

Board of Directors

Staff Members

Cliff Kennedy	Chair	Michael Briggs	Director
Janice Cherry	Vice-Chair	Jonny Currie	Community Support Manager (From July 2009)
Bernie McConnell	Hon Secretary	Kim Briggs	Finance/Office Manager
Sammy Douglas	Hon Treasurer	Alan Houston	Health Development Worker
Rev David Brown		Chris Deconink	Health Development Worker (From April 2009)
Rachael Davison		Danny McShane	Health Development Worker (Until April 2009)
Rev Mervyn Gibson		Sharon Traynor	Health Development Worker (From May 2009)
Thomas Sandford		Ian McKee	Volunteer Development Worker
Des Meredith		Jean Higginson	Payroll/Finance Administrator
Liz Osion		Joanna Loudoun	Project Support/Admin
Sam Lamont (Until Dec 2009)		Marie Anne McMillan	Health Project Administrator
Joe Watson (Co-Option)		Janyne Duncan	Cleaner
Beryl Carson (Co-Option)		Alec McAllister	Caretaker

Full Members

African Community Trust	EBCEC - East Belfast Community Education Centre
Age Concern East Belfast & Castlereagh	EBIAC - East Belfast Independent Advice Centre
Ardcarn Residents	Friends of Mullan Mews
Ashfield Boys' High School	Greenway Women's Group
Ashfield Girls' High School	Inner East Forum
Aslan Association	Inner East Youth Project
Ballymac	Lagan Water Sports
Ballymacarrett Arts & Cultural Society	Links Women's Group
Ballymacarrett Youth and Community Project	Lower Castlereagh Community Group
Ballyoran Old Mill Bowls	Mountpottinger After School Kids
Bloomfield Community Association	Newtownards Road Elim Pentecostal Church
Braniel Community Association	Newtownards Road Women's Group Ltd
Carryduff Play Care/Playgroup	NICAS
CEHT	Oak Partnership
Church of Ireland, Ballymacarrett	Oasis Caring in Action
Clanmil Tenant Forum	Oasis Trading
Clarawood 50+ Club	Old Mill Bowling Club
Clarawood Community Association	PMS & PND Support
Clonduff Community Association	Round Tower Community Project
Community Drug Awareness (The CODA Project)	Short Strand Community Forum
Connswater Womens Group	Swann Training Services
Covenant Love Church	The Academy of Ulster-Scots (Ullans) Ltd
Cregagh Community Association	The Beat Initiative
Cregagh Primary School Pre-School Play-group	The Bridge Community Association
Crossroads Project Ltd	The Centre
Crown Project	The Forward Group
Dundonald Cultural Society	The Hopefuls
Dundonald Village Regeneration Group	The Rivers Community Project
East Belfast Alternatives	Tullycarnet Community Support Services Ltd
East Belfast Churches Forum	Walkway Community Association
East Belfast Concerned Women's Group	Wandsworth Area Residents' Group
East Belfast Mission	Wandsworth Community Association
East Belfast Partnership	Willowfield Parish Church
East Belfast Prince's Trust Team Programme	Women 2 Gather
East Belfast Talking Newspaper	Youth Initiatives

Associate Members

Age Concern Northern Ireland	Gingerbread NI
Archway Youth Club	Green Action
Avoniel Leisure Centre	Home-Start South and East Belfast
Avoniel Primary School	Inverary Community Centre
Ballybeen Women's Centre	The Junction Club
Ballymac Centre	Knocknagoney Community Centre
Ballymacarrett Somme Festival	Knocknagoney Over Sixties Club
Ballyoran Old Tyme Dance & Social Group	Knocknagoney Primary School
Belfast City Council	Linenhall Library
Belfast City Council/NI Housing Executive	Live by the Word of God Ministries
Belfast Community Housing Association	Lower Woodstock Community Association
Belfast East Seniors' Forum	Mersey Street Presbyterian Church
Belfast Health & Social Care Trust (Comm Dev)	Mountpottinger Methodist Church
Belfast Improved Housing	NEA NI
Belfast Metropolitan College	Newtownbreda Women's Institute
Belfast Interface Project	NI Housing Executive - East Belfast Office
Belfast Public Libraries	NICMA - the Childminding Association
Belvoir & Milltown Action Group	Old Belmont School Preservation Trust
Belvoir Thursday Night Club	Open Door Housing Assoc - Inverary House
Bestcellars Music Collective	Opportunity Youth
BRACE (Ballymac Regeneration & Comm Enterprise)	Playboard
Braniel Over 60s Club	Probation Board for NI
Braniel Primary School	PSNI Community Safety Team
Bright Lights	Ravenhill Presbyterian Men's Fellowship
Castlereagh Borough Council	RNIB (Belfast Activity Programme)
Castlereagh Community Safety Partnership	Rubicon
Castlereagh Libraries (SEELB)	See-Saw Playgroup
Castlereagh Youth Offices	Silver Liners Group
Clara Park Tenants & Residents' Assoc	Sirocco Youth
Conflict Transformation Institute	St Colmcille's Wednesday Club
Conservation Volunteers	St Mark's Evergreens
Cregagh & District Old People's Club	St Matthew's Guide Unit
Dundela Forum Association	Strand Presbyterian Church
Dundonald Green Belt Association	Strand Primary School
East Belfast Area Youth Project	Strandburn Residents' Association
East Belfast Beacon Centre (NIAMH)	Strathearn School
East Belfast CAB	Sydenham Court
East Belfast Enterprise	Sydenham House
East Belfast Neighbourhood Office	Sydenham Infants' Primary School
East Belfast Sure Start	Sydenham Corps of the Salvation Army
East Belfast Ulster Unionist Advice Centre	The Bytes Project
EHSSB - Investing for Health	Tor Bank School
Elmgrove Primary School	Tuesday Mother & Toddlers
Emmanuel	Tullycarnet Presbyterian Church
Equal Lives Action Group	Bowling Club
Euston Street Primary School	Tullycarnet Primary School
Gae Lairn	Tullycarnet Yarnspinners
GEMS Northern Ireland Limited	Ulster People's College
	Willowfield Credit Union
	Youth Justice Agency - East Belfast

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East Belfast Community Development Agency



ANNUAL REPORT

1st April 2009 – 31 March 2010



East Belfast Community Development Agency exists to provide resources, support and capacity building programmes for community groups that are based on partnership, equal opportunities and sustainable outcomes.



## Chair's Comments

I am pleased to present this Annual Report to you, in this our 40th year. The report provides an overview of the work of EBCDA for the period April 2009 – March 2010. During the 12 month period it has been both an exciting and challenging time for the Agency. Fundamental to our role is targeting the specific needs of the community sector and acting as catalyst and advocate in supporting and developing the sector in East Belfast so that it can continue to exist.

In the past number of years we have consistently reminded the sector, that we are in an ever changing environment and that this has of course brought its challenges for us as an organisation and will continue to do so in the coming 2-3 years, but we will meet these challenges with confidence and action. Our pursuit of developing an East Belfast Network Centre, in the old Templemore Avenue School, has taken some major leaps forward this year and we are committed to making this a reality for East Belfast.

As an organisation we welcomed Jonny Currie to the role of Community Support Manager. Sarah Lorimer joined us in February on a 6 month graduate programme to help us establish a Community Development Strategy for East Belfast. Jonny and Sarah join a highly skilled and committed staff team and the Board of Directors are grateful to all the staff for their continued commitment.

The time, effort and commitment our Board of Directors, who are all volunteers, give to the agency is very much appreciated. As ever, we are extremely grateful to our funders BRO/DSD, VCU/DSD, Investing for Health, Belfast City Council, CFNI, Belfast Health Trust, East Belfast Partnership and the Strategic Investment Board (SIB) without whom we could not do our work.

## Director's Report

The period covered by this Annual Report has been a time of reflection and change for EBCDA. We have a new Community Support Manager, Jonny Currie; our 5 year strategy for 2005 – 2010 came to an end; the funding for our Health Programme concluded the Sydenham Community Support Project finished its 2 year programme and we began the process of renewing our membership base. Of course all of these things present to us opportunities to develop the organisation further and underpin the important role of the community sector in East Belfast.

Jonny has slotted right in and got stuck into the work. Working closely with the Board and Staff we have developed a new 5 year strategy for 2010 – 2015. The Health Programme received funding for 3 years through to 2013 and the Sydenham Community Partnership is managed by local groups on a voluntary basis, with admin support from us and we have increased our new members by 18%.

The biggest piece of work for us continues to be the development of Templemore Avenue School as an East Belfast Network Centre. This £4.3m development will both change the effectiveness of the community sector in East Belfast as well as changing the face of the community in which the building is located. Our action plan has us pegged for an opening in mid 2012.

The most important element of our work, which underpins everything we do, is of course people. The various pieces reported on within this Annual Report have resulted in EBCDA having contact with over 3000 people in the year. Our email bulletin goes out on a fortnightly basis to over 300 organisations and individuals and our "E-mail" Newsletter is distributed to over 200 organisations.

Advocacy and information are important elements of our work. In September 2008 we launched our newly revamped website and in March 2010 the website had recorded over 90,000 hits. You'll see some of the specific pieces of work in the other elements of this in Annual Report but throughout 2009/2010 we represented a view from the sector in East Belfast to the wider Northern Ireland, Republic of Ireland and other parts of the UK. We also developed and maintained contact with MLAs, Councillors, MP, Belfast City Council, Inner East Forum, East Belfast Partnership, Strategic Investment Board (SIB), Castlereagh Council, NICVA, Community Development Networks Forum, Inner East Neighbourhood Partnership, CORE Project, DSD, VCU and BRO and we are grateful to them all for both financial and practical support in our work.

## Community Support Unit

Support this year included assistance with sourcing, applying for and managing funding, setting up new groups and implementing good governance within organisations. Support and signposting was also provided for new organisations, ensuring that community work in East Belfast continues to remain cohesive and aware of partnership opportunities.

We commenced research in 4 areas of weak community infrastructure in East Belfast: Ardarn, Bloomfield, Clarawood and Knocknagoney, with the purpose of working with local communities to develop action plans for their areas.

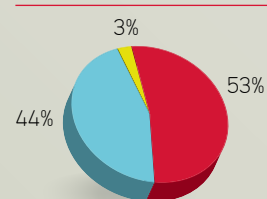
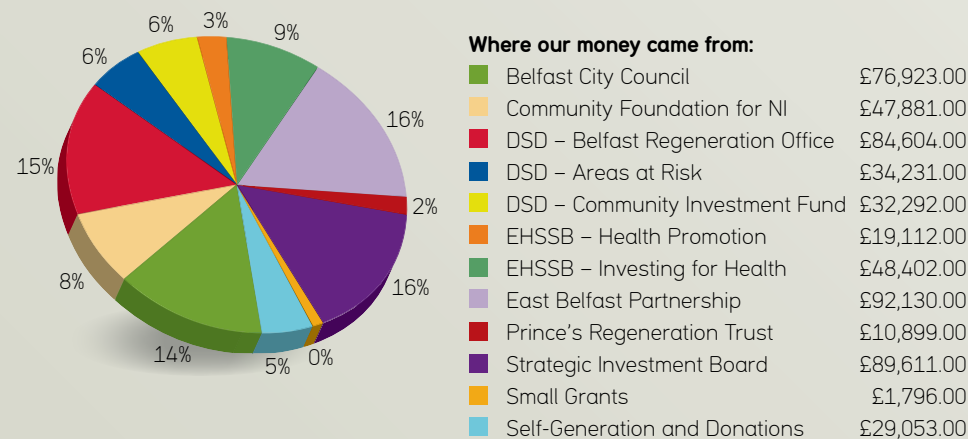
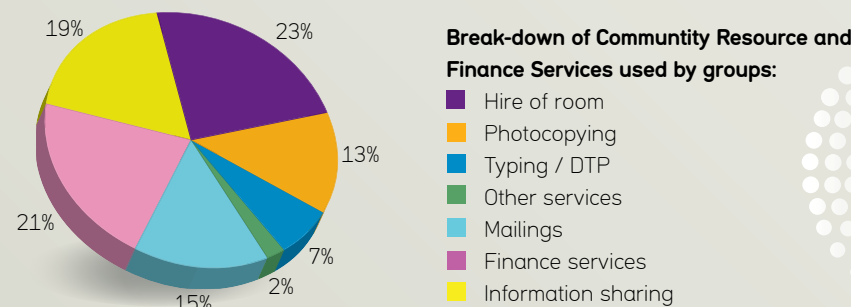
The Community Workers Forum continues to provide an important networking opportunity, meeting monthly with an average attendance of twenty-five and our "E-Mail" newsletter, remaining widely-read, with three editions produced this year. We also send out fortnightly email bulletins which allow us to bring brief and up-to-date information to the sector quickly.

We delivered a lobbying programme aimed at helping people understand how they can use the N.I. Assembly. Information sessions on community planning, the Bill of Rights process, and the dormant accounts scheme were all an opportunity for the sector in East Belfast to have their say on these important issues.

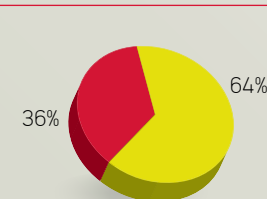
We managed the Local Community Fund, for East Belfast, on behalf of CFNI as well as supporting a range of groups to work together and apply for specific pieces of funding to support and develop their work.

## Community Resource & Finance

Even 40 years on we continue to offer the services of photocopying, typing, collating and binding, laminating and room hire to all community groups, particularly to small and newly emerging groups. Our Finance Team provides payroll services, independent examinations and finance advice for the sector. We have carried out a number of one to one finance training sessions with groups. All groups tell us this is very helpful in understanding the processes they need to implement for good financial management.



Staff Costs	£202,209.00
Running Costs	£12,582.00
Project Costs	£246,334.00



Staff Costs	£81,884.00
Running Costs	£45,956.00

## Health Development & Social Connections Programme

It has been a busy year for staff and volunteers promoting, encouraging, facilitating and supporting groups and individuals all over East Belfast to take action to improve their own health and well-being and building the capacity of local people.

This included organising 7 Health Clinics over the year, encouraging early detection and prevention of Stroke, Heart Attacks and Diabetes as well as organising and facilitating health awareness programmes for the local community on identified health priorities.

Volunteers were supported to participate in various training opportunities including Emergency Life Support, Cardiovascular Awareness, Mental Health Signposting, Smoking Cessation and Age Progression Software Training.

Other highlights included an athletics morning and health event hosted in Avoniel Leisure Centre, in partnership with Belfast City Council as part of the Fit Futures Programme and encouraged partnership working with 4 local primary schools. The annual health week was a great success with a variety of events including Pamper and Stress Management, Tea Dance, Health Showcase, Health Day, Men's Health Clinic and a Men's Mental Health Showcase.

Ongoing work has included supporting health development with Men's organisations, ethnic minority groups, and Survivors of Suicide. Events and programmes have been hosted in community buildings, leisure centres, churches, local pubs and shopping centres throughout the area.

## Volunteer Project

We increased the number of volunteers recruited by 10% in this year, which is excellent for the sector. Of course this has meant an increase in the number of community groups looking for volunteers, and these are advertised on the EBCDA website and through our fortnightly email bulletin.

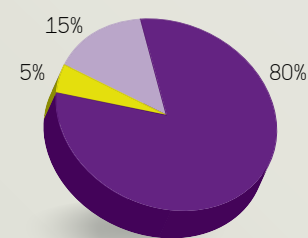
We held two very successful Volunteer celebration events with Volunteer Now (formally VSB) and Castlereagh Borough Council celebrating volunteer involvement.

This year the Volunteer Project played a more active role with the Lay Health Information Workers (LHIW) in various communities, supporting the LHIW network in various aspects of good practice to encourage a healthy network. We also worked with Stepping Stone to complete a very successful "Test the Waters" programme.

We developed information for groups in East Belfast about changes in the wider world of volunteering including, the Vetting and Barring Scheme implementation and the Unlocking Potential Project with Volunteer Now.

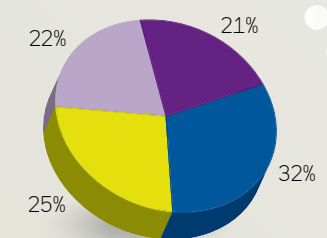
We assisted and encouraged a number of groups in East Belfast in the uptake of small grants for volunteers. Two groups were successful in their applications for grants.

We completed our survey about volunteering in East Belfast in attempt to present a picture of volunteering and volunteers in the area. The survey results will be published in summer 2010.



**Placement Analysis**

Local Groups
Individual Events
Outside East Belfast



**Enquiry Analysis**

BT4
BT5
BT6
Other

