



## ACTION 27

### Mental health: Let's make it happen

**WHAT?** → The recent Inspector of Mental Health Services Report 2008 has highlighted once more the deficiencies in our mental health services. However, the right to the highest attainable standard of mental health is even broader than this. It embraces a wide range of socio-economic duties on Government to promote conditions in which people can lead a healthy life. As such the right to health extends to what are known as the underlying determinants of health, such as food and nutrition, housing, safe and healthy working conditions, and a healthy environment. It is therefore necessary that a comprehensive, inter-sectoral action plan be created for *A Vision for Change* in which specific, measurable targets, annual milestones and relevant human and financial resources are set out for each relevant Government Department.

→ **Ask:** We want the Government to bring forward a comprehensive cross-departmental action plan on implementation of *A Vision for Change*.

### WHO?

→ **Call or write to all TDs in your constituency** (script for phone calls and letters enclosed). It is best to ring your T.D.'s constituency office on a Friday or contact them in Leinster House Tuesday to Thursday. If possible arrange a clinic visit with your TD and meet him or her in person to discuss the matter.

→ **As well as your local TD please send the letter to:**

Dr. Ruth Barrington  
Chairperson  
Independent Monitoring Group on *A Vision for C*  
C/o Dublin Molecular Medicine Centre  
Newman House  
85a St. Stephens Green  
Dublin 2

**WHEN?**→ Send letters to your local TD/Ministers on **Wednesday 25th February**  
Make phone calls on **Friday 27th February**

**Strength in numbers:** Have you joined Amnesty? We rely on membership to make ourselves heard. The more members we have, the stronger we become. You can join today by texting the word JOIN to 51444. You can also join on-line at <http://www.amnesty.ie/join> or simply call the office and we will process your membership over the phone on 01 836 8356.