

Annual Report 2012

Dublin
AIDS
Alliance





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 Forum, the Treatment and Rehabilitation 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 (INOUE) 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 2012. This year we celebrated our 25th anniversary of providing quality support services to people living with, and affected by, HIV as well as prevention, education, and training services to the general public. To mark this special event, Minister Alex White, TD, launched our *Dublin AIDS Alliance: 25 Years Addressing HIV/AIDS* booklet in December. This booklet documents the history and trajectory of HIV and AIDS within an international, national, and DAA context.

In acknowledgement of our 25 years' service to the public, President Michael D Higgins invited the staff and volunteers of DAA to visit Áras an Uachtaráin. Our staff and volunteers were extremely delighted and honoured to meet President Higgins who has shown great commitment over the years to the area of HIV and AIDS, both in Ireland and abroad.

In 2012, DAA continued to meet the challenge of providing services to an increasing number of clients whilst having less resources in this challenging economic environment. We have seen an increase in the number of people living with HIV using our Community Support Service, from 333 in 2011 to 342 in 2012, and interventions for this client group rose in this period to 1,638. A total of 50 training programmes were delivered by our Prevention Education and Training team in a wide range of settings.

The Health Protection Surveillance Centre (HPSC) HIV incidence data in the first three quarters of 2012 has indicated that there were 249 new cases of HIV diagnosed in Ireland. The trend of late diagnoses has continued. DAA has remained committed to improving prevention and awareness efforts, and in promoting HIV and STI testing amongst at-risk groups.

In line with the World Health Organisation's recommendation to increase HIV testing in the W.H.O. European region to achieve universal access to HIV prevention and treatment, DAA partnered in 2012 with the GUIDE clinic (St. James's Hospital) in conducting an 8 month pilot

HIV and STI testing programme in DAA. This was an innovative and collaborative project which built on DAA's long standing street outreach programme which promotes HIV awareness and sexual health amongst hard-to-reach and at-risk groups. As a result of its success, an HIV and STI Testing programme will be mainstreamed into our core services with independent funding. Additionally, DAA produced *Get Tested*, a new guide promoting the availability of free HIV, STI, hepatitis testing clinics in Ireland.

Our lobbying and campaigning work continued during the year. For many years, DAA called on the government to introduce a National Sexual Health Strategy to bring much needed coherence and co-ordination to HIV and sexual health services in Ireland. In 2012 a National Health Strategy Committee was established and the development of a National Sexual Health Strategy commenced with DAA represented on the Education and Prevention subcommittee.

On Irish AIDS Day, 15th June 2012, Minister Róisín Shortall, TD, launched *Just Carry One*, the first national STI prevention social media campaign promoting condoms and condom use to prevent the transmission of STIs, targeted at young people, primarily aged 17 to 25 years. DAA was also one of the main partners involved in the development and implementation of *Man2Man.ie*, the first National HIV Prevention and Sexual Health Awareness Programme targeting men who have sex with men (MSM), a joint initiative of the Gay Health Network (GHN) and HSE.

To mark World AIDS Day, DAA partnered with Positive Now and Dublin City Council in the global RED initiative which lit up Christ Church Cathedral in red to raise awareness of RED's goal to deliver an AIDS free generation by 2015.

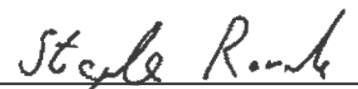
The commitment of the Executive Director, staff, and volunteers to achieving our organisational objectives and to contributing to the implementation of the recommendations of NASC's HIV and AIDS Education and Prevention Plan 2008-2012 is highly noteworthy, especially

in a time of decreased funding and resources. We very much appreciate their commitment and effort and we would particularly like to express our thanks and good wishes to Anna Quigley who resigned from the position of Executive Director at the end of 2012.

The work which we conducted in 2012 would not have been possible without the continued support of our key funders in the HSE, FÁS, the North Inner City Drugs Task Force and the MAC AIDS Fund as well as our additional funders including Dublin City Council and the Department of Health National Lottery Funding who have generously supported us throughout 2012.

To my colleagues on the Board, I would like to extend heartfelt thanks. Your time, energy and commitment are very much appreciated by the staff and volunteers of DAA. In particular, I wish to acknowledge the contribution of Ann Nolan, who resigned as Chairperson during 2012, and Maeve Foreman who also resigned from the Board of Directors during this period. Their long term commitment has both strengthened and enhanced DAA.

Finally, 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 whether in time, energy, or funding, throughout 2012. We very much look forward to continuing to work with you all in 2013.



Stephen Rourke
Chairperson

Service Delivery 2012

DAA's service delivery for 2012 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

DAA's Community Support Services for people living with HIV are closely aligned with Action Areas 3 and 4 of the HIV and AIDS Education and Prevention Plan 2008-2012.

SUPPORT TO PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV (PLWHIV)

In 2012, DAA supported a total of 342 PLWHIV (238 Males and 104 Females) with a total of 1,638 interventions.

CAPACITY BUILDING PROJECT

In 2012, DAA continued to build the capacity of people living with HIV to promote self-advocacy. Throughout 2012, DAA facilitated relevant training for this group. The group held three forums on services with PLWHIV and held an information stand during Sexual Health Awareness Week at

the RCPI in May. Members of the group spoke at the Gay Health Forum in June, and at Dublin City Council's World AIDS Day event in December. In 2012, the group travelled to London to meet the Terrence Higgins Trust and the UK Coalition of People Living with HIV in order to develop policy documents and joint projects. The group also published 26 articles during 2012 covering a range of issues.

During 2012, DAA devised a programme to build the capacity of African PLWHIV. The programme aims to bring together participants in a supportive environment to discuss, and problem-solve around, issues of stigma and discrimination and the supports needed within this particular community. This programme is being rolled out in 2013.

Table 1: Number and category of interventions for PLWHIV January – December, 2012.

TYPE OF SUPPORT	TOTAL NO. OF INTERVENTIONS
Advocacy And Mediation	975
1-to-1 Support	311
Counselling	156
Home And Hospital Visits	34
Training And Further Education	29
Health Information	36
Welfare Information	69
Legal Information	28
TOTAL	1,638

**HIV TESTING IN THE COMMUNITY
(PILOT PROGRAMME)**

In 2012, DAA, in partnership with the St James's Hospital GUIDE clinic, conducted a monthly HIV and STI Testing Programme for eight months on-site at DAA (May to December). This pilot programme was mainly promoted in-house to those accessing free condoms and through street outreach in the Dublin 1 and 7 areas.

A total of 98 individuals (60 Males, 38 Females) tested for HIV and STIs. Non-Irish nationals represented 73% of those who presented for testing. (See table 'Summary Profile of Attendees').



Summary Profile of Attendees

	AFRICAN		EAST EURO		ASIAN		IRISH		OTHER		TOTAL
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
May	5	2		2				2			11
June	9	2		1	2		3	1	1		19
July	3	2	1				2	2		1	11
August	1	1				2	2	1			7
Sept	4	3	1		1	1	1				11
Oct	3		2				4		2		11
Nov	3	7	1		1		2	1			15
Dec	3	3	1				2	3		1	13
TOTAL	31	20	6	3	4	3	16	10	3	2	98
%	52%		9%		7%		27%		5%		100%

VOLUNTEER PROGRAMME

During 2012 DAA held three individual focus groups with groups we targeted to help DAA promote our onsite HIV and STI testing pilot programme (IVDUs, those coming from countries where HIV is endemic, and young people). During the focus groups we ascertained barriers to HIV/STI testing as well as the participants' general knowledge of HIV and STIs. We also ascertained cultural issues which might impact on people's decisions to go, or not to go, for an HIV test or STI screening. All individuals in these three groups agreed to become volunteers to promote the testing at DAA.

TRAINING

Specific training is provided to support those who work, or may work, with PLWHIV, and to raise awareness of HIV including a programme for counsellors and psychotherapists, and issues-based training for medical students and helpline workers. (See Objective 3 for more information on our training programmes).

GENERAL PUBLIC

There were a total of 213 telephone, email, and walk-in interventions with the general public who were looking for information relating to HIV, STIs, training resources, or on DAA services. This number also includes interventions with family members and partners of PLWHIV who looked for support around particular issues.

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

Awareness of, and information on, HIV-related stigma and discrimination is included in all service delivery projects.

TRAINING ON HIV-RELATED STIGMA

In 2012, particular emphasis on HIV-related stigma was included in training programmes for the Gay Switchboard Dublin, the Irish Wheelchair Association, the Reproductive Health Interest Group Ireland, UCD Medical School, EIL Intercultural Learning, Clondalkin Drugs Task Force, and the training programme for Counsellors.

COUNSELLING

DAA held 156 counselling sessions with people living with HIV, their partners, and family members. DAA's Counselling Programme was supported by ESB Electric AID Ireland and the Family Support Agency in 2012.

TATTOO AND BODY PIERCING

DAA continued work with the Association of Body Modification Artists Ireland (ABMAI) on the Best Practice Guidelines for Tattooing and Permanent Make-Up and Best Practice Guidelines for Body Piercing. DAA also held an Information stand at the International Tattoo Convention, Dublin, on March 23-25th. We spoke to 32 tattoo and piercing studios represented at the convention on the issues of HIV and Hepatitis, informing them of the Equality Act Legislation.

PHASE 3 OF THE MAN2MAN.IE PROGRAMME

In June 2012, at the 10th Annual Gay Health Forum in Dublin Castle, Minister Róisín Shortall TD, launched the third phase of the joint HSE and Gay Health Network (GHN) National HIV Prevention Programme for men who have sex with men (MSM). Part of a year-long programme, the third phase seeks to raise awareness of the stigma, discrimination and isolation often faced by people living with HIV. Promoting respect for all, the key message for Phase 3 is "Support each other... We're worth respecting", and includes a video, posters and other programme materials which can be viewed on www.man2man.ie



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

PREVENTION EDUCATION AND TRAINING

DAA's Prevention Education and Training services are closely aligned with Action Area 3 of the National AIDS Strategy Committee'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 and delivering training to key population groups at-risk of HIV and Hepatitis, as well as providing training to staff, parents, carers and other professional groups and organisations who may work with groups at risk of poorer sexual health outcomes.

TRAINING DELIVERY 2012

A total of 50 various training and education programmes were delivered in 2012, involving 54 organisations and professional groups. Table 2 provides a summary.

Table 2—Summary of Training And Education Programmes delivered in 2012

TRAINING AND EDUCATION PROGRAMMES / KEY POPULATION GROUPS	NO. OF PROGRAMMES DELIVERED	NO. OF ORGS	TOTAL NO. OF PARTICIPANTS	MALE	FEMALE
Young People	16	11	312	153	159
IDUs	10	4	89	63	26
PLWHIV	1	1	5	4	1
One-day Sexual Health Workshops	4	20	34	5	29
Staff/Parents/Carers	7	6	96	18	78
Other Professional Training Programmes*	12	12	299	92	207
TOTALS 2012	50	54	835	335	500

*Other Professional Training Programmes: DAA provides tailored professional training programmes for staff, volunteers, and students in a range of organisations, and other professional groups. In 2012 this included training for counsellors and psychotherapists, medical students, helpline volunteers, local drugs task forces, and international volunteers.

OUTREACH

Dublin AIDS Alliance 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, which are also available as a walk-in service on-site. (See table 'Summary of Condom Distribution in 2012').

Summary of Condom Distribution in 2012

KEY POPULATION GROUP	TOTAL CONDOMS DISTRIBUTED
New Communities (outreach)	23,590
Young People	33,390
IDUs	5,463
Sex Workers	1,600
PLWHIV	12,300
MSM	1,500
Prisoners	600
Walk-in service (on-site)	19,392
TOTAL	97,835



Outreach Highlights 2012

- The provision of access to free condoms through our outreach and walk-in services increased by 54% in 2012 (from 63,451 free condoms distributed in 2011, to 97,835 in 2012).
- A total of 79 organisations were supported in 2012 with the provision of condoms for events and for distribution to their service users.
- Street Outreach continued in the Dublin 1 and 7 areas to promote sexual health, condom access, and the HIV and STI testing at DAA. There were a total of 65 specific outreach sessions conducted by staff and/or volunteers.
- 40,000 condoms were distributed in 2012, primarily to young people, as part of our Just Carry One social media campaign.
- Outreach was conducted at a range of events throughout the year including:
 - Sports Against Racism Ireland Annual Multi-cultural SoccerFest.
 - Thirteen college events including SHAG Week and Freshers Week.
 - The Mauritius community's annual Valentines Date Night.
 - The Annual Dublin Pride Parade.
 - Body and Soul Music Festival.
 - No Place like Dome Music Festival.
- A new partnership was established with the Ana Liffey Drug Project in the provision of condoms for outreach services at a range of locations around Ireland, with a total of 700 condoms provided on a monthly basis.
- Support continued to the Chrysalis Community Drug Project with the provision of 1,600 free condoms for their outreach services in 2012.
- 1,300 free condoms were provided to Open Heart House for distribution to their members.



JUST CARRY ONE

Launched on Irish AIDS Day, 15th June 2012, by Minister Róisín Shortall, TD, Just Carry One is a social media campaign targeted at young people, primarily aged 17 to 25 years, to promote condoms and condom use for STI prevention. The aims of the project are:

- To promote (consistent) condom use among young people as the primary method of STI prevention.
- Address issues of stigma associated with condom use, and promote a positive attitude towards condom use as part of healthy sexual relationships.
- To raise young people's awareness of taking responsibility for, and taking care of, their sexual health.

Funded by the Department of Health National Lottery Fund, the project was initially promoted for a three month/13 week period (June to September 2012) with the following objectives:

- To reach and engage young people, nationally, with the key messages of the campaign through social and online media.
- Increase the amount of young people coming into Dublin AIDS Alliance to avail of free condoms and lubricant.

Campaign Highlights:

- Young people aged 17 to 25 years were involved in the design and development of the campaign.
- The project brand — Just Carry One — is a simple message for young people to always use condoms — carry a condom and be prepared.
- Facebook and twitter pages were developed to reach and engage with young people.
- A video on STI statistics in Ireland was produced.
- A computer game (Rubber Bounce) was developed.
- Competitions were run via social media to engage with young people.
- 40,000 condoms packs were produced and made available free to young people.

Key Results (15th June to 14th September 2012):

- Facebook — reaching the target audience:
 - Total of 1,506 'likes'. Average of 20 new 'likes' per day. 96% of engaged users are from Ireland, from a total of 16 counties.
- Facebook — Engaging the target audience:
 - Average of 282 people per day engaged online. (Engaged users peaked at 1,773 in one day). Of those engaged with the online activity, 50.6% were female, and 48.8% were male. 61.2% were aged 24 and younger.
- YouTube/Twitter/Competitions — Engaging the target audience:
 - 961 total video views. 63.4% were female and 36.6% male. 30.9% were aged 13 to 34 years. 165 followers on twitter, with 423 people engaged and 'talking about us'. Competitions generated 558 total entries.

- Access to free condoms
 - 27,000 condom packs were distributed over the three month period. There was a 12% increase in the total average amount of people accessing free condoms in DAA weekly, with a 100% increase in younger men aged 25 and under accessing the service, and a 50% increase in younger women.

**JUST
CARRY
ONE**



GET TESTED

DAA produced a new guide promoting the availability of free HIV, STI and hepatitis testing clinics in Ireland. Get Tested (funded by the Department of Health National Lottery Fund) was distributed nationally to HIV and sexual health organisations, LGBT-related organisations, third-level colleges, drugs-related organisations, organisations working with minority groups, public libraries in Dublin and Cork, and are also available at 43 Citizens Information Centres in 26 counties. Just over 10,000 guides were distributed in 2012, and the guide can also be accessed on our website.

MAN2MAN.IE: THE NATIONAL HIV PREVENTION PROGRAMME FOR MSM

This joint GHN and HSE initiative commenced on World AIDS Day 2011 and is a year-long HIV Prevention and Sexual Health Awareness Programme targeting men who have sex with men (MSM), with particular emphasis on those residing outside urban centres and younger MSM. The programme comprises four phases, and the key messages were developed by a younger MSM peer group facilitated by BeLoNG To Youth Service.

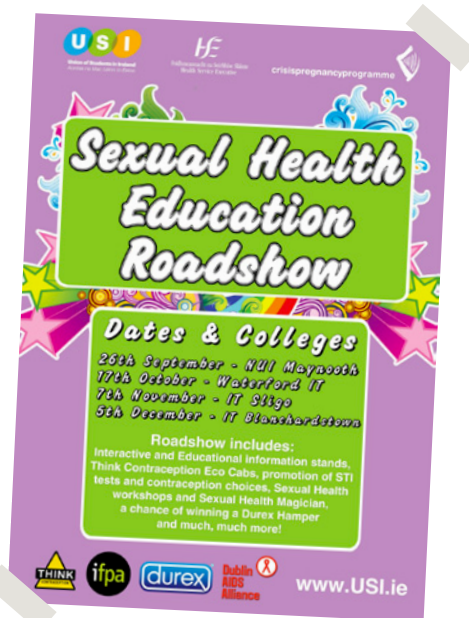
- **Phase 1 (launched in December 2011):** Protect yourself: We're worth protecting — aims to raise awareness that HIV infection is increasing in Ireland, particularly among MSM.
- **Phase 2 (launched in February 2012):** Get Tested: We're worth protecting — promotes the availability of free HIV and STI testing services nationally and aims to encourage regular testing among MSM.
- **Phase 3 (launched in June 2012):** Support each other: We're all worth respecting — raises awareness of the stigma, discrimination and isolation often faced by people living with HIV.

- **Phase 4 (launched in October 2012):** Always use condoms and lubricant when having sex: We're worth protecting — promotes consistent condom use as the most effective way to prevent transmission of HIV and other STIs. Through support funding from The George, Alternative Miss Ireland (AMI), and GMHS HSE, 100,000 free safer sex packs were made available for this initiative. Each pack contains one condom and one lubricant, and are distributed through The George, Panti-Bar, GMHS HSE, and a walk-service in Outhouse, the LGBT Community Centre.

Each phase of the programme includes a video, posters and postcards, all of which can be viewed on the programmes website: www.man2man.ie

The programme materials were also translated into eight other languages: Arabic, French, Irish, Mandarin, Polish, Portuguese, Russian and Spanish.





EUROPEAN CERVICAL CANCER PREVENTION WEEK

DAA supported the Irish Family Planning Association (IFPA) with the promotion of this event from 23rd to 27th January 2012, distributing campaign information packs through our services.

WORLD HEPATITIS DAY

World Hepatitis Day takes place annually on 28th July, and to raise awareness in 2012, DAA, in partnership with Community Response, hosted a half-day education and training workshop on Hepatitis.

WORLD CONTRACEPTION DAY

World Contraception Day takes place annually on 26th September, and to raise awareness in 2012, DAA participated in two college events, promoting educational materials on contraception and sexual health, and distributing free condom packs.

DUREX NATIONAL CONDOM WEEK

Sponsorship of 30,000 condoms was received from Durex for this annual event which took place from 15th to 21st October 2012. DAA co-ordinated national and local events in collaboration with the Union of Students Ireland (USI), the Sexual Health Centre in Cork, the Red Ribbon Project in Limerick, and AIDS West in Galway. 40 events and activities took place at 49 locations across 16 counties in Ireland, with 51 participating organisations/groups. Activities included street outreach, college events, education workshops, and competitions via social media sites.

USI SEXUAL HEALTH EDUCATION ROADSHOW

DAA were one of the main partners in this national event organised by the Union of Students Ireland (USI). The Roadshow took place in colleges in Waterford, Kildare, Sligo and Dublin from September to December providing sexual health education workshops and activities, the distribution of sexual health information and access to free condoms.



DUREX WORLD AIDS DAY INITIATIVE 2012: 1SHARE1CONDOM

DAA was selected as the Irish Charity Partner for the Durex Global World AIDS Day 2012 social media campaign: 1Share1Condom. As part of its commitment to improving knowledge and understanding of STIs, including HIV, and to raise awareness of how to prevent the transmission of HIV and STIs, global condom giant Durex donated one condom to a HIV charity for every person who got involved in the social media campaign. Condoms donated by Durex go to global and local charities that are involved in education to help combat HIV transmission.

TRANSLATING MAN2MAN: AN EXHIBITION

This exhibition, launched by Minister Alex White, TD, to mark World AIDS Day 2012, is complimentary to the joint GHN and HSE *Man2Man.ie* programme. Supported by Outhouse, the HSE Office for Social Inclusion and the Social Inclusion Unit, Dublin City Council, the exhibition promoted key messages of the Man2Man programme (through video and posters) in nine languages: Arabic, English, French, Irish, Mandarin, Polish, Portuguese, Russian, and Spanish. The exhibition ran for a month in Outhouse LGBT Community Centre.

RESOURCE LIBRARY

The Resource Library continued to be a valuable source of information throughout 2012 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 events, fundraising events, campaigns, conferences, seminars, and through our training and support services.

Information Distribution:

Just over 70,000 information leaflets, postcards, booklets, posters, red ribbons, and videos/DVDs were distributed in 2012.

DAA NewsDesk Weekly:

This weekly resource is made available to a range of organisations involved in HIV and sexual health services, LGBT services, and drugs-related services, and offers a summary of relevant news highlights of the week from various sources including national and local print media, and related-websites. 38 NewsDesk Weeklys were published in 2012.

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, human rights and migrant rights.

Irish AIDS Day on 15th June and World AIDS Day on 1st 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.

NATIONAL AIDS STRATEGY COMMITTEE (NASC)

DAA participates as a representative of the voluntary HIV sector both in the main NASC Committee and in the Education and Prevention Subcommittee, and continues to implement the recommendations of the NASC Review through its service delivery and participation on committees.



IRISH AIDS DAY

On Irish AIDS Day 2012 Minister Róisín Shortall launched our Just Carry One campaign at the Mansion House in Dublin and the event gained considerable media coverage of the current issues relating to HIV and STI prevention in Ireland.

HIV SERVICES NETWORK (HSN)

DAA participates in the meetings of HSN, which brings together voluntary and statutory bodies from across Ireland who are delivering services for PLWHIV. The role of the 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 SEXUAL HEALTH STRATEGY

The development of a National Sexual Health Strategy commenced in 2012, as part of the recommendations of the NASC Review. DAA participates on the Education and Prevention Working Group.

NATIONAL HEPATITIS C STRATEGY

DAA participated in a review of the drafted National Hepatitis C Strategy, and successfully lobbied the HSE to publish the strategy in September 2012.

IQHIV ROADSHOW: IMPROVING QUALITY IN HIV PREVENTION

In May 2012, DAA participated in a seminar on Quality Improvement and Quality Assurance in HIV Prevention, organised by the Department of Health, in collaboration with the Education and Prevention sub-committee of the National AIDS Strategy Committee. IQ^{HIV} aims to improve the effectiveness of HIV prevention initiatives across Europe by providing the tools and technical assistance required to implement quality improvement practices at project, programme and policy levels.



WORLD AIDS DAY

On World AIDS Day 2012, DAA joined with our partners Durex for a global social media awareness-raising initiative; with Positive Now and Dublin City Council in the lighting up of Christ Church Cathedral as part of the world-wide RED initiative; and with GHN in the launch of Translating Man2Man, part of the first ever National HIV Prevention and Sexual Health Awareness Programme for MSM.

RCPI SEXUAL HEALTH AWARENESS WEEK (SHAW) 2012

DAA participated in Sexual Health Awareness Week (SHAW) in May 2012, organised by the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland (RCPI). The RCPI Policy Group on Sexual Health published a set of position statements (Better Sexual Health for Ireland Policy Statement) on education, prevention and clinical services for STIs.

DIRECT PROVISION FORUM (DPF)

During 2012, DAA participated in the review of the work of the DPF during 2011 and in the development of the DPF's 2012 work plan. DAA staff underwent training provided by FLAC which centred on understanding direct provision protocols, policies and issues. Furthermore, DAA carried out informal research on Direct Provision issues for agencies not represented on the DPF itself.

CITYWIDE PRISON FORUM (CPF)

In 2012, DAA participated in the restructuring of the Citywide Prison Workers Group (now Citywide Prison Forum) in order to better address the issues that were being highlighted by prison workers. A work plan was drawn up by the CPF and issues which were raised at the meetings were brought to the Statutory and NGO Prisons Liaison Group. In September, as part of the CPF, DAA attended the Cloverhill Prison Expo which focused on promoting community organisations in order to help with re-integrating prisoners back into the community. DAA held an information stand and was able to promote its services both gleaning and highlighting the needs of prisoners living with HIV.

NORTH INNER CITY DRUGS TASK FORCE (NICDTF)

Treatment and Rehabilitation Sub-committee: The subcommittee met three times in 2012 focusing on the issues of Clinical Governance, Community Detox, and the National Drug Rehabilitation Implementation Committee NIC pilot. The subcommittee worked on the Continuum of Care for Problematic Drug Users document and began a strategy to map and review out-of-hour services in the NIC. The T&R subcommittee also worked to promote Care and Case Management amongst drug related projects in the area.

Prevention and Education Sub-Committee: The NICDTF Prevention and Education sub-committee launched a 'Parents Pack' in 2012 for distribution through local schools to the parents of 5th and 6th class children. The pack includes a range of information leaflets and booklets about children's health and well-being, as well as information on local services and helplines.

GAY HEALTH NETWORK (GHN)

DAA continues to participate and work closely with GHN to support and promote sexual health initiatives within the gay community. In addition to our involvement in the joint GHN and HSE National HIV Prevention Programme for MSM (see Objective 3), two reports from the All-Ireland findings of the 2010 European MSM Internet Survey (EMIS) were published by GHN, in partnership with GMHS HSE, in 2012. Man2Man Report One: Our Community and Man2Man Report Two: Living with HIV can be viewed at www.ghn.ie

The EMIS data was significant to the development of the current joint GHN and HSE Man2Man National HIV Prevention and Sexual Health Awareness Programme for MSM. GMHS HSE was the lead partner in promoting the EMIS Survey in Ireland, and this survey represents the largest ever sample of MSM across the 32 counties of Ireland, with a total of 2,610 valid respondents.

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 2012, SWAI advocated for no further criminalisation of sex workers or their clients which could impede on access to services and completed a written submission to the Joint Oireachtas Committee reviewing legislation on prostitution in Ireland. SWAI also participated in a Public Consultation Conference on the Future Direction of Prostitution Legislation in Ireland organised by the Department of Justice and Equality in October 2012.

REVIEW OF LEGISLATION ON PROSTITUTION IN IRELAND

DAA submitted a written proposal on the review of legislation on prostitution in Ireland to the Joint Oireachtas Committee on Justice, Defence and Equality, highlighting that any further criminalisation of sex workers or their clients could impede on access to services and the effectiveness of national and international strategies which aim to reduce new HIV and STI infections, such as the HIV & AIDS Education and Prevention Plan 2008-2012, and the Report of the UNAIDS Advisory Group on HIV and Sex Work.

REVIEW OF SUBSTANCE USE EDUCATION

DAA submitted a written proposal to the Department of Education and Skills Working Group on substance use education, which has been established to examine substance use education in the context of SPHE.

TATTOOING AND BODY PIERCING POLICY

DAA in conjunction with the Association of Body Modification Artists Ireland (ABMAI) made substantial recommendations on the Best Practice Guidelines for Tattooing and Permanent Make-Up and Best Practice Guidelines for Body Piercing and submitted these recommendations, along with a general outline, to the Department of Health and Children.

Organisational Development

FÁS COMMUNITY EMPLOYMENT SCHEME (JANUARY-DECEMBER 2012)

This annual report covers the period from the 1st of January 2012 to the 31st of December 2012 and includes FÁS 19 which commenced on the 25th of February 2012. 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.

Whilst faced with severe cutbacks in both the Training and Materials Budgets for the year, the participants successfully completed certified training courses in Clerical Reception Skills (FETAC Level 5), Information Providers Programme (FETAC Level 6), Train the Trainers Course (FETAC Level 6), as well as many other courses such as Hairdressing, Sexual Health Awareness, Start Your Own Business, ECDL (part 1) and Social Media.

The year started with 16 Community Employment participants. Eight of these were seconded to external amalgamated organisations including Cairde, Outhouse and New Communities Partnership. Our participants come from many different countries, including Sierra Leone, Russia, Poland, Azerbaijan, DR Congo, Nigeria, Ghana, Italy and Ireland. During the year eight staff left and were replaced and 2012 ended with 16 active participants.

Acknowledgements

DAA would like to express sincere thanks and appreciation to all who worked with and supported our organisation throughout 2012.

The Directors holding office during the year comprised Colin Fallon, Maeve Foreman (until November 2012) Seamus Kennedy, Ann Nolan (until November 2012), Paul Quigley and Stephen Rourke.

Executive Director: Anna Quigley.

Administration: Peig Dunne (Office Manager), Brona Cousins (Office Manager- Maternity Cover), Olusola Martin Ade-Onojobi, Patricia Dillon-Killeen, Fiona O'Brien, Maria Elner, Effie Yeboah Bonsu, Vincent Bradshaw, Edward McCall, Andrea Kirwan and Amanda Grace.

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

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

Student Work Placement: Sherry Solman and Niamh Smith.

Our Volunteers: Joel Biongo, Guylaine Mbaki, Evonne Mushonga, Marthe Mutanda, Eugene Arkins, Sean Arkins, Danielle Taliercio, Denise Keogh and Pierre Deprez.

Our express thanks to our principle funders... Health Service Executive Northern Area; FÁS, Parnell St; North Inner City Drugs Task Force; MAC AIDS Fund

...and additional organisations and individuals for their support in 2012:

President Michael D Higgins; Family Support Agency; ESB Electric Aid Ireland; Health Services Staff Credit Union; Department of Health National Lottery Fund; Minister Alex White TD; Róisín Shortall TD, Former Lord Mayor, Andrew

Montague; Lord Mayor Naiose Ó Muirí; Durex Ireland, Reckitt Benckiser, Myriad PR, HSE Office for Social Inclusion, Dublin City Council Social Inclusion Unit, Court Services; Civil Service Charities Fund; Pasante Healthcare; Mary Burke and Leon Quigley of FÁS; HSE Dublin North East and National Lottery; HSE Health Promotion; Dublin City Council; Dublin Pride Committee; Sandra Delamere and the GUIDE Clinic, St James's Hospital; Positive Now, Emily Reaper and Ruaidhri McAuliffe of UISCE, Sheila Carabini, Marguerite Doran, Kieran Murphy and all at Barclays Insurance Dublin; Beechbrook Properties; John Doyle; CityWide; James Bailie and all at Friends for Friends; DIT National Optometry Centre; all the team at MAC Cosmetics, Brown Thomas; Dublin City North Volunteer Centre and Volunteer Ireland ; Joey Teehan and Subliminal Design Studio; Max Barrett; Moore St. and Parnell St. Ethnic Businesses; Gay Switchboard Dublin; John Waters of John Waters Legal; Donal Ryan and all at DR Associates; Eamon Gallagher and all at PC Technix; Paul Neal at Capital Financial Planning, Wild Cat Tattoo Studios and the Association of Body Modification Artists Ireland, Sports Against Racism Ireland, Ali Dennehy, Plus Friends Dublin, O'Connor Bergin Solicitors, Margaret Horan and Co Solicitors, Kingfisher Restaurant, Dena Lawrence at Microsoft, Senator Ivana Bacik, Gay Switchboard Dublin, HSE Health Promotion Dublin North East, GMHS HSE, Denise McCarthy, Union of Students Ireland (USI), the team at Simply Zesty, Spun Out, The George, Alternative Miss Ireland, Community Response, Tom O'Connor and all at Dublin Bears; all organisations that participated in Durex National Condom Week; Rebecca Seery for climbing Mount Kilimanjaro in aid of DAA; Sherry Solman for her research on Direct Provision Services ; all those who ran or walked in the Flora Women's Mini Marathon, baked cakes and ran bake sales and otherwise volunteered, supported or fundraised for us!



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