

Social Activity Centre

Rathmullan, Ireland

Kathleen Ferry

Project Stage:

Established

Website:

<http://www.svp.ie>

- [Aging](#)
- [Food](#)
- [Intercultural relations](#)
- [Recreation](#)

Project Summary

Elevator Pitch

Concise Summary: Help us pitch this solution! Provide an explanation within 3-4 short sentences.

The Centre provides a facility two days per week for people who are socially isolated, to meet and avail of meals and activities provided.

About Project

Problem: What problem is this project trying to address?

The centre is meeting the need for people who are living alone and who are socially isolated to meet, socialise and take part in activities. We also provide information and support in accessing basic medical care and information on social issues.

Solution: What is the proposed solution? Please be specific!

We are providing a facility where the vulnerable, elderly and isolated people can meet, socialise, take part in activities and access information and support relating to their social needs

Impact: How does it Work

Example: Walk us through a specific example(s) of how this solution makes a difference; include its primary activities.

The people who come to the centre have had their quality of life improved by the opportunities provided by the centre. People who have hitherto lived alone and isolated now have the opportunity to meet with people of a similar disposition. This is having a positive effect on their wellbeing.

Sustainability

Marketplace: Who else is addressing the problem outlined here? How does the proposed project differ from these approaches?

There is no other organisation providing a similar solution in this area.

About You

About You

First Name

Kathleen

Last Name

Ferry

Email

cnocfada@hotmail.com

Implementer(s) and cooperation partners

Name

St Vincent De Paul Special Works

Type

Non-profit/NGO/citizen sector organization

Country where main implementer is located

, DG, Rathmullan

How long has the main implementer been operating?

More than 5 years

Please provide a short description of the main implementer.

St. Joseph's Conference of St. Vincent dePaul, Special Works who were established to design, build and manage a much needed Social Activity Centre in Rathmullan, Co Donegal. Prior to the building of the centre there was absolutely no facility where people could meet and socialise. This is a scattered rural community where there are many people living alone and socially isolated and we recognised the urgent need for such a facility.

The information you provide here will be used to fill in any parts of your profile that have been left blank, such as interests, organization information, and website. No contact information will be made public. Please uncheck here if you do not want this to happen..

Cooperation partner

Name

St Vincent de Paul and Health.Service.Executive (HSE).

Type

Non-profit/NGO/citizen sector organisation

Website

www.svp.ie

How does this cooperation partner support the initiative? What competencies and resources does this partner bring to the initiative?

The national society of Svp provides statutory liability cover and also support and assistance. HSE part support the running of the day centre

Cooperation partner

Name

Type

Please select

Website

How does this cooperation partner support the initiative? Which competencies and resources does this partner bring to the initiative?

Cooperation partner

Name

Type

Please select

Website

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Problem and solution

Which of these fields of Active and Healthy Ageing are addressed by your initiative?

Social inclusion (intergenerational practice, work and volunteering).

If none of the above, answer here:

Please describe if and how your stakeholders (cooperation partners, funders, users, etc.) have been participating in defining the problem and developing the solution.

The St Vincent De Paul as an organisation were aware of these problems through their visitation conference and we formed a sub committee to investigate ways to solve this problem. The HSE took on the responsibility of providing the catering service.

Has your solution been tested in trials, experimentations, or pilot projects? If yes, please describe the process and outcome.

There have been no formal trials etc. but it has been inspected and evaluated by the HSE and found to be excellent.

How long has your solution been in operation?

for more than 5 years

Please select the relationship between your solution and related solutions currently established in our society. Is your solution...

independent (your solution is approaching a problem that has not been approached before)

What barriers might hinder the success of your initiative? How do you plan to overcome them?

Funding could be withdrawn by the HSE but we have other possible sources of income ie. a charity shop, fund raising activities and donations.

Organization and funding

Regularly paid employees

Supervisor (1)

Volunteers

six

Trainees

six

External advisers and experts

one

Others (please specify)

St Vincent De Paul National Society

What are the specific professional backgrounds and competencies your team brings to the initiative?

Catering, banking, secretarial,

Please describe your management or coordination structure in the initiative.

President, Treasurer, Secretary, committee members

Please provide the total yearly budget in Euro that your initiative spends on implementing the solution.

National public funding

50%

European Union public funding

0%

Economic return from own products/services

35%

Foundations and philanthropy capital

0%

Single donations from private individuals

15%

Donations from private companies

%

Crowdfunding platforms

%

Participation fees

%

Other (please specify)

%

Target group, scale and impact

Which target group(s) do you want to reach with your solution?

The socially isolated that would represent a cross section of the average rural Irish community. Gender divide approximately 50% with a basic standard of education.

Please estimate the number of persons within your target group (users, clients, etc.) that you currently reach directly with your solution.

44 (forty four)

In which local/regional/national area(s) is the solution currently implemented?

North West

What is the impact on your target group (users, clients) you want to generate?

To improve their quality of life by preventing social isolation.

What is the wider impact on society you want to generate?

To generate a certain amount of social cohesion by implementing an initiative that is cross community and interdenominational

What are the impacts on your target group you already achieved?

Their quality of life has improved, they have formed new friendships and are taking a more active part in the community.

How has the impact of your initiative been assessed?

Experience-based self-assessment (you assessed the impacts based on your experiences with the target group), Feedback-based self-assessment (you assessed the impacts based on feedback from the target group without using specific methods).

Public information and strategy

What information on your initiative is publicly available?

Mission and strategy, Organisational structure, Information on team members.

Please indicate webpage or contact for obtaining the respective information.

www.svp.ie

What are your milestones for further developing, implementing, and establishing your initiative in the next three years? Please describe 1-3 milestones.

We hope to be in a position to expand the activities by having the centre open for five days a week. We also hope to increase the number of clients by widening the catchment area.

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