

Galway City Partnership - Westside Project

We coordinate and support community work and participation in the Westside area and engage with numerous individuals, agencies and service providers to ensure the needs of the community are being met and to empower local people for positive change. (Contact Suzanne: 091-528325 or 086-0433376).

Big Brother Big Sister

We are an internationally renowned youth mentoring programme that forms friendships between a young person and an adult volunteer. This programme is operated in Ireland by Foróige, the national youth development organisation. The Galway regional office is based in the Westside Resource Centre. (Contact 091-554420).

EPIC – Empowering Young People in Care in Ireland

EPIC is an independent association for young people in care and with care experience. We provide information, advice and support as well as an independent advocacy service for young people in care, aftercare or with care experience. (Contact Brenda on 091-395605 or 087-6249344).

National Advocacy Service

The National Advocacy Service aims to provide independent advocates to people with disabilities who find it difficult to speak for themselves. (Contact 076-1073000).

Galway City Community Network

The GCCN is a network of community, voluntary and environmental organisations active in Galway City. The GCCN is the main link through which the local authority connects with the community, voluntary and environmental sectors. (Contact Ann on 087-9326467).

Westside Crèche & Pre School

Westside Crèche & Pre School is a community based childcare service which aims to support and assist families and children in the Westside area through the provision of accessible, affordable, high quality childcare. (Contact Pauline on 091-581707).

Community Work Ireland (CWI)

Through our network of members CWI promotes and supports community work to address poverty, social exclusion and inequality. Our work includes developing and influencing policy, research and campaigning on issues of social justice. (Contact: info@communityworkireland.ie 091-528325 / 087-2998619 / 087-9326467).

MEAS Garda Youth Diversion Project

We are a community based and supported youth development project which seeks to divert young people from becoming involved (or further involved) in anti-social or criminal behaviour. These projects facilitate personal development and promote civic responsibility. (Contact Anthony on 086-0479707 or 091-554421).

OBAIR – Local Employment Service Network

If you are unemployed and in receipt of a Social Welfare payment, the LESN staff can assist you with free and confidential information and guidance to explore your options for work, education and training. We can also provide assistance with CV preparation, application forms and interview preparation. (Contact Robert or Pádraig on 091-581955).

Epilepsy Ireland

Epilepsy Ireland provides a professional information service to support and empower people with epilepsy and their families, who have problems coming to terms with the condition and its implications. (Contact Edel on 091-587640).

Gorta - Self Help Africa

Gorta - Self Help Africa works with rural communities to help them improve their farms and their livelihoods. (Contact Ronan on 087-6189094).

RISE Service

RiseService is the provider of choice of person-centred, health and social care services that facilitate people who are disadvantaged to participate in the life of their local community in ways that match their choices, aspirations and needs. (Contact Louise on 086-8371638 or Louise.Kenny@Rehabcare.ie)



Christmas Market 2018

Westside Christmas Market and Family Day will take place on Thursday 6th December 2018. All are welcome to attend the market and to enjoy the festive events taking place in Westside Public Library and Westside Resource Centre. Full details will be available shortly on the Westside Resource Centre Facebook page:
[facebook.com/westsideresourcecentre](https://www.facebook.com/westsideresourcecentre)

Improving Your Home Energy Efficiency

Galway Energy Co-operative is holding a free workshop to highlight the various grants and support schemes for carrying out home energy improvements as part of a community scheme.

The Co-op is a member of "Sustainable Energy Communities", a movement which is growing throughout Ireland and is supported by the Sustainable Energy Authority Ireland (SEAI).

Galway Energy Co-op was formed in 2018 to make the public aware of the options for cheaper and cleaner energy. Its long-term goal is to provide employment and to democratise the provision of energy in Galway while also working for a clean energy, carbon-free environment in our city.

In addition to improvements carried out through community schemes, the group will also highlight the paybacks from the standard domestic household grant scheme.

The workshop will take place at 7pm on Monday 26th November in Westside Resource Centre. For more information contact Kieran (086 8516484) or David (087 1242531)

Leap into 2019 with Healthy Galway City!

Do you want to get active, have more energy, learn new skills and meet new people this New Year? If you do, why not sign up for Healthy Galway City's FREE activity programme beginning in January 2019.

The programme will run for 10 weeks and will also include information on a number of health topics. To find out more about the initiative or to register your interest contact Ashling on 085 8217547 or email healthygalway@gcp.ie.

This programme was secured through the Healthy Ireland Fund by Galway City Local Community Development Committee. Supported by the Department of Health, the Department of Children & Youth Affairs and the Department of Rural & Community Development.

Basketmaking in Westside

As part of a series of workshops organised by Westside Arts Festival, a group of local people undertook a 3-week course in Basketmaking with Ciaran Hogan in Westside Resource Centre. The participants will be invited to display their craft items at an exhibition during Westside Arts Festival 2019 and at other community events. This project is supported by Galway 2020.



Westside Community Garden

The last of the harvest is being taken in and the garden is being readied for the winter months. The volunteers will continue with their work on Wednesday mornings into December. The winter break will be a short one, as the polytunnel will make early sowing possible next year.

New volunteers are always welcome: just drop into the garden on a Wednesday morning between 10:30am and 1:00pm.

Charity Trustees' Week

This year, Charity Trustees' Week will run from 12th to 16th November. It aims to recognise and celebrate the key role which volunteer charity trustees play in the governance and leadership of charities across Ireland. At the end of September 2018 there were 60,000+ charity trustees in the Republic of Ireland.

Westside Resource Centre is delighted that the work of charitable trustees across the country is being recognised and celebrated. We wish to take this opportunity to thank the members of our own voluntary Board of Directors for their outstanding work.

Westside Resource Centre provides photocopying, faxing and laminating services to members of the public. We also offer internet access and printing in black and white. These services are available Monday to Friday from 10am to 5pm.

**Westside Resource Centre,
Seamus Quirke Road, Galway. 091-528325
www.facebook.com/westsideresourcecentre
www.westsideresourcecentre.ie
info@westsideresourcecentre.ie**

Social Inclusion Week 2018



Westside Resource Centre hosted four events during Social Inclusion Week. Galway City & County Age Friendly Older Persons' Council had a wonderful coffee morning (pictured above) with guest speaker Geraldine Ryan of COPE Galway.

The Resource Centre celebrated our multicultural society with a community event focusing on baking and sharing breads from around the world. Westside Age Inclusion's Fun Table Quiz was a great success, whilst the Pernet group held a creative craft workshop, the first in a series of interactive projects they have planned. Social Inclusion Week is supported Galway City Council.

Westside Writers' Group Launches 2019 Anthology

The Westside Writers' Group have just launched their keenly-anticipated anthology. The event took place in Westside Public Library on Wednesday 24th October. Mayor of the City of Galway Cllr. Neil McNelis formally launched the publication. Some of the writers read from their work and, light refreshments were provided as part of a very enjoyable evening. The "Write On Anthology 2019" is available from Charlie Byrne's Bookshop in the Cornstore.

Westside Craft Group

On August 20th, a group of ladies from St. Munchin's Community Centre in Limerick visited Westside Craft Group. This was a return visit as the Westside ladies had visited the Limerick ladies earlier in the year.

Each group exhibited some of their work and everybody went home full of new ideas. On the day there was plenty of singing and even some dancing. The Limerick ladies were in full voice as they had beaten Galway in the All Ireland Hurling final the day before.

It is hoped that the groups will meet up again soon - maybe even visiting each others' Christmas markets.



Members of Westside Men's Club on a recent visit to Inis Mór, Aran Islands, Co. Galway.

Parenting Programmes

Family Services are taking names for a variety of parenting programmes which will be running in the New Year. These are for the Early Years (1-6yrs), Middle Years(7-11yrs), Adolescent Years (over 12yrs), Parenting When Separated and Non Violent Resistance Programme for parents experiencing controlling, intimidating or violent behaviour from their child.

If you would like more info or want to put your name on a waiting list to attend any of these, please contact 091-529390 or you can drop in to West Galway Family Services to find out more information about the services.

Foróige's Big Brother Big Sister Programme

'Volunteer today, make a difference in the life of a young person'



Foróige Big Brother Big Sister Mentoring Programme in Galway are looking for volunteers!

Big Brother Big Sister is an internationally recognised proven Youth Mentoring Programme that forms a supportive friendship between a young person (aged 10 -18) and an adult volunteer.

Volunteers share **one to two hours weekly** with the young person based around shared hobbies and interests. Together you decide on the type of activities that you would like to do; go for a coffee, play football, listen to music, do arts and crafts, play computer games and so much more.

Big Brother Big Sister Galway are currently looking for both male and female volunteers, who can share 1-2 hours a week with a young person. Initial training and ongoing support is provided.

If you would like more information on the programme please check out the website www.foroige.ie/our-work/big-brother-big-sister or contact

Kirsten Lowe, Email: kirsten.lowe@foroige.ie
Tel: 0877996268

Dawn Lally, Email: dawn.lally@foroige.ie Tel: 0860436757

Big Brother, Big Sister Volunteers have a unique and wonderful opportunity to change a young person's life in a simple, yet powerful way. **"Little Time, Big Difference"**

DISCLAIMER: The opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the author(s) of each individual piece and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Westside Resource Centre or Galway City Partnership.

