

## Values Statement Clare Youth Service

Clare Youth Service is a young person centred organisation believing that all young people are of equal value and citizens in their own right. Our core values of Trust, Listening, Respect, Voluntary Participation, and Representation are reflected in our work.

*"If you have come to help me,  
You are wasting your time,  
But if you have come because your  
liberation is bound up with mine  
then let us work together".*

*Aboriginal Saying*

**TRUST:** Trust is a core element of any human relationship and is therefore fundamental in our work with young people. Trust builds bridges and creates partnerships of understanding.

**LISTENING:** In order for young people to grow and thrive, they must be listened to by adults whom they trust and can rely on. Clare Youth Service values actively listening to young people as a core approach in its work

**RESPECT/JUDGEMENT FREE:** Clare Youth Service works to create a judgement free environment built on respect for all young people. Here they are enabled to share their stories and be accepted for who they are and the stage they are at in their personal life journey.

**VOLUNTARY PARTICIPATION:** Clare Youth Service is committed to quality practice focused on processes which encourage and facilitate the voluntary participation of young people in appropriate ways.

**REPRESENTATION:** Clare Youth Service is committed to ensuring that the needs and interests of young people are represented in relevant fora. In our work we strive to support young people to express their voice on all issues affecting them while acknowledging that at times and in certain situations staff and volunteers must advocate on their behalf.

Clare Youth Service recognises the unique contribution volunteers make to young people and the community. Volunteerism is a key source of social capital. Clare Youth Service - a volunteer led organisation is committed to promoting, sustaining and developing volunteering within its organisation.

Clare Youth Service endorses all the values and principles enshrined in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, the principles enshrined in the UN Declaration on Human Rights, the principles underpinning the Children's Act 2001 and the Equal Status Act 2000.