

# North Tipperary Family Network Meeting

OCTOBER 2024

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# Agenda

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Welcome and Introductions

Ground Rules

Role of the Family Network and Family Reps

North Tipperary Family Network Reps Update

North Tipperary CDNT Update from CDNMM

Group Discussion

Review of Actions

# Role of the Family Network Meeting

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For the CDNMM and families to work collaboratively to improve the outcomes for children and families accessing our services and to foster a culture of trust, openness and transparency

To give families an opportunity to discuss general issues and ideas for service development and/or enhancement of children's disability services in their local CDNT

To elect two Family Representatives who will meet the CDNMM regarding CDNT issues and ideas raised by the Family Network, and will join the Family Representative Group at area level

To share information on:

- Service provision, governance and access
- Community supports
- Rights of the child and the family
- Other relevant topics of interest

To facilitate Networking and sharing knowledge and experiences amongst families

\*The principles of confidentiality, Data Protection and GDPR should be upheld at all times

# Role of the Family Rep

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## The Family Representative will:

- Attend meetings of the Family Representative Group at CHO level
- Represent their Family Network by expressing their views, concerns and suggestions for improvements based on collation of general areas and themes from the Family Network
- Represent issues and ideas raised by families
- Provide feedback between the Family Representative Group and the Family Network
- The Family Representative's official interface with the family members should be solely at the Family Networks. There is a pathway for families with queries relating to individual children and it is not appropriate to get engaged in issues related to individual children.
- Family Representatives should direct the family member to the CDN or tell them to contact the CDNT via phone, email or post.

## What does the role not involve?

- Reps are not expected to advocate on behalf of individual parents. Individual parents must liaise directly with their CDNT and CDN if they want to raise individual issues.
- Reps are not expected to meet with or correspond with parents outside of the Family Representative Group. You will feed back on your work and any updates you have at your Family Network.

# Update from Family Reps

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**North Tipperary Family Network**  
**Items to be discussed at the Family Representative Group**

Date	Item	Action	Update	Outcome
16.04.24	Timeline for Newsletter	Discussed at the FRG 08.05.24	Focus group held with reps of the FRG. Survey sent to families re info to be contained in this. Report on survey awaited.	
16.04.24	Booklet/Leaflet at the consultation phase	Discussed at the FRG 08.05.24	Survey sent to families re info to be contained in this. Report on survey awaited.	
16.04.24	Timeline for website update	Discussed at the FRG 08.05.24	National HSE Comms dept has put a stop to local website. Locally considering our options	
16.04.24	Section 39 pay gap	Discussed at the FRG 08.05.24 Put forward as an item for discussion at the governance group 23.05.24	Management group looking at this. Next meeting on pay parity is 24 <sup>th</sup> June 2024. It is a Government decision. Section 38 - Public Servants (HSE equivalent). Section 39 - not considered Public Servant so different pay scales.	
16.04.24	Recruitment & Retention	Discussed at FRG		

**North Tipperary Family Network**  
**Items to be discussed at local level**

Date	Item	Action	Update	Outcome
16.04.24	Timeline for introduction to service	Ann committed to 4-6 weeks		
16.04.24	Post-diagnosis support group for other diagnoses- currently only ASD group	To be reviewed over the summer months		
16.04.24	Invite speakers from different groups/organisations to attend schools	To be discussed with the NCSE rep when they attend the FN meeting		

# Update from CDN

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# CDNT Caseload



CDNT	Active Caseload	Waiting List	Total Caseload
North Tipperary	1236	358	1594

- Currently taking children off the waiting list who were referred in May 2022

# CDNT Staff (WTE) Funded



	Spraoui (0-9)	Sonas (9-18)	Total
CDNM	1		1
Occupational therapy	2.3	2.9	5.2
Physiotherapy	1	2	3
Psychology	3	3	6
Social Work	1.6	2	3.6
Speech and Language Therapy	2	3	5
Nursing	0.6	1	1.6
Early Intervention Educator	1		1
Paediatric Link Worker	0.3		0.3
Therapy Assistant	0.6	0.65	1.25
Admin and Clerical Support	3		3

# CDNT Staff (WTE) In Post



	Spraoui (0-9)	Sonas (9-18)	Vacancy (incl leaves)
CDNM	1		
Occupational therapy	2.2	1.9	<b>1.1</b>
Physiotherapy	0.5		<b>2.5</b>
Psychology	1	2	<b>3</b>
Social Work	1	1	<b>1.8</b>
Speech and Language Therapy	1	2	<b>2</b>
Nursing	0.6	0	<b>1</b>
Early Intervention Educator	1		
Paediatric Link Worker	0.3		
Therapy Assistant	1.25		
Admin and Clerical Support	3		

# Recruitment

Filled	Still Vacant
Therapy Assistant started 31.07.24	OT – newly vacant
SLT started 16.09.24	Social Worker - second campaign unsuccessful, re-advertised
OT started 01.10.24	Psychology – multiple campaigns unsuccessful, re-advertised
0.6 SLT Awaiting start date	2 x SLT - multiple campaigns unsuccessful, re-advertised
Physiotherapist - End October	Therapy Assistant – awaiting confirmation of funding for same
Psychologist End October	
Nurse – recruitment process	
Physiotherapist - recruitment process	

# Updates

**You Said:**  
We want better  
communication with  
our CDNT

## **We Did:**

Focus group with reps from FRG  
around communication  
Conducted a survey of families with  
or waiting on CDNT surveys re  
communication:

1. While waiting for service
2. On entry to the service
3. Ongoing with the service

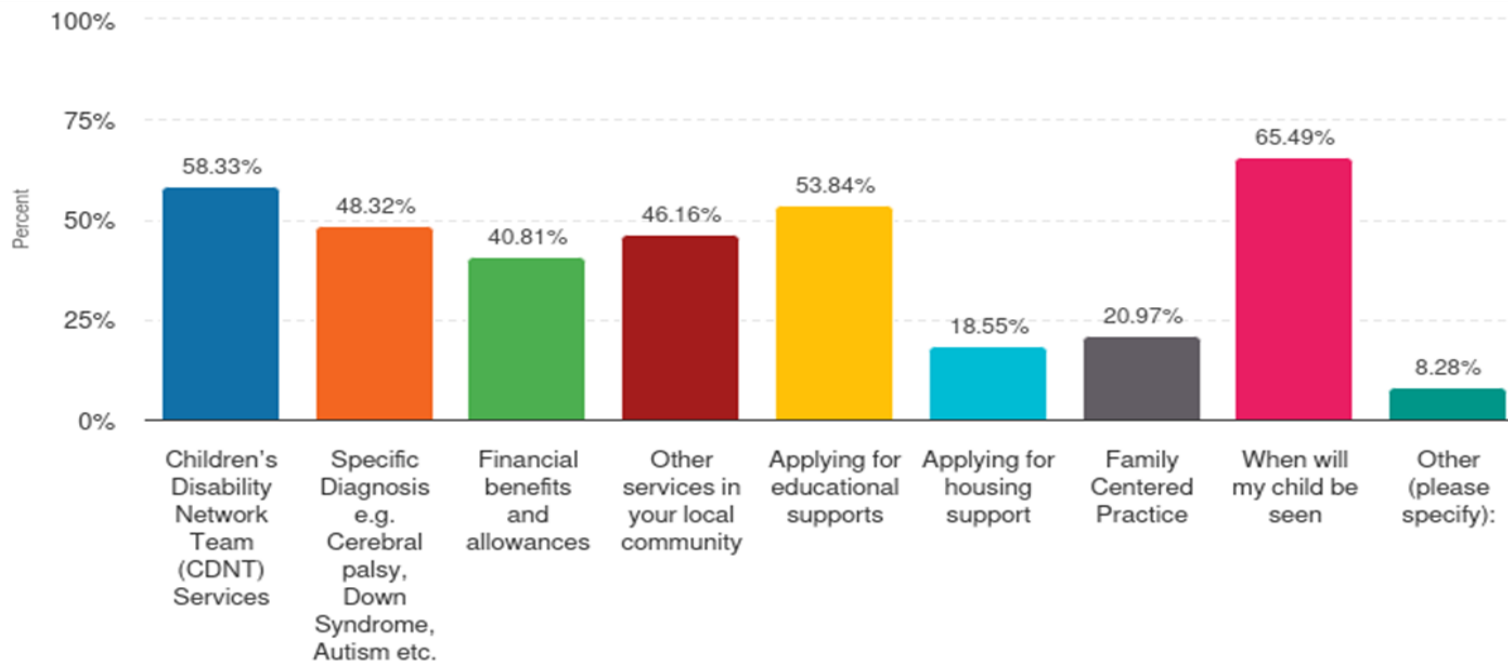
Report available on our website:



# CDNT Family Survey

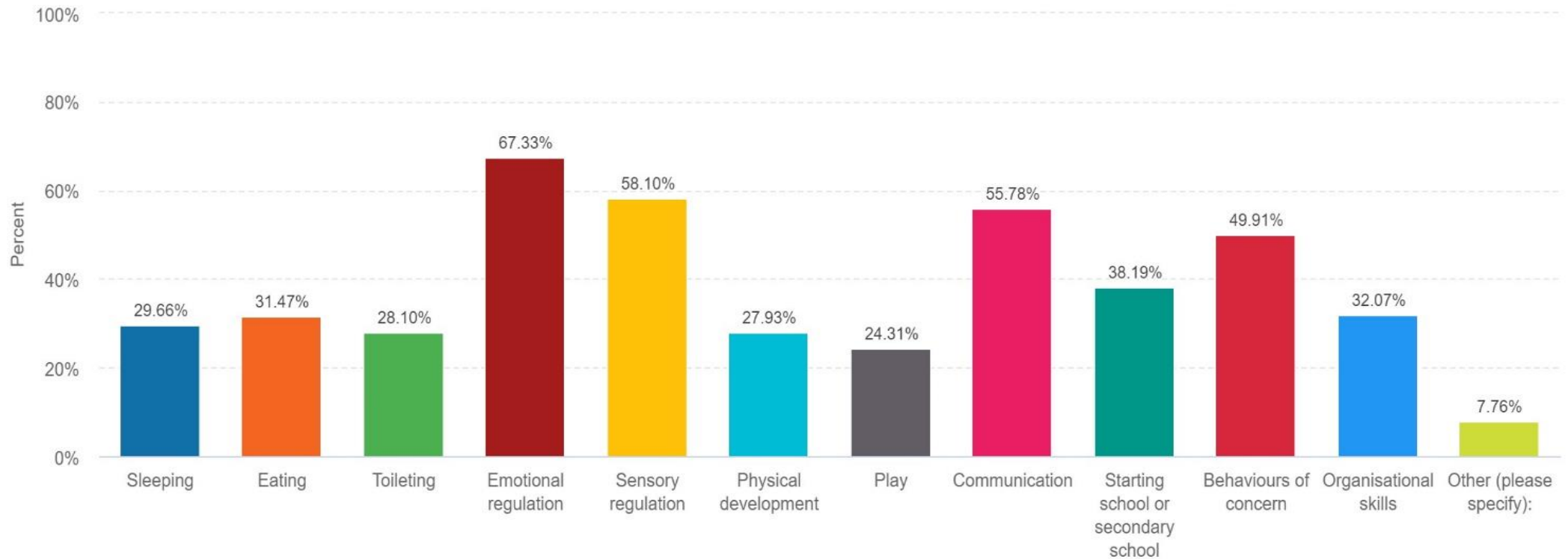
7002 families sent the survey; 1159 survey responses were returned (16.6%)

## Area 1: Information/communication needs whilst waiting for services



# Topics for Strategies

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# Area 2: Entrance to Service

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## Important Topics:

Who can access a CDNT, why has my child been referred, does my child need a diagnosis first.

Explain the professionals which makes up a Children's Disability Network Team and their role within the team.

What to expect when you are referred to your CDNT, including the initial family meeting and the initial individual family support plan meeting.

Meaning of a family centred practice approach and what to expect.

The role of the Family Network Meeting.

Range of community services available to support the needs of their child, this included mental health support and also family support for parents and siblings who require additional support.

# Area 3: Newsletter

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The dates of your next Family Forum/Network meeting.

Updates from your last Family Network meeting.

Useful suggestions/helpful tips from our team.

Information on upcoming events, such as information seminars or family training.

Activities/clubs your child may like to get involved in in your area.

How the service is delivered.

Community Services Available

# Preferred Method

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Almost equal votes for printed booklet, followed by a newsletter and a website

# Updates

## **You Said:**

We want Entrance to Services Information provided to families on entry to service

## **We Did:**

Two Entrance to Services Workshops held:

1. 30 invited; 3 attended;
2. 16 invited; 1 attended.

Webinar recorded and sent to those who could not attend

## **We Did:**

Final Entrance to Services Booklet sent to FRG for feedback, Working group currently reviewing this feedback.

# Updates

## You Said:

We want information available to families waiting for services

## We Did:

There is now an information available on the [mwcds.ie](http://mwcds.ie) website with a suite of resources and links to information and supports



## We Did:

Letter sent to all families waiting for CDNT service advising them of this new platform.  
All families will now receive a leaflet detailing this platform on acceptance to the service.

# Updates

**You Said:**  
We want ongoing  
Communication with  
CDNT

**We Are Doing:**  
Meeting with Reps from FRG and HSE  
Service User Engagement Officer  
today to progress development of  
newsletter.

**We Are Doing:**  
Updated the North Tipperary CDNT  
page on our website. More work to  
do.

# Updates

**You Said:**

We want post diagnostic support group for children with other diagnosis

**We Are Doing:**

Final Stages of development of a group for children with Physical Disabilities.