

COVID-19 COMPANY UPDATE



Longford Community Resources clg



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LONGFORD COMMUNITY RESOURCES CLG UPDATE

Longford Community Resources (LCRL), like all organisations, is adjusting how we offer our services during this challenging time. We are adapting to ensure that we continue to provide supports and services to individuals and communities across the County of Longford.

Unfortunately as a result of the escalating situation regarding the Coronavirus, all Longford Community Resources events, training courses, workshops and face-to-face meetings are postponed until further notice. In addition, all our offices are closed to the public until further notice. However, our staff are still working and are available to respond to individuals and community groups by email or phone in relation to queries, request for assistance, LCRL work and projects.

Please follow Longford Community Resources on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) or on our website lcr1.ie for up to date information or contact staff directly as required. If you have a general enquiry in relation to the work of Longford community Resources please contact us on 043-3345555 or email enquiries@lcr1.ie.


Please see the official HSE website on <https://www2.hse.ie/coronavirus/> for information on how to prevent the spread of the Coronavirus, the symptoms, and what to do if you think you have it.

SICAP

SICAP, the Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme, continues to provide the following free and confidential supports via phone and email.



Unemployment, Employment, Education and Training



Our Education and Employment Officer is available via phone and email to offer supports to people who are already unemployed, those who have recently lost their job or have had their hours reduced or those who are looking to go back to education or take up training. Even in these difficult times it is good to make positive plans for the future.

The range of supports available are as follows:-

- ❖ Providing over-the-phone advice and information on the range of social welfare entitlements currently available
- ❖ Assisting people in filling out forms on line
- ❖ Liaising with Intreo in relation to specific queries
- ❖ Assisting people to apply for any job vacancies which are currently advertised
- ❖ Advising people regarding on-line training courses
- ❖ Helping people to identify and access accredited and non-accredited education and training
- ❖ Preparing and updating CVs
- ❖ Helping with job applications and interview preparation

Please contact:

Rita Slevin - 086-8536457 or rslevin@lcr.ie



Enterprise

Our Enterprise Officer continues to support unemployed people who want to set up their own business and existing small businesses (particularly those that have set up under the Back to Work Enterprise Allowance Scheme/Short Term Enterprise Allowance Scheme).

The following supports are being offered to small businesses that are experiencing difficulties due to COVID-19:-

- ❖ Over-the-phone advice and information on the range of welfare entitlements currently available
- ❖ Support to people on the Back to Work Enterprise Allowance Scheme/Short Term Enterprise Allowance Scheme
- ❖ Helping people filling out forms on line
- ❖ Liaising with Intreo in relation to specific queries
- ❖ Supports aimed at sustaining businesses in co-operation with the Local Enterprise Office, as appropriate

If you are a small business and need support, please contact:-

Fiona Jannink - 087-9486583 or fjannink@lcr1.ie



Community Development

We would like to recognise and acknowledge the work undertaken by all the communities in County Longford and to say thank you for the responses you have put in place and assistance you have provided to the most vulnerable people in your areas.

Staff under the Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme continue to support people involved in our Older Persons Network, Multi-cultural Women's Groups, People living in the Direct Provision Centre, Parent and Toddler Groups and others.

In addition, LCRL staff continue to be available to offer support and information to all community groups. We want to make sure that you all feel connected and supported in these uncertain times.

Please feel free to contact us on the details below.

Valerie McFarlane, SICAP Co-Ordinator - 086-8558311 or vmcfarlane@lcr1.ie

Peter Masterson, Community Development Worker - 083-3051786 or pmasterson@lcr1.ie

Mary Mulvey, Rural Resource Worker - 086-8536455 - mmulvey@lcr1.ie

Community Helpline



From Monday 30 March a **dedicated confidential community support helpline** has been established by the COVID-19 Longford Community Response Forum in Longford County Council to assist at risk members of the public in accessing non-emergency and non-medical supports and advice during the current public health emergency. The helpline is available from 9am - 5pm seven days a week for vulnerable people seeking assistance with daily needs.

These will include shopping, prescriptions, supplies, information or other suitable requests. The 'Longford COVID-19 Community Response' helpline is **043-3344255** or **Freephone 1 800-300122** or email covidsupport@longfordcoco.ie

Those wishing to volunteer to assist with the 'Longford COVID-19 Community Response' are asked to contact <http://www.volunteerlongford.ie/index.php/volunteers/register-to-volunteer>

Primary Health Care Project for Travellers



The Primary Health Care Project for Travellers is a project, funded by the HSE, which aims to improve the health and well-being of the Traveller Community in County Longford.

Community Health Workers deliver peer led health information and education to their community.

During the Covid-19 pandemic the Primary Health Care Project team are working remotely and are available, to offer you advice, support and up-to-date health information.

We can be contacted as follows:-

Tony Owens, Project Co-Ordinator - 087-9478135 or towens@lcr.ie

Teresa McDonnell - 087-2040153 or chws@lcr.ie

Mary Nevin - 087-9164766 or chws@lcr.ie

Caroline Stokes - 087-9467260 or chws@lcr.ie

Mary Stokes - 087-9160682 or chws@lcr.ie

Winnie Stokes - 087-9160681 or chws@lcr.ie

Longford Community Resources also employs a Community Development Worker with Travellers. This staff member works with Travellers on issues such as accommodation, education, training, and up-take of other services.

During Covid-19 the following services are being offered:-

- ❖ Support for people experiencing difficulties with their accommodation
- ❖ Support for people who need advice regarding education
- ❖ Support for people who want help getting work
- ❖ Health and wellbeing groups via the internet

Lorraine O'Reilly - 087-9451771 or loreilly@lcr.ie

County Longford Youth Service



County Longford Youth Service (funded by the Department of Children and Youth Affairs through Longford and Westmeath Education and Training Board), promotes and supports the physical, social, educational and personal development of young people in County Longford. During COVID-19 the staff of County Longford Youth Service are continuing to provide the following free and confidential supports via phone, text, Whatsapp, email and Zoom.

Many children are at risk of falling seriously behind with their education due to the current situation of being out of school and the staff of County Longford Youth Service are willing to provide supports to these young people and their parents as well.

Supports for Young People and Parents

- ❖ Advice and guidance to young people
- ❖ Parental supports
- ❖ Promoting positive mental health and wellbeing
- ❖ Running on-line youth groups to keep young people connected to peers
- ❖ Running on line activities such as interactive quizzes and games – managed by staff
- ❖ Inviting specialised guest speakers to zoom groups – eg CBT Therapist to deliver skills on managing anxiety
- ❖ Telephone conversations with young people with have no technology – informal chats
- ❖ Providing young people with a variety of activities and resources to relieve boredom
- ❖ Referral to relevant support services

We can be contacted as follows:-

Sara Jane McNaboe, Youth Service Co-Ordinator, 086-8536426 or smcnaboe@lcrf.ie

Mark Noble, Youth Worker, 086-8536438 or mnoble@lcrf.ie

Micheal Wall, Youth Worker, 086-8536445 or mwall@lcrf.ie

Longford Volunteer Centre



Longford Volunteer Centre is busier than ever managing an influx from good hearted people who have registered with us in order to help out during the crisis.

We are currently working closely with Longford COVID-19 Community Response Forum and many other local organisations to place these volunteers appropriately.

If you would like to register with us please click on the following link:

<http://www.volunteerlongford.ie/index.php/volunteers/register-to-volunteer>

All calls and emails to the Volunteer Centre are responded to as normal.

We can be contacted as follows:-

Terri Doherty, Co-Ordinator Longford Volunteer Centre - 087-2915367 or terri@volunteerlongford.ie

Angela Killion, Outreach & Development Officer - 087-7594770 or angela@volunteerlongford.ie

Madeline Doyle, Support Worker - 087-3673030 or madeline@volunteerlongford.ie

Friendly Phone Call Service



The Friendly Phone Call Service is a free service for older people. The aim of the service is to provide information on local activities and services available to older people as well as to provide an opportunity for a friendly chat.

Due to the Corona Virus, many people feel isolated and worried. Some people are unable to do their shopping. We are here to help these people and provide the following supports:-

- ❖ A friendly chat
- ❖ Link people who need help with their shopping to Longford Warmer Homes

Would you or someone you know like to receive a call from our Friendly Phone Call Service during these difficult times?

If yes, please contact:-

Terri Doherty - 087-2915367 or terri@volunteerlongford.ie

Rural Development (LEADER) Programme



Longford Community Resources LEADER team continue to process applications and claims for payment under the Rural Development (LEADER) Programme 2014-2020. Projects Development Workers are working remotely and may be contacted by email - See contact details below.

2020 is the final year of the current programme and while most funding is now committed, Project Development Workers are still happy to talk to both community groups and private enterprise about their ideas to determine eligibility, available funding or to offer advice and guidance on other options.

Contact details for the LEADER team are as follows:-

Caroline Macken, Development Worker - 087-6792970 or cmacken@lcr.ie

Margaret Walsh, Development Worker - 087-2373794 or margaretwalsh@lcr.ie

Mary McKenna, Development Worker - 087-7869694 or mmckenna@lcr.ie

Charlene Smith, LEADER Admin - 086-8536458 or charlynch@lcr.ie

Alternatively, queries regarding the LEADER programme can be emailed to leader1420@lcr.ie or submitted through the LEADER page of our website lcr.ie

Rural Social Scheme (RSS)



LCRL facilitates community groups throughout the county by providing them with RSS participants to support their groups. The work carried out includes: Village and Countryside Enhancement, Social Care and Care of the Elderly, Maintenance of Walkways, Energy Conservation, Work for the Elderly, Environmental Maintenance Work, Community Administration / Clerical Duties.

Due to Covid-19 all RSS participants have been removed from public duties until further notice.

The RSS Staff are working remotely and are available to support both community groups and participants during Covid-19.

Contact details for the staff of the Rural Social Scheme are as follows:-

Con Halton, RSS Co-Ordinator - 086-8536432 or chalton@lcr.ie

JP Carrigy, RSS Supervisor - 086-8536435 or jpcarrigy@lcr.ie

Dominic Halse, RSS Supervisor - 086-8536437 or dhalse@lcr.ie

Tús Community Work Placement



Tús participants and supervisors support community groups and not-for-profit organisations to enhance and improve the communities in which we live.

Following the Covid-19 guidelines most Tús participants, except for the participants working in and supporting essential services, have been removed from public duties until further notice.

Any host organisation with queries or interested in new placements once restrictions are lifted should contact one of the TUS supervisors.

The Tús staff are working remotely and are available to support both community groups and participants during Covid-19.

Contact details are as follows:-

Garry Murtagh, TUS Co-Ordinator - 087-7558393 or gmurtagh@lcr.ie

Fionnuala Quinn, TUS Supervisor - 087-6168152 or fquinn@lcr.ie

Patrick Cassidy, TUS Supervisor - 087-1954435 or pcassidy@lcr.ie

Ciaran Lennon, TUS Supervisor - 0873750080 or clennon@lcr.ie

Gerry Smyth, TUS Supervisor - 087-7958351 or gsmyth@lcr.ie