

Youth Action Project Sligo

Youth Action Project Sligo (YAPS) was established in Sligo in 1999, as a partnership between North Connaught Youth & Community Services, Irish Youth Justice and An Garda Síochána. The project is funded by the Department of Justice Equality & Law Reform/Irish Youth Justice Service and co-funded by the European Social Fund. YAPS works in Sligo with 12 to 18 year olds who may be involved in criminal or anti-social behaviour or at risk of becoming involved in this behaviour.

“X-HALE” was originally designed in 2009 as part of the *Irish Cancer Society’s* strategy (2007-2012) and aimed to raise awareness on the issue of smoking and the tobacco industry and to build relationships with the youth and community sectors. The particular target was youth organisations in areas of disadvantage where smoking prevalence was higher than the national average. The awards scheme provided funding to youth groups. The aim is to empower young people and youth organisations to tackle smoking prevention among young people, by encouraging and supporting young people to develop positive youth led local activities, with a ‘tobacco’ and ‘smoking’ theme specific to young people in their community. Young people and youth groups were supported to convey key messages about smoking through mediums such as art, drama, film making, Rap and peer education. Film was central to the activities of the youth groups as a method for exploring smoking and getting their messages across.”

X-Hale, Irish Cancer Society Website

In 2015, YAPS, GYDP & North Connaught Youth & Community Services accessed funding through the Irish Cancer Society to deliver a programme promoting positive pro-social behaviour while raising awareness on the issue of smoking among young people. This programme has been delivered over the past three months covering topics such as decision- making skills, healthy living, drama skills, script writing and film production and editing using an iPad mini. After completion of the programme a film was submitted for the ‘X-hale Competition’ which can be accessed on:

YouTube... <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cUbGpGdDRiE&index=30&list=PLpAtUqnHyTFxySXoTN5S2e0N9OV2-upe->

We now need to generate as much support and viewing for our entry as possible among our members, our organisation, family and friends and our community.

Use the #TheXGeneration hashtag on all your X-HALE posts to join the conversation about Ireland’s First Smoke Free Generation!

The online competition will close on Wednesday 29th June at 3pm. After this time, views will be tallied and it will determine the winner of the Online Award based on the entry with the most legitimate views, to be announced at the X-HALE Youth Awards on July 7th in the Light House Cinema.

*“Ireland’s European Structural and Investment Funds Programmes 2014-2020
Co-funded by the Irish Government and the European Union”.*

“Investing in your future”



EUROPEAN UNION
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