



## Fast Facts

### Organization

Laurencetown, Lenaderg, and Tullylish (LLT) Community Association  
Laurencetown, Ireland

### Business Need

To implement software solutions on community laptops and build an after-school program

### Solution

By making the most of Microsoft® Office, the association was able to utilize donated laptops.

### Results

The association established an after-school program built on Microsoft software. The children now have opportunities only seen in larger towns and cities.

### Software and Services

- Microsoft Office Professional Plus
- Microsoft Encarta® Premium 2007

## Software Brings After-School Program to Life in Rural Ireland

With help from Microsoft and its partners, the Laurencetown, Lenaderg, and Tullylish (LLT) Community Association was able to initiate a much-anticipated youth program in its community center.

The Laurencetown, Lenaderg, and Tullylish (LLT) Community Association was formed in 1994 to help identify and meet the needs of the people in our relatively remote community.

We are very small and employ only one full-time staff member, who covers a predominantly rural area of Northern Ireland. The local geography is one of the reasons for our existence. One of the biggest issues we face here is social isolation. People don't have the same access to services as they would in a town, let alone in the city.

To help address this feeling of isolation, we run a variety of practical activities and groups from our base in Laurencetown. Given that much of the job involves raising money to keep this good work going, we are happy to receive a lot of support from the area. We'd recently received approval to purchase five laptops that would become the cornerstone of a new youth program at our center.

While this was tremendous news, it brought about a very daunting, very expensive problem. We only had a single, outdated copy of Microsoft® Office, and even with charity discounts, the cost of software was very expensive.

With help from Microsoft and its partners, we were able to address that problem and transform our visions into reality. Donated software was a windfall that meant that our five laptops could be utilized to their full extent. We must have saved nearly £700 (GBP) on Microsoft Office alone, and all at once, we could finally set up an after-school youth group for secondary school children and provide Internet access for those who don't have it at home and can't get to a library.

We're running Microsoft Encarta® on the laptops. Encarta is perfect for the school children because it features a world-renowned educational reference library with articles, photos, and illustrations; sound and video; and an interactive atlas. We also have installed Microsoft Office, which allows the

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Robert Stockley

children to learn and use industry-standard software such as Microsoft Office Word. Not only are the children able to learn and interact with teachers, but they’re doing it on tools that are recognized in the large world outside our community.

Would this have happened without Microsoft and its partners? Perhaps, but on a much smaller scale. Children might have come in to use our office computer to type a letter, for instance. Now, we’re giving them a chance that others in larger towns and cities might take for granted. When it comes down to it, we’re now able to set up our community’s children to be leaders, which is much more than just software.