

PEACE IV Louth Programme Newsletter No 6 – August 2020



Welcome to the sixth edition of the Louth PEACE IV Newsletter.

The PEACE IV projects are supported by the European Union’s PEACE IV Programme, managed by the Special European Programmes Body (SEUPB) and supported locally by Louth County Council and Louth Local Community Development Committee (LCDC).



Dundalk Youth Centre Garden.

COVID – 19 Emergency



Due to the Public Health Crisis in Ireland with the spread of the Coronavirus from March 2020, most Peace IV projects in Louth quickly moved to online delivery to continue with implementation.

We are pleased to see that so many project staff were determined to find innovative ways to deliver their services, which were so important, particularly during the crisis.

Many funded projects adopted novel ways of working to ensure the continuation of their services from taking projects outdoors and of course using Zoom as a tool to connect.

Good Relations Initiative

The Good Relations Initiative is being implemented by Louth Volunteer Centre. They came up with a novel and retro idea to connect during COVID19. Check out these gorgeous letter writing sets they have put together. The volunteers on both sides of the border are writing letters to one another to share their experiences of #COVID19 and beyond. The goal is to build positive relations through creating connections, a further outcome is enhancing the wellbeing of participants and their border communities.





Leading the Way

Virtual Launch took place in July

We have recently appointed Blu Zebra Ltd in partnership with Louth Volunteer Centre to deliver the **Louth Leading the Way Programme**. The launch of the project took place online on 17th July 2020



Check out their Facebook page “Louth Leading the Way” and watch the video of Louth County Council’s CE Joan Martin who recorded a message introducing the project. Joan is also the PEACEIV Partnership’s chairperson.

Small Grants Programme

LMETB have recently launched a funding opportunity under Peace IV Programme to support groups and organisations in Louth who are working to further the goals of peace and reconciliation. The Small Grants programme opened for applications on **24th July**, with a closing date of **28th August 2020**, with all details currently available at <https://www.lmetb.ie/small-grants-programme/>



“LMETB are proud to work with Louth County Council, to deliver this very valuable programme to build positive relations and foster the values of peace and reconciliation in our local community”.



Civic Leadership and Peace Building Project



Louth Comhairle Na Nóg took part in a full day event in Bluebell Glamping in Mullaghbane, Co Armagh as part of the [Civic Leadership and Peace Building PEACE IV Project](#) in July 2020. The members participated in workshops on racism and discrimination, outdoor survival skills and laughter yoga. The young people were delighted to finally get back meeting in person after months meeting over Zoom.





Creative Interventions

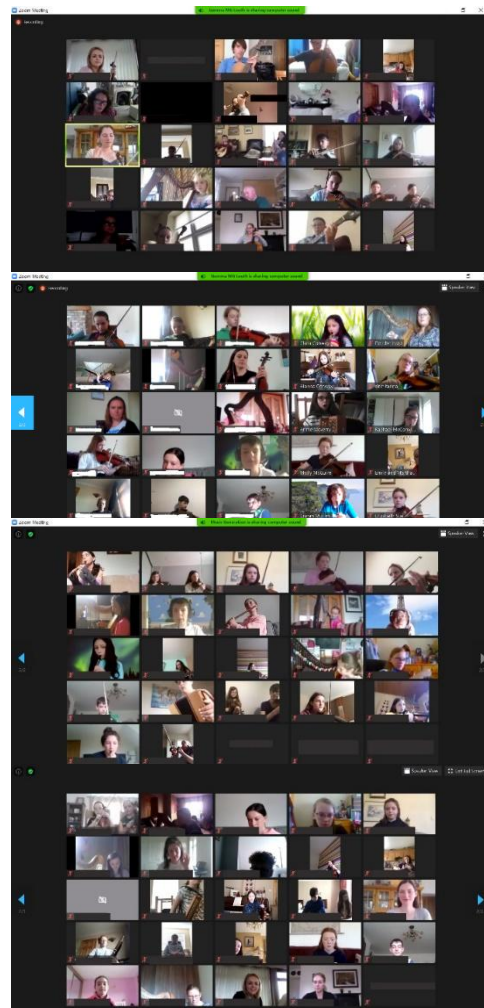
The Louth and Meath Education and Training Board (LMETB) PEACE IV funded Project Creative Interventions has enabled children from north and south to come together as a traditional orchestra. The project is a partnership between Music Generation Louth and Newry School of Traditional Music. The group first came together to perform on the gig rig last year at Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann in Drogheda. Over July and August this year, they have continued with sessions online led by Louth's own Zoe Conway, Ursula Byrne Crawley Director of Newry School of Traditional Music and a team of supporting musicians from north and south.

Gemma Murray, Music Generation Louth's Coordinator said "It has been an amazing experience for us all to work together on this initiative. Despite restrictions this summer due to Covid 19, we have had a great time meeting up on line to play music together. Both the children and the lead musicians have made new connections and friends. Whilst we can't get together at the minute to perform, we are enjoying the exploration of music technology to create performances. We are hugely grateful to have had the support from Creative Interventions. It has allowed us to deliver this ambitious initiative and to create a new community of musicians and friends and explore musical cultures from both areas"

Ursula Byrne Crawley Director of Newry School of Traditional Music said "This has been a fantastic experience for our students who unfortunately due to Covid19 have not been able to physically meet learn and perform together. However everyone made a smooth transition to online workshops and participated with great enthusiasm and excitement. Tutors from both organisations gained new skills and were creative in devising effective teaching methods for the delivery of workshops. The young students along

with learning a new suite of music renewed friendships from last year and forged new ones through fun online quizzes and brain storming activities and a daily tune sharing session. The uniqueness of this project enables classical and traditional musicians from both Louth and Newry, Mourne & Down to learn together and perform from very early on in their musical education which keeps them motivated, encourages them to practice along with fostering a love and appreciation for music performance.

This project is supported by the European Union's PEACE IV Programme, managed by the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB). Creative Interventions acknowledges the support of Louth County Council.



Zoom Screens Creative Interventions

Muirhevnamor Peace Programme

This project was due to finish during summer 2020 but due to COVID 19, the project will now extend into the autumn. See below some photos of the project over its lifetime.

