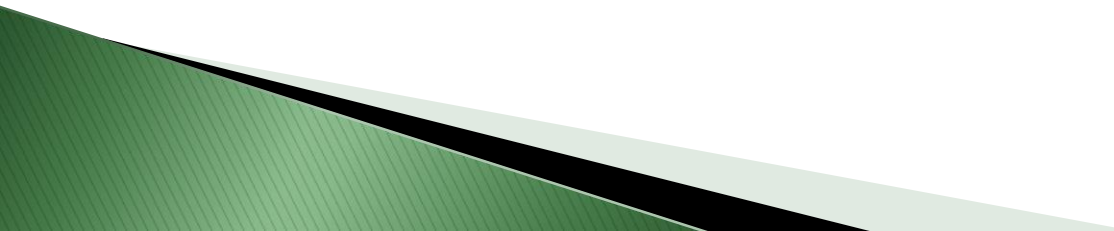


South Tipperary and the Incredible Years Programme

Phil Shanahan & Ruairí Ó Caisleáin
National CYPSC Networking event
18th June 2015



Background:

- ▶ South Tipperary Children's Services Committee – September 2011
 - ▶ Representation from Statutory, non-governmental and community sectors, including National Association of Principals & Deputy Principals and Irish Primary Principals Network from the beginning.
 - ▶ South Tipperary Children & Young People's Work Plan launched in November 2013
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Work Plan

- ▶ Work Plan identified 2 Priority issues under the **National Outcome, *Achieving in all Areas of Learning & Development***.
 - Early School Leaving
 - School Absenteeism
- ▶ Re. School Absenteeism, Objective of Work Plan:
To increase the number of children who are supported to remain in school.

▶ **National Outcomes:**

- ▶ Achieving in all Areas of Learning & Development
- ▶ Safety and Security.

▶ **Transformational Goal:**

▶ **Earlier Intervention & Prevention**

- The Incredible Years (Teacher Classroom Management/Parent Group Leader/Parenting)) programmes teach skills & strategies to reduce behavioural problems, to increase social competence and develop emotional regulation.

Development of Incredible Years initiative

- ▶ **Area-Based Child Poverty** fund application process, May 2013.
- ▶ **Working Group:**
 - Multi-agency representation from Child & Family Support services & Social Inclusion
 - Link with Children's Services Committee: a Sub-Group
 - Strategic county-level response to needs to reflect Children's Services Committee's remit
 - Application based on the data from the Children's Services Committee's Work Plan Local Needs Analysis
 - Targeting areas of Social Disadvantage.


Development of IY initiative (2)

- ▶ Community Foundation of Ireland consultation session, 17th April 2013 on Evidence Based Programmes.
- ▶ Invitation for applicants for funding from Tony Ryan Trust Fund to secure Incredible Years & High Scope training, 4th June 2013
- ▶ Area-Based Child Poverty application process as template for Incredible Years application.
- ▶ August 2013: Incredible Years Working Group successful in application for funding for 2 strands of Incredible Years training, Teacher Classroom Management and Parent Group Leader

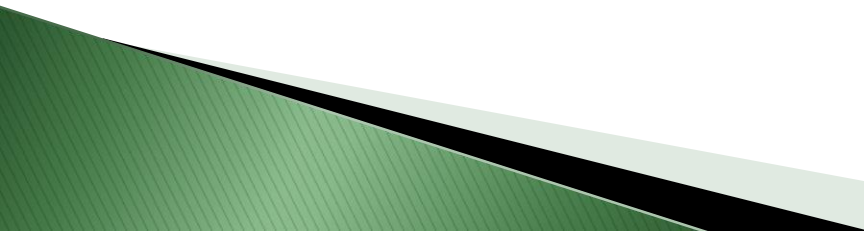
Value of Interagency/joint application.

- ▶ **Teacher Classroom Management – Coherence** across all schools (91)
- ▶ **County Level – strategic approach**
- ▶ **Community Development Approach – empowerment.**
- ▶ **Collaborative effort –single** application – no duplication of effort or fragmentation.
- ▶ **Parent Group Leader training – Commitment and coherence across Host Organisation – Family Resource Centres, Family Support Services etc.,**
- ▶ **Integration** of both strands
- ▶ **Endorsement by Children’s Services Committee of Incredible Years Programme for the county.**


Teacher Classroom Management

- ▶ Link with all primary schools through Irish Primary Principals Network representative on the Children Service Committee
 - ▶ Gauge the interest of schools in the Teacher Classroom Management training
 - ▶ School input into needs in the school and the community.
 - ▶ Invitation to schools to uptake Teacher Classroom Management training.
 - ▶ Issue of substitution cover – leadership by Irish Primary Principals Network.
 - ▶ Throughout the initiative – continued endorsement by Irish Primary Principals Network representative to fellow members.
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Outcomes

- ▶ 73% of Schools participating in Teacher Classroom Management training
 - ▶ Substitution cover is being managed at no cost to the Project.
 - ▶ Teacher Classroom Management training (6 days) increasing networking opportunities between schools.
 - ▶ Schools reporting an improvement in the behaviour within the class.
 - ▶ Schools engaging directly with Host Organisations for scheduling/referrals for Incredible Years Parenting Programme
 - ▶ Schools are contributing their facilities where appropriate for delivery of the Incredible Years Parenting Programmes.
 - ▶ Strong 'buy-in' by Schools in the Incredible Years training.
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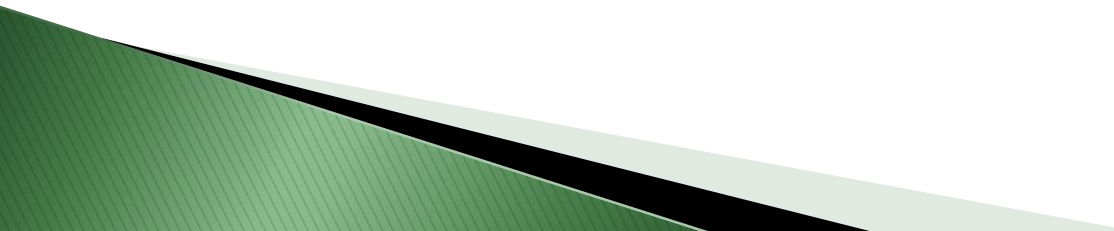
Parent Group Leader

- ▶ Commitment to Parent Group Leader training by Family Support and Social Inclusion groups represented on Children's Services Committee
 - ▶ Commitment to subsequently deliver 14 week Incredible Years Parenting Programmes in the community.
 - ▶ Issue of shortage of paid development staff to undertake Parent Group Leader training raised at Children's Services Committee.
 - ▶ Túslá undertook the Parent Group Leader training for outreach staff.
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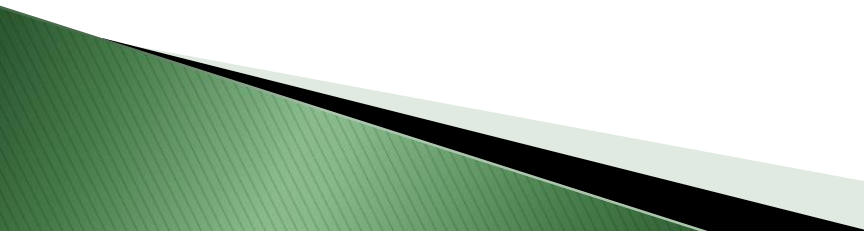
Parent Group Leader training

- ▶ Significant commitment by Host Organisations to rolling out Incredible Years parenting programmes and to manage issues arising.
- ▶ Roll out of first parenting programmes
- ▶ Review /issues arising – duration, timeframe, staffing hours needed. (14 weeks).
- ▶ Networking among Host Organisations to co-facilitate and collaborate for delivery of parenting and sharing of resources

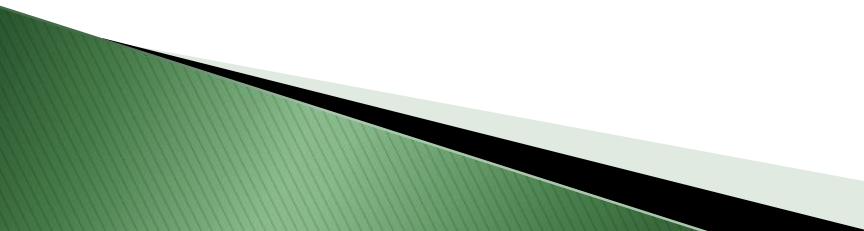
Parenting Programmes issues:

- ▶ Understanding that each Host Organisation works with families in the community and can offer Incredible Years as part of their programme on an ongoing basis.
 - ▶ Lack of resources to deliver on an ongoing basis is still current.
 - ▶ Children & Young People's Services Committee continues to consider how best the programme will be resourced in the future.
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Additional aspects arising from the Incredible Years Programme:

- ▶ Developing a Parenting Strategy at county level
 - ▶ Need a Coordinating Body for Parenting Programmes.
 - ▶ Need a specific Programme for Travellers
 - ▶ Need a Home Visit Incredible Years programme for specific situations
 - ▶ Development of a fund to provide for co-facilitation of Parenting Programmes.
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Conclusions (i):

- ▶ **Added value** to Incredible Years programme of Children & Young People's Services Committee Interagency support – from initial application to current stage of delivery.
 - ▶ **Integrated** approach to Incredible Years programme by Children & Young People's Services Committee . Complementarity between Teacher Classroom Management and Parent Group Leader training programmes – synergies – mutually reinforcing – benefit of the child.
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Conclusions (ii):

- ▶ Strong engagement between school and community at interagency level has translated into effective delivery on the ground.
- ▶ **Role of South Tipperary Children & Young People's Services Committee** in terms of its overall coordination of interagency responses to strengthen and improve outcomes for children and young people in Tipperary.

