

Tusla Cork Update

Tusla continues to process child protection referrals at this time, and recognises that the current conditions pose particular risks for vulnerable children and families



Children First Office

The Garda Síochána / Tusla Senior Local Management Liaison Forums are a vital component in ensuring the implementation and review of the Joint Working Protocol which will in turn assist in establishing stronger local joint working arrangements in child protection and welfare between both agencies

The Cork Area held their SLMLF via teleconference between 7th – 14th May across 3 areas:

South Lee & North Lee – Cork City
North Cork – Cork North
West Cork – Cork West

Well done to all Liaison Managers in adapting to new methods of communication during Covid-19. It was reported to be a positive experience by both organisations.

Joint Working Protocol go to

https://www.tusla.ie/uploads/content/CF_Joint_Protocol.pdf



TUSLA
An Ghníomhaireacht um
Leanaí agus an Teaghlach
Child and Family Agency

CYPSC
CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES COMMITTEES
Cork

tusla.ie
cypsc.ie
hse.ie
gov.ie
corkcity.ie
corkcoco.ie

Useful Websites

International Federation of Social Workers is holding its 2020 Conference online July 15th-19th. This is a free event with a packed schedule of speakers and events from around the world. Register here

<https://t.co/yfOmiO7tjC>

UCC developed online resources:

<https://padlet.com/kenneth28burns/uvpu626mvd5k>

ISPCAN (International Society for the Prevention of Abuse and Neglect):

[See Youtube Channel](#)

The Alliance for Child-Protection in Humanitarian Action

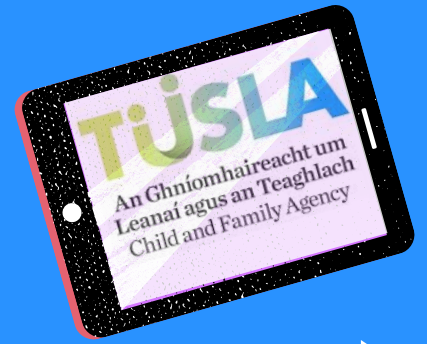
[See Youtube Channel](#)

Poverty is crippling for children and families and if, as a society, we truly want to safeguard and protect children we need to address and eliminate poverty in our society. Timely report from SVP....

<https://t.co/fCjqXEvwz5>

VIRTUAL YOUTH CLUB

Springboard Tusla have been working in collaboration with the Good Shepherd Services since June 2016 offering a therapeutic and educational 'Youth Club' for families and children experiencing homelessness in Cork. This initiative supports children weekly offering an array of services including weekly youth club, boxing club, homework club as well as individual therapeutic work for targeted children and families.



Due to the Covid 19 crisis, youth club and physical interaction was not possible. There was still a need for support for the children. Services had to adapt very quickly and in the vision of Winnicott, continue to 'hold it' with these families and children. It was agreed by both the Good Shepherd Service and Springboard Tusla Management that each family be provided with a tablet. Each tablet was specifically customized with specialised apps to the childrens' ages and interests. Information was provided to parents on Internet Safety and content installed on the devices.

Padlet was also installed on each tablet which in turn was linked to our **closed** Good Shepherd Service Padlet page. Padlet is an interactive online notice-board where a worker can upload links, documents, discussions or anything of interest that may help maintain a relationship with a child or family. As a result, the children and young people are now linked in with supports around fun fitness, arts, education and sport. Some of the staff from youth club are also putting up pre-recorded pieces of work which in essence maintains the relationship and has led to the creation of 'Virtual Youth Club'. Administrators of Padlet are all members of the GSS/Tusla Springboard collaboration 'POD' of workers. Some are working in the family hub (Redclyffe House), Edel House or as part of the B&B/Hotel outreach team where they respond to families' changing needs as they arise.

This initiative has provided the team with daily interaction and linkages with the children, uploading and monitoring material regularly. It has created a space where child care staff and team members can connect with families and children during this difficult period. The children and parents can comment and rate the material, giving guidance on areas of interest. A parent's column is also available with relevant information and support.

The initiative offers a continuation of interaction and support for these children and families, maintaining the consistency of 'Youth club', although in an alternative format.

You can access a presentation on our Padlet and Virtual Youth Club at <https://bit.ly/36s5xHs> from the recent UCC Social Work Webinar which begins at 1:05 on the link.



First a Home, then Hope