

Community Connection Worker Job Description

Job Title: Community Connection Worker
Reporting to: Community Development Co-Ordinator
Location: Wexford Local Development, Wexford Office Spawell Road, Wexford.
Contract Type: Full-time 35 hours per week; Fixed-Term contract for 12 months

Context:

The **Community Connection Project (CCP)** is one of several national community and local development programmes delivered at local level by WLD on behalf of the Government, creating opportunities that promote equality and inclusion and improve quality of life for people and communities.

The Community Connection Project (CCP) is a new national initiative that uses community development approaches* to support community cohesion, and to listen to and understand communities and their questions about migration and will connect and build bridges between host and migrant communities. The CCP will design, develop and pilot ways to increase understanding about the reality of immigration. It will specifically focus on communities in the south of Co. Wexford.

It will empower host communities to develop their factual knowledge base through workshops and through community conversations that promote critical thinking, media literacy and empathy.

The CCP is complementary to the ongoing community development work carried out by WLD through the Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme (SICAP) in local communities. This initiative is funded by the Department of Rural & Community Development & the Gaeltacht, in collaboration with the Local Development Companies Network (LDCN).

Overall, Purpose of the Role:

The Community Connection Project Worker will work on an outreach basis, alongside the SICAP Community Development Team, engaging directly with communities in Wexford Town and Rosslare Harbour.



Through prioritising a values-led, community development approach, the project will create a sustainable foundation for social cohesion at a time of rapid demographic change.

By promoting dialogue, providing accurate information, and building local understandings, the Community Connection Project Worker will promote inclusive and sustainable responses to migrant integration.

Through **informal education, dialogue, critical analysis and collaboration**, CCP will take a proactive approach to designing and delivering informal education workshops, testing different approaches and documenting different ways to strengthen the capacity of local communities to adapt to the arrival of newcomers constructively.

The Community Connection Project represents an opportunity to engage with host communities, explore and document ways to foster greater understanding, counter misinformation, and develop inclusive community practices at a hyper-local level in County Wexford.

Core Responsibilities:

The Community Connection Project Worker will be responsible for the following key areas:

1. Design & Delivery of Training & Workshops

- Collaborate with the SICAP Community Development Team and the Project Advisory Group to design and develop informal educational resources and workshops.
- Deliver these sessions on key themes that may include interculturalism, equality, human rights, cultural awareness, advocacy, and community leadership in partnership with the SICAP Community Development Team.
- Facilitate discussions and conversations that directly address disinformation, prejudice, and negative narratives, providing accurate information on migration and the International Protection System.
- Equip participants with the skills to engage in and navigate difficult conversations constructively.

2. Community Engagement & Relationship Building

- Proactively establish and maintain strong, collaborative relationships with local community and voluntary organisations, statutory agencies, and other relevant stakeholders locally and nationally.



- Use the delivery of informal education programmes as a catalyst for dialogue and partnership focused on community integration.
- Ensure that the voices and contributions of migrant communities is central to the project at all stages from design to evaluation.

3. Capacity Building & Network Development

- Strengthen the ability of local communities to respond positively to changing demographics.
- Build community resilience by facilitating a sustainable network of solidarity in South Wexford, enabling collaborative problem-solving.

4. Promotion of Inclusion & Mutual Understanding

- Identify and create opportunities that foster mutual understanding and meaningful interaction between host communities and new arrivals.
- Develop and facilitate inclusive initiatives that break down barriers and build shared connections.

5. Fostering Sustainable Anti-Racist Practices

- Work to embed sustainable anti-racist principles and practices within the community.
- Develop relationships and frameworks that will continue to promote equality and inclusion beyond the formal end of the project.

6. Networking & Collaborative Learning

- Actively engage with colleagues within WLD, the LDCN, and other stakeholders locally and nationally.
- Contribute to and learn from a wider national learning exchange on the impact of community integration and intercultural projects across Ireland.

Expected Outcomes from the Community Connection Project:

1. Creation of a bank of training, facilitation and activity resources that can be used to explore the topic of migration and connect with communities in constructive dialogue.



2. Increased community understanding of immigration, the context in which changes are taking place and the realities faced by people seeking international protection, refugees & other migrants.
 3. Strengthened community resilience against disinformation/misinformation and prejudice and increased understanding of how to approach difficult conversations.
 4. Enhanced capacity for local communities to connect with migrants and to address structural challenges collaboratively and inclusively.
 5. Development of sustainable community structures that support ongoing integration.
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Key Competencies:

- Demonstratable commitment to working from an equality, social justice and human rights focus using a community development approach.
- Strong interpersonal and communication skills, with the ability to engage and connect with diverse groups in formal and informal settings, and to network with communities as well as statutory agencies.
- Excellent groupwork, presentation, communication and group facilitation skills with a proven ability to organise, plan and deliver workshops.
- Knowledge of issues related to migrant integration, social inclusion, human rights, and equality.
- Ability to work independently and as part of a team, with proven planning, time management, organisational skills and administrative abilities.
- Cultural sensitivity and awareness, particularly in the context of County Wexford.
- Report writing skills and experience of developing case studies and project toolkits (desirable)
- Capacity to navigate challenges and adapt to various contexts where community work takes place.
- A strong alignment to WLD's values of **Respect, Equality, Leadership, Inclusion and Integrity** and a commitment to social impact.

Qualifications and Experience:



Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

- Relevant qualification in Community Work/ Community Development, or a related field; Minimum level 8 NFQ is essential
- Minimum 3 years of experience in community work, community education, intercultural work or advocacy roles.
- Full clean driving licence and access to a car is essential as the role involves travel for outreach to rural communities in south Co. Wexford.
- Familiarity with the Irish International Protection System is desirable but not essential
- Proficiency in IT and report-writing skills.
- The CCP worker will be Garda Vetted, fully compliant with safeguarding requirements, undertake Children First training and be aware of all relevant policies including risk management, data protection and the operational rules of WLD.

What We Offer:

- Salary will be commensurate with experience and will be between €41,020 to €44,552
- Flexible working hours over 35 hours per week, will include some evenings and weekends as required. Time Worked Up applies. A shorter working week can be negotiated
- Hybrid working requests will be considered.
- Generous leave entitlements.
- Access to our EAP (Employee Assistance Programme).
- Free onsite parking at our Wexford office base.
- Purposeful work with a committed team of professionals, and ongoing access to continuous professional development opportunities

* Community development approaches are defined by [the All Ireland Endorsement Body for Community Work](#)

