



Ballyfermot
Chapelizod
Partnership

'Building an inclusive community'

The Ballyfermot Chapelizod Partnership CLG



2023

Annual Report



Cómhacínithe ag an
Aontas Eorpach
Co-funded by the
European Union



Riailtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland



An Ghníomhaireacht um
Leanaí agus an Teaghlach
Child and Family Agency



Social Inclusion &
Community Activation
Programme



Comhairle Cathrach
Bhaile Átha Cliath
Dublin City Council



The Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme (SICAP) is co-funded by the Irish Government, through the Department of Rural and Community Development, and the European Union, through the European Social Fund Plus



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OUR VISION

Ballyfermot Chapelizod Partnership envisions a future for our communities where poverty is significantly reduced and where people who experience marginalisation and disadvantage are fully supported to realise and fulfil their potential in a way that values inclusion, diversity, and equality for all.

OUR MISSION

Ballyfermot Chapelizod Partnership offers services, support and advocacy working with adults, children, and communities. Using an integrated and collaborative approach, we work to improve economic, social, and environmental outcomes and life opportunities.



Company Information

Chairperson: Jennifer Courtney **Company Secretary 2023:** Teresa Dunphy

Directors in 2023: Jennifer Courtney, Terry Hobdell, Patricia Cassells, Hazel Norton, Cecilia Munroe, Daithí Doolan, Sophie Nicoullaud, Warren Dempsey, Peter Kavanagh, Lydia Marshall (resigned February 2023), Dave Donovan, Brendan Kenny

Company Number: 252413 **Charity Number:** CHY11947

Registered Office: 4 Drumfinn Park, Ballyfermot, Dublin 10. D10 AY6

Auditors: KSi Faulkner Orr, 10 Mount Street Lower, Dublin, D02 HT71

2023

The Year in Numbers

2,362

New Clients Registered



36

People supported into part-time employment



76

People supported into full-time employment



402

Speech & Language Appointments



91

Clients engaged in counselling and

68

participated in group based mental health programmes



1,829

KG of food sustainably produced by Cherry Orchard Community Garden



151

Clients Supported to Access Further and Higher Education



314

Families engaged in parenting & family support programmes



259

People received Health & Wellbeing Supports through Sláintecare Healthy Communities



Care Packs provided to

400

Older Persons



160

Tús work placements supported



Support provided to

36

Community Groups



19

New Businesses were established with support from BCP





CHAIRPERSON'S STATEMENT

As Chairperson of The Ballyfermot Chapelizod Partnership CLG, I am delighted to present the company's 2023 Annual Report. This report sets out the tremendous work undertaken by Ballyfermot Chapelizod Partnership throughout 2023.

On the following pages you will find details of the wide range of services and supports provided to people and communities by Ballyfermot Chapelizod Partnership. These engage people at every stage of life from early years to older persons and respond to a range of needs including parenting, family support, social inclusion, education, health, wellbeing, employment, self-employment and more. As well as working with individuals and families, Ballyfermot Chapelizod Partnership also provide support to and collaborate with, a wide range of community groups and social enterprises locally who contribute greatly to the richness of life in our communities.

2023 was a busy and exciting year for Ballyfermot Chapelizod Partnership with highlights including securing a new Empowering Communities programme for Cherry Orchard with the support of the Department of Rural and Community Development and the formal launch of the Slaintecare Healthy Communities Initiative in collaboration with the HSE, Dublin City Council and the Department of Health. 2023 also saw the conclusion of the first year of implementation of the Local Area Employment Services funded by the Department of Social Protection. The Partnership continues to successfully implement the Area Based Childhood Programme (Family Matters) supported by Tusla and the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth. In addition, 2023 brought



exciting new initiatives such as Keep IT Lit, an adult literacy initiative delivered in collaboration with the Dublin City Education and Training Board with funding provided by Solas under the Adult Literacy for Life initiative. I would like to thank all the organisation's funders for continuing to place their trust in us to deliver for our communities and I am proud to report that once again all contracts were fulfilled on time and targets achieved to the satisfaction of our funders.

In 2023, Ballyfermot Chapelizod Partnership developed a new strategic plan due to be launched in early 2024 and also successfully tendered to implement the Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme 2024-2028 co-funded by the Irish Government, through the Department of Rural and Community Development, and the European Union, through the European Social Fund Plus. Such a successful year would not have been possible without the skill, commitment and compassion of our multi-disciplinary staff team led by CEO Anne Fitzgerald.

As a registered charity, Ballyfermot Chapelizod Partnership is led by a voluntary board of management who carry out their governance role to the highest standards as required by the CRO and Charities Regulator. I would like to personally acknowledge and thank each member of the BCP board for their leadership, integrity and commitment to advancing the aims of the organisation throughout the year.

Jennifer Courtney



CEO'S STATEMENT

As a community-led local development company, Ballyfermot Chapelized Partnership CLG works to promote the social and economic development of the communities we serve and to enhance the lives of those living, working and playing in our communities. In 2023, the organisation undertook a comprehensive strategic planning process to revisit the organisation's mission, vision and values as well as to develop key objectives and priorities for the period 2024-2028. The strategic planning process involved extensive consultation with a wide range of stakeholders; over 100 clients, 24 one to one interviews with funders, statutory and community organisations and social enterprises and 58 contributions from BCP staff and directors. This consultation process was supplemented by a review of BCP progress against its Strategic Plan 2018-2022 and informed by relevant policy documents as well as national and international best practice.

The strategic planning process offered an opportunity to revisit and recommit to the organisations core values of community development; empowerment; integrated and person-centred development; inclusion and participation; equality, equity and accountability. These values remain central to the ethos and approach of BCP and guide us in working towards our vision *"a future for our communities where poverty is significantly reduced and where people who experience marginalisation and disadvantage are fully supported to realise and fulfil their potential in a way that values inclusion, diversity, and equality for all."*



As we look to the future, Ballyfermot Chapelized Partnership continues to offer services, support and advocacy working with adults, children, and communities. Using an integrated and collaborative approach, we work to improve economic, social, and environmental outcomes and life opportunities. In committing to this mission, Ballyfermot Chapelized Partnership remains grateful to our funders including the Department of Social Protection, The Department of Rural and Community Development, the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth, the European Union, Tusla, the HSE, Dublin City Council, the CDETB, and some philanthropic grants. Without the ongoing support of our funders, it would be impossible to achieve the outcomes we do for the communities we serve.

2023 was a successful and rewarding year for Ballyfermot Chapelized Partnership and some of the highlights of the year are presented on the following pages. As CEO, I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to our staff team and management team for their commitment to the vision, mission and values of the partnership. I would like to further thank each member of our Board of Management ably led by our Chairperson Jennifer Courtney for their wisdom, dedication and stewardship. To conclude I wish to thank the people and groups that work with us, as an organisation we are always striving to do better and as always we welcome your thoughts, suggestions and feedback on any area of our service provision.

Anne Fitzgerald

Child & Family Services



Family Matters ABC had a very productive year in 2023, continuing to support parents as the primary educators of their children, so that they can reach their potential. The dedicated team of Family Matters staff do this by delivering many programmes with parents and children, such as Baby Massage, PEEP, PC+ Home Visiting, Parent Plus Parenting, Circle of Security and supporting staff to support children in schools and in the community through Talkboost, Lifeskills training and facilitator training.

Family Matters ABC work collaboratively with agencies such as TUSLA, HSE, Familibase and BTAP, community agencies and all the schools and early years services, working towards all Ballyfermot children reaching their potential.

PEEP Story

Jenny (mam) and Jacob (2) were part of the Family Matters PEEP parent and toddler playgroup in the library. PEEP's main focus is supporting parents in a fun way to play together at home with their child. Jenny learned from the group, that simple fun, reading and play is really important for Jacob's development. PEEP focuses on a new area of child development each week in a fun way like shapes, language, balance. Jenny commented on the transformation of Jacob after the 8-week group. Jenny said that PEEP has helped her to have fun and play with Jacob at home. She now reads and sings regularly with Jacob. Jacob loves this time with her. Jenny said that she can't believe how fast Jacob learns from her, particularly his speech, language and understanding, how he can begin to manage his emotions with other toddlers and have fun by doing things together at home. Jenny continued on to Parents Plus Parenting course for further support and enjoys 'having a laugh' with other parents in the group.

Parents Plus Parenting is a course for all parents in Ballyfermot. All families that attend Parent Plus have one thing in common, they want to do the best they can for their children.



Supporting Workers in Supporting Families

As part of supporting workers to support parents, the Family Matters Speech and Language Therapist delivered a workshop to Parent Child Plus Home Visitors across the South Dublin area. Information and practice skills gained from the training were shared by the Home Visitors with parents during their home visits supporting them with play and techniques, which advance their child's speech and language.

Family Matters Speech and Language Therapist also delivered Talkboost training to early years and primary school teachers, so that they could deliver Talkboost to groups of children. This supports children to improve their oral language skills so that they can access key areas of the curriculum and promotes positive personal interaction and confidence skills. Training was also provided to staff in 3 local Early Years settings on the use of speech and language screeners to help identify children who may benefit from additional supports with their oral language skills.

Parent Child +

ParentChild+ is a 'learning through play experience' for parents and their preschool children. ParentChild+ employs specially trained local people as Home Visitors who visit families twice a week, in their own home, for two short (1/2 hour) play sessions, bringing with them a book or toy. Hear from Patrice, a parent who participates in the Parent Child Plus (PC+) Home Visiting Programme.

“ The information I got from my PC+ Home Visitor and the tips from the programme has helped my daughter learn colours, numbers, letters and showed me how to support her way of playing at home. I have gained a lot of understanding for her needs.

I like the structure and routine of the programme with two visits a week, this helps build a relationship with my Home Visitor. At the start my daughter's speech was my biggest worry but I feel the programme has helped bring that on. The programme helps me learn how to communicate with her through play.

The support I received from the programme and the parents' groups has helped my confidence and helped me personally as a parent. I can't thank you and the programme enough ”

Patrice and her daughter pictured with Grainne, one of BCP's Home Visitors

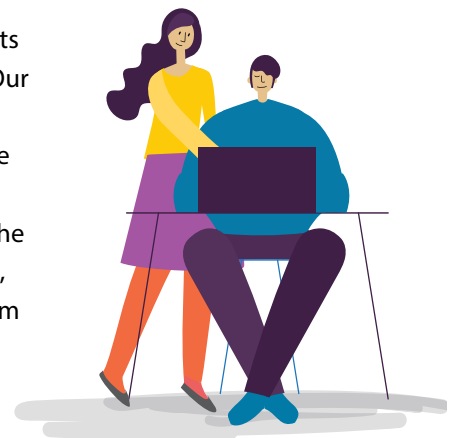


Employment Services

The latter part of 2023 saw the end of the first contract year for the LAES (Local Area Employment Service) Programme funded through the Department of Social Protection. Across our contract delivery areas of Dublin 1, 8, 10 and 12, and in collaboration with our delivery partner Dublin South City Partnership (DSCP), our target of 2,371 referrals to employment support was achieved.

With unemployment rates across the country remaining below 5% throughout 2023, and Ireland economically at full employment, the challenge is receiving referrals and supporting clients furthest from the labour market, and in most cases, presenting with multiple barriers to employment.

Much of the success of our employment services is based on a client-centred and integrated services model where all the services and supports available work together to meet the needs of the people we work with. Our primary focus is supporting and motivating clients to secure sustainable employment, and therefore a number of employability programmes were delivered by LAES staff for clients closest to the labour market. BCP and DSCP utilised many of the other contracted services we offer outside of the LAES Programme, to provide necessary specialised support to our clients, and assist in breaking down the barriers to employment and moving them closer to the workplace. In 2023, over 200 clients were referred to, and engaged with alternative services for support. These included internal programmes such as Social Prescribing, Counselling, Heads Up (Mental Health), and self-employment support, as well as external referrals to community services and education centres such as ETB's. Other than providing focused levels of specific support, much of what is also achieved for the clients is improved levels of motivation and self-esteem, and this model will continue to be at the heart of the services provided to all LAES clients into 2024 and the remainder of the contract term.



Maria's Story

Maria needed personal supports and advice and contacted Ballyfermot Chapelizod Partnership in Dublin 10. Through the Social Prescribing Officer, Maria was directed to customised 1 to 1 personal support onsite, based upon her individual needs, which later led on to Maria participating in a community walking group and a referral to the BCP Dublin 8 office (DCC LAES) for employment supports. On Maria's journey she has received 1 to 1 help for updating her CV, weekly jobs emailed to her and further linked into BCP supports including IT support to sign up for a revenue account online, help finding a women's self-defence group in the local area and supports from BCP's Helping Hands team who visited her at home to help with a housing issue.

“ I have no words for all the care, support and good advice given to me from the Ballyfermot Chapelizod Partnership throughout all their departments in Dublin 10 & Dublin 8 ”

Maria – Walk-in Client

What Our Employment Services Clients Say

“ I have been a client of Ballyfermot Chapelizod Partnership for a few years now and I always find a walk-in service very helpful and appreciate its person-centred approach provided by staff at all times. Both of my sons, registered with the service last year to avail of employment guidance. One, who is currently a student in Trinity College started a part time job in a local shop, thanks to employment support received from his EGO. Also, they both completed in-house Manual Handling and Safe Pass training. I would highly recommend BCP to anyone who wishes to be assisted in a friendly, timely and most importantly customer focused manner. A Big Thank you to all staff! ”

Patricia, Employment Services Client

“ I can't speak highly enough of the Partnership in Ballyfermot. I lost my job three days before Christmas two years ago and the support they give me has been brilliant. Anytime I have ever needed support in terms of funding for retraining for a job they have got it for me. Grainne and her team will go out of their way to do what they can for the people of Ballyfermot. Sinead has been my case officer for the past year, and she has not let me down once for anything that I needed. So, anybody unemployed looking for help in finding job or suffering with mental health problems I highly recommend registering with the partnership in Drumfinn and talk to one of the staff ”

Gareth, Employment Services Client

“ I did the LAES programme at the BCP last year and would recommend it to others. I really enjoyed the training which I could do at my own pace and then they had a few locations I could do the examination in, so I had a choice of where to do it. The people I was dealing with during the programme seemed to actually listen and care about me. And I would not have got my job if it wasn't for this programme and the support I got ”

Frank, Employment Services Client

“ My name is Mary. This is my second year with David using the BCP service. They have been very helpful assisting my job search and supporting me through this process. David has been very helpful with organising my level 6 SNA course and going above and beyond by supplying me with a laptop loan. I would recommend this service to anyone in my position ”

Mary, Employment Services Client

What Employers Say

“ In dealing with BCP we were delighted at the level of detail they wanted from us so they could match candidates as closely as possible to our vacant positions. David's advice and guidance was a great help to us in selecting candidates for interview and we filled our position quickly and successfully. A great service that we will use again in the future ”

Derek Doherty, Operations Director CSI

Celebrating Women in Business



On a snowy March morning, the community came together to celebrate Enterprise Week and International Women’s Day. MC’d by local social enterprise, Together FM, and hosted in the Ballyfermot Community Civic Centre, three remarkable female entrepreneurs shared their experiences of how they got started and overcame challenges.

Jackie from Jackie’s Florists shared how she started out 30 years ago at 18 when jobs were scarce and she needed to support her young family. Jackie told how she kept growing the business to the point where her whole family now work for Jackie’s Florists in her Ballyfermot and Tallaght locations. Cyrielle Loumouamou told how she manages her business, CYLOU, as a virtual assistant and her home life. She explained that by setting thoughtful boundaries between work and home mode, she is able to continue being a mother whilst also taking on new and exciting projects. The final guest, Sylvia Kennedy, set up Treats by Sylvia during Covid-19. Sylvia explained how her business has exploded in growth to now supply SuperValu, Grant Thornton and numerous Dublin City Council (and BCP!) events.

All three guests shared incredible and relatable insights to a room of aspiring entrepreneurs and customers. The Celebrating Women in Business event showcased how much talent for business exists in Ballyfermot and how young women in the area don’t have to look too far for inspiring role models.

If you have been considering self-employment, reach out for a chat with our Enterprise and Social Enterprise Officer – doconnell@bcpartnership.ie.



L-R Dave (BCP) Jackie (Jackie’s Florists), Sylvia (Treats by Sylvia) Cyrielle (CYLOU), Mary (Together FM) Sarah (BCP)

Tús work placement programme



Tús is a year-long work placement programme providing opportunities for people who are long-term unemployed to gain work experience in local non-profit and charity organisations.

Tús boosts motivation and confidence, offering people opportunities to experience different work environments and providing the opportunity to learn new skills.

In October 2023 a new Tús Team Leader (Aidan Halpin) joined the BCP team based in Ballyfermot. 7 team leaders each support a caseload of approximately 25 participants covering a large geographical area including Dublin 2,4,8,10 & 20.

In 2023, 243 referrals were received from DSP leading to a consistent 100% fulfilment of our target (160 participants on payroll).

Tús Host Organisations

As well as providing huge benefits for participants through placements in community organisations, the host organisations are also supported in carrying out vital work within the community.

In 2023, the Tús Team continued to be very proactive in securing additional host organisations and have secured the St. Josephs Childcare, St. Catherines National School, Third Space, The Lighthouse, Donore Harriers Athletics, R.A.D.E. (Recovery through art, drama and education), and Flux Studios art collective. Clients have been placed in new roles in these organisations.

In the latter half of 2023 the BCP Tús team engaged U.C.C.I. the Ukrainian Crisis Centre Ireland and (as many Ukrainian refugees had now become eligible for the Tús programme) we secured 12 Tús placements for these clients through the self-referral process. This is of significant help to these clients in integrating into their Irish communities and improving their experience while upskilling and learning the English language.



Tús Host Flux Studio



Slaintecare Healthy Communities



Slaintecare.
Healthy
Communities

In April 2023, BCP was delighted to participate in the official launch of Slaintecare Healthy Communities in Ballyfermot Civic Centre. Despite the official launch, Slaintecare Healthy Communities is now in its second year of programme delivery and continues to go from strength to strength, reaching people and communities impacted by health inequality. 2023 Highlights include:

Healthy Food Made Easy

In 2023 BCP delivered 16 HFME programmes with 139 participants improving their cooking skills, nutrition knowledge and eating behaviours.



Group of Healthy Food Made Easy Participants

Social Prescribing

In 2023 80 local people worked with BCP's Social Prescribing Link worker who linked them in with a wide range of community services and supports with the aim of improving their health and wellbeing and connecting them with the community.

We Can Quit

BCP delivered 2 WCQ programmes in 2023 with 16 participants commencing the programme and 14 completing the programme and giving up smoking for good!



Group of We Can Quit Participants

Community Food & Nutrition

A dedicated Food & Nutrition Project Officer (Ronan Hayes) started work with BCP in September 2023. Ronan will undertake a food, nutrition and food poverty needs analysis and look at what projects could be put in place to respond to the needs identified.

Parenting Programmes

In 2023, 4 parenting programmes were delivered to 20 parents along with one parenting workshop delivered to 4 parents. Parents Plus is an Irish designed, evidence-based, practical, parenting course.



Keep IT Lit



Keep IT Lit was a pilot project implemented by BCP's Health & Inclusion team in 2023 in close collaboration with the City of Dublin Education and Training Board (CDETb). BCP's staff worked to leverage an additional €30,000 of funding from the Solas Adult Literacy for Life (ALL) Strategy Collaboration & Innovation Fund. The project also received support from Poetry Ireland.

Keep IT Lit aimed to bridge the divide in digital competence, literacy and language skills for marginalised adults, identified as having unmet literacy needs and who were considered most difficult to reach in the Ballyfermot and Cherry Orchard areas. Through collaboration with CDETb Community Education, the project facilitated learners to achieve the language, literacy and digital skills to participate in our ever-evolving digital society, ensuring no one is 'left behind'. The project-built community engagement and awareness with local service providers and was an opportunity to celebrate diversity while having a positive engagement with those with language and literacy needs in the community.



Keep IT Lit commenced on the 19th of September and finished on the 23rd of November with 9 weeks of workshops on language, literacy, digital skills and creative writing classes. The project worked with four key target groups (Travellers, refugees, older persons and women living in disadvantaged communities) engaging them in a series of specific literacy/language/IT courses with specialised ETB tutors enhanced by an inspirational 'Writer in Residence' facilitating creative writing workshops for learners which culminated in a live performance in Ballyfermot Civic centre on November 16th, 2023. In total 34 people participated in the programme. The project achieved learning outcomes for literacy/language/digital skills development while also facilitating learners to build their confidence and self-esteem in their creative expression through poetry, music, drama, and art. The project facilitated open dialog and discussion around 'digital fear' that prevents many learners from embracing new technologies and encouraged an 'I can do it' approach to participating fully in technology, language and learning. Finally the success, challenges and learnings of the Keep IT Lit project were captured in a documentary film.

<https://youtu.be/dbQqF3rj448?feature=shared>



Residents of Glenaulin and Maryfield nursing homes participate in the Keep IT Lit Showcase Event



A group of women who moved to Ireland following the outbreak of war in Ukraine perform 'Diary of an Immigrant' at the Keep IT Lit Community Showcase event in Ballyfermot Civic Centre

Empowering Communities



On March 7th, 2023, Ballyfermot Chapelizod Partnership was happy to welcome Joe O'Brien TD, Minister of State at the Department of Rural and Community Development to Cherry Orchard to announce the award of funding to BCP to design & implement a new Empowering Communities Programme with local people living in the Cherry Orchard area aimed at supporting them to realise the changes they want for their community. Cherry Orchard has experienced many challenges. The Empowering Communities Programme aims to facilitate street-level engagement with residents to identify and develop actions to strengthen the community as a whole as well as improving the quality of life of those living locally.

Responding to the announcement of the Empowering Communities Programme for Cherry Orchard, BCP CEO Anne Fitzgerald said:

"Ballyfermot Chapelizod Partnership warmly welcomes the announcement of the Empowering Communities Programme for Cherry Orchard. This programme will focus on supporting residents of Cherry Orchard to identify, develop and implement unique community work responses to the specific challenges faced locally. Its aim is to empower local people to craft their own responses to area-based poverty, social exclusion and the resulting consequences it has for all those living in the area from children to older people."

Since the announcement of Empowering Communities in March a Project Officer has been recruited and forms part of a team based in Cherry Orchard.

The team have formed excellent links with community organisations working in the area including Dublin City Council and the newly formed Cherry Orchard Implementation Board. The team have undertaken a huge amount of outreach and have developed trust with local residents. They are using community development principles and meeting local residents to support them in analysing their communities' unique needs and creating solutions together.



Cherry Orchard Highlights 2023

Women's Health

The work on demystifying and getting good information on the Menopause was transformative for 36 Women who attended a series of workshops. This included a screening of 'Sex, Myths and the Menopause' and culminated in a talk by leading expert in the field Dr. Aoife Nic Shamhráin. This was part of a broader women's wellness programme that ran for six weeks.

Cherry Blossoms

BCP took a very hands-on approach to supporting the Cherry Blossoms Festival, which ran for a month starting on the 22nd of March and included 35 events. Local residents and community groups/organisations worked in partnership to deliver a programme of events that spanned all ages, which was truly inclusive and intergenerational.

Cherry Orchard Information Showcase:

The community development team coordinated an information showcase to bring community services to the local community and let them know what support are available in the area. There were 13 local organisations and 11 BCP services with stands.



Cherry Orchard Information Showcase

Community Neighbourhood Engagement

BCP worked street-by-street, area by area to help local residents address their concerns. For the most part in BCP's work with local residents the key thing they have wanted is to improve the visual appearance of the community and address the problem of fly tipping. In 2023, BCP coordinated neighbourhood clean-up events and have 'Painted Cherry Orchard Pink' by installing pink planters throughout Cherry Orchard.

Leaders in Learning

With funding provided by the Cherry Orchard Implementation Board in 2023, BCP supported 38 learners from Cherry Orchard who received assistance with the costs of education under the Leaders in Learning Programme. An important part of Leaders in Learning is the element of role modelling educational participation to the wider community aligned to the principal of 'if you can see it you can be it'. A celebration event was held in the Orchard Community Centre on October 10th. The event was very well attended with 64 local learners and their families who heard from the Dublin City Lord Mayor, BCP CEO and Chairperson and the Chairperson of the Cherry Orchard Implementation Board. In addition a number of learners told their stories to the wider group with a focus on the benefits of educational participation to them, their families and the wider community.

The Traveller Way

Supported by BCP's Community Health Worker (in collaboration with Ballyfermot Traveller Action Project), 15 local Traveller Women participated in a Women's Wellbeing Group which aims to explore and address various health and wellbeing issues impacting on Traveller women locally. As well as health promotion activities and trips and guest speakers on key health topics, in 2023, the women finalised "The Traveller Way" a book which documents traditional remedies used within the Traveller Community. As well as documenting and celebrating aspects of Traveller History and Culture, The Traveller Way Book has offered a launchpad for discussion of various health issues and inequalities within the Traveller Community. The book has now been printed and will be launched in the Mansion House at the end of January 2024



Older Persons Winter Response

In Winter 2023, BCP again collaborated with Dublin City Council to implement a range of supports to older persons experiencing isolation in the catchment as well as mitigating the impact of inclement weather and rising heating costs during the winter months.

As well as welfare checks and the distribution of key support information, BCP and DCC staff collaborated on the distribution of 400 care packs to older and vulnerable persons on December 14th.

As always, the care packs were warmly received and the staff enjoyed the chance to stop and chat with people on the doorstep



BCP SICAP Staff packing care packs for local older persons in isolation

Community Connector for Older Persons

In 2023, the Ballyfermot Chapelizod Partnership, in close collaboration with the HSE's Integrated Care of Older Persons Team, launched a Community Connector Service for Older Persons. Below we hear from Aislinn Higgins who joined BCP as a Community Connector in April 2023.

What is a Community Connector?

The Community Connector for Older Persons role is similar to that of a Social Prescriber but works specifically with Older Persons who have been recently involved with their local HSE ICPOP team. There are currently nine Community Connectors working across Ireland. Each Community Connector is employed by different host organisations and work very closely with our local ICPOP team. I work with BCP and the ICPOP team aligned to St James Hospital. ICPOP is a multidisciplinary team, currently made up of an Occupational Lead, Geriatricians, cANP, CNMII, Physiotherapists, Occupational Therapists, Administration staff and myself. The ICPOP team work with patients to provide care that's on time in a place that suits the patient. All referrals to the Community Connector Project come from the ICPOP team and I work with Older Persons to help reduce social isolation and increase a person's connection to their local community

How does it work in practice?

The colleague who makes the referral to the Community Connector gets consent from the older person prior to making the referral. I then contact the older person or their designated contact. We organise a date to meet, in person if possible. When a meeting is arranged, we go through a Health and Wellbeing Plan. This allows me to have a conversation to get to know the person and what is important to them. We then work on creating some goals which we will work through over the next 6-8 sessions to work towards meaningfully engaging the person with their community. In most cases, this is on a 1-1 basis but in some cases the older person might choose to have a family member or friend there.

What does your day-to-day work entail?

I spend a lot of time contacting referrals and arranging visits with them. Most of my face-to-face interactions take place in the person's home or in another place of their choosing, so I do spend time on the road. My catchment area is quite large, covering Dublin West and Dublin South City so I spend a lot of my time getting to know the area and the amenities they have. This also includes networking with lots of different agencies, groups and organisations. I also work as part of the Health and Inclusion Team in BCP which means I have close links to a range of services and supports in the partnership which can benefit the people I work with.



Aislinn Higgins BCP's Community Connector for Older Persons

New SICAP Programme



In 2023, BCP successfully tendered to continue to deliver the Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme in Lot 2-1 (Ballyfermot Chapelizod) 2024-2028. Tendering for the new SICAP successor programme was a significant piece of work including profiling the area, developing a new strategic plan for the implementation of SICAP, developing an annual action plan, as well as plans for communications, sustainable procurement and targeted recruitment.

Key changes for the SICAP 2024 – 2028 programme include:

- A renewed focus of targeting those most disadvantaged in Irish society. This includes the addition of new target groups including people with a criminal history and people impacted by educational disadvantage.
- The addition of a Local Priority Target Group - people with disabilities
- A quality Community Development Approach will be further embedded in the programme.
- Climate Justice as a core programme theme

The Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme (SICAP) is co-funded by the Irish Government, through the Department of Rural and Community Development, and the European Union, through the European Social Fund Plus

BCP Quality Management Systems



In October 2023, BCP took part in a quality assurance audit carried out by the Excellence Ireland Quality Association (EIQA). The audit assessed quality in the organisation aligned to the Q Mark for Quality Management Systems - a business excellence framework that reviews all aspects of an organisation. BCP were delighted to retain the Q Mark for Quality Management with an increased score of 87% (Level 3 – the highest level of recognition). Feedback from the quality audit included:

“ BCP has a mature well-developed approach to quality management across all services provided. The ethos of quality and commitment to high standards was evident in the organisation structure, programme design and delivery of service to its customers. ”

“ BCP demonstrates all the attributes of a positive and supportive working environment, and provided many examples of an adaptive, responsive workplace where flexibility is offered to meet individual staff and client circumstances. ”

Contact Us



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Programme Manager
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Our Services

Health Programmes	Triona O’Sullivan Health & Inclusion Programmes Manager Phone 01 623 5612 Email tosullivan@bcpartnership.ie
Social Prescribing	Social prescribing offers GPs and other health professionals a means of referring people to a range of non-clinical community supports which can have significant benefits for their overall health and wellbeing.
Nutrition	Healthy Food Made Easy is a 6-week course which aims to; encourage healthy eating, improve our knowledge of nutrition when preparing our meals at home, learn healthy meals on a budget.
Smoking Cessation	We Can Quit is a free, friendly and supportive 8–12-week programme for people who smoke and who want support to quit smoking.
Heads Up	HEADSUP is an evidence based mental health education and training programme for men who are finding life stressful, have issues with unemployment, feel isolated or lonely and wish to learn ways to improve their wellbeing. This group programme aims to encourage participants to make positive changes to their lives, develop resilience and offers support to access local services and supports.
Treatment & Rehabilitation	The Treatment & Rehabilitation Project Officer works closely with the Ballyfermot Local Drug & Alcohol Task Force (BLDATF) and addiction projects as well non-specialised substance misuse services as relevant within the 4 Tier Model of Substance Misuse Services.
Community Connector	The community connector works closely with the HSEs Integrated Care of Older Persons team to connect older people living in the St James’ Hospital catchment with services and supports in their community.
Community Food & Nutrition	The CFN project aims to improve community health and wellbeing in the Cherry Orchard and wider Ballyfermot areas by addressing the issues of poor diet and food poverty.
Community Health	Health Promotion activities with a focus on the whole Ballyfermot Community and in particular members of the Traveller Community living locally with the goal of awareness raising and improving health outcomes.
Counselling Service	Free 8 sessions of counselling/psychotherapy with a qualified counsellor/psychotherapist. Counselling is a talking therapy that involves a trained therapist listening to you and helping you find ways to deal with emotional issues.
Personal Development	Group based programmes such as STEPS for Success and Try It Out where you can develop new skills, confidence, motivation and meet new people.



Child & Family	Liz O'Sullivan Child, Family & Community Programmes Manager Phone 01 623 5612 Email losullivan@bcpartnership.ie
Parenting Programmes	Range of group based parenting programmes available throughout the year including Baby Massage, Parent & Baby Programme, Early Years, Child & Adolescent programmes.
Parent Child Plus	Parent Child + Home visiting programme: an early literacy and school readiness programme designed to support early parent/child relationship.
Youth Mental Health	To support the mental health and wellbeing being of children and young people aged 0-25 years in the Ballyfermot area.
Speech & Language	Two Senior Speech and Language Therapists (SLTs) work within the Family Matters Oral Language Programme, in early years services and primary schools intervening at universal, targeted and specialised levels with a focus on prevention and early intervention.
Childcare Fund	Providing funding for parents affected by drug and alcohol use to support childcare placements in local early years services.
Individual Family Support	Individual Family Support is provided in an integrated way within all the strands of the Family Matters programme, by our partners BTAP and Familibase, enabling parents and children to reach their potential socially, emotionally and educationally.
Education supports	In collaboration with schools and early years services, children, young people and their parents are supported to reach their potential in having high realistic expectations, and increased skills and knowledge around their future education and training.
Employment Services	Grainne Lynch Acting Manager Dublin City Community LAES Phone 01 623 5612 Email glynych@bcpartnership.ie
Local Area Employment Services	One to one career guidance and group-based employability supports for those in receipt of social welfare payments and others who are looking for work. Drop in career guidance available daily in Drumfinn Office.
Tús	Tús provides opportunities for people who are unemployed to break the cycle of long-term unemployment, helping to improve a person's work readiness and support them in returning to the labour market through a 12-month work placement with local community organisations.
Pre-Employment Programmes	Group-based and individual support to move clients closer to work with a focus on CV preparation, interview skills, motivation and goal setting, career paths, IT programmes and practical training such as manual handling, driver theory and Safepass.
Self-Employment Support	One to one support combined with training and mentoring to support people to set up their own businesses. Also supporting new businesses in the first two years of trading.
Ability Project	Employability Programme is aimed primarily at young adults 18 to 29 years old based in Dublin 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12 and 20 communities who experience emotional, psychological and mental health challenges (EPMH) and/or co-occurring disabilities. Programme includes 1:1 support, group programmes and work experience components.
Careers Edge	The aim of the Careers EDGE programme is to support the employability and progression of people with a history of substance misuse. This group-based training programme runs 2-3 times annually for 12 weeks and covers personal & professional communication, employability modules and work experience placement.
Community Development	Support for local people and community groups to come together and take collective action to address community challenges, promote social inclusion and enhance life for all residents of the area.
Cherry Orchard Community Garden	The Cherry Orchard Community Garden provides an area of horticultural development and recreation for residents in the area of Cherry Orchard and is an inclusive space in a social and therapeutic setting.
Empowering Communities	The Empowering Communities Project works in Cherry Orchard to empower local communities to craft their own response to area based poverty, social exclusion and the resulting consequences.

Financial Summary 2023



	2023	2022
Income		
Grants from government and co-funders	6,441,657	5,639,779
Expenditure		
Charitable Activities	5,799,645	5,430,256
Net Income	642,012	209,523
Fixed Assets	17,721	21,594
Current Assets	3,594,446	2,656,972
Total Assets	3,612,167	2,678,566
Total Liabilities	2,505,897	2,214,308
Net Assets	1,106,270	464,258

COMING IN 2024

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PARTNERSHIP

2023

Annual Report



Ballyfermot
Chapelizod
Partnership

'Building an inclusive community'



EUROPEAN UNION
Investing in your future
European Social Fund



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive



Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland



Sláintecare.
Healthy
Communities

TÚSLA

An Ghníomhaireacht um
Leanaí agus an Teaghlach
Child and Family Agency



An Roinn Coimirce Sóisialaí
Department of Social Protection



Comhairle Cathrach
Bhaile Átha Cliath
Dublin City Council



Seirbhísí Fostaíochta
Employment Services

