's training and are being supported to develop their transition plans.

<b>Project</b>	<b>Supporting People with Physical Disability to Obtain Best Value from Services</b>
<b>Location</b>	Galway
<b>Grant</b>	€41,750
<b>Organisation</b>	Galway Centre for Independent Living (CIL) (Physical and Sensory Disability)
<b>Description</b>	A Service Coordinator has been employed through the grant for this project to analyse the services currently being provided by the Galway Centre for Independent Living (CIL) for each person with a physical disability (called 'leaders'). The aim is to support leaders to obtain optimal benefit from the services and supports available to them and to improve the services provided by Galway CIL.





<b>Project</b>	<b>Personalised Planning and Support</b>
<b>Location</b>	Dublin
<b>Grant</b>	€217,242
<b>Organisation</b>	Irish Wheelchair Association (Physical and Sensory Disability)
<b>Description</b>	The grant for this project is being used to employ four facilitators to implement the Enhanced Person-Centred Process (EPCP); which had already been piloted in one area, across all Irish Wheelchair Association (IWA) Resource and Outreach Centres nationally. A series of resources and operational policies have been developed to standardise the approach and ensure staff have the necessary information to support service users effectively. To date, over 190 staff have been trained by the facilitators and these staff are now working in a more informed way to support people with physical disabilities to live the lives they choose in the community.

<b>Project</b>	<b>Mental Health Resource Pack</b>
<b>Location</b>	Kerry
<b>Grant</b>	€29,600
<b>Organisation</b>	Jigsaw Kerry (Mental Health)
<b>Description</b>	The aim of this project is to design and develop a resource pack for parents on mental health issues for young people, including a directory of services for the area. Parent information evenings were held across Kerry to identify the supports and information required by parents. 220 families were consulted in the process. The pack has been designed and was launched in late August ready for the school year.





<b>Project</b>	<b>Eolas</b>
<b>Location</b>	Kildare
<b>Grant</b>	€173,428
<b>Organisations</b>	HSE Kildare West Wicklow Mental Health Service, Shine, Irish Advocacy Network (Mental Health)
<b>Description</b>	The first part of this project brought together 27 people who use services, carers and clinicians to design a Mental Health Information and Support Programme for both people with severe and enduring mental health difficulties and their carers. The second phase delivered this programme to two groups (people who use services and family/friends) in four areas. 58 sessions have been delivered, with approximately 280 in attendance overall. This programme empowers people who use services to participate in their own recovery, while carers have an opportunity to improve their understanding of the mental health difficulties of their family member or friend, and learn how to support the person in recovery while maintaining and improving their own mental health.

<b>Project</b>	<b>Training for Individuals and Families to Live Self-Determined Lives</b>
<b>Location</b>	Dublin
<b>Grant</b>	€30,970
<b>Organisation</b>	LEAP – Leading, Education, Advocating and Planning (Intellectual Disability and Autism)
<b>Description</b>	This initiative provides a programme of training through workshops and planning tools, to empower and upskill families and individuals with intellectual disability and/or autism to lead self-determined lives. To date, 10 courses have been provided with over 58 participants. Through a cascade model of training, participants have been equipped with the skills to pass on the knowledge to others, thereby significantly increasing the reach of this project.





<b>Project</b>	<b>Providing Information to Parents</b>
<b>Location</b>	Dublin
<b>Grant</b>	€14,500
<b>Organisation</b>	National Parents and Siblings Alliance (Cross Disability Project)
<b>Description</b>	The grant is used to produce a booklet, which will promote knowledge and build individual and family capacity by providing information in an accessible, friendly and informative manner to families of children with a disability. The booklet will be called "What Should You Expect Now". This booklet will be launched shortly and meetings have already been organised by local, parent-run disability groups around the country which will provide the opportunity to disseminate the booklet widely to families who can benefit from it.





# Community and Peer Mentors

The heading 'Community and Peer Mentors' captures a variety of projects designed to develop and mobilise capacity among people who use services, families and ordinary community members. Several projects are using mentoring/intensive support in community settings in order to support individuals to remain in the community or to prepare them for greater levels of independent living. Two projects are providing mentors in third level settings. Other projects are improving the ready availability of information for those who use and provide mental health services.

Overall, 70 people with disabilities and or mental health difficulties are in receipt of mentoring/intensive support in the community. Another 126 people with disabilities and or mental health difficulties and 27 family members are involved in providing information and working in ways that will improve mental health services. A further 84 staff, community mentors and advocates have been trained to provide support, mentoring and/or advocacy to enable individuals to either remain in their community or to progress to community living.





<b>Project</b>	<b>Making Information Accessible</b>
<b>Location</b>	Dublin
<b>Grant</b>	€9,000
<b>Organisation</b>	Dublin West and South West Mental Health Services HSE (Mental Health)
<b>Description</b>	This project has been designed to address a need that was identified by a team consisting of a service user, carer and a clinician who took part in the DCU leadership programme. This is a service improvement project which aims to make it easier for people using mental health services to access information on local services through a website. The website is being developed by people who themselves have used mental health services. The content has been developed in consultation with service users, carers and mental health workers in the Dublin West and South West Mental Health Service.

<b>Project</b>	<b>Early Intervention in Psychosis</b>
<b>Location</b>	Dublin
<b>Grant</b>	€59,650
<b>Organisation</b>	Dublin West and South West Mental Health Services HSE (Mental Health)
<b>Description</b>	There is strong evidence that early intervention in psychosis leads to better outcomes for those affected. This grant is being used to train existing staff within the mental health services in Dublin West and South West with additional competencies so that they can deliver an accessible, quality, early intervention service to individuals with psychosis, and their families, within home or community settings. The initiative will also support individuals and their families to understand the symptoms of psychosis and how to cope with their experience.





<b>Project</b>	<b>Positive Change for Mental Health</b>
<b>Location</b>	Cork
<b>Grant</b>	€104,000
<b>Organisation</b>	West Cork Mental Health Services HSE (Mental Health)
<b>Description</b>	This initiative is supporting Mental Health Service Users to become actively involved in their own recovery. Up to 50 people have attended a series of events since October 2010. Service users, carers and professionals have come together in a supportive environment to discuss mental health issues and service planning. In addition, a recovery document describing how the West Cork Mental Health Services support recovery has been published. This project encourages a positive and progressive change in values and attitudes towards mental health issues in West Cork.

<b>Project</b>	<b>Citizen Advocacy</b>
<b>Location</b>	Dublin
<b>Grant</b>	€73,450
<b>Organisation</b>	Inclusion Ireland (Intellectual Disability)
<b>Description</b>	The grant for this project is being used to encourage people to become involved as active citizens in advocating for people with intellectual disability who are living in a residential centre (Good Counsel Centre, Ballyboden). A coordinator has been employed to recruit and train citizen advocates who will be carefully matched with individuals in the residential centre. Fourteen advocates have been recruited and trained. These advocates will be matched with individuals with intellectual disability who will receive advocacy and support.





<b>Project</b>	<b>Supporting People with Autism in Third Level Education (ACCLAIM)</b>
<b>Location</b>	Westmeath
<b>Grant</b>	€75,000
<b>Organisation</b>	Irish Autism Action (Autism)
<b>Description</b>	The Autism College and Community Life Acclimation and Intervention Model (ACCLAIM) initiative is developing a programme to support academically capable students with autism to successfully transition into third-level education. Twelve people who work in the area of autism will be trained on how to support individuals with autism going into third level education. These twelve trained individuals will then be available in Ireland to train others. Comprehensive evaluations will be developed for each student with autism participating in the programme, to identify personal strengths and needs, and with the students' and their families' involvement, determine the individualised supports the student requires.

<b>Project</b>	<b>Community Based Mentoring</b>
<b>Location</b>	Kerry
<b>Grant</b>	€47,840
<b>Organisation</b>	Jigsaw (Mental Health)
<b>Description</b>	The aim of this initiative is to develop a model of community based mentoring in three main urban towns in Kerry; Tralee, Killarney and Listowel. This mentoring project links young people with mental health difficulties to others in their community who have been trained to offer support and guidance while promoting positive mental health. 24 volunteer mentors have been recruited, screened, and trained and have been matched with 8 young people to provide support. This initiative demonstrates an effective way to increase the capacity of communities to respond to young people with mental health difficulties.





<b>Project</b>	<b>Mental Health Service users perspectives – e-learning programme</b>
<b>Location</b>	Dublin
<b>Grant</b>	€53,283
<b>Organisation</b>	National Service Users Executive (NSUE)
<b>Description</b>	The aim of this project is to gather feedback from service users on their experiences of using mental health services in order to develop an e-learning programme for all involved in delivering mental health services. This project places an emphasis on the importance of involving service users proactively in their own recovery and on providing a greater understanding of what is important to mental health service users. An on-line survey received 1,054 responses and 21 focus groups have been held. The e-learning system is now being designed based on the information obtained.

<b>Project</b>	<b>PROTECT – Personalised, Recovery Oriented Treatment, Education and Cognitive Therapy</b>
<b>Location</b>	Wicklow
<b>Grant</b>	€271,365
<b>Organisation</b>	HSE Wicklow
<b>Description</b>	PROTECT is a partnership project working to ensure that those in need of intervention in the early stages of psychosis, are enabled to access all of the services they need or choose in Wicklow. The project has a specific focus on those who experience initial difficulties accessing or engaging with services. The aims of this initiative are to develop Personalised Recovery Plans for all people diagnosed with a psychotic illness (the person who is diagnosed will participate in the service planning and review) and to develop high quality material for national usage. The initiative will educate stakeholders regarding psychosis, mental illness and potential for recovery and positive outcomes. 30 service users have now been assigned an individual case worker to collaboratively progress their recovery plans.





<b>Project</b>	<b>Developing Leadership in Mental Health</b>
<b>Location</b>	Kildare
<b>Grant</b>	€63,475
<b>Organisation</b>	Service Improvement Leadership Programme, Office of the Assistant National Director, Mental Health, HSE
<b>Description</b>	This grant is being used to expand the 'Cooperative Learning Course - Service Improvement Leadership for Mental Health Service Users, Carers and Service Providers' in partnership with Dublin City University, National Service User Executive, Irish Advocacy Network, the HSE, and in association with the International Initiative on Mental Health Leadership. The purpose of the course is to understand and experience a cooperative approach to leading change in healthcare organisations and for teams (Dialogues - service user, service provider and carer) to instigate and lead service improvements in their local mental health service. Seven teams (21 individuals) have participated in the 2010/2011 course.

<b>Project</b>	<b>Independent Living Skills</b>
<b>Location</b>	Cork
<b>Grant</b>	€1,440
<b>Organisation</b>	South Lee Social Inclusion Group (Mental Health)
<b>Description</b>	In a small-scale initiative, the South Lee Social Inclusion Group offered cookery lessons to individuals who were moving from a low support residential facility, to independent accommodation. Four individuals received a 9 week cookery class. The classes also incorporated information on nutrition, shopping skills and how to get value for money within the classes. The success of this small initiative has led to the South Lee Social Inclusion Group successfully applying for support to move 11 people from mental health accommodation to independent accommodation.





<b>Project</b>	<b>Individualised Rehabilitation and Recovery Programme (Mental Health)</b>
<b>Location</b>	Dublin
<b>Grant</b>	€37,700
<b>Organisation</b>	St. Ita's Hospital / NSE North Dublin Mental Health
<b>Description</b>	The aim of this initiative is to develop and implement an individualised rehabilitation recovery programme for twelve service users with severe and enduring mental illness. This project has enabled and supported individuals to progress towards a higher level of independence in either supported residential programmes and/or independent living in the community. Families and carers are also being supported in the process. Most of the individuals have made significant progress towards their own personal goals.

<b>Project</b>	<b>Mentored Peer Support</b>
<b>Location</b>	Cork
<b>Grant</b>	€80,000
<b>Organisation</b>	University College Cork (Mental Health project)
<b>Description</b>	This project is offering support to students with mental health difficulties in University College Cork (UCC) through peer mentoring from those who have successfully coped with exam pressures and other pressures faced as a third-level student with mental health difficulties. This Peer Mentoring Service is empowering students to become independent learners by tailoring supports to enhance their academic, personal and social development so that they achieve their potential and enjoy a high quality educational experience at university. Extensive training materials have been developed and were used in the training of 13 volunteer mentors. 15 students were matched with these mentors and have received over 50 hours of mentoring support up to mid-2011.





# Building Service Provider Capacity

Twenty one organisations are working to further develop their own capacity to deliver responsive, individualised services and to work with other similar organisations to achieve efficiencies. Over 50 staff and almost 30 people who use services have also received training and support which will enable them to bring about positive changes in their own lives (in the case of people who use services) or the lives of those they support (in the case of staff).





<b>Project</b>	<b>Encouraging Support for Self-Determination</b>
<b>Location</b>	Dublin
<b>Grant</b>	€73,925
<b>Organisation</b>	Disability Federation of Ireland (DFI) (Physical and Sensory Disability)
<b>Description</b>	Seven organisations involved in providing services to people with physical and sensory disabilities are taking part in this project. A facilitator is working with these organisations to assist them to develop the structures they need to support individuals to identify and achieve their goals. There is a particular emphasis on social inclusion and accessing mainstream services.

<b>Project</b>	<b>Planning for People with Mental Health Difficulties – Recovery in Context Inventory (RCI)</b>
<b>Location</b>	Dublin
<b>Grant</b>	€194,900
<b>Organisation</b>	EVE Limited (Mental Health)
<b>Description</b>	There is currently no tool available which can be used by service users and providers to describe, assess and plan recovery in an individualised and systematic way. The Recovery in Context Inventory (RCI) is designed to address this gap. This grant is being used to complete and roll out the RCI. The RCI is a particularly useful approach which respects individual differences and preferences. 350 service users have participated in a study which will be used to validate the tool. The development of the guidance and web-based materials is almost complete. Once the RCI is ready it can be offered to mental health services across the country.





<b>Project</b>	<b>Recovery-based Staff Training</b>
<b>Location</b>	Tipperary
<b>Grant</b>	€77,190
<b>Organisation</b>	St. Lukes Hospital Clonmel, HSE (Mental Health)
<b>Description</b>	This grant for this project was used for running recovery-based training for all teams, new and existing, working in South Tipperary Mental Health Services (STMHS). The training has supported the current change process whilst aiming to move people from institutional care to a community-based, person-centred model of care, which the South Tipperary Mental Health Services are initiating. Training for thirty two staff has taken place, along with training for twenty service users. A recovery conference was organised to consolidate learning and provide further information and close to 100 attended.

<b>Project</b>	<b>Supporting People with Psychosis</b>
<b>Location</b>	Dublin
<b>Grant</b>	€32,700
<b>Organisations</b>	Shine and The Department of Psychiatry, Trinity College Dublin (Mental Health project)
<b>Description</b>	This initiative aims to increase the availability of cognitive behavioral therapy for individuals with psychosis by establishing a training scheme for community-based counselors, which is facilitated by Trinity College Dublin, (operating within SHINE and its affiliate support groups Grow, Aware, Recovery Inc). Twenty staff have now been trained and will be able to take this programme throughout the country to individuals with psychosis.





<b>Project</b>	<b>Exploring Shared Services Approaches</b>
<b>Location</b>	Kilkenny
<b>Grant</b>	€50,000
<b>Organisations</b>	SOS Kilkenny and St. Patricks (Intellectual Disability)
<b>Description</b>	This grant is being used to develop a shared approach to providing intellectual disability services, in county Kilkenny. People who use services, carers and staff were consulted as part of this process.

<b>Project</b>	<b>Individualised Supports for Service Users</b>
<b>Location</b>	Dublin
<b>Grant</b>	€50,000
<b>Organisation</b>	St. Michael's House (Intellectual Disability)
<b>Description</b>	This initiative is supporting 6 individuals, who are currently living in a variety of settings (including low support community housing and family homes), to obtain more individualised supports and plan their own lives in a self-directed way. Several individuals have been supported to develop Circles of Support which will enable the person to become more self-determined. The individuals involved are at different stages of becoming more included in the community, with one person now taking driving lessons while another is starting a small business.





<b>Project</b>	<b>Exploring Sharing Services in Intellectual disability</b>
<b>Location</b>	Kildare
<b>Grant</b>	€42,400
<b>Organisations</b>	Dara Residential Services Ltd. (Collaboration of 12 Intellectual Disability Service Providers)
<b>Description</b>	The aim of this initiative is to explore the feasibility of developing shared services based on a common approach to meeting the needs of people with intellectual disabilities. A shared 'Charter of Values' has been prepared and areas of potential cooperation between services have been identified. These will be further progressed to a point of shared services between a number of organisations.

<b>Project</b>	<b>Exploring Employment Options in the IT Sector for People with Autism</b>
<b>Location</b>	Dublin
<b>Grant</b>	€20,000
<b>Organisation</b>	Ashoka Ireland for Specialisterne (Autism)
<b>Description</b>	The grant for this project was used to develop a plan to introduce an initiative already established in Denmark and Scotland to employ people with autism in the IT sector. This grant has supported an investigation into opportunities for implementing the knowledge and experience from Specialisterne Denmark in an Irish context, including assessing, training and employing people with autism spectrum disorder. The investigation will produce a feasibility study and a business plan.





## Additional information

Websites developed through projects supported by the Genio Trust:

Aras Follain	<a href="http://www.arasfollain.com">www.arasfollain.com</a>
Aiseanna Tacaiochta	<a href="http://theatnetwork.com/">http://theatnetwork.com/</a>
DCU Trialogue	<a href="http://www.trialogue.co/">www.trialogue.co/</a>
EVE Recovery in Context Inventory	<a href="http://www.recoverycontextinventory.com">www.recoverycontextinventory.com</a>

Additional websites and e-learning programmes developed through the projects supported by the Genio Trust will be available shortly. Please check [www.genio.ie](http://www.genio.ie) for updates.



Genio is a pioneering non-profit organisation that works with the public, private and non-profit sectors to stimulate and support social innovation in Ireland that has lasting impact.

We focus on those who do not have access to opportunities to live as full, participating and valued members of society by virtue of disability, educational disadvantage, poverty, age, or other factors that act as barriers to participating fully in society.

## Genio Members

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- **Pat McLoughlin**, *Chairperson, Genio; CEO, Irish Payment Services Organisation; Chairperson, Local Government Efficiency Implementation Group*
- **Madeleine Clarke**, *Founding Director, Genio*
- **Dr Edmond Molloy**, *Chairperson, Irish Mental Health Reform; Director, Advanced Organisation; and Genio Trustee*
- **David Egan**, *Disability Consultant*
- **Tim Sheehy**, *Chairman, Ergo; Board member, Daughters of Charity*
- **Brendan Broderick**, *CEO, Sisters of Charity, Jesus & Mary/ Muiríosa Foundation; Ex-Chair, National Federation of Voluntary Bodies*
- **Teresa Kilmartin**, *Director, Symbio HR Solutions*
- **Dr Cathal Coleman**, *Lecturer, Department of Politics, University College Dublin; IT Consultant*
- **Patrick McGowan**, *Expert by Experience; Lecturer, Dublin City University; former Director of Advocacy, Irish Advocacy Network*

## Genio Trust

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- **Finbarr Flood**, *(Chairperson), formerly Chairperson of the Labour Relations Committee and Managing Director of Guinness*
- **Dr Ruth Barrington**, *CEO of Molecular Medicine Ireland; formerly Assistant Secretary of the Department of Health; and CEO of the Health Research Board*
- **Dr Edmond Molloy**, *Chairperson, Irish Mental Health Reform; Director of Advanced Organisation; and member of Genio*

## International Research Advisory Committee

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The Research Advisory Committee incorporates expertise across intellectual disability, physical and sensory disabilities and mental health sectors, and also health economics and programme change.

The Committee is chaired by Dr. Ruth Barrington.

Members:

- **Gail Birkbeck**, *Strategic Learning & Evaluation Executive, the Atlantic Philanthropies*
- **Sarah Craig**, *Head of National Health Information Systems, Health Research Board, Dublin*
- **Dr. Bob Illback**, *Director of Planning & Evaluation, Headstrong, Dublin and Reach, Louisville, Kentucky, US*
- **Gabrielle Jacobs**, *Assistant Principal in the Disability Office, Office for Disability and Mental Health, Dublin*
- **Dr. Fiona Keogh**, *Research and Information Manager, Genio*
- **Prof. Charlie Lakin**, *Director, Research and Training Centre on Community Living, University of Minnesota, US*
- **Dr. David McDaid**, *Research Fellow in Health Policy and Health Economics, LSE, UK*
- **Prof. Gerard Quinn**, *Director of the Centre for Disability Law and Policy, NUIG*

Research team lead by Prof. Roy McConkey, University of Ulster.

## Genio Team

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- **Madeleine Clarke**, *Founding Director, Genio*
- **Hugh Kane**, *Project Development Director, Genio*
- **Dr Fiona Keogh**, *Research and Information Manager, Genio*
- **Tara Doheny**, *Network Support Manager*
- **Margaret Flynn**, *Finance and Administration Manager*
- **Fiona Murphy**, *Communications Manager*
- **Margaret Egan**, *Administration Support*

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