



Welcome to the April edition of LINKS.

In this edition you can read about a new Partnership report on the continuing education needs of people with intellectual disabilities, the launch of our new Funding Handbook, and an exciting new development for Bray—the Bray Volunteer Bureau.

A reminder that we would be glad to include any community notices you want to advertise in Links—give me a call.

Happy reading!  
Michelle Rogers  
Editor

## Launch of Nowhere to Go Research

Bray Partnership launched a new report in March on the educational needs of young people with intellectual disabilities in the Bray area.

The report, entitled *Nowhere to Go: The Continuing Education Needs of People with Intellectual Disabilities in the Bray Area at the Time of Reaching Adulthood*, details the results of research carried out in late 2004 by the Partnership.

The research project was initiated by the Partnership's Disability Cluster Group following the situation in 2003 when eight young people with intellectual disabilities from the Bray area had nowhere to go after they finished their formal schooling.

The report makes a total of eleven policy recommendations for the Health Service Executive and local service-providers to consider.

The need for an independent advocacy service and the lack of comprehensive services for people with intellectual disabilities are highlighted in the report, as well as the questions that arise in relation to the right of access to education in general.

The report also evaluates the current disability legislation going through the Oireachtas, setting out potential weaknesses that must be addressed.

The research was funded by Comhairle, the East Coast Area Health Board (HSE) and the National Disability Authority.

*The report is available on our website in the Publications Section.*