

Sports Inclusion Development Programme

2013

Despite the continuing loss of our Sports Inclusion Development Officer, three of our sports inclusion development programmes continued: -

1. **Boccia league** - the partnership supported the delivery of an inter service boccia league among Rehab Care clients in Tullamore. 18 people with intellectual disabilities participated in the programme.
2. **Come try events** - the partnership supported National Council for the Blind in the delivery of come try tandem cycling days. 12 people with sensory impairments / disabilities participated on this programme. The partnership also supported Tullamore Canoe Club in the delivery of a come try canoe / kayak session to Laois Offaly Families For Autism. 12 children / teenagers took part in the session.
3. **Xcessible Youth Initiative** - the partnership played a significant role in the development of the Xcessible Youth Sport Initiative (Special School SPORTSHALL Athletics Programme). The Special Schools SPORTSHALL Athletics initiative provided children with the opportunity to participate in athletic events in an indoor setting with the emphasis very much on teamwork and fun. This initiative was adapted from the SPORTSHALL Athletics programme which has been delivered in mainstream schools and is a partnership approach between Athletics Ireland and the Local Sports Partnerships. This Special School SPORTSHALL Athletics initiative officially launches the Xcessible Youth Sport Initiative 2014 to 2016. This is a national initiative, coordinated by the CARA National Adapted Physical Activity Centre, and facilitated in association with the Local Sports Partnerships. The Xcessible Youth Sport Initiative is funded by the Department of Justice and Equality. For more information on the initiative, check out the [website](#).

In addition, Offaly Sports Partnership also supported Offaly Mental Health Talk Week's **Physical Activity for Offaly's Mental Health** through the delivery of three physical activity sessions: -

1. *Run / Walk with Pauline Curley* - up to 15 people ranging in age from two to 50+ years participated in this run / walk led out by Pauline Curley on the grounds of Charleville Castle estate.
 2. *Cycle with Francie Meehan* - up to 20 people participated on this cycle with Francie Meehan and her visually impaired tandem partner in Daingean.
 3. *Swim for free* with Birr Leisure Centre
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2012

Despite the loss of our Sports Inclusion Development Officer at the end of 2011, some of our sports inclusion development programmes continued: -

1. **Disability training** - instruction in the playing of boccia was provided to three staff members from Rehab Care, Tullamore to enable them to deliver a boccia programme to their service users. Training was also delivered in the use of the Birr's Camcor Active Age Park equipment.
2. **Midlands United Power Chair Football Club** continued to flourish in 2012 winning the 2012 Association of Irish Power Football League