



Background

Dublin AIDS Alliance (DAA) Ltd is a registered charity operating at local, national and European level. The principal aim of the organisation is to improve, through a range of support services, conditions for people living with HIV and AIDS and/or Hepatitis, their families and their caregivers, while further promoting sexual health in the general population. Since 1987, DAA has been pioneering services in sexual health education and promotion, and has consistently engaged in lobbying and campaigning in the promotion of human rights.

DAA is acutely aware of the cultural and economic barriers that can affect life choices, rendering both men and women more vulnerable to HIV. Our support, prevention, education and training programmes are therefore rooted in capacity building and experiential learning techniques, which enable the negotiation of safer sex and/or injecting practices. While supporting service users around the choices available, DAA's approach broadly reflects a harm minimisation model, which emphasises practical rather than idealised goals.

DAA's individual and group interventions are, at all times, age appropriate and sensitive to the psychosocial needs, learning abilities and life experiences of our clients. We operate under an ethos of equality and are committed to making a positive contribution towards a humane and just society. DAA strives to ensure an environment that promotes equal opportunity and prohibits discrimination, while further enabling our staff, volunteers and service users to experience dignity and respect at all times.

DAA is a voluntary, non-profit organisation, linked to various local and national networks. DAA is the non-governmental organisation (NGO) representative for the eastern region on the National AIDS Strategy Committee (NASC) and its Education and Prevention Subcommittee. DAA is a member of the HIV Services Network (HSN), the Gay Health Network (GHN), the Drugs Education Workers' Forum (DEWF), Sex Workers Alliance Ireland (SWAI), Dublin Community Forum, Community Sector Employers' Forum, Employer Resource Bureau, CityWide Prison Links Group, the Treatment and Rehabilita-

tion Subcommittee and the Prevention and Education Subcommittee of the North Inner City Drugs Task Force (NICDTF). DAA is a FETAC registered provider, and is affiliated to the Irish National Organisation of the Unemployed (INOU) and the Inner City Organisations Network (ICON). Other initiatives supported by DAA include Narcotics Anonymous (NA), the Union for Improved Services, Communication and Education (UISCE) and Positive Now.

Our Mission

Working to improve conditions for people living with HIV and AIDS, their families and their caregivers, while actively promoting HIV and sexual health awareness in the general population.

Our Vision

To contribute to a reduction in the prevalence of HIV in Ireland.

Organisational Objectives

- To support those living with and affected by HIV and AIDS
- To confront the stigma and discrimination associated with HIV and AIDS
- To increase public awareness through the promotion of HIV and sexual health education
- To influence policy through partnership and active campaigning



Chairperson's Foreword

On behalf of DAA, I am delighted to present the Annual Report for 2011. The report provides a snapshot of the very busy year that we had in 2011 and how we continue to meet the challenges of serving increasing numbers of clients with less resources. In Community Support services we have seen an increase in the numbers of people living with HIV (PLWHIV) using the service, from 252 in 2010 to 333, while in our Prevention Education and Training (PET) service a total of 54 programmes were delivered in a range of settings during 2011.

In addition to our core services in Community Support and PET, we have focused on a number of key issues in our lobbying and campaigning work during the year. The Health Protection Surveillance Centre (HPSC) HIV incidence data released on Irish AIDS Day 2011 showed that 331 new cases of HIV were diagnosed in Ireland in 2010, a 16% reduction on the previous year. While welcoming this reduction, DAA has continued to highlight the need for improved prevention and awareness efforts and an integrated response to sexual health at community levels.

An estimated 30% of individuals infected with HIV are unaware of their infection, and figures for the first half of 2011 show a worrying number of people who are diagnosed late. HIV testing must be expanded and supported by much greater awareness and promotion of sexual health in the general population and amongst young people in particular. DAA continued to call on the government throughout 2011 to introduce a National Sexual Health Strategy to bring much needed coherence and coordination to HIV and sexual health services in Ireland.

Sex between men is now the predominant mode of transmission in Ireland, and during 2011 DAA continued to work with our partners in LGBT organisations who are actively engaged on the ground and developing targeted programmes. On World AIDS Day we participated in the launch of the first ever National HIV Prevention and Sexual Health Awareness Programme for men who have sex with men (MSM), a joint initiative by the GHN, the HSE and BeLonG To Youth Services.

DAA continued its commitment to working in partnership with people who are living with HIV, and the book *Living with HIV in Ireland: A Self-Help Guide*, launched in June 2011, was developed through a collaborative process. Throughout 2011 we worked with our partners in Positive Now on our shared objectives of developing the capacity of PLWHIV and challenging stigma and discrimination. The stigma and discrimination experienced by PLWHIV not only impacts negatively on their own lives but also hinders public health objectives by discouraging take-up of testing and treatment, and challenging HIV-related stigma and discrimination is central to all of our work.

DAA has continued to work with our partners in UISCE during 2011, and while the annual number of new cases of HIV among injecting drug users (IDUs) has been decreasing, there is no room for complacency. This is indicated by the level of chaotic drug use that is evident during community support outreach work and by the concerns raised by the HPSC about late diagnosis among some IDUs.

We were delighted to launch our new website www.dublinaidalliance.ie during the year; it aims to provide specific information for people wishing to access services and increase sexual health awareness among the general public.

DAA's achievements throughout 2011 were made possible by the hard work, commitment and dedication of the Executive Director and all the staff, and on behalf of the Board of Directors I would like to express our sincere gratitude and acknowledge their unfailing commitment to DAA and its ser-

vice users, particularly during these times of growing demand and decreased resources.

We would particularly like to thank our core funders in the HSE, the NICDTF and FÁS for their continued support and to additional funders, including Dublin City Council, the MAC AIDS Fund and the National Lottery, who have generously supported us throughout 2011. We have an ongoing need to fundraise to help with the delivery of our services and we are very appreciative of the work of the staff fundraising team and all those who have participated in and assisted with our fundraising events in 2011.

Finally, I would like to extend sincere thanks to my colleagues on the Board for giving their time, energy, skills and commitment so generously. In particular, I wish to acknowledge the contribution of Maeve Foreman, who resigned as Chair during 2011, Mairead Lyons, who resigned her directorship following a decade of committed service, and Maurice Fines for his contribution over the past number of years. On behalf of the Board and staff of DAA I would like to extend our sincere appreciation and thanks to all those who have supported the work of DAA in various capacities throughout 2011, and we look forward to continuing to work with you all in 2012.

Ann Nolan
Chairperson

Service Delivery 2011

DAA's service delivery for 2011 is set out under our organisational objectives. By addressing and furthering these objectives in line with best practice, DAA is contributing to the implementation of the recommendations of NASC's HIV and AIDS Education and Prevention Plan 2008–2012, the National Drugs Strategy (interim) 2009–2016 and other relevant policies.



**Objective 1:
To support those living with and affected by HIV and AIDS**

In accordance with Action Areas 3 and 4 of the *HIV and AIDS Education and Prevention Plan 2008–2012*, DAA continued to work in 2011 to support and build the capacity of PLWHIV and those who work with them. DAA also worked with the general public in relation to enquiries received by phone and email, and from those presenting at reception.

In 2011 DAA supported a total of 333 PLWHIV (206 males and 127 females) with 1,542 interventions.



Table 1 – Number and Category of Interventions for PLWHIV, 2011.

Type of Support	Total No. of Interventions
Advocacy & Mediation	596
1-to-1 Support	223
Counselling	183
Home & Hospital Visits	35
Training & Further Education	29
Health Information	325
Welfare Information	104
Legal Information	47
Total	1,542

In 2011 DAA continued to build the capacity of seven PLWHIV to promote self-advocacy amongst the greater population of PLWHIV and to create debate around HIV-related issues. Our capacity building programme has focused on advocacy training and the development of an efficient communications strategy to ensure effective national networking for PLWHIV.

Living with HIV in Ireland: A Self-Help Guide was published in 2011 to help PLWHIV in acting as advocates in relation to their own health and health-related matters. A total of 58 PLWHIV participated in the production and design of this guide. The guide was disseminated to all HIV clinics and agencies, as well as other agencies including refugee and asylum agencies, methadone clinics, drug agencies, health insurance agencies, private medical facilities, migrant projects, homeless agencies, gay organisations, rehabilitation hospitals, helplines, VEC programmes and housing agencies.

To support those who work, or may work, with PLWHIV, and to raise awareness of HIV issues, DAA conducted the following training in line with Action Areas 3 and 4 of the *HIV and AIDS Education and Prevention Plan 2008–2012*:

- *HIV and AIDS – An Overview for Counsellors* training course
- HIV issues-based training for Gay Switchboard Dublin

Further details on this training are provided under Objective 3.

General Public

A total of 292 interventions occurred with the general public who were looking for information related to HIV, sexually transmitted infections (STIs), client work or DAA itself. The majority of enquiries specifically related to HIV and STI testing (20%), HIV and STI transmission and information on Hepatitis (14%). Remaining interventions related to DAA services, HIV clinics, post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP), HIV issues (namely disclosure) and condoms.

**Objective 2:
To confront the stigma and discrimination associated
with HIV and AIDS**

In 2011 DAA developed a three-minute video on HIV-related stigma and discrimination, to raise awareness of the impact of stigma and discrimination on PLWHIV. The video, *Challenge It, Change It, End It*, was also entered into the Better Together 2011 competition and can be viewed on our website.

Awareness of, and information on, HIV-related stigma and discrimination is included in all training programmes. In 2011 particular emphasis on HIV-related stigma was included in our training programmes with the Irish Red Cross, Gay Switchboard Dublin, and the HIV and AIDS training programme for counsellors. More information is included on these under Objective 3 below.

As a result of client concern, an information session on HIV and HIV discrimination was held with 15 tattoo artists and body piercers in October. This led to further dialogue and subsequent work on the *Best Practice Guidelines for Tattooing and Permanent Make-Up* and *Best Practice Guidelines for Body Piercing*.



**Objective 3:
To increase public awareness through the promotion
of HIV and sexual health education**

Prevention Education And Training

DAA's PET services are closely aligned with Action Area 3 of NASC's *HIV and AIDS Education and Prevention Plan 2008–2012* and Actions 20, 22, 24 and 26 of the *National Drugs Strategy (interim) 2009–2016*, providing training to key population groups at risk of HIV and Hepatitis, as well as providing training for trainers programmes to enhance support for HIV prevention education and training in the out-of-school setting and to other relevant professional groups and organisations. A total of 54 various training and education programmes were delivered in 2011, ranging from half-day workshops to eight-week training for trainers programmes.

Table 2 – Training and Education Programmes Delivered, 2011.

Training and Education Programmes / Key Population Groups	No. of Progs. Delivered	Total No. of Participants	Male	Female
Young People	24	367	190	177
IDUs	3	46	19	27
PLWHIV	5	41	33	8
Training for Trainers Programmes	2	23	3	20
One-day Sexual Health Workshops	9	106	39	67
Other Professional Training Programmes	11	149	32	117
Total	54	732	316	416

Young People

Training programmes with young people varied from half-day programmes to five-part programmes, and topics covered included HIV, Hepatitis, STIs, contraception and condom use, safer sex negotiations, sexuality and drugs awareness.

Number of programmes delivered: 24

Number of participants: 367

Number of youth groups: 24

Number of organisations represented: 12

Profile of participants/groups: Early school-leavers, homeless young people, LGBT young people, young peer educators, young people experiencing problematic drug use, young offenders and young at risk of offending, and young people in second-level education.

Regions represented: Dublin 1, 2, 4, 7, 9, 15, Lucan, Co Dublin and Co Kilkenny.

Injecting Drug Users (IDUs)

Education programmes with IDUs, including recovering drug users, included training on HIV, Hepatitis, STIs and condom use.

Number of programmes delivered: 3

Number of participants: 46

Number of organisations represented: 3

Regions represented: Dublin 7 and 8.

People living with HIV (PLWHIV)

Number of programmes delivered: 5

Number of participants: 41

- *Positive Now*: As part of a capacity building project with PLWHIV, a HIV and sexual health training programme was developed and part-delivered in 2011.
- *Gay Switchboard Dublin*: To enable Gay Switchboard Dublin to expand its services and provide support to PLWHIV in Ireland, three HIV and AIDS training programmes were delivered throughout 2011 to 33 volunteers including training on HIV-related stigma and discrimination.
- *HIV and AIDS – An Overview for Counsellors*: This one-day course, aimed at counsellors who wish to provide services to PLWHIV, was attended by four participants in 2011.

Men who have Sex with Men (MSM)

DAA continues to support and promote sexual health initiatives within the gay community through our participation on the GHN. In 2011 GHN, in partnership with the HSE, launched the first national HIV Prevention and Sexual Health Awareness Programme for MSM. The first phase, launched on World AIDS Day (1 December 2011), includes a video raising awareness of HIV infection rates among this population group in Ireland. The video and campaign literature can be viewed on www.man2man.ie.

Training for Trainers Programmes

Funded by the NICDTF, our training for trainers programmes aim to provide youth and community workers with the skills necessary to engage the client group in their care in sexual health and drug awareness education, and safer sex negotiation skills training. Both courses are FETAC level 5 accredited.

Programme: Sexual Health and Drug Awareness

Length of programme: 8 weeks

Number of programmes delivered: 1

Number of participants: 11

Number of organisations represented: 8

Types of organisations represented: Youth projects, teen parent projects, and rehabilitation and drug-related organisations.

Regions represented: Dublin 1, 4, 7, 10, 18, Co Meath, Co Louth and Co Tipperary.

Programme: Safer Sex Negotiation Skills

Length of programme: 7 weeks

Number of programmes delivered: 1

Number of participants: 12

Number of organisations represented: 12

Types of organisations represented: Drug and addiction-related projects, Traveller projects, organisations working with sex workers, youth projects, organisations working with people with disabilities, community resource projects for women, LGBT organisations, and intercultural/new communities' projects.

Regions represented: Dublin 1, 7, 8, 9, 12, 15, 24, Co Dublin and Co Limerick.

One-Day Sexual Health Workshops

This popular workshop is beneficial to people working in the voluntary, youth and community sector who may deal with sexual health issues in the workplace, and covers topics such as transmission, testing, prevention and treatment of HIV, STIs and Hepatitis; safer sex and condom use; and information on relevant sexual health services.

Number of workshops delivered: 9

Number of participants: 106

Number of organisations represented: 25

Types of organisations represented: Youth projects, drug-related organisations, statutory agencies, hospitals and clinics, third-level colleges, refugee and asylum seeker projects, Traveller projects, education centres, organisations working with people with disabilities, and organisations working with PLWHIV.

Regions represented: Dublin 1, 3, 5, 7, 8, 12, 15, 17, 18, 20, 22, Co Dublin, Co Kildare, Co Wicklow, Co Carlow, Co Limerick and Co Tipperary.

Other Professional Training Programmes

DAA also provides tailored professional training programmes for staff and volunteers in a range of organisations and for specific events.

Number of programmes delivered: 11

Number of participants: 149

Number of organisations represented: 15

- A two-day HIV and AIDS awareness training programme was delivered to 11 youth leaders from the Irish Red Cross Youth Services. The primary aim of the training was to provide youth leaders with the information and resources necessary to develop a new HIV and AIDS training programme for delivery to the young people involved in the Irish Red Cross. The new resource, *Youth HIV & AIDS Awareness Training*, was selected as the winner of the 2011 International Federation Youth Award in the category of 'Healthy youth make a healthy world'.
- As part of the *Learning Together Working Together* programme, HIV and Hepatitis training was delivered to staff at The Talbot Centre, Dublin 1.
- HIV refresher training was delivered to staff of the HSE Drugs & HIV Helpline.
- Two training programmes on HIV and HIV-related stigma were delivered to 34 health-care workers and other staff in a Dublin nursing home.
- On World Hepatitis Day, 28 July 2011, a half-day workshop on Hepatitis was delivered to 11 community and drugs workers from six organisations in the Dublin 1, 2, 7 and 8 regions. *This is Hepatitis* was delivered in partnership with Community Response.
- Training on HIV was delivered to six staff working in a foreign embassy in Dublin.
- Ten community drugs workers from Canal Communities Local Drugs Task Force in Dublin 8 received training on HIV and Hepatitis as part of 'Drugs Awareness Week' activities.

- Two training programmes were delivered in the Dublin 1 region to 37 community workers and volunteers in an after-school education programme, and to 10 teachers in a Youthreach Centre.
- Training on conducting sexual health street outreach was delivered to 13 participants of the HSE's Tralee Intercultural Programme in Co Kerry.

Outreach

DAA's sexual health outreach services are focused mainly on key population groups at risk of HIV and STI infection. Services include the distribution of HIV and sexual health information and free condoms and lubricant (lube), which are also available as a walk-in service on-site.

Table 3 – Condom Distribution, 2011.

Key Population Group	Total Condoms Distributed
New Communities	17,776
Young People	10,872
IDUs	1,084
Sex Workers	788
PLWHIV	7,322
Walk-in Service (on-site)	25,609
Total	63,451

New Communities

This year, weekly street outreach continued to be conducted with new communities in the Dublin 1, 2, 3 and 7 areas. DAA conducted outreach on the premises of 31 ethnic businesses and social spaces, distributing the *Don't Panic Guide to Sexual Health* in the relevant languages as well as free condoms and lube. These businesses included barbershops, hairdressers, supermarkets, mobile phone shops, MoneyGram shops and beauty businesses. A total of 1,864 males and 2,604 females received 4,420 sexual health packs.

Number of outreach dates: 38

Number of condoms distributed: 17,776

DAA conducted its annual two-day outreach at Sport Against Racism Ireland's (SARI) Soccer Festival in the Phoenix Park (10 and 11 September). A total of 500 sexual health packs including the *Don't Panic Guide to Sexual Health* were disseminated to competing football teams as well as to spectators.

Number of outreach dates: 2

Number of condoms distributed: 1,482



In partnership with AkiDwA and the United Youth of Ireland, sexual health packs were given to attendees of the two fashion and forum events to raise awareness of Female Genital Mutilation. The shows were in May and December, respectively.

Number of outreach dates: 2
Number of condoms distributed: 411

Young People

Outreach was conducted with young people through the attendance at a range of events, through our training services and through activities organised for Irish AIDS Day and World AIDS Day annually.

Number of events attended: 14
Number of condoms distributed: 10,872

Type of events: Sexual Health Awareness and Guidance (SHAG) Week in third-level colleges; fresher's and health fairs in third-level colleges; Oxegen Music Festival promotion events; community information fairs.

Injecting Drugs Users (IDUs)

In partnership with UISCE, sexual health outreach was conducted monthly, targeting IDUs in the Dublin 1 and Dublin 2 areas. DAA also provides support to a range of organisations working with IDUs in the provision of free condoms and lube.

Number of outreach dates: 14
Number of condoms distributed: 1,084

Sex Workers

Support was provided to Chrysalis Community Drug Project for their outreach services, with the provision of condoms and lube when required.

Number of condoms provided: 788

People Living with HIV (PLWHIV)

Support was provided to Open Heart House with the provision of condoms and lube for distribution. In addition to this, free condoms were also provided to organisations working with PLWHIV in Cork, Limerick and Galway (see information on Durex National Condom Week below for more details).

Number of condoms provided: 7,322

Walk-In Service (on-site)

DAA provides a free condom service at its reception. This year a total of 25,609 condoms were distributed to 4,121 males and 284 females. Of the total number of those accessing this service, 89.7% were from an ethnic minority background, the vast majority seeking asylum or having refugee status.

Durex National Condom Week (ncw)

Sponsorship of 20,000 condoms was received from Durex for this annual event which took place from 24 to 30 October 2011. Events and activities were promoted through partnerships with the Sexual Health Centre in Cork, the Red Ribbon Project in Limerick, AIDS West in Galway and 17 other youth and community organisations in Dublin and around Ireland. Activities included street outreach with drug users and new communities, events with young people in third-level colleges, outreach with the LGBT community, outreach in pubs/clubs and on-site promotion.

Resource Library

The Resource Library continued to be a valuable source of information throughout 2011 with requests for information received from schools, colleges, NGOs, statutory agencies, youth and community organisations, and the general public.

Information leaflets and booklets are also distributed at key events annually such as Irish AIDS Day and World AIDS Day activities, SHAG week in third-level colleges, community information fairs and health fairs, fundraising events, conferences and seminars, and through our training and support services.

In partnership with ten medical centres in the Dublin 1, 2 and 7 regions, the DAA publication *Don't Panic Guide to Sexual Health* is now available through these services in six languages.

Just under 44,000 leaflets, postcards, booklets, posters, red ribbons and videos/DVDs were distributed in 2011.



Social Media & Website

DAA launched new Facebook and Twitter pages in 2011, raising awareness on HIV and sexual health such as HIV and STI testing, using condoms, and HIV-related stigma and discrimination, as well as the promotion of DAA services and events.

The new and improved DAA website, www.dublinaidalliance.ie, went live at the end of January 2011 and was formally launched by Minister Róisín Shortall, TD, on Irish AIDS Day. Some welcome additions to the site include online training bookings and a broader availability of relevant information on AIDS, HIV, Hepatitis, STIs, testing, prevention and treatment, and the *Living with HIV in Ireland: A Self Help Guide* publication. The new site provides specific information for people trying to access services and increase sexual health awareness amongst the general public.

Objective 4: To influence policy through partnership and active campaigning

DAA is committed both to working in partnership with other agencies in the statutory, voluntary and community sectors and to engaging at a policy level on issues relating to HIV and sexual health. Our commitment to social justice and equality also sees us offering support to the work of agencies who are engaged in tackling related issues such as drug misuse, homelessness and migrant rights.

Irish AIDS Day on 15 June and World AIDS Day on 1 December are important dates in the calendar which provide an opportunity to highlight the issue of HIV and AIDS and also to launch new initiatives that are responding to the changing environment. On Irish AIDS Day Minister Róisín Shortall attended DAA offices and launched the *Living with HIV in Ireland* guide, and the event gained considerable media coverage of the current issues relating to HIV. On World AIDS Day DAA joined with our partners in the GHN, Dublin City Council and BeLonG To Youth Services in the lighting up of the Mansion House as part of the world-wide RED initiative and in the launch of the first ever National HIV Prevention and Sexual Health Awareness Programme for MSM. DAA also worked with Abbott Pharmaceutical on a campaign around World AIDS Day to highlight the importance of HIV testing and to encourage GPs to promote HIV testing amongst their patients.

National AIDS Strategy Committee (NASC)

Minister Róisín Shortall took over as Chair of NASC in late 2011, and DAA continues to participate as a representative of the voluntary HIV sector both in the main NASC Committee and in the Education and Prevention Subcommittee. DAA looks forward to working with the other members of NASC during the coming year to implement the recommendations of the NASC Review, which include the development of a National Sexual Health Strategy. A mid-term review of the work of the Education and Prevention Subcommittee was carried out and is available on the Department of Health's website.

HIV Services Network (HSN)

During 2011 DAA participated in the meetings of HSN, which brings together voluntary and statutory bodies from across Ireland who are delivering services for PLWHIV. The role of HSN is to provide a forum through which HIV service representatives on NASC can consult with other service providers and provide feedback to them on what is happening at a national level.

National Advisory Committee on Drugs (NACD)

DAA also participated in a Research Advisory Group for the NACD, which oversaw research being conducted into the prevalence of drug use and blood-borne viruses in prisons. The research is due to be published in the first quarter of 2012 and will provide up-to-date information on the situation in relation to HIV and Hepatitis in Irish prisons.

In relation to Hepatitis, DAA and Community Response followed up on the joint Hepatitis workshop held on World Hepatitis Day with a proposal to the HSE to launch the National Hepatitis C Strategy in early 2012.

DAA also recognises the importance of looking at our work on HIV and sexual health in the context of overall policy developments within the health sector, and during 2011 we participated in workshops on the development of Primary Health Care Services and made submissions to the consultation on the Public Health Policy Framework.

North Inner City Drugs Task Force (NICDTF)

Prevention and Education Subcommittee: DAA is a member of the NICDTF Prevention and Education Subcommittee, which organised a Drugs and Alcohol Awareness Youth Seminar in the Mansion House in May 2011. A total of 87 young people attended the event from 10 schools and youth services in the north inner city area.

Treatment and Rehabilitation Subcommittee:

DAA is also a member of the NICDTF Treatment and Rehabilitation Subcommittee which promotes information sharing, as well as policy and advocacy work. In 2011 this committee continued to oversee a pilot project in the NICDTF area that will inform the future development of the National Drugs Rehabilitation Framework. It also continued to inform QuADS (Quality Standards in Alcohol and Drug Services), which is the quality standards framework adopted by HSE Addiction Services.

CityWide Prison Workers Group

In 2011 DAA continued its representation on CityWide's Prison Workers Group (PWG), which informs the Prison Liaison Forum, a working group consisting of personnel from the Irish Prison Service, prison staff and representatives from community-based projects. This year the PWG focused on addressing issues and difficulties surrounding prison

visits and working to ensure smoother transitions for people exiting prison, particularly those who are living with HIV and/or Hepatitis.

Direct Provision Forum

In September 2011 DAA joined the Direct Provision Forum, an NGO network of member organisations who are committed to campaigning for changes that will protect the health and welfare of asylum seekers and their children. The forum at this time organised a letter-writing campaign and face-to-face contacts with members of the Joint Committee on Justice, Equality and Defence. It also participated in the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (Ireland office) *Do 1 Thing* campaign, which encouraged individuals and organisations to do one thing in 2011 to support refugees. The forum also supported the production of the Irish Refugee Council's *The Service Map for Young People Living in Dublin*, a guide to organisations that provide information and support for young asylum seekers and refugees.

Sex Workers Alliance Ireland (SWAI)

DAA is a member of SWAI, which aims to promote the health and safety of sex workers and enable access to health and social care services. Throughout 2011 SWAI advocated for no further criminalisation of sex workers or their clients which could impede on access to services and the effectiveness of national strategies that aim to reduce new HIV and STI infections, such as the *HIV and AIDS Education and Prevention Plan 2008–2012* (NASC). The new campaign leaflet can be viewed on www.sexworkersalliance.org

Organisational Development

Fundraising Initiatives

DAA held a number of fundraising initiatives during 2011, which raised awareness and much-needed funds.

These included a street collection in Dublin city centre and a quiz in Pantibar to coincide with Irish AIDS Day. In October the highly acclaimed Anúna and Dublin Gospel Choir both gave generously of their time to take part in a concert in the Unitarian Church on St Stephens Green.

A number of staff and volunteers took part in the Flora Women's Mini Marathon on the June bank holiday weekend.

DAA held a comedy night at the Laughter Lounge later in the year, where a host of comedians performed.

DAA sold Valentine cards, Christmas cards and red ribbons, and received donations via collection box contributions.

Many volunteers held fundraisers on our behalf during the year including the Dublin Bears, DIT, Phantom FM, Better Together, Aisling Foley, Grace Emma Ennis, GlaxoSmithKline, Accenture and MAC Cosmetics in Brown Thomas.

FÁS Community Employment Scheme (January–December 2011)

This annual report covers from 1 January 2011 of FÁS 17 to 31 December 2011 of FÁS 18. The scheme continues to operate on-the-job skills training for participants, as well as relevant recognised certification initiatives, to facilitate access to the mainstream labour market or third-level education.

The year started with 16 Community Employment participants. Ten of these were seconded to external amalgamated organisations including Cairde, Outhouse, St Vincent de Paul, Integration Network and New Communities Partnership. Our participants come from many different countries, including Sierra Leone, Lithuania, Ukraine, Azerbaijan, Kenya, Nigeria, Ghana, Algeria and Ireland.



Acknowledgements

DAA would like to express sincere thanks and appreciation to all who worked with and supported our organisation throughout 2011.

The Director's holding office during the year comprised Colin Fallon, Maurice Fines (until February 2011), Maeve Foreman, Mairéad Lyons (until March 2011), Seamus Kennedy, Ann Nolan, Paul Quigley and Stephen Rourke.

Executive Director: Anna Quigley.

Administration: Peig Dunne (Office Manager), Martin Ade-Onojobi, Niamh Fingleton, Patricia Dillon-Killeen, Alice Laffin, Fiona O'Brien, Donna Brierley, Effie Yeboah Bonsu, Vincent Bradshaw and Amanda Grace.

Prevention Education & Training Programme: Susan Donlon (PET Coordinator), Sue Carter, Jane Toolan, Danielle Taliercio, Eva Plazewska and Fuad Danishani.

Community Support Programme: Erin Nugent (CS Coordinator), Lily Hyland, Richard Boyle and Rebecca Seery.

Our Volunteers: Joel Biongo, Guylaine Mbaki, Evonne Mushonga, Marthe Mutanda, Eugene Arkins, Sean Arkins, Danielle Taliercio, John Paul Owens, Joey Teehan, Peter Tarnóczy, Ken Walshe and Rory Pierce.

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Dublin AIDS Alliance (DAA) Ltd
53 Parnell Square West
Dublin 1

t +353 1 873 3799
f +353 1 873 3174
info@dublainaidsalliance.ie
www.dublainaidsalliance.ie

CHY10858
Company no. 206162



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Find us on:
facebook®