

CARP KILLINARDEN

***COMMUNITY ADDICTION RESPONSE
PROGRAMME***



CARP's new building March 2003

ANNUAL REPORT 2005

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Mission Statement

CARP works with people so that they don't feel helpless when faced with the tragic consequences of problem drug use either to themselves, their families and their community.

Ethos

CARP tries to have a non-judgmental approach to individual drug use and works with each person so that they can address their addictions while ensuring that they cause minimal damage and injury to themselves, their families and their community.



This art work was done by artist Celine Kileen for an exhibition we took part in 2005. It depicts a Mexican legend of the butterfly princess who helps people through difficult times.

HISTORY

CARP began in July 1995 as a response to drugs problem in Killinarden. It was a partnership between parents of problem drug users, who had been meeting regularly since October 1994, and Killinarden Community Council. It became a registered company in December 1997.

DIRECTORS

CARP has a board of 8 directors who are elected on an annual basis.

Tony O'Hagan, member of the community department South Dublin County Council, is the chairperson.

Jane Wade, one of the original members of the parents group, is the company secretary.

Patricia Darling, development officer of Vincent de Paul for West Tallaght, is the company treasurer.

The other directors are:

Patricia Byrne, estate management officer for Killinarden and Killinarden Community Council representative.

Mary Glynn, one of the original members of the parents group.

Patricia Nolan, Manager Tallaght Volunteer Bureau

Joe Ryan, business man.

David Nixon, MSC, Parish curate in Killinarden.

STAFF

CARP has a staff of 8.

4 full time employees

Liam O'Brien, Co-ordinator and Manager.

Ann Doyle, Community Support Worker.

Debbie Brennan, Secretary/Receptionist

George Bradley, General Assistant and Security.

4 part time.

Vivienne Nolan, Youth and outreach Worker.

Leena Madani, Addiction Counsellor

Deirdre Dowdall, Keyworker for people in treatment.

Thérèse Hegarty, Family Therapist.

There is a weekly team meeting in which most staff part take.

CARP is basically an addiction response centre for the people of Killinarden and further afield.

1. Introduction

1.1 Drug use in Killinarden during 2005.

2005 began far more slowly than 2004. Fewer people presented for treatment. Only one wasn't already known to CARP to have a problem with opiates. Fifteen people started treatment with CARP during the year. Two of these had been members of the young heroin users group in 2004.

The setting up of a main Tallaght HSE clinic on Belgard Road has had mixed blessings for CARP. It is good when people who are no longer manageable in a community clinic can be transferred but CARP feels, at times, that some clients are moved unnecessarily. CARP believes that the policy leans too much on the side of seeing problem drug use as mainly a medical problem and not giving enough priority to the psychosocial dimension nor the process of reintegrating people into their communities.

During most of 2005 there was no waiting list for treatment for people from Killinarden until November when people were being told to return in 2006. CARP took the issue up with the HSE and renewed their offer of allowing its premises to be used for another morning clinic but there was no response to date.

Individuals attending CARP moved during 2005 for a number of reasons:

1. A number of people were imprisoned and some when released their treatment continued in Belgard Road
2. Some went into residential treatment with Born Again Christian groups. Some have managed to give up heroin.
3. Some completed successful detoxes from their methadone.
4. Some moved to GPs when they stabilised.
5. Some left the programme.

Cocaine was very much the big news of 2005 as it was the previous year. CARP worked with a number of people from Killinarden who had serious problems with cocaine in the Cocaine project – more detailed information about this elsewhere.

E and Speed didn't feature much during 2005. Tablet use amongst young persons wasn't an issue with the people attending the drop-in for teenagers. However, it still remains an issue for a number of CARP participants.

In the above piece there has been no mention of cannabis or alcohol. Cannabis-hash, is endemic in the area and many people wouldn't regard it as problematic. However, a number of people in treatment with us won't smoke it because they experience paranoia after smoking it. Our youth worker reports that it doesn't seem to be as prevalent amongst the teenagers she deals with compared to previous years.

Alcohol continues to be problematic in Killinarden. There are a small number in treatment with CARP that also experience problems with alcohol. Like 2004 young people are seen drinking publicly far more than they used to. There is also evidence of more discarded drink containers than previous years.

2. Health Service Executive – South Western Area (HSE.SWA)

2.1 Finance

The HSE.SWE grant aid CARP with a Section 65 grant each year. In 2005 this included national wage agreement increases but no benchmarking.

2.2 Methadone Scripting Clinic

The HSE.SWE provides a doctor and nurse three mornings and one afternoon a week. They look after the methadone scripting needs of 71 people who are in receipt of substitution therapy with CARP. CARP would like to have a clinic every morning from Mon through to Friday.

2.3 Needle Exchange

2005 was our second year involved in needle exchange. HSE.SWA outreach workers did a needle exchange twice a week in CARP – Tues 5 – 7 pm and Fri 12 – 2 pm. During 2004 CARP was asked by the HSE.SWA to provide personnel to be trained up to do needle exchange. On the strength of this CARP began obliging people who called outside of HSE.SWA hours for a needle exchange. CARP has staff that had worked in Merchants Quay. The offer of training of personnel was withdrawn and CARP had to source its own materials and training during 2005. However, the HSE.SWA has agreed to back any proposals for needle exchange that would be made through the LDTF emerging funds and to act as a channel for this funding. They also will provide us with a list of their suppliers and a list of people who would be able to do the training for needle exchange. However, they would not be able to provide this training themselves. At the moment CARP, along with other projects, is seeking training that would be funded through the LDTF.

During 2005 CARP staff facilitated 497 needle exchanges for 84 individuals. 58 of these individuals were new to CARP services in 2005. The total number of needle exchanges provided by CARP and HSE.SWA staff was 663.

During 2005 CARP successfully applied for and received insurance cover for the needle exchange.

3. Barnardos/Lorien Project and Local Schools

Approximately once a month during school term CARP, Barnardos and the local schools meet to discuss any children that there might be concerns over. Cases are discussed with the consent of their parent/s.

4. Rehabilitation

4.1 Art/Crafts

This is done with monies from the Tallaght Local Drugs Task Force. Arts/crafts are held on Mondays and Wednesdays afternoons.



A selection of arts and crafts made by CARP participants

4.2 Deonach

As a result of the successful cooperation between Deonach and ourselves in 2005 a music project in 2005 resulted in the production of a CD. Unfortunately our lead singer moved to the North Side.

4.3 Pilot Rehabilitation Project for 18 to 25 year olds in treatment for drug use.

Early in 2004 CARP applied to the Dormant Accounts (now Pobail) for funding for a Rehabilitation project for 18 – 25 year olds. Pobail agreed to give CARP some of the funding but that it had to get matching funding from other sources. CARP approached the VEC and received a written promise of €20K. FAS agreed to provide monies through a Special Category Community Employment Scheme. The Tallaght Local Drugs Task Force, subject to ratification from the National Drugs Strategy Team, agreed to pay for the salaries of the Project Leader and the part time administrator. However, this only reached the National Drugs Strategy Team at the end of November. It didn't get discussed due to the dispute between the Minister of State with Responsibility for Drugs and the National Drugs Strategy Team. It may get discussed in early 2006.

During 2005 Pobail agreed a spending schedule with CARP but won't release the monies until the National Drugs Strategy Team gives the go ahead for its matching funding

5. Young Persons Facilities and Services Fund

5.1 Drop-in

This is the sixth successful year of the running drop-in. We had a very busy start to the year, coming into the summer numbers were very low. This maybe was due to the opening of the drop-in the Killinarden Community Centre. Due to this we closed the drop-in on Thursday nights for the month of July and both nights for the month of August.

Drop in runs twice weekly from 6pm – 8.30pm in the Nabco Community Centre for young people from the ages of 12-21yrs. We had a group of younger kids attending for a couple of months aged 9-10yrs but this did not work out as the age difference was too great. There are two volunteers helping with the running of the drop-in, without whose help they would be impossible to run.



Some of the young people attending the Drop-in

5.2 Sibling Groups

We still have three siblings groups running. The young people who attend would have brothers/sisters with drug issues or in dangers themselves. On Monday's, Tuesday's and Thursday's, these groups are run from 3.30pm to 5pm. These groups are most popular and there is a waiting list of young people to step in if one steps out. These groups have been very beneficial to young people. A group of Girls who were in the siblings group for 3 years graduated this past summer and have since gone to new horizons. Through feedback from the girls they have expressed how much the siblings group helped encourage them to stay in school. We also have a past member of the

drop-in is at present attending college in Liberties College, studying youth work. She is doing her placement in Monday's sibling group.

5.3 One-to-one

This still remains a very important element to young people. 56 young people have availed of this service in 2005.

5.4 Fishing Trips

We ran a number of fishing trips at the first half of the year. Due to lack of funding this couldn't continue in the latter part of the year. They still remain a firm favourite among the young people.

5.5 Prison Visits

We have engaged with a number of young people from the Killinarden area presently serving a sentence. There were eleven visits to five people. One of these have since moved to Target (Tallaght Probation Service) and is getting on really well. Another has joined the CARP Killinarden programme and is in regular contact.

5.6 Networking

Networking remains a vital part of this job. For example Lorient/Schools, Target, Deonach, Dublin Bus, Tallaght Volunteer Bureau, VEC and Tallaght Youth Services.

5.7 Residential/Overnight

We had two overnight trips. One to Carlow House and a great time was had by all. The second trip was to Trabolgan in Cork. This was a two night trip organised for the girls group as this would be the group's last trip. It was a great success.

5.8 Total number of visits of the young people:

	2004	2005
Drop-in	2063	1665
Siblings Groups	377	589
One-to-One	46	56

6. Dept of Justice, Equity and Law Reform

6.1 Prison Visitation

CARP staff visited the 14 prisoners during 2005 over 36 visits.

It has been our policy for a number of years to visit people from Killinarden with drug problems in prison. A working group of the Tallaght Drugs Task Force is looking at improving services from communities to prisoners.

6.2 Probation Service

Over the years the Probation Service, both Tallaght and Smithfield, has liaised with CARP over mutual clients.

This has expanded during 2005 and a number of clients have been referred to CARP for urinalysis. Ten people were referred during the year and six people presented themselves.

7. Killinarden Community

Killinarden Community Council (KCC) and CARP continue to work closely together. Liam O'Brien and Ann Doyle were elected as members of the Council at its AGM and will serve as directors under the new management structures passed at the KCC's AGM. Patricia Byrne represents KCC on CARP's board of directors.

CARP has representation on a number of bodies: Local Drugs Task Force; Citywide; VEC Youth Programme; National Advisory Committee on Drugs; Tallaght Homeless Advice Unit; Brookfield Addiction Support Programme; Community Workshop Tallaght; CARP is also a representative on for the Community Platform on the Social Inclusions Measures Committee of South Dublin County Council.

8. Publications

8.1 Newsletter

Two newsletters were produced in 2005 – one at Easter and the second in July for the 10th Anniversary Celebrations. This newsletter was delivered to all houses. CARP is indebted to Conor Ryan, a reporter with the Tallaght Echo, who organised and produced these newsletters.

8.2 Webpage

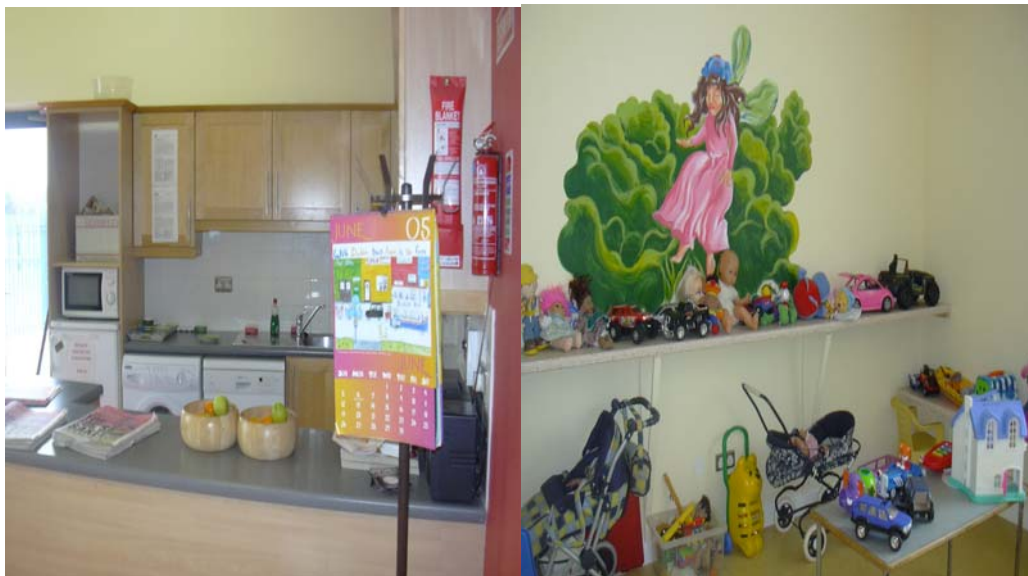
CARP's webpage www.carp.ie contains a monthly update on CARP's activities. A new item was included in 2005 which gave a breakdown of the price structure of drugs. The first drug done was cocaine.

9. New Building

The occupancy rate of the building has increased slightly during 2005. The yearly total was close to 11,000.

CARP and the Killinarden Community Council continue to express reservations about the condition of the grounds between and around both centres. This land is the responsibility of South Dublin County Council. We were hoping that it would be landscaped and tarmaced before we celebrated our 10th anniversary in July but even though SDCC encouraged us to get it done we found it impossible to get three quotations for the job. We will visit this again in 2006.

We are still awaiting the final instalments of our capital funding from the HSE.SWE. They are refusing to hand it over until CARP receives a management license from SDCC. It looks as if we might get the matter resolved early in 2006.



CARP's new kitchen area

Children's playroom

10. Homeless

Homelessness wasn't as big an issue during 2005 as during 2004. There were 45 incidents of homelessness amongst CARP participants during the year.

11. Counselling

Demand for counselling continued during 2005. Our counsellor, Leena Madani, worked with a number of clients in partnership with the HSE.SWA and with Target. The numbers attending were close to fifty.

12. Family Therapy

During 2005 our family therapist, Thérèse Hegarty, took employment with CARP. This was due to the grant from the Kathryn Howard Foundation.

During 2005 there were 21 families seen. 10 of these were new families. There were close to 160 sessions during 2005.

Funding was received from the following two agencies during 2005 and we will be able to offer the service on Wednesdays during 2006 and increase it to two days from September.

12.1 Family Support Agency

The FSA continue to part fund the position of family therapist. In 2005 they increased their grant to €6,000.

12.2 St Stephen's Green Trust

During 2005 we secured a grant from the above Trust we will increase the family therapy to two days a week in the latter half of 2006.

13. Young Cocaine Users

After the successful engagement with young heroin users (4 have since moved into mainstream treatment) we moved to work with young cocaine users with a grant of €5,000 from the VEC. This engaged with about 10 young people during the early part of the year. They were far more difficult to 'engage' than the young heroin users. There were more females in the group and eventually those that were interested were moved to the Cocaine Project at the end of June 2005.

14. Finance

As in the last two annual reports there were fears that we might run out of funding during the year. This didn't happen due to the running of two Golf classics and a substantial donation from a Religious Congregation – the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart – who administer the Parish of Killinarden.

14.1 CARP Non grant income

CARP co-facilitated the Community Addiction Studies in the Tallaght Institute of Technology. Half the facilitation fees and the administration fee, totalling €4,000, are paid to CARP.

Rent of the premises, arts crafts, donations etc realised €5.5K

14.2 Golf Classic at the K Club

CARP again wandered into a very different world when its second Golf Classic was held in the K Club on the original course. A total of 27 teams were entered and unlike last year we had the most wonderful of sunny days. The event was organised by Joe Ryan, a director of CARP and CARP's secretary Debbie Brennan. CARP extends its gratitude to Joe for organising the event. We would also like to thank those firms in Tallaght, and wider afield, who donated prizes and entered teams. Our thanks too to our secretary, Debbie, who organised things from our end and to Joe's family and friends who gave a dig out on the day.



The winning team that took part in our Golf Classic in the K-Club in June 2005.

14.3 Statutory Grants

CARP received the following statutory grants:

Health Board: €150K (includes monies owing from 2004)

Local Drugs Task Force: €28K

Young Persons Facilities and Services Fund: €55.25K

Family Support Agency: €6K

VEC: €5K

15. 10th Anniversary Celebrations

On July 27th we welcomed the Minister Noel Ahern, who has responsibility for the National Drugs Strategy, to the Killinarden Community Centre for the official opening of the New Building (2 years after we had moved in) and the 10th Anniversary Celebrations. The deputy Major of South Dublin County Council, Karen Warren, presided. CARP wishes to thank all those who celebrated with us on the day especially the staff of the Killinarden Community Centre who made the hosting of the event a trouble free experience.



Minister Noel Ahern and deputy Major of South Dublin County Council, Karen Warren officially opening CARP's new building



16. Cocaine Project

Valentine's Day 2005 saw the first night of the cocaine project, run jointly by St Dominic's Contact Centre, Millbrook Lawns and CARP Killinarden. Since then 80 clients have presented themselves. They receive holistic therapies as well as counselling and support around the problem drug use. The average number of visits is 3. There are 2 males for every female and the average age is the mid 20s. This may be due to the efforts of the young female outreach worker, Lynn Ruane, rather than a true picture of cocaine use in Tallaght.

The pilot project is being evaluated by Goodbodies and we will be looking for the project to be a permanent fixture in the Tallaght Local Drugs Task Force response to problem cocaine use.

17. Staff

All of CARP's efforts in dealing with problem drug use wouldn't be possible without the very dedicated staff. CARP directors are appreciative of the invaluable work they do.

18. Problem Drug Users

Finally, CARP would like to thank all problem drug users who avail of our services. We thank you for your courtesy, kindness and understanding of our limitations. We would like for you to make us redundant but we have to be realistic and acknowledge that problem drug use will continue to be a factor in our lives for the future. However, CARP hopes that it will in some way remove the stigma attached to being a problem drug user and that some time in the future more people will see problem drug use as a human condition and not something for which people should be condemned but rather helped to deal with so that people can get on with the difficult job of life.



Some children who attended our 10th Anniversary