**About Carrickfergus YMCA**

Founded in 1873 Carrickfergus YMCA is a local voluntary organisation that works with children, young people, families and community, with particular regard to those that are disadvantaged and disaffected. In August 2012 Carrickfergus YMCA moved into new purpose built premises in Irish Quarter West.

Underpinned by Christian principles, Carrickfergus YMCA responds to local needs and seeks to share and learn from being part of a national and international Movement.

Affiliated to the National Council of YMCA’s in Ireland, the YMCA in Carrickfergus is an autonomous organisation governed by a local voluntary board of directors.

Working with around 650 young people and just over 130 families each week through a range of projects including:

**Youth Club-** Open 4 evenings per work to young people between ages 8-18 years. Approx. 25-40 attendees each night.

**Health Hub –** A safe space for young people aged 11-25 to call into for information & support on a range of health issues. This includes social and recreation space, outreach, family support and one to one mentoring.

**Parents and Kids Together Project-** This project runs after school activities five afternoons each week and a teenager club. Parents take part in life skills / educational courses.

**Volunteering-** we currently host 3 European volunteers through the Erasmus plus programme and have about 30 local volunteers.