



# Irish Girl Guides

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## **Dublin Lord Mayor presents Irish Girl Guides with Gold Health Quality Award**

The Irish Girl Guides were presented with a Gold Standard Health Quality Award at a recent training weekend for 150 Leaders in All Hallows College, Dublin. IGG is the only youth organisation in Ireland to receive a National Gold level Award. The award was presented by Deiniol Jones, Assistant Director of the NYCI. The Lord Mayor of Dublin, Councillor Emer Costello, was their special guest on the day. The Lord Mayor is a former Guide and she spoke of her valuable time in Guiding, which contributed to her leadership skills that she uses today.

Through a varied programme, IGG members develop skills for coping with everyday living, community awareness, a responsible attitude, leadership skills and self-confidence. As part of its range of comprehensive activities, IGG aims to raise young people's awareness of health and health related issues.

The Health Quality Award mark is a standards framework developed by the National Youth Council of Ireland which aims at enhancing best practice and a high standard of quality in all aspects of Health Promotion. IGG successfully attained all 15 of the quality standards to receive the Gold award.

Deiniol Jones from NYCI in congratulating IGG, stated:

“This Gold Standard Award is evidence that the management and volunteers of IGG are committed to quality standards in health promotion and the well being of all the young people they work with. This award represents extensive work and reflection to ensure that proper procedures and policies are in place to maintain a health promoting environment for all the young people and staff. IGG have used this opportunity to build on the good work that has been going on for many years and to ensure that their work is in line with national and international best practice in the area of Youth Health Promotion. I have every confidence that IGG will continue to provide a healthy and safe environment for young people and staff and that health promotion will remain a key priority.”

-ENDS-

### *Background*

*The Irish Girl Guides has over 10,500 members ranging in age from 5 to 26 years, and provides many opportunities for Young and Adult Leaders. Guiding started in Ireland in 1911 and operates throughout the country with volunteer Leaders providing an educational programme of challenging activities which encourage members to acquire the confidence and skills to be responsible citizens of tomorrow.*