Fingal County Council

Press Release

23 November 2018

Fingal’s Community Development Team wins Chambers Ireland award for Kaleidoscope Project

Fingal County Council is delighted to congratulate Fingal’s Community Development Team on winning the Supporting Active Communities Award for its Age Friendly Kaleidoscope project on Thursday, 22 November at the Chambers Ireland award ceremony.

The Kaleidoscope project paired elderly people with preschool children to participate in arts and crafts, cookery and sports together. The initiative was implemented by Fingal’s Community Development Office in conjunction with Donabate-Portrane Seniors and Bright Sparks Montessori, also in Donabate.
The aim of the project was to support older people to tackle grief, depression and loneliness while also providing preschool children with an opportunity to learn about older people.

The awards ceremony was attended by the Mayor of Fingal, Cllr Anthony Lavin, who said: “I am delighted to accept this award on behalf of Fingal County Council. The Kaleidoscope project takes an innovative approach to resolving isolation among elderly people in Fingal which is essential in improving our residents’ well-being and quality of life.”

Welcoming the award, Director of Housing and Community for Fingal County Council, Margaret Geraghty said: “I am delighted that the Kaleidoscope Project has been recognised with a Supporting Active Communities Award. Our Community Development Team has worked extensively with both Bright Sparks Montessori and Donabate-Portrane Seniors to implement this project which reduces loneliness among elderly and allows children to connect positively with older people through art, games and music.”

Chief Executive of Fingal County Council, Paul Reid said: “I would like to commend Fingal’s Community Development Group for their award-winning Kaleidoscope initiative. Through reducing loneliness and isolation among senior citizens, they are able to continue living independent and active lives. It is vital that we provide this support to elderly people if we are to achieve a cohesive and inclusive community.”

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For further information please contact press@fingal.ie

Photo caption: Mayor Anthony Lavin accepted the award from Lidl Ireland on behalf of Fingal County Council and was pictured with Chambers Ireland Chief Executive Ian Talbot, Jacinta Lowndes Donabate Portrane Community Centre, Louise Edmonds Senior Community Officer, Minister John Paul Phelan and Margaret Geraghty, Director of Housing and Community.