Press Release

Youth Advocate Programmes (YAP) Ireland launch photography competition for young people themed 'My Community' in Mullingar

Over the past number of weeks, young people from the Midlands on the Youth Advocate programme have been capturing in pictures what their community means to them. The launch of these photographs and prize giving takes place on Tuesday 7th May 2013 from 5.30pm to 7.30pm in Mullingar Library, Co. Westmeath.

A total of 8 young people from Longford, Westmeath, Offaly and Kildare have entered the competition. The photography competition will also be a display of photographs taken by the parent's participation group, which were developed through two workshops facilitated by a photographer on the theme of 'identity' last month.

Speaking in advance of the photography competition, Andrew Chapple, Service Manager for the Midlands said: "A big part of the work of YAP Ireland is linking people with community and this competition is a practical way for young people and families to re-link and connect with their community."

YAP Ireland is a leading provider of intensive support programmes for young people and families. It uses a strengths based, family focused approach to deliver a one-to-one service for up to 15 hours per week over 6 months to young people with complex needs. In 2012, YAP Ireland matched 351 new young people and worked with 528 young people and families overall.

For more information on the photography competition, please contact Andrew Chapple, Service Manager, YAP on 087 1254894.

Please see <u>www.yapireland.ie</u> for more information on YAP Ireland.

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