



# SICCDA

South Inner City Community Development Association

## BROADSHEET

### SPRING EDITION

#### Editorial

Phew, 2019 already!! “Where has the time gone to, at all at all!?” Don’t get me started with “grand stretch in the evenings.....”

Another year and another set of excitements and challenges. Now in its 37th year, SICCCA has a strong history of nurturing good community development in the Liberties area.

In the autumn of 2018, we welcomed our new CEO, Michèle Ryan on board. Michèle joined us from the Simon Community and has settled into her role with gusto. Read more about Michèle on the back page, as well as further information about “comings and goings” of SICCCA personnel.

Looking back over recent months, we have been busy! The Liberties Festival 2018 was a great success in July. Highlights included the Blue Rinse Ball, the Opera event in John’s Lane Church and Cinema in the Park to name but a few. For the first time, to deliver the Festival, SICCCA collaborated with Cuckoo, the Events Management Company on Francis St. This proved to be a great partnership and happily one which will extend into the year to come and beyond.

*Aine*

**In brief...** As part of the SICCCA Outreach programme, the Community Development Team has engaged with many other community development organisations in the Liberties and Dublin 8 area. We would like to thank DePaul, St Patrick’s Cathedral, Focus Ireland, HSE EVE Thomas Court, Iveagh Hostel, Friends of The Elderly and the Africa Centre for hosting our team. And we are really looking forward to developing a closer link with Donore Youth & Community Centre. Watch this space! As we all know, the Liberties is a vibrant, diverse community - we would be delighted to welcome new local input. **Please do contact us to get involved.** “Ni neart go cur le céile”.

### Looking forward to Spring & Summer 2019



The **St Patrick’s Cathedral Community Fair** took place on Tuesday, 26<sup>th</sup> February, between 6:30 and 9 pm. This Community Fair celebrated all that is great about Dublin 8. The event secured more than 142 groups, including SICCCA, and was committed to showcasing the best of what goes on in this gem of an area in the city of Dublin.

SICCDA projects are as active as usual: please check out the middle pages to get all the latest news.

As a “taster” of what is coming up, the Community Development



Team is organising some new **Tai Chi classes** as part of the SICCCA wellbeing initiative. The Community Development Team is also setting up a **Walkin’ n’ Talkin’ group**.

Environmental issues affect us all. Community participation in recycling is essential. The Community Development Team will be hosting **recycling workshops** which will be delivered by recycling industry specialists. Dates to be posted on the website.



**SICCDA... A community resource for The Liberties Community**

**t: 01 453 6098 e: reception@siccca.ie w: www.siccca.com**

## SICCCA's Community Development Building Blocks

### THE ACTIVITIES GROUP

The **SICCCA Activities Group** focuses on the creative, wellbeing, cultural and environmental requirements that are essential ingredients in developing a vibrant community. **Tai Chi classes** and the **Walkin' n' Talkin' Group** are being set up to promote wellbeing. **Recycling workshops** are being scheduled to advise the local community on effective recycling methods. These workshops will promote effective recycling to improve the environment. Trips to historical sites and talks by local historians will give local people a sense of pride by understanding about where they live and work and how their heritage defines them. For more information phone 01 453 6098, email [pboucher@siccca.ie](mailto:pboucher@siccca.ie) or [pgallaher@siccca.ie](mailto:pgallaher@siccca.ie).

### The LIBERTIES men's group

The **Liberties Men's Group** is made up of local men from various backgrounds and the members consist of a wide age group. The group focuses on issues that are important to men. These issues include social inclusion, physical & mental health and cultural activities. This year our allotment medieval garden will be in full bloom and we are looking forward to a generous harvest of fruit, herbs and vegetables. The group meets on a Wednesday afternoon between 2 and 4 pm at 10-11 Earl Street South (off Meath Street). The group will always welcome more members. Phone 01 453 6098 or email [pgallaher@siccca.ie](mailto:pgallaher@siccca.ie).

### The LIBERTIES YOUTH group

The **Liberties Youth Group** caters for an age group of between 9 and 14 and is open to girls and boys. Some of activities include board games, arts & crafts, fun quizzes (with an educational focus) and movie nights. This year the group will be undertaking a new initiative which will involve story

writing, drama and filming the results. The group meets on a Tuesday evening between 6 and 8 pm at 10-11 Earl Street South (off Meath Street). The group will always welcome more members. Contact 01 453 6098 or email [jflynn@siccca.ie](mailto:jflynn@siccca.ie).

### The LIBERTIES over 55s SOCIAL CLUB

The **Liberties Over 55s Social Club** is made up local residents. The group is open to men and women. The group focuses on issues such as social inclusion, healthy lifestyles and participation in cultural events. This year keeping up to date with technology will be a key issue in the group. The group meets on a Thursday afternoon between 2 and 4 pm at 10-11 Earl Street South (off Meath Street). The group will always welcome more members. Contact 01 453 6098, email [pboucher@siccca.ie](mailto:pboucher@siccca.ie) or [pgallaher@siccca.ie](mailto:pgallaher@siccca.ie).

### SICCCA after schools Programme

The **SICCCA After Schools Programme** provides quality, child centred, and includes daily care to approximately 210 children. Our service supports children reach their full potential. Our programme includes homework support, nutritious snacks and enriching extra-curricular activities in a warm, caring, child-centered environment. Camps during school holidays offer fun, meaningful activities that provide continuity for children and facilitate childcare needs. This year the Parents Plus Childhood Program and Breakfast Club have been launched. Contact 01 453 6098, email [ekennedy@siccca.ie](mailto:ekennedy@siccca.ie).

### SICCCA COMMUNITY EMPLOYMENT PROJECT

When speaking of staff within SICCCA it is essential to highlight the indispensable position played by **Community Employment** participants. It is no exaggeration to say that the organisation could not function without **CE** workers, who staff SICCCA in the areas of Reception/Admin, Cleaning/Maintenance, Afterschool Assistants, Community Development and Finance. Hats off to everyone involved. For information about vacancies, phone 01 453 6098, email at [anally@siccca.ie](mailto:anally@siccca.ie) or view [www.siccca.com/vacancies](http://www.siccca.com/vacancies).

## The LIBERTIES CLUB

The Liberties Club is a community-based Garda Youth Diversion Project (GYDP) in the Liberties. This specific project strives to support young people in making positive choices in terms of their behaviour, decision-making skills, educational opportunities, and their lifestyle choices. We provide a range of services designed to enhance life skills and opportunities for young people in the area. Our programmes are youth-led and are designed in consultation with youth participants to meet their specific needs and interests. The club is committed to the delivery of high-quality youth-led programmes for young people from all backgrounds where, within a safe and supportive environment, they are given the opportunity to be themselves, to build emotional awareness, self-confidence, peer respect, and to develop a sense of belonging. The Liberties Club is located in 81 The Coombe, Dublin 8. For more information contact 085 731 5880 or email [mdunne@sicdda.ie](mailto:mdunne@sicdda.ie).



## Local Training Initiative

The SICCCA LTI is a Local Training Initiative funded by CDETB for those who are unemployed and looking to upskill themselves to gain employment or to progress onto further education. Participants of the programme receive a training allowance and the duration of the programme is one year. We are currently recruiting for our new programme which will begin in April 2019. The purpose of the SICCCA LTI Retail Skills programme is to enable the learner to acquire the relevant knowledge, skill and competence to work effectively under supervision in the retail sector and to progress on to further education and training. This course combines theory with practical work experience where the learners will gain the ability to provide effective customer service and retail selling, perform a range of payment transactions and engage in stock control activities. The learners will also obtain Industry certification in Barista training, Manual handling and Hygiene training, which are essential for main retail positions today. Through this course learners will gain the recognised qualifications and skills necessary to seek employment in many aspects of the retail, business and tourism industry and will further be able to seek apprenticeship and internships in retail, accounts, reception, information administration, heritage centres, bars, hotels and restaurants. You can register your interest on [www.fetchcourses.ie](http://www.fetchcourses.ie) or for more information contact SICCCA at 01 4536098 or by email: [reception@sicdda.ie](mailto:reception@sicdda.ie)



## What is Community and where does SICCCA fit in?

SICCCA has been working through community development principles and methods since 1982 to promote social inclusiveness, to provide a range of project and activity supports, and to be a resource to the Liberties community.

A strong, connected community is something all community development organisations strive to achieve. Success is a community which has strong community networks, shares common goals and values, is supportive of cultural expression and diversity, cares for its people and provides opportunities for residents to be involved in decisions which affect their lives. This is SICCCA's vision for The Liberties and, in its Strategic Plan 2018-2020 Believing in the Power of Communities, SICCCA set out the ways in which it intended to work to achieve this vision.

One of the ways set out - to commission a Community Profile and Needs Assessment in the Dublin 8 area, with specific focus on The Liberties – has recently been put into practice with a public call for proposals.

Our plan is that this study will assess the current needs of the community in relation to identifying and developing opportunities for promoting social capital and cohesion. Our intention is that the study will act as a basis on which SICCCA can be informed, and in being so informed map meaningful engagement, build relationships and develop resilient initiatives that will seek to improve the lives of people living and working within the Liberties community over the next five years.

In the meantime, we will continue our on-the-ground presence through regular group and outreach activities, our afterschool and youth-at-risk programmes, and our learner-centred training and support project.

Contact Michèle on 01-453 6098 if you would like to know more about any or all of these initiatives.



## SICCCA Board Update

The Board is delighted to welcome Denis Murphy as recently appointed Chairperson of the Board of Directors. Associated with SICCCA for some years, Denis continues to advocate tirelessly for all things SICCCA-related! He is assisted in his endeavors by Darragh Reid, Vice Chairperson; Carmel Hynes, Company Secretary; Noel Fleming, CE Participant Officer. Aisling Hanley is a new fresh face on the Board, she joins us as Treasurer. Martin Cowley and local resident Tommy O'Brien makes up the remaining positions on the Board. SICCCA wish to wholeheartedly thank Mark Magennis, the outgoing Treasurer, for his hard work and dedication to the organisation.

## SICCCA welcomes a new CEO

**Michèle Ryan** joined us in November 2018. As CEO, Michèle's role is to lead on the strategic direction of SICCCA, as agreed with the Board of Directors, and to oversee and manage all aspects of operation within the organisation.

Michèle has over 30 years' experience of non-profit organisations and charities. During this time, she has worked in a senior management capacity leading out on a range of initiatives to combat marginalisation and social exclusion. This experience will underpin her work with SICCCA. Immediately prior to joining SICCCA, Michèle was Director of Services with the Simon Community in Dundalk for four years where she successfully promoted inclusion for people impacted by homelessness, and grew the organisation to become the biggest provider of homeless services in the north-east.

Commenting on her appointment Michèle said: "I am delighted to join SICCCA and thank the Board for this opportunity. I have known of SICCCA for a very long time, and am now delighted to be working with such a fantastic team as we strive to provide depth to our current services and build an effective response to the challenge of creating sustainable community in The Liberties going forward."

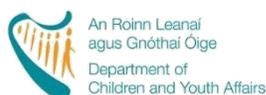
## Staff news

SICCCA has bid a fond farewell to some well-loved and respected colleagues. Gayle Cullen Doyle has spent many years working in the Liberties Club as Youth Justice Worker and is much missed. Cara Clancy moved on from her role as Community Employment Supervisor, a role she carried out with compassion and integrity. Michelle Mallon, and Jennifer Hughes, our Community Development Coordinators also left SICCCA in 2018, having both contributed much in the line of hard work and dedication. Eva Szoke from accounts is moving on from her role as Financial Manager. Eva has been an invaluable part of the team. We would like to welcome Rita McDermott to her new role in accounts and we extend a welcome to Patricia Boucher who has recently joined the Community Development Team.

## Personal Safety Alarm

**The Senior Citizens Alert Scheme** is available from SICCCA. The initial installation and units are available FREE of charge. This personal monitored alarm system offers peace of mind, can reduce the fear of crime and offers security when it comes to health conditions. To find out more, please contact reception at 01 453 6098 and/or [reception@siccca.ie](mailto:reception@siccca.ie) or call into 90 Meath Street, Dublin 8.

### Projects funded by



An Roinn Gnóthai Fostaíochta agus Coimircé Sóisialaí  
Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection

