Fergal Barr – Practical Background & Experience:

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Areas of Work: Youth Information, Education Welfare, Community Relations, Volunteering, Peace & Reconciliation; Centre Based, Street, Participation & Rural-based Youth Work; Family Support; Facilitation & Consultation, YOUTH/Youth in Action/Erasmus+ and Social Justice

Qualifications: Masters in Education and Contemporary Society; BA in Cross-Cultural Facilitation and Mediation in Divided Societies, Adv Dip in Management and Dip HE in Community Youth Work; Supervising Practice in Community and Voluntary Settings (Module)

Management: I managed the SEUPB-funded <u>Third Space</u> Project for Extern (2018), the EC-funded <u>LID+ project</u> and 'Redhead300' (2017) and <u>The LID Programme</u> (2008-present); <u>The Inside Out Programme</u> (2006-13), Off the Streets Community Youth Initiative (2002-06)

Project Management: Examples include delivering 6 x 12 week PTV Programmes; setting up and establishing the NW Mentoring Project; Developing a Post-primary Schools Political Ed & International Youth Leadership Programme; developing a 7 night per week Street Work Programme; OCN-Accredited 'Network Earth:Global Citizen for the 21st Century', The 'Why?' Project; The PoP (Paths of Participation) Youth Assembly;

Research & Evaluation: 2018 The Relevance and Benefits of International Youth Work for Good Relations in Northern Ireland; 2017/18: Claudy Visioning Process; 2011: Evaluation of Focus on Family; 2008: WIFH's Youth Manifesto; 2004-06: Anti-Social Behaviour: Issues, Concerns and Experiences of Young People in the Greater Shantallow Area; Young People in the Greater Shantallow Area; Young People in the Greater Shantallow Area — A study of values, attitudes and opinions; 2007: I was part of South Bank University's 'Inventing Adulthoods: A Biographical Approach to Youth Transitions' Research Team (2007); 2005 Evaluation of Coleraine Youth Forum

Facilitation: Involved in over 100 international programmes - hosted 44 programmes with participants from more than 40 countries - all have been residential and 17 of which have been 6/7 day-long training programmes; Facilitator (only) on 22 occasions, Co-ordinator on 24 occasions & Co-ordinator & Facilitator combined on 15 occasions

Assessment: Assessed almost 100 Youth in Action, Erasmus+ & Causeway Applications for British Council & Youth Council for NI

Partnership: Managed/hosted 44 International Programmes (4 on behalf of the UK National Agency) with partners in more than 40 countries

Fixed Employers: B & WELB (Belfast/Western Education & Library Boards), NIACRO (Northern Ireland Association for Care and Resettlement of Offenders) St. Columb's Park House, Eglinton Youth Club, Off the Streets Community Youth Initiative, NI Youth Forum, The Inside Out Programme, Claudy Rural Development Limited & EXTERN

Freelance Work: Momentum World, British Council, Ecorys, Leargas, Co-operation North/Ireland, Warrington Project, NUS/USI, Anna-Lindh Foundation, NI Youth Forum, Youth Council for NI, Derry City & Strabane District Council, Viennese Association of Youth Clubs & ELT (Austria), Klick e.V. in Germany and YouthArt in Turkey.

Staffing: Managed 15 staff (2 Assistant Managers, 12 Key Workers & 1 Project Worker) for Extern; managed 3 full & part-time staff for The Inside Out Programme; 12 full & Part-time Staff at Off the Streets; 2 full time seconded employees at NIACRO; supervised four university placement students

Finance & Fundraising: Between 2002 and 2012 I applied for, secured and managed more than £1M in funding from British Council, DfID, Children In Need, Tudor Trust, Volunteer Development Agency, Community Relations Council, Lloyds TSB Foundation, Western Area Children and Young People's Committee, Irish Youth Foundation & IFI. I've also experience of writing a business case, e.g., 'The Case for Supporting Our Work' (for Off the Streets)

Consultation: Completed consultations on <u>Participation</u> structures in Western Area for Clubs for Young People <u>Northern Ireland</u> (2011) and WELB, i.e., 'The only game in town-Embedding a culture of participation in youth provision' (2006); Produced the <u>WIFH (Western Investing for Health)</u> Youth Manifesto for the WHSSB (Western Health and Social Services Board) area

Strategic & Policy Development: Oversaw the development of three-year Strategic Development Plans for <u>Off the Streets</u> and the Inside Out Programme; Carried out review and update of all existing policies for both organisations

Positions held: Chairperson of the CASCADE Network (international network) (2009-11); Member of Youth Council for NI (2000-03); Chair of the CRYWN (Community Relations Youth Work Network) in Northern Ireland (1998-2000); member of WIFH's Teenage Transitions/Children & Young People's Sub-group (2007-14)

Event Organisation: organised and co-ordinated fundraising walks from Derry to Limerick (1988) & Derry to Crosshaven in 2017; Post-primary Schools Tenpin Bowling League in Derry area (1993); year-long programme for Off the Streets 10th Birthday (2005); 17 week-long residential international training programmes (2001-12)

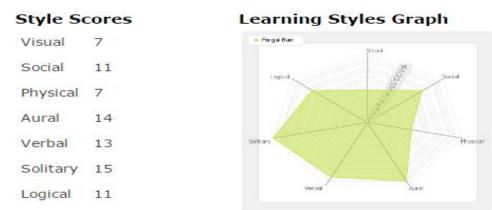
Some Other Achievements: Represented myself at an Industrial Tribunal and singlehandedly fought a test case leading to a change in employment law in Northern Ireland (2002); developed & designed Street Work Training Programme which paved the way for the development of the first formal qualification in 'Outreach and Detached Youth Work' at OCN Level 3 (2005); Received a 'North West Person of the Year' Award (2006) Published The Things People Say — Political Quotations from the NI Peace Process (2008); published a second book, The Yet Unknown Little Brown Book...A Collection of Poems (2010)'; Co-authored Derry City Council's shortlisted bid for European Youth Capital 2013 (2011); Landlord with NIHE since 1999; Produced six video documentaries for Foyle Youth Institute on a range of international programmes (three accompanied by activity packs) (1999 – 2006)

Current projects in development: The LID+ International Network; The Humour Alliance; 'Perspectives' – helping participants to see the reality; 'Social Technology' – supporting people to connect again through 'old school' methods; My Complete list of Publications;

Additional Information

Here are some other things that might help to make a more informed decision as to the kind of person I am - my 'Learning Styles Graph', Personal Attributes and Ideological Statement

The scores are out of 20 for each style. A score of 20 indicates the style is used often.



Visual (spatial). You prefer using pictures, images, and spatial understanding.	Aural (auditory-musical). You prefer using sound and music.	Verbal (linguistic). You prefer using words, both in speech and writing.
Physical (kinesthetic). You prefer	Logical (mathematical). You	Social (interpersonal). You prefer to
using your body, hands and sense of	prefer using logic, reasoning	learn in groups or with other people.
touch.	and systems.	
Solitary (intrapersonal) You prefer to work alone and use self-study		

<u>Solitary (intrapersonal)</u>. You prefer to work alone and use self-study

MY APPROACH AT A PERSONAL LEVEL

The three competences I consider most important are (i) Perspective (ii) Self-awareness/Critical Thinking and (iii) a Sense of Humour.

Perspective – the more I know, the more I don't know. We live in a world where we think we know but really we don't...and the sooner we accept that the better we will be and we will begin to live our lives differently. I wrote a <u>blog</u> on this – which promotes the idea that ultimately, most of what we actually think doesn't really matter because we are limited as to what we can actually control, so we as a people, need to begin to think differently. If we can start supporting people to develop this capacity then much greater perspective can emerge and we can start to create real change, the most important change, the change that matters.

Greater self-awareness also helps you to reflect and thus enables you to critically think about what you, how you do it, where and when, why and so on. It's essentially being more aware of the message you deliver and the things you do and the implications of your actions and how you need to alter your behaviour to reflect these thoughts.

A Sense of Humour for me is an absolutely essential part of delivery. Every Trainer needs a degree of it in order to not take him or herself too seriously, to lighten the mood at times of tension, to create a positive working environment and to engage with people in pro-active ways.

My Ideological Statement

It is my strongly held belief that the development of individuals should be foremost in our work. It is our inescapable responsibility to share in the development of individuals by at least providing at the outset the means by which to do so in accordance with their needs and desires.

I aim to provide various settings and environments that will facilitate the journey from dependence through independence to self-sufficiency enabling individuals to establish and assert their individuality whilst undertaking to take account of the environment that surrounds them.

Whilst learning from their experiences it is my hope that they will grow in knowledge and understanding of the processes that have assisted their development.

My intention is to facilitate a process whereby my input supports and creates opportunities for young people to make informed decisions without feeling that they should subscribe to any particular set of beliefs or opinions.

I would hope that I am in fact helping to lay the foundations for each individual to discover their own potential through cooperation with one other and by maintaining a level of dignity and respect in their everyday interaction with those around them whilst striving to achieve an enhanced level of self-fulfilment and expectation.

By helping each young person develop enhanced levels of expectation I am asking them to take ownership of their learning and development so as to create greater awareness of their skills and capacity for learning. By doing so I hope to encourage them to find their own lifestyle and make most of their own resources and talents.

It's as important as it is essential that young people should be able to get along with others and be compassionate and concerned about people's needs as well as their own. There is no one setting or method which achieves this but rather a combination however, young people need to be free to 'run their own show', being encouraged to become involved and given opportunities to develop the necessary skills and leadership to do so.

Overall, I engage in and attempt to facilitate a process of learning based on interaction that helps to create a pro-active environment for progressive change.

The process for me is more important than the actual results but a belief in setting targets provides the springboard to achieve.

I am prepared to take risks to give substance and foundation to the belief that process is priority. I endeavour to employ this approach in my practice at all times.

My commitment to this approach is underpinned by a strong belief in having fun, learning by doing, using humour and being honest