




Galway City Partnership  
Comhpháirtíocht Chathair na Gaillimhe  
a tide for change  
an taoide ag casadh


GALWAY CITY PARTNERSHIP


# ANNUAL REPORT 2023



Supporting communities in Galway city

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Galway City Partnership is a local and community development company working in Galway City. We have been in existence since 1996 and our aim is to tackle disadvantage and social exclusion – and focus particularly on helping those who are long term unemployed.

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Company Registration No: 258847

CHY No: 13937

Registered Charity No: 20044688

# A WORD FROM OUR CHAIRPERSON



Last year was again a very successful year for Galway City Partnership with being able to secure the bid for the SICAP programme, new programmes with Workability, Social Prescribing and continuing with the various programmes that we support along with some new ones. Linda has highlighted these in her report, so I won't duplicate that.

The year also brought challenges with responding to the increased number of international protection applications and our staff have again been supportive at short notice in dealing with this and new initiatives rolled out by the Government.

This report provides a great insight into the large and diverse work that the staff of Galway City Partnership do in Galway City. Our goals and values underpin all that we do and a commitment to Community Practice values is key to all our work.

Working with other bodies we continue to be the go-to company for dealing with disadvantage and social exclusion in Galway City.

However, none of this would be possible without the great and dedicated staff that we have in all sections within Galway City Partnership led by our CEO Linda. Their commitment to our target groups and to those suffering social disadvantage and exclusion is second to none. I have heard nothing but praise about our staff from those that I have met at meetings or events I have attended, and I am most definitely proud to be chairperson such a fantastic organisation. Our staff have risen to all challenges and were exceptional in providing support where needed.

Activities organised by staff in Galway City Partnership have attracted excellent reviews and praise for their professional delivery.

In the background we are supported by a great voluntary Board of Directors and Audit committee who ensure that we are compliant with all that is required of a company such as ours. I would really like to thank them for their support to me as Chairperson, Linda as CEO and to the staff. I know that the Board are proud of the work that the staff do and greatly appreciate when we receive reports in person from staff teams. The Board are proud to say that we take on board the input from staff in our deliberations at board level. I would also personally like to thank Linda for all of her support to me and the Board during the past year.

Going forward, we know what our goals are, but the uncertainty of what new challenges that await us are the unknown that we will have to deal with them as they arise. I am sure that Linda and the team will respond to the best of their ability in rising to the challenge.

As Linda says in her report everyone we deal with has a personal story, a journey or set of achievements which have been supported by the staff in Galway City Partnership. Sometimes it is just someone to listen makes that difference and through all of our programmes this support has been made possible.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our colleagues in Galway City Council, the Galway City Local Community Development Committee, and all our other funders for their support in ensuring resources were available to support the communities in Galway City.



Tommy Flaerty  
Chairperson of Board



# CHIEF EXECUTIVE STATEMENT



Our 2023 Galway City Partnership Annual Report provides us with an opportunity to highlight the work we have carried out across all our programmes.

Galway City Partnership manages ten publicly funded programmes on behalf of a range of Government Departments, Galway City Local Community Development Committee, and state agencies. In 2023, we met our performance targets set out in each of these contracts.

Several important developments occurred over the year. We secured the tender for the delivery of a new SICAP Programme, Workability, Social Prescribing, HSE/genio funded peer support programme and Tusla funded Family Support Programme for International Protection Applicants.

I want to thank our staff teams who remained resilient and focused ensuring we delivered our programmes and remained committed to serving the communities in the City and now also in County with the delivery of the Local Area Employment Service and the Asylum Migration Integration Fund.

A commitment to community development is a fundamental principle of Galway City Partnership. The delivery of the Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme (SICAP), the continuation of a community-based Local Employment Service model/ Local Area Employment Service, and ongoing supports provided to community groups highlights the commitment of the staff, managers and the Board to community development principles.

The Partnership continued to work strategically at local, regional and national level on issues impacting on social inclusion. By participating in the

Irish Local Development Network, supporting local and national research initiatives and responding to calls for local feedback on policy issues, the Partnership sought to ensure that local experience was reflected in developing national responses.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my colleagues for their commitment to delivering our programmes to the highest standards possible and playing their part in ensuring that 2023 was a successful year for the company, and for the clients and communities that we work with.

*Linda Sice Brogan*  
Linda Sice Brogan

# About Our Organisation

# WHO WE ARE

## A community development organisation



Galway City Partnership (GCP) is a company limited by guarantee and a registered charity. It was established in 1996 with a mission to:

- **tackle disadvantage and social exclusion**, with a particular emphasis on those currently or in danger of becoming long-term unemployed and to
- **enhance our target groups' capacity** to contribute fully to their own and their communities sustainable development.

Our goal is to deliver the highest level of services to our end users. We encourage best practice corporate governance and have recently commenced our own review on best practice.

We undertake to maintain a strong code of governance and uphold and maintain compliance with the Charities Governance Code together with other Regulations & Codes from external stakeholders.



# OUR SERVICES

LAES

SICAP

TÚS

Youth  
Advocacy  
Service

BRIDGE

Social  
Prescribing

Healthy  
Ireland Fund

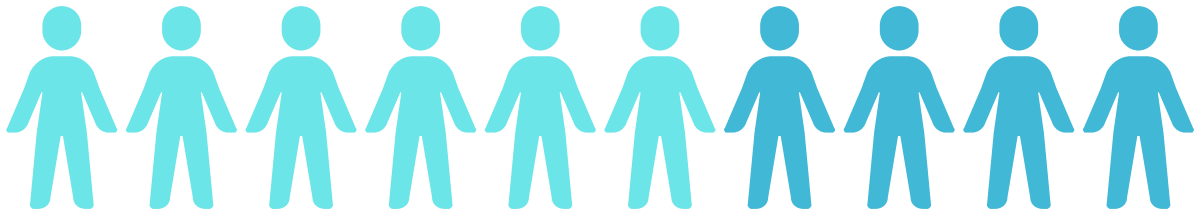
Inclusive  
Pathways

Gold Star

HSE Social  
Inclusion



# OUR DIRECTORS



**Tommy Flaherty**, Chairperson, GCCN Community & Voluntary Sector

**Paul Shelly**, Treasurer, The Chamber of Commerce- Social Partners

**Davnet McEllin**, Director, GRETB

**Val Coakley**, Director, Trade Unions- Social Partners

**Morgan Mee**, Director, CYPSC/Statutory Sector

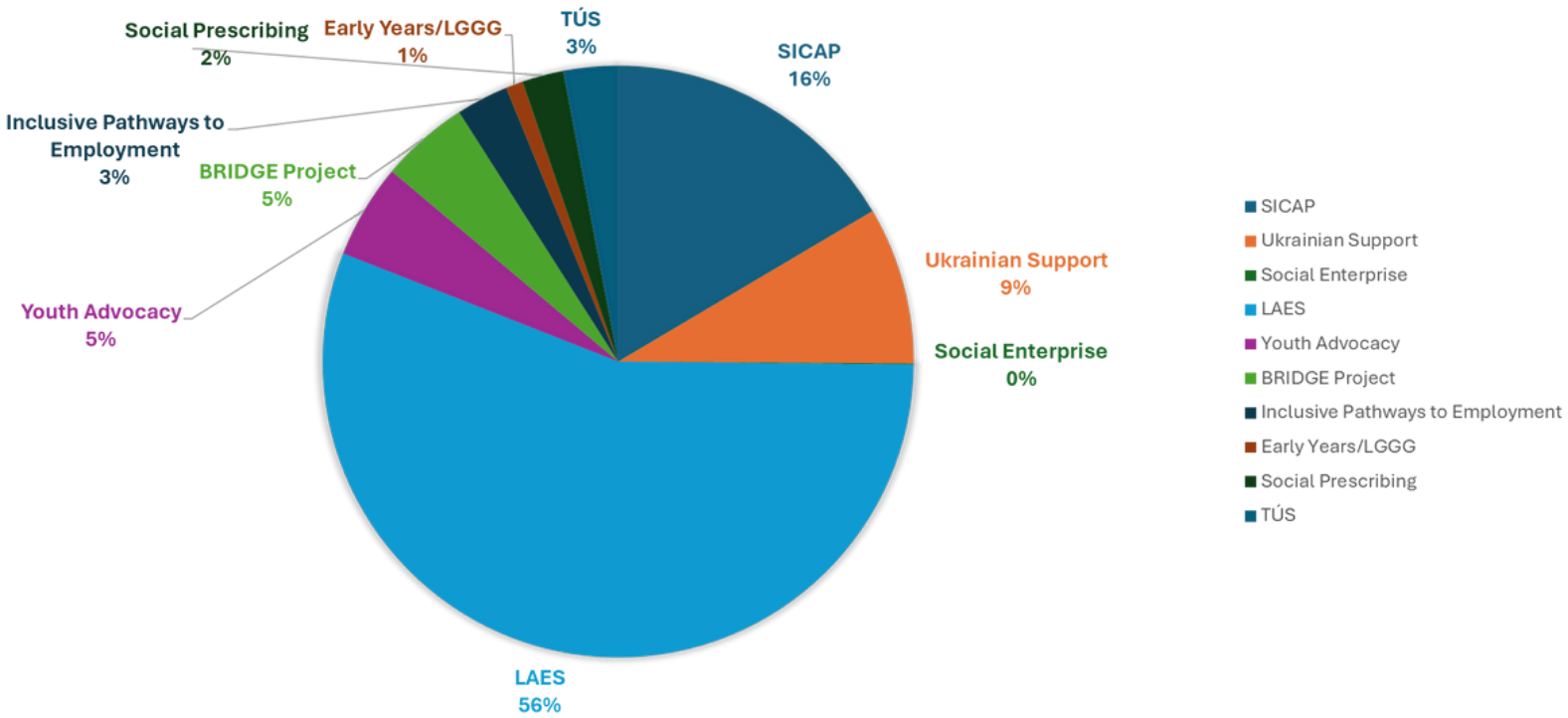
**Marian Maloney**, Director, GCCN Community & Voluntary Sector

**Brendan Mulligan**, Director, GCCN Community & Voluntary Sector

**Martin O'Connor**, Director, GCCN Community & Voluntary Sector

**Ann Marie Stokes**, Director, Ballinfoile Community

# 2023 INCOME



# **Supporting Communities**

# SICAP

## GOAL 1

## SUPPORTING COMMUNITIES



**NAME OF PROGRAMME**  
Social Inclusion and Community  
Activation Programme 2018-2023



**FUNDING DEPARTMENT**  
Department of Rural and  
Community Development &  
European Social Fund



**FUNDS RECEIVED**  
GOAL 1 €20,444

The Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme (SICAP) 2018 – 2023 provides funding to tackle poverty and social exclusion through local engagement and partnerships between disadvantaged individuals, community organisations and public sector agencies. The Programme is structured over two goals: Goal 1: Supporting Communities and Goal 2: Supporting Individuals.

- **Local Community Groups** (LCGs) across target areas of Westside, Ballybane and Ballinfoile were supported.
- **12 LCGs** were supported under the **Community Engagement Action**
- **35 LCGs** were supported under the **Supporting Communities Action**
- **10 LCGs** supported under the **Community Participation and Collaboration Action**
- The team attended & contributed to **social inclusion focused committees** such as the LCDC, Healthy Ireland Steering Committee, Age Friendly Committee, Child and Family Supports Networks, Galway City Alcohol Forum, Planet Youth and the Western Region Drug & Alcohol Task Force.
- The team developed a **Case Study** on SICAP's role on the Community Response to Domestic Abuse Western Region Network.

# SICAP

## SUPPORTING COMMUNITIES Success Stories

A sample of some groups which have been supported by the CD Team on a weekly basis throughout the year.

### PARENTS OF TEENAGERS COMMUNITY WELLBEING GROUP

The Parents of Teenagers Community Wellbeing Group was established in January 2023 as an initiative from some parents in the Ballinfoile community who identified the need for support for the wellbeing of parents of teenagers. There are 14 people in the group who meet regularly. The group completed yoga workshops, Women's Wellness and strength and conditioning classes. They also attended two workshops from the youth mental health organisation, Jigsaw. They have developed different tools to improve their well-being and above all they have created a network of parents who support each other in their local community.

### PAVEE BEOIRS

Pavee Beoirs is a new Traveller Women's Group based in Ballybane. They formed in February and range in age from 18 to 68! They have focused on developing together as a group, making friendships and rebuilding links between some families in the community. They sourced funding from the National Lottery to support their activities.



### UNITED WOMEN

United Women are a community group of women living in direct provision. In 2023 they were supported to participate in numerous community activities including music and dancing at the St. Patrick's Day Parade, preparation & participation in the Westside Christmas market, cooking for the Westside Cultural Café and Westside Welcomes All events. In June, the group were awarded a Mayor's Social Inclusion Award. Members of the group reported to the CD worker that being part of United Women was hugely empowering and had positively impacted relationships with their centre managers.





# SICAP

## UKRAINIAN SUPPORT



NAME OF PROGRAMME  
Ukrainian Response Team



FUNDING DEPARTMENT  
SICAP and Galway City  
Council / DCEDIY



FUNDS RECEIVED  
€227,239

- **20 information and support workshops** in English and Ukrainian were delivered to **86 adults** in collaboration with key actors in Galway City (HSE Social Inclusion, Red Cross, IOM, Youth Work Ireland, Tusla, CYPSC, Galway City Council, No.4 Youth Service, Resource and Community Centres across the city, Galway Volunteer Centre, Galway City Museum, Bridge Project, Tus).
- **Individual supports for 40 individuals** included Employability, Education, Children, Wellbeing and Community Participation (Safe Pass, Manual Handling, Barista, CV Support, Cairde Wellbeing Supports, Community Interpreter Training, Music Therapy for older adults, Lego workshops for children. **141 children** were supported with summer provision and after-school activities.
- The service had a **drop-in** rate of on average about **10-15 individuals per week** and provided summer provision and after-school activities for **141 children**.
- **4 Ukrainian Community Groups** were supported on an ongoing basis with advice, material support, advocacy and referrals. The groups supported were: Kalyna, Harmony Choir, UHUG and UA Miriya.
- The Ukrainian community in Galway city was supported to participate in a number of **initiatives promoting social inclusion and integration** such as International Women's Day, St. Patrick's Day, Intercultural Awareness Week and the Westside Arts Festival.
- Ukrainians were supported with **English Language Provision** in GCP's English language classes for all.

# SICAP

## UKRAINIAN SUPPORT

### Success Story



The Ukrainian Response Team supported the Ukrainian community in Galway City throughout 2023 to facilitate participation and support social inclusion and integration. As it was the second year of the Ukrainian crisis, the type of response changed from emergency and reactionary to more considered and developed supports for integration. The team worked closely with a broad range of actors and groups across Galway City to provide training, education, events, programmes and supports to the Ukrainian community which consisted of an average of about 1,250 individuals throughout 2023.

We worked with a strong emphasis on providing clear and accessible information and linking individuals and groups into existing services and initiatives in Galway City to encourage inclusion and participation of new communities in established Galway communities. The team was in constant consultation with the Ukrainian community learning from their experiences and adapting programmes and provision to changing circumstances as needed.



## SOCIAL ENTERPRISE

- **10 Social Enterprises** were supported during 2023.
- A focus has been on **developing links with potential new social enterprises** in the area of disability, Link Café, and a local Community Centre, St Joseph's Community Centre.
- All **four Community Service Programmes** registered with GCP through SICAP had their funding renewed with DRCD.
- The Social Enterprise Worker supported a number of existing and potential Social Enterprises to work towards applying for new rounds of targeted **CSP funding**.
- The Social Enterprise Worker provided information and guidance to Social Enterprises on **Rethink Irelands Entrepreneurship Impact Fund**, strand 1 of which aims to support mid-stage and mature social innovations to achieve higher levels of impact by scaling their innovations and reaching the next stage of growth.



# SICAP

## SOCIAL ENTERPRISE

### Success Story

During the year GCP supported a number of Social Enterprises with small grants to support their development. Two examples of SEs supported are Venture Out and Westside Age Inclusion.

A conference took place in May which was hosted by HelpLink and Venture Out on procurement and supported by GCP.

GCP has a strong focus through the SEW in supporting ethnic minorities. This is in existing social enterprises and emerging social enterprises. A strong recognition exists of the double disadvantages that these groups experience. United Women has received considerable support in participating in Rethink Start A Social Enterprise Course from GCP SEW.



The Social Enterprise worker continues to build an awareness of Social Enterprise through a variety of means. At a stakeholder level, communication continues to flow with Galway City Council Economic Unit.

Mail shots and individual communication with social enterprises takes place on a regular basis and where necessary follow up takes place with the general population, existing social enterprises and emerging social enterprises. This is through social media platforms, GCP website and print media.

# Supporting Individuals



# SICAP

## GOAL 2

## SUPPORTING INDIVIDUALS



**NAME OF PROGRAMME**  
Social Inclusion and Community  
Activation Programme 2018-2023  
(SICAP)



**FUNDING DEPARTMENT**  
Department of Rural and Community  
Development & European Social Fund



**FUNDS RECEIVED**  
Goal 2 €416,073.00

- Goal 2 **exceeded its Annual Key Performance Target by 22%** in 2023.
- **58% were newly registered individuals**, an increase of 26% on the previous year. All of the target groups of the SICAP programme are represented in these figures.
- **86%** of the **540 individuals** engaged with the programme self identified as having **two or more Social Inclusion barriers**.
- The individuals supported received a range of **employment, capacity building and advocacy supports**
- **229** beneficiaries completed SICAP funded **Lifelong Learning courses**.
- Supports to DEIS primary and post-primary schools across the city reached **2220 children and young people**. Schools benefited from a range of supports both in-school and in their local community, with a range of activities and programmes to support their welfare, wellbeing and opportunities in education.
- There was a **fivefold increase in the number of Direct Provision Centres** in the city, which generated a significantly increased volume of calls for assistance with applications for asylum, residency, work permits, family reunification etc.
- Members of the Goal 2 SICAP team saw a highly significant increase in individuals seeking assistance with **housing and homeless issues**.

# SICAP

## SUPPORTING INDIVIDUALS

### Success Story



In 2023 GCP provided holistic wrap-around supports to Galway Boxing Club. The club has 105 members ranging in age from 3 to 56 and is a long-established part of the community in an area of specified disadvantage on the westside of the city.

We have, in collaboration with the Galway Sports Partnership, facilitated and supported Child-Protection Safeguarding Training for coaches and volunteers. Assistance was provided for local and national grant funding applications (including support to Titans Boxing Club and Olympic Boxing Club), Child Protection and Safeguarding courses and the development of publicity and promotion of the club Equality Framework. This work contributes significantly to the group and helps to ensure the sustainability of the Boxing Club which is a vital contributor to the health and wellbeing of its community.

Further collaboration included the Irish Amateur Boxing Association, and volunteers from the Travelling Community and Galway Boxing Club.

This focussed and intensive piece of work has brought many dividends for both beneficiaries within the community and ourselves as Programme Implementers. These dividends include capacity building, enhanced wellbeing and confidence for providers and participants of the Boxing Club and the wider community and has significantly contributed towards improving trust and partnership between all.



# LOCAL AREA EMPLOYMENT SERVICE



NAME OF PROGRAMME  
Local Area Employment  
Service



FUNDING DEPARTMENT  
Department of Social  
Protection



FUNDS RECEIVED  
€1,475,409

The Local Area Employment Service works with clients that are referred by the Department of Social Protection. It offers a client-centred guidance service to support long term unemployed clients into work, training, self-employment or options that would best suit their circumstances.

Our **staffing levels increased greatly** over the year, with **16 Employment Guidance Officers** covering the entire county. Our main city location is Bohermore, with outreach offices in Westside and Ballybane. In the county, our main office is in Ballinasloe, with outreach offices in Tuam, Gort, Loughrea and Portumna.

In August this year we reached the end of our first year of the new contract, where we **moved to a payment by result model** and expanded the delivery of the service to encompass the entire county, as well as continued services in the city.

We ensured **delivery of our service through the Irish language** in the Connemara area.

From January – December 2023 a total of **9,108 client meetings** were scheduled and facilitated by the Employment Guidance Officers throughout Galway City and County.

Between Sept 2022 and Sept 2023 (LAES calendar year) we had **1232 clients referred** by DSP. 1026 (82%) clients attended Initial Guidance Interviews. 916 (89%) clients completed a Personal Progression Plan.

# LOCAL AREA



# EMPLOYMENT SERVICE

## Success Story



Olga was referred to the LAES from the Department of Social Protection. Having worked closely with her Guidance Officer on her Personal Progression Plan, she identified Health & Beauty as her area of interest. Olga's barriers were her lack of skills in this area, and her lack of knowledge of what supports were available to her.

Through providing funding from the LAES Client Training Fund, Olga was able to participate and complete the relevant courses to qualify her as a Beautician, she also participated in Start Your Own Business (SYOB) Training.

Olga was then referred by her Guidance Officer to the Galway City Partnership Enterprise Officer where

she was assisted with writing a business plan, the Enterprise Officer recommended Olga for the Back to Work Enterprise Allowance and referred her to the DSP to apply for this scheme.

Olga was approved for the BTWEA and is now running her own Beauty Outlet.

Through receiving a wraparound service and utilising a number of programs under the Galway City Partnership, Olga overcame her barriers and was supported towards her chosen career path.





# YOUTH ADVOCACY SERVICE



NAME OF PROGRAMME  
Youth Advocacy Project



FUNDING DEPARTMENT  
GRET B



FUNDS RECEIVED  
€136,353

The Galway City Youth Advocacy Service (YAS) is a community based career guidance service for educationally disadvantaged and unemployed young people. The service works primarily with young people who have left school early or who have few or no qualifications and/or unemployed young people. The service operates within the “non-formal and informal sector” (Youth Work) and networks primarily with youth organisations, training centres and within the school sector.

➤ In 2023 the Youth Advocacy Service worked with a total of **177 clients**.

➤ The ratio of male to female clients has changed very little throughout the existence of the service, which has roughly been 2:1 - **two-thirds male 61% to one-third female 37%**. This year **2%** of the young people engaging with the service **chose not to specify their gender** as their gender identity does not correspond with the sex assigned to them at birth.

➤ The number of young people in the **Traveller community** who engaged with the service **increased from roughly 33% to 45%** which signifies a large portion of our clients.

➤ The staff supported **6 migrant young people** totalling 3% of the caseload. The **settled Irish community** accessing the service was **52%**.

➤ **23%** of clients live in the Ballybane area .

➤ The education profile of clients has greatly improved since the service was established in 2002. Of the young people who engaged with the service in 2002, 54% had no formal education qualifications. The total number of **clients with qualifications** in 2023 was **56%**.



# YOUTH ADVOCACY SERVICE

## Success Story



John (then aged 15) was initially referred to the Youth Advocacy Service (YAS) by the Education Welfare Officer (EWO) who had - prior to the referral - taken John's parents to court for failing to ensure that he regularly attended his secondary school. John had attended no secondary school whatsoever during the Junior Certificate cycle and had therefore been out of formal education for 3 years on his referral to the YAS. Prior to this, he had also struggled in primary school and found it very hard.

Isolation at home, because of lack of school attendance, was also beginning to impact on his mental health.

The Youth Advocacy Worker took the referral for John from the EWO and working in partnership with his parents, the EWO and a range of local support agencies developed an Individual Action Plan (IAP) with him.

As a result of the interventions put in place by the Youth Advocate, John now has a much-improved relationship with the education and training system. He is building far greater resilience and an improved capacity to overcome real or perceived barriers to learning such as various complex personal/family issues.

On turning 16, John opted to transfer to the full-time (2 year) Horticulture (QQI Level 3) course in the Galway City Community Training Centre (CTC) where he is currently based. John's attendance and timekeeping are both consistently good and he is reported to be participating well in classwork.

John's long-term career plan now includes an ambition to progress onto an apprenticeship or onto a suitable pre-apprenticeship PLC course in one of Galway City's FE colleges.

# THE BRIDGE PROJECT



**NAME OF PROGRAMME**  
The BRIDGE Project



**FUNDING DEPARTMENT**  
AMIF & Department of  
Children, Equality, Disability,  
Integration and Youth



**Funds Received**  
€128,013

The BRIDGE project seeks to promote the effective delivery of reception and integration supports (including advocacy and capacity building interventions) to asylum seekers and third country nationals living in Galway city and county. The project is coordinated by Galway City Partnership and funded under the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF).

- The BRIDGE Project provided services to **15 Direct Provision Centres in Galway city** and **4 centres in Galway county**, reaching a total of **1,271 individuals**.
- BRIDGE created **fifteen WhatsApp groups**, involving 459 individuals across 15 centres, act as active communication channels, to share important information about information sessions, weekly events and initiatives in the city.
- BRIDGE joined a **stakeholder network** initiated by GCP, involving organizations that work with IP Applicants in Galway City and County, such as GCC, GRD, GCP (SICAP, Ukrainian Response, Migrant Support Service), Croi Na Gaillimhe, Jesuit Refugee Service, DePaul, ARD Family Resource Centre, No 4 Youth, Youth Work Ireland, and Galway Volunteer Centre. The Network aims to map local services, identify gaps, and explore collaboration opportunities.
- BRIDGE assisted in the **Launch of the Race Equality Framework and Action Plan** of the University of Galway.
- BRIDGE met with the Employer Liaison Officer of INTREO and collaborated on **10 JobPlus registration events** in the DP Centres.

# THE BRIDGE PROJECT

## Success Story

A brief sample of health, sport, education and training workshops which have been supported by the Project throughout the year:



### HEALTH

The Project supported 10 females living in DP Accommodation Centres who come from traumatic situations and suffer from Post Traumatic Stress Disorder to participate in Art for Wellbeing program. Additionally, the Project supported 3 WalktheTalk events, which had a total of 30 participants.

### SPORT

The Project funded hall rental to cricket practice for 10-15 players group that attended weekly at Ballybane Community Resource Centre. Also, the Project organized Sports Hub event in collaboration with Sanctuary Runners/Swimmers, Merlin Cricket Club, Galway Sports Partnership and GCP Community Development officer resulted in 36 individuals attended.



### EDUCATION

BRIDGE, in partnership with Healthy Galway and HSE, organized two Healthy Food Made Easy courses at Ballybrit Accommodation Centre, involving 18 participants. Moreover, a collaboration with Croí na Gaillimhe to deliver Homework Clubs in the Eglinton (21 children) 4 afternoons a week and 2 afternoons a week in the Dominick Street Apartments (14 children) comprising a total of 35 children.

### TRAINING

BRIDGE Project and the organisation of Safe Pass courses organised a Safe Pass training in Arabic for 61 participants and English for 40 participants from different DP Accommodation Centres.



# INCLUSIVE PATHWAYS TO EMPLOYMENT



NAME OF PROGRAMME  
Inclusive Pathways to  
Employment



FUNDING DEPARTMENT  
Pobal, Dormant Accounts  
Fund



FUNDS RECEIVED  
€75,429

The Inclusive Pathways to Employment programme offers a specialist support service to individuals experiencing physical, sensory or emotional barriers to employment and promotes the increased participation of people with disabilities in employment and training. The programme provides one-to-one mentoring, skills training and development, CV preparation, guidance and information.

- **31 employers engaged** to create opportunities, establish good practices, and promote accessible, supportive workplaces for People with Disabilities, including facilitating disability awareness training and completing accessible audits to enhance the working environment.
- **13 employers provided employment** for People with Disabilities all on a part time basis. 6 employers provided work experience opportunities for People with Disabilities on a flexible hours basis, aimed at suiting the individual's needs.
- **8 employers improved supports** for People with Disabilities to stay in or return to work.
- **10 People with Disabilities completed non-accredited training courses**, including Manual Handling training that was facilitated by a sign interpreter to support participants from the Ukrainian deaf community.
- **32 participants engaged with the programme** to enhance their readiness to enter work or volunteering opportunities, including soft skills training, completing their CV and interview preparation.

# INCLUSIVE PATHWAYS TO EMPLOYMENT

## Success Story

A large public information event was held in September, attended by programme participants, representatives from local businesses, Galway Chamber, Intreo, GCP staff and the Mayor of Galway. The CEO's of GCP, Galway Chamber and the Mayor all recognised the important contributions that the programme has made to people with disabilities in Galway and to raise awareness of the need for more inclusive workplaces. A representative from Intreo provided information on the benefits available to employers to support people with disabilities and two representatives from local businesses talked enthusiastically about the positive impact of employing people with disabilities.

The highlight of the event came from participants in the programme, sharing their insights and positive stories on what it has meant for them to have access to training and employment opportunities. They shared how it has improved their lives, given them a sense of purpose and their stories had a powerful impact on everyone present.



2023 also saw the programme receive national recognition with an award for Most Innovative Project from Chambers Ireland. The programme was also successful in their application for the new WorkAbility: Inclusive Pathways to Employment Programme, enabling the great work to continue for the next 5 years.





# SICAP

## EARLY YEARS & LET'S GET GALWAY GROWING



NAME OF PROGRAMME  
Early Years &  
Let's Get Galway Growing



FUNDING DEPARTMENT  
HSE Section 39 Grants



FUNDS RECEIVED  
€25,000

### LET'S GET GALWAY GROWING

- **9 community gardens** were supported with **grant aid** ranging from €600 to €1200.
- **4 Let's Get Galway Growing Network meetings** were held.
- A variety of **workshops** were held including Willow Weaving, Polytunnel Training, Willow Bird Feeder workshops and Use of Herbs for Aromatherapy with attendance from most community gardens in the city.



### EARLY YEARS

- **4 Online Baby Weaning workshops** were delivered, with over 50 people in attendance on average at each one.
- **3 First Aid workshops** were organised and coordinated throughout the year with Ballinfoile Parent & Toddler Group, the Westside Teen Parents Project and the Doughiska Parent & Toddler Group all taking part.

Please Note our NEW Dates below!



**Weaning Workshop**

Advice on how to start including solid food in your baby's diet while continuing to milk feed.

Free Online Weaning Workshops with HSE Community Nutrition and Dietetics Service.

06 June 2023 from 11.00am to 1pm	Workshops are FREE but registration is essential.
27 Sept 2023 from 11.00am to 1pm	Please let us know your baby's first name and date of birth: <a href="mailto:info@gcp.ie">info@gcp.ie</a>
29 Nov 2023 from 11.00am to 1pm	

If you cannot attend our Galway sessions, see details of similar free monthly online workshops: [www.sicap.ie/online-workshops](http://www.sicap.ie/online-workshops)

HSE HSE.ie | Tusla | CYPSC

# SICAP

## EARLY YEARS & LET'S GET GALWAY GROWING

### Success Story



**EARLY YEARS:** Three Active Play Programmes, totalling nine individual workshops were run with a key focus on targeting parents and children from Direct Provision Accommodation Centres and received very positive feedback from parents and staff. A positive relationship was built with Music Generation, Galway City Libraries & GRETB Youth Creative Communities Around Early Years.

**LET'S GET GALWAY GROWING:** Community Garden events - Merlin Woods Community Garden organised a Picnic for the Ukrainian Community. Westside Community Garden & Ballybane Community Gardens held Open Days which were attended by all the member groups of the Network as well as many people from the local communities. A map of the community gardens was developed and promoted widely across the city. This has been received with great acclaim and are visible in the libraries, community centres and other public spaces in the city.



# SOCIAL PRESCRIBING



NAME OF PROGRAMME  
Social Prescribing



FUNDING DEPARTMENT  
HSE



FUNDS RECEIVED  
€60,000

Social prescribing is a service aimed at adults who may experience social isolation and loneliness such as older age groups, people with chronic health problems and people with mental health difficulties and psychosocial needs. This service is funded by the HSE and administered by Galway City Partnership. The Social Prescribing Coordinator works with individuals on a short-term basis to support them to transition to the local supports & or activities they may need. This new service began in April 2023 in Galway City Partnership.

- **Funding** for a Social Prescribing project in Galway City was **secured** and a Social Prescribing Coordinator was recruited in April.
- The service was **advertised and promoted** across social media channels, through other agencies and GP services.
- Promotional materials such as photo props, notebooks and other items for **Social Prescribing packs** for participants were purchased.
- **6 'Thoughtful Tuesdays' workshops** were held as a way to engage the community with the Social Prescribing Service.

# SOCIAL PRESCRIBING

## Success Story

A 'Thoughtful Tuesdays' series of 6 workshops took place in Galway City Library to raise awareness about Galway City Social Prescribing Service and Healthy Ireland as well as GCP community activities and to facilitate drop in access to Social Prescribing.

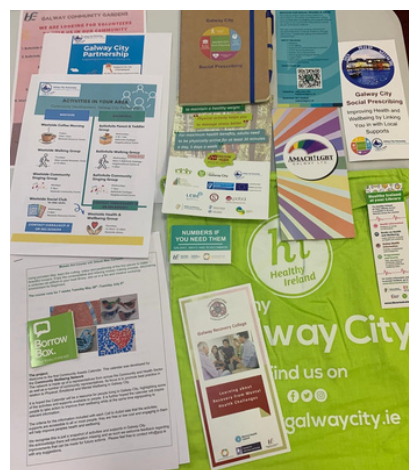
**Week 1-3: Scrapbooking** & discussion on the different activities and supports available locally.

**Week 4: Physical Activity.** Games with Galway City Sports Partnership & discussion on the different activities focusing on exercise and the work of the sports partnership & how they can help.

**Week 5: Music Therapy.** A session with Galway Music Therapy an introduction to music therapy and how it can help.

**Week 6: Healthy Eating.** A coffee morning with a discussion on healthy eating facilitated by nutritionist Tara Canning.

Over the 6 weeks 17 people participated.



# Schemes



Tús is a community work placement initiative providing short-term work opportunities for long-term jobseekers. The work experience is provided by community, voluntary and not-for-profit organisations in both urban and rural areas. The Tús initiative is managed by local development companies and Údarás na Gaeltachta for the Department of Social Protection (DSP), which has overall responsibility for the scheme. Participants work 19 ½ hours a week and the placements last for 12 months.

- At **91**, the number of Tús referrals from the DSP was the lowest received in the 12 years since Tús commenced in 2011.
- Despite the low referral number, **46 new Tús placements** were created. These included self-referral placements which supported Refugees, individuals in receipt of Disability Allowance as well as others who expressed interest and were eligible.
- Tús continued to support a wide variety of community organisations with **31 groups assisted**. These included charity shops, disability and counselling services, community radio and gardens, sporting groups, GCP and other community, voluntary and not-for-profit organisations.
- **118 Tús participants** were supported by 3 Team Leaders.
- In recognition of the challenges presented by full employment, the DSP allowed **six-month contract extensions** (from 12 to 18 months) to **30% of participants**. In almost all cases, participants accepted the offer which is testimony to both the quality of service provided and participant desire to remain in employment.



# TÚS

## Success Story



**A Shore Thing** is a group which aims to promote both **environmental awareness and social inclusion**. Participants from many different countries and backgrounds operate individually and as a group to **survey and record information** regarding biodiversity in Galway, **clean up beaches and shore areas** and learn to communicate and create a community.

In 2023 members of the group, including **participants from different countries** (such as Ireland, Ukraine, Russia, Poland, Kenya and Eritrea) and of **different abilities** met regularly to conduct surveys and cleanups and talk to each other.

The group has participated in the **Biodiversity Ireland Citizen Science Portal** (training and uploading over 200 records to the database), the **European Coastwatch Survey** (including having the survey document translated into Ukrainian), a

**European Microplastics Survey** and various rubbish cleanups all the while fostering a sense of inclusion, community, and achievement within the group.

There is a focus on **supporting each member to achieve their goals** as each member has their own strengths and challenges including physical, neurological (e.g. mobility, deafness, autism) and situational (e.g. refugees, housing insecurity). Initiatives to support members in the group included **workshops** with a holistic approach to dealing with stress and general health. The team also plans to roll out Irish Sign Language (ISL) training. Where possible, individuals within the group are empowered to coordinate and facilitate these initiatives with the aim of **increasing knowledge and support** within the group and in the wider community.



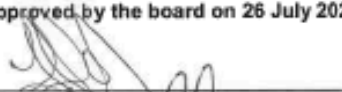
**Finance**


# FINANCIAL STATEMENT 2023

## Galway City Partnership CLG BALANCE SHEET as at 31 December 2023

	Notes	2023 €	2022 €
<b>Fixed Assets</b>			
Tangible assets	10	<u>1,227,774</u>	<u>903,460</u>
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Debtors	11	372,605	13,807
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>1,127,904</u>	<u>968,589</u>
		<b>1,500,509</b>	<b>982,396</b>
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	13	<u>(936,344)</u>	<u>(1,053,923)</u>
<b>Net Current Assets/(Liabilities)</b>		<u>564,165</u>	<u>(71,527)</u>
<b>Total Assets less Current Liabilities</b>		<b>1,791,939</b>	<b>831,933</b>
<b>Creditors:</b>			
amounts falling due after more than one year	14	-	(68,648)
capital grants	17	<u>(234,122)</u>	<u>(188,265)</u>
<b>Net Assets</b>		<u><b>1,557,817</b></u>	<u><b>575,020</b></u>
<b>Reserves</b>			
Revaluation reserve		303,334	-
Income and expenditure account		<u>1,254,483</u>	<u>575,020</u>
<b>Total Funds</b>		<u><b>1,557,817</b></u>	<u><b>575,020</b></u>

Approved by the board on 26 July 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Tommy Flaherty  
Director

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Morgan Mee  
Director



# FUNDERS AND PARTNERS

## Grants and State Funding Received During the Year

State Department	Grant Agency	Type of Funding	2023	2022
			€	€
Department of Social Protection	Pobal	Community Work Placement - TUS	78,748	112,232
Department of Children Equality, Disability Integration, and Youth (DCEDIY)	Department of Children Equality, Disability Integration, and Youth (DCEDIY)	Asylum Migrationa Integration Fund	128,013	71,250
Department of Education	Galway Roscommon Education and Training Board	Youth Advocacy Service	136,353	135,035
Department of Education	Galway Roscommon Education and Training Board	Community Grants	12,511	1,000
SOLAS	SOLAS	ALL Collaboration	38,696	
TASC Research Limited	TASC	Money Management	10,500	
Department of Health	HSE	HSE Roma/Migrant	64,997	
Department of Health	HSE	HSE Social Prescribing	28,525	
Department of Health	HSE	Ukrainian Funds	21,645	64,795
Dormant Accounts Fund	Pobal	Pathways to Employment	75,429	52,078
Dormant Accounts Fund	Pobal	ARISE Funds (Social Enterprise)		10,000
Department of Health	HSE -through Pobal	Healthy Ireland		297
Department of Health	Galway City Council	Healthy Ireland	10,095	28,677
Department of Health	Tusla	Youth Workers Ballinfoile	26,577	
Department of Health	Tusla	Family Support Practitioner	29,771	
Department of Health	HSE	Early Childhood Supports	15,000	15,000
Department of Health	HSE	Lets Get Galway Growing	10,000	10,000

# FUNDERS AND PARTNERS

State Department	Grant Agency	Type of Funding	2023	2022
			€	€
Department of Health	HSE	HFME (Healthy Food Made Easy)	10,000	
Department of Health	HSE	HSE Mental Health	3,570	
Department of Health	Positive Mental Health	Mental Health	42	
Department of Health	HSE	Health & Wellbeing (Covid Grant)	1,000	
Department of Environment	Pobal	Energy Grant	3,679	
Department of Rural & Community Devlp / Pobal	Galway City Council	Ukrainian Funds Support	186,939	170,453
Department of Rural & Community Devlp / Pobal	Galway City Council	SICAP Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme	602,884	822,966
Department of Rural & Community Devlp / Pobal	Galway City Council	VAT refund scheme	13,510	9,050
Older Persons Council	Galway City Council	Older Persons	7,008	
Dept. Housing & L.G.	Galway City Council	Ukrainian Funds Support	50,125	39,411
Galway City Council	Galway City Council	Access Together Project (Participation & Awareness Raising)		36,000
Galway City Council	Galway City Council Supporting Literacy	Supporting Literacy (English Classes)	5,000	
Galway City Council	Galway City Council Community (LCDC)	Community Van Fund	50,500	
Department of Social Protection	Employment Services	Local Employment Service Network - Employment & Training	1,475,409	1,094,747
	Community Programme / Grants	Community Grants	8,091	46,806
National Lottery Funding	HSE	Community Grants	5,000	
	Croi Na Gaillimhe (St Vincent de Paul)	AMIF 2 match funds		5,000
	St Vincent de Paul	Ballybane Afterschools	5,000	
	Tusla	Ballybane Afterschools	5,318	5,400
	Tusla	AMIF 2 match funds	5,318	5,000
	NUIG	AMIF 2 match funds		10,000
	Galway City Council	AMIF 2 match funds		5,000
	SECAD	Safe Food Initiative	9,100	9,100
	St Stephens Green	AMIF match Funds	1,600	
Funds from other various sources			13,124	4,292
			<b>3,149,077</b>	<b>2,763,589</b>

# THANK YOU TO OUR FUNDERS AND PARTNERS



An Roinn Leanaí, Comhionannais,  
Míchumais, Lánpháirtíochta agus Ói  
Department of Children, Equality,  
Disability, Integration and Youth



An Roinn Oideachais  
Department of Education



An Roinn Forbartha  
Tuaithe agus Pobail  
Department of Rural and  
Community Development



An Roinn Sláinte  
Department of Health



An Roinn Sláinte  
Department of Health



An Roinn Comhshaoil,  
Aeráide agus Cumarsáide  
Department of the Environment,  
Climate and Communications



An Roinn Coimirce Sóisialaí  
Department of Social Protection



Rialtas na hÉireann  
Government of Ireland



Có-mhainithe ag an  
Aontas Eorpach  
Co-funded by the  
European Union



Social Inclusion &  
Community Activation  
Programme



pobal

government supporting communities



Galway City Partnership  
Comhpháirtíocht Chathair na Gaillimhe  
a tide for change  
an taobh ag casadh

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 under the Employment, Inclusion, Skills and Training (EIST) Programme 2021-2027.



SOLAS

An tSeirbhís Oideachais Leanúnaigh agus Scileanna  
Further Education and Training Authority



gretb

Bord Oideachais agus Oiliúna  
na Gaillimhe agus Ros Comáin  
Galway and Roscommon  
Education and Training Board



TÚSLA

An Ghníomhaireacht um  
Leanaí agus an Teaghlach  
Child and Family Agency



An Roinn Coimirce Sóisialaí  
Department of Social Protection



Healthy  
Galway City



ciste na  
gcuntas díomhain  
the dormant  
accounts fund



OLLSCOIL NA GAILLIMHE  
UNIVERSITY OF GALWAY



