

Ballyhoura Development CLG

"Supporting Families at a Time of Crisis"

Social Inclusion Forum I Core Essentials – Healthcare, Housing, Energy and Food

Workshop 1 April 12th 2021

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Who We Are

- Community-led Local Development Company
- Work with communities, families, individuals and businesses in the Ballyhoura region of East Limerick and North Cork.
- Currently deliver over 30 programmes, focussing on three key aims of: Community Development, Economic Development, Environmental Development
- Core Essential supports through Child and Family support projects- Energy (SECs), Food (focus of today) & Social & Health Inclusion (Social Prescribing)



Children & Family Support

For **Children and Families** in disadvantaged communities and estates within the lot area, challenges started to become evident from March 2020 onwards.

- Fixed incomes
- Everyone at home (Household bills, Food Consumption)
- Families may have relied on black-market incomes
- Budgeting (DEASP payments)
- Parenting
- School work
- Parent's literacy level
- Mental health challenges
- Domestic violence

Children & Family Support

- Responses put in place to service these needs through food programmes, afterschool programmes and remote supports
- Collaborations with other agencies were again vital to service the ongoing challenges as a result of the crisis (Tusla, RESPOND, Local Food Businesses, FoodCloud, SafeFood, Redemptorists, LA Covid Response Fund)
- Existing projects and networks across the area include Children & Family Support projects in Disadvantaged Estates, Afterschool Supports, Youth Engagement & NEETS programme, Homework clubs, Community Groups & Services.



The Ballyhoura Development Food Programme I Supporting Families in a Time of Crisis – 5 min Extract

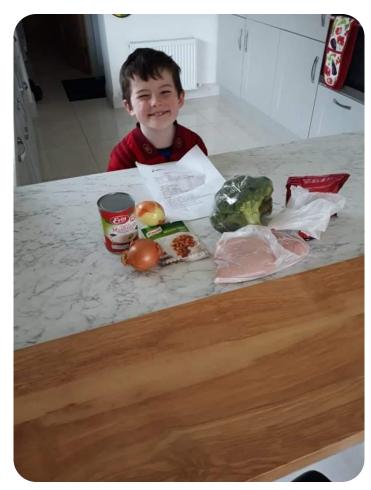


https://www.ballyhouradevelopment.com/our-story-ballyhoura-development-food-programme

Project Outcomes

| Children's Rights Alliance Infant Development Fund | Remote Community Food Initiative | Covid Food Hampers |
|--|--|---|
| 520 Bags of Food Distributed | 57 families supported x 4 weeks | 8 community groups |
| 780 meals provided | Ingredients for 1 hot meal per week | 7 weekly food collections from Food Cloud |
| 162KG of fresh meat | • 228 meals provided | 462 families supported |
| • 1430KG fruit & veg | | 1302 food hampers |
| | | 224 baby food packs |
| | | 164 children's activity packs |
| Funded 50 Families, SICAP supported 15 extra families to participate | Funded through Safefood & SICAP | Supported through Redemptorists, Foodcloud, Local Food Business & SICAP |







Overall, in the Ballyhoura Development area, a total of 647 families were supported either directly or indirectly.







Learnings

Key challenge to Ballyhoura Development was resource heavy project and time heavy, not enough staff on the ground due to Covid restrictions to deliver on demand

However

- Development of Ballyhoura Development Food Strategy- integrated approach to food across **social inclusion** & **economic** activity
- Food is used as an engagement tool
- Reduce Food Poverty and Food Waste
- Development of **nutrition** programme across afterschool's support (UL collaboration)
- Importance of 1. Equality 2. Community Development 3.
 Collaboration & Partnership approaches
- Be a Community Food Initiative Leader into 2021

Our Approach

- Roll out of the programme, focus on skills learning
- Continued leveraging of skills training through ETBs
- Parental programmes in 2021- continued link to families and supports
- Focus on our existing family support projects and engagement (social prescribing roll out, SECs, employment supports etc..)
- Trust in supports, trust in agencies, hand up not hand out
- Legacy Affect with children from disadvantaged areas and support through BD- relationship building and trust with next generation
- "Use food to enhance the opportunities for increasing social capital and engagement in communities"



Ballyhoura Development CLG

Thank You

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The Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme (SICAP) 2018-2022 is funded by the Irish Government through the Department of Rural and Community Development and co-funded by the European Social Fund under the Programme for Employability, Inclusion and Learning (PEIL) 2014-2020