



All Together in Dignity

ATD Fourth World - Ireland

Annual Report 2014



On Saturday 29th November 2014, friends and volunteers of ATD Ireland met to launch the 2015-2019 planning process.

In 2013, after a one year evaluation-planning process, ATD International adopted new 'Common Ambitions' (following the 2008's Contract of Common Commitments). The 'Common Ambitions 2013-2017' have a central focus of: 'Reaching Out to Those Whose Contribution is Missing' and 3 main priorities: (1) Building Knowledge and Accessing Education - Every Mind Counts, (2) Shaping a People-Centered and Earth-Friendly Economic Vision, (3) Organizing for Human Rights and Peace - For details of this 5 years strategic plan see: www.atd-fourthworld.org/all-together-in-dignity-common,3462.html

2014, Support in Time of Crisis

All Together in Dignity - ATD Fourth World is an international human-rights organisation that works through grass-roots projects in partnership with people living in poverty.

It remains focused on constantly reaching out to the most vulnerable families, those who have a long history of poverty and educational disadvantage even in the so-called developed countries.

Since 2000, **ATD in Ireland** has been supporting and close to family members facing persistent poverty and struggling daily to live in dignity.

On the eve of year 2014 in the report, ***Now You See Us: The human stories behind poverty in Ireland***, we recognised along with the members of the **Community Platform** that many people are reaching breaking point in their lives as they bear the brunt of an economic and financial crisis which was not of their making.

It is in this specific context of crisis and transition that members of ATD (friends with direct experience of

poverty, supporters, volunteers, donators, full-time volunteers) committed themselves to prevent isolation and empower unheard citizens to express their voice.

This 2014 Annual Report gives an account of our commitments and efforts.

2014 was a second year of transition for the ATD permanent team in Dublin. Dominique and Françoise, ATD full-time volunteers who spent 5 years in Dublin joined the ATD team in Montreal (Canada) at the end of May. In September the team welcomed Eileen Donovan who worked in the Central African Republic before coming to Ireland.

Transition also, as we started to take stock in Ireland of the new priorities of ATD worldwide: the Common Ambitions 2013-2017.

We are proud to present this 2014 Annual Report of All Together in Dignity ATD Fourth World-Ireland.

Mark Hogan, Chairperson, April 2015



Friends Remembered

Sadly some long-term friends of ATD Ireland died during the year 2014 and the past few months, namely: **Teresa, Jacqueline, Susan** and **Artur**. They had been in touch with ATD for years. Three of them had had a long-term history of homelessness. **May they rest in peace.** On 17 October 2014, Isabelle Pypaert Perrin, Director General of ATD International, paid tribute to them:

With Jackie and All Those Like Her: “The Sheriff Youth Club Hall where the International Committee for October 17 was meeting echoed with discussion of the theme projected in huge letters on the wall: **“Leave no one behind: think, decide, and act together Against Extreme Poverty.”** Jackie, a member of ATD Ireland, said: “I can’t keep my door closed if I know that people are on the street...”. Jackie knew life on the streets. With her husband, she never stopped trying to get away from the street, moving from one transitional shelter to another, with the endlessly-renewed hope that one day they would find a real home where they could live together as a family. When she did have a place to stay, she welcomed those who had nowhere to go, even at the risk of being evicted herself.

Jackie’s horizon was other people, those whose lives poverty eats away at. She stuck by them faithfully, forcefully rejecting the idea that some people be left behind. Although she possessed next to nothing, she contributed everything she had—as do all those who face extreme poverty—to promoting peace and human rights. In 2008, at the inauguration in Dublin of the Human Rights and Poverty Stone, Jackie affirmed, “We want to be part of this Stone for all those whose lives are even harder than our own.” She and her husband often spoke publicly of the many obstacles they had overcome, hoping that others would see that it is possible if there are people who stick with you no matter what. Jackie’s life struggle was that people be able to give the best of themselves.

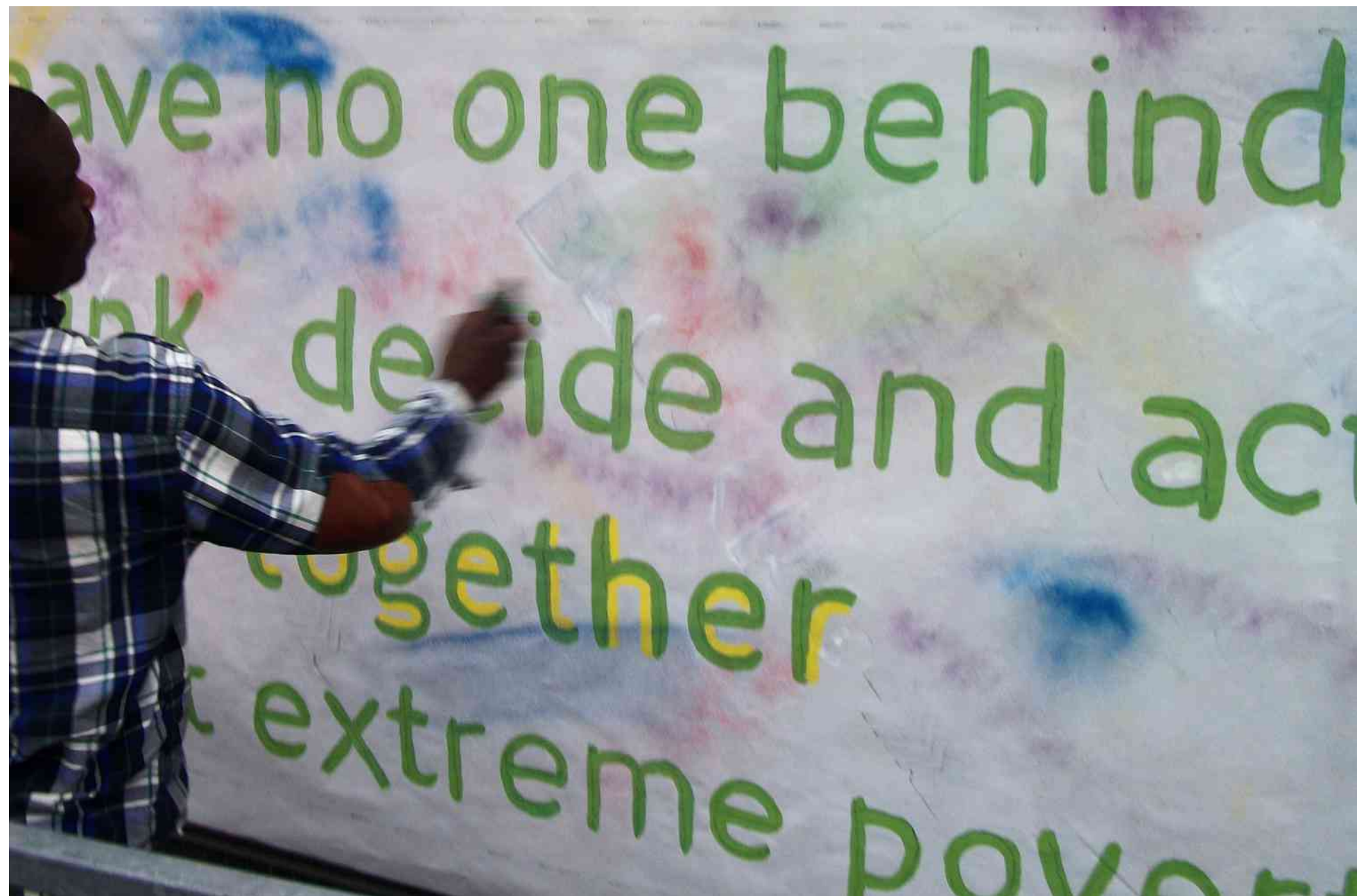
In July 2014, Jackie passed away; she left us too soon, like Christopher, Paddy, Teresa and so many others we could name. Their struggle continues, however, carried on by the “millions of men, women, and children whose hearts are still pounding strong to the beat of the struggle, whose minds rise in revolt against the unjust fate imposed upon them, whose courage demands the right to priceless dignity.” **“Leave no one behind...”** How can we achieve this, if not with those who, like Jackie, possess a knowledge about the inalienable dignity of being human, a thinking forged in the struggles of a life marked by persistent poverty?

All that suffering is hidden, as if it never happened. It needs to be said. I don't think they should be forgotten, they were good people.

It has to change.

Teresa Ward, speaking on behalf of the homeless, Ireland, 2001





Not Leaving People Alone

The aim of ATD visits is to build with adults and young people a relationship based on trust and respect. A relationship that will allow them, in their own time and at their own pace, to continue to express the challenges they face, how they try to meet them and what they believe in.

Visits are also opportunities to share invitations, news and pictures from events run by ATD, other NGOs or Community Groups. Volunteers also support adults to keep in touch with people they know in Ireland or abroad.

In 2014, around 250 home visits were made by ATD permanent volunteers.

For the past 14 years, ATD volunteers have visited people living in homeless accommodation, socially disadvantaged housing estates or support groups they belong to in the Greater Dublin City area. Many of these people have faced persistent poverty since childhood and are still facing it today. Many of the parents we met over the years have had children in care, experience health issues and/or have struggled to free themselves from addictions.



Discover our
proposals to
the EU

A Europe without Poverty

In 2014, the NWICTDP (The North West Inner City Training & Development Project) and ATD Ireland participated together in the project “Reflecting upon and constructing a Europe without exclusion together” run by ATD Europe.

A group of Irish citizens with experience of long term hardships because of poverty and marginalisation prepared a [national contribution](#) to the European People’s University in the European Parliament -Brussels on the 5 th of March 2014. In the follow-up to this meeting, they used many opportunities over the year to promote [the learnings](#) of this event.

At a time when many European citizens are asking challenging questions about Europe, a group of people living in a situation of poverty and social exclusion set out to gain a better understanding of what Europe is doing to ensure that life improves for the most vulnerable members of society. Over several months, they worked in partnership with others who were prepared to stand in solidarity with them, including people who held positions of responsibility at the European level.

Centering their discussions around contributions based on the life experiences of people living in poverty, they prepared themselves to enter into dialogue with European members of the Parliament and officials. On 5 March 2014, at the European Fourth World People’s University, held in the European Parliament in Brussels, they were given the opportunity to do so. This remarkable meeting, which was attended by 17 delegations from 10 different countries including Ireland, was organised with the support of the European Parliament “Extreme Poverty and Human Rights Parliamentary Intergroup”.

The project was funded by the **European Commission** within the framework of the “Europe for Citizens” programme.





New Website



ATD Ireland on Twitter



ATD and NWICTDP stand at the Social Inclusion Forum 2014

Raising Awareness & Networking

In 2014, ATD Ireland launched its new website www.atdireland.ie and started to share information & thoughts via the Twitter account [@ATDIreland](https://twitter.com/ATDIreland). By the end of 2014 ATD had more than 700 followers after 6 months of tweeting.

During the reporting period, ATD members were involved in approximately **40 events (conferences, workshops, network public events, training, student and volunteers' fairs...)** to present the struggles, efforts and hopes of people facing poverty and exclusion. At the Annual Social Inclusion Forum (1st April), ATD and NWICTDP had a common showcase stand (see picture)

With the support of the National 17 October Committee, ATD Ireland coordinated the preparation and staging of the 2014 Dublin commemoration of the **UN Day for Eradication of Poverty**.

The National Committee is comprised of activists and groups in local communities, home school liaison officers and members of organisations such as the Daughters of Charity Community Services, Focus Ireland, ICON, the SAOL Project, the Life Centre in Ballyfermot, the Migrant Rights Centre Ireland, the Neighbourhood Youth Project 2, the North West Inner City Training and Development Project, the O'Connell Secondary School, the St Laurence O'Toole School and the Vincentian Partnership for Social Justice.

More than 400 people attended the 17 October event, and of these, at least one-third of the people attending were experiencing poverty and social exclusion in their daily lives.

In 2014, ATD Ireland with the National 17 October Committee, facilitated also a network initiative linking 15 projects throughout the island of Ireland. They were involved in promoting the UN Day and funded by Department of Social Protection Awareness Initiative. See the news section of www.17october.ie



The 2014 UN Day Commemoration was funded by the "Fondation ATD" and the Irish Department of Social Protection.



We don't know what is a privilege and what is a right

Martin and Liam - North West Inner City Training and Development Project

One of us was in the project for a year, doing well and then the project was pulled down. All the hope he had just went down. For every step he went forward, he felt he was going back ten. When again you have to go all the way back to the beginning, you can ask yourself "Why bother?" . People do lose hope, do lose faith in the system, they are frustrated, and they feel they are left abandoned, rejected... It is now much more difficult to feel part of the same society, to feel a sense of being equal citizens together, when there are such inequalities.

He gave to our family some very important values

Isabel Ciulin - Roma Community

Sergio, my husband is proud that he is the Director of the Music School 'Musicantia' for young Roma boys and girls. His father, Severin, played the accordion. He passed away in 2009, but he gave to our family some very important values. (...) These are a love of our family's Roma culture and also an appreciation of education for the boys and also for the girls. It is important to us that music is not just for the men but that everyone's talent is given a chance. This is true education.

...Work that is not valued by many yet so valuable in the society...

Mariaam - Migrant Rights Centre Ireland

I am South African and I came to Ireland in 2010 after I was offered work as an 'Au Pair'. Living in poverty most of my life has had an impact on my outlook on life, I always worry about day to day costs. (...) This is a story of many other people and low wage workers like me or those who earn below the minimum wage doing work that is not valued by many yet so valuable in the society (...). The kind of life people have is not a quality life but just enough for us to breathe from day to day. And that is very sad it is still happening today.

To dare to reach out to those whose voice has not yet been heard.

Artur, Beata, Czarek, Jarek and Magda - ATD Poland delegates visiting Ireland

First of all our dream is that there are more and more places where different groups can be integrated. For example places for children who are able-bodied and disabled children together. (...) So it is so important the way that we talk to each other; that we should listen to each other and that we don't interrupt one another. (...) But also we want to learn how to live as a community and we want to support one another to reach out to the housing administration, to the housing services and the schools.

...Being taken seriously, is of real importance to me...

Paul Uzell - Focus Ireland

There has been a lot of positive change for me in the past couple of years but this year has really brought it all together. By getting involved and taking the opportunities that came my way, my outlook on life has improved and allowed me to discover a whole new set of skills. (...) Being able to speak out and know that people are listening to me, and I'm being taken seriously, is of real importance to me. (...) I know the solutions are there in our communities. By not creating time and space to give voice to communities to find the right solutions for themselves, we are leaving people behind.

*Extracts from
the testimonies
publicly read on
17 October 2014*

Leave no one behind

20 men and women from Dublin, Friends of ATD

Many of us know very well what it means to live on a very low income, and some of us have slept in the street. We know what it is to be put down. (...) Now I have my flat, but I would not walk past a homeless person. If you're my friend when I'm on the street, you're still my friend when I'm not. (...) To leave no one behind, we have to understand each other, to take time to walk in each other's shoes (...) An answer lies in friendship... being a good neighbour. Everyone should have their chance to make their mark in their community. (...) Whether our problems take us to hell and back; We do still have feelings, and we have the right to live with respect. Our humanity can never be taken away from us.



“This meeting was a great opportunity to share the progress made in Ireland towards addressing poverty as a human rights issue and to highlight the challenges that we have to face in the coming years”, said Donald Lee, Chairperson of the International Committee, former Head of UN Division for Social Policy and Development. “It was a unique occasion to reaffirm our commitment and to discuss new ways to collaborate.”

Meeting with Joan Burton TD, Minister of Social Protection- 13th May 2014



You were Welcome to Dublin in 2014!

In May 2014, ATD and the Irish 17 October Committee organised in Dublin the 5th biennial meeting of the International Committee for 17 October.

In 2008, this International Committee was established to promote awareness and understanding of the Commemoration of the UN Day. From 12th to 16th May 2014, the Committee gathered in Dublin for its regular biennial working meeting. The previous meeting had taken place in New York in 2012.



The Committee chose to meet in the Irish capital city because in many ways Ireland has exhibited a strong commitment to the central message of UN Day, namely that poverty can only be truly eradicated when the voices and experiences of people and families most affected by persistent poverty are listened to and taken into account.

- For a number of years, the Department of Social Protection has supported the promotion of the UN Day through grants to organisations and community groups engaged in the observance of 17 October.
- In 2008, public officials and citizens from all walks of life inaugurated a Commemorative Stone close to the Famine Memorial, Custom House Quay, bearing the appeal of Joseph Wresinski: *“Wherever men and women are condemned to live in poverty, human rights are violated. To come together to ensure that these rights be respected is our solemn duty.”*
- The Irish National 17 October Committee is responsible for planning and staging the Commemoration in Dublin annually so as to highlight the reality of severe poverty in people’s lives and the need to seek solutions based on equity and justice.

The International Committee Meeting was supported by the Irish Department of Social Protection and the Irish Province of the Jesuits.





The ESC Rights Initiative

In the fall of 2013, ATD Ireland joined the Economic, Social and Cultural (ESC) Rights Initiative, a network of prominent Irish NGOs such as Age Action, Amnesty International Ireland, Children's Rights Alliance, Community Action Network, Equality and Rights Alliance, Free Legal Aid Centres (FLAC), Focus Ireland, Irish Heart Foundation, Mercy Law Centre, Community Law and Mediation, Pavee Point and the Peter McVerry Trust.

Throughout 2014, ATD became a very active member of the coalition. The year started with a very important success. On 23 February 2014, the Irish Constitutional Convention recommended to the Irish Government, by an overwhelming majority of 85 per cent, that ESC rights be given enhanced protection under the Constitution.

By the end of the year, the Government had not yet responded to the Convention's recommendation. On the 8th December, Ireland marked the 25 year anniversary of its ratification of the International Covenant of Economic Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR). On this occasion, ATD with the other members of ESC Rights Initiative called again on the Government to accept and implement the recommendation of the Constitutional Convention.

Within the ESC Rights Initiative work, ATD continues to promote the newly-adopted 'UN Guiding Principles on Extreme Poverty and Human Rights' among Irish stakeholders . Based on internationally agreed human rights principles and standards, the Guiding Principles provide a framework on how to implement the obligations of States to respect, protect and fulfil the rights of persons living in consistent poverty.

UN Booklet on Guiding Principles: www.ohchr.org/Documents/Publications/OHCHR_ExtremePovertyandHumanRights_EN.pdf

Atd Fourth World - Ireland Limited
(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

for the year ended 31 December 2014

	2014 €	2013 €
Income	43,757	37,190
Expenditure	(45,804)	(32,364)
(Deficit)/surplus for the year	(2,047)	4,826

INCOME

The income for the year has been derived from:-

	2014 €	2013 €
Social Inclusion Division DCEGA	6,000	3,000
Impact's Joe Lucey Fund	-	500
ATD Fourth World Foundation	24,000	30,000
Sale of Publications	100	388
Donations	4,670	3,302
Jesuit Irish Province	3,000	-
EU Citizen Programme	4,676	-
Grant BNP Paribas	1,200	-
Tesco Community Fund	111	-
	<u>43,757</u>	<u>37,190</u>

If we add to local expenditure the cost of foreign full-time volunteers posted in Dublin (around €80,000), the total financial cost of ATD in Ireland in 2014 was approximately €126,000.

Expenditure 2014 and 2013

	2014 €		2013 €	
Administration and fundraising	4508	10%	4643	14%
Projects	36370	79%	26938	83%
Training	4926	11%	783	2%
	45804		32364	

Supporters of ATD Ireland in 2014:



Acknowledgements

We would like to sincerely thank all those who have financially supported the work of ATD Fourth World-Ireland throughout the year, namely: *The Department of Social Protection - The European Commission and its “Europe for Citizens” Programme - The Irish Province of the Jesuits - The TESCO Community Fund - The Joe Lucey Fund / IMPACT (for a project to be run in 2015) - The French Foundation “Fondation ATD Quart Monde” - Mr Jean Pierre Thebault, French Ambassador in Ireland and the staff of the French Embassy - Philippe Milloux and staff of the Alliance Française in Dublin - BNP Paribas in Ireland - The group of women who took part in the Dublin Flora mini-marathon - The friends and supporters who sold or bought ATD Fourth World greeting cards - All those who privately donated money.*

We would also like to thank the **French branch of ATD for the funding and administrative support to the members of our full-time Volunteer Corps in Ireland in 2014**, namely: Eileen Donovan, Fabienne and Pierre Klein, Françoise Sleeth and Dominique Vinchon. ATD full-time volunteers agree on a stipend which is the same for everyone within the same country, regardless of the responsibility held. For Ireland in 2014, this figure was €730 a month along with health insurance and rent allowances. ATD France covered the costs of this staff group at a cost (administration costs included) of approximately €80,000 in 2014.

The total financial cost of ATD in Ireland in 2014 was, therefore, approximately €126,000. The challenge for ATD Fourth World-Ireland in the coming years will be to gradually cover this full cost from resources raised nationally (EU, national or local grants, sponsors, network of friends who donate, etc.).

ATD Fourth World-Ireland is a company limited by guarantee not having a share capital, registered in Dublin.

Registered Number 475746 - Charity Number CHY 18678 - Registered Office: 26 Mountjoy Square, Dublin 1

Directors on 31st December 2014: Isabelle Pypaert-Perrin, Martin Byrne, Ger Doherty, Mark Hogan

Staff on 31st December 2014 (posted permanent volunteers): Eileen Donovan, Fabienne and Pierre Klein

The 2014 Income and Expenditure Account of ATD Fourth World-Ireland has been audited by Nolan & Associates, Chartered Accountants & Registered Auditors, 302/304 The Capel Building, Mary's Abbey, Dublin 7.



How Can I Become Involved?

Our Friends and Volunteers' Network is a means for everyone to get involved in the fight against poverty. **In 2015 around 25 new people joined our Friends and Volunteers' Network.**

Friends and supporters help us in many ways from the running of our projects, fundraising, translating English/French texts to preparing special events, office administration, general maintenance, family support and a whole lot more. Whether you like to work alone or in a group, in an office or outdoors, on the front line or in a support role, we can always use the help and we are flexible according to your available time and skills.

It is also a great way to meet new and interesting people!

Call us or find out more at www.atdireland.ie
"Follow" us on twitter [@ATDIreland](https://twitter.com/ATDIreland) "Like" us on facebook www.facebook.com/togetherindignityireland

International ATD Full-time Volunteer Corps members make a long-term commitment to working alongside families living in extreme poverty and are involved in activities and projects in Ireland and overseas.

Members of the Volunteer Corps agree to live on the same basic stipend and to be available to go where their expertise and skills are most needed.

Families, couples and individuals of all ages, from a variety of backgrounds and with an assortment of practical skills and qualifications, make up this diverse group of dedicated, full-time workers.

There are a number of steps to joining the Volunteer Corps, the first being involvement in ATD activities and projects here in Ireland.

our world
our dignity
our future



action/2015

a Pivotal Year



Happy New Year! Let's welcome 2015 as a turning point!

In 2015, the United Nations will be hosting a number of high-level summit meetings, to formulate new approaches and new goals to **eliminate poverty**, protect the planet and build the **future**. These world leaders will set out an agenda to make our planet a better place to live in.

2015 will be a global moment to end poverty, inequality and climate change.

Every day, everywhere, ordinary people are taking action to build a better world. And during 2015, the European Year for Development, we will seek to celebrate their work - and inspire more people to become active and protect the spirit of the UN for the **Erasmus+ Year of the European Union**.

our world
our dignity
our future



"The stars are aligned for the world to take **historic action** to transform lives and protect the planet. Urge Governments and people everywhere to fulfil their political and moral responsibilities. This is my call to **dignity**, and we must respond with all our talent and strength."

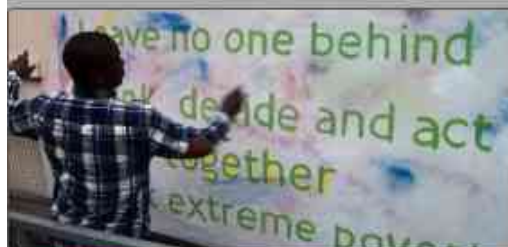
Jan 4th - 6th - 7th December 2014
for the 17th UN Summit on Sustainable Development



Following with the Irish 17 October Summit is an opportunity for us to get involved in the fight against poverty. Volunteers help us in many ways from organising the annual commemoration in Dublin, creating of the 17 Day to Action, to doing practical work for the Summit and fundraising.

The 17th Summit of the International Committee for October 17th would not have been possible without the support of our extraordinary Irish volunteers!

We are very grateful to them!



"Leave no one behind!" We need to eliminate discrimination and marginalisation based on poverty, ethnic origin, gender, age, disability or economic and social status.

"We think, double and act together against extreme poverty!" Local, national and international leaders need to create gender participatory mechanisms and work as partners with communities to strengthen their own support systems.

The European Year for Development 2015 is a turning point for the European Union.

Alone you go faster
Together we go further
Leave no one behind



What can we do to leave no one behind? First of all our vision is that there are work and more places where different groups can be integrated, for eg. places for children, disabled and able-bodied together. In our 470 group in Vienna, we must be build an atmosphere of trust and understanding. It is as important the way that we talk to each other!

Integration of all people in society, 17 October 2015, Dublin



Members of the International Committee for October 17th and Irish community groups met in Sheriff Youth Club, North Wall, Dublin on 14 May 2014. This meeting recognised Ireland's past and on-going commitment to mark the UN World Poverty Day.

On 17 October 2014, **October 17th** was celebrated as the 17th International Day of the Girl. It is a day to celebrate the role of girls in society and to promote their rights and opportunities.



"The economic crisis and austerity measures we have experienced to build back a disproportionate impact on the most vulnerable of our people. It is to be made more difficult to find part of the same society, to find a sense of being equal citizens, together, when there are such inequalities. We said this to Ministers because we believe that we have a responsibility to building change. We want you to join us. Only together we can **leave no one behind**." - Liam, 17 October 2014



Donald Lee, President of the International Committee for October 17th, 17 October 2014

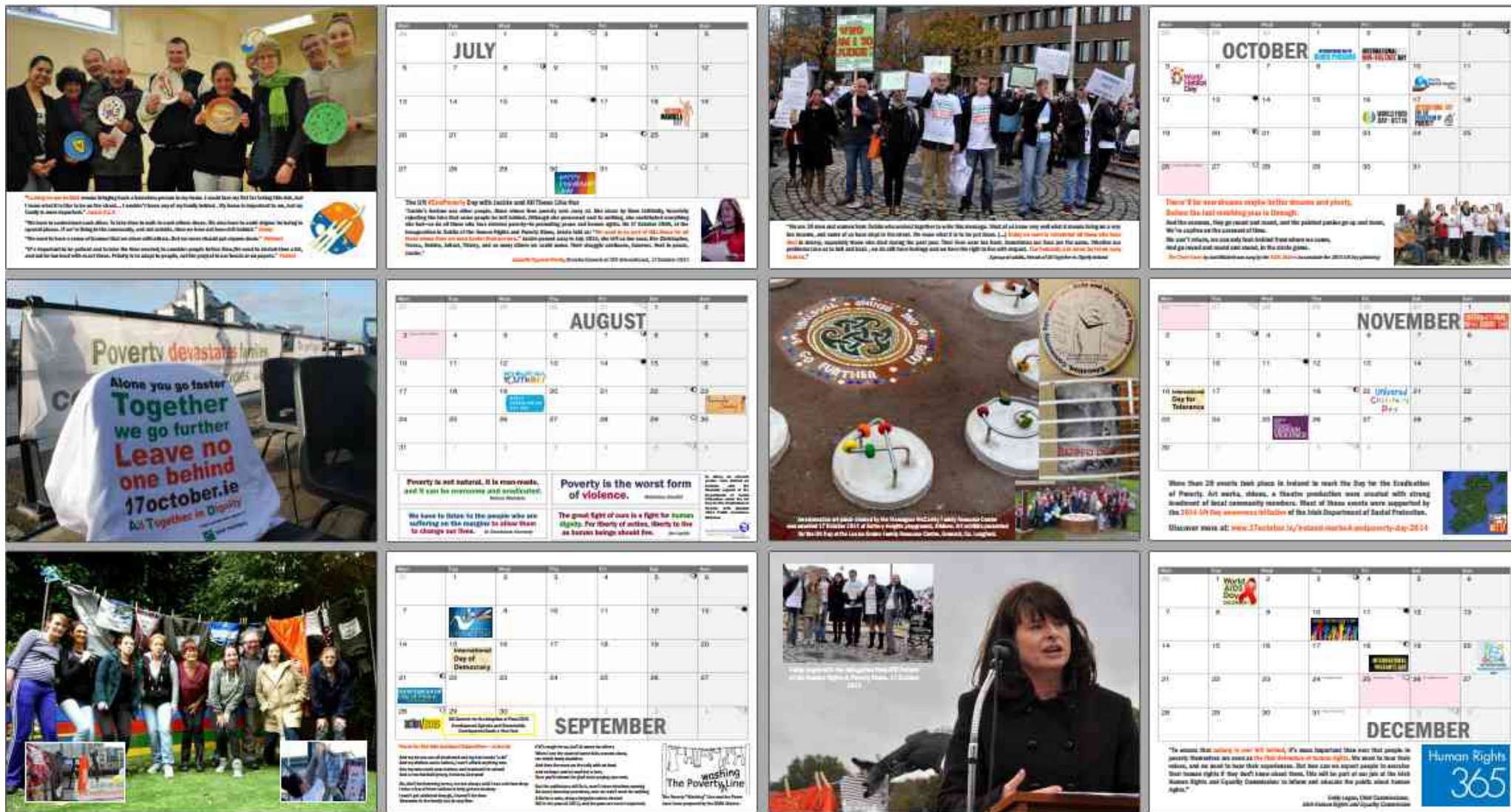


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We are very grateful to them!





ATD Ireland welcomes 2015 as turning point! In 2015, the United Nations will be hosting a number of high level summit meetings, to formulate new approaches and new goals to end poverty, protect the planet and limit climate change. During 2015, European Year for Development, ATD Ireland will try to inspire more people to become active and continue to promote the spirit of the UN Day for the Eradication of Poverty. The design, in December 2014, of a 2015 calendar was one of our first initiatives in this regard.

I am not discouraged in spite of the scope of extreme poverty. I have been through everything that the poor have to go through, all they have endured. Yet I have always spoken these words of hope: extreme poverty does not have to exist. Human beings create it and they are the ones who can put an end to it. No one accepts that poverty should continue, and especially not the poorest people. That's why I am certain that things will change, that poverty will be overcome. Violence will change nothing, but love and justice together will. Friends, I leave each of you with this question: Am I really working for a Europe to which everyone can belong? Will whatever I do, whatever I say, whatever I suggest lead to a Europe where the poorest are at last set free? Will it bring about a Europe of Human Rights?

Joseph Wresinski, June 1987

All Together in Dignity - ATD Fourth World is an international human-rights organisation that works through grass-roots projects in partnership with people living in poverty. All around the world, it remains focused on constantly reaching out to the most vulnerable families, those who have a long history of poverty and educational disadvantage even in the so-called developed countries.

Since 2000, ATD in Ireland has been close to family members facing persistent poverty and struggling daily to live in dignity. **ATD Fourth World - Ireland Ltd** is a company limited by guarantee and is registered for charitable tax exemption (CHY 18 678). Its registered offices are located at 26 Mountjoy Square, Dublin 1, Republic of Ireland.

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