

We do it



**VOLUNTEER
THIS YEAR!**



17/18 Mill Street, Galway
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www.volunteergalway.ie



volunteer centre

Ionad d'Obair Deonacha na Gaillimhe

GALWAY

Galway Volunteer Centre Annual Report 2011

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Chairperson's Report

I am delighted to introduce the 2011 Annual Report of the Galway Volunteer Centre. The Galway Volunteer Centre has enjoyed another successful year. 2011 proved to be yet another challenging year economically in Ireland, but fortunately, the people of Galway remain generous in giving their time to a variety of volunteering activities.

Volunteers come from a wide variety of backgrounds and represent all sections of society. The pictures on our promotional material show that the door to volunteering is open to all - anyone can get involved and everyone has something to contribute. We also continue to encourage community and voluntary organisations to register their vacancies with the GVC and to outline their needs in relation to support from volunteers who want to help others in a meaningful way.

The Galway Volunteer Centre continues to give people the opportunity to try something new, or build on current skills. It also provides the opportunity to experience the feel good factor of helping others and making a difference. I would like to thank the staff and volunteers at the Galway Volunteer Centre for their hard work in promoting volunteerism and ensuring that opportunities to volunteer are accessible to all.

I would like to thank the Department of Community, Equality, and Gaeltacht Affairs and Galway City Council, for their continued financial support. The financial support received from Galway Rural Development, Galway City Partnership, Forum Connemara, Meitheal Forbatha na Gaeltachta, and Comhdháil na n-Oileáin was also greatly appreciated. This funding supports our outreach programme and ensures that those living in rural areas are afforded the same opportunity to volunteer as those in Galway City.

I would like to recognise and thank the Board of Directors of Galway Volunteer Centre for their continued commitment and support.

The Galway Volunteer Centre remains committed to providing opportunities for volunteers to make that difference which will not only enhance their own lives but the lives of those they give their time to.

*Linda Keane
Chairperson, Galway Volunteer Centre*

Development Manager's Report

2011 has been another exceptionally busy year for Galway Volunteer Centre, with an additional 1348 new individuals and 56 new organisations using our services. In this report you will find some of the main statistics about our work. I believe that these statistics show that Galway Volunteer Centre is continuing to play a vital role in supporting and enhancing voluntary effort in Galway City and County.

Our aim in our work is to provide a consistent service to all users, whether these are members of the public wishing to volunteer or organisations seeking volunteers. I would like to thank the staff of GVC and the volunteers who have assisted us maintain our services in a more difficult funding environment. I would also like to thank both staff and volunteers for their outstanding commitment to their work, which has enabled us to deal with the increasing work that the GVC is involved in. Our hard working volunteers this year were Kay Tighe, and Michal Krzywonos.

Apart from our busy office which manages our core services, highlights of the year include our March Volunteer Fair in Galway City Centre in Eyre Square Shopping Centre which was a great success and something we hope to build on every year. We also published a guide to Volunteer Management for organisations, which we hope will be of use to organisations of any size that are recruiting and involving volunteers.

In October we took part in the National Day of Volunteering which involved activities from digging and weeding to knitting.

In just over 5 years of existence, the GVC has become a key part of the community and public infrastructure in Galway City and County and has helped to ensure that it has never been easier to help out in the local community. If you would like to find out more about our services, please do not hesitate to contact us!

Donncha Foley
Development Manager

We do it
to help others

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Bunús Oifige na Ceapachas na Gaillimhe
GALWAY

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What Does Galway Volunteer Centre Do?

We provide a very simple but valuable service.

If you would like to volunteer, we provide you with a constantly updated list of volunteer roles that non-profit organisations wish to fill. We can help you to decide which role is most suitable for you and we also provide a regular update on any new volunteer opportunities that organisations send to us. We can also find projects for teams of volunteers to get involved in.

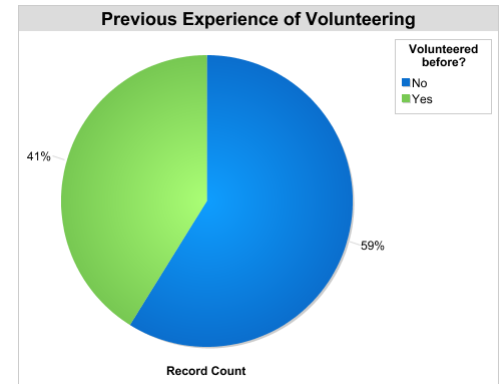
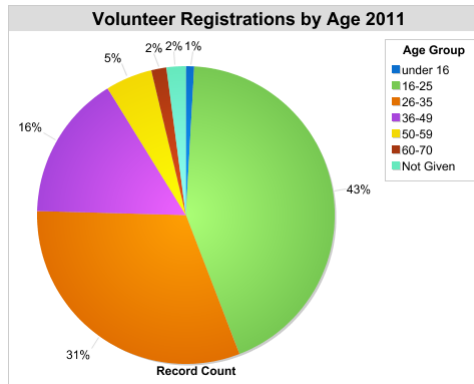
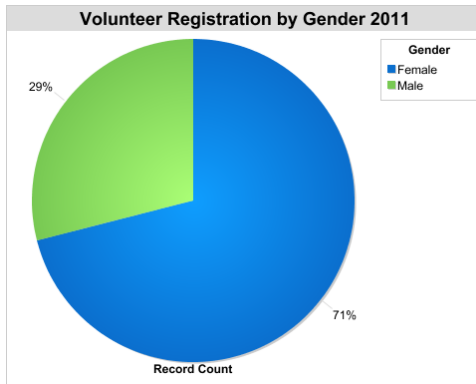
If you need volunteers, we provide access to over 5,000 potential volunteers in Galway City and County. We can also provide you with support on managing your volunteers, through the provision of training but also by providing ongoing support whenever you need it. We now can also provide access to Garda Vetting for volunteers who are working with children on vulnerable adults.

This simple and straightforward service means that we have taken a lot of the tedious work out of finding volunteer work or finding volunteers. Finding volunteer work is now easier than ever before, and we have volunteers with a wide and diverse range of skills who want to help out in the community.

Who Volunteers?

New people register with Galway Volunteer Centre to find volunteer work everyday. When you register, you can meet a staff member who can assist you in finding a suitable volunteer role, and you get a fortnightly update on any new volunteer opportunities we receive.

In 2011, 1348 new people registered to use our service. The following graphs give a breakdown of those these people are.



Our Work with Volunteers

We follow up with every person who registers with us to find volunteer work to find out whether or not they have been able to start volunteering. We also offer everyone the chance to visit our office and meet with a staff member who can sit with the volunteer and find suitable volunteer opportunities. An immediate commitment is not necessary and people can take the details on opportunities with them and decide to volunteer whenever they choose.

632 *meetings held with members of the public in 2011*

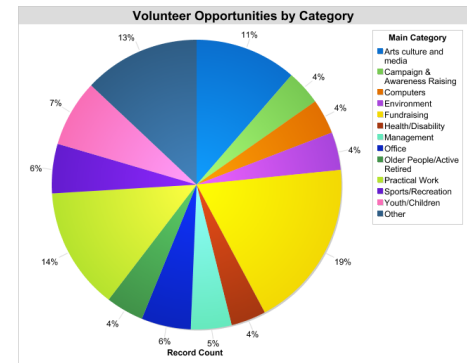
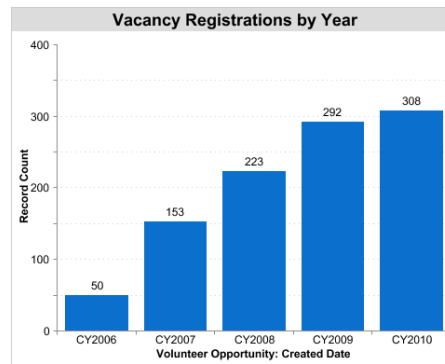
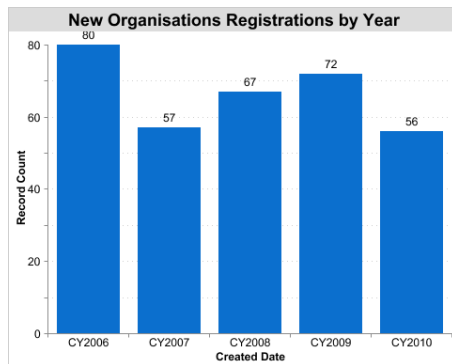
335 *volunteer placements were created in 2011*

28176 *volunteer hours were created in 2011*

Who Needs Volunteers?

Galway Volunteer Centre works with a diverse range of non-profit organisations who fill out role descriptions for any volunteer opportunities that they have. We carry out follow up work for each opportunity to see if organisations have been successful in finding volunteers and we can provide extra support for organisations such as one-to-one meetings or training in Volunteer Management. GVC also provides access to the Garda Vetting service for non-profit organisations in Galway city and county.

As you can see from the statistics below, our service has been used by over 300 organisations and we have advertised over 1000 volunteer opportunities since 2006.



Other Work

Volunteer Management Training

GVC staff are trained to deliver a Volunteer Management Programme to organisations that involve volunteers. This training aims to support organisations to source suitable volunteers for their organisations but also to help them ensure that volunteers enjoy their work and stay with the organisations for as long as possible.

Garda Vetting

In 2009 Galway Volunteer Centre began providing an administrative service that enables organisations that do not have access to the Garda Vetting Bureau to vet their volunteers. GVC hopes that by providing this service, local non-profit organisations will be supported in working from best practice guidelines in relation to their work with children and vulnerable adults. GVC provides one-to-one training for organisations using the service.

Galway City Volunteer Fair

Many visitors to the Galway City Volunteer Fair that was held in Eyre Square on the 26th and 27th March decided to get involved in their community by signing up to volunteer with one or more of the 20 charities that were present at the Fair, which took place in the Eyre Square Shopping Centre.

National Day of Volunteering

Galway Volunteer Centre marked National Day of Volunteering was marked on October 1st 2011 in two ways. Firstly, groups of volunteers including a team of volunteers from ACC Bank visited local charities such as COPE and the Croi na Gallaimhe Resource Centre to help out with some painting, gardening and landscaping work. A big thank you to all those involved!

Secondly, the Keith Finnegan Show on Galway Bay FM broadcast from our offices on Mill Street, and Keith spoke to volunteers involved in organisations such as Age Action, Big Brother Big Sister, Galway Visually Impaired Activities Club and Madra.

List of Serving Directors 2011

Linda Keane
Frances Ford
Theresa Caulfield
Liam Bluett
Poul Walsh Oleson
Jason Craughwell
Davnet Mc Ellin
Carmel Dooley
Brian Feeney
Walter Russell
Irene Murphy
Lorraine Tansey

Galway Volunteer Centre Accounts 2011

Balance Sheet

	2011(€)	2010(€)
Fixed Assets		
Tangible Assets	6,673	8,724
Current Assets		
Debtors	5,360	5,360
Cash at Bank and in Hand	41,624	42,034
	<u>46,984</u>	<u>47,394</u>
Creditors: Amounts Falling Due Within 1 Year	<u>46,984</u>	<u>47,394</u>
Net Current Liabilities	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net Assets	<u>6,673</u>	<u>8,724</u>
Financed By:		
Capital Reserve	6,673	8,724
	<u>6,673</u>	<u>8,724</u>
	<u><u>6,673</u></u>	<u><u>8,724</u></u>

Galway Volunteer Centre Accounts 2011

Income and
Expenditure
Statement

	2011	2010 (€)
<u>Operating Income</u>		
Funding from Government Agencies	144,379	156,058
Training Income	260	2,120
Sundry Income	1,112	420
Transfer from/(to) Deferred Income Resources	(831)	(20,064)
Transfer to Capital Reserve	2,051	7,491
	<hr/> 146,971	<hr/> 146,025
<u>OPERATING EXPENSES</u>		
Wages & Salaries	90,323	91,717
Administration Expenses	51,470	45,762
Bank Charges & Duty	192	82
Depreciation	4,986	8,464
Total Operating Expenses	<hr/> 146,971	<hr/> 146,025
Operating Profit (Loss)	0	0

Acknowledgements

We would like to thank the following organisations and individuals whose financial support and/or time has ensured that 2011 has been a resounding success for Galway Volunteer Centre

Department of Environment, Community and
Local Government
Galway City Council
Galway Rural Development
Galway City Partnership
FORUM Connemara
Comhar na nOileáin Teo

Nuala Ford, Lewis C Doyle & Co.
Ability West
Alison Coleman
Ballybane Enterprise Centre
Galway City Community Forum
Galway County Community Forum
The Gaf Youth Café
Garda Síochána
Volunteer Ireland

**We would also like to thank the following
media outlets for their coverage of Galway
Volunteer Centre activities.**

Galway Bay FM
Connemara Community Radio

Galway Advertiser
Galway Independent
Connacht and City Tribune
Tuam Herald



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