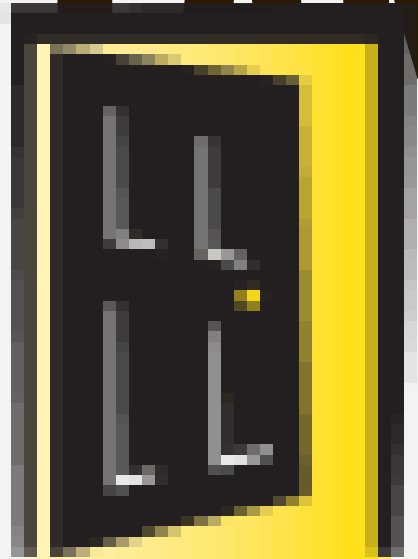


LOCAL ACTION PLANS



Clark Summit

Community

DESCRIPTION OF THE SITUATION

- Significant increase in the number of homeless people engaged in problem drug use in Cork.
- The number of opiate users availing of Cork Simon's Residential Services has more than doubled in the past three years.
- The number of people sleeping rough in the city for one night or more has increased from 38 in 2011 to 327 in 2016 and we have noted a persistent association between rough sleeping and problem drug and alcohol use.

DESCRIPTION OF THE SITUATION

- Cork Simon's day service and rough sleeper team have been effective in reducing drug and alcohol related nuisance in Cork City as the service offers alternatives to life on the streets including access to our activities programme and our Employment and Training Service which has found more than 100 jobs for homeless people over the past four years and assists an average of almost 150 people per annum to gain educational qualifications
- Direct feedback from Cork Simon's beneficiaries indicate that they wish for us to expand this service by opening at Weekends. Rough sleepers complain of having nowhere to go on Saturday's and Sunday's and would welcome an alternative to the street scene and associated high levels of drug and alcohol use

AIMS AND SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES OF THE INTERVENTION

- We propose to develop a “Safer Saturdays” project aimed at homeless drug users in Cork aimed at promoting deeper engagement with services, reducing alcohol and drug related harm and street nuisance.
- This will involve running our Day Service from 8.00am to 1.00pm on Saturdays offering a range of supports at time when no services are currently available in Cork for homeless drug and alcohol users. This also is a direct response to the wishes expressed by Cork Simons service users, through our independently facilitated focus groups and surveys, for the establishment of such services at the weekend

SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES

- Needle exchange service
- Workshops on safer injecting and safer drug use.
- Training in administration of naloxone
- Training in first aid
- Access to our activities programme
- Access and referral to Cork Simon Education, training and employment programme
- Access to meals and shower facilities
- Referral to Cork Simon Housing First and Support housing projects

INDICATORS (MEASURABLE)

- Numbers of rough sleepers engaged in Safer Saturdays service
- Numbers availing of Needle exchange service
- Number attending Workshops on safer injecting and safer drug use.
- Number availing of training in administration of naloxone
- Number availing of training in first aid
- Number referred to our activities programme
- Number referred to Cork Simon Education, training and employment programme
- Number accessing to meals and shower facilities
- Number referred to Cork Simon Housing First and Support housing project

POTENTIAL BOTTLENECKS + SOLUTIONS

Bottleneck	Solution
Poor range of Nx equipment in Cork	Liaise /Lobby HSE re “pick and mix” option
Delay in roll out of Naloxone programme	Liaise / lobby HSE
Availability of training providers on Saturdays	Arrange training for other days and refer participants
Staff availability	Draw on relief staffing panel if necessary

TIMELINE

- Develop detailed project plan - April – July 2017
- Recruitment / assignment of staff – July 2017
- Refinement of programme of activities – July / August 2017
- Commencement of “Safer Saturdays” pilot – August 2017
- Completion of Pilot – August 2019
- Data collection – August 2017-2019
- Report on Outcomes – November 2019

INVOLVED PARTNERS AND STAKEHOLDERS

Joe Finnerty, School of Applied Social Studies UCC – Assisting with Research aspects

Dr Austin O'Carroll, Safety Net – Providing Clinical Governance for Nx services

HSE Addiction Services – Offer training in Naloxone administration

Irish Red Cross provide training in First Aid for clients

Cork Simon Training, Education and Employment programme – links with employers and training providers.