

FOIA MARKER

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OA/ID Number: 21689
Scan ID: 078593
Document Number:

Folder Title:
CO081

Stack:	Row:	Section:	Shelf:	Position:
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Clinton Library Transfer Form

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September 12, 1994

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President Bill Clinton
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Clinton:

I wish to commend you on your leadership and initiative in working to promote peace in Northern Ireland.

Your willingness to commit funds to the International Fund for Ireland, to address the economic and reconciliation concerns of the people of Northern Ireland, is critical to establishing a long term solution to the conflict.

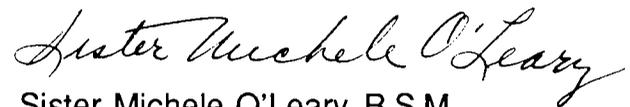
Since 1989, the Ireland Institute of Pittsburgh has worked with the International Fund for Ireland. We have provided training and reconciliation programs for catholic and protestant adults. As the largest United States International Fund for Ireland program provider, we have reached over four hundred young adults from Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland.

Over two hundred businesses in Pittsburgh actively support the work of the International Fund for Ireland.

We in Pittsburgh know the success of the International Fund for Ireland. We also know the difficult task ahead for the next generation of Irish, British, Catholics and Protestants.

We endorse your efforts.

Gratefully,



Sister Michele O'Leary, R.S.M.
President

MOL/tcs

Enclosure

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON
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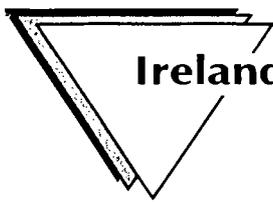
Comments:

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Michele O'Leary with the Taoiseach Albert Reynolds, guests of Dr. Anthony O'Reilly, at the opening of the H.J. Heinz facility in Dundalk, Ireland

PITTSBURGH ALUMNI REUNION

The International Fund for Ireland sponsored the inaugural reunion of the Pittsburgh Alumni on May 29, 1993 at the Berkley Court Hotel, Dublin for over 100 alumni trainees of Wider Horizons Programmes in Pittsburgh.

Attending the reunion, on behalf of the International Fund for Ireland were Cathal O'Feinneagh, Anton Trant and Sinead NicCoitir. Robert Friel represented the United States Embassy, while David Miller and Marie Terese Martin attended from FAS, Dublin. Hugh McCloskey appeared on behalf of the Training and Employment Agency of Northern Ireland.

Attending from the Ireland Institute of Pittsburgh were: Sr. Michele O'Leary, Dr. Mel Madden, Teresa Stayduhar, James Lamb, Mairead McNearney, Geralyn Robinson and Anne O'Toole.

Several project sponsors also enjoyed the evening: Geraldine McMurray, Suffolk Action Team; Tom McKay and Ann McGeeney, RoSA; Des McConville, Southern ITec; and Bill Clinton, FAS Sligo. The Springboard Initiative was represented by Angela Chada, Greater Shankill Development Agency; Louise Sheehy, Worknet; and Sylvia Mooney of Tallaght.

Michele O'Leary, R.S.M. welcomed the Alumni. She commented on how appropriate the name of the Wider Horizons Programme was and how exciting it was to

see the personal growth and development of the trainees who had indeed widened their horizons. She said that the Institute was honored to be associated with such an international effort to empower individuals so that they may come to discover and strengthen their abilities, employment skills and life skills. Robert Friel, United States Embassy in Dublin, spoke of the importance of the Ireland Institute's work with the International Fund for Ireland, and the support and leadership of Congressman William Coyne.

Cathal O'Feinneagh welcomed the

"Surviving in Pittsburgh on the project had it's share of challenges because of our disabilities. Knowing that I could cope in a different country so far from home has given me the confidence and motivation to be successful in my business" - Jackie Magee.

for the better.

Other Alumni speakers included Mairead McMullan, Belfast/Letterkenny group, Nick Bradley with the Newry/



Pittsburgh Alumni Reunion - May 29, 1993 in Dublin, Ireland.

Alumni on behalf of the International Fund. He said how pleased he was to see so many young people maintain contact across the religious and political divide, friendships first made on a Wider Horizons Programme in Pittsburgh.

Dr. Mel Madden received a warm reception when he drew attention to the goodwill and camaraderie that was evident at the reunion. He commented that the numbers gathered, and the friendships renewed, indicated a real measure of the success of Wider Horizons' Programmes.

Some of the graduate trainees relived the nightmare of public speaking and 'volunteered' to address the gathering, sharing some personal feelings on their Pittsburgh experience.

Minty Thompson, of the Derry/ Arklow group told the gathering that participating on the project in Pittsburgh was the best thing that ever happened for her; giving her the motivation to change her life

Dundalk group; Jennifer Lavell, Suffolk/Dundalk; Andrew Kennedy, Belfast/Waterford, Wilson Freeburn, ACE/FAS Managers, and Trevor Lowey, Armagh/Monaghan group. Dave Thomas and Jackie Magee with the Mentor/NRB Physically Challenged group gave inspiring speeches encouraging the International Fund to continue sponsoring overseas projects for the physically challenged.



L-R Cathal O'Feinneagh, IFI, Pauline Tunney, Pittsburgh Alumni, Sinead NicCoitir, IFI, Michele O'Leary, IIP and Robert Friel, American Embassy.

P-527

TRACKING SHEET

	Date	Initial
RECEIVED BY PLM	<u>9/16</u>	<u>MP</u>
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