

Case Study 5



RECOGNITION PROGRAMME



COMMUNITY VIBRANCY RECOGNITION PROGRAMME 2017-2019

NEWKD in partnership with Kerry Group are delighted to announce Baile Mhuire, Tralee as the fifth 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 Rural Tourism**
- **Community, Environment and Rural Development**

The 'Community Vibrancy Recognition Programme' pays tribute to up to 10 recipients each year. Each project is selected for their uniqueness, vibrancy and responsiveness to addressing local need. Recipients will be 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, Fries
3. Ballybunion Men's Shed
4. Dingle New Music Choir and Orchestra

For further information www.newkd.ie

Baile Mhuire, Day Care Centre, Tralee

Baile Mhuire came into being in the mid-1980s when there was a great need for an interim unit to provide recuperation and respite care for older people in the Tralee and surrounding areas.

Fr. Maurice Brick and the late Sr. Pius Collins, with the help of Social Action, set about the huge task of providing such a service.

Operating for years from a prefab building, in 2014 the new €1.4 million Baile Mhuire Day Care Centre for the elderly was officially opened in Balloonagh, Tralee by the Director General of the Health Service Executive, Tony O'Brien.

Employing 16 people, the facility provides a full range of care to the elderly. Operating five days a week, including Saturdays, the Centre provides personal, nursing, paramedical, social and pastoral care to support older people in living independently and remaining within their own home and community for as long as possible. Staff employed are a combination of full and part time staff including Community Employment and Tús programme Staff who are key to Baile Mhuire survival.



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Baile Mhuire BALLONAGH, TRALEE, CO. KERRY



Volunteers were instrumental in the establishment of Baile Mhuire in 1988 and they continue to play a pivotal role in the daily running of the centre. The Board of Management guarantee's the smooth running of the centre in conjunction with the invaluable volunteers who give of their time so freely and generously. Memories of former members live on in the centre with the *Quiet Room* named after Tommy O'Connor and the inner courtyard now *Eileen's Garden* after Nurse Manager Eileen Brick, a beautiful tribute to them both.

A typical day in the new day centre sees the clients of Baile Mhuire enjoy a range of activities focusing on personal care to spiritual time, and light entertainment while their meals are prepared in the state-of-the-art kitchen and served in the spacious dining area. In 2017 the centre expanded its services further with the support of the local community and added 2 fully accessible buses, in partnership with Local Link Kerry, to ensure clients get to and from the centre with ease.

Baile Mhuire have received support from Bon Secours Hospital, Tralee Community Fund, Mercy Order, Dormant Accounts, Rapid Funding, NEWKD, both capital and revenue funding from the HSE, flag days, church gate collections and from the people of Tralee.

Operational Details

Operating: Monday to Thursday and every Saturday
Address: Balloonagh, Tralee, Co. Kerry
Contact No: 066 7123373
Email: bailemhuire@gmail.com
FB: @bailemhuiretralee
Status: Voluntary run Board of Management (details available on request) Non profit, Charitable Status.

SUPPORT FROM NEWKD

Tús Community Work Placement Programme – work placement support

GOOD PRACTICE & LEARNING:

- Baile Mhuire has evolved in its service provision in a changing environment over 30 years
- Central has been to deliver an excellence in service approach
- Older people who attend the centre remain in their homes longer
- Social interaction is a major part of our clients well being
- Having a nurse and trained health care attendants on site to attend medical and personal needs is a major benefit
- Older people present to the centre with a wide range of abilities and dependencies, no one size fits all and the centre has to reflect this in its approach and delivery
- The input of volunteers through centre activities and the Board of Management are vital.
- Develop and maintain positive working relationships with relevant stakeholders.



RECOGNITION PROGRAMME

NEWKD and Kerry Group wish to acknowledge and thank all those that have contributed to the development of

BAILE MHUIRE, TRALEE

And recognise the valuable contribution that the centre makes to the:

- Community Vibrancy of the Tralee Area
- Social Supports in the provision of Day Care Services for Older People
- Community, Environment and Rural Development Leadership



February 2018