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Monthly News

August 2020

Hi Everyone,

Some sad news to start with in this issue. The Board and staff of the Community Relations Council extend our deepest sympathy to our Chair, Martin McDonald on the recent death of his son, Kyle McDonald. Our thoughts are with Martin and his family as they try to cope with the sudden, devastating loss of their dearly loved son.

During these difficult times, we are continuing to bring you inspiring stories about the groups we invest in, and how their work benefits communities throughout Northern Ireland.

If you're interested in delivering an event for Good Relations Week 2020 -- our website is now open for registration and has lots of helpful advice. To get involved, check out the full details further below.

In this month's issue, you can read about:

- Young people connecting safely online in a special project by TIDES Training

- The impact of Covid-19 on young people in a video created by Springboard
- An interview about GR Week with CRC Chair Martin McDonald on NvTv
- Rural Community Network's project to highlight groups helping local rural communities.

Keep safe everyone.

Covid-19 Update

The key priority of the NI Community Relations Council (NICRC) is the health and well-being of those we work with, our staff and their families. We also want to ensure that we continue to deliver our services as far as is possible in these unprecedented times. You will all be aware of the recent change to the government's guidance on Covid-19. Below we have set out the steps we are taking as a result of the new guidance:

- Currently our office is closed. Our staff are working remotely and can be contacted by email or through our current office number: 028 9022 7500.
- All events organised by CRC have moved to online platforms. We will update this position when the government's guidance permits people to gather in numbers again.
- Until the emergency arrangements are relaxed, we have limited ability to collect post from our office. Post will be collected on Wednesdays only. Consider contacting us by phone or email.

To stay up-to-date, keep checking our website and social media channels.

Good Relations Week

2020



Good Relations Week 2020 takes place 14-21 September 2020.

This year we are embracing digital technology and curating a week of innovative, immersive, live, interactive and collaborative events – all online.

The theme is is: "**Celebrating our Past. Embracing our Future.**"

GRW 2020 will include a dynamic programme of content and events that showcase people and communities playing an active part in creating and sustaining good relations in Northern Ireland.

The GR Week 2020 website is live -- get involved now:

[Visit GR Week 2020 website](#)

Grants & Funding

CR/CD Small Grants Scheme

Our Small Grants Scheme is now open for funding applications.

This funding is intended to help



community/voluntary groups throughout Northern Ireland engage in Community Relations work.

[Read more](#)

Small Capital Grants

The 2020/21 Small Capital Grants Programme for Northern Ireland has opened for applications.

Co-operation Ireland, on behalf of the Department for Communities (DfC), is administering the Programme, which has a total fund of £800,000.



[Read more](#)



Covid-19 Charities Fund

THE Covid-19 Charities Fund is reopening 3 August 2020

Charities urged to apply for emergency funding. The programme will provide up to

£75,000 for eligible organisations.

[Read more](#)

Monthly News

We support and fund organisations that promote community relations work right across Northern Ireland.

Our funded groups affect positive change in people's everyday lives.

In this section, you'll find out about:

- Young people connecting safely online in a special project by TIDES Training
 - The impact of Covid-19 on young people in a video created by Springboard
 - An interview about GR Week with CRC Chair Martin McDonald on NvTv
 - RCN's special "In This Together" project.
-

NvTv Interview Good Relations Week



Martin McDonald MBE, Chair of the Community Relations Council, spoke about GR Week 2020 to NvTv.

Joining him was Marie-Louise McClarey, manager of the Building Communities Resource Centre in Ballymoney (who are core funded by CRC).

[Read more](#)

DARE to Connect Safely TIDES Training



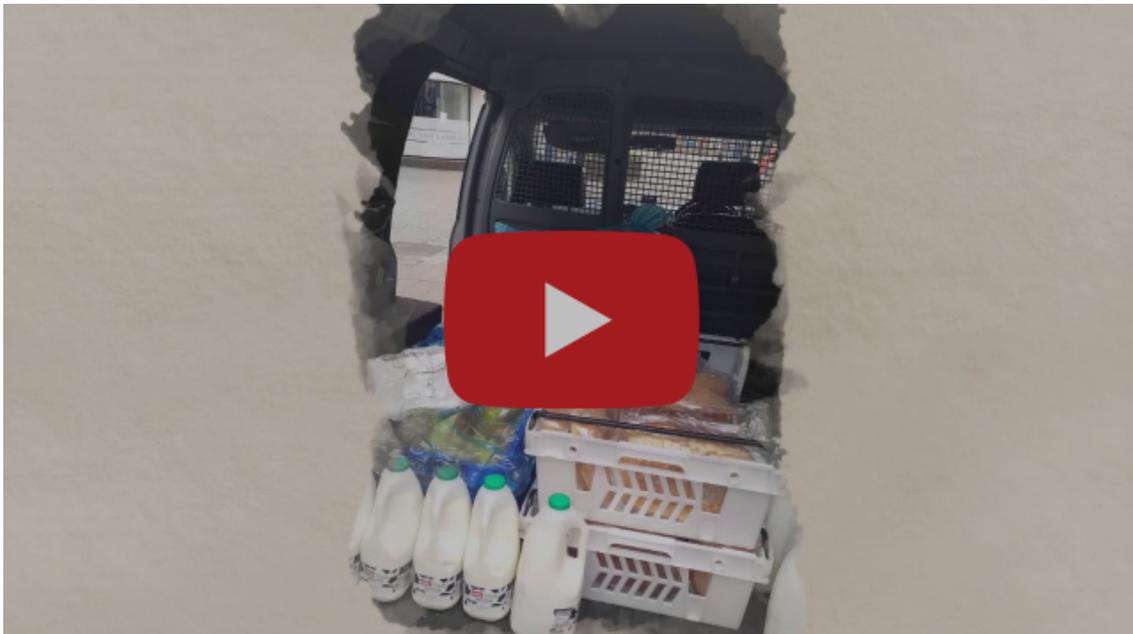
To help young people connect safely during lockdown, within social isolation measures imposed during the coronavirus pandemic, a new online and interactive programme was developed – DARE to Connect Safely.

The programme is being delivered by TIDES Training (who are core funded by the Community Relations Council) and in partnership with Bryson Care.

Due to not being able to deliver peace training in face-to-face groups, DARE to Connect Safely brings people together via a virtual space. In coming together, they create a common understanding of safety, calming and peace despite much uncertainty.

[Read more](#)

In This Together Project
Rural Community Network



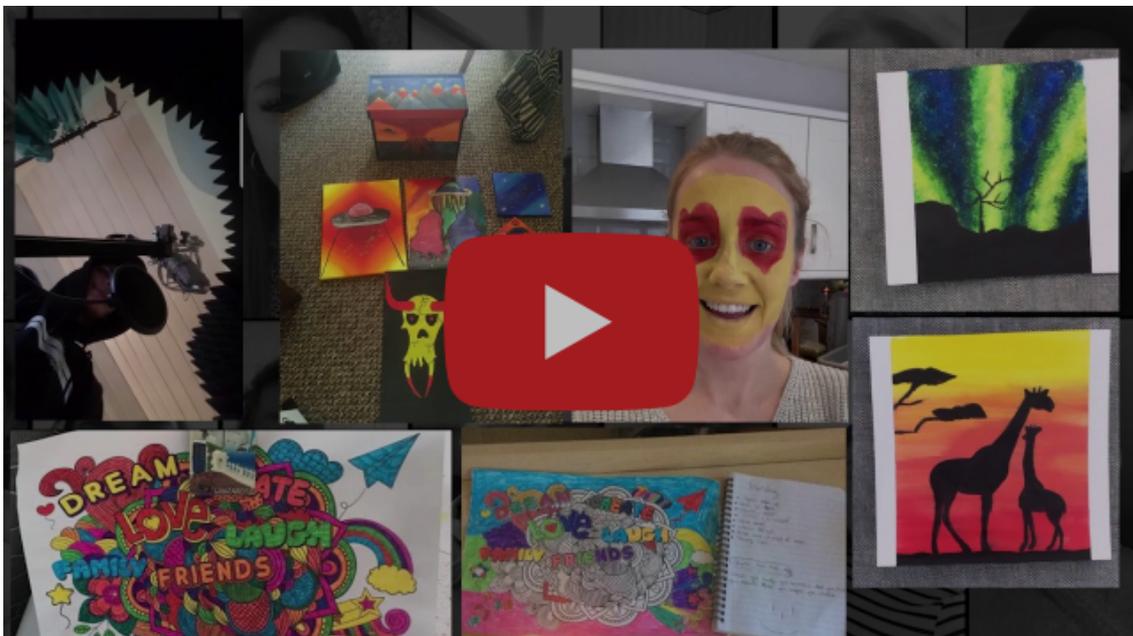
The Rural Community Network (RCN), who are core funded by CRC, are delivering a special digital project during the Covid-19 pandemic.

“In This Together – Rural Communities, Rural Connections” showcases how local rural groups have supported and helped their communities.

This month we explore the amazing efforts of St Pius X College, Money Dig Rural Network, the Grand Orange Lodge of Ireland, and more.

[Read more](#)

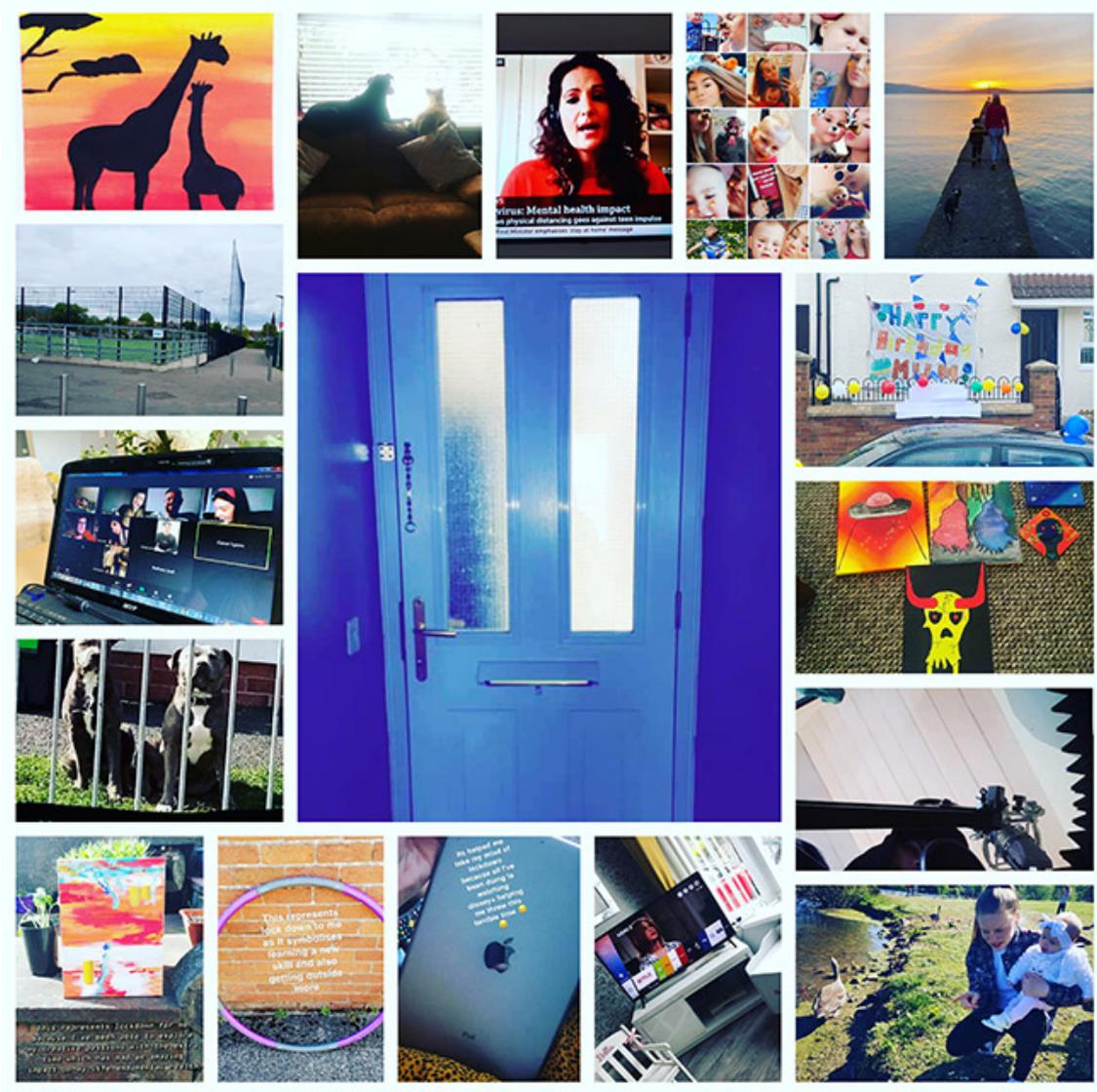
Covid-19 and Young People Springboard



The Covid-19 pandemic has had an impact on the wellbeing of young people, including lack of social interaction, increased screen time, and limited human contact.

Springboard Opps, who are core funded by the NI Community Relations Council, created a video to capture what young people were feeling while living through lockdown.

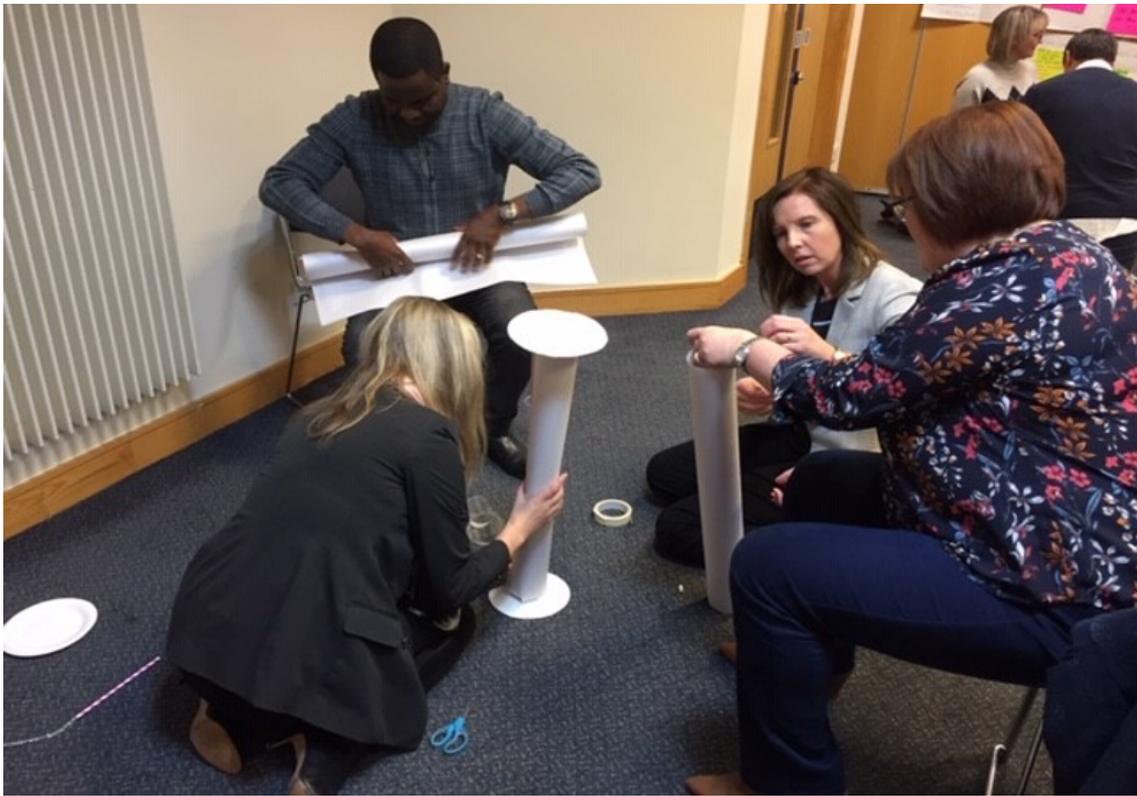
“We wanted to ensure that young people had an opportunity to reflect and process their emotions whilst surviving a global pandemic,” said Angila Chada, Executive Director of Springboard. “It was important they had space to reflect on their life and ask what they wanted to leave behind and what they wanted to take with them moving forward.”



[Read more](#)

Upcoming Events

**Transformative Leadership
Programme
NICVA**



Autumn dates are available for the Transformative Leadership Programme (TLP) – a leadership training programme funded by the PEACE IV Programme through Belfast City Council – and it’s now online.

This bespoke and inclusive programme is available across 15 interface areas in Belfast, and NICVA is delivering the programme along with locally-based partners across the city

This collaborative programme is tailored to suit local need and to help participants learn skills for building solution-focused approaches that can make lasting changes in Belfast.

[Read more](#)

extraORDINARYwomen
Linen Hall Library



“extraORDINARYwomen: Supporting Communities (1965 – today)” is a heritage project which will digitally preserve and make accessible online a selection of the Linen Hall Library’s world-renowned archives focusing on the lived experience of women in Northern Ireland since 1965.

A key objective of the project is to enhance the Linen Hall Library’s collections on building a shared society through reconciliation and increase the presence of women in their archives through donated materials which speak to the project themes.

If you have archive materials, find out how you can help contribute to this extraordinary project.

[Read more](#)

Submissions

Have you got an amazing story or case study that would make a great fit for our next monthly newsletter?

Send your submission as a
word document
with a
photograph.

Click the button below to submit...

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info@nicrc.org.uk

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