



Ó Cuív approves additional €3.5 million for counselling service to support families through difficult times

Over €3.5 million is being allocated to 560 voluntary and community groups nationwide which provide a wide range of marriage, child and bereavement counselling services and supports.

Announcing the grants, Minister for Social and Family Affairs, Éamon Ó Cuív T.D., today (30th April 2010) said **“a wide variety of organisations, from large counselling bodies to schools operating Rainbows groups for children to locally-based bereavement support groups, is receiving funding to support communities and families in difficult times. The grants are used to help people to deal with difficulties in their relationships, to help children whose lives have been affected by parental separation and to support families who have experienced the death of a family member.”**

This round of grants brings the total funding for marriage, child and bereavement counselling services in 2010 to a total of over €11.4 million. Earlier this month, Minister Ó Cuív announced multi-annual funding for 29 major organisations of over €7.8 million. This will enable groups involved in counselling to help men, women and children through traumatic events and times in their families' lives.

Grants are also being paid to suicide support groups, child counselling groups, women's and men's support groups as well as groups providing marriage preparation and marriage counselling.

“The services which are supported by these grants promote stable family relationships and the well-being of individuals, children and society in general. I want to encourage people to avail of these professional supports which are available in their own communities to help them through these difficult times”, said Minister Ó Cuív.

A county by county breakdown of total grants awarded is below.

ENDS



Department of Social and Family Affairs

Note for Editors:

2010 Scheme of Grants for Marriage, Child and Bereavement Counselling Services

County by county breakdown of total grants awarded

Carlow	€49,800
Cavan	€45,400
Clare	€122,120
Cork	€141,600
Donegal	€123,400
Dublin	€1,185,315
Galway	€191,300
Kerry	€112,400
Kildare	€166,400
Kilkenny	€38,200
Laois	€17,600
Leitrim	€32,200
Limerick	€166,120
Longford	€32,350
Louth	€208,100
Mayo	€94,600
Meath	€94,960
Monaghan	€61,900
Offaly	€24,200
Roscommon	€83,500
Sligo	€79,300
Tipperary	€121,470
Waterford	€45,200
Westmeath	€45,900
Wexford	€103,250
Wicklow	€147,250
Total	€3,533,835