

THE JUNIOR PROGRAMME

THE STORY SO FAR Alison Daly

Irish Haemophilia Society: AGM 2010



IN THE BEGINNING

 1998 Deer Park Hotel in Howth

 3 children



WHY START A JUNIOR PROGRAMME AT ALL?


What was hoped for?

- To meet the changing needs of the organisation




 To create opportunities for the Society to strengthen it's membership from birth onwards



 To create opportunities for members to forge ties/friendships from a younger age




 To nurture a more active and involved membership, especially into their teenage years and twenties




- To provide opportunities for members to be of greater support to each other



 To develop within the children a greater awareness of the possibilities of different activities and their haemophilia



 To develop a stronger sense of ownership within our members



 To provide a safe nurturing environment for junior members while parents are close by



 To enhance the parents experience of the AGM



HOW HAS THE PROGRAMME DEVELOPED

- From one group of 9 children to:
A crèche with up to 10/15 children



 **A kidlink programme with up to 20/25 children**



- **A youth programme with up to 10/15 members attending**



 We are now developing a youth leader training programme




So how do we decide on the different elements of the programme?

 **We listen to the kids!**


Our programmes are almost entirely member led.



 We look at research into best practice, age appropriate activities, feedback from parents, feedback from leaders and we look at other youth organisations.



“We always endeavour to bring new experiences into our junior members lives”

 **We select activities that nurture within our members a sense of:**


- ❖ Working together as a team**
- ❖ Creativity**
- ❖ Caring for each other**
- ❖ Taking responsibility for their own behaviour**
- ❖ Being challenged**
- ❖ Learning**



What are the two key elements of the junior programme as we move into a new decade?

- **A continued commitment to having fun**



 **Continuing to develop the educational component of the programme**



Some activities our members have taken part in

- Its not an AGM without swimming
- Arts and crafts
- Circle time
- Bowling
- Clown school
- Capoeira
- Junior Disco
- Samba drumming
- Horse riding
- Field trips
- Adventure weekends
- Making a movie
- Educational games
- Career planning
- Fancy dress
- Competitions
- Karaoke
- Junior talks
- Crazy golf
- Mini Olympics

