

IDS-TILDA Newsletter

CHRISTMAS 2024



Greetings

from Prof. Mary McCarron
and the IDS-TILDA Team



As we prepare for Christmas, we look back on what has been another busy year for IDS-TILDA. We have spent much of the year sharing our findings from Wave 5 and have been fortunate to get to meet many people around the country, from Cork to Donegal. It is so important that we are able to highlight the evidence from IDS-TILDA with representatives from service providers and policy makers so that we can bring about improvements in the lives of people with an intellectual disability.

As we look to 2025, we will soon start to prepare for Wave 6. We will be carrying out our interviews once again and look forward to meeting with you, all our IDS-TILDA participants. We will be in touch with you all during the year to arrange appointments.

I want to close with a word of thanks to each of you and to the entire IDS-TILDA team for making Wave 5 such a success. I wish you a very Happy Christmas and look forward to a wonderful New Year.

THE IDS-TILDA CHRISTMAS CARD COMPETITION

We were delighted to receive so many wonderful pictures for our 2024 Christmas Card competition. A big thank you to everyone who entered our competition. Our panel of judges had a difficult job choosing just three winners.



1st place: Isabella Gielarowska, Abbeyview Residences

2nd place: Lee Shannon, Stewarts Care

3rd place: Miriam Roche, Peamount Healthcare

IDS-TILDA REMEMBERS OUR DECEASED PARTICIPANTS



Left to right: Senator Tom Clonan, Prof. Linda Doyle, Prof. Mary McCarron, Ms. Mei Lin Yap, Mr. James Kelly, Prof. Eilish Burke, Dr. Damien Brennan, Ms. Lisa Lavelle, Ms. Maria Kavanagh, Ms. Eilish Madden, Ms. Karen Charnley and Dr. Martin McMahon

On 3rd December family and friends joined the IDS-TILDA team for a Commemorative ceremony in the Trinity College Chapel. The ceremony was held 'in gratitude, in memory, in celebration' of the lives of those who so generously participated in the IDS-TILDA study. Over 270 deceased participants were remembered in a moving ceremony. This included readings and musical performances by musicians from Viewpoint Self-Advocacy Group of Sunbeam House Services and Mr David Banfield.

INTEGRATING DISABILITY EVIDENCE INTO ACTION FOR SUPPORTS AND SERVICES (IDEAS 2024) FOR OLDER PEOPLE WITH AN INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY: TRANSLATING IDS-TILDA KNOWLEDGE INTO POLICY AND PRACTICE



Left to right: Prof. Eilish Burke, Mr Phillip O'Donnell (IDS-TILDA participant) and Prof. Mary McCarron.



Left to right: Ms. Shannon O'Farrell-Molloy (advocate for people with an intellectual disability).

On 17-18 October IDEAS 2024 was held in Maynooth. This marked a gathering of experts, researchers, service providers, and advocates committed to translating leading-edge research into impactful practices. The event was organised by the Trinity Centre for Ageing and Intellectual Disability (TCAID) in collaboration with the National Federation of Voluntary Service Providers and the HSE's National Clinical Programme for People with Disability and demonstrated the critical role of evidence in shaping policy. The conference empowered those who work with ageing individuals with an intellectual disability to drive meaningful improvements in their care and quality of life. The conference heard from intellectual disability advocates who spoke of the importance of research in bringing about positive change to their lives.



ECHOLIGHT BONE SCREENING DEVICE: A FEASIBILITY ASSESSMENT FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH AN INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY

Left to right: Ms Jean Moynihan (Research Assistant, IDS-TILDA), Ms Anne Power (ANP, Wexford Residential Intellectual Disability Service), Mr Graham Hughes (Echolight participant).

A research project took place to assess the feasibility of the Echolight bone screening device for people with an intellectual disability. This device is used for measuring bone mineral density and diagnosing osteoporosis. The Echolight device is recognised by the Irish Osteoporosis society and provides an effective alternative to a DXA which can present challenges for people with an intellectual disability. This project was a collaboration between the Trinity Centre for Ageing and Intellectual Disability and Wexford Residential Intellectual Disability service. The project included 80 people with mild, moderate, severe and profound intellectual disability from four service providers in Ireland.



Left to right: Dr Alison Harnett (CEO, National Federation of Voluntary Service Providers) and Ms Mei Lin Yap (Ambassador Liaison Officer, TCAID).

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