



**Tara Cunningham, Founding Director of Release Communications Intervention  
— Winner of the Irish Life WMB Social Entrepreneur of the Year Award 2007**



**“My husband Mark Cunningham came across the WMB Social Entrepreneur of the Year Nomination form last year the day nominations closed, and I am so thankful he took the time to tell my story.** Winning the Irish Life WMB Social Entrepreneur of the Year Award has made a remarkable difference. Firstly, it’s absolutely wonderful to be recognised for all the hard work I do on behalf of Release and children with disabilities in a social entrepreneurial context — i.e. I was nationally recognised as a business which exists to change the system, not make a profit. Secondly, within 15 minutes of receiving the Award, Danuta Gray, CEO of O2 agreed to be a member of my Ashoka Advisory Board. Her participation has been extraordinary. Finally, I was overwhelmed with congratulations and offers of help from so many people. All of which is pushing me harder to make a greater

difference in the lives of children with disabilities.”