

Links Worker post to support people in recovery from addiction through sport and physical activity – Kilrush/ West Clare area.

Contract Type: Special Purpose, 24 months

Weekly Hours: 19 hours per

week. **Employed by:** Clare Sports

Partnership **Salary:** €18,000 per

anum.

Start Date: Immediate

To Apply for this Position: Send your CV and a Cover Letter to

john@claresports.ie on or before Friday 15th September 2023 at 12pm. Interviews

will take place on Thursday 28th September.

Job Description:

This position will be a part-time post based in the offices of Clare Sports Partnership, Ennis County Clare, with a remit to outreach in Kilrush, with its aim as that of promoting engagement of individuals within the community in sporting, education, employment, health and recreational activities in the locality to encourage a positive socio-economic environment. This will support individuals and family members most disadvantaged and most prone to becoming involved in anti- social and/or addictive behaviours. It will assist individuals to bridge gaps and barriers to access services across all dimensions of their lives thus promoting a holistic preventative and recovery process for themselves and their family members

The person will have a background in Sports and Recreation with Community Development, Youth Work or other relevant field and will have a proven track record of working with disadvantaged communities and those hardest to reach. The person will have a knowledge of issues relating to substance misuse and addiction and the benefits of recovery supports within communities and the capacity building of communities in supporting a range of these activities, thus promoting Community Recovery Resource.

The intention is to support an active research project with findings being implemented as the worker continues to engage and support capacity building in identified areas of Kilrush Town and the West Clare area. It will build on the previous project & the asset audit undertaken in Healthy Ireland Round 3 funding and work done by a range of agencies around Kilrush, West Clare

Responsibilities:

- The Link Worker will review & update an active research plan including an audit of all sports, education, employment, health and recreational opportunities and facilities in the area – updating the resource directory and knowledge base to use in the support and referral of clients within the community.
- The Worker will use information already gathered from previous studies conducted in Kilrush and wider reports and statistics in terms of informing the basis of their work and to avoid duplicating work already undertaken.
- The Worker will consult with different sectors of the community- by age, location, gender etc. to ascertain their needs, interests and their experience of using and participating in various aspects of activities in Kilrush as listed above. S/He will identify any barriers, perceived or otherwise to their involvement in locally based activities/training or employment
- The Worker will link with a range of agencies to get a comprehensive overview of services, courses and facilities available to support the identified needs emerging and will build up working relationships with these services to progress actions.
- The Worker, will either encourage participation in existing structures or will organise taster programmes in the activities highlighted in consultation with steering committee for the project.
- The Worker will actively engage with the steering committee to highlight areas of need and to compile funding applications under agreed measures to enhance their work and develop a range of services for Kilrush and the wider area. Identify proposed areas for development and with the steering group to pursue these funding applications exclude last sentence.
- The Worker will encourage and support the take up of opportunities in the area including sport, education, training, health initiatives and continued participation in recreational activities amongst children, young people and adults especially those from the hardest to reach within the community and from those most at risk of substance misuse and addiction.
- To work with various sectors and co-ordinate activities across a range of measures listed above to ensure people from the most disadvantaged groups/sectors are afforded with the opportunity to engage in programmes

best suited to meet their needs within the locality.

- To pilot a range of activities as part of the multiagency steering group to action needs identified above and to ensure there is not a duplication of resources.

Targets

- To assist individuals and families affected by addiction to build networks and resilience to deal with a range of issues leading to addiction and to help them to build up recovery platforms
- To work in a holistic way developing all aspects of a person's life and to help individuals in terms of goals attainment in conjunction with agencies and the implementation of NDRIC
- To liaise with National Strategies and to link particularly with relevant action of 'The Reducing Harm, Support Recovery 2018/2021'. Also to assist with the implementation of actions outlined in the Healthy Clare Strategy 2019-2021.
- To provide reports and support the work of the interagency steering group who will act in an advisory and support role for the worker while feeding back to the wider group bi- annually

Outcomes

- The Worker will have built up a relationship with people most at risk of substance misuse or behavioural addictions and will create links with these to a range of existing services and will identify further actions for development in the area
- Will become a referral point for a range of agencies supporting individuals who are vulnerable to addiction
- Will support the steering group and wider inter-agency group in terms of identification of gaps in service provision and will work with same to seek funding to meet these needs
- To develop a pilot model of Personal, Family/Social and Community Recovery Capital that can have the findings documented and thereby can be used to develop similar models of community mobilisation across the Mid-West and other regions.