



PRESS RELEASE

21/05/09

Minister Hanafin officially opens Curragh Pride Family Resource Centre

Services provided by Curragh Pride FRC ensure that supports are there to meet the needs of the community - Hanafin

Mary Hanafin T.D., Minister for Social and Family Affairs today (*21st May 2009*) officially opened Curragh Pride Family Resource Centre (FRC) in the Curragh Camp, Co. Kildare. This FRC provides a broad range of services and supports, some unique to Curragh Pride which serves around 200 families living in the Curragh Camp, many of whom are in or connected to the Defence Forces.

Minister Hanafin was joined at the official opening by her cabinet colleague, Minister for Defence Willie O'Dea T.D., at the special event at Griffith Road.

Speaking to staff, families and invited guests at the Centre, Minister Hanafin said, **"there is an enormous amount of work being done by the Curragh Pride Family Resource Centre from the after schools club to the parent and toddler group, through to the over 50s club and the men's group. These activities provide vital support to the families who avail of the services. There are services and something of interest to everyone in the area. The support for Spouses of Soldiers Serving Abroad is a particularly unique service but it demonstrates the need for a Family Resource Centre to tailor its services to their local community."**



Department of Social and Family Affairs

Curragh Pride FRC is one of 107 Centres which are located throughout the country and are funded by the Department of Social and Family Affairs under a programme operated by the Family Support Agency.

In 2009, Curragh Pride FRC will receive over €106,000 under this programme. Minister Hanafin said, **“the Government recognises the important part played by community groups around the country in improving the quality of life of people in the locality by helping them to change their situation for the better. This is particularly important in these difficult times as people face new pressures and fresh challenges. Curragh Pride FRC is certainly playing its part in supporting families and helping them to enhance their own lives.”**

Minister Hanafin concluded by paying tribute to the work of the Management Committee and all of those involved in the Centre and wished them every success with their future work.

ENDS

Note for Editors:

The aim of this Programme is to combat disadvantage by improving the function of the family unit. The emphasis in the projects is on the involvement of local communities in developing approaches to tackle the problems they face and on creating successful partnerships between the voluntary and statutory agencies in the area concerned.



The activities supported by the Family Resource Centres are designed to meet the needs of the local community. They include the provision of:

- information, advice and support to target groups and families in the area,
- practical assistance to community groups such as training, information and advice,
- education courses and training opportunities,
- child-care facilities for those attending courses provided by the project, and
- after-school clubs.

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