

# CORK CITY PARTNERSHIP BI-MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



## Cork Volunteer Awards 2020

We are delighted to announce that our wonderful volunteer Maura Long was named Volunteer of the Year - North City at the Cork Volunteer Awards 2020 #CVA2020 held virtually last Friday. Maura has been an integral part of CCP's Friendly Call Cork Service for over 5 years and we were very proud to nominate her for an award this year. Along with her daily volunteering with Friendly Call Cork, Maura also decided to have her head shaved live on Facebook to raise funds for Friendly Call Cork and the Mercy University Hospital. Over €4,000 was donated through gofundme for her head shave! Maura has been cocooning since March but is making calls to our clients every day to our Friendly Call Clients.

We would like to congratulate all of this year's award recipients. We would also like to thank Cork Volunteer Centre for a fantastic virtual awards ceremony. You can see the event by clicking on the below link <https://www.facebook.com/VolunteerCork/videos/836869103731036/>

This year has been a real test of stamina for all our Friendly Call volunteers. Covid 19 has meant that all our volunteers are making calls every day from home. We are now calling over 350 people to check in with them and make sure everything is okay. Covid 19 has brought a lot of isolation and anxiety to individuals and we are so proud of all our volunteers who give up their time so freely. The Cork Volunteer Award to Maura is recognition of all our amazing Friendly Call Volunteers.



## South Side Youth Forum nominated for this year's Pride of Place Awards

Cork City Partnership is delighted to announce that The Southside Youth Forum was nominated by Cork City Council in collaboration with Co-operation Ireland as one of the six communities, groups and organisations for the 2020 IPB Pride of Place awards.

The South Side Youth Forum (SYF) was established in 2018. CCP's Community Development / Drug & Alcohol Worker Jackie Daly has worked closely with both the young people and the steering community involved in this initiative since its inception. Young people who had previously attended a Positive Health and Well Being event in late 2017 identified the need for a Youth Forum. A meeting was set up with young people from participating schools (Coláiste Éamann Rís, Presentation Secondary School, Ballyphehane, Coláiste Chríost Rí and Ballyphehane/Greenmount UBU and BAY Foróige Projects.) The young people, with support from the Steering Committee, drafted a plan of action on issues they faced.

SYF's aim is to change the way young people are perceived in their communities and they work to create a positive impact in their locality. They do this through positive community initiatives such as adding a memorial bench and tree in their local park and creating Mental Health Awareness among their peers. In order to represent young people's issues and ideas more effectively at community and citywide level, they created direct link with Cork City Council and they have an annual meeting with Council representatives including Directors of Service.

Speaking about the importance of the being nominated for Pride of Place Awards, CODAAP Project Worker, Cork City Partnership, Jackie Daly said:

We are delighted to have been nominated for the Pride of Place Award. The Young People & the Steering Community in the spirit of community engagement and collaboration have worked hard on several civic focussed initiatives. We wish all the nominees across Ireland, the best and look forward to award ceremony on the 21<sup>st</sup> November.

## Enterprise Support and Training

Cork City Partnership will be hosting additional online business training for sole traders and small businesses owners in November and December. These short course workshops, delivered over Zoom, will focus on the 3 Pillars of Success for businesses impacted by the Pandemic.

Places are limited and booking is essential. Please contact [info@partnershipcork.ie](mailto:info@partnershipcork.ie) or 021 4302310 for more details.

Changes announced in Budget 2020 are set to benefit self-employed individuals and small business owners. Full details will be available on [Revenue.ie](http://Revenue.ie) or if you wish to speak to a member of our Enterprise Support team please contact Tony or Yvonne on 021 – 4302310.

If you would like more information on becoming Self-Employed, Cork City Partnership will run another 'Enterprise Information Session' on Wednesday November 11<sup>th</sup>. You may qualify for financial support through the BTWEA scheme. Contact any Cork City Partnership office to reserve a place at this information session.

## Growing Your Potential

Having spent 15 years working as a stay at home mum, the thought of going out to look for a job was simply "quite terrifying" for Cork woman, Niamh Murphy.

Despite having a degree in business studies and accounting from CIT and previously having worked in the accounts department of a Cork publishing company, Niamh, who hails from the Cathedral Road in the city, had been out of the workforce since her second, now 16-years-old, child was born.

By the time her youngest child was more independent, Niamh had started thinking about going back to work and doing something for herself, but her confidence was low

By chance, she saw an advert for a free training and development course for women working in the home. The PEIL (Programme for Employability, Inclusion and Learning) course, run by Cork City Partnership, offered career coaching, confidence building, CV preparation and interview skills, among other things, and Niamh says it felt like she'd found the right thing at the right time.

"I was even nervous about doing the course but it was a relief that all the women on it were in the same boat and the support we got from each other was incredible. The actual training we got on the course was invaluable. I got help getting my CV up to date and help with explaining the gaps in the CV. We got interview skills training and advice on how to dress for interview."

Niamh completed the course in May, 2019, and began applying for jobs straight away. She heard nothing back from the first post she applied for but was called for an interview for the second, for a role working in admin on reception in Egan's Opticians on Lavitt's Quay. The interview went well and Niamh was offered the job the same day.

"The thought of going for an interview a couple of months before that time absolutely terrified me, so to actually just do it, get an interview and be offered the job was amazing!" she said.

Cork City Partnership will be running a new version of the PEIL course, entitled 'Growing Your Potential', starting in October. Due to Covid19, the programme which offers a range of supports from confidence building, CV preparation and interview technique, will be delivered online

"If you're thinking about the course and you're on the fence, just go for it. Two years ago, I don't think I could have even imagined myself in a job and it's all down to having done the course. It's changed my life," she said.

Anyone living in Cork city or environs interested in getting more information on Growing Your Potential can visit [www.corkcitypartnership.ie](http://www.corkcitypartnership.ie)

You can also enquire by email at: [info@partnershipcork.ie](mailto:info@partnershipcork.ie) and by telephone: 021-4302310

CCP continues to work closely with all its clients during this difficult time for people.

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