

# SUMMER PEACE ★ CAMP



For young people aged 14 – 17 years  
from the Lurgan Area  
Wednesday 2nd July – Saturday 5th July 2014  
Greenhill YMCA, Newcastle

PROJECT REPORT

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# THANK YOU

The Lurgan Town Project would like to acknowledge the help of the following in assisting with the success of the peace camp;

The Main Funder – Craigavon Borough Council, Peace III Programme and SELB CRED Enhancement Scheme for supporting the development of the Steering Group

NAME who produced the logo which the Steering group designed

Those who supported the role out of the issue based workshops in particular, Stephen Heasley for the delivery of the Music Workshop, Michael, Tina, Helen and \*\*\*\*\* from Lurgan Neighbourhood PSNI, Colm and Timmy for the Faith Matters workshop.

Paul Moorehead who produced a promotional DVD of the peace camp.

Tesco Lurgan for provision of Goodie Bags for participants.

Saffron Lyness and Edel Foy for volunteering their time to support the delivery of the peace camp over the 4 days.

Thanks also to staff and volunteers from Greenhill YMCA who supported us over the 4 days and allowed us to use the centre to create the 'camp atmosphere' that was crucial.

# Joint RoDuction



This report contains a short synopsis of the Summer Peace Camp 2014. This is the 3rd year the summer peace camp has been delivered and is now a key component of the Lurgan Town Project calendar of events.

This year the camp was driven by a Youth Steering Group which was supported through YMCA, Lurgan in partnership with the Lurgan Town Providers and SELB Youth Service. The Steering group planned the programme, secured the venue, recruited participants, delivered key aspects of the programme and overseen the evaluation.

This report contains key information about the programme, a summary of the evaluation and makes recommendations for future actions.

# **Aim & Objectives**

**Lurgan Town Project  
Summer Peace Camp  
Wednesday 2nd July – Saturday 5th July 2014  
Greenhill YMCA, Newcastle**

## **AIM**

***Providing an opportunity for young people from Lurgan to share experiences, explore difference, speak their mind and celebrate diversity.***

## **OBJECTIVES**

***Provide an innovative residential opportunity for 40 young people from the Lurgan Area.***

***Share teambuilding activities to help the group feel more comfortable and get to know each other in a safe space.***

***Use outdoor education to challenge, inspire and promote togetherness***

***Use the learning gained to impact positively for all living in Lurgan.***

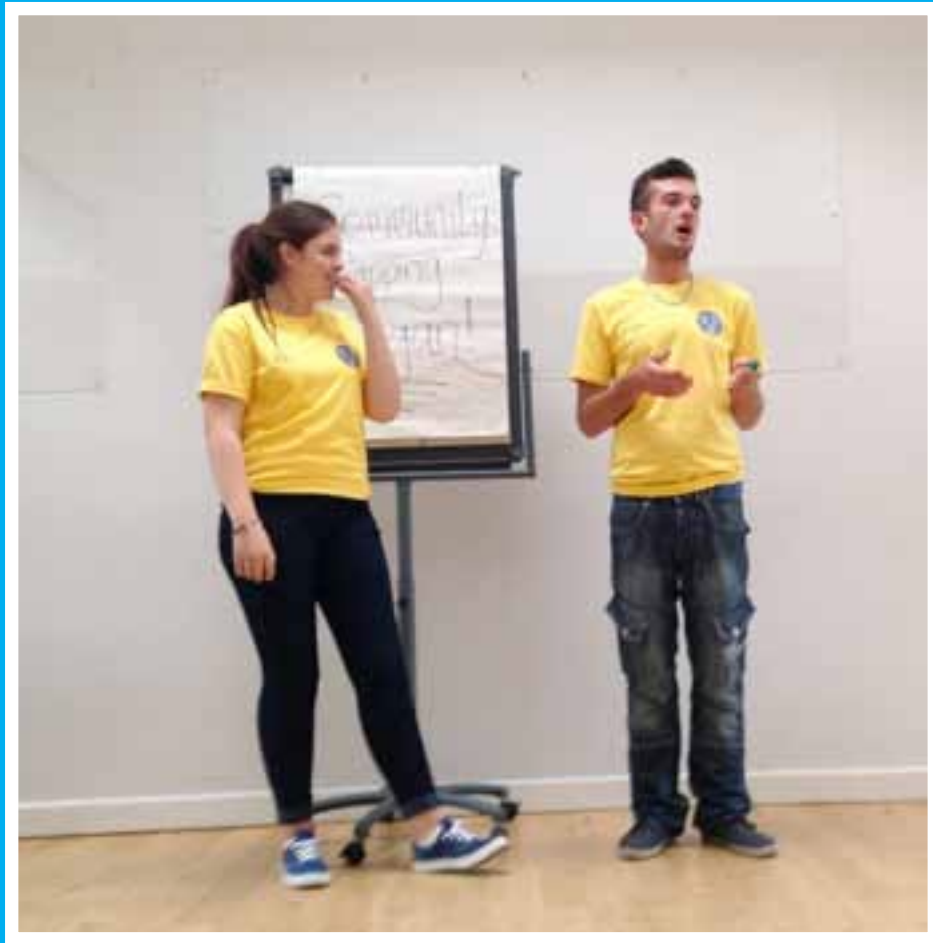
***Promote the active involvement of the Steering Group across all aspects of the residential.***

***Creatively capture the process.***

Wednesday 2nd July	Thursday 3rd July	Friday 4th July	Saturday 5th July
9:30am - Meet YMCA, Lurgan	9:00am Breakfast Check in with group – plan for day.	9:00am Breakfast Check in with group	9:00am Breakfast
11:30am Arrive Greenhill <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information Sharing</li> <li>Room Allocation</li> <li>Baseline</li> <li>Egg Parents</li> </ul>	Recap with group re questions. 10am – PSNI arrive. Introductions & Icebreakers  Split in 2 groups – 1 group to do Laser-tag 1 group to do Climbing	Activity – Water Bouldering (Group split in 4: 2 – Medium bouldering 2 – Deep bouldering)	Clean Up Baseline Presentation of Awards
1pm - Lunch	1pm - Lunch	1pm - Lunch	
2pm Teambuilding session - To be arranged by steering group	2pm Laser-tag Climbing Q & A session with PSNI	2pm Issue Based Workshops Flags Workshop Step Forward Faith Matters	2pm Depart Greenhill
7pm Silly Games - to be arranged by steering group  Short group work session Community Mapping  Night Line	7pm Music workshop around campfire.	7pm Silly sports event  Late Night Disco.	



# community Mapping Report



The community mapping session was developed and delivered by the youth steering group. The aim of the session was to identify positive and negatives off land marks within Lurgan. We also wanted to identify land marks from both sides of the community so people are aware of all that Lurgan has to offer as well as raise awareness of shared spaces.

Here is some of our findings:

### **Lurgan Youth Annex**

- Get to know great people
- Don't feel safe
- Never been
- Seems fun

### **3g Pitch Lurgan Junior High School**

- Not central
- Only for protestants
- 3g pitch is lethal
- Fun place to go

### **Jethro**

- Fun
- Would only go if I was invited
- For Protestants only

### **Waves**

- Not central enough
- Great facilities
- Great place to have fun and exercise

### **Lurgan Park**

- Drink and drugs taken here
- Both sides of the community can go
- Fun place to be and hang out
- Good drinking spot

### **Brownlow House**

- Nothing to do
- Historical importance
- Don't feel welcome
- Looks class
- More related to Protestant people

### **Links**

- Get to know people
- Class place to hang out
- For all people
- More Protestants go now

### **YMCA**

- Get to know different beliefs
- Cross community
- Great craic
- Has everything

### **McDonalds**

- Great place to meet friends
- Good food
- Not central

### **Centre Point**

- Football and bowling and gambling
- Not a neutral place
- Don't feel safe
- Boring

### **Subway (tunnel)**

- Place to drink
- Police come
- Good place to meet friends

### **Train Station**

- Not central and don't feel safe walking to it
- Great to get to Belfast and Lisburn

### **Allen Hill Park**

- Didn't know it existed in Lurgan
- Not enough to do at it
- Never been

### **Oxford Island**

- Bush craft centre is fun
- Great place to hang out with friends in the summer in the sun
- Good place to drink
- Everyone can go

### **Tarry Lane**

- Drink and Drugs
- Place to chill
- Scary at night
- Never been



# pARTicipAnt

# EVAluAtion

At the end of the peace camp a thorough evaluation process was delivered by Steering group members. This took the form of a carousel activity as well as a structured question and answer session where participants had the opportunity to talk about their peace camp experience. The steering group also evaluated the summer peace camp from a planning / organisational perspective.

An analysis of information collected highlighted that 37.5% of participants were from a protestant background and 62.5% from a protestant background. 45% of participants were male and 55% female. 100% were white.

## Baseline Evaluation

The 40 participants took part in a Baseline evaluation at the Peace Camp. We asked them some questions on how they felt on some relevant topics before the Peace Camp and again at the end. Please see the results below!!

Questions	Average answers before Peace Camp. 1----- 5	Average answers Post Peace Camp. 1----- 5
Do you have friends from a different cultural background than you?	3	5
Do you feel the peace camp will benefit /has benefited you?	4	5
How safe do you feel going into other communities in Lurgan?	2	4
How much do you know about other religions	2	4
How comfortable do you feel around the PSNI?	3	5

# whAt young people hAD to SAY:

## Best Part of Residential;

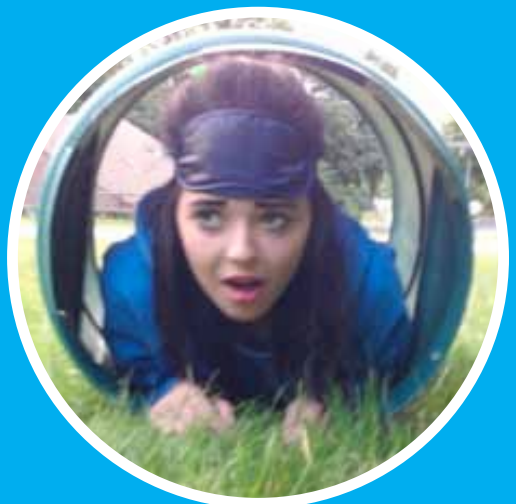
During the evaluation process the young people had the opportunity to have their say on all aspects of the peace camp. Most young people cited that the best thing overall was the opportunity to meet new people and build friendships with young people that they may not otherwise get the opportunity to.

The workshops delivered received very positive feedback. The young people felt they had the opportunity to learn about flags, cultures and religions particularly through the Flags, Music and Faith Matters workshops. The PSNI Workshop got positive feedback with the young people highlighting that this gave them the opportunity to find out more about the police and the role of the neighbourhood team as well as get to know the police in a relaxed and fun environment.

The key learning for the young people over the course of the peace camp included learning about the differences in Protestant and Catholic religions, flags and songs. The majority of the young people stated that they learnt a lot in the flags workshop in terms of the background of different flags and the meaning behind them. The music workshop was very emotive and young people highlighted that they learnt a lot about the protestant community through the music workshop.

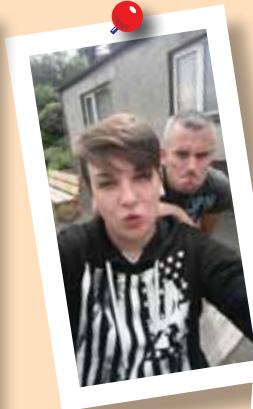
Greenhill YMCA got great reviews from the young people with particular mention to the quality of the food, the good views of Newcastle and the comfy beds!! The outdoor activities were well received by young people with laser tagging and bouldering getting great reviews.

The steering group were highly commended, the young people stated that they were supportive, engaging, friendly and easy to get along with.



# Lu Rg An pe Ace c Amp 2014





One young person said  
"The Steering group were fab. I got along with them so well and because they are near the same age as us it made it easier for us. I would really like to be part of the steering group next year"

When asked to describe the peace camp experience the young people gave a variety of answers which included;  
"Unreal; Brilliant, exciting and upbeat; best residential ever; Adventure Friendship and opportunities"



One Young Person summed up their experience saying;  
"I learnt that different people have different opinions on things, that friendship can happen out of the smallest of things and that there are a lot of differences between the catholic and protestant churches"

#### **Improvements:**

There were limited factors that young people would suggest for improvements for future opportunities. However what was suggested was to schedule more free time for young people to socialise throughout the duration of the programme. Some young people felt that the programme was quite intense and at times would have liked more time for themselves.



# Steering Group EVALUATION

## What were you feeling the day after returning home from peace camp?

- Didn't feel the same – I wanted to go back because it was good from you got up in the morning
- I felt changed / moved. It was a touching experience. When I was at home I got up and thought where is everyone. Very rewarding experience
- I felt proud of myself and the steering group – achievements made
- Outdid ourselves – inspired. Real friendships made
- Atmosphere of peace camp helped develop friendships
- Sad wanted to go back – met loads of new people
- Amazing experience – made real friendships. Good experience
- Good – Friendships developed
- Wanted longer, it was the best and everyone got along
- After peace camp we attended a parade with our friends
- People in our community were giving out about us going on a peace camp
- We handed in our band uniforms
- Community Pressure
- The bands were saying that they don't agree with cross community work
- Getting involved in loads of opportunities through YMCA
- Wanted to go back – didn't want to leave
- Never delivered workshops before – through peace camp I felt I had more control of delivering workshops in groups
- Want to do less centre based work and be more involved in programmes
- We went to support our friends at the parades and loved the experience

## PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT THROUGH STEERING GROUP PROCESS:



- Joined the steering group to do something different. It built my confidence and I feel now that I could deliver workshops better next time
- The workshop we delivered was 10 times better because of the changes that were made. Young people fed back that they really enjoyed the peace camp
- Built my confidence and I really enjoyed attending every Wednesday
- I'm not as shy anymore – I feel a lot more confident to speak out
- More confident in workshops although I felt unprepared for the workshop I delivered and it was difficult
- How to take responsibility – get the young people to do things
- Matured from this process. Feel now that I can talk to anyone
- I was worried starting workshops but as time went on felt more confident
- Different experience from last year as the steering group had responsibility and it was up to us to deliver the peace camp – we had support when needed but mainly it was ours
- Independence was different and better to last year
- Leaders were good help when needed but we were pushed to take responsibility
- Re runs of workshops before the peace camp helped massively – helped us prepare.

### **Recommendations for next year:**

- No phones during activities
- Steering group process should start earlier to give us more time to prepare
- Peace Camp should be later as we have too much school commitment during May & June due to exam
- Start Steering group process earlier and leave peace camp to later in summer.

### **Where to Next:**

- Young Ambassadors currently recruiting young people
- Presentation of peace camp to Young Ambassadors, LTP Providers as well as key community stakeholders including Council, PSNI, Community reps.

# Do's & Don'ts

As a result of the experience shared by all in the summer peace camp 2014 and considering the feedback received it is possible to make the following recommendations:

- Recruitment to start 1 month earlier with a target of 4 young people from each centre to be recruited.
- Staff from Craigavon Borough Council should be formally invited to attend. It would have been really useful for them to hear the young people's views during the Community Mapping session.
- Information from community mapping to be presented by Steering Group members to Young Ambassadors group, Youth Providers, local council staff/councillors etc.
- Continue to involve the PSNI staff with one day of the general activities to help with developing relationships between young people and PSNI.
- Re-run the music workshop but continue to ensure sensitivity to message portrayed.
- Consider introducing at least 1 new issue based workshop for next year.
- The success of the camp to be shared across the Area.
- Peace Camp should be later as we have too much school commitment during May & June due to exams.





"This is the first time I have been able to be myself with other people in a long time"

"The music workshop is the best I have ever been on" "made me think of my involvement and to get to know the other side's opinion."

"I would 100% come back because it got everybody involved with people from different religions"

"A great experience and great meeting new people"

"This is the first weekend I have been out for a while and I wanna get more involved in youth centres"

"Teaching others made me feel so good - them listening to me made me feel very good"!!

"I learnt that different people have different opinions on things, that friendship can happen out of the smallest of things and that there are a lot of differences between the catholic and protestant"

"The steering group was fab. I got along with them all so well and because they are near the same as us which makes it easier for us. I would really like to be part of the steering group next year."

## Break down of Participants:

YMCA	13	32.5%
Clann Eireann	10	25%
North Lurgan	7	17.5%
Taghnevan	1	2.5%
Youth Annex	3	7.5%
Links	3	7.5%
Other	3	7.5%
Protestant YP	15	37.5%
Catholic	25	62.5%
Male	18	45%
Female	22	65%

## **PARTICIPANT EVALUATION WHAT DID YOU LEARN DURING PEACE CAMP?**

The key learning for the young people over the course of the peace camp included learning about the differences in Protestant and Catholic religions, flags and songs. The majority of the young people stated that they learnt a lot in the flags workshop in terms of the background of different flags and the meaning behind them. The music workshop was very emotive and young people highlighted that they learnt a lot about the protestant community through the music workshop

- I learnt the background of different flags and the meaning behind them
- About flags that I didn't know about – Catholics and Protestants
- I learnt loads about my religion and more about flags and how to go bouldering
- I really enjoyed flags workshops and faith matters
- I learnt more about the roman catholic religion which was so interesting
- I learnt that different people have different opinions on things , that friendship can happen out of the smallest of things and that there are a lot of differences between the catholic and protestant churches
- I learnt more about religions through the music workshop
- I learnt a lot about the protestant community during Dixie's music workshop as well as got more information on the flags of Britain and Ireland
- I learnt that you don't need play station or Xbox to have fun and that you can socialise with others
- I learnt never to prejudge people
- I learnt to respect other peoples opinion
- I learnt a couple of songs in Dixie's workshop and I learnt about other people's cultures.
- I learnt new information about religion and the meaning of flags
- I learnt that there are not a lot of differences between catholic and protestants.
- I have learned to listen to others even if I don't agree

## **WOULD YOU COME BACK AND WHY?**

- Yes – the leaders were lovely and I met amazing new friends
- Yes I enjoyed the activities and the food was really nice
- Yes – It was really good fun
- No as I felt the groups were still divided
- Yes – It has been an enjoyable time and I have learnt new things
- Yes I have learnt to respect others and religions
- Yes the craic was good but the leaders need to calm down
- Yes it was good craic
- Yes but next time do more activities
- Yes it was good to get out of our area and the fun was great
- Yes it was an amazing time
- Yes I had a fantastic experience
- Yes I met new friends
- Yes – It was fun and I made lots of new friends
- No because it was boring
- No because not a lot of activities to do
- Yes it was always good to meet new people
- I would 100% come back because it got everybody involved with people from different religions

- Yes because it's really fun and you meet new friends
- I would definitely come back because the different activities were really good although some of the activities were a bit boring
- I would come back next year because I had a lot of fun
- Yes because it's been a great experience and great meeting new people

#### **WHAT WOULD YOU CHANGE ABOUT PEACE CAMP AND WHY?**

- Nothing it was brilliant because of meeting new people
- Consider people's feelings for the activities because some were childish
- I would like the games laser tagging and the night line in the dark
- Have more free time so we can do our own thing for a while
- I wouldn't change anything and the people were great
- I would prefer to do laser tagging at night and I would like more free time
- I would change the nightline activity so that instead of holding someone's shoulders we can use a rope
- During the day we should be allowed to socialise in each other's rooms as it's all about making new friends
- Have bigger rests in between activities
- I would give more free time as we were tired during some activities
- More free time, change location to somewhere better
- More activities because they were boring
- No because the leaders tried their best to make this weekend special
- We could have had more time to ourselves
- Nothing because I enjoyed it all because I met new friends and I had new craic
- Not a thing, loved it all, met loads of new friends
- Would be good to have more activities in the programme
- Nothing cause it was all good
- Don't do so many things in one day because we didn't get much time for ourselves
- I came out of a cocoon

#### **HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE YOUR PEACE CAMP EXPERIENCE?**

- Brilliant, Best Ever
- Unreal
- It was class
- Brilliant, exciting and upbeat
- Fantastic
- Amazing
- Really fun 4 days
- Best residential ever
- Adventure, Friendship, Opportunities
- Busy, interesting
- Biggest Laugh ever
- Absolutely brilliant

#### **WHAT WAS YOUR EXPERIENCE OF THE STEERING GROUP?**

- So easy to get along with
- They explained all the tasks really well
- Amazing and supportive
- Really nice though at times took too much control
- Extremely friendly and got into everything that was happening
- Everyone were really interactive and engaging
- They were friendly and gave help when needed
- Dead on and easy to get along with
- Amazing and a good help

- They were a really good help and learnt us new things
- The leaders can be your friend
- The steering group was awesome and really friendly
- The steering group was fab. I got along with them all so well and because they are near the same age as us which makes it easier for us. I would really like to be part of the steering group next year

## **Participant Evaluation: - Carousel Activity**

### **Venue:**

- Room was plain, needs more colour
- The food was amazing and had a selection to choose from, the house was nice and the beds were comfy
- The TV didn't work in the common area
- Need new drawers because they were falling apart
- Room were very dull and no colours
- Food was the best!!
- The food was amazing especially the potatoes and the instructors were nice
- Need new drawers in room, they were falling apart
- Great view of Newcastle

### **Music Session (Dixie from the Links)**

- I thought this was really fun because Dixies songs were good and at the end everyone started singing
- I loved Dixies storey about growing up and thought it was amazing and very interesting, deffo should bring it back next year
- Absolutely love Dixie. He wasn't baised and he was very considerate about what he said It is so inspirational about how passionate he is about life and God and the people he works with
- Sing more songs that everyone knows
- This was by far the best thing of the weekend. Loved it!!!
- I loved everyone getting together and enjoying all types of music
- Brilliant singer and good craic, got everyone involved
- It was brilliant and his voice is amazing
- Cracker mucker
- Amazing and lots of fun

### **PSNI**

- I enjoyed the relay race which was fun to take part in
- Found a lot of good and interesting facts
- I enjoyed Lazer tag with the PSNI, it made it more interesting
- I liked asking questions and playing games with them
- PSNI got really involved and Michael should always come back!!
- Got to know that the police weren't all bad
- Bit boring
- Great session, learnt more about what they done
- Not enough police there

### **Activities**

- I enjoyed bouldering because it was good fun
- I didn't enjoy rock climbing as there wasn't nuch to do
- I didn't like the night line because I found it boring

- I loved bouldering because I enjoyed the team work to overcome the boulders
- Lazer tag was good as I got to do it with a group of people I didn't really know that well
- Night line should have been in the dark. We should have got to do all the activities on the rock climb
- Bouldering was good, I enjoyed it as it was challenging
- I did not enjoy the ropes activities like the climbing wall because we were sitting around bored waiting on everyone
- Night line needs more preparation
- Should have more free time and less activities
- Some activities were too early in the morning
- Some activities were childish and teens wouldn't like them
- Everyone got involved!!

## **WORKSHOPS**

### ***First steps***

- Didn't really understand how it worked, it was confusing and was quite hard as you were put on the spot
- Buzzy Bee was fun
- Was quite boring as some people have done it before
- Could have been longer

### ***Flags***

- Flags workshop was great
- It was good to do, I learnt about different flags
- Gave us loads of information about the flags
- Making the flags was fun
- Leaders were awesome and we learnt so much about the history of the flags
- Good games

### ***Community mapping***

- Was good, got to know about our hometown
- Was good to learn about the other side
- Good games at the start
- Learned loads about both cultures, it was fun and interest!!
- Interesting to know where is protestant and Catholic in the town
- There were too many places for North Lurgan

### ***Faith matters***

- Really well presented and found out loads of information
- Found out loads of interesting things I have always wanted to know
- Very interesting and the magic was fab!!
- More time was needed
- Learnt a lot more about Catholic religion which interested me a lot
- The boys up to do the programme were nice and funny
- Went on too long







