

P R E S S I N F O R M A T I O N
Who Cares? Scotland
‘Speaking Out for Young People in Care’
30th Anniversary Celebrations - 2008

Who Cares? Scotland - the national voluntary organisation established in 1978 in Glasgow by concerned professionals who felt that it was important to ask young people about their views of being in care – is to celebrate 30 years in operation with a range of country-wide events in 2008.

Director, Heather Gray explains: “Our theme – chosen by young people for our 30th anniversary - is **Challenging Stigma - Celebrating Success**.

“We feel that this combines well with the current National Priorities for young people who are looked after and accommodated in Scotland. It further emphasises essential elements identified in initiatives such as ‘We Can and Must Do Better’, and links to the ‘Fostering and Kinship Care’ strategy and with the Scottish Government’s vision for young people.”

Plans for 2008 include:

- a roadshow using drama and music to take the message about stigma out across the country
- a professional conference in partnership with the Scottish Institute of Residential Child Care
- setting up a Trust Fund to endure beyond our 30th year for young people who have left care
- a national consultation event for young people around stigma
- a Gala Concert to celebrate success – 5th November 2008
- the publication of the Who Cares Scotland ‘Under 12’s’ pack.

Heather added: “We hope to use our anniversary to increase awareness and effectiveness of advocacy and to publish our findings in relation to foster care and befriending consultations.”

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