



UL ENGAGE

Community Briefing

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Limerick's Gateway to Education

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UNIVERSITY of LIMERICK
OLLSCOIL LUIMNIGH

UL Engage

share

enable

grow

Promoting University Community Collaboration

THE BRIEF

Project Aim

The overall aim of this project is to collect as many third level text books that we can from the students and staff of UL who no longer need them so that Limericks Gateway to Education can sell them on at a lower price. We also want to make sure that there is enough awareness for among UL students that this is an option and they by going to limericks gateway to education can receive their books at a lower price.

Project Objectives

We had two clear objectives, the first was to create a new up to date brochure that the organisation could easily distribute which also had all the important information. The second was to organise a drive in our university where we could collect used third level books that could be then sold on the next year to raise funds for the Limericks Gateway to Education. Our aim was to collect at least 100 books.

Project Rationale

This project has a very important impact on the community and we are both very proud to be a part of it. The money and awareness raised helps the organisation to do much as they can to give families the best access to education possible without the burden of a high cost. With the third level book drive they are hoping to expand their target market to include college students which, given how expensive going to college already is, is a welcome relief to many people in the community.

COMMUNITY

Overview of Community Organisation

Limericks Gateway to education was founded in 2012 by Suzanne Roche to combat economic and social barriers to education. What started as financial constraints for Suzanne in securing books and uniforms for her daughter, led to a city wide non profit organisation. The organisation not only helps families with the financial burden of education but also offers educational services such as homework clubs. Their target population is that of families who are struggling to cover the cost of education and trying to give their children the best possibilities.

Community Partners:

Suzanne Roche:

Suzanne is the founder and CEO of Limerick's Gateway to Education. She has lived in Limerick for almost 50 years and loves the city and the amazing people she gets to interact with every day. Suzanne has four children who all attend school in or near Limerick. It was through her own struggle with her children that gave her the idea of opening up a second hand shop for school books and uniforms. Suzanne has given hundreds of families the opportunity to send their children to school with nice uniforms without them having to break the bank. The Limerick community is very thankful for Suzanne's contributions.

Paul Kelly:

Paul is Limerick's Gateway to Education's financial manager/marketing head. Paul has spent many years living in Limerick. He joined the team about two years ago and cannot imagine where he would be if he did not. Paul provides Limerick's Gateway with an upbeat and positive environment. You will never catch him without a smile on his face.

STUDENTS



Aoife Healy– University of Limerick

My name is Aoife Healy, I am a final year student in the University of Limerick studying politics and International Relations. I am a 22-year-old Irish girl from county Kerry in Ireland. Next year I hope to start a Masters course in peace and development studies also in the University of Limerick. I have an interest in charity work and volunteering and hope to maybe work with disadvantaged groups in the future. This practicum module has helped me to further my interest in this area.



Hayley O Doherty– University of Limerick

I am currently in my final year of my bachelor of arts in politics and international relations, upon completion of my degree I hope to undertake a post graduate diploma in education focusing on modern studies and politics. Community outreach is something I am very interested in both in practicum and outside, before graduating in September I will be travelling to upstate New York for a third year to work at a non-profit summer camp for inner city kids. My life goal is to work for the advancement of children's education and UL engage has greatly helped in that.

OUTCOMES

At the start of this project we aimed to have 100 books collected for the organisation but it is looking as though we will exceed this target.

We made up a new up to date brochure which we hope will help the organisation to give out readily available information that will raise awareness.

The book drive has not yet taken place as most college students will want to hold onto their books until the end of the exams and some may perhaps want to hold on to their books in case they have to repeat.

TESTIMONIAL

"The book drive will help a group that us at limericks gateway to education have been trying to reach for some time, students helping students is what we want to accomplish with this book drive. We have ;loved working with the girls and will greatly appreciate the use of the brochure as it will spread the word on Limericks gateway to education"

Paul Kelly

RECOMMENDATIONS

For the next group of practicum students we would recommend that

- Continue the book drive every year and specifically aim it at first years who are more likely to buy books in the first place. Also contact lectures and staff who may also have books that they no longer need
- keep updating the brochure to reflect the changing atmosphere of Limericks Gateway to education.
- Try to involve more universities in the book drive and make it a city wide event.

GALLERY



This is the logo that the Limericks Gateway to Education Uses.



Above shows a picture of the actual shop itself.

I Love Limerick. (2016)

BOOK DRIVE

In Aid Of Limericks Gateway To
Education

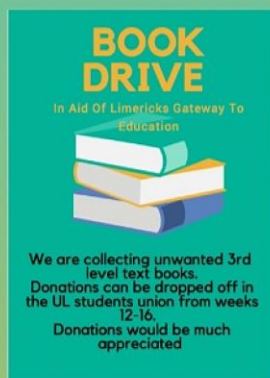


We are collecting unwanted 3rd
level text books.
Donations can be dropped off in
the UL students union from weeks
12-16.
Donations would be much
appreciated

Limerick's Gateway To Education Book drive

Introduction

Limerick's Gateway to education was founded in 2012 by Suzanne Roche to combat economic and social barriers to Education. What started as financial constraints for Suzanne in securing books and uniforms for her daughter, led to a city wide non profit organisation. This Organisation not only helps families with the financial burden of education but also offers educational services such as homework clubs.



Objective

The issue within the organisation that we aimed to address was the lack of donations specifically focusing on third level textbooks. Our community partners expressed a want to reach out to third level students in need of affordable textbooks. Together with our community partners we decided to organise a bookdrive with a goal of collecting 100 textbook donations.

Aims

Limerick's Gateway to education seemed to be lacking in distributable information on a condensed level, we saw an opportunity here to create a brochure. After receiving detailed requests and information on the organisation, we created a four page brochure that can be easily distributed to raise awareness and give an insight into the organisation.

Outcome

Although the official results of the book drive won't be available until the end of May, so far we have received a huge response from UL staff, at the current rate the book drive is expected to exceed the original target of 100 books.

The brochure is completed and will soon be available for public consumption to raise awareness of Limerick's Gateway to Education.

Limerick's Gateway to Education

"The mission of Limerick's Gateway to Education is the pursuit of the following principles: commitment, responsibility, possibility & support"

www.limerickgatewaytoeducation.ie

9 Wickham Street, Limerick

Call Us (061) 481 633

Conclusion

Throughout the course of our work with Limerick's Gateway to education we have tried to broaden the reach of the organisation. We have hoped to broaden this reach to third level students and those who are seeking the help of the organisation in the future. We hope to see the book drive to become an annual event within UL and that future UL engage students will update and expand the brochure.

Aoife Healy And Hayley O Doherty





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