



YWIC - Developing Young Leaders

Summary

YWIC will over a two year period produce well skilled, qualified and experienced youth work volunteers. These volunteers starting at the age of 15 years and over will act as role models to the young people they work with to inspire a new generation of young people into volunteering in their communities.

Not only will these volunteers be considered role models they will also be appreciated and viewed as a valued member of the youth work team. Receiving regular training and support from full time youth workers to aid their own development and further enhance the quality of service given to young people.

From 2009 until present, over ten separate year groups of young people aged 16+ have been worked with on a year-long basis and beyond contributing over 5000 volunteer hours to youth work in North Belfast.

Targeting Approach

YWIC is a two year approach to target young people from varied backgrounds through detached youth work, centre-based work and schools work.

YWIC Programme

Diagram 1 details the two year training programme from start to finish, at which point the individual may become a volunteer





Camps Operated Together



DIAGRAM 1: YEAR 1 (15-17 YRS) YEAR 2 (17-20 YRS)

YWIC Year One (15-17 years)

The key aim of this programme is to support young people as they engage in the transition of participant to potential leader. Engagement with this age range for detached youth workers is quite high, and as such recruitment to training camp is usually very successful. From training camp they move to the weekly YWIC programme.

YWIC Year Two (17-20 years)

The key aim of this programme is to support young people as they become an active volunteer in youth work. They will commit 2 evenings per week, one for training and the other for volunteering in a placement of centre-based, streetwork or groupwork.

Results of YWIC Programme

This is best explained by looking at 'Candidate 1' in the example provided. As a result of 2 years involvement the individual will be resourced in terms of training, experience and specific skills. They are then equipped to continue volunteering or gain employment in youth work.

All skills are transferable and many choose to use these to gain employment or access to high education in other fields of work and study.



Participation

- Since 2009 to Jan 2014 a total number of **176** young people have been engaged in YWIC
- From this total **155** young people have successfully completed all 2 levels of the programme
- A total of **21** young people engaged in part of the process but dropped off due to other commitments or more relevant opportunities focusing on their development.

Total number of males: **84 young men.**

Total number of females: **71 young women.**

Recruitment to Date

65% contacted through Detached Work

35% through Centres & Schools

Sign Posting

The YWIC approach attempts to pave a stepping stone for young people into further and higher education, as well as training, employment and volunteering.

- A number of young people have gone on to study youth work at a higher level: 3 participants have completed the 'Youth Work Diploma' at Springboard, 8 are currently studying at the University of Ulster for their Professional qualification on the full time, part-time and certificate courses. 14 passed OCN 3 in Programme Development and 17 passed OCN 2 in Youth Work while all 155 completed OCN 1 Trainee Leader.
- 21 participants have successfully gained employment in youth work in various youth work providers; Glencairn, Hammer, Ballysillan, Ardoyne, Streetbeat, Rathbone, to mention a few.
- Today two of the participants from the very first batch of "YWIC" are employed within North Belfast Area Project on a full time basis, a great example of how effective the approach can be.

Of course it is not only youth work related employment and training that young people are aspiring to through participation in the programme; Many of the young people have gone onto tech, university and employment and continue to volunteer with NBAP and other youth providers in their local community.

Candidate 1

Gender:	Male
Area:	Shankill Rd
Age:	18 years
Access NI:	Current
Qualifications in:	Youth Work:

OCN 1	– Trainee leaders' course
OCN 2	– Introduction to youth work
MIAS	– Mountain bike group leader award
First aid	– REC

BELB three hour child protection course

Experience in Youth Work

- One year volunteer experience in detached youth work and centre based.
- Three months part-time paid employment in detached youth work.
- Development of a group work manual tackling 'emerging gang culture'.
- International exchange 'Berlin, Germany'.

Specific Youth Work Skills

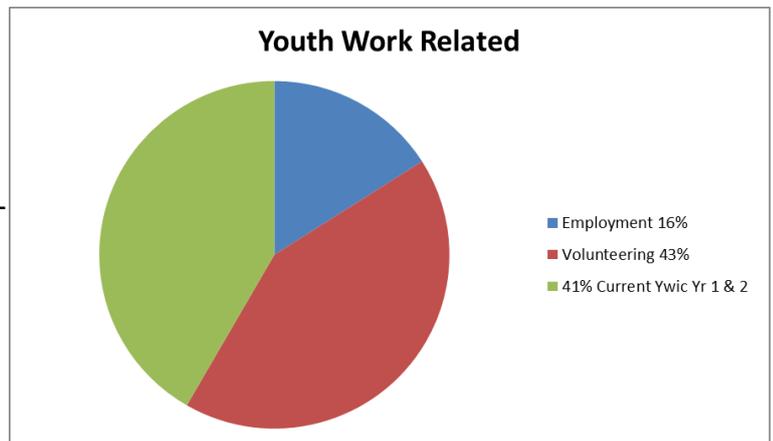
- Trained and experienced group work facilitator.
- Trained and experienced in all methodologies relating to outreach/detached youth work practice and theory.
- Awareness training in working with disabled young people and ethnic minority groups.



Youth Work

YWIC has given many young people the opportunity to develop as the leaders of today in their communities. The success rate of the model has seen vacant youth work jobs in North Belfast be filled by the highly motivated and skilled participants.

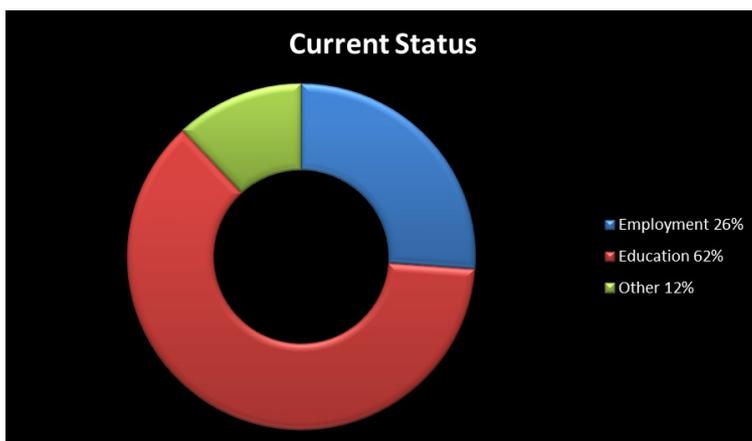
For those who wish to continue to volunteer in youth centres or the Area Project, they have accrued more than 5000 volunteer hours to help support the development of their communities.



Transferable Skills

YWIC builds confidence to develop new skills in the participants. This has seen a renewed focus in Education on all career fields through School, Jobskills, Belfast Met and Universities in Belfast and the mainland.

This has led to jobs in many different fields as well as youth work. There are still a small proportion who we have been unable to track due to not completing the programme, but we



International Leadership

For the last 4 years nearly 60 participants have gained the experience of visiting South Africa and working with the children of the townships in George through our partner organisation 'Out of Africa Missions'. This has created the space and experience for participants to learn about themselves and what they could bring back to their own communities through working in a different culture.

Quotes from participants of YWIC

'Yes it helped me work on my organisation, communication and teamwork skills, I feel I am now a stronger leader'

'Yes I got to lead in groups and youth clubs, this helped me build relationships with young people, and also leading with another staff member helped me grow.'

'Yes it helped; I gained a paid position in youth work thanks to the volunteer development programme and the staff.'

Further Information

For more information please download the 'YWIC Model' www.nbap.co.uk or contact us on Tel: 02890352774

