

How Irish Aftercare Network benefits our members in their day to day work

Below are responses received from members following a needs analysis survey in July 2019

- ⇒ Was so happy to attend this years conference in Athlone, it was so relevant to the work and probably one of the best conferences I attended. It provides a supportive and encouraging presence to the day to day work. A big thank you to all who invest their time and energy to ensure the Network grows and develops
- ⇒ Information is brilliant and the staff team in the Aftercare network are very approachable
- ⇒ Knowing that there is a dedicated group of professionals in this particular field advocating, sharing and supporting each other is a great benefit for professional skills development and service quality development
- ⇒ Thanks for the support, it has been integral to my development as an aftercare worker over the past 2 years
- ⇒ I have loved attending the events so far, it is great to see the Aftercare workers / social care workers, do have a professional identity, keep up the fantastic work and thank you
- ⇒ Fantastic Network that gets things done. Thank you
- ⇒ Excellent for information sharing and a valuable resource to members and ultimately YP leaving care
- ⇒ Informative and essential in helping to meet needs of vulnerable group
- ⇒ Information sharing at National level is very important & the network is great for passing on relevant information. Thank you
- ⇒ I find the networking very beneficial as I can build up contacts with other aftercare people working in different areas. Opportunity for training Opportunity to lobby on various policy issues
- ⇒ Very informative
- ⇒ Useful resource for information sharing and I know there is a platform to raise any relevant issues
- ⇒ Information sharing
- ⇒ I find it beneficial when questions are posed to the group email and you can then receive the answer
- ⇒ I find the email updates useful.
- ⇒ It is comforting to know, outside of your working catchment area, there are supports available to you nationally!
- ⇒ I find the meetings have been beneficial for me in terms of networking and finding out about services available to young people which I wasn't aware of.
- ⇒ The fact that we have an aftercare network is very comforting & reassuring
- ⇒ I feel the peer support is invaluable especially as aftercare worker work on a lone working model.
- ⇒ Great to know there is a group for information and support
- ⇒ It supports and offers guidance as aftercare covers a wide range of topics / areas of support and sometimes it feels that the aftercare worker should act as the 'jack of all trades' so to speak
- ⇒ Regular emails with updates/information sharing are very beneficial.

- ⇒ The emails that are circulated when one area comes up against an issue and how it is resolved or not is extremely helpful
- ⇒ A great support with finding out information in relation to issues that arise within Aftercare. A very prompt reply also.
- ⇒ It keeps me in touch with meetings and developments in aftercare.
- ⇒ Networking opportunities are useful for me and my current role
- ⇒ Keeps us informed of developments outside org. that is in contact with us in our area of work and sends us relevant information
- ⇒ **Sincere thanks to the committee for giving us a voice**