

## Information Sessions 2021

**Dear Family Support Groups, Family Members and Friends,**

We are planning our 2021 Connect Family Network information sessions where we hope to connect with local family support groups, people with disability, parents, and friends.

In the spirit of community engagement, we would like to partner with family support groups around the country to organise events and bring people together to learn, share and support. With your help we can reach a wider audience and give people with disability and their family members a stronger voice.

Each information session will include a presentation from Inclusion Ireland or guest speaker and then time for questions and discussion. We hope that in the second half of 2021 we will be able to host in-person meetings across the country but, for the moment, all sessions are being organised online via Zoom.

- Is your family support group interested to partner with us to organise a Connect Family Network information session ?
- Can you link with other groups and organisations from your area to be part of the event?
- Can you recommend topics or speakers for your group's meeting?

Whether organising or taking part your questions, your comments and feedback will guide our information and advocacy work in the year ahead.

### **What to do**

Take a look at the 2021 Sessions listed below. If your group is interested in co-hosting an online talk please contact Mary at [mary@inclusionireland.ie](mailto:mary@inclusionireland.ie) or Alex at [admin@inclusionireland.ie](mailto:admin@inclusionireland.ie) or 01 8559891 as soon as possible for more information.

Registration to attend our 2021 sessions will start on Wednesday 3rd February. As with all Connect Family Network events attendance is free but we ask people to register, to support access and as numbers are limited. And if you are interested in joining Inclusion Ireland membership is available from as little as €1 <https://inclusionireland.ie/membership/>  
We look forward to hearing from you,

Mary.

Mary Lee, Information and Support Officer, Inclusion Ireland.

Inclusion Ireland, in partnership with Down Syndrome Ireland, is developing the Connect Family Network to share information with family members and family support groups around the country.  
Funded by the Government of Ireland through Pobal

## Information Sessions 2021

Proposed Date	Topic	Interesting because	Partner Group
Wednesday 24th February 11am -12pm online	<b>UNCRPD</b> Human rights for people with disabilities	In 2021 Ireland's progress under the Convention on Rights of People with Disabilities will be reviewed by the UN. Learn about the convention and be ready to take part in consultation and review.	To Be Confirmed
Wednesday 24th March <b>7pm -8pm</b> online	<b>Education</b>  Advocating on behalf of your Child	Know about - The rights that children with disabilities have at school. Individual Education Plans (IEP) and how you can make them work for your child. Negotiating with teachers and advocating on behalf of your child.	PLAN  <b>Parent Led Autism Action</b> Dublin 15
Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> April 11am-12pm online	<b>New Directions</b> What to expect from Day Services.	How to move beyond the development of our own person-centred plan to making sure the plan is properly implemented"	To Be Confirmed
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> May 11am-12pm online	<b>Financial Supports</b>	A short and interesting talk from Inclusion Ireland on applying for the main social welfare payments relating to disability and caring and how you can make an appeal.	GAP  <b>Galway Autism Partnership</b>
Thursday 24th June 11am-12pm online	<b>Supporting Decision- making</b>	We look at what the new Assisted Decision-making legislation will mean and how to best support a family member with decision-making under the new law when it comes into effect.	To Be Confirmed
<b>Summer Break</b>			
Thursday 23rd September 11am-12pm Venue tbc	<b>Making a Will</b>	One of the most frequent enquiries Inclusion Ireland receives is on the topic of Making a Will. Our introductory talk will guide you in emergency planning and making a will.	To Be Confirmed
Thursday 28th October 11am-12pm Venue tbc	<b>Education</b> Advocating on behalf of your child	Know about - The rights that children with disabilities have at school. Individual Education Plans (IEP) and how you can make them work for your child. Negotiating with teachers and advocating on behalf of your child	To Be Confirmed
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> November 11am- 2pm Venue tbc	<b>Community Living</b> 19 Stories of Social Inclusion	19 people, 9 men and 10 women, from cities, towns, and villages all over Ireland took part in our 19 Stories research project. These are their stories of social inclusion.	To Be Confirmed

**Inclusion Ireland**, in partnership with Down Syndrome Ireland, is developing the Connect Family Network to share information with family members and family support groups around the country.  
Funded by the Government of Ireland through Pobal



## Information Sessions 2021

**Inclusion Ireland**, in partnership with Down Syndrome Ireland, is developing the Connect Family Network to share information with family members and family support groups around the country.  
Funded by the Government of Ireland through Pobal



**Rialtas na hÉireann**  
Government of Ireland