



Human Rights Day - 10 December 2016



# All Together in Dignity

ATD Fourth World - Ireland

## Annual Report 2016





On the 17 October 2016, **Belinda Nugent** (International Committee for the UN End Poverty Day) and **Paul Uzell** (ATD Ireland) welcomed the **President of Ireland Michael D Higgins** at the annual gathering at the Human Rights and Poverty Stone in Dublin 1.



# My Human Rights Journey with ATD

The absence of your voice leaves one easily overlooked and left behind by society. I was one such individual who was lost without a voice with very little direction in life struggling to come to terms with poverty and its impact on me, my family, and the wider community.

My association with ATD Ireland began back in October 2013 when I spoke at the Human Rights & Poverty Stone on my experience of poverty and how I overcame the negative consequences. Since this initial encounter I have spoken on the UN End Poverty Day on several occasions and have become a community activist campaigning on anti-poverty matters.

In June of 2016, I did a short internship in the ATD Dublin office. This opportunity has opened up the world of the Human Rights Campaigners to me, a world that holds dear to those values I have long believed in. The platform that my membership in the Irish 17 October Committee provides, allows me to address what I believe to be at the root of most of society's problems: POVERTY.

To challenge poverty is to challenge yourself, it is to refuse to remain silent and to encourage others to discover their voice. In doing so we add their voice to the growing numbers worldwide who have declared that poverty must be eradicated. **Let's #StopPoverty!**

**Paul Uzell, April 2017**  
new member of **ATD Fourth World - Ireland CLG**

**With Paul and all the members of All Together in Dignity ATD Fourth World - Ireland CLG, the Board is proud to present this 2016 Annual Report.**

ATD Ireland welcomed 2016 as a turning point! The United Nations' new 17 Global Goals came into effect on the 1st of January 2016. ATD Ireland tried to inspire more people to become active to implement the 2030 Agenda and continued to promote the spirit of the UN Day for the Eradication of Poverty. 2016 was also the year of a major new step for ATD in Ireland. In January 2016, an internship programme was launched to involve Irish citizens in the daily work of the ATD International Volunteer Corps.

**Gerald Doherty, Chairperson, May 2017**





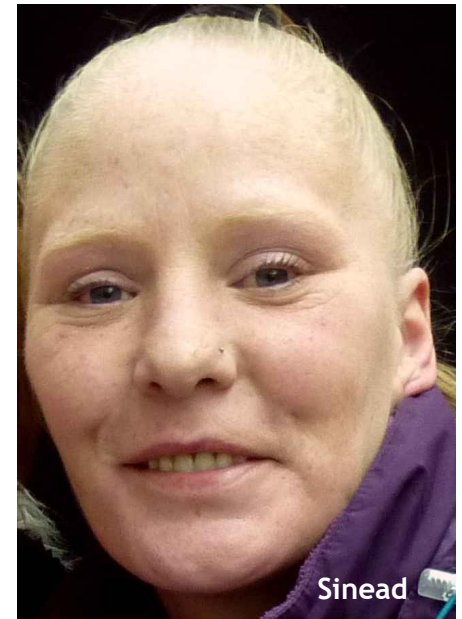
Biddie

# DECLARATION FOR A FUTURE IRELAND



2016

WE, THE PEOPLE OF IRELAND, NOW RAISE  
OUR HEADS, RECLAIM OUR VOICES, OUR  
RIGHTS AND OUR DIGNITY AND PLEDGE  
SUPPORT TO THIS FUTURE IRELAND.



Sinead



Jason

# Friends Remembered, Friends Together

Sadly some friends of ATD Ireland have passed away in 2016/2017 namely : Jason, Biddie and Sinead. They had been in touch with ATD in recent years, especially in their participation of the Our Voices project. We remember them in all the work we do. May they rest in peace.

For volunteers of ATD Ireland, the 17 October Human Rights and Poverty Stone is a clarion call to all citizens but it is also a place to remember all the friends who passed away too early because of marginalisation, poverty and unequal access to health care and services. The Stone is a place to remember all the 'resistance fighters' against the violence of poverty.

We remember Jason who participated in the Our Voices project. Jason's contribution reminds us to always look out for one another and the importance of belonging to a community: ***"I've got a long journey ahead of me and I need to trust people... I never walk by a person without talking to them."*** Jason told us also that one of the right he needed in order to be healthy was: ***"to be entitled to my own say, to able to say what I have to say and not remain unheard."***

Biddie who also participated in the Our Voices project passed away quiet recently. Biddie was a character who always brought a smile to the faces of others. Here ATD volunteer Jimmy Power pays tribute to his friend Biddie: ***"She has been an amazing woman to me and all the others in Acorn and the Our Voices project. She put everybody else before herself and she was a lovely and kind person. We all will miss her, she always looked after her good friends. At the end of the day she is up there with her loved ones and I hope that she can rest in peace"***.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Friends Together:** in November 2014, friends and volunteers of ATD Ireland met to launch the 2015-2019 planning process. Four meetings took place in 2015 to move ahead in this collective and participatory process. This work led to the drafting and adoption of the **"Who We Are Together"** statement in July 2015. This statement is available at [www.atdireland.ie/wp/about/](http://www.atdireland.ie/wp/about/)

**Irish Together:** To mark the centenary anniversary of the **1916 Proclamation**, the movement **Claiming Our Future** consulted citizens around the country to draft a **2016 Declaration for a Future Ireland**. ATD Ireland took part in the process and submitted the declaration **"Who we are together"**. On the 3<sup>rd</sup> of March 2016, Claiming Our Future representatives met with President Higgins to present this visionary document built on the core values of **equality, environmental sustainability, participation, accountability and solidarity**. The declaration calls for "a public participation in policy making, including for those experiencing poverty, inequality, and social exclusion, and a constructive say in decisions." More at [www.atdireland.ie/wp/declaration/](http://www.atdireland.ie/wp/declaration/)





# ATD Home Visits – not leaving people alone

The aim of ATD visits is to build a relationship with adults and young people based on trust and respect. A relationship that will allow them, in their own time and at their own pace, to continue to express the challenges they face, how they try to meet them and what they believe in.

Visits are also opportunities to share invitations, news and pictures from events run by ATD, other NGOs or Community Groups. Volunteers also support adults to keep in touch with people they know in Ireland or abroad. ATD's approach also focuses on the value of celebrating happy “family events”. Volunteers make sure the birthdays of ATD's friends are not forgotten.

In 2016, around 450 home visits were made by ATD volunteers. In March 2017 Elaine, one member of the ATD permanent team, wrote these lines about these visits :

*“Thinking about people I've met over the 15 months...There's John with his beating heart open and strong, needy and talented. Paulina, articulate, intelligent mother of three beauts. Lisa, fun and smiling and ready to reach out! There's Bobbie with stories mixed with the Bible, a heart and a history of fighting this curse. Mathilda who has lived a tough life minding her grand kids, managing to make the window bright at Christmas time. There's Bridget who is dynamic, bright, human, a fighter, and encourager. Gloria who has a great laugh and smile. Sally is an intelligent mother who has something to say. Louise, who I see somehow as a Peacemaker and mother to those in her midst and willing to receive what little we might try to offer. Larry, an artist, a chef, a cultured man who has fought the good fight and can see the pain. There's Peadar with muscles and charm and a brain that can burst. Days were made shorter and richer by regular visits from Charlie and Rockie- two amazing lads, together coping with crap but sharing educational youtube videos with me of celebrities singing in cars! Rebecca and her big and little dog- always welcoming and glad to see us hail, rain or shine- another resilient woman. Alison and Maureen- my God have these women been through struggles, but always remember you have to have a laugh. Tara, Tracy and Natalie- women of power and resistance, story-tellers- hilariously funny as well...”*

*(extracts - Names have been changed)*







# Our Voices

The project was launched in March 2016 in Dublin with Polish and Spanish partners, with the aim to discuss the future of an inclusive Social Europe, especially focusing on how to promote participation and include people living in vulnerable situations in the process. Each country worked on one theme: work and employment in Spain, the relationship between service users and services in Poland, and health in Ireland.

In Ireland, the project involved up to 40 citizens in several cross-community meetings that took place during the year. Several local projects were involved including SAOL and NWICTDP. Participants discussed health during two stages, first to map out issues and later to identify solutions.

The aim was also for people to get to know each other and to foster participation fulfilled through the organisation of a healthy outing in Northern Ireland but also by a visit to Spain in June and Poland in November.

The project continues in 2017 with our partners here and abroad. It is co-funded by the EU programme **Europe for Citizens** and the French “Fondation ATD”.

All steps of the project are reported on the project Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/OurVoices2017](https://www.facebook.com/OurVoices2017)



Co-funded by the  
Europe for Citizens Programme  
of the European Union



The “Wanted DEADicated and ALIVE Human Rights Champion” leaflet is available at: [www.atdireland.ie/wp/wanted/](http://www.atdireland.ie/wp/wanted/)



# Networking for Human Rights

In 2015, a series of discussions facilitated by ATD allowed citizens of Dublin's North side, especially those in positions of hardship, to reflect on what 'human rights' meant for them. Based on the messages of these citizens, ATD prepared a General Election 2016 campaigning leaflet entitled: "**Wanted DEADicated and ALIVE Human Rights Champion**". This project was co-funded by the IMPACT Joe Lucey Small Grants Programme.



In 2016, ATD participated again in the **ESC Rights Initiative**. The Initiative continued to lobby for the introduction of a bill, which would enshrine economic, social, and cultural rights within the constitution. Together with the other members of the initiative, ATD helped prepare a high level conference for politicians and experts in the area of housing and healthcare rights. Ahead of the conference held in March 2017, a number of documents for dissemination regarding ATD's human rights advocacy work were produced.

This project was co-funded by the IHREC Grant Scheme.



The Community Platform is another important network for ATD's advocacy work. On Human Rights' Day 2016, it launched "6 Principles for an Inclusive Health Policy", calling for a health system ensuring equal access for all to high quality care. These 6 Principles focus on the responsibility of the state in delivering a high level of health and wellbeing for all.

On the same Human Rights Day 2016, ATD invited citizens of all walks of life to meet for the symbolic "**Long Walk to Freedom**", the second of a series of 16 marches which will continue to take place on the 10<sup>th</sup> December until 2030, the year we hope the SDGs will have been met for everyone. The walk stopped at several symbolically significant locations, including: the Statue of Daniel O Connell, the Rosie Hackett Bridge, the Statue of James Connolly, the Universal Links on Human Rights Sculpture, the Famine Statues, and ended at the Human Rights and Poverty Stone. (See cover page picture)

In 2016, ATD Ireland continued to facilitate the Irish 17 October Committee and supported the networking initiative linking more than 30 #EndPoverty Day projects throughout the island of Ireland. 400 people joined the national 17 October event at the Human Rights and Poverty Stone. See the news section of [www.17october.ie](http://www.17october.ie)



**Networking for Human Rights** was co-funded by the French "Fondation ATD". The **UN "End Poverty" Day Commemoration and the 17 October Committee** networking work was funded by ATD Foundation and the Irish Department of Social Protection.





## **Our past should not dictate our future**

*Paul Uzel, Welcoming Address to the President of Ireland*

“I'm honoured to welcome you, Mister President, as well as our friends who are going to speak. Together we form threads of a tapestry of life, and together gathered here, we can create a better picture. Yes, this picture can be better, because our past should not dictate our future... shortly we will hear our five testimonies. These testimonies tell something about our anger in front of injustice. They are also showing our courage and our experience which has given us strength and our hopes for the future.”

## **The same issues came up for people no matter where they lived**

*Paul, Emma, Kathleena, Focus Ireland*

For the past year we've been volunteering with Focus Ireland as peer researchers. Through this research we found that the same issues came up for people no matter where they lived, their age or their gender: homelessness, family breakdown had a negative impact on participant's mental health. The problems were made worse by government cuts to social welfare, rent allowance, child welfare, medical cards and a whole range of community services.

## **Everyone deserves a safe and secure place to call home.**

*Michael, Student, O'Connell's School*

My family and I live in one of the 6 family bedrooms [in emergency accommodation]. The room has a single bed and a double bed with a bunk on top. The size of the room is 18'x18'. In the room there is a fridge, a wardrobe, a shower and toilet. There is no table to study at. Personally I have no private space; I have no room to relax. There is no place to invite friends and there is definitely no place for a sleepover. Thankfully both my parents are with me and working- they are both on minimum wage. I hope that after listening to my personal experience the homelessness and emergency accommodation situation will improve in Ireland. After all, everyone deserves a safe and secure place to call home.



## Education is central for everyone to move out of poverty

*Philip, NWICTDP*

Living in poverty can be stressful and you get excluded at an early age. Over the years, many of us here would have been in and out of prison. We know well the barriers in trying to access funding to return to education. Some of us struggle to pay for a course that we really feel passionate about. Education is central for everyone to move out of poverty and to move forward. There will, of course, be changes in policies, but many more changes are needed when thinking of families living under the poverty line.”

## Seeking to eliminate poverty in all its forms

*Michael D. Higgins, President of Ireland*

As President I have spoken before of how critical it is that we look beyond the aim of alleviating poverty, even beyond eliminating extreme poverty; of the importance of broadening these aims and seeking to eliminate poverty in all its forms and to address issues such as needless and avoidable early mortality and morbidity, the elimination of diseases, and the many other factors which so impoverish the lives of citizens across the world.



**Growing  
Together to Leave  
No One Behind**



*Extracts from  
the messages and  
the testimonies  
publicly read on  
17 October 2016*



An Roinn Coimisce Sóisialaí  
Department of Social Protection  
[www.welfare.ie](http://www.welfare.ie)





Young people from Poland, Switzerland, France, Belgium and Ireland marking the International Youth Day (12<sup>th</sup> August) at the end of the **Djynamo Summer Seminar** "Sexuality, Gender and Social Exclusion" from 3rd to 10th of August 2016



# Joining Djynamo, the ATD European Youth Network

**D** for Djynamo

**J** for Justice

**Y** for Youth

**N** for Network

**A** for Ambition

**M** for Meetings

**O** for Open



Co-funded by the  
Erasmus+ Programme  
of the European Union

**Djynamo** is the dynamic ATD European youth network, which promotes encounters among young people from diverse backgrounds and countries. With all these exchanges, young people are hoping to break the isolation created by poverty and strengthen their commitment in society to those who are most excluded. (Facebook: [@DjynamoEurope](#))

In 2016, ATD Ireland invited young volunteers and friends to join three major Djynamo events:

The Summer Djynamo Seminar "Sexuality, Gender and Social Exclusion" took place from the 3rd to the 10th of August 2016 in France. The workshops and discussions of this Seminar focused on topics of gender, sexuality, sexual and relationship-based violence, and parenthood.

Two European Djynamo Weekend Meetings took place in April and November 2016 in France. The themes of the workshops at these meetings were: COP21, global warming and overcoming poverty, migration, communication between young people and groups of young people. Also discussed was the 2017 Djynamo Youth Campaign with a major event planned for August 2017 in the Netherlands.

Ten young people from Ireland were involved in 2016. ATD Ireland's Djynamo activities are co-funded by the EU programme Erasmus +.





**First Anniversary of the UN adoption of the Global Goals (21 September 2016 – UN Peace Day)  
Idea, World Vision, Development Perspective, Concern, Global Citizenship Schools INTO, Dochas and ATD together!**



# The Magnificent 17

*“We believe that now is the time to act. Fifteen years may seem a long time, but it can pass in the blink of an eye. **We have no time to waste.** So we are calling on you to act, and especially to act to end poverty.”*

**Ban Ki-Moon**

After the September 2015 adoption of the 17 Global Goals for Sustainable Development (SDGs), ATD Ireland made 2016 its first ‘Magnificent 17’ year. If the movie “The Magnificent Seven” motto is “Justice has a number” - now social and climate justice has a number too! Seventeen for 17 Goals, for Goal 17 and also for 17 October!



In June 2016, ATD hired the ‘**Magnificent 17**’ to ride into Dublin at the occasion of the famous Women's Mini-Marathon and to promote the 17 Global Goals. In September 2016, on the first anniversary of the historic adoption of the 2030 Agenda, ATD gathered volunteers from a number of NGOs on Grafton Street to raise awareness about the transformative agenda. A letter to the Taoiseach and to all TDs and Senators was sent in order to remind them that there is no time to waste. In December 2016, this letter received a response from the Taoiseach in which he stated: “the government is fully committed to the implementation of the SDGs (...) effective implementation will require a comprehensive and integrated policy response across the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development.”



From Summer 2016 ATD joined a wide range of organisations from various sectors in the preparation work to form “**Coalition 2030**”. In the early stages of the work, ATD took some leadership role among the 20 NGOs who started the coalition. Coalition 2030 was formally launched on the 1<sup>st</sup> of March 2017 as an alliance of over 100 Irish leading civil society groups. Organisations involved in the Coalition work across many sectors including: children’s rights to environmental sustainability and humanitarian relief to education—here in Ireland and in over 50 countries across the globe. With and within “Coalition 2030”, ATD aims to walk the talk of the Goal number 17 about the needed partnership between stakeholders and to keep the “**Leave No One Behind Promise**” of the 2030 Agenda a top priority in the transformative challenge.

## ATD Ireland – Income 2016 and 2015

	2016	2015
	€	€
Social Inclusion Division DSP	6690	6000
EU CITIZEN Programme	3000	0
EU EYD 2015 Programme	0	10500
Erasmus+ & other EU Fundings via ATD Intl	2258	0
Impact's Joe Lucey Fund	300	400
Small Grant One World Week NYCI	300	0
Tesco Community Fund	767	1147
Saol Project "Our Voices" Grant	500	0
Other Donations incl. Women's Mini Marathon	7741	2718
ATD Foundation	43000	22000
Science & Service Association - France	0	6552
	<b>64556</b>	<b>49317</b>

## Expenditure 2016 and 2015

	2016		2015	
	€		€	
Administration and fundraising activities	5839	9%	6001	12%
Project costs	51687	80%	39276	79%
Training	7347	11%	5235	9%
	<b>64873</b>		<b>50512</b>	

The 2016 budget is balanced. ATD's activities in 2016 were as intense and developed as in 2015 or 2014. The important increase in the 2016 expenses (+ €15,000) are new staff costs (following the January 2016 decision to start recruitment of staff and develop the ATD volunteer corps in Ireland). This strategical decision was fully supported by ATD international which increased its annual grant to cover these new expenses.

Hence, the nature of the income in 2016 also changed. The funds coming from French ATD sources which represented 55% in 2014 and 57% in 2015 of all income rose to a 66% level. The Board will continue to work in 2017 and the following years to reduce this level. The positive trend of 2016 is the strong increase in donations. Donations were €4,670 in 2014 and €4,548 in 2015 (€2,718 + €1,830 collected via UK). The fundraising efforts in 2016 were succesful. Donations raised in 2016 are reaching €7,741 (+70% increase).

If we add the cost of foreign full-time volunteers posted in Dublin (around €53,000) to local expenditure , the total financial cost of the life and activities of ATD in Ireland in 2016 was approximately € 118,000.

## Funders of ATD Ireland in 2016:



Co-funded by the  
Europe for Citizens Programme  
of the European Union



Co-funded by the  
Erasmus+ Programme  
of the European Union

An Roinn Coimirce Sóisialaí  
Department of Social Protection  
[www.welfare.ie](http://www.welfare.ie)



Fondation  
**ATD**  
Paris





# Acknowledgements

We would like to sincerely thank all those who have financially supported the work of ATD Fourth World-Ireland throughout the year, namely: *The Department of Social Protection - The European Commission and its Erasmus + and Europe for Citizens Programme - The TESCO Community Fund - The Joe Lucey Fund / IMPACT - The French Foundation "Fondation ATD Quart Monde" - The SAOL project for its financial contribution to the costs of the Our Voices project - The One World Week small grants programme - The group of women who took part in the Dublin Vhi mini-marathon - The friends and supporters who sold or bought ATD Fourth World greeting cards - All those who privately donated money.*

We would also like to thank the **French branch of ATD for the funding and administrative support to the members of our Overseas Volunteer Corps in Ireland in 2016**, namely: **Eileen Donovan, Charlotte Tiffoin Fabienne and Pierre Klein**. Members of ATD International Volunteer Corps agree on a stipend which is the same for everyone within the same country, regardless of seniority or the responsibility held. For Ireland in 2016, this figure was €730 a month along with health insurance and rent allowances. ATD Ireland covered the staff costs of Irish citizens. ATD France covered the costs of overseas volunteers at a cost of approximately €53,000 in 2016 (administration costs included). **The total financial cost of ATD in Ireland in 2016 was, therefore, approximately €118,000.** The challenge for ATD Ireland in the coming years will be to gradually cover this full cost (including new costs of Irish staff members since 1<sup>st</sup> January 2016) from resources raised nationally (through EU, national or local grants, sponsors, network of friends who donate, etc.).

In this report we would like to thank all the friends who volunteered for ATD in 2016. They were probably more than 50 from Dublin and beyond. Nothing is possible without them. A big "Thank You" goes also to the two projects which are always supportive and ready to join our initiatives: the **SAOL project** and the **North Inner City Training and Development Project (NWICTDP)**. We are also especially grateful to the Irish people who accepted to join in 2016 the ATD International Volunteer Corps: **Elaine Phelan, Mairtin Cronin**. We are also grateful to all the people who did an internship in the ATD Dublin team in 2016. **Marine Le Calvez, Lucie Goharel, Charlotte Tiffoin, Paul Uzell, Samuel Penny, Delara Moein and Laoise Talty**. They made a real difference.



The Dublin team on 4<sup>th</sup> January 2017

ATD Fourth World-Ireland is a company limited by guarantee not having a share capital, registered in Dublin - Registered Number 475746 - Charity Number CHY 18678 (ATD complies to the requirements of the **Charity Regulations Authority**) - **Office:** 26 Mountjoy Square, Dublin 1 - **Directors on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016:** Marie Williams, Bernadette Brown, Isabelle Pypaert-Perrin, Martin Byrne, Gerald Doherty (chair), Mark Hogan - **Staff on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016:** Elaine Phelan and 3 posted foreign permanent volunteers (Charlotte Tiffoin, Fabienne and Pierre Klein) - **The 2016 Income & Expenditure Account of ATD Ireland has been audited by Nolan & Associates**, Chartered Accountants & Registered Auditors, 302/304 The Capel Building, Mary's Abbey, Dublin 7 - **ATD is member of** Coalition 2030, Dóchas, the Children's Rights Alliance, the Community Platform, the Irish 17 October Committee, IDEA, EAPN Ireland, Social Justice Ireland, the ESC Rights initiative and the Wheel. **To contact the Board, please write to:** [board@atdireland.ie](mailto:board@atdireland.ie)







# Become Involved in 2017

## **VOLUNTEER, SUPPORT and ADVOCATE**

Our Friends and Volunteers' Network is a means for everyone to get involved in the fight against poverty. In 2016 around 20 new people joined our Friends and Volunteers' Network.

Friends and supporters help us in many ways from the running of our projects, fundraising, translating English/French texts to preparing special events, office administration, general maintenance, family support and a whole lot more. Whether you like to work alone or in a group, in an office or outdoors, on the front line or in a support role, we can always use the help and we are flexible according to your available time and skills. It is also a great way to meet new and interesting people!

Call us or find out more at [www.atdireland.ie](http://www.atdireland.ie) "Follow" us on twitter [@ATDIreland](https://twitter.com/ATDIreland) "Like" us on facebook [www.facebook.com/togetherindignityireland](https://www.facebook.com/togetherindignityireland).

And remember: **sharing is caring!**

## **DONATE**

ATD's work would not be possible without the generous financial support of ATD donors in Ireland and around the world. ATD Ireland is a registered charity (CHY 18 678)

committed with ATD International to the highest standard of efficiency and transparency in our financial transactions. You can donate on-line at:

[www.atdireland.ie/wp/donate](http://www.atdireland.ie/wp/donate)

## **JOIN A 3-6 MONTHS INTERNSHIP TO DISCOVER OUR INTERNATIONAL OVERSEAS VOLUNTEER CORPS**

**Members of the ATD International Full-time Volunteer Corps** make a long-term commitment to working alongside families living in extreme poverty and are involved in activities and projects in Ireland and overseas.

Members of the Volunteer Corps agree to live on the same basic stipend (€730 in Ireland) and to be available to go where their expertise and skills are most needed.

Families, couples and individuals of all ages, from a variety of backgrounds and with an assortment of practical skills and qualifications, make up this diverse group of dedicated, full-time workers.

**There are a number of steps to joining the Volunteer Corps, the first being involvement in ATD activities and projects here in Ireland.**

Contact us: [volunteering@atdireland.ie](mailto:volunteering@atdireland.ie)

# 2017: Stop Poverty!





ATD Ireland welcomed 2017 as very special year! 2017 is the year of the centenary of the birth of the founder of ATD, Joseph Wresinski. It is also the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of ATD, which started in a slum near Paris in 1957, and the 30th anniversary of the Human Rights rally of the 17 October 1987, which initiated the UN Day for the Eradication of Poverty. In Ireland, 2017 is also the time to mark the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of “Sharing in progress”, the very first Irish National Anti-Poverty Strategy adopted in 1997. There is no need to say much more! 2017 will be an exceptional year of public mobilisation for ATD where we invite Irish citizens to tell everyone: #StopPoverty!

[www.poverty-stop.org](http://www.poverty-stop.org)

The 2017 End Poverty calendar designed by ATD on behalf of the 17 October Committee at [www.17october.ie/calendar2017/](http://www.17october.ie/calendar2017/)



*I am not discouraged in spite of the scope of extreme poverty. I have been through everything that the poor have to go through, all they have endured. Yet I have always spoken these words of hope: extreme poverty does not have to exist. Human beings create it and they are the ones who can put an end to it. No one accepts that poverty should continue, and especially not the poorest people. That's why I am certain that things will change, that poverty will be overcome. Violence will change nothing, but love and justice together will. Friends, I leave each of you with this question: Am I really working for a Europe to which everyone can belong? Will whatever I do, whatever I say, whatever I suggest lead to a Europe where the poorest are at last set free? Will it bring about a Europe of Human Rights?*

Joseph Wresinski, June 1987

**All Together in Dignity - ATD Fourth World** is an international human-rights organisation that works through grass-roots projects in partnership with people living in poverty. All around the world, it remains focused on constantly reaching out to the most vulnerable families, those who have a long history of poverty and educational disadvantage even in the so-called developed countries.

Since 2000, ATD in Ireland has been close to family members facing persistent poverty and struggling daily to live in dignity. **ATD Fourth World - Ireland Ltd** is a company limited by guarantee and is registered for charitable tax exemption (CHY 18 678). Its registered offices are located at 26 Mountjoy Square, Dublin 1, Republic of Ireland.

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