

Visit to Jake Kane Community Centre

Evaluation

First of all we'd like to thank you for inviting us to the centre, we were very impressed with the building itself, the murals and paintings were very brightly coloured and appropriate to all parts of the community. We found that the graffiti on the wall was very impressive in the young peoples' room. The atmosphere on entering the building was very warm, welcoming and made it pleasurable to be there. The group felt that the access to the building was quite confusing there were no markings on the road to explain the system or the directions to get to the building and we also felt that the car park could have been a lot larger considering the size of the grounds the centre sits on. We felt though, in contrast to the interior, that the exterior was intimidating and needed some attention, if people were to be intimidated by the look of the building it would be a shame that they would miss out on the resources and facilities that the Jack Kane Centre provide. The centre is clearly well run and organised; it is well structured and has an excellent web site. The staff were very welcoming, enthusiastic and passionate about their work and appear to always put the wants and needs of the community first by promoting empowerment within the community. We were impressed to have the understanding that some of the staff had lived in the area all their lives and are now giving something back to the community. As a group we felt the icebreaker was a good idea to get us motivated and comfortable. One of our mature students (ha ha) would have welcomed a cup of tea and a chocolate biscuit to go with the chatting! The presentation was very informative and relevant to the course that we are taking. The handout on the community centre was also a benefit, and could be used in reference throughout our course work. We think the program of groups and activities is well varied and provides something for all aspects, age groups and cultures of the community. We thoroughly enjoyed Scott's appearance to the group, his input, honesty and energy. We felt Scott's motivation had a knock-on affect on the staff, which then in turn rubbed off on us.

To sum up, we believe that the Jack Kane Centre is a good example of community learning & development in practice.

Kind Regards,

Students from HNC Working with Communities