



CAAB NEWS

Message from the Chief Executive

Recent events hosted by CAAB are helping to focus attention on the potential of working together to achieve shared outcomes.

I have had the opportunity during the last three months to participate in a wide range of events hosted by ourselves and other agencies working in the children's sector. Many of these events are reported on in this newsletter and on our website. I am struck by a number of factors which, while not really surprising to me, are at the same time reassuring and concerning.

What is reassuring is that there are a wide range of agencies and individual workers who are very engaged and committed to providing excellent services for children most in need, their families and communities.

What is somewhat concerning is that we have allowed, indeed encouraged, either through specific policy and funding initiatives or perhaps through the lack of them, a proliferation of agencies to emerge.

Many of these agencies consider that they are under-resourced for the task they have been assigned or have undertaken to carry out. Many of them are unaware that other agencies are undertaking some or all of the same tasks as themselves. It might even be

argued that agencies are 'competing' for children! We are now faced with the very significant challenge of trying to get all of these agencies working together.

The Office of the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs (OMCYA) is currently driving out the Children's Services Committee (CSC) process signed up to by the social partners in Towards 2016. The CSC's will be organised under the auspices of the County or City Development Board and will be chaired by the HSE. The first four have been commenced in Donegal, Limerick, Dublin South City and Dublin South County. A number of other counties will shortly be added to the list until all Local Authority areas are up and running. Ideally this process will ensure that there exists for each area a single vision and an agreed approach to delivering on that vision.

A key ingredient in that approach will be to ensure that the resources available to all of the agencies in the local authority area will be utilised in the most effective way to meet the needs of all children. This will require budget holders and decision makers in the diverse array of organisations being willing to shed their sectional interests for the good of all. It will also require that organisations and individuals develop a new set of skills to assist them in this process.

Contents

Message from the Chief Executive	1
CAAB welcomes new Minister for Children and Youth Affairs	1
Evidence to Practice Seminar Summary	2
CAAB Network Seminars 2008 Overview	2
Study Visit: CAAB Board Belfast Visit	3
Study Visit: Conference Report Building Restorative Justice in Europe, Verona, Italy	3
International Conference on Youth Justice UCC	4
International Conference on Young People, Alcohol and Drugs UCD update	5
Forum on Prevention and Early Intervention for Children and Youth	6
Study Visit: Juvenile Justice Model: Miami-Dade County, Florida	6
Putting Research Evidence to Work (PREW) update	6
Student Support Programme Donegal	7
Launch of Finglas Child & Adolescent Centre restored boat 'Chargesheet'	7
Family Involvement in Education Report Launched	7
CAAB Updates	8

CAAB Welcomes new Minister for Children and Youth Affairs

The Children Acts Advisory Board congratulates Barry Andrews on his appointment as Minister for Children and Youth Affairs. We welcome Minister Andrews to his new portfolio and look forward to working with him in tackling the many challenges facing the child care sector.

The CAAB would also like to express our congratulations to Minister Brendan Smith TD on his appointment as Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, to thank

him for his support for the activities of the CAAB since our establishment and to wish him well for the future in his new role.



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Evidence to Practice Seminar – A Different Response Model: Refocusing from Child Protection to Family Support

The first Evidence To Practice (ETP) Seminar was held in the Gresham Hotel, Dublin, on the 22nd of May. The objective of ETP seminars are to bring research and best practice to the attention of a wide range of practitioners, managers and policy makers across the children’s sector.

This seminar was entitled ‘A Different Response Model: Refocusing Child Protection Towards Family Support’. It sought to alert stakeholders to the current experience of child protection across a number of jurisdictions, providing real life examples from Minnesota, USA and the Foyle Trust, NI with research from Northern Ireland and an overview of the current experience in Australia and New Zealand.

The seminar was attended by approximately 175 people from a wide range of backgrounds including social work, family

support, education, youth justice, traveller services, local authority, voluntary sector, community groups and the research community. Reaction to the presentations was very positive and the event concluded with a sometimes robust question and answer session.

The event was followed on Friday 23rd with a half day meeting attended by all of the presenters and representatives from the Office of the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs, the HSE, Irish Youth Justice Service, the research community and the CAAB. This meeting was designed to review the outcomes of the seminar and consider what next steps would be required if this approach was considered to be appropriate in the Irish context.

A full report on the seminar and a copy of all of the presentations is available on our website at www.caab.ie

CAAB Network Seminars 2008 – ‘Implementing the Agenda for Children’s Services: Inter-agency Co-operation and Putting Evidence into Practice’

During May and June 2008, four uniform **Network Seminars** were held throughout the country, hosted and funded by the Children Acts Advisory Board. The primary purpose of these Network Seminars is to provide an opportunity for children’s services to network and share effective practices with one another on a regional basis. They also provide a valuable opportunity for the CAAB to consult with a sample of practitioners in relation to specific topic areas. The seminars hosted this year explored the experiences and views of practitioners, managers and policy makers of inter-agency working. They presented the opportunity for regional children’s services to hear from other services in their area and assisted in outlining the roles and responsibilities of statutory agencies in the delivery of services to children and young people.

In order to set the context for discussion, key government agencies and services presented on their roles, functions and legislative frameworks and following that, interactive focus groups facilitated active discussion and reflective questioning from within and across different sectors (e.g. health, education, justice and community and voluntary) and from a peer perspective.

As the views of participants are paramount to the process of improving the delivery of services to children and young people, time was allocated for in-depth discussion and sharing of individual and collective experiences. This was achieved through the structure of the event itself and through confidential questionnaires on two topics, namely inter-agency co-operation and putting research evidence to work. The information gathered will inform the CAAB’s work programme and the outputs of the consultation process will be reflected in two separate reports, one on the views of participants on inter-agency co-operation and one on putting research evidence into practice (see the CAAB Updates in this newsletter for more details on these reports).



Left to Right: Peter Donovan, JLO Santry; Pauline Downey, NEWB; Andrew Payne, IYJS



Audience at Dublin North East CAAB Network event in Carlton Hotel Dublin 18th & 19th June



Children Acts Advisory Board Belfast Visit

The CAAB Board members and staff visited Belfast on 30th April. The visit included a CAAB board meeting and a seminar with key policy makers and managers from children sector agencies. Some of the issues discussed included:

- The Office of the First Minister and Deputy First Minister (OFMDFM) presented their 10 Year Strategy which is focused on improving outcomes for all children. It aims to narrow the gap between those who do best and those who do worse. A children's version is available in a comic format. The importance of children in the future of Northern Ireland is reflected by the fact that this strategy is being managed directly from the OFMDFM.
- Every year 1,500 young people are charged with criminal offences 70 to 75 of whom are detained. Most are dealt with through the Youth Conferencing Service.
- Following a review of residential child care in 2006 more resources are being diverted into community-based early intervention programmes. An information sharing protocol and a new assessment framework for inter-disciplinary and multi-agency working are being finalised.
- 'Alternatives' is a community-based agency in east Belfast. It uses restorative justice practices to provide victim support, advocacy, mediation, prevention programmes and training. It also runs a 6-month intensive youth support project.
- Literacy and numeracy amongst teenage boys is a challenge for education. Almost 25% of children from disadvantaged backgrounds leave school with less than the basic minimum of 5 GCSE passes. Access to services is prioritised for socially disadvantaged areas and includes measures such as breakfast clubs, after-school clubs, targeted funding to schools and direct financial assistance to the child.

Other presentations included the Guardian *ad litem* service and Child and Mental Health Services.

The CAAB would like to thank Bill Lockhart, CEO, Youth Justice Agency, for hosting the event. We would also like to thank all the presenters for their time and interesting contributions.

Conference Report: Building Restorative Justice in Europe – Verona, Italy – 17th/19th April 2008

The Fifth conference of the European Forum for Restorative Justice – 'Building Restorative Justice in Europe' was held in Verona, Italy from the 17th to the 19th April 2008 and was attended on behalf of the CAAB by Board Member Roger Killeen and two members of the executive.

The conference was organised in co-operation with Institution Don Calabria with the support of the Comune di Verona and financial support from the AGIS programme, European Commission Directorate – General Justice, Freedom and Security and dealt specifically with co-operation between the public, policy makers, practitioners and researchers.

Some key points from the deliberations included:

- The involvement of policy makers and politicians, developing regular collaboration between them and service providers is important in the implementation of restorative justice. This requires a common understanding of mutual expectations and of each others' responsibilities. Ways to model this co-operation and to establish sustainable structures of collaboration were explored.
- Co-operation between researchers and practitioners, as well as the impact of research on policy makers is another relevant interface when striving for the promotion of restorative justice in Europe. A promising avenue for co-operation consists in a dialogical approach that takes into account both the needs of researchers and practitioners. The effective presentation of research results to policy makers and to the public via the media was examined.
- Addressing the public implies effective mechanisms to raise public awareness and to ensure active participation of citizens. For restorative justice to gain legitimacy as a viable response to conflict and wrong doing it has to be able to secure constant dialogue with civil society and be prepared to integrate the voice and perspective of the citizen. Possible ways to strengthen this aspect were discussed.

Further details of this conference can be found on www.euforumrj.org

International Conference on Youth Justice, University College Cork, 3rd/4th April, 2008

Conference Summary by Dr Ursula Kilkelly

On the 3rd and 4th of April 2008, the Children Acts Advisory Board collaborated with the Centre for Criminal Justice and Human Rights at the Faculty of Law, University College Cork in the organisation of an international conference on youth justice.

Designed to measure state's compliance with international children's rights standards, the conference got off to an excellent start with a plenary session packed with international speakers of the highest calibre from Sydney, Helsinki, Edinburgh and Liverpool, all of whom provided frank assessments of the state of youth justice in their respective jurisdictions. The conference was then addressed by Mr. Thomas Hammarberg, the Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights who spoke about the importance of children's rights values underlying the treatment of children in conflict with the law. The afternoon provided the opportunity for delegates, who had travelled from all over the world, to choose from a range of papers presented on various aspects of youth justice in Ireland, South Africa, Canada, New Zealand, America and Northern Ireland. Speakers included established academics, policy makers and up-and-coming researchers who presented their research on young people's understanding of bail conditions and on their involvement in youth programmes, delivered critical perspectives of restorative justice programmes in New Zealand and youth advocacy in Northern Ireland, and analysed the risk factor paradigm from a variety of perspectives.

Day two of the conference allowed further discussion of the progress being made in youth justice reform. Success in overhauling youth justice Miami Dade County and the perspectives of practitioners in the Irish youth justice system were presented to captive audiences. Further sessions included presentation of the work of the National Commission on Restorative Justice and the Garda Síochána Ombudsman Commission on children's issues. Speakers from the Irish Youth Justice Service, the Probation Service and An Garda Síochána outlined their recent work and presented their plans for reform.



From left to right: Dr Ursula Kilkelly UCC.; Cllr. Donal Counihan, Lord Mayor of Cork; Professor Caroline Fennell, Dean of Faculty and Head of Law Department UCC; and Mr. Finbarr O'Leary, Deputy Chief Executive, CAAB.

The conference concluded with a session designed to return the focus to children and young people. The Honourable Mr. Justice John MacMenamin delivered a challenging analysis of cases concerning children in the High Court while Emily Logan, Ombudsman for Children, reminded delegates of the importance and value of involving young people in the research, reform and administration of youth justice. It was a testament to the quality of the event that the vast majority of delegates remained in their seats until the conference was concluded by Aidan Browne, Chief Executive of the Children Acts Advisory Board.

The event was run in an excellent spirit of partnership between UCC and the CAAB, which brought with it a refreshing practitioner and academic mix, both Irish and international. Feedback testifies to the excellence of the speakers, the variety of topics covered, the quality of the presentations from both experienced and new researchers and the exceptional conference organisation overall. The success of the event highlighted the great potential for collaboration that exists between state agencies and the academic community.

Four papers from the conference, and Thomas Hammarberg's address, have been chosen for publication in a special edition of *Youth Justice: An International Journal*, to be published in Autumn 2008.

Dr Ursula Kilkelly is a lecturer at the Faculty of Law, UCC.

(See Aidan Browne's closing remarks on page 5)

Closing Remarks – UCC Conference 3rd/4th April 2008

Aidan Browne, Chief Executive, Children Acts Advisory Board

The event was described by a member of the audience as “The Electric Picnic of the Youth Justice world”! The line up was the who’s who of the policy, practitioner and academic world. A significant accolade to the standing of Ursula Kilkelly.

For me there were three answers provided during the presentations and discussion...

There is no quick fix
Better than most
We’re moving forward with determination.

The first answer was in response to the question posed by a district court judge from the audience...“Can you tell me anything that will help me in my court next Tuesday morning?”

The second answer was by Thomas Hammerberg to the question “where does Ireland stand in relation to others in the EU and beyond?”

The third answer was provided by the heads of the key agencies and other speakers concerned with the delivery of Youth Justice in this jurisdiction.

I am delighted that the CAAB has had the opportunity to support and participate in this conference as it is wholly consistent with our mission.

We need to recognise that we all bring our own lens to proceedings like this. What is important is that we open our ears and minds to hear both the evidence and the opinion and that we use it as a reflective tool to examine our policies, our approach to management and our models of practice and service delivery. We need to do this at individual, team, agency and system wide level. (ref. OMC Agenda for Change)

A little more than 5 years ago almost all agencies that presented at this conference did not exist!

A number of challenges were posed throughout the conference which speak to the vision of the CAAB.....“Coherent, Consistent and Effective Services for Children”.

The challenges include:

- Leadership
 - Comes in many forms/not just setting direction but particularly helping people to get there!

- Need to move to “conscious incompetence” – knowing what we don’t know!
- Evidence/Statistics/Argument
 - Saw a lot of statistics, figures which sometimes are reassuring, other times raise major questions
 - Need to root out things that don’t work
 - There is a need to produce consistent high quality transparent data that can be shared across the whole system
 - Unscientific reading of the evidence base
- Attitude
 - Public/Political System/Institutions/Hierarchical systems (hearts and minds)
 - Mustn’t rely on the YJ system to solve society’s problems!
- Warning:
 - Look what is happening in other jurisdictions – and particularly look at what has happened over time. Some places we looked to as exemplary practice have not developed well over time. Good systems do not always get better.
 - For every action there is an equal and opposite reaction
 - There is a need always to look at the whole system – the inter-relationships – interdependencies between the welfare, education, police, detention and mental health systems.
 - All children are not the same! One size does not fit all.
 - What gets measured gets managed – so what about what doesn’t get measured i.e. outcomes!
- Child Friendly! What does this mean in the context of the sophisticated and adult nature of the justice process?
- Child’s responsibility versus the agencies responsibilities.

We are at a unique point in the development of children’s services and must look forward with optimism.

We need to recognise and manage the tensions that exist between stakeholders. We need to guard against managerialism. We need to include academia, the NGO’s and children and their families in the planning of and equally importantly in the evaluation of policy and practice.

Time for a shared vision!

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE: Young People, Alcohol and Drugs

Dr Gary O’ Reilly, School of Psychology, University College Dublin

The Children Acts Advisory Board co-sponsored an international conference on Young People, Alcohol and Drugs at University College Dublin on May 23rd, 2008. The conference launched research conducted at the UCD School of Psychology by Dr Deirdre Palmer and Dr Gary O’ Reilly on 462 15-19 year olds living in the South and South East region of Ireland. Full article will be in Autumn bulletin and can currently be accessed on <http://www.ucd.ie/psychology/staff/GaryOReilly.htm>.

Forum on Prevention and Early Intervention for Children and Youth

On the 27th and 28th of May 2008, the Office of the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs (OMCYA), in collaboration with the Atlantic Philanthropies, sponsored the launch of the above forum. The intention of this forum is to provide a link between leaders in innovation and to support the emerging philosophy of developing effective services for children and young people.

This forum, according to the OMCYA, is in keeping with the policy objectives outlined in the document *Towards 2016* and the *Programme for Government of the Republic of Ireland*. The purpose of the forum is to 'support the networking of the many innovations currently taking place in the area of children's services' and other initiatives and services available throughout the country, which are supported by the Atlantic Philanthropies, demonstrating effective prevention and early intervention practice. Central to these initiatives are:

- The development of prevention and early intervention as part of the children's service design;
- Service design that is outcomes-focused and based on evidence of effectiveness;
- The development of integrated thinking, planning and delivery of services across agencies and sectors for greater effectiveness and more holistic child and family centred provision.

This launch showcased many of the initiatives happening throughout the country by providing a communal display area and this created an excellent opportunity to talk with practitioners involved in many of the projects. The programme for this launch included speakers such as Sylda Langford (Director General of the OMCYA), Dr Daniel F. Perkins (Professor of Family and Youth Resiliency and Policy at Penn State University, Pennsylvania) and Dr Sharon Ramey (Co-Founding Director of the Georgetown University Center for Health and Education).

Forum Programme (OMCYA, 2008)

Juvenile Justice Model: Miami-Dade County, Florida

The Children Acts Advisory Board was delighted to respond to an invitation to attend at a key national conference held in Miami-Dade, Florida.

The Miami-Dade Juvenile Assessment Centre (JAC) is a centralised processing, referral and evaluation centre for any juvenile arrested in the Miami-Dade County. This centre allows representatives from justice and from social services to work together under one roof to provide a complete range of services to young people who come to the attention of juvenile justice services. The centre demonstrates the use of research evidence in creating a functional juvenile justice system serving young people and their families in a true prevention system that has reduced the arrests of young people.

The JAC is open 24/7 and works in partnership with key stakeholders. It has resulted in creating a standard processing

system for all police departments, reducing what was on average 6 hours of police time per arrest to 15 minutes per arrest. It has eliminated the backlog of cases and facilitates age appropriate assessments for 100% of the service users ensuring early intervention, appropriate recommendations to the diversion programmes and if necessary the case to be heard in court within 24 hours of arrest.

According to a recent evaluation of the JAC system, since 1997 the total arrests of juveniles have been reduced by 41%, re-offending is down by 78%, the detention population has been almost halved and there had been a significant decline in drug related offences. The centre while factoring in the costs of running its service, has saved the Miami-Dade County over 16 million dollars per year. These savings have been re-directed toward community and intervention services across the County.

Further details can be found at www.miamidade.gov/jsd

Putting Research Evidence to Work (PREW)

Following a competitive tendering process the School of Social Work and Social Policy and the Children's Research Centre, Trinity College Dublin has been appointed to work with the CAAB on an ongoing project entitled 'Putting Research Evidence to Work' or 'PREW'. This project is led by Dr Helen Buckley, Trinity College Dublin. The first stage of PREW is to identify the most productive way that the CAAB can assist the children's sector to put research evidence to work. This initial stage will involve a review of literature on the barriers, facilitators and approaches to putting research evidence to work by policy makers, senior managers and frontline practitioners, a review of international web-based research dissemination mechanisms and a consultation process to establish access to and application of research by stakeholders. PREW has a number of additional objectives that are described on our website.

Student Support Programme Donegal

Donegal Local Development Company Ltd celebrated the achievements of its Student Support Programme in Coláiste Cholmcille Ballyshannon on Tuesday the 20th of May.

The Student Support Programme was funded by Border Action through the Peace II Programme. It also accessed funding from the Government's Dormant Accounts and the Local Development Social Inclusion Programme. It provides post primary educational support to young people in a holistic manner directed at improving their social, educational, and personal skills. The aim of the programme is to support students to remain in education, to empower students transitioning to third-level education or into the labour market and to encourage students to play a positive role within the wider community. The programme is delivered in Magh Ene College (Bundoran) and Coláiste Cholmcille (Ballyshannon) and works closely with local service providers and youth groups in both towns.

Speaking on behalf of Donegal Local Development Company Ltd., Dr Caoimhin MacAoidh, CEO, highlighted the fact that the evening's proceedings underlined all the positive features of Irish youth that tend to get overlooked in society.

On behalf of Border Action, Mr. Paul Skinnader highlighted the aspects and impacts of 'active' learning in the programme. Speaking on behalf of the schools involved, Jacqueline Dillon (Principal of Magh Ene College) said 'we can see it, we can feel it, and the difference is very real'.

The project has supported more than 300 students who have availed of an extensive range of in-school courses which have been designed to support them within the education system. Courses include anti-bullying and self-esteem, conflict resolution workshops, motivational training, and drugs and alcohol awareness.

Contact: Karen Patton, Project Worker on kpatton@dldc.org

Launch of 'Chargesheet'

Wednesday 9th April was an exciting day in the lives of a group of young men resident in the Finglas Child and Adolescent Centre when they were finally able to show off to the world the fruits of their efforts over the previous 12 months. The boys had just completed a unique project initiated by the centre which resulted in the launch of a sailing boat which they had completely restored. The boat was launched by Minister Brendan Smith, the then Minister for Children, in the Malahide Estuary.

As a result of this programme – which was much more than simply boat restoration – the boys now have certificates in life saving, first aid and navigation and have completed training in sailing, canoeing and windsurfing.

At the launch Mr. Paddy Murrihiy, Deputy Chairman of the Board of management of the Centre underscored their support for this unusual project. 'We believe that while the boys are in Finglas whether it is for one month or one year it should be a positive and exciting experience.

Their time with us should be a wake up call aimed towards the introduction of new challenges in their life which hopefully could spark some positive thinking. Failure by us in this regard would rightly be regarded as failing in our responsibilities towards the boys in our care.'

Great credit is due to all who participated in and supported this project which was a short-listed entrant in the 2008 CAAB Children's Services Awards.



'Chargesheet' in Malahide Marina

Family Involvement in Education Report Launched

How can you encourage Families to become more engaged in their children's education? This was one of the key questions debated at the launch of the report on encouraging Family Involvement in Education, which was launched by Minister of State, Sean Haughey, T.D., at the Clock Tower, Department of Education & Science, on Thursday 12th June. The report was jointly commissioned by PLANET - The Partnerships network and POBAL. With the support of Atlantic Philanthropies and the Children's Act Advisory Board (CAAB), the launch focused on highlighting the key report findings and presenting models of best practice in promoting family involvement in education.

The report focused on promoting a model that works based on best practice. To quote the report authors, Siobhan Phillips and Anne Eustace, '**The template is modelled on a collaborative approach between different stakeholders and will hopefully guide and support the development of family involvement programmes that are grounded in research and effective practice.**' The projects studied in the report include, Lifestart, The Incredible Years Programme, Highscope, Preparing for Life, Next Steps. There will also be an input from the National Parents Council on the importance of encouraging greater family involvement in education.

The launch created an opportunity to focus relevant agencies on the ways and means of encouraging parents and the wider family unit to become more involved in supporting their children's development in the education system, from pre-primary to primary level.

The event was attended by a wide variety of policy makers, practitioners and parents. For a copy of report see www.planet.ie

CAAB Updates and Upcoming Events

Consultation Process on Inter-agency Co-operation in the Children's Sector

The CAAB has undertaken a consultation process on inter-agency co-operation in the children's sector as part of our Network Seminars. Over 120 attendees have completed questionnaires on inter-agency co-operation and at least 8 focus groups have been held on the topic. A report on this process is being produced by Finbar McDonnell of Hibernian Consulting. Dr Helen Buckley along with Nicola Carr and Cliona Murphy are also facilitating this process. The report will focus on stakeholders' experiences of inter-agency co-operation, their views on incentives and supports and their views on future requirements to enable better inter-agency co-operation across the children's services arena.

SPECIALIST ACCOMMODATION FORUM ANNUAL CONFERENCE

12th – 14th November 2008

BACK TO BASICS:

**PROVIDING A BETTER
&
MORE EFFECTIVE SERVICE**

GRAND HOTEL, MALAHIDE, CO. DUBLIN, IRELAND

Topics include:

'Consistently Meeting the Needs of Vulnerable
and Damaged Young People';

'Residential Care and Community Based Alternatives';

'The Educational Needs of Young People in Residential Care';

'Working Across Departmental Boundaries' and much more

For further information e-mail Mike Laxton,
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or telephone
0044 1700 831300

Children Acts Advisory Board 2009 Awards for services to Children and Young people

Competition Deadline: 5pm on 31st October 2008.

See our Website www.caab.ie or contact

Rose Sweeney on 01-6724106 for further details.

Special Care Update

The Review of Special Care Applications will be published by the end of the summer and will be available to download on www.caab.ie This research explored 36 applications for a special care placement made in early 2007 and the recommendations from the research cover three areas: management of practice, process and monitoring. To follow through on CAAB's ethos of putting evidence into practice, the CAAB in conjunction with the Department of Health and Children and the HSE will be establishing an Implementation Group which is charged with overseeing the implementation of the recommendations presented in this research.

Guardian *ad litem* Update

The consultative process has recently been concluded and a draft guidance document has been prepared for consideration by the Board at it's June meeting. It is anticipated that the final document will be available for publication in early Autumn.

Next Evidence to Practice Seminar

The next Evidence to Practice Seminar will focus on the theme of 'Assessment'. It will be held in the Gresham Hotel, Dublin on the 19th of November 2008 (and not September as previously advertised).

Therapeutic Interventions Update

Since the previous newsletter, work is still ongoing under the draft headings.

Children Acts Advisory Board

Will host their second

ANNUAL NATIONAL CONFERENCE

AT

THE GRAND HOTEL, MALAHIDE

ON

15th & 16th OCTOBER 2008

~

**"MORE THAN RHETORIC: IMPROVING OUTCOMES
FOR CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES THROUGH
INTER-AGENCY WORKING"**

This conference intends to explore the challenges and benefits of inter-agency working, from both practitioner and academic perspectives and to highlight best national and international practice in this area.

It will also provide an opportunity for those working in Children's services to share their experiences and recommendations on this approach to working with Children and their families.

Further details and booking forms will be available on our website in due course. You may register your interest in attending this conference by contacting bronwyn.conway@caab.ie

CAAB Art Competition

The CAAB are holding their annual Art Competition for children who are residing in Children Detention Schools, Special Care Units and High Support Units. For more details please contact Clodagh Thorne on 01-6724119 or clodagh.thorne@caab.ie

COMPETITION DEADLINE FRIDAY 24TH OCTOBER AT 5PM.