

## Criteria and Guidelines for Healthy Ireland Community Mental Health Fund Small Grants Scheme

### Introduction / Background

Offaly County Council has recently secured €30,000 from The Department of Health's Mental Health Unit under the Healthy Ireland Fund 2019 – 2021 to deliver a small grants scheme for local community, voluntary and sporting organisations to support them in the delivery of initiatives which will address the “mental health” priority theme contained within Healthy Irelands, a framework for improved health and wellbeing 2013 – 2025.

### Objectives of the Community Mental Health Fund Small Grants Scheme

1. Support local community, voluntary and sporting organisations to deliver initiatives that promote and enhance mental health and wellbeing
2. Coordinate and implement activities in local community settings
3. Promote collaboration and partnership with formal mental health and suicide prevention services

### Level of grants

- The total fund available under scheme is €30,000
- It is anticipated that 15 grants averaging €2,000 each will be allocated (subject to a sufficient number of quality applications being received)

### Who is eligible to apply?

Applications will be accepted from: -

- i. Community / Voluntary organisations (indicative examples of community / voluntary groups include active retirement groups, community halls, family resource centres, mens sheds, not for profit community organisations, parents' committees, womens sheds, youth organisations – Foróige, scout and guide groups, etc.) based in Offaly
- ii. Sporting organisations / clubs based in Offaly affiliated to a National Governing Body of Sport recognised by Sport Ireland

Applicants must be a member of the Offaly Public Participation Network; or undertake to join the Offaly Public Participation Network if their application is successful

### Eligible initiatives

Actions must correspond with the eligibility requirement of the Healthy Ireland Framework mental health theme; and may include initiatives such as: -

- actions supporting the implementation of “Connecting for Life”, Ireland's National Strategy to Reduce Suicide 2015 – 2020. In this instance, initiatives must not be a duplication of work already undertaken or planned for delivery by their local Resource Officer for Suicide Prevention
- creative arts programmes
- educational initiatives
- family support projects

- infant, children and young persons’ mental health initiatives
- initiatives to improve living well with a chronic condition
- mental health training through partnership / collaboration (e.g. mental health first aid, etc.)
- play programmes
- social farming
- wellbeing activities

Actions supported should target: -

- disadvantaged communities
- disadvantaged families (including one parent families)
- disadvantaged men & women
- children & young people
- people with disabilities, including those experiencing mental health difficulties
- unemployed young people & adults
- Traveller & Roma communities
- new communities, asylum seekers & refugees
- LGBTI communities
- homeless people
- older adults
- people with chronic health conditions

### Ineligible costs

The following is an indicative list of ineligible costs: -

- capital costs including works, repairs and maintenance
- core staffing and organisation administration / overhead costs
- costs for staff, actions, equipment and programmes already supported by statutory and public funding
- parties or other primarily social entertainment activities
- purchase of vouchers (e.g. as a prize)

### Assessment criteria

All applications shall be assessed on the information supplied in the application form and any supporting documentation. The assessment committee may choose to obtain clarifications on individual applications. All applications will be scored under the following criteria:

Quality of the application	15
Extent to which application addresses the objectives of the scheme	20
Overall value for money	15
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>

## Correspondence, Draw Down of Funding and Reporting

- All applicants will be informed of the decision of the community mental health fund small grants scheme assessment committee
- All successful applicants will be required to be set up on Offaly County Council's financial system to enable payment of the grant. This set up may require the organisation to provide Offaly County Council with their tax or charitable status number, and online access for their tax clearance certificate; as well as the organisation's bank account details
- Grants will be drawn down in the following manner: -
  - 75% draw down following receipt of signed terms and conditions
  - the remaining 25% will be drawn down following submission of: -
    - i. an expenditure report detailing monies paid out accompanied by copies of receipts and proof of payment (e.g. bank statements, etc.); and
    - ii. a short written report on the initiative detailing the action(s) delivered, numbers participating and any follow on projects likely to arise from the action(s) delivered

## Publicity & Acknowledgement of Support

It is a condition of the grant scheme that any promotion / publicity related to the activity approved for funding should positively acknowledge the support received from Healthy Ireland as follows: -

Rialtas na hÉireann  
Government of Ireland

government supporting communities



"The Healthy Ireland Fund supported by the Department of Health, and the Department of Children and Youth Affairs"

## Application

- Applications should be made electronically
- To download an application form, visit <https://www.offaly.ie/eng/Services/Community-Culture/Healthy-Ireland/Healthy-Offaly-/Healthy-Offaly-Community-Grants.html>
- To request an application form, email [healthyirelandoffaly@offalycoco.ie](mailto:healthyirelandoffaly@offalycoco.ie), subject line - Healthy Ireland Community Mental Health Fund Small Grants Scheme

## Further information

For further information or clarification, please contact: -

- Dermot Egan, Healthy Ireland Offaly Coordinator
  - Oliva Murphy, Healthy Ireland Offaly
- on 057 93 57462 or by email to [healthyirelandoffaly@offalycoco.ie](mailto:healthyirelandoffaly@offalycoco.ie)

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