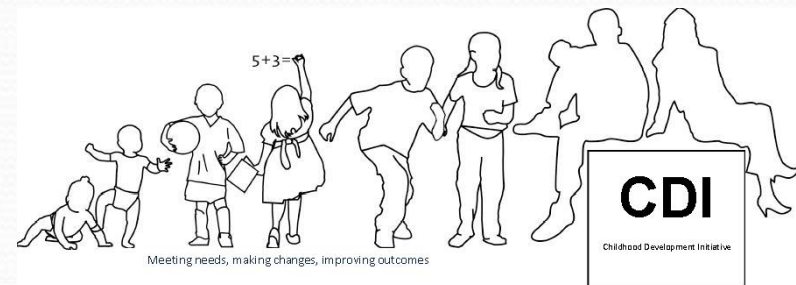


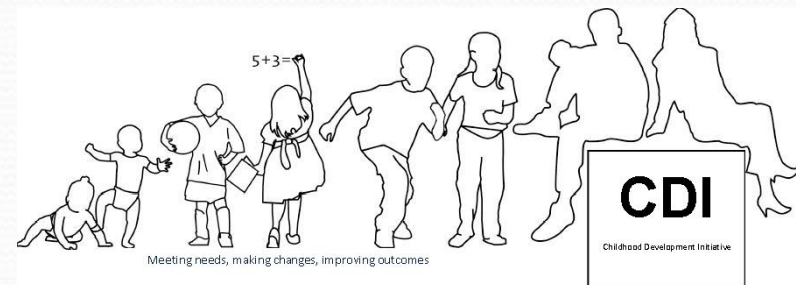
# Childhood Development Initiative:

Presentation to  
The Irish Penal Reform Trust,  
September 2010



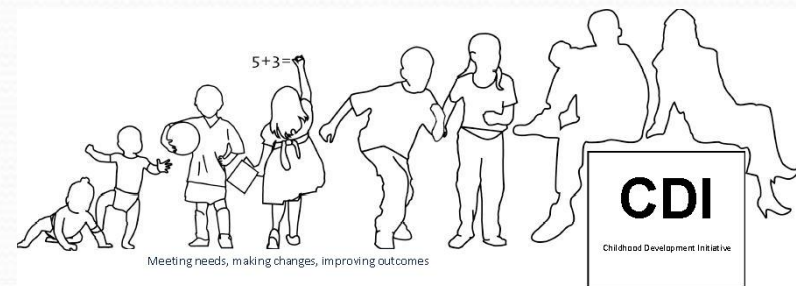
# Joining up the dots:

A community based strategy to improve outcomes for children and families underpinned by interagency collaboration.

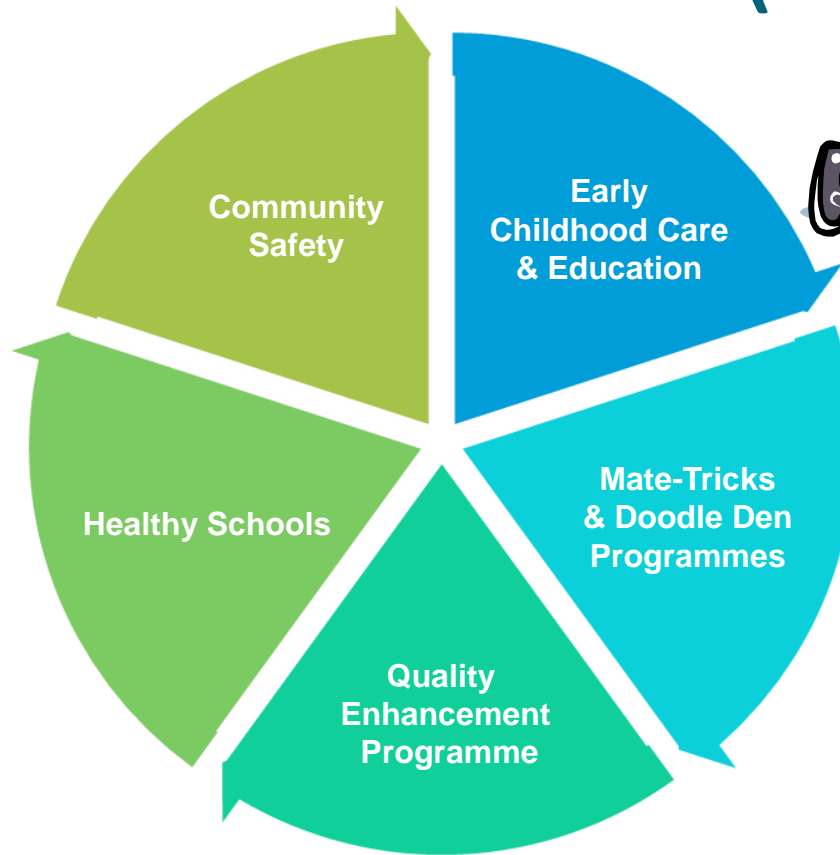


# The Childhood Development Initiative (CDI):

- Evolved through a community – based consortium;
- Strategy based on there years consultation and research;
- €15M committed by OMCYA and Atlantic Philanthropies;
- Significant evaluation and service design requirements.



# CDI's Activities (DVD)



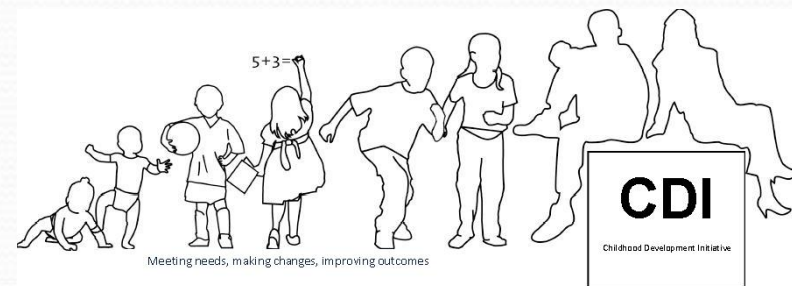
Meeting needs, making changes, improving outcomes



# What Helps Interagency Collaboration and Service Integration

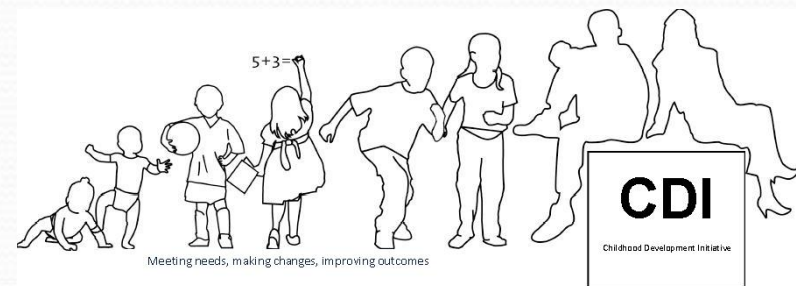
- Shared vision and understanding;
- Resources;
- Clear roles and responsibilities;
- Steering group
- Plans and processes
- Good relationships
- Strong communication and interpersonal skills;
- Effective leadership;
- Political support;
- Training;
- Research.

CDI Process Evaluation, NUI Galway, (Unpublished)



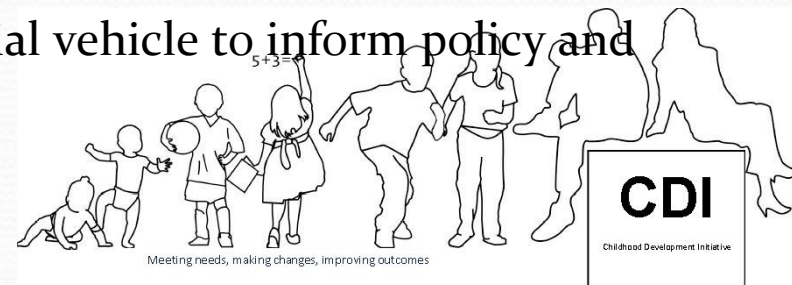
# The Dots We Have Joined:

- Schools as employers of Healthy School Coordinators;
- Inter-disciplinary co-facilitation;
- Youth services delivering within schools;
- HSE providing professional role support;
- Interagency collaboration re SLT provision;
- Inter-agency Implementation Support Group;
- Inter-agency sub committees progressing specific actions.



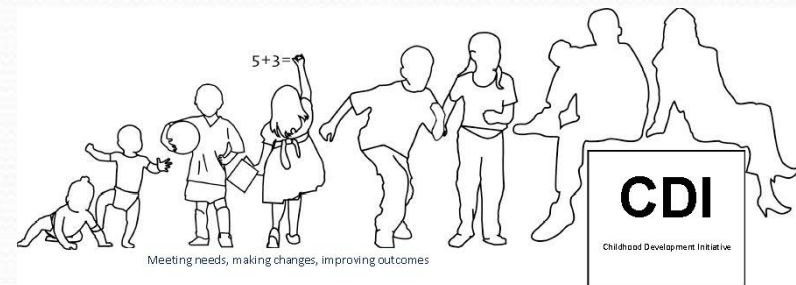
# What Helped ?

- General acceptance of need for collaboration;
- Children's Services Committee;
- Personalities;
- Structures → Clear terms of reference;
  - Well run meetings ;
  - Hospitality;
- CDI as a commissioning agent rather than a service provider i.e. the 'honest broker';
- Doing the leg work e.g. drawing up contracts, MOU's, TOR's etc.;
- Social opportunities for networking e.g. volleyball; lunchtime seminars;
- Quick wins;
- Having a remit to support collaboration;
- High local profile and recognised as a potential vehicle to inform policy and practice.



# The Key Challenges:

- Collective amnesia!
- Fear of competition;
- Concern re: evaluation methods;
- Risk of over burdening;
- Defensiveness - feeling threatened.





# In Conclusion:

- Honesty is in fact the best policy;
- It's all about balance:
  - Consultation v's getting the job done;
  - Quality service delivery v's research requirements;
  - Tenacity v's "nagging";
- Identify your allies and ignore the begrudges (for now).

