



# Ballyhoura Development CLG

*“Supporting Families at a Time of Crisis”*

**Social Inclusion Forum I Core Essentials –  
Healthcare, Housing, Energy and Food**

**Workshop 1 April 12<sup>th</sup> 2021**

**Amanda Slattery & Eileen O’Keeffe**



Ireland's European Structural and  
Investment Funds Programmes  
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Social Inclusion &  
Community Activation  
Programme



The Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme (SICAP) 2018-2022 is funded by the Irish Government through the Department of Rural and Community Development and co-funded by the European Social Fund under the Programme for Employability, Inclusion and Learning (PEIL) 2014-



# Who We Are

- Community-led Local Development Company
- Work with communities, families, individuals and businesses in the Ballyhoura region of East Limerick and North Cork.
- Currently deliver over 30 programmes, focussing on three key aims of: Community Development, Economic Development, Environmental Development
- Core Essential supports through Child and Family support projects- Energy (SECs), Food (focus of today) & Social & Health Inclusion (Social Prescribing)



# Children & Family Support

For **Children and Families** in disadvantaged communities and estates within the lot area, challenges started to become evident from March 2020 onwards.

- Fixed incomes
- Everyone at home (Household bills, Food Consumption)
- Families may have relied on black-market incomes
- Budgeting (DEASP payments)
- Parenting
- School work
- Parent's literacy level
- Mental health challenges
- Domestic violence

# Children & Family Support

- Responses put in place to service these needs through **food** programmes, **afterschool** programmes and **remote** supports
- **Collaborations** with other agencies were again vital to service the ongoing challenges as a result of the crisis (Tusla, RESPOND, Local Food Businesses, FoodCloud, SafeFood, Redemptorists, LA Covid Response Fund)
- Existing **projects** and **networks** across the area include Children & Family Support projects in Disadvantaged Estates, Afterschool Supports, Youth Engagement & NEETS programme, Homework clubs, Community Groups & Services.



## The Ballyhoura Development Food Programme | Supporting Families in a Time of Crisis – *5 min Extract*



<https://www.ballyhouradevelopment.com/our-story-ballyhoura-development-food-programme>

# Project Outcomes

Children's Rights Alliance Infant Development Fund	Remote Community Food Initiative	Covid Food Hampers
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 520 Bags of Food Distributed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 57 families supported x 4 weeks</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 8 community groups</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 780 meals provided</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ingredients for 1 hot meal per week</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 7 weekly food collections from Food Cloud</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 162KG of fresh meat</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 228 meals provided</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 462 families supported</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1430KG fruit &amp; veg</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1302 food hampers</li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 224 baby food packs</li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 164 children's activity packs</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funded 50 Families, SICAP supported 15 extra families to participate</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funded through Safefood &amp; SICAP</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supported through Redemptorists, Foodcloud, Local Food Business &amp; SICAP</li> </ul>



**Overall, in the Ballyhoura Development area, a total of 647 families were supported either directly or indirectly.**





# Learnings

*Key challenge to Ballyhoura Development was resource heavy project and time heavy, not enough staff on the ground due to Covid restrictions to deliver on demand*

*However*

- Development of Ballyhoura Development Food Strategy- integrated approach to food across **social inclusion & economic** activity
- Food is used as an **engagement** tool
- Reduce Food **Poverty** and Food **Waste**
- Development of **nutrition** programme across afterschool's support (UL collaboration)
- Importance of 1. Equality 2. Community Development 3. Collaboration & Partnership approaches
- Be a Community Food Initiative **Leader** into 2021

# Our Approach

- Roll out of the programme, focus on **skills** learning
- Continued leveraging of skills **training** through ETBs
- **Parental** programmes in 2021- continued link to families and supports
- Focus on our existing **family support projects and engagement (social prescribing roll out, SECs, employment supports etc..)**
- **Trust in supports, trust in agencies, hand up not hand out**
- **Legacy** Affect with children from disadvantaged areas and support through BD- relationship building and trust with next generation
- *“Use food to enhance the opportunities for increasing social capital and engagement in communities”*



# Ballyhoura Development CLG

*Thank You*

**Amanda Slattery & Eileen O'Keeffe**

**[www.ballyhouradevelopment.com](http://www.ballyhouradevelopment.com)**



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