



UL ENGAGE

Community Briefing

2018 No. 28

Ballyhoura Development

Kennedy Mindermann
Taylor Webster

Supervised by: Bernie Quillinan



UNIVERSITY of LIMERICK
OLLSCOIL LUIMNIGH

UL Engage

share

enable

grow

Promoting University Community Collaboration

Project Aim and Objectives

The aim of this project was to make it easier for community members to access information about services available to them when searching to further their education or find employment.

The objective of the project was to create a brochure and booklet for community members to use to find the resources available to help them get training or find employment.

Project Rationale.

The booklet will be a resource for individuals seeking to find employment or further their education. Currently, it is difficult for individuals to find information about resources available to help them gain employment or education. Ballyhoura Development has access to many different resources and it may be confusing or overwhelming when an individual is just starting out. The booklet addresses common barriers individuals face and connects each barrier with specific resources, making it a quick and easy way for people to identify what services are for them.

COMMUNITY

Overview of Community Organisation

The vision of Ballyhoura is to create an “empowered inclusive community with a diverse economy”. Ballyhoura’s mission is to provide individuals and communities with the resources needed to build an environment which allows for economic change and reduces inequalities, making Ballyhoura a great place to live and do business. Ballyhoura works with communities, families, individuals and businesses in East Limerick and North Cork who are in need of support when searching for options for further education or employment. Ballyhoura offers mentoring and training services as well as information on local services and grants that an individual may qualify for.



Community Partners

Donna Cleary



Donna is a Development Officer at Ballyhoura Development. Donna works to guide local groups through benefits of Programmes and Projects available to them. She also leads and engages in outreach activities for community members. Donna is passionate about food and enjoys creating healthy recipes.

STUDENTS



Kennedy Mindermann – University of Minnesota

I am currently a third-year student at the University of Minnesota working towards a bachelor of computer science. Outside of school, I enjoy spending my time outdoors or with others. Volunteering is something I am passionate about and I try to get involved as much as possible with the clubs and organizations I am a part of.



Taylor Webster – Creighton University

I am from the small town of Cokato in Minnesota. I am a second year at Creighton University in Omaha, Nebraska and am currently working towards a bachelor in social work. After my undergraduate education I plan to attend graduate school to pursue a doctorate in occupational therapy. I enjoy traveling and exploring the outdoors.

OUTCOMES

The goal of the project was to create a way for individuals in the Ballyhoura region to easily access information about support services available to them. We created a booklet and brochure that are meant to be a quick and easy way for individuals to access information about the support services available. The brochure focused on common barriers that individuals have to overcome while trying to find a job or further their education. Having the brochure focused towards common barriers makes it easy for an individual to identify which support services apply to their specific situation. Once the individual identifies which support services are for them they can then go to the booklet and read a short summary of the support service and access the website if they want to get more information. Our community partner, Donna, was happy that the brochure starts with asking questions and believes that it will be an effective and quick way for individuals to access information about services provided. Donna believes that it is important to have the information grouped into themes because the work done at Ballyhoura Development is very broad. With the brochure being broken down into four sections individuals can quickly find what they are looking for.

TESTIMONIALS

Our Community Partner Donna appreciated the work that we did for Ballyhoura Development explaining that it was nice to have students available to work on assignments that benefit the community and being able to focus on a project that otherwise might not have gotten accomplished. Donna found it valuable to have students with an outside perspective working on the project who were able to create and design an interactive resource for individuals in the Ballyhoura region. This was the first time that Ballyhoura Development worked with UL Engage and Donna expresses that it was a positive experience. Donna explains that it is important to get students out in the community working on projects outside of the classroom. She believes that UL engage is a great initiative because it is practical and allows students to work on a project that is going to make an impact on the community.



Community Partner Donna Cleary

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Create a FAQ page on website
- Add the booklet to the website for community members to easily access
- Add the content from the brochure onto the website in a way that allows people to easily click through it and find the right resources for them.

GALLERY



A lot of the work was done online, we visited Ballyhoura Development and communicated with Donna about the project through email and Facetime.



Ballyhoura offers many pamphlets on the services available. We worked to compile that information into a quick easy way for individuals to access.

APPENDICES

The brochure that was created:

Available Resources

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. County Childcare Committees pg.1 2. Community Childcare Subvention pg.1 3. Childcare Employment and Training Support (CETS) Scheme 4. Health Service Executive: service for older people in Ireland pg.1 5. Family Income Supplement pg.1 6. Back to Work Family Dividend pg.1 7. Citizens Information pg.1 8. Employee Retention Grant pg.2 9. Support Employment Programme Service pg.2 10. Workplace Equipment Adaption Grant pg.2 11. Personal Reader Grant pg.2 12. Job Interviewer Interpreter Grant Scheme pg.2 13. Volunteering while with DSP pg.2 14. Tús – Work Placement Initiative pg.3 15. Skillnets pg.3 16. Apprenticeships pg.3 17. JobPath pg.3 18. Jobs Club pg.3 19. Gateway – Local Authority Work Initiative pg.3 20. Digital Skills for Citizens Training pg.4 21. Youth Employment Support Scheme pg.4 22. Local Training Initiatives LTI's pg.4 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 23. Youth Employment Support Scheme pg.4 24. Springboard Courses pg.4 25. Education and Training Board (ETB) Courses pg.5 26. College Options pg.5 27. Education and Training Board Centres pg.6 28. Fetch – Further Education Training Courses pg.6 29. Back to Education Programme pg.6 30. Jobseekers Benefit pg.6 31. Jobseekers Allowance pg.6 32. Rural Social Scheme (RSS) pg.7 33. Training Support Grant pg.7 34. Local Link pg.7
--	---



BALLYHOURA
DEVELOPMENT CLG

LOOKING FOR THE RIGHT RESOURCES FOR YOU?

Identify your barriers and the resources you can use to overcome them

MAIN BARRIERS

If you answer yes to the question use the number to find a resource on the back that might be available to you. If the barrier does not apply to you move on to the next question.

Location and Resources:		
Do you lack suitable transport? → 34	Having difficulty finding a job because of your heritage? → 14,15,17, 22,24	Are you financially restricted from pursuing additional training or the workforce? → 5,6,23,30, 31,32
Experience		
Searching to gain more work experience? → 13, 14, 15, 16,17, 18, 19, 20	Struggling to find job opportunities? → 7,14,15,17,18, 19,20	Struggling to overcome a negative experience in the workforce? → 14,15, 17,23
Do you feel as though your age is holding you back? → 14,15,16,20, 22,23,24	Looking to further your education? → 7,15,24,25,26, 27,28,29	
Household Situation		
Need assistance finding affordable child care? → 1,2,3,5,7	Need assistance finding care for a spouse or parent? → 4	Navigating new ground and in search of guidance for where to go next? → 18
Health		
Do you have any health issues - physical/mental? → 8,9,10,11,12	Not confident in your ability? → 18	Experiencing a lack in motivation? → 18

DIDN'T FIND WHAT YOU WERE LOOKING FOR? CONTACT BALLYHOURA DEVELOPMENT FOR MORE INFORMATION

EMAIL: INFO@BALLYHOURA.ORG
TELEPHONE: 063 91300

The booklet that we created:

1

- 1. County Childcare Committee**
Childcare Committee works with parents to provide information about childcare providers in each county in Ireland as well as Early Years Care and Education. They host workshops and programs in order to increase professional development of Early Years Care and Education in Ireland.
[Limerick County: Click for more info](#) [Cork County: Click for more info](#)
- 2. Community Childcare Subvention**
Community Childcare Subvention (CCS) Programme supports parents on low income to access child care. The aim of the programme is to reduce childcare cost for families who qualify by paying for a portion of the child care cost. They do not fully cover the childcare cost but provide a reduced rate for parents.
[Click here for more info](#)
- 3. Childcare Employment and Training Support (CETS) Scheme**
Childcare Employment and Training Support (CETS) is a scheme available to individuals who are participating in vocational training and are in need of childcare. Full-time, part-time, or after-school childcare is available through CETS. Individuals participating in Education and Training Board courses such as Youthreach, Vocational Training Opportunities Scheme, and Further Education and Training courses, qualify to receive childcare through CETS.
[Click here for more info](#)
- 4. Health Service Executive: services for older people in Ireland**
Health Service Executive (HSE) offers a wide range of services for people who are growing old. They have collected support services from other agencies that are also available on their site. Home Care Package allows for older individuals to be cared for within their home. Resources such as Nursing Homes Support Scheme, Benefits and Financial Entitlements, and Community Services are offered on HSE. Information for Carers and Relatives is provided on HSE, which gives advice for individuals who are caring for a relative and support that is available to them.
[Click here for more info](#)
- 5. Family Income Supplement**
Family Income Supplement is provided to those who have children and are low paid. Children must be living with the person receiving the supplement or be financially dependent on that individual. This supplement is tax free and only qualifies for those who are employees not self-employed.
[Click here for more info](#)
- 6. Back to Work Family Dividend**
The Back to Work Family Dividend is a scheme that works to help families who are working towards employment. It gives financial support for individuals with children under 18 years of age who want to move off of welfare and into employment. If qualified an individual will receive weekly payments for two years. An equivalent payment will be provided to the individual that was received when on the jobseeker's payment or a one-parent family payment.
[Click here for more info](#)

**Guide to Supports Available to
Individuals in the Ballyhoura
Region of County Limerick and
North County Cork**



BALLYHOURA
DEVELOPMENT CLG

7. Citizens Information
Citizens Information board provides a wide range of information on public and social services. It gathers information from government and department agencies and presents the information on their site in an easy to understand way. Citizens information is designed to inform users on their rights and how to apply for services in Ireland.
[Click here for more info](#)
8. Employee Retention Grant Scheme
The Employee retention grant scheme works to help employers to continue to employ an employee who has acquired an injury or illness which may impact their ability to work. This scheme works to examine the ability for the employee to continue to be a productive member in the workforce. Provides funding for accommodations or re-training of employee so that they may continue to work in their current position or an alternate position.
[Click here for more info](#)
9. Support Employment Programme/Employability Service
Supported Employment allows people with a disability to find and maintain employment. They provide Job Coaches as well as Employment Support Specialist in order to help individuals maintain employment. Training for employers and employees is also provided through Supported Employment.
[Click here for more info](#)
10. Workplace Equipment Adaptation Grant
The Workplace Equipment adaptation grant is for individuals with a disability who need adaptive equipment in their workplace such as, ramps, modified toilets, flashlight alarms, or voice synthesizers for computers. Workplace Equipment Adaptation Grant will help employees or employees get the funding needed to obtain the necessary equipment.
[Click here for more info](#)
11. Personal Reader Grant
An individual who is blind or in need of extra assistance at work with reading may qualify for the Personal Reader Grant. This grant provides an individual with reading difficulties to employ someone part time to help them read at work. There is a maximum of 640 hours a year for a hired reader.
[Click here for more info](#)
12. Job Interviewer Interpreter Grant Scheme
The job interviewer interpreter grant scheme provides interpreters for individuals who may have a speech impairment, be deaf or hard of hearing. The interpreter is there to help individuals during the interview process. The grant can also be used during the training process, for an individual who has recently started a job and needs these services.
[Click here for more info](#)
13. Volunteering while with DSP
Volunteering is a good way for an individual to stay active in their community when they are not participating in the workforce. Individuals can still receive welfare

- payments while doing unpaid volunteer work. However payment conditions must continue to be met while the individual is volunteering. Each individual may have different conditions for their welfare plan so it is important to know what the conditions are before participating in a volunteer program. Citizens information describes some of the conditions that may apply.
[Click here for more info](#)
14. Tus – Work Placement Initiative
TUS work placement initiative provides individuals who are unemployed with a short term work placement. An individual must be unemployed for a year in order to be eligible. The individual will be assigned within an area of work which matches their abilities.
[Click here for more info](#)
15. Skillnets
Skillnets works with businesses in Ireland to evaluate their skills. They identify areas that are in need of training in order to develop necessary skills. Skillnets works to keep companies competitive and focus on improving jobs and job growth. For individuals who are unemployed, Skillnets works to activate courses and work placement in areas of employment opportunity. Skillnets funds training networks throughout many regions in Ireland ([Click here to explore training networks](#)).
[Click here for more info](#)
16. Apprenticeships
An apprenticeship is a way for an individual to learn work skills while earning an income. Apprenticeships combine on the job training along with off the job training in a classroom or training centre. Apprenticeships are a way for someone to develop their skills in a certain occupation. Apprenticeships are offered amongst multiple industries and sectors, such as construction, electrical, engineering, finance, hospitality, ICT, and motor ([Click here for detailed list](#)).
[Click here for more info](#)
17. Job-Path
Job-Path is a program focused towards individuals who have been unemployed for about 12 months and are seeking to find a job. Individuals who participate in Job-Path will receive support and guidance for overcoming barriers. They will also receive assistance in finding job opportunities. Job-Path is available to a person for a full year and can also help guide an individual through their first year of employment.
[Click here for more info](#)
18. Jobs Club
Jobs Club is designed to help individuals find and obtain jobs. Job Club helps individuals identify their strengths and how they can use those strengths during the application and interviewing process.
[Click here for more info](#)
19. Gateway – Local Authority Work Initiative
Gateway provides short term work and training to individuals who have been unemployed for at least 24 months. Gateway mainly provides work opportunities in

areas such as landscaping, tourism ambassador, libraries, and many other areas. Each individual will be placed in an area that suits their abilities.

[Click here for more info](#)

20. Digital Skills for Citizens Training

Ballyhora offers training sessions for individuals who want to improve their digital skills. Training is provided in local communities throughout the Limerick region. Training covers how to use iPhone, iPad, Tablet, and Smart Phones. Bring your own device to the training. Contact Olivia O'Brien at Ballyhora Development, Cappamore Office to schedule a training session (Tel 061381174).

21. Youth Employment Support Scheme (YESS)

YESS is for individuals who are between the age of 18 to 24. They offer the opportunity for young individuals to learn basic work skills while on a work placement. YESS goal is to provide a supportive environment for these young individuals who are working towards improving their skills. Candidates for YESS must be receiving one of the listed payments: Jobseekers Allowance, Jobseekers Benefit, One Parent Family Payment, Jobseeker Transition Payment, Disability Allowance, Blind Person's Pension, Supplementary Welfare Allowance.

[Click here for more info](#)

22. Local Training Initiatives LTI's

Ballyhora Development co-ordinates and delivers four Local Training Initiatives (LTI's) for unemployed people in the area. Local Training Initiatives are aimed primarily at people under 35 years of age, with no formal qualifications or incomplete secondary level qualifications. LTI's provide vocational training opportunities, learning supports and project-based learning to assist participants further their training, education, and work.

[Click here for more info](#)

23. Youth Employment Support Scheme

The Youth Employment Support Scheme works with young adults between the ages of 18 to 24 who have experienced barriers when searching for employment. The program works to provide young adults with the opportunity to learn basic work and social skills.

[Click here for more info](#)

24. Springboard Courses

Springboard offers 208 free part-time and post-graduate courses that allow individuals to gain a certificate, degree, or post-graduate level. Courses provided through Springboard all lead to growing enterprise sectors that are in need of skilled workers ([Click to search courses](#)). Springboard courses are offered to those who are homemakers, employed, and unemployed.

[Click here for more info](#)

25. Education and Training Board (ETB) Courses

Education and Training Board offers courses that are designed to help and individual get a job or move on to further education. Courses are available for full-time or part-time. Guidance counselors are available for individuals to receive career guidance as well as support throughout their education experience. Full time courses include Post Leaving Certificate (PLC) courses for adults who left school early, Vocational

Training Opportunities Scheme (VTOS), and Youth Reach for early school leavers ages 15-20. Back to Education Initiative (BTEI) is included under part-time courses, and works towards leading individuals gaining skills so that they can eventually gain further education or training.

26. College Options Limerick

- University of Limerick
<http://www.ul.ie/>
- Mary Immaculate College
<http://www.mic.ul.ie/Pages/default.aspx>
- Limerick Institute of Technology
<http://www.lit.ie/default.aspx>
- Limerick College of Further Education
<http://www.lcfe.ie/>
- Griffin College Limerick
<https://www.griffith.ie/locations/limerick>

North Cork

- University College Cork
[Click for more info](#)
- Cork Institute of Technology
[Click for more info](#)
- Griffin College Cork
[Click for more info](#)
- Cork College of Commerce
[Click for more info](#)
- National Maritime College of Ireland
[Click for more info](#)
- St. John's Central College of Further Education
[Click for more info](#)

27. Education and Training Board Centres Limerick

- Education and Training Boards Ireland (ETBI)
[Click here for more info](#)
- Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board
[Click here for more info](#)

North Cork

- Cork Training Centre Cork ETB
[Click here for more info](#)
- Cork Education and Training Board
[Click here for more info](#)

28. **Fetch – Further Education Training Courses**
Fetch is for individuals who are over the age of 16 and are looking to learn new skills in order to get a job. There is also an opportunity to progress to third-level education. Fetch also provides programs such as apprenticeships, traineeships, Post Leaving Cert course, community and adult education, core literacy and numeracy services.
[Click here for more info](#)
29. **Back to Education Programme**
The Back to Education Programme works to help individuals participate in educational and personal development courses. There are three educational options offered by the Back to Education Programme. The Back to Education Allowance allows people to receive second-level and third-level education while on welfare. Part-Time Education Option allows a person to keep their Jobseekers Allowance while attending a part time course. Education, Training and Development Option allows an individual to take personal development courses like literacy classes and keep their social welfare payments.
[Click here for more info](#)
30. **Jobseekers Benefit**
Jobseekers Benefit is a weekly payment for individuals who are unemployed for at least 4 out of the 7 days of the week. In order to receive payments individuals must be capable of working, searching for employment, have enough social insurance contributions. Those who do not qualify for Jobseekers Benefit may qualify for Jobseekers allowance.
[Click here for more info](#)
31. **Jobseekers Allowance**
Jobseekers Allowance is based off of the means test, which means that individuals must be below a certain level to qualify. Jobseekers Allowance is for those who do not qualify for Jobseeker's Benefits or are at a reduced rate of Jobseeker's Benefit.
[Click here for more info](#)
32. **Rural Social Scheme (RSS)**
Rural Social Scheme is an employment support scheme aimed at farmers and fisherpersons who are receiving long-term social welfare payments. RSS employees are employed for 19.5 hours a week to provide certain services or benefits to rural communities.
[Click here for more info](#)
33. **Training Support Grant**
The Training Support Grant is for individuals who need funding to access short term training. Funding can be granted to jobseekers who have identified work opportunity but need training or certification before they are eligible to work.
[Click here for more info](#)

34. **Local Link**
Local Link is a public transport service provided to rural areas of Ireland. In order to book a service it is necessary to contact the Local Link office near you. Local Link accepts Free Travel Passes. If an individual does not have a pass they need to contact the Local Link office near them to find fare prices.
[Click here for more info](#)
- Contact**
6a Newcastle West Enterprise Centre
Newcastle West
Co. Limerick
Tel: 069 78040
Email: ljmccook@locallink.ie



Ballyhoura Development

Kennedy Mindermann, Taylor Webster

Who are they?

Ballyhoura is a non-profit local development company that works to support communities, families, individuals, and business in County Limerick and North County Cork.

What do they do?

Ballyhoura Development offers information, training, and other supports to help individuals in the community access opportunities that will help them to improve their economic status and overall quality of life.

Aim of Project

Make it easier for community members to access information about the services available to them in their area.

Objective

Create a brochure and packet for community members use, which displays all of the services provided through Ballyhoura development.

Project Rational

Currently it is difficult for individuals to access information about resources and grants available to them when working towards finding employment or furthering their education. There was a need for a way for community members to easily identify what services or grants applied to them.

Barriers

Focused on the barriers that individuals in the community experience when trying to pursue employment or further education.



Do you lack suitable transport?
Are you financially restricted from pursuing additional training or entering the workforce?

Do you need assistance finding affordable childcare?
Do you need assistance finding care for a spouse or parent?



Are you struggling to find job opportunities?
Do you feel as though your age is holding you back?

Do you have any health issues - physical/mental?
Are you experiencing a lack of motivation?



Academic Supervisor: Bernie Quillinan

Acknowledgements: We would like to thank Donna Cleary and all the other staff members at Ballyhoura Development for taking the time to work with us in completing this project. We would also like to thank the community members in the Ballyhoura region that met with us so that we could gain a better understanding about the main barriers.



www.ul.ie/engage E-mail: ULEngage@ul.ie
Telephone: +353 61 202096