

**Mayo Community Platform** was formed in 2007 with the support of the Combat Poverty Agency and is a network of community development organisations across Mayo working to identify and challenge the causes of poverty and social exclusion within Mayo.

## BOOKING FORM

NAME.....

ORGANISATION (if any) .....

EMAIL.....

TELEPHONE.....

**Do you have any specific requirements?**

DIETARY .....

OTHER.....

**Please rate your workshop preference 1 – 4**

**Workshop 1**

Value and role of community development in tackling poverty and social exclusion .....

**Workshop 2**

Using the legal system to tackle poverty and inequality .....

**Workshop 3**

**Collective Action for Change –**  
developing participative and successful campaign strategies.....

**Workshop 4**

A campaign in action; Campaign for progressive tax reform.....

RSVP to **Tacú Family Resource Centre, Glebe Street, Ballinrobe, Co. Mayo,**  
phone - **094-9542908**, email - **ballinrobefrc@eircom.net** by **Wednesday, October 13.**

The Social Inclusion Division of the Department of Community, Equality and Gaeltacht Affairs supports this project as part of its funding initiative for the UN Day for the Eradication of Poverty.

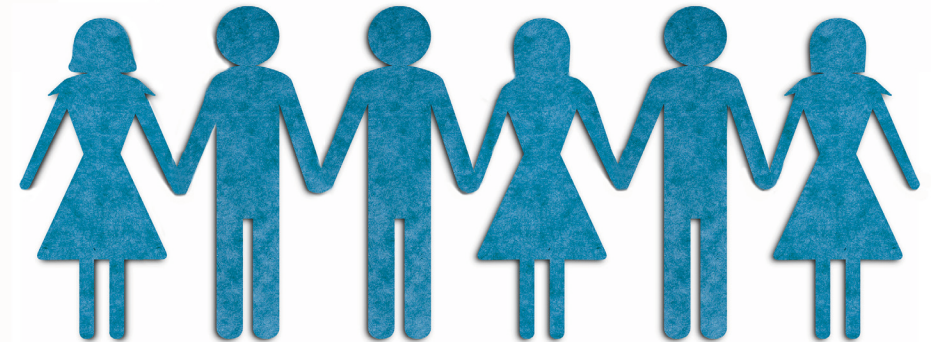
# Poverty and Inequality in Mayo

# Working for Change

**Tuesday, October 19, 2010**

10am – 4pm

**Welcome Inn, Castlebar, Co. Mayo**



A conference organised by

**Mayo Community Platform**

– a network of community development organisations across Mayo working together to combat poverty, inequality and social exclusion.



An Roinn Gnóthaí Pobail,  
Comhionannais agus Gaeltachta  
Department of Community, Equality  
and Gaeltacht Affairs



www.2010againstopoverty.eu

**Tuesday, October 19, 2010**

- 10:00** ..... **Registration**
- 10:30** ..... **Conference Opening Address** by **Mary Jackson**, Chair
- 10:40** ..... **Creating a more equal and just Ireland:**  
The role of the Community and Voluntary Sector  
**Anastasia Crickley** – Head, Dept. of Applied Social Studies, NUI Maynooth
- 11:00** ..... **Challenging Poverty and Inequality in Mayo**  
**Thérèse Ruane** – Mayo Community Platform
- 11:15** ..... **The New Face of Poverty** **Pat Bennett**, CEO, Family Support Agency
- 11:30** ..... **Q&A session**
- 12:00** ..... **Introduction to afternoon workshops**
- ▶ Value and role of community development in tackling poverty and social exclusion: **Oonagh McArdle**, Community Workers Co-op
  - ▶ Using the legal system to tackle poverty and inequality: **Jo Kenny**, Legal Officer, Public Interest Law Alliance, a project of FLAC.
  - ▶ Collective Action for Change – developing participative and successful campaign strategies: **Helen Lowry**, Community Work Coordinator, Migrant Rights Centre Ireland
  - ▶ A campaign in action: Campaign for progressive tax reform: **Anne Costello**, National Community Platform.
- 12:50** ..... **Lunch**
- 2:00** ..... **Workshops**
- ▶ Value and role of community development in tackling poverty and social exclusion
  - ▶ Using the legal system to tackle poverty and inequality
  - ▶ Collective Action for Change – developing participative and successful campaign strategies
  - ▶ A campaign in action: Campaign for progressive tax reform
- 3:00** ..... **Feedback from workshops –**  
Facilitated discussion of ‘The Way Forward’  
by **Josephine Lally**
- 3:30** ..... **Closing address** by **Anastasia Crickley** and **Mary Jackson**

**Anastasia Crickley** is Head of the Department of Applied Social Studies at NUI Maynooth. She is a founder member of the European Network against Racism and former Chairperson of the National Consultative Committee on Racism and Interculturalism. Chairperson and co-founder of Pavee Point (National Travellers Centre), Anastasia is the Irish Representative (and previous chairperson) of the European Union Fundamental Rights Agency and was recently elected a member of the UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.

**Thérèse Ruane**, a founding member of Mayo Intercultural Action, has been involved in the community sector in Mayo in both a paid and voluntary capacity for ten years. She has previously worked as project coordinator at Ballina Family Resource Centre. Thérèse is one of the initiators of the Mayo Community Platform and is a current member of its steering group.

**Pat Bennett** is the CEO of the Family Support Agency. Pat has primarily been working in the field of health and social services since 1980. His previous post was as Assistant CEO of the Children and Families Programme in the South Western Area Health Board. He chaired the first Traveller Health Unit in the Eastern Region and is currently a member of the Health Management Institute of Ireland.

**Oonagh Mc Ardle** is a community worker who has been working within the community sector since 1991, supporting good community work practice, on both a paid and voluntary basis. She currently works both with the Community Workers’ Co-operative as well as with NUI, Maynooth, where she teaches community work and related modules to students on professional courses in community and youth work.

**Jo Kenny** joined the Public Interest Law Alliance, a project of the Free Legal Advice Centre, as Legal Officer in 2009. Jo qualified as a barrister in England (Lincoln’s Inn). She worked as a legal advisor to the UK Department for Work and Pensions for three years, where she advised on domestic and international litigation and the ECHR and EU aspects of policy proposals and legislation. On returning to Dublin, Jo worked as an associate at Arthur Cox for two years and co-authored the pensions chapter in ‘Employment Law’ by Maeve Regan, Tottels.

**Helen Lowry** coordinates community work activities in the Migrant Rights Centre of Ireland. She has also organised several leadership development courses, and more recently coordinated and delivered the first course in Community Work aimed at migrant workers which was accredited by NUI Maynooth. A graduate of the Higher Diploma in Youth and Community Work from NUI Maynooth, Helen has recently completed her Masters in Applied Social Studies and is an active member of the Community Workers Cooperative.

**Anne Costello** is the resource worker for the Community Platform, a network of 29 National Community Organisations working collectively to address poverty and inequality since 2006. She also works with the Galway Traveller Movement on a part-time basis as an Enterprise Development Worker. Prior to taking up those positions Anne was the co-ordinator of Clondalkin Travellers Development Group and was employed as a community worker with a focus on health and accommodation with the Galway Traveller Movement.