HIV Ireland Annual Report 2016

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# INTRODUCTION

HIV Ireland works to improve conditions for people living with HIV in Ireland. We were established in 1987 as Dublin AIDS Alliance. From the outset, we have been to the forefront of many innovative initiatives aimed at addressing community health and wellbeing needs relative to HIV and AIDS in Ireland. Much of our early work was dealing with the crisis of people dying, and the negative response to these individuals from within the wider community, specifically linked to HIV related stigma.

With the onset of improved treatment in the late 1990's there was much hope that HIV related stigma in Ireland would begin to dissipate. People using our services began negotiating the possibility of new relationships and careers, of further education and travel, and some began thinking of buying apartments and houses — incredibly reasonable objectives for a person to have. Unfortunately, this change presented far more complex issues. People began experiencing the negative consequences of disclosure of their HIV status, witnessing the chaos that disclosure could cause in their workplaces, colleges, social circles, and more worryingly in many health care settings.

Sadly, the support and advocacy work we do today is not so different from all those years ago. We still work to navigate people through their diagnosis, through disclosure and the repercussions of disclosure. We now have avenues to explore when someone living with HIV is treated differently than someone whose HIV status is negative or unknown. We actively support people who wish to pursue such avenues.

Despite the advances in medication, our work is far from over. All of us working within the area of HIV seek to challenge HIV related stigma. We aim to make HIV a health issue rather than a question of morality, culture, or lifestyle. There are many practical responses to challenging stigma, and we have encapsulated these within campaigns of providing solidarity and support for people living with HIV, increasing our own knowledge of HIV and the visibility of HIV within society, and challenging HIV related stigma and discrimination as and when we encounter it. We take a pragmatic approach to the need for health & wellbeing services that can reach people who are marginalised, and at high risk of HIV infection. We provide free targeted community HIV & STI testing amongst the migrant community, people who use drugs, people who are homeless, and sex workers. We are involved in HIV prevention work (supporting the UNAIDS

World AIDS Day 2016 Campaign — Hands Up for HIV Prevention — *http://www.unaids.org/en/ resources/campaigns/WAD2016*), outreach work that builds relationships so we can link people into testing, counselling, support, free condoms provision and information.

In 2017, key areas of our work will include developing an NGO based position paper on PrEP and its potential introduction into Ireland, the first National HIV Stigma Survey in Ireland since 2007, a National Conference on HIV, and expanding our community based testing services, particularly for key populations struggling to access free testing. Fundamental to our approach is a belief that society should respond to HIV by accepting people living with HIV as equal human beings who are not defined by their HIV status. The people we work with have a right to education, a right to make informed decisions about their own lives. and a right to be respected and listened to. We have a responsibility to promote and encourage this response to HIV. It is this fundamental belief, supported by almost 30 years of experience and expertise, that will continue to underpin everything we do.

# CHAIRPERSON'S FOREWORD

On behalf of the Board of HIV Ireland I am happy to introduce our 2016 Annual Report. As evidenced throughout this report, 2016 has been both a challenging and a successful year for HIV Ireland as we continue to make significant progress in all aspects of our work. The importance of this work, and that of our many partners, cannot be underestimated.

New HIV diagnoses in Ireland increased to their highest level on record in 2016. Ireland has experienced a 35% increase in new diagnoses since 2011, with a total of 511 people newly diagnosed in 2016, compared to 485 in 2015. An average of 10 people per week are now being diagnosed with HIV in Ireland. These figures show once again the urgent and continuing need for monitoring, testing, advocacy and community support, being areas in which HIV Ireland plays a crucial role.

It is worth highlighting these figures as we look towards 2017, and our 30th year. Mixed feelings rise within us as we look back. We have a sincere duty to remember all the potential and talent lost over those many years, and the families and friends left behind. From that time, we recall the dedication of those first volunteers and organisers, some driven by anger, some by compassion, often by both. As they toiled through an era when HIV was greeted by hostility and fear, they inspire us to continue to advocate courageously for those who need our voice. In their spirit, we rededicate our organisation to being a valuable resource in the ongoing challenges of living with HIV.

So, in 2017, we will not celebrate this milestone but rather mark the anniversary, and reflect on the reality of the continuing need for our existence. We must be responsive to the changing needs of our time. We will continue to advocate for better services, increased resources, and improved national policy on HIV at every opportunity.

In adapting to the changed times, we set ourselves a wider mission in 2015 to provide a national organisation that could participate more meaningfully in national policy work, national lobbying and national advocacy work. Delivering on this initiative, we have engaged in greater national service provision, especially within the North East of Ireland. HIV Ireland does not work alone. We approach many of the issues relevant to our goals in partnership with other organisations, agencies and individuals. We look forward to continuing this policy of cooperation with both statutory and non-statutory organisations that work directly with key risk populations – groups working with men who have sex with men, intravenous drug users, sex workers, migrants and people experiencing homelessness amongst others.

Looking ahead we hope 2017 will be filled with renewal for our organisation and a focus on developing areas of concern. In this regard, we will engage on new issues including sponsoring a major piece of research in the area of PrEP which is a matter of real moment, and requires a thoughtful but resolute response.

I thank all those who support our work. I especially appreciate the commitment of my fellow Board members who bring their talent, perspective and skill in voluntary furtherance of the organisation's goals. This commitment and skill is matched enthusiastically by the staff and volunteers of HIV Ireland, whose work, I firmly believe, ensures that the lives of many people living with HIV in Ireland are changed for the better. I thank them for their hard work.

On behalf of the Board I wish to express our appreciation to all those who helped fund the organisation. It is essential that this work continue. As we approach 30 years since our beginnings, we are still here, and we still need to be here, and we resolve to continue in the footsteps of those who set the task for us: not to forget, not to marginalise, but to offer our hand in friendship and help to the entire community, and in support to all people living with HIV in Ireland.

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Bernard Condon SC Chairperson, HIV Ireland

# Service Delivery 2016

HIV Ireland's service delivery for 2016 is set out below. HIV Ireland is contributing to the implementation of a number of national health strategies and relevant policies including Healthy Ireland: A Framework for Improved Health and Wellbeing 2013–2025, the National Sexual Health Strategy 2015– 2020, the National Drugs Strategy (interim) 2009–2016, and the National Hepatitis C Strategy 2011–2014.

# **COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES**

HIV Ireland's Community Support services include advocacy, support, and counselling for people living with HIV (PLWHIV) or affected by HIV, the capacity building of people living with HIV to self-advocate, community HIV and STI testing, and a community street outreach service in which free condoms, sexual health literature, and information on our HIV and STI testing service is disseminated to at-risk groups. Community Support staff provide training on HIV related issues and respond to public queries in relation to HIV and STIs. Staff accommodate agency visits and researchers seeking information on the services of HIV Ireland as well as on past and present issues for PLWHIV.

# People Living with HIV

In 2016, HIV Ireland supported a total of 412 people living with HIV (308 Males and 104 Females) with a total of 2,022 interventions (an average of 4.9 interventions per person). Interventions related to advocacy and mediation, counselling, 1-to-1 support for PLWHIV, and information queries. See Table 1.

# Table 1: Summary of Interventionsfor PLWHIV 2016

Type of Support	Total Number of Interventions
Advocacy and Mediation	809
1-to-1 support	315
Counselling	314
Training and Further Education	109
Health and Welfare Information	437
Legal Information and Support	38
TOTAL	2,022

Advocacy and Mediation interventions in 2016 related to HIV stigma and discrimination cases and complaints, housing and homelessness, Direct Provision Centres for Asylum Seekers, and Social Protection. Support interventions centred on disclosure in both personal and formal settings and on accessing peer support. Information interventions related mostly to health/life insurance, disclosure to potential employees, social welfare queries, and on providing information and orientation to those seeking to move to, or return to, Ireland. Where possible, staff seek to ascertain every clients' current health status in the event that further HIV or other medical interventions may be required. This is particularly so with vulnerable groups such as the homeless, drug users, and migrants navigating the Irish health system.

# Capacity Building of People Living with HIV

In 2016, HIV Ireland continued to work closely with, and support, Positive Now and the All-Ireland Network of People Living with HIV. During 2016, Positive Now continued to work to increase the number of network affiliates. HIV Ireland supported Positive Now in holding support/social groups for their peers and in providing peer support for the newly diagnosed. Positive Now also engaged with a wide variety of agencies, businesses, media outlets, and researchers looking for PLWHIV representation and/or to conduct specific pieces of work.

# First All-Ireland Conference for People Living with HIV

HIV Ireland also supported Positive Now and Positive Life (NI) in holding the first ever conference for people living with HIV in the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland. Held on February 27th at the Academy Hotel in Dublin, the conference attracted 86 PLWHIV from around the country. A pre-conference social event the prior evening was attended by 66 PLWHIV. Conference topics included: The Human Immunodeficiency Virus: Host Pathogen Interactions (Eoin McReamonn, TCD); Whose Voice? Whose Ideas?; Reflections on the Potentials of Collaborative Research (Dr Aislinn O'Donnell, University of Limerick); and Sharing Information Between Health Professionals – Changing the Culture (Dr Say Pheng Quah, Royal Victoria Hospital Belfast). A facilitated session on HIV Activism was included on the day. A post-conference webinar on the Criminalisation of HIV Transmission was held by Eddie Matthews, BL, on the Positive Now website in May. In November, HIV Ireland facilitated a follow-up seminar for PLWHIV on The Immune System and Viruses which was held by Eoin MacReamoinn.

In October, HIV Ireland and Positive Now conducted a joint vox-pop in two busy shopping districts in inner-city Dublin looking at public opinions and knowledge on issues surrounding HIV. A total of 238 individuals were approached and 55 responded (23%). Results of the 'vox-pop' fed into the development of Positive Now's key public messages.

# **Community HIV and STI Testing**

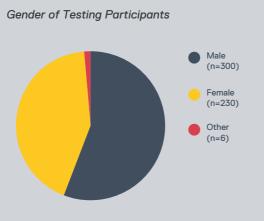
In 2016, HIV Ireland conducted free HIV and STI testing in Dublin and partnered with both the Red Door Project and Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital (Drogheda) in beginning a six month pilot testing service targeting intravenous drug users and/ or the homeless as well as those coming from countries where HIV is endemic.

# **Dublin Testing Service**

Our Community HIV and STI Testing Service in Dublin operates in our building and is run in conjunction with the GUIDE Clinic (St. James's Hospital). It is a low-threshold service, underpinned by a street outreach service which targets at risk communities. During the registration process, participants are given an anonymous profile form to complete on their personal smart-phones or on tablets provided by HIV Ireland; this allows us to ascertain unique information on those coming in for testing, giving us an overall picture, and profile, of our testing participants.

# Profile of Testing Participants

A total of 536 individuals (300 males, 230 females, and 6 individuals identifying with the given category of 'other') tested with HIV Ireland and knew their HIV and STI status in 2016. Of these individuals, 155 had tested at least once before with us.



Those born outside of Ireland represented 55% of those who presented for testing (See Table 2 below).

# Table 2: Country/Area of Origin of TestingParticipants 2016

Country/Area of Origin	Frequency/Top 3 Percentages		
Ireland	248 (46%)		
Western Europe	64* (12%)		
Central or Eastern Europe	42		
Sub-Saharan Africa	6~		
Southern Africa/West Africa	30		
Middle East/North Africa	6		
South or South East Asia	16		
North America	11		
South America	87 (16%)		
Australia and Oceania	5		
Other	21		

\* Combined with Eastern Europe, total European percentage = 20% (n=106)

~ Combined with other African/Middle Eastern Regions, total percentage=7% (n=40) In relation to Sexual Preference, 37% (n=198) of participants were men who liked having sex with women, 34% (n=182) were women who liked having sex with men, and 15% (n=81) were men who liked having sex with men. 5% (n=26) of participants were men who stated they liked sex with both men and women and 3% (n=16) were women who liked sex with both men and women. 1% (n=5) were women who liked sex with other women and a further 5% of participants (n=26) did not identify with any of the given sexual preferences. See below.

Of the 536 people who identified how they became aware of our testing service, 28% (n=150) heard about the service through word-of-mouth, 35% (n=189) became aware through various HIV Ireland advertising modes and 56% (n=299) saw relevant information on the internet (through Google Search, Facebook, and the HIV Ireland website). See Table 3.

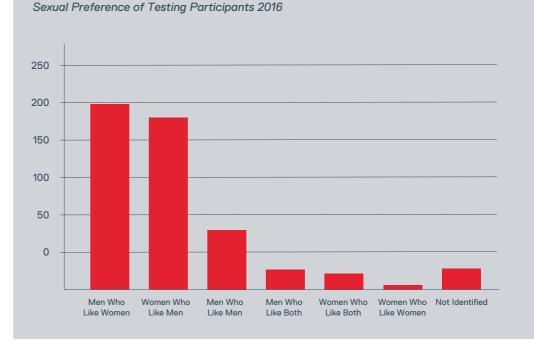


Table 3: How Testing Participants Heard ofHIV Ireland's HIV and STI Testing Service2016

Mode	Frequency/Top 3 Percentages	
Google Search	182 (34%)	
Word of Mouth	150 (28%)	
HIV Ireland Website	90 (17%)	
Poster in HIVI Front Window	36	
Facebook	27	
HIV Ireland Sexual Health Testing Service Booklet (Outreach)	21	
HIV Ireland Testing Advertisement Leaflet (Outreach)	10	
Referral from Hospital	10	
Referral from Another Agency	5	
HIV Ireland Reception	5	

Table 4: Age Range of Testing<br/>Participants 2016AgeNo.Percent17-21911717-22120120

17—21	91	17
22—25	139	26
26—30	118	22
31—35	75	14
36—40	54	10
41—45	21	4
46—50	11	2
51—55	11	2
56-60	11	2
61—65	5	1
Total	536	100

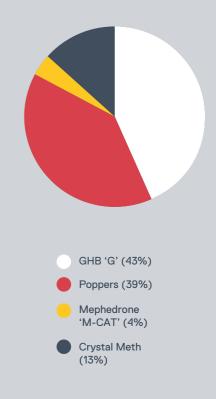
Combined on-line total = 56% (n=299) HIVI's own advertising combined total = 35% (n=189)

The vast majority of those who tested were in the age group 22 yrs–30 yrs (48%, n=257). The younger cohort of those aged 17 yrs – 21 yrs made up 17% all those who tested and the older cohort of those aged 50 yrs or over represented 5% of those who tested. See Table 4. Participants who tested resided mainly in Dublin north inner-city areas adjacent to HIV Ireland's location (Dublin 1, 3, and 7; n=45%). A total of 16 other Dublin postal code districts were represented by participants, with the highest number (n=32) coming from Dublin 15. 17% (n=90) of participants resided outside of Dublin postal code areas; just under half of these reside in County Dublin (n=42). 6 additional counties of residence were noted, representing a total of 48 individuals including those living in either Leinster, Munster, or Connaught. See Table 5.

Area	No.	Percent	
Dublin 7	96	18	
1	91	17	
3	38	7	
15	32	6	
9	27	5	
8	27	5	
6	17	3	
4	11	2	
11	11	2	
12	11	2	
14	11	2	
5	5	1	
6W	5	1	
13	5	1	
16	5	1	
17	5	1	
18	5	1	
20	5	1	
24	5	1	
Co Dublin	42	8	
Co Wicklow	17	3	
Co Meath	11	2	
Co Galway	5	1	
Co Kildare	5	1	
Со Тірр	5	1	
Co Wexford	5	1	
Total		100	

In August 2016, HIV Ireland introduced a profile question on selected drugs taken before, or during, sex. Out of the 217 participants who answered this question, 43% (n=93) had taken GHB (known also as 'G'), 39% (n=84) of participants had taken Poppers, 13% (n=28) had taken Crystal Meth and 4% (n=9) had taken Mephedrone (also known as 'M-CAT'). It is interesting to note that respondents who answered this question came from a variety of backgrounds and identified differing sexual preferences.

Drugs taken Before or During Sex 2016 (Aug—Dec; Number of Respondents=217)



Sexual Health Testing Service

# Additional Profile Information

2% (n=11) of testing participants declared themselves from the Travelling or Roma Community, 40% (n=214) declared themselves to be a citizen of another country, and 7% (n=37) of individuals hoped to become a citizen of Ireland. 7% (n=37) identified as having experienced IV drug use and a further 12% (n=64) of participants had experienced homelessness.

# **Drogheda Testing Service**

In 2016, HIV Ireland partnered with the Red Door Project and Our Lady Of Lourdes Hospital in Drogheda to pilot a once a month free HIV and STI Testing service targeting intravenous drug users and/or the homeless as well as migrants, particularly those coming from countries where HIV is endemic. At the end of 2016, five of the six pilot sessions have been conducted. A full statistical report on the pilot service will be available in our 2017 annual report.

# **Community Outreach**

HIV Ireland has a longstanding and unique history of conducting community outreach with marginalised and at risk groups. Led primarily by migrant volunteers, outreach takes place on the streets and in migrant businesses and social spaces in Dublin 1, 3, and 7 as well as at various social events including those hosted by Sport Against Racism Ireland (SARI), New Communities Partnership, and other migrant focused organisations. Information on sexual health and sexual health testing is disseminated and free condoms are offered to those who may not otherwise be able to access or afford them. Oneto-one support is also given to those concerned about the consequences of testing positive for HIV or another STL

In 2016, HIV Ireland extended its outreach service to Balseskin Reception Centre for Asylum Seekers (Dublin) and to Mosney Reception Centre (County Meath) in order to promote sexual health testing and information for those newly arrived in the country. Outreach was also extended to the streets of Drogheda, County Louth, where HIV Ireland outreach workers, along with outreach workers from the Red Door Project, jointly promoted our pilot free HIV and STI service targeting intravenous drug users, the homeless, and migrants (see above). In total, 38 street outreach sessions were conducted in 2016. (See also Free Condom Service and Outreach).



Dependent Soutch Hall Car Table II. No apportiment nocessar No apportiment nocessar No apportiment nocessar General Public

Our Community Support staff field calls, emails, and walk in queries from the general public which includes the significant others, family, and friends of people living with HIV, a variety of professionals, as well as individuals looking for information on HIV and other STIs. In 2016, there were a total of 347 interventions with the general public. The vast majority of these were questions relating to HIV and STI risks, and how to support clients living with HIV as well as their friends, family, and partners.

# Rialto Community Drug Team

In June, HIV Ireland engaged with service users under the care of the Rialto Community Drugs Team in a discussion on harm reduction, arising issues for PLWHIV, and the recent rise in HIV infection amongst PWIDs.

# Agency Visits and Researchers

HIV Ireland hosts agency and college visits and works with students and other researchers to provide information on, and insight into, services and issues for PLWHIV. In 2016, HIV Ireland facilitated 11 students (4 secondary school students, 5 MA students and 2 PhD students) and accommodated visits from 13 organisations including those from the drug, homeless, mental health, holistic therapy, and sexual health sectors.

# 56 Dean Street, London

In July, staff from HIV Ireland, along with staff from the Rialto Community Drugs Team visited 56 Dean Street, London, part of the Chelsea and Westminster Hospital NHS Foundation Trust. The visit, facilitated by Dave Stuart, Manager of ChemSex Support Services, gave insight into 56 Dean Street's successful HIV and STI testing service as well as on how to support those engaging problematically in ChemSex dynamics.

# **EDUCATION AND TRAINING**

HIV Ireland's education and training services provide and deliver training on a broad range of topics including HIV, hepatitis, sexually transmitted infections (STIs), sexual health, training for counsellors, psychotherapists and mental health professionals, a training for trainers programme (Let's Talk About... Safer Sex) for youth and community workers, and training on good practice in developing a sexual health policy.

Groups and organisations accessing our training include statutory bodies, voluntary agencies, youth and community groups, private sector organisations, healthcare professionals and education centres.

In 2016, the primary focus for training delivery was the training of staff and professionals who work with groups at risk of HIV and poorer sexual health outcomes.

Training programmes can be accessed via an annual calendar of training or on request from organisations.

HIV Ireland also works in partnership with a range of organisations in the provision and delivery of training including the Irish Family Planning Association, the National Youth Council of Ireland, and Foróige.

# **Training Delivery 2016**

A total of 27 various education and training programmes were delivered in 2016 to a total of 450 participants, involving approximately 87 organisations and professional and voluntary groups. Table 6 provides a summary of education and training delivered in 2016.

# Training for Trainers Programme: Let's Talk About... Safer Sex

Four of these programmes were delivered in 2016 to a total of 34 participants. One programme was delivered in partnership with Kildare Youth Service, one in partnership with East Wicklow Youth Service, one in partnership with Pavee Point and the Eastern Region Travellers Health Network, and the fourth as part of our annual calendar of training.

# Table 6: Education and TrainingProgrammes Delivered in 2016

Type of Training	No. delivered	Total No. of Participants
Let's Talk AboutSafer Sex: 4-day Training for Trainers Programme	4	34
HIV and STIs	3	34
HIV and Hepatitis C	2	20
HIV: An Overview for Counsellors	1	9
Living with HIV and HIV- related Stigma	1	11
Let's Talk About HIV in Ireland	8	239
Good Practice in Developing a Sexual Health Policy (in partnership with the NYCI)	2	18
Hepatitis A, B and C	1	14
STIs, Condoms and Safer Sex	1	7
STIs and Contraception (part of the REAL U Programme in partnership with Foróige)	3	47
Sexual Health Workshop (in partnership with the IFPA)	1	17
TOTALS	27	450



# Good Practice in Developing a Sexual Health Policy

This new training was developed in partnership with the National Youth Council of Ireland (NYCI) and was piloted in February 2016. Following feedback from the participants who attended the pilot training, improvements were implemented and a second training day was held in September 2016.

# Free Condoms Service and Outreach

HIV Ireland 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 lube, which are also available as a walk-in service in the offices of HIV Ireland. Condoms are also provided on request from a range of organisations who wish to provide this service to their service users.

In 2016, a total of 20,433 free condoms were distributed.

- 39% of the free condoms were distributed as part of our street and volunteer outreach programmes which primarily targets migrant population groups.
- 24% were provided to organisations working with young people for distribution through their services or for specific youth-focused events.
- 22% were distributed to drug user population groups including through our partnership with the Ana Liffey Drug Project.
- 10% were provided as part of our walk-in service.
- the remaining 5% were provided to organisations who work with sex workers, and who work with people living with HIV.
- free condoms for men who have sex with men (MSM) are provided through our partnership with the Gay Health Network via the joint HSE *Man2Man.ie* programme.

# Free Condoms Service Highlights 2016

- A total of 91 organisations/groups/events were supported in 2016 with the provision of free condoms.
- Outreach was conducted and supported at a range of events throughout the year including SHAG Week and Freshers Week events in third-level colleges; Sports Against Racism Ireland Annual Multi-cultural SoccerFest; Men's Health Week events organised by the Eastern

Region Travellers Health Network; and the New Communities Partnership information day.

- HIV Ireland works in partnership with the Ana Liffey Drug Project (ALDP) in the provision of free condoms for distribution through their services around Ireland including:
- Dublin: through the Needle and Syringe programme and through the nurse and GP surgery service.
- Midlands Region (Longford, Laois, Offaly, Westmeath): through the Needle and Syringe programme and outreach services, and as part of the Open Access Service in Mullingar.
- Mid-West Region (Limerick, North Tipperary and Clare): through the Needle and Syringe programme, outreach services, Open Access Service and GP clinics.

# **Free Resources Service**

HIV Ireland stocks a range of resources including information booklets, leaflets, DVDs and other materials on HIV, hepatitis and sexual health for general distribution. This service is accessed by a range of organisations including youth organisations, NGOs and community organisations, colleges, schools, statutory agencies 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 health initiatives and events, conferences, seminars, and through our training and support services.

In 2016, this continued to be a popular service with 23,800 information leaflets, booklets, posters, red ribbons and DVDs distributed, and supporting requests from 79 organisations/events.

# **NewsDesk Weekly**

The HIV Ireland *NewsDesk Weekly* includes news and updates on relevant national, European and international news and policy issues on HIV, hepatitis and sexual health-related issues.

This service is provided free by HIV Ireland to a range of organisations and individuals involved and interested in these areas, and offers a summary of relevant weekly news highlights from various sources including national and local print media, and related-websites.

44 editions of NewsDesk Weekly were published in 2016. Individuals and organisations can subscribe to the NewsDesk through the HIV Ireland website.

# Campaigns and Events

# Just Carry One

Just Carry One is a national social media campaign targeting young people, primarily those aged 17 to 25 years, and promotes condoms and condom use for STI prevention.

The aims of the project are:

- to promote (consistent) condom use amongst young people as the primary method of STI prevention.
- to 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.

Promotion of the campaign is carried out primarily through a dedicated Facebook page (www.facebook.com/justcarryone), promoting key messages about condom use, STI prevention, STI testing and where to access free condoms.

# **Campaign Followers Summary 2016**

- Just Carry One 'fans' increased by 3% (from 16,776 at the end of 2015 to 17,262 on 31st Dec 2016).
- 64% of followers are male and 36% female.
- 78% of followers are aged 18 to 24 years the primary target group.
- Of the total followers where country location data is available, 16,376 (95%) are located in Ireland. County/City data is available for 13,629 followers. These followers are located across 24 counties of Ireland:
- 5,908 (43%) are located in Dublin.
- 3,027 (22%) are located across the rest of Leinster (all 11 counties).
- 3,097 (23%) are located across the six counties of Munster.
- 1,350 (10%) are located across four counties of Connaught (Galway, Mayo, Sligo and Roscommon).
- The remaining 2% (n=247) are located in Ulster in counties Donegal and Cavan.



# Campaign Audience Engagement Summary 2016

- An average of 3 posts per week are posted on the campaign Facebook page.
- In 2016 each post reached an average audience of 2,987.
- Competitions are held throughout the year as part of this social media campaign to engage the young audience. In 2016 five competitions were held at Valentine's Day, Easter, Halloween, Thanksgiving and Christmas. The competitions reached a cumulative audience of 224,553, with 12,072 actions on posts.

# New Condom Packs 2016

The Just Carry One campaign provides access to free condom and lube packs which can be accessed through our walk-in service or on request from organisations via our free resources service. In 2016, new condom packs were developed to complement the campaign.



# Snow Blow and HIV

Launched on Irish AIDS Day, 15th June 2016, by the Lord Mayor of Dublin, Críona Ní Dhálaigh, and developed in partnership with the Ana Liffey Drug Project, this harm reduction campaign highlights the increased risk of HIV infection amongst people who inject drugs, particularly snow blow.

Campaign resources created include an information booklet, posters, and a factsheet which provide harm reduction and HIV prevention information for people who inject drugs.

Speaking at the launch, the Lord Mayor praised the efforts of both partner organisations to address the specific needs of at risk groups:

"I want to commend the Ana Liffey Drug Project and HIV Ireland for working together, sharing their expertise, and providing much needed harm reduction information to people who are more vulnerable to HIV. This targeted initiative is very much in line with Ireland's Healthy Ireland framework for improved health and well-being to address the specific needs of at-risk groups to reduce health inequalities."

Campaign resources can be viewed and downloaded at *www.hivireland.ie* and *www.drugs.ie* with hard copy resources available on request.





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# Man2Man.ie

This joint Gay Health Network (GHN) and HSE initiative is a national HIV Prevention and Sexual Health Awareness programme targeting men who have sex with men (MSM) in Ireland.

The *Man2Man.ie* programme was sustained throughout 2016 with support funding from the HSE Sexual Health and Crisis Pregnancy Programme and the MAC AIDS Fund. The programme primarily consists of:

- a dedicated website (*www.man2man.ie*) providing information for MSM on HIV, STIs, free testing information and where to access free condoms.
- a social media campaign promoting key messages on HIV and STI prevention, testing and condom use.
- delivery of Personal Development Courses for MSM.
- the Luv Bugs STI Prevention Project.
- providing access to free condoms and lube in social venues and through outreach services.

# **HIV: Laid Bare**

Developed and launched in 2015, promotion of this social media campaign continued in 2016. The key objectives of the campaign are:

- to promote self-responsibility for sexual risktaking behaviour and the prevention of HIV transmission.
- to challenge the ignorance, lack of knowledge, and unfamiliarity with HIV today, particularly terminology.
- to challenge stigma towards MSM living with HIV.
- to raise awareness about different HIV prevention strategies, and the positive effect of HIV medication on preventing transmission.



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# HIV+ Sex

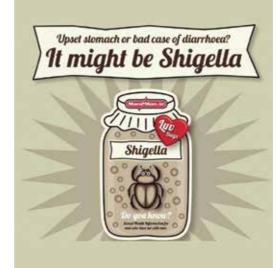
First published in 2009, this sex-positive information booklet for HIV positive and HIV negative men was updated, re-designed and re-published to complement the HIV: Laid Bare campaign. The booklet can be viewed and downloaded at *www.man2man.ie* 



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# Luv Bugs

In 2016, the Gay Health Network produced an additional Luv Bugs leaflet in response to an outbreak of Shigella amongst MSM. The leaflet is available to view and download at www.man2man.ie



# What's in the Powder?

The What's in the Powder campaign is a collaboration of the Ana Liffey Drug Project and three Students' Unions from DIT, TCD and UCD. The campaign was launched on 1st April 2016 by the Lord Mayor of Dublin, Críona Ní Dhálaigh, at an event in the Mansion House.

HIV Ireland supports the campaign's harm reduction approach with key messages that aim to reduce the harms associated with the choices that people may make about using powders and other drugs.

More information on the campaign can be viewed at *www.drugs.ie/whatsinthepowder*, where posters and factsheets can also be downloaded.



# Had Unprotected Sex? What Next...

Developed by the Irish Family Planning Association (IFPA) in partnership with HIV Ireland, and funded by the HSE Sexual Health and Crisis Pregnancy Programme, this project aims to highlight the dual risk of contracting sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and/or experiencing an unplanned pregnancy.

The project primarily targets young people aged 18 to 29 years and involved the development of an infographic. Following a pilot initiative in 2015 during which feedback was sought from young people, the infographic was updated and republished in 2016.

A web-enabled version of the infographic can be accessed at *www.hivireland.ie* and hard-copy versions are also available.



# Ask Your Pharmacist

In April 2016, the Irish Pharmacy Union (IPU), the HSE Sexual Health and Crisis Pregnancy Programme and the Irish Family Planning Association launched a new campaign encouraging people to ask their pharmacist for advice about their sexual health and family planning needs. The infographic was distributed as part of this campaign and displayed by a range of pharmacies involved with the IPU.

# <section-header><section-header><section-header><section-header>

### World AIDS Day 2016

### Hands Up for #HIVPrevention

HIV Ireland, together with our partners ACET Ireland, Concern Worldwide and the Dóchas Group, Positive Now, and Dublin City Council, got behind the UNAIDS global campaign for World AIDS Day 2016 – Hands Up for HIV Prevention. The campaign explores different aspects of HIV prevention and how they relate to specific groups of people such as adolescent girls and young women, key populations and people living with HIV.

On 1st December 2016 at the Mansion House, the Lord Mayor of Dublin, Brendan Carr, gave his full support for the campaign:

"With a growing rise in numbers of those newly diagnosed in Ireland with HIV, it is clear that more needs to be done in the areas of HIV prevention education. HIV is both a health issue and a social inclusion issue given the key population groups it consistently impacts upon locally and globally. We need to focus on people who face an increased risk of contracting HIV due to their circumstances including those living in extreme poverty, homeless, addicted to drugs, working within the sex industry, in prison or suffering from poor mental health. Dublin City Council is proud to support the Hands Up for #HIVprevention campaign." The Mansion House was also lit up in red in support of World AIDS Day, and Dublin City Council libraries distributed free red ribbons to the general public to raise awareness on the day.







# Get Tested Today

This World AIDS Day campaign was a partnership initiative with the HSE National Sexual Health Communications Working Group, and promoted the importance of HIV testing and knowing your status.

The campaign was launched by the Minister of State for Health Promotion, Marcella Corcoran-Kennedy TD, on 1st December 2016, and the Know Now project (*www.knownow.ie*) provided access to rapid HIV testing in a variety of locations in Dublin, Cork and Limerick on the day.





# G(hb) Information Campaign

To help address increasing use of the drug G in Ireland we teamed up with a number of organisations to produce information and harm reduction resources. Partner organisations are the Ana Liffey Drug Project, *Drugs.ie*, Gay Switchboard Ireland, HIV Ireland, the Gay Men's Health Service, HSE National Social Inclusion Office, HSE Public Health, and the Rialto Community Drug Team.

Information resources were developed including a poster (available in three languages) which can be displayed in venues and organisations, a factsheet (available in three languages) and a G-card for distribution at events and through outreach services to individuals who may use G. The campaign will be developed further in 2017 and current resources can be viewed and downloaded at *www.drugs.ie/ghb* 



# **European Cervical Cancer Prevention Week**

HIV Ireland supported the Irish Family Planning Association (IFPA) and *CervicalCheck.ie* with the promotion of the Pearl of Wisdom Campaign from 24th to 30th January 2016, distributing campaign information packs through our services and promoting messages via social media channels.



## **Zero Discrimination Day**

Zero Discrimination Day is a global event which takes place on 1st March annually. Lead by UNAIDS, the event is a call to people everywhere to promote and celebrate diversity and reject discrimination. HIV Ireland supported the event through social media promotion focusing on zero discrimination for people living with HIV.

# ZERO DISCRIMINATION DAY 1 MARCH 2016 LIMAS TH HIMMONICANNERIEM

# It's Talk Time: Service Users Forum 2016 – Let's Talk Health

This annual event, organised and hosted by UISCE and the Saol Project for International Women's Day, focused on different areas of health in 2016. HIV Ireland presented on HIV to an audience of approximately 80 women in addiction and participating in addiction services. The presentation had a particular focus on increasing HIV diagnoses in Ireland amongst drugs users using snow blow.

# **Global Goals Week**

HIV Ireland supported this global initiative through our various social media channels which took place from 18th to 25th September 2016.

On 25th September 2015, 193 world leaders committed to 17 Global Goals including to end extreme poverty and to fight inequality and injustice. The aim of Global Goals Week is to empower people to take action, raise voices and awareness and tell world leaders and our governments to start making the goals a reality. For more information about this initiative visit *www.globalgoals.org* 



### **Dublin City Council Social Inclusion Week**

HIV Ireland supports this annual event which took place from 26th to 1st October 2016. As part of the event, Dublin City Council supported the promotion of social inclusion for people living with and affected by HIV, providing information to the general public at the Civic offices on Wood Quay for the week.



## **European HIV Testing Week**

European HIV-Hepatitis Testing week is an initiative that was launched by 'HIV in Europe' in 2013 to help more people become aware of their HIV and Hepatitis status. HIV Ireland has supported the week since its inception as it offers partners across Europe the opportunity to unite to increase awareness of the benefits of HIV and hepatitis testing. In 2016, the week took place from 18th—25th November. HIV Ireland supported the initiative via social media and during the week promoted the Free HIV Testing Locator Map on *www.hivireland.ie* 

# UCD Students (Annual Lecture — Professional Clinical Practice)

This lecture, now in its 9th year, is an integral part of the "Professional Clinical Practice" module offered to both junior and senior medical students of University College Dublin. The lecture, given by our senior counsellor, offers insights into the differing perspectives of clients living with HIV or AIDS and emphasizes the impact that words and the delivery of information by professionals can have on often vulnerable individuals. Held in May, the lecture was attended by over 100 third and fourth year students.

# Griffith College International Human Rights Summer School

HIV Ireland was invited in June, along with Positive Now, to present on human rights issues – and available services for PLWHIV – to international students attending Griffith College's Human Rights Summer School run by its Law Department.

# GSK (GlaxoSmithKline)

In June 2015, GSK sponsored the automation of our HIV and STI service which enables the faster registration of individuals using the service, and the accurate collection of traditionally difficult to obtain anonymous profile information over and above requisite intake form data. In July 2016, HIV Ireland was invited to present on this system, and on our HIV and STI testing service, to the staff of GSK, Citywest Business Campus.

# Sexual Health and Crisis Pregnancy Programme Conference, World AIDS Day

To mark the first year of the National Sexual Health Strategy (2015-2020), Ireland's first national strategy for sexual health and wellbeing, the Sexual Health and Crisis Pregnancy Programme held a day-long conference on December 1st in the Royal College of Physicians Ireland. HIV Ireland spoke on our Dublin and Drogheda HIV and STI testing service in a presentation entitled *The Evolution of a Community HIV and STI Testing Service.* 

# **MAC Cosmetics Staff**

HIV Ireland has received longstanding support from the MAC AIDS Fund and the staff of MAC Cosmetic stores in Dublin. To mark VIVA Glam Ambassadors' Day on March 16th, MAC staff were invited to participate in a HIV Ireland workshop on HIV and STIs. In turn, HIV Ireland was delighted to avail of MAC volunteer hours. 9 MAC staff from several store locations participated.

In My, and in conjunction with Positive Now, HIV Ireland presented on its work to the MAC staff of Dundrum Shopping Centre.

# G. Request Show for WAD

In 2016, we participated in a 45-minute documentary on HIV in Ireland with the G Request Show. This was in conjunction with Positive Now. The documentary aired on Sky in late November, and had an audience primarily from the African community in Ireland. The show also aired in the UK, across Europe and in Africa. It was a real pleasure to be part of the programme, and we are looking forward to continuing to work with the G. Request Show, and all its extremely friendly and helpful staff.

# Richards Chambers of the Pat Kenny Show Visit

Our community HIV and STI testing service in Eccles Street hosted a visit from Richard Chambers of the Pat Kenny Radio Show. Richard spent time interviewing staff and people availing of our services on the benefits and importance of HIV and STI testing. He also underwent a test himself. His piece was broadcast in April 2016, and received very positive coverage and feedback.

# Best Will Week — MyLegacy.ie

In October 2016, HIV Ireland participated in, and promoted, Best Will Week 2016. Best Will Week is an annual awareness week during which Irish people are reminded of the importance of making their will and asked to consider including a legacy gift to a charity they care about. HIV Ireland encouraged people to visit *MyLegacy.ie* and learn about the importance of making a will and see some of the great causes they could choose to include in their will. The week was launched by the Tánaiste, Minister Francis Fitzgerald in the Cliff Townhouse in St. Stephen's Green.

# GSK Impact Ireland Runners-Up Award 2016

In June 2016, HIV Ireland was delighted to be chosen as one of 5 runners up in the 2nd Annual GSK Impact Ireland Awards. The awards are designed to recognise and reward community based charities that are doing excellent work to improve people's health and wellbeing in Ireland. The awards are based around innovation, management, partnership and achievement – areas that are to the forefront of our work. Our Executive Director, Niall Mulligan, accepted the award on behalf of HIV Ireland at a wonderful awards ceremony in the Chester Beatty Library in October 2016.

# Committee Representation and Policy Work

# Representation on HSE National Sexual Health Strategy Implementation Working Group

In 2016, HIV Ireland continued to participate on the Implementation Working Group for the National Sexual Health Strategy. This group is tasked with providing strategic advice and direction to support the implementation of the National Sexual Health Strategy (2015-2020). It also exists to provide oversight, examine and make recommendations on the actions within the sexual health strategy action plan. This is a key committee for HIV Ireland to be involved with and we bring not just our own perspective to the strategy but also that of our many partners within the community and voluntary sector.

# **National Drugs Strategy Submission**

Responding to a call from Minister Catherine Byrne regarding the development of a new Drugs Strategy for Ireland, HIV Ireland made a submission in October 2016 to the Minister outlining the linkages between HIV, Sexual Health, and Drug Use. With 13 recommendations included within our submission, we took the opportunity to emphasise that key to responding to the increase in new HIV diagnoses in Ireland is HIV prevention. The submission underlined the fact that drug use and HIV are interlinked amongst several key populations in Ireland. The submission can be accessed at: http://www.hivireland.ie/policy-news-and-media/ our-policy-work/

# **HIV and Sex Work Research**

In September 2016, supported by the Open Society Foundation, HIV Ireland published research on the potential impact of the Swedish model on rates of HIV/AIDS among sex workers and their access to healthcare in Ireland. This report has its roots in a growing concern that criminalising the buyers of sex in Ireland will have unintended negative health consequences for people who sell sex. HIV Ireland presented the report as a contribution to a debate that has been significantly one-sided in favour of introducing the 'Swedish Model' to Ireland. We asked for politicians to support a call to remove Part 4 of the proposed Criminal Law (Sexual Offences) Bill 2015 (introducing the Swedish Model into Ireland). This research can be access at: *http://www.hivireland. ie/policy-news-and-media/our-policy-work/* 

# National HIV Stigma Survey

In 2016, HIV Ireland secured funding from Janssen to undertake a National Survey on HIV in Ireland. We are working in partnership with the Mater/UCD on this initiative. This survey is looking at the individual experiences of people living with HIV in Ireland of stigma and discrimination, and the level of awareness, knowledge and understanding of HIV amongst the public. Quality Matters is undertaking this work on our behalf. Work commenced in the summer of 2016, and we expect the final report to be launched in 2017.

# Presentation to AIDS Action Europe Member and Partner Meeting

In November 2016, HIV Ireland was chosen to give a presentation to AIDS Action Europe (AAE) at the first ever Member and Partner Meeting held in Berlin. The presentation focused on how civil society can maintain its advocacy role in the field of HIV policy work, how civil society can be strengthened in times when the influence of civil society organisations is being pushed back, and on what AAE's role should be in supporting the advocacy work of its members across Europe. Our presentation in Berlin covered the following areas:

- the Influence and Role of Irish Civil Society
- civil Society, Advocacy, and HIV Policy
- human Rights Based Approach to Our Work
- role of AAE in Supporting Advocacy at National Level

The presentation is available at: http://www. hivireland.ie/policy-news-and-media/our-policywork/

# 14th Annual Gay Health Forum

In June 2016, we presented at the 14th Annual Gay Health Forum on our Community HIV/STI Testing Service. HIV Ireland is a longstanding supporter of, and contributor to, the Gay Health Forum which is organised by the Gay Men's Health Service, HSE in partnership with the Gay Health Network. We see this as a crucial annual gathering in promoting the work of many groups and organisations working within the area of LGBT health and wellbeing.

# **HSE National Service Plan 2016**

HIV Ireland was named within the HSE National Service Plan 2016 as being one of the key partners in delivering community based HIV/STI testing options. This is a key element of HIV prevention work and having it addressed within the service plan is a positive development.

The HSE National Service Plan 2016 includes a commitment to "Enhance Community approaches to addressing HIV/AIDS" and to "collaborate with HIV Ireland and other stakeholders" in these approaches.

Additionally the plan includes actions to implement the recommendations of the National Sexual Health Strategy and the National Hepatitis C Strategy.

# North Inner City Drugs and Alcohol Task Force (NICDATF)

- Prevention and Education Sub-Committee: HIV Ireland participates on this sub-committee of the NICDATF and in 2016 participated in a Roundtable Discussion on best practice for substance misuse prevention and education.
- North Inner City Community Coalition (NICCC) Education Working Group: HIV Ireland submitted recommendations on HIV, sexual health, and drug use education to the NICDATF for inclusion in this working group's submission to the development of the new National Drugs Strategy.

# Gay Health Network (GHN)

HIV Ireland continues to participate and work closely with GHN to support and promote sexual health initiatives within the gay community, and in particular the joint HSE Man2Man.ie programme. At the end of 2016, an evaluation of the GHN campaigns (HIV: Laid Bare; Luv Bugs and Man2Man website) was commissioned with the support of the HSE Sexual Health and Crisis Pregnancy Programme.

GHN continues to be actively involved in publishing new research and in 2016 launched the report of the MSM Internet Survey Ireland (MISI) 2015 – the largest ever survey amongst MSM in Ireland (see below).

# National Sexual Health Communications Working Group

HIV Ireland participates on this Working Group, the establishment of which is one of the priority actions within the National Sexual Health Strategy Action Plan 2015 to 2016. Chaired by the HSE Sexual Health and Crisis Pregnancy Programme, the group was established to coordinate sexual health communications activities between HSE and non-statutory organisations to ensure joint resources are used in the most effective manner. In 2016 the Working Group coordinated activities for SHAG Week in third-level colleges and a national campaign for World AIDS Day.

# MSM Internet Survey Ireland (MISI) 2015

At the 14th Annual Gay Health Forum on 10th June 2016 in Dublin Castle, the HSE and the Gay Health Network launched the MISI 2015 report. MISI 2015 is a cross-sectoral partnership of statutory organisations and NGOs and voluntary organisations working in the area of HIV prevention and sexual health, consisting of Gay Health Network members, and the HSE's Gay Men's Health Service (GMHS), Health Protection Surveillance Centre (HPSC), and Sexual Health and Crisis Pregnancy Programme.

This is the largest ever survey amongst MSM in Ireland with 3,090 men included in the analysis.

HIV Ireland participated in the communications subgroup of the MISI steering group, assisting with promotion and communication regarding the survey.

The report includes a range of findings on sexual health knowledge, attitudes, needs, and behaviour amongst MSM. It focuses on sexual identity, relationships, HIV status and perception, and HIV and STI testing. It also reports on sexual behaviours, substances use, access to and use of HIV prevention interventions as well as awareness and impact of health promotion materials designed for MSM. The full report is available to view at *www.misi.ie* 

# Flash! PrEP in Europe Online Survey

The Flash! PrEP in Europe online survey took place simultaneously in 12 European countries from the 15th June to 15th July 2016. HIV Ireland was the key partner involved in the promotion of the online survey in Ireland, supported by a range of statutory organisations and NGOs.

The goal of the research was to better understand knowledge, attitudes towards, willingness to take and current use of PrEP across Europe to inform sexual health policy making. 516 people from Ireland participated in the survey. The 'First Results' report was released on World AIDS Day 2016 (1st December) and presented results of the survey at the European level. The report can be viewed at *www.hivireland.ie* 

### **Quality Action Conference 2016**

Quality Action (www.qualityaction.eu) is an EU co-funded 'Joint Action on Improving Quality in HIV Prevention' involving 45 partner organisations from 26 Member States, which started on 1st March 2013. Quality Action promotes practical tools (five in total) and materials to maximise the quality of HIV prevention projects and programmes.

HIV Ireland participated in Quality Action training in 2014, attending six days training, and following this piloted the application of the '*Succeed*' tool to one of our HIV prevention projects.

In January 2016 a Quality Action Conference was held in Berlin, which was the concluding event of the Joint Action Project. Highlights of the conference included the launch of the newly developed 'Policy Kit' which offers policy makers the rationale and concrete actions for integrating quality improvement into HIV prevention policies, strategies and action plans at national and regional levels. The Policy Kit includes the 'Charter for Quality in HIV Prevention' which summarises quality principles, criteria and key activities to put quality improvement into practice and offers practitioners, experts, policy makers and all other stakeholders the opportunity to commit to improving their work in HIV prevention.









# National Standards Authority of Ireland

HIV Ireland continued its participation on a NSAI working committee which contributed recommendations for inclusion in Ireland's overall recommendations to CEN (The European Standardization Body for the development of standards) on standardizing Tattooing and Body Modification practices in the EU. As well as endorsing the work of the NSAI and the Association of Body Modification Artists Ireland (ABMAI), HIV Ireland made its own submission to the Department of Health outlining potential inequalities for PLWHIV under proposed guidelines for Tattooing and Body Piercing Infection Control.

# HSE National Intercultural Health Strategy

HIV Ireland responded to the HSE's invitation to submit themes for this strategy. Our suggested themes, in line with the 4 goals of Healthy Ireland: 2013 – 2025, included orientation to the Irish health system for migrants with particular emphasis on free NGO and statutory health services, including sexual health services. We offered too that there should be government interdepartmental agreement to ensure that those seeking asylum have equal access to health related goods, services, and supports (also in line with the above goals).

# Health Protection and Surveillance Centre (Recent HIV Infection Committee)

In 2016, HIV Ireland continued its participation on the HPSC's Recent HIV Infection Committee which is working to integrate recent infection testing into national HIV new diagnoses surveillance.

## National HIV Testing Working Group

In 2016, HIV Ireland participated in this working group tasked with developing HIV testing guidelines and developing a plan for implementation in line with the Department of Health's National Clinical Effectiveness Committee (NCEC) framework.

# Digital and Social Media

HIV Ireland utilises social media channels to promote available services, to publish and promote harm reduction information about HIV, STIs, hepatitis, and sexual health, to promote specific campaigns and to highlight our policy and research work. This is conducted primarily via Facebook, Twitter and our website.

# Facebook (www.facebook.com/hivireland.ie)

- Facebook followers increased by 2% in 2016 (from 7,338 at the beginning of 2016 to 7,508 on 31st Dec 2016).
- 6,740 followers (89%) are located in Ireland.
   County/City data is available for 6,053 of these.
   These followers are located across 26 counties:
- 3,873 (64%) are located in Dublin.
- 989 (16%) are located across the rest of Leinster (all 11 counties).
- 800 (13%) are located across the six counties of Munster.
- 271 (5%) are located across four counties of Connaught (Galway, Mayo, Sligo and Roscommon).
- The remaining 2% (n=120) are located in Ulster in counties Donegal, Cavan, Antrim and Derry.
- 58% of fans are female and 42% are male.
- 17% of fans are aged 18 to 24; 28% are aged 25 to 34; 27% are aged 35 to 44; and 25% are aged 45 and over.

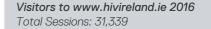
## Twitter (@HIV\_Ireland)

- Twitter followers increased by 26% in 2016, from 1,665 at the beginning of 2016 to 2,097 on 31st December 2016.
- In 2016 the page sent an average of 213 tweets per month and earned an average of 80,000 tweet impressions per month.
- Campaign hashtags included #sharethewisdom, #SHAG2016, #HadUnprotectedSex,
   #ZeroDiscriminationDay; #GettheBareFacts,
   #WhatsinthePowder, #AskyourPharmacist,
   #OMGsti, #IrishAIDSDay #snowblowHIV,
   #FlashPrEP, #WorldHepatitisDay,
   #SocialInclusionWeek, #GlobalGoals,
   #WADirl, Hands Up for #HIVPrevention, and
   #GetTestedToday

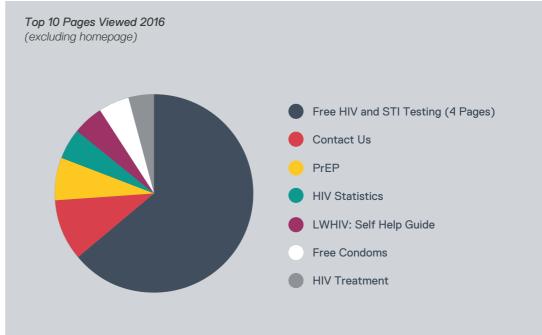
# Website (www.hivireland.ie)

In 2016 there were a total of 31,339 sessions on the HIV Ireland website from 24,150 users. 77% of sessions were new visitors and 23% returning visitors. 76.5% (n=23,964) of sessions were located in Ireland. There were a total of 66,563 page views with an average of 2 pages viewed per session.

Of the top 10 pages viewed (excluding the homepage), over two thirds (64%) of page views related to free HIV and STI testing information including the testing locator map and communitybased testing at HIV Ireland, 10% of page views were on the Contact Us page, 7% of page views were on the PrEP page, 5% of page views were on the HIV latest statistics, 5% of page views were on the Living with HIV in Ireland: Self Help Guide, 5% of page views were on the free condoms page and 4% of page views on the HIV treatment page.







# **HIV Ireland's Work** in Numbers 2016

20,433

FREE CONDOMS

DISTRIBUTED.

29 VOLUNTEERS WHO SUPPORTED OUR WORK IN MANY DIFFERENT CAPACITIES.

412 PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV WHO RECEIVED SUPPORT AND ADVOCACY SERVICES.

27 EDUCATION AND TRAINING PROGRAMMES DELIVERED.

31,339

SESSIONS ON HIVIRELAND.IE

EDITIONS OF NEWSDESK WEEKLY

578

INDIVIDUALS WHO TESTED IN HIV IRELAND'S FREE HIV AND STI TESTING SERVICE AND WHO KNEW THEIR HIV AND STI STATUS IN 2016.

1,389

347

MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL

PUBLIC AVAILING OF SUPPORT AND INFORMATION SERVICES.

> INDIVIDUALS MET DURING COMMUNITY OUTREACH TO AT-RISK GROUPS WHO RECEIVED FREE CONDOMS AND SEXUAL HEALTH AND TESTING INFORMATION.

38

7,508

FOLLOWERS ON FACEBOOK

> COMMUNITY OUTREACH SESSIONS CONDUCTED ON THE STREETS, AT SPORTS VENUES, AND IN MIGRANT BUSINESSES IN DUBLIN AND DROGHEDA.

17,262 PEOPLE LIKE "JUST CARRY ONE"

2,022 INTERVENTIONS FOR PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV.

23,800 INFORMATION LEAFLETS AND BOOKLETS DISTRIBUTED

2,556 TWEETS.

2,097 FOLLOWERS ON TWITTER.



# **Organisational Development**

# Department of Social Protection Community Employment Scheme (January—December 2016)

The Community Employment (CE) Scheme is a government-sponsored intervention that provides practical work experience for the long term unemployed and provides them with access to relevant certified training, so as to prepare them for the mainstream labour market, or full time education.

This annual report covers the period from 1 January 2016 to 31 December 2016. The Project rolled-over from 'DSP 22' into "DSP 23" on Monday, 22 February 2016.In August there was a major overhaul by the DSP of the Jobsireland website and the recruitment process. This created severe and as yet unresolved problems which have to date proved extremely detrimental to our ability to fill vacant positions as they arise.

# CE Staff

Our Scheme is approved by the Department of Social Protection (DSP) for seventeen (17) participants and one Supervisor. The year started with 16 CE participants. Staff positions included those in Reception and Administration, Catering, Cleaning Services and Accounts.

We have a rich diversity of participants and they originate from many different countries, including Russia, Poland, Latvia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ghana, Nigeria, Italy and of course Ireland. About 70% are engaged with our subsponsor organisations such as New Communities Partnership (NCP), Cairde and Outhouse.

# Progression

Internally and externally, overall staff progression during the year was 100%, including 50% that progressed into part / full time employment and another 17% into full time education.

Our CE staff engaged in various QQI and Industry-approved certified training with registered training providers such as the College of Management and IT (CMIT), the Irish Payroll Association (IPASS), the Communications and Management Institute (CMI), the Dublin Business School (DBS), Dublin Barista School, Healthcare Training Solutions, the Citizens Information Board (CIB) and the City of Dublin Education and Training Board (CDETB).

Among the certifications gained during the year include thirteen QQI Level 5 component certificates in subjects such as Start Your Own Business, Reception and Frontline Office Skills, Medical Terminology and Administration, Communications, Care Skills, etc. Other certificates include the Information Providers Programme (QQI Level 6 Major Award), Manual Handling, professional and industry-recognised Barista certifications, QQI Level 7 Event Management certificate and two QQI Level 7 Springboard awards in Business for Financial Services. We finished 2016 with 14 active participants.

# **Financial Report**

DUBLIN AIDS ALLIANCE CLG TRADING AS HIV IRELAND

# (A Company Limited by Guarantee and not having a Share Capital) Summarised Financial Statement extracted from the Director's report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2016

# Income and Expenditure Account for The Year Ended 31st December 2016

	2016		2015	
	€	€	€	€
Income Donations & Fundraising HSE Dublin North City Social Inclusion HSE National Social Inclusion D.S.P. HSE (NIC2-16) Other Grants Other Income	3,619 279,996 74,996 245,791 68,400 137,510 25,107		3,969 280,000 40,000 275,577 68,400 102,255 18,711	
		835,419		788,912
Expenditure Salaries incl. Employer's PRSI Training & Consultancy Rent payable Building Reinstatement Provision Project Costs Combined Overheads	634,613 6,622 36,500 (5,318) 98,827 45,773		643,658 4,666 41,217 (10,000) 85,203 64,660	
		817,017		829,404
		18,402		(40,492)

# BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2016

	2016		2015	
	€	€	€	€
Current asset				
Debtors	32,276		23,497	
Cash at bank and in hand	295,634		241,178	
	327,910	-	264,675	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(221,146)	=	(176,312)	
Net current assets		106,764		88,362
Total assets less current liabilities		106,764		88,362
Net Assets		106,764	-	88,362
The Funds of the Charity				
Unrestricted Fund		106,764		88,362
Total Charity Funds		106,764	=	88,362

# **Acknowledgements**

HIV Ireland would like to express sincere thanks and appreciation to all who worked with and supported our organisation throughout 2016.

The Directors holding office during the year comprised Stephen Rourke (Chairperson to August 2016), Bernard Condon (Chairperson from August 2016), Seamus Kennedy (Treasurer – resigned from Board May 2016), Fergal O'Sullivan (Treasurer from September 2016), Jeanne McDonagh (Company Secretary), Annemarie O'Connor (Board Member), Paul Quigley (Board Member), Robert Jordan (Resigned from Board November 2016)

# **Executive Director:** Niall Mulligan

Administration: Brona Cousins (Office Manager), Patricia Dillon-Killeen, Martin Ade-Onojobi (CE Supervisor), Barbara King, Gianni Pallazo (until October), Kate Vasiljeva (until August) Jimmy Flynn (until October), Charity Makala, Boguslaw Okroj.

# Community Support Programme staff team

2016: Dr Erin Nugent, Niamh Fingleton (until June
2016), Rebecca Seery, Lily Hyland, Richard Boyle. Volunteers 2016: Joel Biongo, Brightness
Onyema, Gerald Browne, Martha Mutanda,
Evonne Mushonga, Guylaine Ndonga Mbaki, Nonty
Danzana, Eugene Arkins; MAC staff - Sandra Cruz,
Natasha Ray, Julie Britton, Corinne Clery, Nikki
Gillick, Vanessa McManus, Lesley Keane, Anna
Donegan, Aisling Vavasour, Niamh Williams, Dawn
Slattery, Lisa Shannon, Phil Iddon, Elaine Cruz,
Robyn Byrne, Claire Behan, and Ramiz Habibovic.

# Prevention Education & Training Programme Staff team 2016: Susan Donlon, Sue Carter,

Niamh Fingleton, Silvana Avigliano.

# Our Express thanks to our principle funders...

Health Service Executive Northern Area; Health Service Executive Office for Social Inclusion; Department of Social Protection, Parnell St; North Inner City Drugs Task Force; MAC AIDS Fund.

# .... and additional organisations and individuals for their support in 2016

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