



volunteer centre

Ionad d'Obair Deonacha na Gaillimhe

GALWAY



Annual Report 2012

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Chairperson's Report

I am delighted to introduce the 2012 Annual Report of the Galway Volunteer Centre. The Galway Volunteer Centre has enjoyed another successful year. 2012 once again proved to be a challenging year economically in Ireland, but fortunately, the people of Galway remain generous in giving their time to a variety of volunteering activities, as evidenced by the statistics in this report.

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 at the Galway Volunteer Centre for their hard work in promoting volunteerism and ensuring that opportunities to volunteer are accessible to all.

2012 has seen Galway Volunteer Centre develop even stronger relationships at local, regional, and national level. GVC staff have begun working on a more strategic with our local Local Development Companies to ensure greater access to our service and to develop more initiatives on a partnership basis with other local agencies. GVC staff have acted as leaders regionally and nationally, in being chosen as a regional representative on the Volunteer Centre's and Volunteer Ireland Executive Committee. Also, GVC is regional 'champion' for IT issues and provides support to other Volunteer Centre's in the Connacht Ulster region.

I would like to thank the Department of Environment, Community and Local Government, Galway City Council, Galway Rural Development, Galway City Partnership, and FORUM Connemara, for their continued financial support.

I would like to recognise and thank the Board of Directors of Galway Volunteer Centre for their continued commitment and support. I would like to especially thank Irene Murphy and Poul Walsh Oleson, who resigned during the year for their commitment and contribution to the development of the GVC.

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

2012 has been another exceptionally busy year for Galway Volunteer Centre, with an additional 1125 new individuals and 85 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.

Apart from our busy office which manages our core services, highlights of the year included our Volunteer Fair in Galway City Centre in Eyre Square Shopping Centre as part of National Volunteering Week. This was a great success and something we hope to build on every year. We also held a Volunteer Management Seminar during National Volunteering Week which was very well attended by Volunteer Involving organisations.

In just over 6 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

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. We also can meet you in your local area in Westside, Ballybane, Doughiska, Tuam, Gort, Athenry and Loughrea through our monthly Volunteer Point outreach sessions.

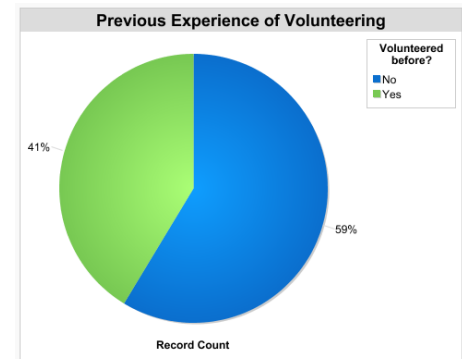
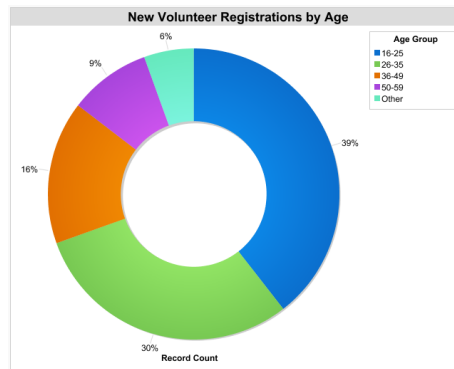
If you need volunteers, we provide access to over 7,000 potential volunteers in Galway City and County. We can also provide you with support on managing your volunteers, through the provision of training but also by providing ongoing support whenever you need it. We now can also provide access to Garda 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 2012, 1125 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.

442 *meetings held with members of the public in 2012*

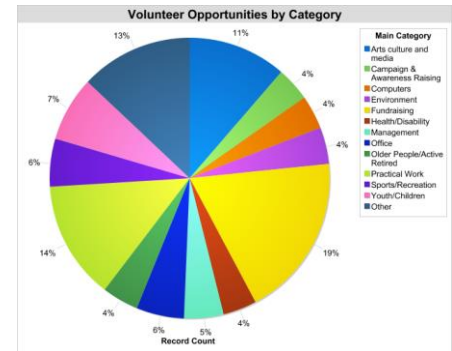
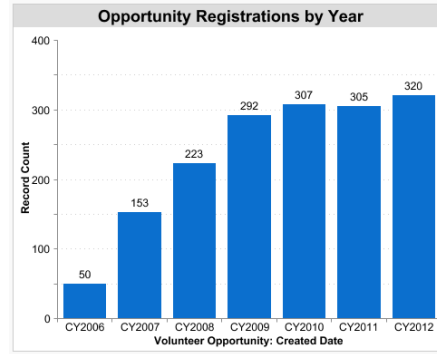
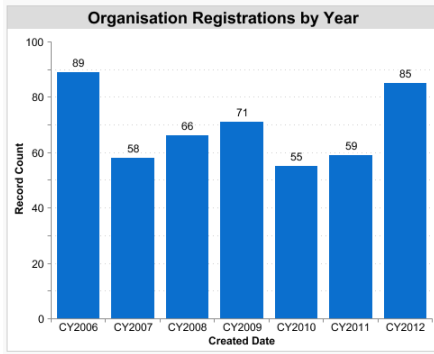
447 *volunteer placements were created in 2012*

41700 *volunteer hours were created in 2012*

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 Services to Organisations

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. The Volunteer Management Training Programme covers topics such as Planning for Volunteer Involvement, Recruiting and Selecting Volunteers, and Day-to Day Volunteer Management. In 2012 18 individuals participated in our training programme.

GVC staff also delivered Introduction to Volunteer Management Training to NUIG Masters in Community Development students, Oughterard community organisations, and Oughterard youth worker trainees.



Volunteer Management Seminar

In May 2012, as part of National Volunteering Week, GVC hosted a regional Volunteer Management Seminar that was attended by 25 people from a wide variety of community and non-profit organisations. The themes of the seminar included Volunteers and the Law, Student Volunteering, and Recruiting Volunteers for Fundraising.

Sports Volunteer Management Handbook

During National Volunteer Week in 2012, GVC launched 'Finding and Keeping Volunteers' a volunteer management handbook for sports organisations. The handbook was developed in partnership with Galway City and County Sports Partnership and with sponsorship from Galway Bay FM, and was launched by the Galway City and County Mayors.



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. In 2012 we vetted 330 individuals for the 32 community organisations that use our vetting service.

Promotion of Volunteering

Galway City Volunteer Fair

Many visitors to the Galway City Volunteer Fair that was held in Eyre Square on the 19th of May as part of National Volunteering Week 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.

Volunteer Points

As part of our outreach strategy, in 2012 Galway Volunteer Centre established Volunteer Points in locations in the east of the County, whereby members of the public or organisations can meet with a GVC staff member to discuss volunteering options. These take place on a once-per month basis in Tuam, Loughrea, Athenry and Gort.



Media

GVC has consistently engaged with local media to promote volunteering and the work that we do. Apart from our monthly radio slot on Galway Talks, we have been interviewed by Radio na Gaeltachta, Connemara Community Radio and also have had news articles and features published in the Connacht/City Tribune, Galway Advertiser and Galway Independent.

Corporate Volunteering

GVC is often approached by companies working in the Galway area who are seeking to get involved in team volunteer projects. In 2012, we worked with SAP, AVIVA, Fidelity Investments who volunteered with Ballybane Community Garden, COPE and Cheshire Ireland to carry out practical once off volunteer projects.



List of Serving Directors 2012

Linda Keane
Theresa Caulfield
Poul Walsh Oleson
Jason Craughwell
Carmel Dooley
Brian Feeney
Walter Russell
Irene Murphy
Lorraine Tansey

Galway Volunteer Centre Accounts 2012

Balance Sheet

	2012	2012(€)
Fixed Assets		
Tangible Assets	2,524	6,673
Current Assets		
Debtors	9,395	5,360
Cash at Bank and in Hand	<u>35,952</u>	<u>41,624</u>
	(45,347)	(46,984)
Creditors: Amounts Falling Due Within 1 Year	<u>45,347</u>	46,984
Net Current Assets	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net Assets	<u>2,524</u>	<u>6,673</u>
Financed By:		
Capital Reserve	<u>2,524</u>	<u>6,673</u>
	<u>2,524</u>	<u>6,673</u>

Galway Volunteer Centre Accounts 2012

Income and
Expenditure
Statement

	2012	2012
<u>Operating Income</u>		
Funding from Government Agencies	138,829	144,379
Training Income	1,580	260
Sundry Income	2,121	1,112
Transfer from/(to) Deferred Income Resources	2,708	(831)
Transfer to Capital Reserve	4,149	2,051
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	149,847	146,971
 <u>OPERATING EXPENSES</u>		
Wages & Salaries	104,896	101,404
Administration Expenses	39,725	51,470
Bank Charges & Duty	116	192
Depreciation	5,110	4,986
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Operating Expenses	148,847	146,971
Operating Profit (Loss)	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
	0	0

Acknowledgements

We would like to thank the following organisations and individuals whose financial support and/or time has ensured that 2012 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

Nuala Ford, Lewis C Doyle & Co.
Ability West
Alison Coleman
Ballybane Enterprise Centre
Galway City Community Forum
Galway County Community Forum
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
Radio na Gaeltachta

Galway Advertiser
Galway Independent
Connacht and City Tribune
Tuam Herald



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