



RECOGNITION PROGRAMME



## COMMUNITY VIBRANCY RECOGNITION PROGRAMME 2017-2019

NEWKD in partnership with Kerry Group are delighted to announce Áras Mhuire Nursing Home as the eleventh recipient of the Community Vibrancy Recognition Programme.

This is a three-year initiative (2017-2019) aimed at recognising the diversity and vibrancy of community work throughout the region. Every year NEWKD works with over 500 community groups, businesses and initiatives under our 4 Strategic Pillars:

- **Social Supports**
- **Employment Services**
- **Enterprise and Tourism**
- **Community, Environment & Rural Development**

The 'Community Vibrancy Recognition Programme' pays tribute to a number of recipients each year. Each project is selected for their uniqueness, vibrancy and responsiveness to addressing local need. Recipients are recognised locally through the NEWKD structures which operate in Tralee, Listowel, Castleisland and Dingle, and will promote best practices and innovative solutions in social, economic and environmental development, while giving recognition to community leadership and entrepreneurs.

### Previous recipients:

1. Glanageenty Walkways
2. The Kerry Food Hub, Fies
3. Ballybunion Men's Shed
4. Dingle New Music Choir and Orchestra
5. Baile Bhuire Day Care Centre
6. Ballybunion Senior Citizens Meals on Wheels
7. Mol Teic - Dingle Creativity and Innovation Hub
8. NEWKD's Local Area Advisory Councils (LAACs)
9. Castleisland Community Garden
10. Sliabh Luachra Boxing Club Castleisland

For further information [www.newkd.ie](http://www.newkd.ie)



Áras  
Mhuire

## Áras Mhuire Nursing Home

Áras Mhuire Nursing Home is home to 38 people requiring 24-hour nursing care and rehabilitation, serving the areas of North Kerry and West Limerick.

It is designed to recognise older people's ongoing right to a home and connectedness to their family and community. This move away from hospital-like facilities requires a change in practice and the development of new skill sets for all staff working in the facilities.

Áras Mhuire Nursing Home was established in 1971 and for a number of years was operated as a welfare home to accommodate the needs of the elderly in the North Kerry area. The building was funded through the voluntary effort of a local committee with the support of the local community. The home is run by a board of directors who give their time voluntarily and is chaired by John O'Keeffe.

Áras Mhuire is a registered charity and in 2002 the home was registered as a Nursing Home by the then Health Board. It meets the requirements set out in the National Quality Standards for Residential Care Settings for Older People in Ireland's 2007 and 'Health Act' 2007 (Care and Welfare of Residents in Designated Centres for Older People) Regulations 2013. According to 2016 figures Áras Mhuire is the 11th lowest funded nursing home in Ireland and does not receive any HSE funding. Fundraising is an essential part of Áras Mhuire over the years and such activities included Black Tie Ball, Calendar 2017, John Griffin BBQ and the Residents co-authoring a book of poems that was launched by Billy Keane in 2016. Áras Mhuire has also benefited from grants from National Lottery, Kerry Group, NEWKD, Ring of Kerry Cycle, Crusaders Charity Cycle and received a loan from Clann Credo Social Fund.





The home, which is a single-story dwelling, is situated on the grounds of the Listowel Community Hospital. All accommodation is on one level. At Áras Mhuire Nursing Home there is accommodation for 38 residents in single and twin bedrooms. There are a total of 20 single bedrooms. Assisted toilets/bathrooms are also provided. Áras Mhuire Nursing Home has two sitting rooms, a visitors room, an enclosed court yard, enclosed front garden and a conservatory where residents can relax and enjoy quality time with family and friends and a prayer room.

Twenty-four hour nursing care is provided by qualified nurses and care assistants and can accommodate a maximum of 38 residents. Care is planned around each resident's personal need. The home accommodates both male and female residents, over the age of 18 years. Long-term residential care is provided for residents with low, medium, high and maximum dependency needs as well as residents with dementia, intellectual, mental and physical disability and acquired brain injury. Nursing care is also provided for a variety of residents, including those suffering from multifunctional illness, and conditions that affect memory and differing levels of dependency.

Áras Mhuire Nursing Home is committed to providing each resident with the highest standard of care in a comfortable, friendly and homely environment. Áras Mhuire Nursing Home treats each resident as an individual with respect, dignity and compassion whilst maintaining their rights, independence and choice. We endeavour to enhance the physical, emotional and spiritual well-being of all who pass the threshold of this home. Our excellent standard of care is achieved through the dedication, commitment and competence of all who work here. Áras Mhuire Nursing Home adheres to standards of best practice and continual development.

Áras Mhuire Nursing Home Company is an organisation limited by guarantee. It has an annual turnover of €1.5 million and employs 51 staff of which include CE and NEWKD participants representing the RSS and Tús programmes.

Future developments to enhance Áras Mhuire include:

1. Install generator	€40,000
2. Tarmac of roadways at rear of nursing home	€25,000
3. Sensory garden and polytunnel	€20,000
4. Re roofing the kitchen and sitting room	€45,000
<b>TOTAL PROJECTED COST</b>	<b>€130,000</b>

Áras Mhuire Nursing Home, Greenville, Listowel, Co Kerry  
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Fb/ArasMhuireNursingHome

## SUPPORT FROM NEWKD

- RSS - Rural Social Scheme
- Tús Community Work Placement Programme, through placements roles of Activities Co Ordinator and 2 caretakers
- LEADER - Rural Development Programme

## GOOD PRACTICE & LEARNING:

- Essential is the ongoing development and maintaining of Áras Mhuire, to ensure HIQA regulatory requirements but most importantly to ensure the quality of care and quality of life of our residents.
- Everyday ways of working and improvements take into account person-by-person acknowledgement of the priorities of each individual resident.
- The support of the local community is vital to life in Áras Mhuire, and the home welcomes opportunities to participate in local community activities such as the St. Patricks Day Parades.
- A major structural development project in 2015 would not have been possible without the support of the local community and funders.
- The commitment and motivation of staff is vital, Áras Mhuire is proud to have highly skilled staff who are long serving, and are committed to training, regular performance reviews and are receptive to feedback from residents and relatives/visitors.
- Particular attention is paid to:
  - Tailor made activity and person-centred care plans based on the abilities.
  - Interesting and varied menus: Nutrition and quality of food is such an important aspect of life in care. Our chefs take a real interest in their dishes and regular reviews and improvements will be made to the menus depending on each individual's requirements.
  - Involvement with the local community is vital: At Áras Mhuire staff encourage and promote visits from local artists, schools and other organisations.



Rialtas na hÉireann  
Government of Ireland



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NEWKD and Kerry Group wish to acknowledge and thank all those who have contributed to

## ÁRAS MHUIRE NURSING HOME

Presented in recognition of the valuable contribution the nursing home makes to the:

- Community Vibrancy of the Listowel/North Kerry Region
- Social Supports in the provision of Community Care Facilities for Older People
- Community, Environment and Rural Development Leadership.

November 2018