



**Presentation to South Dublin County Council**

**by**

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**Dublin Simon Community**

**1 - 2 Cope Street**

**Dublin 2**

## Simon Community regional services provided:

### **Regional Contact and Outreach Service.**

The team encourages entrenched rough-sleepers to access accommodation, health and social welfare services.

- Operate seven days and nights a week throughout the year.
- Specific focus to support and accommodate those rough sleeping on the streets.
- 150 Soup Run volunteers linking in with Rough Sleepers every night.
- Key working and Case management to core rough sleeping population.
- Referrals to emergency accommodation and specialised NGOs.
- Partnership with Safety Net, Chrysalis, St John of God to provide mobile bus primary care unit to those rough sleeping.
- Provision of on street needle exchange programme and harm reduction model.

stabilise  
people

### **Day Centres.**

- Operate daily.
- Open to vulnerable homeless people.
- Service includes counselling, referral to education and employment opportunities, and social activities.

### **Emergency Accommodation.**

#### **Supported Temporary Accommodations.**

Emergency accommodations and support to rough sleepers.

- 24 hour emergency accommodation. Wet facilities to cater for drinkers.
- Nursing staff on site providing harm reduction and needle exchange service.
- Stabilisation facilities available to stabilise alcohol or drug use in order to move into independent living.
- Methadone programme.
- Learning and Development programmes.
- Case management for residents.
- Referrals to housing and addiction treatment services.
- Links with Safety Net Service.

#### **Night Shelters**

Target vulnerable rough sleepers in their local area who are unable to access alternative accommodation.

- On site support by staff to provide move on options into local Accommodation.
- Wet facilities to cater for drinkers.
- Extension times to services provide day service support for referrals to health and social welfare services.
- Links with local Community Welfare Offices and Drugs Task Forces.

### **Long Term Supported Housing.**

Our projects provide long term supported housing for homeless people with mental health, addiction or personal care needs.

#### **Example A**

Long term supported accommodation for residents with general support care needs.

- Medium to high support for residents.
- 24 hour staffing support on site.
- Single room accommodation.
- Key working & Case management caters for individualised support plans.

#### **Example B.**

Long term, supported accommodation consisting of individual units with communal areas.

- On site support to residents.
- Access to learning and development & independent life skills programme.
- Referrals to alcohol support workers.
- Key working & Case management for residents.

#### **Example C**

Long term supported accommodation for people with learning disability who are homeless or identified as at risk of becoming homeless.

- Key working & Case management for residents.
- Promotion of life skills & living skills programme.
- Single room accommodation.
- Links to specialised local services.

### **Treatment services.**

#### **Alcohol Detox.**

Specialised for homeless people in Ireland. Provides a medically assisted detoxification service which enables people to detox from alcohol through a three week programme.

- 24 hour nursing cover on site and visiting GP cover.
- Holistic approach to address individuals needs around addiction and homelessness.
- Benzodiazepine detox available on the alcohol detox programme.

#### **Rehab.**

Low threshold residential environment to allow individuals to address their addictions primarily alcohol, so as to move out of homelessness.

- 3 month programme. Group work on relapse prevention, Life Skills, Education, and Learning and Development.

#### **Aftercare.**

Residential and visiting aftercare support. Low threshold post treatment support programme in the locality.

- 3 to 6 months programme. Visiting support from aftercare worker.
- One to one and group work on relapse prevention and peer support.
- Supports individuals to establish support network in preparation for moving out of homelessness.

## Simon Community regional services provided:

### **Regional Settlement - Sustainment - Prevention Service.**

#### **Settlement.**

These services support individuals in their move out of homelessness and assist them to work towards moving into appropriate long-term accommodation.

- Liaise with Landlords and CWOs in establishing the tenancy.
- Work with Local Authority Housing, Approved Housing Bodies and Private Landlords.
- Case management on an individualised basis.
- Offer short term support, life skills and pre tenancy support.
- Work with low to multiple support needs of clients. (Addiction, domestic abuse, mental health issues.)
- Home visitation teams.

#### **Tenancy Sustainment.**

Working to reduce the number of people becoming homeless and preventing them from losing their tenancy or supporting people who have recently moved into accommodation.

- Fixed periods of support offered.
- Low to multiple needs addressed by staff and community services through Case management.
- Work closely with Council staff, Estate Managers, Housing Managers & Social Inclusion Managers.
- Established local area offices & providing clinics on site.
- Links into service/ resources in community.

### **Regional Housing Support Service. SLI Scheme.**

Successful in tender bid to establish visiting support for low to moderate support tenants who are moving directly out of homelessness into accommodation.

- Visiting support is for a fixed period of time, maximum six months.
- Low support cases can conclude in 12 week time frame and moderate support within six months.
- Links with localised services across the Local Authority area.
- Local area office based. Direct links and referrals from Council staff including estate managers and housing staff.
- Both full time staff and volunteers support the tenant through a specific care plan agreed with the Local Authority based on the Assessment of Housing Needs and Holistic Needs Assessment.
- Tender proposes bundles of 100 cases referred to the Simon Community on a rolling basis.

### **Local Working Relationships.**

- Members of the North East Joint Homelessness Consultative Forum and Dublin Joint Homelessness Consultative Forum.
- Members of the Implementation Steering Group (ISG) for the development of the Pathway to Home model.
- Members of the Implementation Advisory Group (IAG) for the development of the Reconfiguration plan arising from the Pathway to Home model.  
Conclusion of the IAG work was:
  - Homeless Agency Partnership Recommendations to Government 2008.
  - Pathway to Home 2009. Implementation work plan for the Reconfiguration of services.
  - Submission to development of 'The Way Home 2008- 2013'.
- Members of the Voluntary Drug Treatment Network (VDTN) in the East coast region.
  - Role of VDTN is to help establish local regional clusters.
  - Attendance at the National Voluntary Drugs sector and National Drugs Rehabilitation Implementation Committee.
- Members of the South West (Kildare, West Wicklow, South Dublin city & County) and Dublin North City and County Drug Treatment networks.
- Members of Regional Drugs Task Forces.
- Members of 'Safety Net', providing primary healthcare and addiction services to homeless individuals.

### **Fundraising.**

Our dedicated fundraising teams, fundraising volunteers and donors nationally raise additional funds to support Simon Community services.

- Donor Contributions.
  - Donor involvement, Communications & Newsletters.
- Corporate Fundraising.
  - Christmas House of Cards Appeal.
  - Project sponsorships.
- Community Fundraising.
  - Schools, Colleges, Church collections and Charity Shops.
- General Fundraising Events.
  - Simon Annual Fun Run.
  - Sing for Simon.
  - Marathons and Sponsored hikes.

### **Volunteer Programme.**

Full and Part time volunteers work alongside professional staff to deliver services to those homeless in our services with over 250 part time and 30 full time volunteers.

Volunteer roles include:

- Night time Soup Run & Social Club.
- Housing, Shelter and Accommodation support.
- Detox, Rehab & Aftercare.
- Settlement and Tenancy Sustainment supporting staff and tenants.
- Board membership.