



ANNUAL REPORT 2022/2023



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INTRODUCTION

Since 2004, RADE's work hinges on the transformative power of the arts. Practising the arts as a vehicle for positive change can lead to shifts in drug use and dependency and 2022-23 saw a theatre project, creative writing and a podcast as part of the wide tapestry of activities offered throughout the year.

Late 2022 saw the arrival of furnishings for our new Home Corner – an area where participants could comfortably relax and spend time before and after workshops. This created a welcoming environment and helped us to strengthen the RADE sense of community.

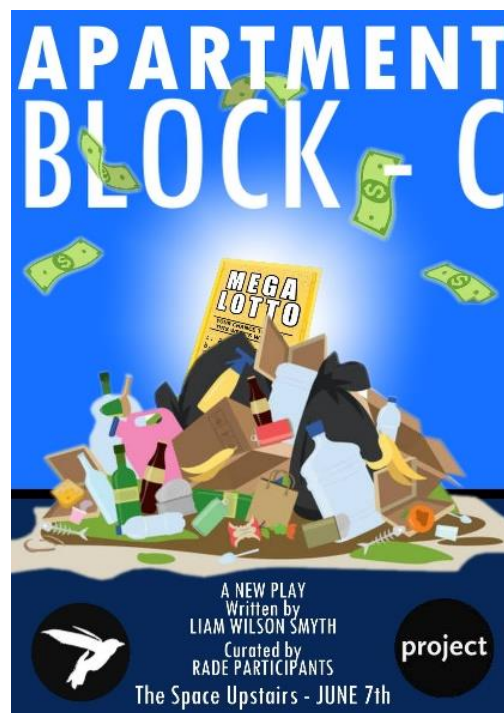
A highlight of the year was our partnership with the Project Arts Centre. This saw two events which put our participants up front and centre, linking them with the professional arts community and reinforcing RADE's commitment to socially engaged arts practice and to our being part of the arts ecology of Dublin.

In June, participants were treated to a day at Project where they toured the building and saw the inner workings of a contemporary Irish theatre space. This was followed by a one-day residency where we were treated to full access to the Cube black box theatre, with a technical rehearsal in the morning and an afternoon performance of a rehearsed reading of Apartment Block C, a play created by RADE participants and written by Liam Wilson Smyth.

Also in collaboration with the Project Arts Centre, RADE realised its vision of creating our very own garden space. This project married two important aspects of RADE's ethos, those of creativity and education. RADE participants designed the garden with the assistance of socially engaged artist Louis Haugh. This was aptly named from Grey to Green as part of a wider Project Arts Centre initiative helping to address the climate crisis. Summertime saw an abundance of new residents in our garden space – participants, staff and a rising bee population.

We were excited to welcome guests to RADE for a public event celebrating the publishing of our 2022 book of creative writing and art. This gave participants the opportunity to showcase their work to a willing audience and celebrate their achievements.

This period also saw a lot of success with grant awards which was particularly welcome given the challenges of the energy crisis. Staff and participants made a huge effort to make as many changes to our energy usage as possible, though this period could not have been managed without the additional grants and funding from DCC and SICDATF. We also received funding from NCH Community Development Grant, DCC Neighbourhood Grant, HSE National Lottery, NALA (National Adult Literacy Student Development Fund) and the CDET B REACH fund.



This period also saw a change in staff at RADE as we said goodbye to Monika Rampal who had been with RADE for 8 years. Monika first came into contact with RADE as a volunteer yoga teacher, then completed her second Master's degree in Education in 2020 while working at RADE and finished her career here as CE Supervisor for Training and Rehabilitation. Her contribution to RADE over the years has been significant and she was instrumental in particular during the Covid years and the transition of directors. I'd like to thank Monika for her service to RADE and we wish her every success in her career. RADE project worker Karen Pierce was appointed in her place, and we were delighted to appoint Steve Ranney to the team as Project Worker in April 2023. Steve has 30 years of experience in social care, including addiction and mental health and has been a strong addition to the RADE team.

I would like to take the opportunity to extend a huge thank you to all the staff at RADE who have worked unstintingly during this time, helping to get RADE back on its feet after the pandemic and ushering in a strong sense of community and excellent care for our participants. I would also like to thank our primary funders SICDATF and the DSP, our sister services and friends for their support. Finally, I would like to thank our voluntary board who give willingly and expertly of their time and are a crucial support to this organisation.

Gill McCaw
Project Director



VISION, MISSION AND STRUCTURE

Vision: Creativity is open to everyone

Mission: RADE engages people who use drugs with the arts, providing therapeutic supports and a platform for their artistic expression.

An alternative to drug use:

Our purpose is to help to improve drug users' quality of life and to address their sense of isolation and boredom through the use of cultural activities that are plausible and attainable. Through the three pillars of Creativity, Community and Education we aim to encourage a belief in RADE participants' own abilities to bring about change and to contribute to society.

Methods:

RADE works with people during their recovery from drug use as well as people who no longer use drugs. This can include people who are learning to manage their use of illicit drugs, those who are solely taking prescribed medication such as methadone, and those with alcohol related problems.

RADE encourages the expression of participants' inherent creativity and uses it as a resource to promote positive change.

The teamwork and interdependent nature of public productions contrasts with the passive stimulation experienced by drug-taking and helps to promote self-education, confidence and self-esteem. This helps to foster a whole range of learning and gained experience that comes with the territory, whether it be development of literacy skills through playwriting/reading or technical skills achieved through realising productions in theatre, film and art.

The focus towards the showcasing of the art produced each year not only gives a meaningful motivation to participants, but also helps to change societal perception of people who use drugs.

Our method of working allows participants to experience essential elements of employment, including teamwork, deadlines, time-keeping and personal responsibility.

Structure:

RADE is incorporated as a company limited by guarantee and is a registered charity. Overall oversight and strategic management is provided by a voluntary board of directors who give guidance to the project director. The project director manages a team of two HSE-funded project workers and two full-time community employment supervisors who in turn manage four part-time community employment support workers.



The RADE Board of management August 2023:

Dominique Cleary —Chairperson

Geoff Power—Secretary

Lorcan Claffey —Treasurer

Jane O’Hanlon—Director

Maureen Penrose - Director

Matthew DeCourcy—Director

Eoin Ryan—Director



PARTICIPANTS AND THERAPEUTIC SUPPORTS

RADE's capacity for the period August 2022 – August 2023 was 24 (18 participants, 5 support worker and 1 cleaner/housekeeper) on the Community Employment scheme funded by The Department of Social Protection, in addition to places funded by the HSE via the South Inner City Drug and Alcohol Task Force Vote (SICDATF).

The following represent statistics compiled by the Rehab team for the year Aug 2022- Aug 2023 and reflect numbers at the end of that period.

- 10 participants are currently on the CE scheme
- 11 participants are currently on the HSE/ CE pre-entry scheme
- RADE currently has 4 CE Support Staff - Rehab team
- RADE currently has 2 Project Workers (TF Vote) – Rehab team
- 1 participant is engaged in follow-up support

Most assessments take place on site at RADE though on occasion we have been able to offer Zoom assessments as a positive legacy of the Covid pandemic.

Current average gender breakdown in RADE (CE and TF participants attending activities):
Male 15: Female 6

REFERRALS:

75 people were referred to the RADE programme over the last 12 months with referrals from:

- Depaul
- PMVT - Stabilization
- PMVT – Kilanniny House
- PMVT Cunningham Road
- INTREO
- Ana Liffey Drug Project
- St Catherine's Foyer
- Dublin Simon
- Sli
- Chrysalis Community Drug Project
- Crosscare
- Edenmore Drug Intervention Team
- National Drug Treatment Centre
- The Mews Clinic
- Casadh
- Merchant's Quay
- GPs
- Guidance Counsellor



External Training courses undertaken by RADE participants:

Accredited Training	
Minor Awards Undertaken	Number
QQI Level 5 group facilitation training	2
QQI Level 5 First Aid Responder	4
QQI Level 3 Container Gardening	19
QQI Level 3 Cooking	1
QQI Level-3 Digital Media	1
	Total: 27
Major Awards Undertaken	Number
Art Portfolio design and mixed media, QQI Level-5 (Major)	1
	Total: 1
Industry Standard Training	
Industry Standard Training Undertaken	Number
Professional Communications course	8
Barista Training-Basic Skills (Casadh)	4
Barista Training Advanced Training (Coffee Laboratory)	2
	Total: 14
Health and Safety Training	
Health and Safety Training Undertaken	Number
Manual Handling	9
Epilepsy Awareness training	11
Epilepsy BM administration training:	2
	Total: 22
Non-Accredited Training	
Non-Accredited Training Undertaken	Number
Sustainable Gardening (Warrenmount)	1
Chair Yoga (Warrenmount)	1
Acting: GSA Beginners Level 2 (sponsored)	2
Digital Marketing (Warrenmount)	1
Local History (Warrenmount)	1
Literacy with Foundation Project	1
Yoga for beginners with Foundation Project	1
	Total: 8

Other Training Courses Undertaken by RADE Staff (Aug 2022- Aug 2023)

- Trauma Informed Care (Quality Matters): **Total: 4 staff**
- Group Facilitation Training: **Total: 1 staff**
- Epilepsy BM administration training: **Total: 5 Staff**
- Naloxone training, admiration and train the trainer **Total: 1 CE supervisor**
- Tai Chi-train the trainer: **Total: 1 staff**
- Motivational Interviewing **Total: 3 CE support workers**
- Selling Sex in Ireland **Total: 1 CE supervisor**
- Sex Trafficking and Trauma Informed care **Total: 2 staff (1 CE & 1 TF)**
- Tai-Chi Training **Total: 1 CE support worker**
- Data Protection & GDPR Training **Total: 2 staff (1 CE & 1 TF)**
- Risk Management- **Total: 1 Project Director**
- Key-working, Care planning, and Case Management **Total: 3 staff**
- Technology Enhanced Learning **Total: 1 staff**
- Mindfulness Meditation Training **Total: 1 staff**
- GDPR Training **Total: 2 staff**
- Sex Trafficking **Total: 2 staff**



Other trainings: RADE regularly delivered to all participants five days per week including Tai- Chi, Yoga, Drama, Art, Film Creation and Editing, Creative writing, Podcasting, Gardening.

Employment/Work Experience:

- 3 CE participants and completed part-time acting job with Celtic Casting
- 6 Participants had an opportunity to audition for a role in a short film with Screen Ireland/Vico Films. 2 were awarded speaking roles in this film. 4 were offered extra work
- One CE participant maintained work with Croke Park Stewarding Team
- 1 participant began part-time work with the TU Dublin as a catering tutor
- 1 CE participant secured a part-time job with Grub.ie
- 1 CE support worker gained experience with PsyCare Ireland
- 1 CE participant has maintained a volunteer yoga/breath work position. This participant is now exploring a group facilitation training and addiction studies training in order to become a holistic support worker.
- 1 CE participant has maintained part time employment with Hot Box Catering company
- 1 HSE participant has maintained a position of Peer Worker with DCU's Recovery College

- 1 CE support worker has enrolled in a CBT course and has maintained a placement as a Volunteer CBT counsellor with Coolmine
- 1 CE support worker has maintained relief worker positions with De Paul homeless service
- 1 CE participant facilitated some in-house yoga sessions at RADE. This participant progressed to a public facilitation of yoga at the Beyond the Pale Festival. He has now been invited to join the festival circuit as a regular Yoga teacher.

Counselling Service:

2 counsellors provided a voluntary counselling service to RADE participants on a weekly basis and bi-weekly basis.

4 participants engaged in this throughout the year.

There continued to be an excellent take up of this with 90% attendance over the period August 2022- August 2023.

Creative Progression:

Drama and Film

A number of participants successfully completed introductory theatre modules at the Gaiety School of Acting, with some completing further advanced courses. The theatre workshops in RADE also gave confidence to participants in seeking out work with casting companies. A number of RADE participants were successful in securing some film days’ work with Celtic Casting Extras Company and Vico Films. Another RADE participant secured casual work in the catering industry on the set of a film production.

Participants performed in an in-house production of a theatre project directed by Robbie O’Connor. This theatre project was a collaborative piece where participants had an opportunity to explore character development and improvisation.

Participants completed training in film editing facilitated by Videographer Jules Fitzsimons. Participants have been developing their knowledge of the steps involved in video creation. This has been a valuable addition to their performance skill sets.

Participants have been collaborating on a podcast project with facilitator Thomas McCarthy. Participants have had an opportunity to explore interviewing techniques, editing skills and storyboarding. Participants hope to release final content as a ‘RADE podcast’.

Art

Participants have been exploring abstract art with art facilitator Dermot Byrne. Participants have been using this medium to explore personal narratives from different perspectives in a project called ‘Inside Outside My Mind’. Participants have been enjoying the reflective aspects of this workshop.

A Mold Making workshop allowed for the exploration of different mediums including clay and plaster in workshops facilitated by artist Dermot Byrne. Participants enjoyed the physicality of this workshop and reported its therapeutic benefits.



Music

One participant has been performing as a lead vocalist with the High Hopes choir. This social engagement and personal responsibility has had a positive impact on both her self-esteem and her ability to engage.

Gardening project

Over the course of spring and early summer 2023, the courtyard at RADE was transformed into an urban oasis thanks to the efforts of RADE participants in partnership with socially engaged artist Louis Haugh through the Project Arts Centre and horticultural instructor Andrew Jordan. RADE participants worked with Louis and Andrew to design raised beds and an archway connecting two of the raised beds. Participants then selected which plants they were interested in growing with Andrew. Over the course of the 8 week workshop, the participants have grown vegetables, herbs and flowers from seed and transplanted them into the raised beds. With support from the CDET (City Of Dublin Education and Training Board) the project also included an educational element in basic gardening skills with the potential for participants to complete the QQI Level 3 course in Basic Gardening.



ARTISTIC ACHIEVEMENTS

RADE's summer Yoga in the Park continued into September in St.Patrick's Cathedral park due to popular demand. Opera in the Open, a programme of opera run by Dublin City Council in the Wood Quay outdoor auditorium was also a regular event that staff and participants attended, integrating one of the operas into a creative writing workshop on one occasion.

A success of this period has been the re-igniting of our partnership with the CDET (Central Dublin Education and Training Board), resulting in CDET registered trainers working at RADE as part of the creative programme. Aaron Hegarty's autumn Performance and Storytelling workshops were a hit with participants as reflected by noise and laughter that echoed around the building during his workshops.

Theatre remained centre-stage in the period as we welcomed actor and writer Robbie O'Connor to RADE. Robbie is a graduate of the Lir Academy who has worked with acclaimed theatre company Anu, and whose own play Glue was presented in the Dublin Theatre Festival in 2019. Working twice weekly, Robbie and the participants worked collaboratively to develop a short play - Dirty Aul Town. This featured a number of characters, providing roles for everyone involved, and took place in a variety of locations both in and outside the RADE building. The play was performed to a guest audience at RADE in mid-December and was captured brilliantly in a photo shoot by visual artist, photographer and filmmaker, Conor Horgan.



The RADE garden was an innovation of the period which will have long-lasting benefits for the RADE community. This project included the design, creation and development of a small garden in the RADE courtyard and provided a QQI level 3 training course for all RADE participants. RADE partnered with the Project Arts Centre as part of their Ó Liath Go Glas project which embraced several community groups, with support from the CDET and funding from the National Children's Hospital Community and Development fund and Dublin City Council. The creative leads on the project were socially engaged artist Louis Haugh and horticulturist Andrew Jordan. This project has resulted in a small but beautiful outdoor space, extending the building into the outdoors and giving staff and participants the opportunity to enjoy more natural surroundings together, relaxing, chatting and sharing lunches with one another.



Community Television was also a feature of the RADE programme during this time. As part of Cityscapes, a documentary series funded by Screen Ireland, producer Susan Jackson spent time educating participants on the processes of capturing film on mobile phones while also generating content for a RADE documentary for airing on Dublin Community Television.

Our 2023 performance project was led by Liam Wilson Smyth, an actor and graduate of Inchicore College of Higher Education. Working collaboratively, the group devised a play - Apartment Block C subsequently written by Liam. This culminated in a rehearsed reading at the Project Arts Centre during a one-day residency at the theatre. This was a thrilling event and was captured beautifully in photographs which were framed and eventually presented to all participants at our Garden Launch event on 17th August 2023.

Our annual publication of creative work, RADE MY MIND was published early in the year and presented to participants at a book launch event in July. Participants read extracts from the book to an invited audience, providing an occasion for us to celebrate all the artistic achievements of the previous year together.



PARTNERSHIPS AND INTERAGENCY WORK

As in previous years, RADE has continued to build on and strengthen existing relationships with other services and organisations, whilst also putting considerable effort into developing new connections.

Below is a non-exhaustive list of ongoing interagency relationships and partnerships, by category:

Rehabilitation Partnerships:

Sli, St Catherine Foyer, CrossCare, NDTC, The Mews Clinic, Edenmore Drug Intervention Team Merchant's Quay Ireland, Coolmine Therapeutic Community, Dublin Simon Community, Ana Liffey Drug Project, Crosscare, De Paul Ireland, Peter McVerry Trust, Focus Ireland, Housing First, Citywide Network, First Fortnight, National Drug Treatment Centre, Chrysalis Community Drug Project, Brian Murtagh (Counsellor), Kelly Hudson, Cormac Lennon, CASADH, The Spellman Centre.

Artistic Partnerships:

Lou Van Laak, Culture Night Dublin, Gaiety School of Acting, Jules Fitzsimons, Robbie O'Connor, Louis Haugh, Gary Boyd, Project Arts Centre, Phillip Kingston, John Connors, Mary Murray, Sorsha Galvin, Conor Horgan, City Scapes

Educational Partnerships:

Ireland T & T, Abbey Theatre, Uisce, Epilepsy Ireland, GSA , Fire Protection Ireland, Coffee Laboratory, DALC, Cervantes, RR Consultant services, Casadh/Tiglin, Túsla, The Learning Curve Institute, PsyCare Ireland, Ruhama, The Learning Curve Institute, SWICN Community Development, Tolka River Project, First Aid for Everyone, Sure Skills, Carmichael Centre, Fusion Training and Development, First Aid for Everyone, Warrenmount Community Education Centre, NALA, The Abbey, Flying Turtle.



Funders:

DEASP (Dept Employment and Social Protection), HSE via SICDATF (South Inner City Drug & Alcohol Task Force), DCC (Dublin City Council), Cork Street Fund, IHREC (Irish Human Rights & Equality Commission), National Children's Hospital Community Development Fund (BAM), NALA, REACH, National Lottery

ANNUAL AUDITED ACCOUNTS

RADE COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

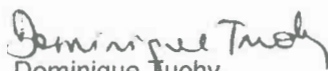
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
PERIOD ENDED 4TH AUGUST 2023

	Note	Period ended 04/08/23 €	Period ended 05/08/22 €
Income		428,965	420,781
Gross income		428,965	420,781
HSE expenses		(140,434)	(125,942)
Administrative expenses		(277,272)	(298,897)
Surplus / (deficit) for the financial year	6	11,259	(4,058)

All the activities of the company are from continuing operations.

The company has no other recognised items of income and expenses other than the results for the period as set out above.

The financial statements were approved by the board of directors on ^{17th December 2023} and signed on behalf of the board by:


Dominique Tuohy
Director


Lorcan Claffey
Director

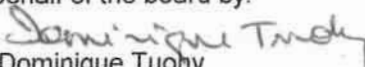
The notes on pages 11 to 18 form part of these financial statements.

RADE COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

BALANCE SHEET
4TH AUGUST 2023

	Note	04/08/23		05/08/22	
		€	€	€	€
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	9	3,019		9,766	
			3,019		9,766
Current assets					
Debtors	10	29,605		26,150	
Cash at bank and in hand		89,202		60,176	
		118,807		86,326	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	11	(80,333)		(65,858)	
Net current assets			38,474		20,468
Total assets less current liabilities			41,493		30,234
Net assets			41,493		30,234
Reserves					
Income and Expenditure account			41,493		30,234
Members funds			41,493		30,234

These financial statements were approved by the board of directors on 17th December 2023 and signed on behalf of the board by:


Dominique Tuohy
Director


Lorcan Claffey
Director

The notes on pages 11 to 18 form part of these financial statements.

RADE COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN RESERVES
PERIOD ENDED 4TH AUGUST 2023**

	Income and Expenditure account €	Total €
At 8th August 2021	34,292	34,292
Surplus / (deficit) for the period	(4,058)	(4,058)
Total comprehensive results for the period	(4,058)	(4,058)
 At 5th August 2022	 30,234	 30,234
Surplus / (deficit) for the period	11,259	11,259
Total comprehensive results for the period	11,259	11,259
 At 4th August 2023	 41,493	 41,493