To: lgbtni@yahoogroups.com  
From: steve@cara-friend.org.uk  
Date: Fri, 5 Oct 2012 15:28:31 +0100  
Subject: [lgbtni] Announcements re: new staff, European funding and ILGA Europe Conference in Dublin

**Cara-Friend Announcements 5th October 2012**

1)    **It is with great pleasure that Cara-Friend can announce that Prof. Barry Fitzpatrick is joining our staff team as Policy Consultant.** Many of you will know Barry and will know the immense contribution he has made to the LGBT Sector in N. Ireland in previous years. Barry has assisted us during the past year in a volunteer capacity and we’re delighted to have him coming on board now in a formal role.

2)    **Cara Friend is pleased to announce that our European partnership project ‘Rights on the Move – Rainbow Families in Europe’ has received 500,000 Euro funding support from the European Commission.** Our partners on this important project are University of Trento, Italy; CGIL - Confederazione Generale Italiana del Lavoro; OLKE (a Greek LGB&T organisation); the Peace Institute (Slovenia); University of Toulouse III (France); and UAB - Autonomous University of Barcelona (Spain).

Barry Fitzpatrick our Policy Consultant will serve as Senior Legal Expert on the project and will work with Steve Williamson, Director of Cara-Friend, and other Cara-Friend staff and volunteers.

The project has two major strands. One is free movement across the EU of ‘rainbow families’, that is, those families who have same-sex parents. The second strand concerns family and reproductive rights of rainbow families across the EU. We will be involved in research, publications, policy formation and rights implementation, and will also be involved in the co-ordination of the project and will participate in workshops and conferences as part of the project.

We look forward to working with the sector on this exciting project.

3)    **Cara-Friend and GLEN are co-hosting a workshop at the ILGA-Europe Annual Conference in Dublin on Friday 19 October** **2012.** The title is **‘Ireland, North & South, in challenging economic times’ and will focus on issues concerning employment of LGB&T teachers and harassment of teachers and students.**

Cara-Friend Policy Consultant, Barry Fitzpatrick, will co-present the workshop with GLEN Board member, Fergus Ryan. Barry and Fergus are respectively the Northern Irish and Irish reps of the European Commission on Sexual Orientation Law, a privately organised European network of Sexual Orientation lawyers, previously funded by the European Union. Barry and Fergus will be joined by Mark Brown, Regional Development Youth Officer at Cara-Friend ‘Gay and Lesbian Youth NI’ and a prominent Trade Union representative from N. Ireland.

4)     We are also pleased to announce that Barry has been chosen to be **Researcher and Writing Expert on the 2012 Edition of ILGA-Europe’s Annual Review of the Human Rights Situation of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans and Intersex (LGBTI) People**. This is the second edition of the Annual Review, which provides a snapshot of what happened during the year, at both the international and national levels, with the purpose of documenting progress and trends regarding the human rights situation of LGBTI people in Europe.