

INCLUSION IRELAND

National Association for People with an Intellectual Disability

Local and European Elections 2009 - Your Doorstep Guide to Putting the Needs of People with a Disability on their Agenda!



DO YOU KNOW?

- Waiting lists for essential therapy services such as speech and language, occupational and physiotherapy, are increasing daily;
- Elderly parents supporting their adult children with an intellectual disability living home, must continue to wait for a residential place;
- Young adults with an intellectual disability may have nowhere to go in June when they leave school;
- There is no statutory independent inspection of residential services for children and adults;
- HSE cuts mean that people with a disability are living more restricted lives;
- Education for children with special needs has been eroded. School children will not have an independent assessment of their needs. Special needs classes have been cut;
- Over 300 people with an intellectual disability continue to live in large psychiatric institutions in Dickenson conditions;
- Adults with an intellectual disability have no clear rights to make decisions about their lives;

Go to www.inclusionireland.ie or phone 01-8559891 for more info

QUESTIONS TO ASK:

STANDARDS IN RESIDENTIAL SERVICES

- The Health Information and Quality Authority has developed quality national standards, but the Minister says they cannot be implemented in 2009 or 2010. Do you support statutory standards and independent inspection for residential services for people with a disability?
- What have you and your party done to support the implementation of standards?

HSE CUTS TO SERVICES

- Are you aware of cutbacks in frontline services for children and adults with an intellectual disability?
- How do you and your party propose to restore services and stop further cutbacks?

EDUCATION

- Are you aware that education legislation for children with special needs was halted in last year's Budget and that since then there have been further cutbacks to special classes?
- How have you and your party reacted to these cuts?

CAPACITY LEGISLATION

- Do you know that people with an intellectual disability with limited capacity who are over 18, do not have clear rights to make a decision, and their families do not have rights to support them in making decisions? New legislation has been promised but nothing has been published yet.
- Do you and your party support the urgent need for new capacity legislation to replace the Lunacy Act of 1871, which currently governs this area?

PSYCHIATRIC INSTITUTIONS

- Are you aware that over 300 people with an intellectual disability are currently inappropriately living in psychiatric institutions, despite it being Government policy for over 25 years that this should stop?
- Have you and your party worked to stop this practice?