

Mission Statement

The Irish Wheelchair Association is a national organisation dedicated to the achievement of full social, economic and educational integration of people with disability as equal, independent and participative members of the community.



Supporting our work

You can support our work by becoming a volunteer, making a donation or remembering us in your will. With your generous support, we will continue to provide essential services. Thank you.

Contacts

National Headquarters

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www.iwa.ie

Regional Centres

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Resource and Outreach Services



For more information please visit:

www.iwa.ie

Resource and Outreach Services

The Irish Wheelchair Association (IWA) operates a network of Resource and Outreach Centres in every county.

The aim of these centres is to provide opportunities and support services to people with limited mobility so that they can lead full, active and independent lives in their own communities. A key contributor to the success of each centre is the creation of links and partnerships with other local community and disability services. This enables us to share facilities, such as leisure centres, swimming pools or gyms.

What kind of services are available?

The services available at IWA Resource and Outreach Centres can be for social, educational or training purposes. Programmes can be on a group or individual basis, varying from centre to centre, depending on the age, interests and requirements of the service users. Social activities range from sports, music and creative writing, to holidays, excursions and therapies. Employment and training opportunities include computer skills, FETAC certificate courses, literacy, personal development and arts/crafts.

In addition, the centres host and partake in local cultural and community events, such as art exhibitions, local history or slimming classes. Information and publications are available in each centre on a range of community and disability issues. Activities are person-centered and individuals decide which activities they wish to participate in. Our friendly, trained staff work in partnership with service users, with the emphasis on ensuring a welcoming and relaxed atmosphere.



How do I access the services?

Some people contact IWA directly while many others are referred by a health professional. Depending on the centre, services are available up to five days a week. The majority of service users are collected from their homes but we encourage those who can make their own way to the centres to do so. A typical day involves 4 – 5 hours participating in various activities or programmes, either centre-based or in the community.

Some comments from users of Resource and Outreach Services...



► **Kathleen Poff**
Limerick

“ IWA has opened up a whole world for me since leaving hospital. I have the opportunity to get back doing things that I had lost out on, particularly art. ”



► **Paul Farrell**
Dublin

“ I love getting out and meeting friends at the IWA Resource and Outreach Centre. The staff are great and really look after me. ”