

August 2014

Coalition of Irish Immigration Centers Newsletter

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Welcome to the August 2014 edition of the CIIC Newsletter!

Where did Summer go? I hope that you all had the opportunity to relax and enjoy time with your friends and family.

Things did not, however, slow down for the Coalition or our Member Centers. A few highlights can be found below:

- The Social Services Subcommittee has been hard at work creating a schedule of webinar trainings to share best practices and increase peer support among CIIC Member Center staff
- ISC continues to expand in geographic scope and assist isolated seniors within our community
- New Member Center staff
- QPR trainings
- Senior trips
- A variety of CIIC Subcommittee calls, in which information and ideas were shared

As always, please keep us update to date on the activities of your center or organization, and forward this Newsletter onto friends and colleagues by using the link at the bottom of this page or sharing via social media using the links above.

Also, take the time to ["Like"](#) us on Facebook as an easy way to stay

connected.

Best,
Aileen

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CIIC Social Services Subcommittee Presents Webinar Series

The CIIC Social Services Subcommittee is dedicated to enhancing the services offered by each of the Irish Member Centers throughout the country by sharing best practice and providing opportunities for education and training.

Over the coming twelve months the subcommittee will be delivering a number of sessions designed to facilitate professional development and peer support. By using staff feedback from all the member centers, CIIC has developed a program of effective learning opportunities relevant to your practice.

The first of these webinars will take place on **Thursday, 9th October at 12pm EST**. Information about this webinar can be found below and registration details will be made available closer to the time.

Behavioral and Mental Health Issues and the Immigration Legal Process

Supporting individuals and families as they navigate the legal complexities of the immigration system is a difficult process. The challenges involved can be made all the more trying when clients are experiencing behavioral and mental health issues. This webinar provides professionals and volunteers with an opportunity to explore and discuss how mental health, substance use, and safety issues can impact their work with individuals, couples and families through their legal immigration process. By identifying 4 key behavioral health/safety issues, cases will be explored where these issues presented either as an obstacle to completing the process successfully and/or presented safety challenges for the staff involved. Webinar attendees will learn to identify the key signs and symptoms of:

- Domestic Violence
- Substance Use/Addiction Issues
- Challenging Behaviors (Personality Disorders)
- Suicide Crisis



Irish Senior Connect
855.249.5146

SEEKING VOLUNTEERS

As Irish Senior Connect (ISC) continues to expand and strengthen, additional volunteers are needed to cover the phone lines and assist with program outreach.

If you, or someone you know, are located in the Boston, Chicago or Metro Providence areas, and would be interested in volunteering some time to this important and fulfilling program, please contact Susan Doody, CIIC ISC Program Coordinator at susan.doody@ciic-usa.org or 857.266.8133.

We look forward to hearing from you!

Give us a like! We're on [Facebook](#).

For more information about the program, contact ISC Program Coordinator, Susan Doody, at susan.doody@ciic-usa.org

The creation, management and expansion of Irish Senior Connect was made possible through generous funding by [The American Ireland Fund](#), the [Irish Department of Foreign Affairs & Trade: Emigrant Support Program](#) and [TUFTS Health Plan Foundation](#).

Irish Pastoral Centre Welcomes Louise Coyne



The Irish Pastoral Centre, Boston is pleased to announce the addition of Louise Coyne to the staff as a Marketing and Public Relations Associate. Louise, from Castlebar, County Mayo is a graduate of NUI Galway with a Bachelor of Commerce degree. Louise made the transition to Boston as part of the J1WT program in March 2014.

In her own words, Louise states, "I am lucky enough to be offered a job working as a marketing associate for the Irish Pastoral Centre - a job I gratefully accepted. I am excited to be given the opportunity to learn and grow professionally in a position where my opinions and ideas are taken into account."

Louise previously worked as part of the marketing team in The Royal, Theatre and Events Centre in Castlebar during its grand reopening in 2008. Louise is no stranger to Boston having vacationed here a number of years ago. She is familiar with the city and its large Irish Community - something she wanted to be able to experience in this cultural exchange.

CIIC Member Centers Collaborate on QPR Training

Irish International Immigrant Center & New York Irish Center

On August 8th, Danielle Owen, Director of the Wellness Services at the Irish International Immigrant Center (IIIC), traveled to New York to facilitate a QPR Suicide Prevention workshop hosted by the New York Irish Center (NYIC) located in Long Island City.

Attendees included staff from NYIC as well as the Emerald Isle Immigration Center (EIIC) and the Aisling Irish Community Center. Among the Irish born residents, some local sports celebrities joined the workshop including John Duddy (former middleweight boxing champion from Derry and current star of the theater production, "The Flood") and John Riordan (sports columnist for the Irish Examiner).

Twenty-seven workshop participants received training certificates as QPR Suicide Prevention Gatekeepers. The goal of the QPR training is to teach people the signs of depression and suicide, and give participants the tools by which to guide a person in this situation to a better place

According to Danielle, "We had a great conversation about how all communities have the power to stop tragic deaths by suicide and agreed they all now felt more confident about responding effectively to help someone in need. The tagline for the QPR program is 'Ask A Question, Save A Life' and sometimes it can be just as important as that."

If you would like more information on becoming a QPR Community Gatekeeper and suicide prevention, call Danielle Owen today 617-542-7654 ext.14.

Upcoming QPR Workshops will occur at the Irish International Immigrant Center, as well as the New York Irish Center this Fall.



IIIC's Danielle Owen and the newly trained "Gatekeepers"
At the New York Irish Center

Seattle Irish Immigrant Support Shares Some History

On August 15, a group of Irish Seniors traveled from Seattle to Coupeville, a town on Whidbey Island about 60 miles north of Seattle, for a ceremony to commemorate the 1861 death of a Tipperary woman.

After Máire Barrett Maylor died in 1861, her husband Samuel Maylor traveled via ship around Cape Horn back to his native Cork where he had a headstone inscribed in the Irish language but using cló Gaelach type that hadn't been used since the 17th century (a detailed photo of the headstone inscription can be seen at www.irishclub.org/headstone). Samuel brought the headstone back to Whidbey Island, traveling again via ship around Cape Horn, and in 1863 erected the headstone over Máire's grave.

At the August 15 headstone ceremony, the Irish seniors were joined by the great-great granddaughter of Samuel Maylor and by four Irish musicians who played several tunes to honor the memory of the Maylors and their commitment to one another and to the Irish language.



Seated (L-R) Cameron Stahl, Laura Flannagan, Tom Lawrence and Eileen Sullivan. Standing (L-R) Brendan Boyle, Tom Keating, Sherry Keating, Aidan Maher, Karen Waddell, Camilla Barrett, Brigid Morkel, Erin Hildebrand, Evelyn Sabbatino, Jim Phay, Mary Charles and Marsha Phay.

Upcoming Events

The Irish Pastoral Centre - Boston is excited!

On September 14 we will be hosting our **5th Annual Family Fun Day** at Braintree High School, 128 Town St, Braintree, MA 02184 from 2PM until 5PM. We encourage you all to wear your County jerseys and colors with pride. Events on the day will include the three-legged race, egg and spoon race, sack race and much more! Entry is free and it's sure to be a great day out for all the family.

We are pleased to announce we will be hosting three great fundraisers this fall.

Firstly we will be holding the **First Annual Peg Geraghty Memorial Cup Golf Tournament** at South Shore Country Club, Hingham on Monday September 29th 2014 with a shot gun start at 12 noon. Golf tickets are \$125 per person and dinner only tickets are \$50, and are available from our website.

A Performance by Phil Coulter will take place at St. Ignatius

Church in Chestnut Hill on Tuesday October 14th 2014 beginning at 7:30PM. Concert tickets cost \$125 and are available on our website, make sure to get yours early for this one off performance.

Finally, we will be holding our **Annual Fundraising Banquet** at Florian Hall in Dorchester on Saturday November 15th. This year's special guest will be Tyrone Senior Gaelic Football Manager Mickey Harte. Cocktail hour starts at 6:30PM and will be followed by a four course dinner with entertainment performance provided by Kevin Doherty and Friends. Dinner tickets are \$100 and are available to buy from our website.

For further information on all of our events, including sponsorship and advertising opportunities, as well as information on our ongoing work, check our website www.ipcboston.org and our Facebook page www.facebook.com/IrishPastoralCentreBoston for the latest news and updates.

The IPC is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Donations are tax deductible to the full extent allowed by law.

Tax ID Number: 20-8046867.

Irish Immigration Pastoral Center - San Francisco Fall Calendar

The Irish Immigration Pastoral Center, San Francisco has a packed Fall Calendar with classes, networking mixers and events for every age group!

If you are in the Bay Area, they invite you to join them!

To subscribe to the IIPC San Francisco email list, please click [here](#).



IRISH IMMIGRATION PASTORAL CENTER



San Francisco Giants
Irish Heritage Night

Wednesday, August 27
7:15 pm AT&T Ball Park



Active Retirement Club Mass &
Lunch - Speaker: Valerie McGrew

Thursday, September 11
12 noon UICC



Family Sports Day!

Sunday, September 14
12 noon George Washington Grove



SF Irish Film Festival
Kids' Movie & Art Competition

Saturday, September 20
3:00 pm Delancey Street Theatre



First Aid & CPR
Facilitated by the American Heart Association

Saturday, September 27
** registration required



Quickbooks Workshops
Facilitated by City College of San Francisco

Sat, Sept 27; Oct 11, 25; Nov 8
** registration required



LinkedIn 101 Seminar

Thursday, October 2
7:00 pm IIPC



Active Retirement Club Mass &
Lunch - Speaker: Maureen McFadden

Thursday, October 9
12 noon UICC



Wills, Trusts & Estate
Planning Seminar

Thursday, October 9
7:00 pm IIPC



Irish Immigrant Connect
Networking Mixer

Thursday, October 30
7:00 pm Salesforce



DV Lottery 2016

October - November
EARLY REGISTRATION REQUIRED



Active Retirement Club Mass &
Lunch - Speaker: Jim Byrne

Thursday, November 13
12 noon UICC



Community Christmas Party
In partnership with SFGAA, SFFHYL & UICC

Sunday, December 21
12:00 noon UICC

and there's more to come!

Sister Lena Deevy, LSA, and Richard E. Holbrook Honored as IIC Celebrates 25 Years

[The Irish International Immigrant Center](#) (IIC) is now accepting reservations for its 2014 Solas Awards Celebration, to be held on Thursday, October 30th at the Boston Park Plaza Hotel. The culmination of IIC's 25th anniversary year, this year's Sola Awards gala will recognize the contributions of IIC's Executive Director Emerita, Sister Lena Deevy, LSA, and Richard E. Holbrook, Chairman and CEO of Eastern Bank.

Led by Massachusetts State Senator Linda Dorcena Forry, who will be joining us as event emcee, the Solas Awards Celebration will bring together business and community leaders, past IIC program participants, volunteers, and other supporters of IIC's work assisting immigrants from Ireland and around the world and promoting reconciliation in Ireland. We look forward to recognizing Sister Lena and Richard, who have done so much to make IIC's services possible over the years and highlighting just how much immigrants have done - and continue to do - for our communities.

Sister Lena, Executive Director Emerita of IIC and former CIIC Board Director, has worked tirelessly to promote the welfare of immigrants during her 24 years of leadership at the IIC and continues her efforts today. Her work to promote solidarity, peace, and justice are global in scale, benefitting people in Ireland, Haiti, Uganda and beyond.

In his role as Chairman and CEO of Eastern Bank, Richard Holbrook oversees a company that is a leader in corporate social responsibility. With a strong commitment to giving back, Eastern Bank has been a tremendous supporter of IIC's work for a decade and shares IIC's commitment to diversity and inclusion.

Proceeds from the 2014 Solas Awards Celebration support the IIC's legal, wellness, and education programs for immigrants from Ireland and around the world, as well as the learning exchange programs promoting reconciliation and economic recovery in Ireland. For more information and to make a reservation, contact Mary at 617-695-1554.

ABOUT THE COALITION OF IRISH IMMIGRATION CENTERS

The Coalition of Irish Immigration Centers (CIIC) is a national umbrella group for all of the Irish Immigration Centers in the US. The CIIC was established in 1996 to promote the welfare of Irish immigrants in the US at a national level. The CIIC is funded by a grant from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade's Emigrant Support Program and by generous support from the American Ireland fund for its Irish Senior Connect Program.

The mission of the CIIC is to represent immigrant organizations throughout the United States who are committed to providing services to Irish immigrants. The Coalition provides support and assistance to the various centers in their work through advocacy, education and the exchange of information. CIIC member organizations are located in California, Illinois, Maryland, Massachusetts, New York, Philadelphia, Washington and Wisconsin.

To learn more about CIIC visit, www.ciic-usa.org

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