



KERRY DEAF RESOURCE CENTRE

KDRC provides services to Deaf and hard of hearing people at county level and contributes to national & international issues of equality, access and rights.

Charity No: CHY20854

4 Gas Terrace
Tralee
Co. Kerry

21.12.17

SUPPORTER OF THE YEAR AWARDS 2017.

It's that time of year again where we announce our Supporter of the Year Awards.

These awards are presented to individuals and organisations that have supported Deaf & hard of hearing issues throughout the year.

Nominations are received from KDRC's Board & staff, service users, fellow colleagues, service providers and the general public.

In the New Year, winners will receive a framed Supporter of the Year certificate, a bottle of wine and a box of chocolates.

AND THE WINNERS ARE !!!

THE IRISH DEAF SOCIETY & THE OFFICIAL RECOGNITION OF ISL CAMPAIGN.



Irish Sign
Language
Recognition
Campaign - IDS

The Irish Deaf Society's Official Recognition of Irish Sign Language (ISL) Campaign will receive our new **'Lifetime Achievement Award'**.

On the 14th of December, Irish Sign Language was finally recognised as an official language of the State. The IDS led campaign to secure legal status of ISL has been ongoing for over 30 years.

The award recognises the outstanding work of the IDS campaign throughout Ireland to raise the profile of ISL. This work finally paid off on the 14th of December 2017 with the official recognition of ISL & a new rights based law for ISL users. On behalf of KDRC, we are thrilled & delighted that the dream of a new ISL Act has become a reality.

SENATOR MARK DALY- SPONSOR OF THE ISL BILL.

Senator Mark Daly from Kenmare in Co. Kerry sponsored the historic ISL Bill through the Seanad Stages.

Mark will also be presented with a **'Lifetime Achievement Award'** for his outstanding support & commitment in securing legal recognition of ISL and rights for ISL users across Ireland.

This award also recognises Grace Coyle, his Seanad colleagues and his political party Fianna Fáil for all their hard work & support of the ISL Bill.



FINIAN MC GRATH- MINISTER OF STATE FOR DISABILITY ISSUES.



As the Minister with responsibility for Disability Issues, the ISL Act would not have become reality without the support of Minister Finian Mc Grath.

A **'Lifetime Achievement Award'** recognises the role, Minister Mc Grath had in ensuring the Bill passed all debate stages in the Seanad & the Dáil.

The award recognises the considerable amount of work the Minister & his colleagues did to ensure any Government amendments to the Bill supported the three critical elements of the Bill 1) Official Recognition of ISL. 2) Legal rights for ISL users when accessing Government Depts./Public Bodies. 3) Legal rights for ISL users when accessing all Courts.

CORK DEAF CLUB, BREDA BROSANAN & GRAHAM O'SHEA.

The Cork Deaf Club (CDC) will be presented with a **'Outstanding Contribution Award'** for their work with the ISL campaign.

We would also like to acknowledge two of their members Breda Brosnan and Graham O'Shea.

Throughout the year, CDC, Breda & Graham organised & attended meetings with Senators & TD's to raise awareness of ISL. They also managed to raise awareness in the media & social media. This award recognises them for all their hard work throughout 2017. Well done to you all.



FRANKIE BERRY- NCDP.



Frankie Berry is being recognised for her work as a Chaplain / Deaf Community Advocate & Deaf interpreter.

Frankie will also be presented with an **'Outstanding Contribution Award'**. She has been a fantastic resource & support to our service & clients throughout the years. We are truly grateful for her outstanding work in the Deaf community across Ireland. Our Manager, Board & staff also appreciate the support shown to them over the years.

CORMAC LEONARD- SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETER & RESEARCHER.

Cormac is also being presented with an **'Outstanding Contribution Award'**. Cormac is being recognised for his interpreting work & research on Deaf related issues.

His colleagues believe he has contributed significantly to the sign language interpreting community and the Deaf community. Cormac is also being recognised for his outstanding work in the lead up to the ISL Act. On behalf of us all in KDRC, thank you Cormac.

