



YAP at a Glance 2016 Statistics

78%

IMPROVEMENT
IN PARENTING
SKILLS

533 YOUNG PEOPLE &
FAMILIES RECEIVED SERVICES
IN 2016 INCLUDING 316 NEW
YOUNG PEOPLE

SERVICES PROVIDED IN 22
COUNTIES IN IRELAND

82%

IMPROVEMENT
IN RELATIONSHIP
WITH PEERS

86%

IMPROVEMENT IN
HOME
ENVIRONMENT

276 YOUNG PEOPLE
ATTENDED PARTICIPATION &
VOICE EVENTS AROUND
THE COUNTRY

AWARDED INVESTING IN
CHILDREN AWARD FOR 3RD
YEAR IN A ROW

83%

IMPROVEMENT IN
RISKY
BEHAVIOUR

What is YAP?

The YAP Model

The YAP Model is a strengths based, needs led, wraparound, intensive support service for Young People and Families who are struggling with a range of issues in their lives, through the use of community based advocates. The Model is evidence based, achieving positive outcomes with Young People and Families within their communities.

Vision

A society where all young people and families are confident and connected with their communities.

Mission

We change the lives of young people and families in need of support by providing community-based, strengths-focused, inclusive, flexible services which improve their skills and capacity to meet their own goals.

Voices YAP at a Glance 2016

"It is meeting my needs - giving me a break also. My child is happier and is dealing with issues. I didn't really have a break before this but now I have a few hours to myself a few times a week."

"Stopped him going down the road of heavy heroin. I feel YAP saved my sons life."

"Best service ever - can contact advocate if I am stressed."

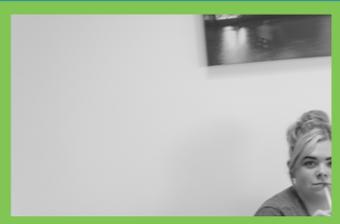


"Before I would be shy. I would start getting the stutters and pure worried. Now I don't care, I could speak in front of the whole of Ireland, it just wouldn't bother me."



"YAP helps you believe in yourself and I have stopped blaming myself for things in the past."

"Confidence improved, able to socialise more, get back involved with sports again".



Young People Remain at Home



YAP Ireland worked with 533 Young People and Families in 2016 including 316 new young people who were referred for the first time. Young People and Families are primarily referred by TUSLA social work teams to address a range of issues in their lives. The YAP Model uses a strengths based, needs led, wraparound intensive support service with community based advocates to help them achieve their goals.

The primary purpose of YAP Ireland is to support young people and families to live positive lives in the community wherever possible. Our data shows that of the Young People who were living at home at the time of referral, 93% remained at home at the end of the programme. This is not only a major cost saving to the State but the outcomes illustrate the long term benefit to the young people and families of participating in the YAP Programme. In 2016 we have seen an increase in referrals from HSE Disability and Mental Health Services and Oberstown Children's Detention Centre.

Aidan Browne

Chairperson YAP Ireland



As I review the annual outcomes from the work of YAP over the past five years I am very much struck by the fact that these are not average outcomes which might be achieved by any

programme – they are exceptional outcomes!

The outcomes are consistent year on year and they are felt equally by the young people and their parents or carers.

I believe these outcomes are achieved because of the underlying philosophies of YAP – we reject nobody, we eject nobody and we begin by looking at the young people's strengths. We follow this up by choosing exceptional people as advocates from the communities where the young people live and we train and support our advocates to be consistent with our model and to do what we say we will do.

Without our advocates we could not achieve these exceptional outcomes. On behalf of the Board of YAP I want to express our very real gratitude to this group of men and women and all members of the teams who support them.

Siobhán O'Dwyer

CEO YAP Ireland



I am delighted to present the Annual Report 2016 which illustrates a very productive and successful year for Youth Advocate Programmes Ireland. The Annual Report shows in a real way the positive

impact of the YAP Model on the lives of Young People and Families both in the outcomes achieved, their comments and stories and the achievement for the third year running of the Investing in Children Award. The adherence to the Principles of the Model is the reason why the service is so successful as evidenced by the feedback from Young People, Families and Referrers - Strengths based, Needs Led, Never Give Up, No Reject No Eject, Flexibility, Creativity and Wraparound. YAP staff make these principles real every day in their work and the impact on the Young People and Families of working in this way is clear not just while with the service, but long into their future.

I want to thank the Board for all their practical and consistent support throughout the year. I also thank the staff and advocates for their creative and enthusiastic work. I look forward to deepening our relationships with Tusla, HSE Disability and Mental Health Services and Oberstown Children's Detention Campus. We will continue to grow the organisation to ensure that more Young People and Families benefit from the service and go on to achieve their goals in life.

The YAP Board

| | |
|-------------------------|---------------|
| Aidan Browne | Chair |
| Paula Cahill O'Sullivan | Vice Chair |
| Claire Fitzpatrick | Secretary |
| Lynette Brown Sow | Director |
| Vivian Sanks-King | Director |
| Edel Quinn | Director |
| Paul McGettigan | Director |
| Donncha Hughes | Director |
| Cillian Russell | Resigned 2016 |



Service Provision 2016

Profile of YAP Young People

Yap Ireland gathers profile information of Young People and families that are referred to us. The data below relates to 1726 Young People and Families worked with by YAP between 2011 and end 2016. The profile remains consistent in 2016 with more boys than girls referred, 56% aged between 13 and 15 years. 53% are single parent families, with 74% having a medical card and 48% have a family history of drug or alcohol misuse.

Cohort 2011-2016

Gender & Age Profile

Males in the age range 13-15yrs made up 32% of our clients, where females made up 24% in the same age range. Females and Males were equal on 13% in the 16-18+ range, while the ages under 13 were represented as 12% male and 6% female.

Nationality/Ethnicity

88% were classified as Irish, the Irish Travelling Community represented 5% of clients. 4% were listed as being from African or Asian backgrounds and 3% listed as other, reflecting the diversity of Irish society.

Mental Health or Disability Diagnosis

66% did not have a mental health or disability diagnosis and 7% were awaiting assessment.

Education

85% were in education or alternative education with 60% attending regularly

Household Circumstances

53% were single parent households and 31% were from two-parent households, where 11% were living with extended family. 74% of primary carers were in possession of a full medical card and 48% of clients came from a background where drug/alcohol misuse was an issue.



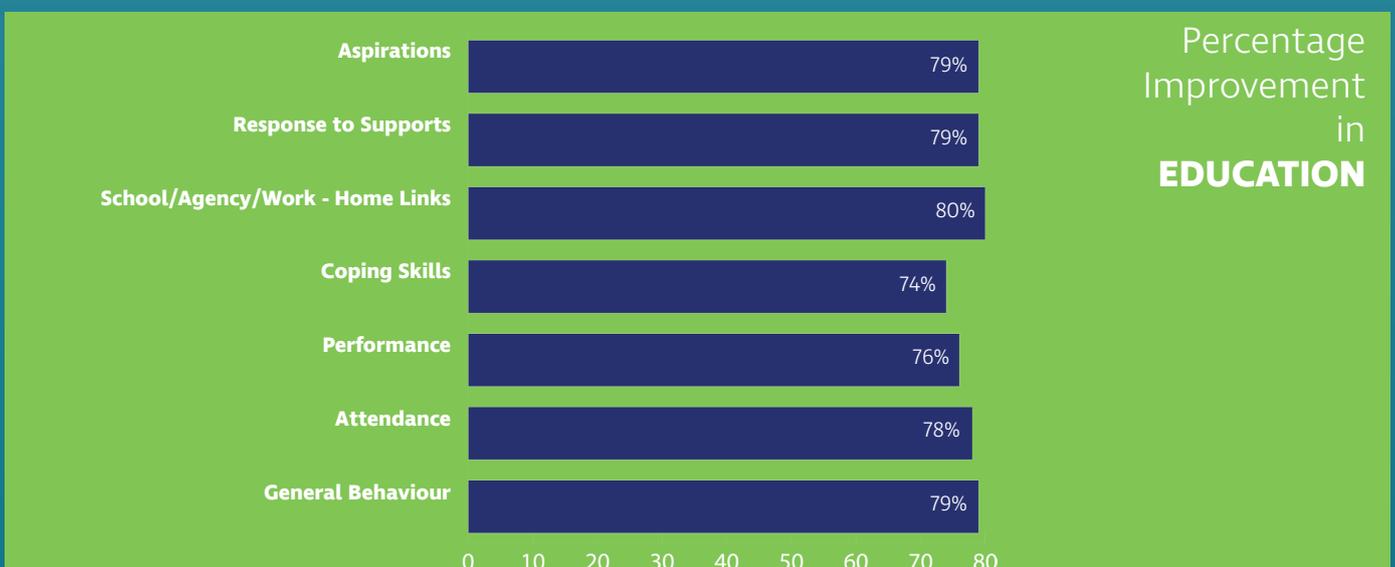
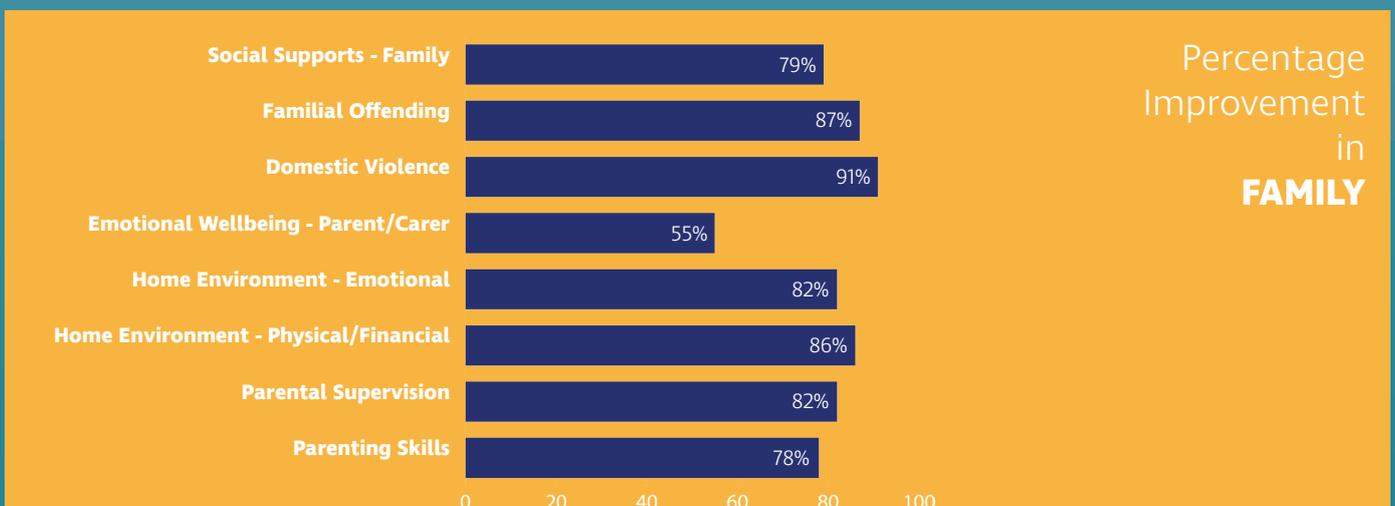
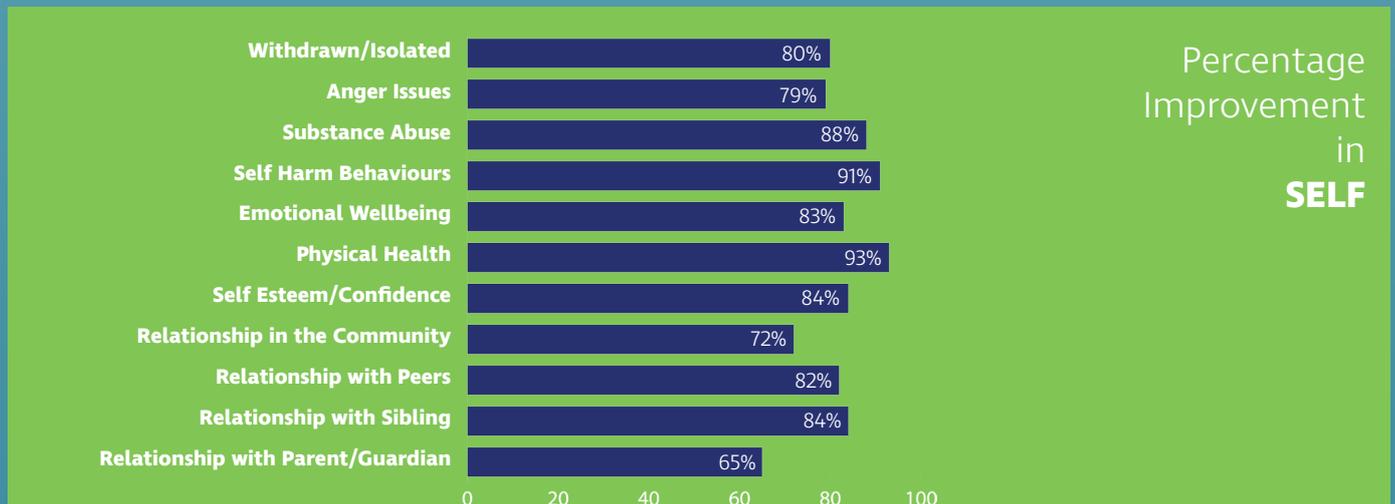
NUIM Longitudinal Evaluation of YAP Ireland 2014

The National University of Ireland Maynooth evidence-based evaluation, evidences the positive outcomes achieved by young people and families through participation in the YAP Programme and reinforces the impact of the strengths based, needs led, flexible model on their lives. See the full Evaluation report at www.yapireland.ie.

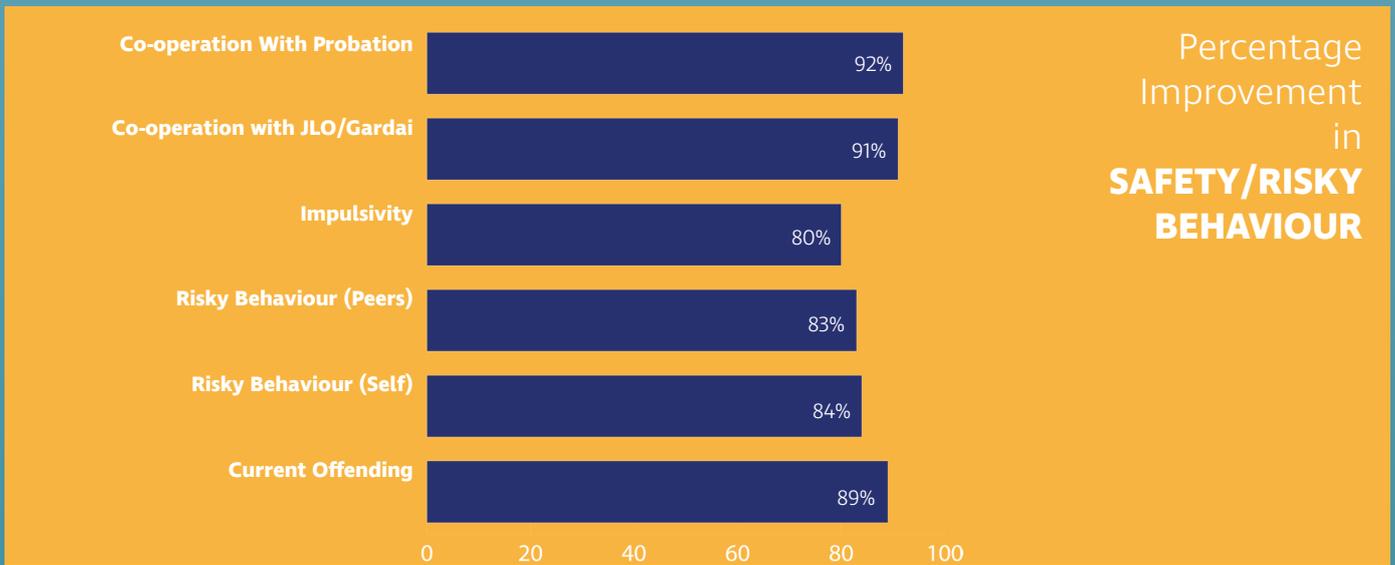
Service Evaluation 2016

Outcomes

The national outcomes summary includes information for 1472 young people worked with between January 2011 and October 2016. The longitudinal figures show that the programme remains effective in all the main factors with very little variation. The system measures the views of young people, families, referrers, advocates and managers when matched and then at the 6 month exit on a range of indicators.



Service Evaluation 2016



STRENGTHS & DIFFICULTIES QUESTIONNAIRES (SDQ's)

Following on from the NUIM Longitudinal Evaluation, YAP Ireland have continued to use SDQ's as a tool for measuring improvement in resilience for Young People engaging in the YAP Programmes. The data is for 169 Young people and Parent /Carers who have completed 3 SDQ's.

| SDQ | Parents/Guardians | Self |
|---------|-------------------|-------|
| Stage 1 | 19.28 | 16.07 |
| Stage 2 | 17.80 | 15.16 |
| Stage 3 | 16.41 | 14.07 |

Before engaging in the programme parent/carers gave young people an average score of 19.28 (At Risk) on the total difficulties scale reducing to an average score of 16.41 (Borderline) at programme end. Young people at the outset scored themselves lower with an average of 16.07 (High Average), reducing to 14.07 (Medium Average) at programme end. Overall both parent and Young People report a reduction in overall difficulties with Parents/Carers reporting the biggest improvement.

Quality Assessment

Quality Questionnaire

YAP Ireland carries out quality questionnaires with parents/carers to assess how their involvement with YAP is progressing and to input into service development and improvement. This is done over the phone, mid-way through the case by staff not directly involved in the casework. In 2016 we got feedback from 154 parents/carers. 84% resulted in positive feedback and, 90% felt that they were well informed and involved in their Young Persons Programme. 88% of participants gave YAP a satisfaction level score of 4 or more out of 5.

**"Getting on great - it was up and down at first, but now they have bonded and have great relationship and my son trusts the Advocate"
– YAP Mum**

"My relationship with my son is improving, as a result of work being done by Advocate" – YAP Dad Dublin

Young People Quality Questionnaire

To ensure that Young People had the opportunity to let us know their views of the programme we introduced quality monitoring questionnaires for Young People in 2016.



We asked young people if they felt that they had a say in the decisions made about the YAP Service. 72% of them said that they were always involved and 28% they were sometimes involved. 95% of Young People gave YAP 4+ out of 5.

We asked Young People if they could name one great thing about the YAP Services, here are some replies:

"I can now cope with my emotions and my relationship with my family is better."

"Confidence improved, able to socialise more, get back involved with sports again".

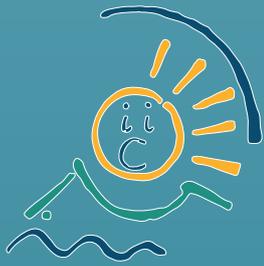
"Yes - I have gotten back to school and changed my ways."



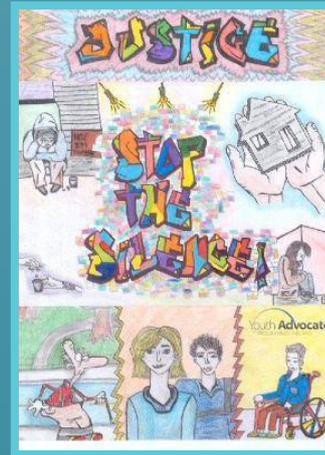
Investing In Children

The Membership Award

In 2016, YAP Ireland received the Investing in Children Membership award for the third consecutive year. The membership scheme recognises and celebrates examples of imaginative and inclusive practice and gives organisations the opportunity to award services that can demonstrate a commitment to dialogue with young people that leads to change. We are delighted to have received this award for the third year in a row, as YAP are committed to amplifying the voice of young people in having a say in the services which they receive.



investing in children



Investing in Children work alongside children and young people, and adults who provide services to them, to create a range of effective ways in which they can exercise their right to have a say, often resulting in improvements in the services themselves. An Investing in Children membership gives organisations national recognition for the good practice and active inclusion of children and young people in dialogue and change. Owing to YAP's skills and experience in amplifying the voice of young people, in 2014 YAP Ireland were chosen to become the assessors for the Investing in Children Award Scheme in conjunction with VOYPIC in Northern Ireland to provide IiC assessments for the island of Ireland.

To find out more about Investing in Children or to register your interest in attaining membership, contact us by email at info@yapireland.ie, by phone on **(01) 8689180** or our website www.yapireland.ie

2016 YAP Assessment Quotes

'I think change can be made as a result of the good work the organisation does' - Calvin

"My relationship with my son is improving, as a result of work being done by Advocate" – YAP Dad Dublin

'No one in the past has listened to me and I feel listened to here' - Dean

'They only do it for you. They want you to be happy' - Isobel

'I was getting bullied and they went in and talked to my principal. That kind of stopped it then and I was more comfortable going into school' - Megan

'Helps my voice being heard so I feel I'm listened to' - Kofo

Strategic Plan

Strategic Plan 2017-2020

In 2016 we prepared our Strategic Plan for 2017 to 2020 and this has been a great opportunity to reflect on what we do well, what we can improve and what we want to do in the future. We consulted widely and are grateful to all those who responded, in particular the Young People and Families who helped us to keep it real and in plain language.

YAP are undergoing an exciting period of development and we have had great interest in our model from new areas, such as HSE Disability, Youth Justice and Mental Health. Have a look at our Strategic Plan poster below!



The Goals 2017-2020

The Vision, Mission and Goals will underpin all the work of the organisation for the next three years and will ensure that we continue to Do What We Say We Will Do while driving improvements and growth.

Strategic Goal 1

To provide Quality Services to Young People and Families in line with the YAP model.

Strategic Goal 2

To amplify the voice of Young People & Parents/Carers in Society.

Strategic Goal 3

Organisational Effectiveness - We do what we say we will do.

Participation & Consultation

YAP Youth Forum & Participation Groups

The YAP Youth Forum involving young people from across the country met numerous times throughout 2016 covering issues and challenges surrounding how they can impact change in the services they engage in and how to have their voices heard. The work of the Youth Forum has become a substantial and important part of the direction of YAP's services over the last number of years and has grown substantially. We place huge value on the voice of young people and we are looking to expand and facilitate young people being the change they want to see.

Alongside the successful Youth Fora and youth participation groups around the country, one of the fastest growing elements of our participation networks is the YAP Parent's Participation Group, which brings together parents who are involved in the programmes. This is a very vibrant and fun group where parents come together to chat about issues that affect them and of course to catch up and have some breakfast together! The Parent's Participation Group also have engaged in activities outside of the office and have gone shopping and taken courses in flower arranging. We look forward to seeing the group grow further and see what their next project will be!



YAP Annual Event

On 18th of August 2016 almost 300 young people, Families, staff and guests from across the country attended our annual "Young People Speak Out - Influencing Change". It was a very powerful event with Young People and Families presenting their views on how services can be more accessible, caring and therefore, successful if they listen to what the people who use their services say.



'I AM MORE' YAP YOUNG PERSON CALVIN

Don't limit me with your boxes... **I AM MORE**
Some might say my obstacles define me, but they are wrong... **I AM MORE**
I dismantle all my obstacles... **I AM MORE**
I am not just a chair... **I AM MORE**
In accessing facilities, society treats me as a second class citizen... I am NOT... **I AM MORE**
Your perception of me is NOT my reality... **I AM MORE**
I am not unequal, I am not less than you... **I AM MORE**

I write my own destiny, carve out my own future. I do not have to depend on you... **I AM MORE**
I have been shaped by my experiences and **I AM MORE**
I have hopes and dreams for my future... **I AM MORE**

I Am The Master Of My Fate, The Captain Of My Soul

No Eject, No Reject
Never Give Up
Wraparound
Connecting
Voice



Youth Advocate
PROGRAMMES IRELAND

Youth Advocate Programmes Ireland CLG

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