

## Annual Report 2022 - 2023





## **Glen Parent Youth Group**

### ***Statement of Management Committee's Responsibilities for the year ended 31 March 2023***

#### **Achievements and Performance**

The past twelve months witnessed an increase in the level of Services/activities organised in the Glen Community Complex as a result of the easing of Covid restrictions. More than 50,000 User Visits were made by children, young people, families and adults using our Services for Daycare, After-schools, Youth, Education/Training, Family Support, Sporting, Healthy Living Programmes and Advocacy Services.

We enhanced our Partnership arrangements with St. Gerard's School, Lenadoon Community Forum, Belfast Health & Social Care Trust, Education Authority, County Antrim GAA, Women into Sport, Lenadoon Community Counselling Project and a wide range of Networking Bodies. Our Social Economy Daycare and After-schools Projects enabled us to employ additional staff. We had a very positive Inspection by the BHSC Early Years Teams in July 2022. We also had 3 very positive Moderation Visits for our Youth Services by the E.A. Inspectorate in the past 12 months.

The Education Authority strengthened their relationship with us and we were successful in our funding application to them. Our Inclusion Project with St. Gerard's now runs two days a week. The revenue from the Daycare and Afterschool's Project this year resulted in a greater income and also an increase in our expenditure and outputs. This enabled us to be able to cover the huge increase in Staff and Running Costs for the Group. With the increase in minimum wage and huge increase in gas, electric and running costs, we wouldn't have been able to deliver the same level of Services in the Complex without the revenue raised by our Social Economy Project.

We witnessed an increase in the number of requests to use our rooms and Main Hall for Meetings, Family Contact, Training, Workshops and Sporting/Health Activities and Programmes. We also hosted a number of activities and Events in the Complex as part of the Lenadoon Community Festival. We host two Citywide Sporting Events for schools and Groups from across Belfast.

These were a Citywide Judo Competition and Boxing Workshops facilitated by the Irish Amateur Boxing Association. Belfast Utd also delivered two Futsal Coaching Courses in the Complex this year. Our Youth Staff Co-ordinated a Winter Toy Appeal locally which resulted in hundreds of toys being donated and distributed to local families.

We worked in partnership with Lenadoon Women's Group to facilitate a Winter Families in Need Appeal which resulted in over 100 needy local families and individuals receiving food, Clothes, toiletries, fuel, etc. over the Christmas/New Year period and to supply Utility Vouchers to those in greatest need. Adult safeguarding, Child Protection, Paediatric First Aid, Mindfulness and Suicide Prevention Training, was provided to the Staff and Volunteers in the past 12 months.

The main focus of our activities, programmes and services throughout the year was targeted at disadvantaged individuals and families, many of whom were referred from a variety of Health and Social Care Professionals. We increased our Reserves to reflect the increase in staff and running costs and to ensure that we would have six months cover in the event of an emergency or loss of funding. We are also conscious of the fact that funding for the majority of our staff ends in March 2024 and with political uncertainties, Funders cannot guarantee anything beyond March 31st 2024.

We adhered to all our Charity Commission obligations and had inspections of our facilities carried out by the Health and Safety Executive and Belfast City Council.

With the current cost of living crisis, we will continue to provide a wide variety of Services to the most vulnerable individuals and families within the Neighbourhood to improve their quality of life.

## **Glen Parent Youth Group**

### **Statement of Management Committee's Responsibilities for the year ended 31 March 2023**

#### **Financial Review**

The results for the year are included in the financial documents. The Groups restricted reserve increased during the year.

#### **Investment policy**

Any surplus funds are transferred into short term savings accounts for investment.

#### **Reserves Policy**

The Management retain funds in the charity in order to provide sufficient working capital to facilitate the ongoing activities. The target for unrestricted fund reserves is three months support costs.

#### **Volunteers**

The charity is appreciative of the efforts of its volunteers who are involved in service provision.

**Glen Parent Youth Group**

**Statement of Management Committee's Responsibilities  
for the year ended 31 March 2023**

**Statement of Management Committee's Responsibilities**

We approve the financial statements

We confirm that:-

The Committee of the Group are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements so as to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Group and of the income and expenditure of the Group for the financial year. In preparing those financial statements, the Committee is required to:

--- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;


--- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;

--- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis, unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Group will continue in business.

The Committee of the Group are also responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Group. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Group and taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

For and on behalf of Committee

  
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Manager

  
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Chairperson

18th October 2023



# Glen Parent Youth Group



Some of the young people who took part in the Summer Scheme Activities

## After Schools

Throughout the year the Youth Project delivered an intensive afterschool programme both in house and utilising outdoor facilities. The Afterschool's Programmes offered the children and young people a safe supervised environment and is designed as a supplement to in class learning. In addition to providing adult supervision to the children after school the afterschool's programme offers educational benefits. The afterschool's programme offered the children and young people a wide range of programmes that included:

- Educational support (numeracy and literacy Programmes)
- Educational Visits
- Seasonal Workshops
- Community safety programmes
- Mindfulness/yoga workshops
- Drama Workshops
- Healthy Living Programmes
- Environmental Programmes
- Arts & Crafts Programmes
- Road safety and bike safe Programmes



## Evening Youth Provision

The evening Youth Provision provided a range of opportunities for the young people who attended and availed of the programmes and activities. The evening youth provision focused on enabling and empowering the young people to reach their full potential as caring and responsible citizens. It offered the children and young people different activities to help and encourage them to grow, have ongoing relationships with other young people and adults and give hope and opportunity for their future.

- Mindfulness training
- Christmas Toy Appeal
- Futsal training
- Sexual Education Workshops (Common Youth)
- Invisible Trafficking
- The Art Cart
- Halloween Fair
- Christmas Market
- Youth Football Academy
- Substance Abuse Awareness Programme including vaping
- Ready Steady Cook
- Let's get Active Programmes
- Young Men's Group
- Young Women's Group
- Youth Forum
- Gambling and resilience training (online)
- Promoting resilience
- Circle of Courage training



## Summer Scheme/Camp

The Youth Group delivered an 8 week summer scheme and summer camp programme throughout the months of July and August. We had over 250 young people signed up as members. This included daily trips away and in house activities. This was our 3rd year running our summer camp. This was the most successful year yet to date and we keep growing and getting bigger, better and stronger. We accomplished our goal of providing all our young people with the best summer they can possibly have. We made it our aim to pack it full of lots of different trips, especially to places that the young people hadn't seen or heard of before.

## Schools work

The Inclusion Project in partnership with St Gerard's Resource Centre continued to run throughout the year. The Inclusion Project is there to encourage participation from the young people who don't attend any youth club and give them the opportunity to experience attending a youth club and taking part in specific structured programmes and designed in partnership with the young people. The overall idea of this Project is to educate and showcase to the young people attending the benefits that attending a Youth Club can have and hopefully encourage the young people taking part to sign up as members and in the long term volunteer as youth leaders.

## Outreach

Throughout the past year our youth work moved towards a detached setting at the weekends, working within the local community, delivering outreach in a safe environment. The difference this made was massive. The young people (mostly past members), were delighted to see the youth staff on the streets and were able to get a catch up and friendly chat. It was also apparent that with the staff on the streets, residents felt safer and witnessed a decrease in anti-community behaviour.



# Glen Parent Daycare

Quality Childcare Provision



Glen Parent Daycare won Workforce Training Services Employer of the Year Award in July 2022.

## Award Winning Service

Glen Day-Care is an Award winning, High Quality Daycare. Our Project provides affordable childcare for working parents, students in education and training, and referrals from health and social care professionals. At Glen Daycare we take pride in offering a warm, welcoming and caring environment where each child has the opportunity to develop and grow in their unique way.

We are ambassadors for children and respect their opinions, value their decisions and actively listen to their voices. We provide a high standard of care and facilities for children aged 0-5 years. Every day at Glen Daycare is fun-filled and stimulating with age-appropriate resources and activities in every room. Staff strive to ensure that children are provided with a fun and secure space to learn and develop as they reach their full potential. Our well-trained team understand that each individual child's needs are different, with high staff-to-child ratios and every attempt made to achieve low staff turnover, therefore offering continuity of care.

### Activities – A key Component

In Glen Daycare activities are structured and well planned as these are important for the overall development of children. This year has

been a busy year in the Daycare. Following a Staff Planning Day the staff came up with a range of ideas and ways to enhance the children's play experience.

### Best of the West 2022!

Glen Parent Daycare won Belfast Media Group Best of the West Award in June 2022. The staff were delighted with this achievement as they all work extremely hard to ensure that they provide high-quality care to all the children offering them an early learning programme aimed at the age and stage of the child through the intervention of planned play activities that allow the children to grow and enable them to reach their full potential. Our well qualified staff are motivated, enthusiastic and passionate and are always striving to provide our children with the best opportunities and experiences that they possibly can. This Award recognises the hard work and efforts that the team put in, to provide an environment where the children can grow, develop, play, learn, have fun and thrive.

### Employer of the Year 2022!

Glen Parent Daycare won Workforce Training Services Employer of the Year Award in July 2022. Tara McGuinness from Workforce stated that "this award was well deserved Glen Parent Daycare go over and beyond for each one of the students they provide fantastic opportunities for every one of them. They have built excellent relationships with the staff in Workforce and are very professional in everything that they do."

### Student of the Year!

Our student Ciara-Lee Murray won Workforce Training Services Learner of the Year in July 2022. Ciara-Lee is hard working she thoroughly enjoys her studies and thrives on putting her learning into practice. She has excellent patience with the children, built excellent relationships with the staff, parents and children.

Ciara-Lee is passionate about her work, she has great enthusiasm and loves being around the young children; she is very caring and has a kind nature. Ciara-Lee successfully finished and passed her Level 2 Childcare qualification and has moved onto the apprenticeship programme and is currently completing level 3 in childcare.

### Pathway Funding

Glen Parent Daycare were fortunate once again to secure the Pathway Funding in April 2022 for funding for 2 staff members for another year. The funding enables the staff to work to improve the development of children who are at risk of not reaching their full potential within the school system. Referrals to the Project come from a range of groups including, Outer West Belfast Family Support Hub, Lenadoon Women's Group, Lenadoon Counselling Project, Women's Aid and others.

### Preschool Graduation!

Thirty-nine of our preschool children graduated on 18th June 2022. They were all so excited as this was the end of a chapter in their young lives and the start of a new adventure to nursery and primary school. The children were dressed in our beautiful gowns and hats which provoked tears from parents, carers, family members and staff. The children sang their hearts out to all their nursery rhymes encouraging everyone to join in. The atmosphere was electric and emotional. Congratulations to all the children!

### Summer Activities

During the summer of 2022 we maximised the use of our outdoor area and planned a range of outdoor activities for the children to avail of. We made visits to Colin Glen Forest Park, Half Moon Lake, our local parks, Stream Vale, and Spruce meadow farms and WS. The children also enjoyed a wide range of in-house activities during the summer months.

We brought in outside facilitators to deliver a range of physical activities such as Jump, Jingle, and Jive and "Popping Plates". We had a very successful Teddy Bear's picnic where all the children joined in and enjoyed the sunshine whilst enjoying their picnic with their teddy. Our children joined in on the fun at Lenadoon Festival Family Fun Day in the Park.

To finish off our busy summer we had a Super Hero day for all our children. They dressed up in their favourite Super Hero costumes. The staff helped make costumes and painted the children's faces, a fun day had by all.

We now have waiting lists for all age groups in the Glen Daycare and are exploring opportunities to expand Glen Daycare to cope with the demand for places.

For further information about the services provided by

**Glen Daycare Project**, please call **Donna T. 028 90618549**



### Annual Inspection

Our annual inspection took place on 6th, 18th, 25th July 2022 carried out by BHSCT. It was very positive. The inspecting social worker was very impressed with the quality of care and the staff child interactions. The Daycare had no recommendations. The inspecting social worker stated "Glen Parent Daycare has a strong management and organisational structure. Staff to child ratios were very good. Staff presented as motivated, enthusiastic, and respectful. A very good range and variety of play resources were observed".

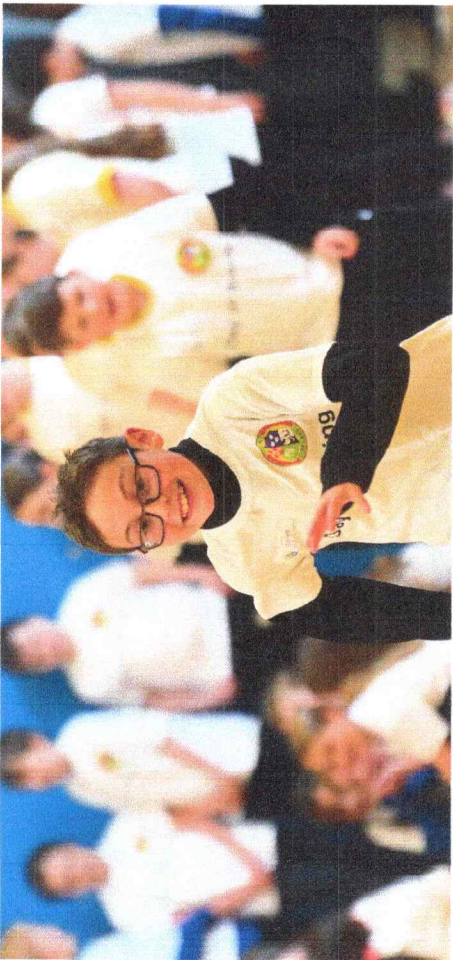
### Funding

In September 2022 the Daycare was fortunate to secure funding of £2000 from Belfast Childcare Partnership for new physical equipment.

### Staff training January – December 2022

- Eager & Able to Learn Training (4 staff)
- Health & Safety (full staff team)
- 3 staff completed Staff Designated Officer Training
- 1 staff member completed Adult Safeguarding Training
- 3 staff completed Designated Officer training.
- 4 staff completed child protection training.
- In house Health & Safety (full staff team)
- 4 staff completed Child Protection training.
- Managing Your Staff 1 staff member.
- Managing Your Pathway Grant
- Handling complaints and concerns 3 staff
- Fire Safety Training (full staff team)
- Understanding and addressing Behaviour in the Early Years 4 staff.
- Observation Training (full staff team)
- 5 staff started Level 3 in Childcare CCCLD.
- Data Protection 6 staff
- Supporting Your Staff 2 staff.
- Promoting Children with SEN in the Early Years 3 staff.
- Adult Safeguarding 3 staff
- Developing Good Governance 3 staff.
- 3 staff completed Paediatric First Aid
- 5 staff completed promoting positive behaviour.





## Acknowledgement

The financial support of our funders is vital; without it our capacity to deliver the much needed Services in the Glen Community Complex would be greatly reduced.

Glen Community Parent/Youth Group would like to acknowledge the financial support that it received in the past year from the following:



### Among the many User Groups of our Complex in 2022/23 were:

- Apex Housing (Advice Clinic)
- Barnardos (Counselling)
- Belfast City Council
- Belfast Health and Social Care Trust
- Belfast Hills Partnership
- Belfast Swifts F.C.
- Belfast United (Futsal)
- Christians Against Poverty
- Education Authority
- Gaeil an Ghleanna
- Lenadoon Community Festival Group
- Lenadoon Cultural Group
- Lenadoon Youth Providers Network
- Local Residents Group
- Mid Lenadoon Residents Association
- Neighbourhood Renewal Campaign Group
- N.I. Housing Executive
- Sarsfields G.A.C.
- South Antrim Board G.A.A.
- Tuesday Club
- Lenadoon Community Counselling Service
- West Belfast Partnership Board
- Women into Sport (WISPA)
- West Belfast Community Well Being Alliance

