



**PRESS RELEASE**

**01/10/09**

## **Minister Brady officially opens Connect Family Resource Centre, Drogheda**

Minister of State at the Department of Social and Family Affairs, Áine Brady T.D. today (*Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2009*) officially opened Connect Family Resource Centre (FRC) in Moneymore Estate, Drogheda, Co. Louth.

Speaking with guests and staff at the Centre, Minister Brady said **“I am delighted that the Family Support Agency has been able to support Connect FRC in its development over the past two years. This Centre provides services, support, education and training to lone parents, unemployed people, early school leavers, Travellers, non-Irish nationals and many others in the local community.”**

Connect FRC is one of 107 Centres which are located throughout the country and are funded by the Department of Social and Family Affairs under the Family and Community Services Resource Centre Programme. The Centre has been funded under the Family and Community Services Resource Centre Programme since 2007 and is budgeted to receive over €84,000 in 2009 for its day to day funding in 2009.

Minister Brady continued **“Connect FRC is the only Family Resource Centre in Co. Louth and it offers a range of services from practical parenting classes, cookery classes and a wills information evening to a fun and healthy walking group. The Marie Keating mobile unit visited the Centre**



**recently to provide information on issues relating cancer to the local and wider community and, during the summer, Connect FRC provided support for a men's health information evening.**

Minister Brady paid tribute to the staff and management committee saying **"the ethos of Connect FRC is to provide a friendly, safe and secure environment where all people are valued, respected and empowered. The staff in the centre are dedicated to improving the quality of life of people in Moneymore and the wider area and they work hard to foster a sense of value within this community. This is particularly important in these difficult times as people face new pressures and fresh challenges."**

Minister Brady concluded by wishing the management committee and all of those involved in the Centre every success in their future work.

**ENDS**

**Note for Editors:**

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, advice and photocopying facilities,
- education courses and training opportunities,
- child-care facilities for those attending courses provided by the project and
- running of after-school clubs.

**ENDS**