

- ♦ EU RegioStars Award 2019 finalist!
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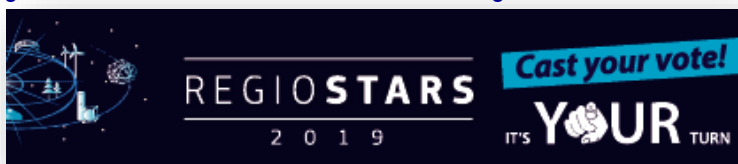
EU RegioStars Award 2019 finalist!

In July, the CAWT cross border Community Paramedic project received some brilliant news: **a nomination for the prestigious RegioStars 2019 Awards in the 'Modernising Health Services category.'** Each year, the European Commission awards those EU funded projects, which demonstrate excellence and new approaches in regional development. The goal of these RegioStars Awards is to inspire other regions across Europe.



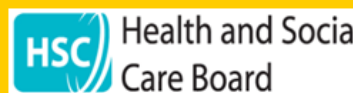
Receiving the RegioStars 2019 Certificate on behalf of the CAWT Partnership for the Community Paramedic Project (l to r): Marc Lemaître, DG for Regional and Urban Policy; Marianne Thyssen, EU Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs, Skills and Labour Mobility; Sadie Bergin, CAWT and Lambert Van Nistelrooij, Honorary Chair of the 2019 RegioStars Jury / Former MEP.

In total 199 projects across all five categories were nominated earlier this year and in July CAWT was informed that the cross border Community Paramedic project is among the 24 finalists!! This is a terrific achievement and testament to the hard work of all involved in managing and implementing the project. The winners in all five categories will be announced on 9 October, during the '2019 EU week of Cities and Regions.' The RegioStars 2019 selects the most original and innovative Cohesion Policy projects in five categories: 1. promoting digital transformation; 2. giving green spaces and rivers their place in the city 3. fighting inequalities and poverty; 4. building climate-resilient cities and 5. modernising health services.



In addition to the five category winners, the public is invited to choose among the 24 RegioStars finalists selected by the RegioStars jury. The RegioStars 2019 Public Choice Award will go to the project with the highest public support so **YOUR VOTE IS NEEDED!** To give your vote please click on the RegioStars webpage [HERE](#) and give your vote by clicking on the 'VOTE' symbol. Please share and let other people know so we can increase both the number of votes for the project and awareness of the great work underway.

The cross border Community Paramedic project is part of the CAWT led suite of health and social care projects funded by the EU's INTERREG VA programme. The project is a collaboration between the three national ambulance services: the Scottish Ambulance Service, the Northern Ireland Ambulance Service and the National Ambulance Service in Ireland. The Community Paramedic Project is targeting patient populations in rural border areas of the Republic of Ireland, Northern Ireland & also in Scotland within four pilot localities: Buncrana, Co. Donegal (Ire); Clones, Co. Monaghan (Ire); Castlederg, Co. Tyrone (NI/UK) and the Mid Argyll region of Western Scotland (Scot / UK). Community Paramedics (CPs) are highly trained Ambulance staff who have undergone further specialised training to enable them to see and treat patients in their communities and their own homes, rather than having to transport patients by ambulance to busy hospital emergency / A & E departments.



Projects supported by the European Union's INTERREG VA Programme, managed by the Special EU Programmes Body



An Roinn Sláinte
Máinnistrie O Poustie



The CoH-Sync Project continues to make excellent progress in supporting individuals to improve their health and well-being. Each of the 8 Hubs have trained Health Facilitators in place who are working with clients to develop and action a Health and Well-being Plan. The Health Facilitator then assist their clients to reach the health goals set.

To date in excess of 3,245 people have availed of the CoH-Sync service and are reaping the benefits in a range of areas including improved mental health, being more physically active, eating more healthily, quitting smoking or drinking less alcohol for example. The ethos of the project is to support and enable people to improve their health and well-being and to utilise local resources where possible. All 8 Hubs are reporting back that clients are benefitting from their services and support, with some clients experiencing positive benefits beyond their expectations. This is wonderful to hear and bodes well for the project as it continues to support more people in local communities.

To create awareness and to encourage people within the community to avail of the CoH-Sync services, Hub providers have organised local launch events over the past few months. To date four such launches have been successfully undertaken. For example, Monaghan Integrated Development, with the support of Breffini Integrated Development (Cavan), launched their Hub services in Carrickmacross in March as part of an annual health fair. Similarly in June, Connected Health held a launch event in Dungannon for their Hub in the Armagh and Dungannon area. These events provided a great opportunity for the Hub providers to publicise their services more widely and assist with client recruitment. All the cross border launch events had attendance from other Hub area representatives which enabled networking by both local and regional attendees.

As part of the project, Hub Health Facilitators continue to avail of training provided by North West Regional College, who won the tender to deliver this accredited training. The modules provided are giving the participants the knowledge, skills and confidence to carry out the Community Health Facilitator role. It is also proving to be a great opportunity for sharing learning across the border-wide network of Hubs.

The CAWT CoH-Sync project team continue to support the Hubs to achieve their targets and are currently focused on a number of priority areas. This includes supporting the Hubs to transition to using the updated personal Health and Well-being plan, with an agreed process for client engagement and sign-off. Furthermore, the project has procured an online IT solution to support the activities of the Hub network by enabling the effective data collection, management and reporting system for the project. The Hubs will be briefed in more detail on the roll-out plans in coming weeks. All eight Hubs will continue to focus on securing clients and supporting them to make sustainable improvement to their health and well-being.

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[Hub locations and contacts](#)



Some of the members of the CoH Sync Project Board at a recent meeting in Antrim (l to r): Gerard Rocks, Southern Trust; Michele McCoy, NHS Dumfries and Galloway; Maura O'Neill, Western Trust (Chair); Brigid McGinty, Coh Sync Project and Brid Kennedy, HSE.



Selection of photos from the launch of the Monaghan and Cavan Hub launch in Carrickmacross Co. Monaghan attended by a broad range of stakeholders including the SEUPB, HSE, the CAWT Partnership, Monaghan Integrated Development Ltd, Breffini Integrated Development (Cavan) and Donegal Local Development Company.

This project is progressing well with over 4,600 patient beneficiaries at 31 May 2019 and is on target to meet the overall 14,500 patient beneficiaries by December 2021. In addition, the project has to date trained over 600 staff associated with the various strands of the project.

Community Paramedic Project: The news that the CAWT cross border Community Paramedic project has been nominated for a RegioStars 2019 Award has been enthusiastically welcomed by the three ambulance services and all associated with the project's establishment and on-going management. The EU Commission's RegioStars Awards recognises the most original and innovative Cohesive Policy projects. The project has been nominated under the 'Modernising Health Services' category and is now among the 5 finalists in that category. The winners will be announced in early October in Brussels. Meanwhile the promotion of the project for Public Choice Award will continue, with citizens encouraged to cast their vote [here](#). So do give this fantastic project your vote!

The Community Paramedic Project has entered its final year and the project staff continue to assess and treat patients in their own homes and communities. The work of one of the Project's Community Paramedics in Northern Ireland has earned her the award of 'Northern Ireland Paramedic of the Year' 2019 and the Project Board welcomed this accolade for Caroline French who is doing brilliant work in caring for people in local communities from her base in Castlederg.



CAWT Project Community Paramedics pictured (l to r): Brendan Finan, Clones GP Practice; Damian Muldoon, Castlederg Primary Care Centre; Ann McDermott, Buncrana Primary Care Centre; Keith Cameron - Lecturer at Glasgow Caledonian University and Specialist Paramedic in the Scottish Ambulance Service; Declan Smith, Clones GP Practice; Caroline French, Castlederg Primary Care Centre and Mark Sheerin, Buncrana Primary Care Centre.

Emergency Department Reform: The Acute Project has successfully supported the establishment of new 'Discharge Lounges' in both Sligo and Letterkenny University Hospitals and this element of the Project has concluded. Local hospital staff involved are implementing the innovative changes which is enabling them to deliver an improved service to their patients. Both hospitals have evidence of improved services to patients and plan to continue and refine the new systems going forward. Using this experience, work on improving patient flows in the South West Acute Hospital (SWAH) in the Western Trust is underway and will be completed by mid-August and evaluated in early autumn. Staff at the SWAH are working alongside project personnel to make improvements on the ground for patients attending the hospital's Emergency Department.



Pictured (l to r): Siobhan Mc Eniff, Clinical Project Officer, Louise Potts, Project Manager, CAWT, Ciara O'Reilly, Health Care Assistant, Discharge Lounge; Roisin Molloy, ADON for Patient Flow; Emer Melvin, CNM 2 Discharge Lounge & Bridget Clarke, CAWT Acute Clinical Pathway Manager. Front row: Grainne McCann, General Manager & Rosemary Maguire, Acting CNM 2, Acute Assessment Unit.

Dermatology: The Acute Project's Dermatology Subgroup is guiding all four streams of the Dermatology strand. The four streams include enhancing provision in the Western Trust, provision of phototherapy services in Letterkenny University Hospital, provision of photo-triage in the Northern and Belfast Trusts which will be rolled out throughout the remaining Trusts in Northern Ireland in 2020. The fourth strand involves the education and training of dermatology nurses, both qualified and unqualified, in the EU funding eligible area, which is led by two National Dermatology Improvement Nurses in Scotland.

Vascular: Cross border vascular services are being provided to patients in both the Western Trust and Letterkenny University Hospital. This service involves Donegal patients being assessed by a Western Trust consultant at Letterkenny University Hospital initially. Patients requiring treatment then travel across the border to receive their surgery in the new Omagh Hospital and Primary Care Complex in Northern Ireland. The challenges involved in establishing the cross border vascular service have been overcome due to the endeavours & commitment of staff at both hospitals. This service is now working well with citizens accessing vascular services close to where they live.

In the period January to June 2019, considerable progress has been made in the volume of courses delivered across the three cross border Hub areas of the East, South and West. This includes:

- ♦ 75 mental health education & learning courses co-produced;
- ♦ 500 Individual Learning Plans completed (740 in total to date); and
- ♦ 34 health professionals attended specialist training and development programmes (303 in total to date).

The majority of project staff are now in post which has allowed the project to be delivered across a larger geographical spread. A key focus in recent months has been working closely with the community and voluntary sector in order to create awareness of and engagement with the Innovation Recovery Project. 70 individual meetings/presentations have taken place across all Hub areas and staff have been busy promoting the Innovation Recovery project across 12 counties. This has generated considerable demand for the project's services. In general there is strong interest by service users, carers and the general public in the project's outputs. Additionally, project staff have held 50 meetings within the statutory sector to ensure all health and social care professionals are aware of the project and its activities.



Innovation Recovery Project staff from both Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland pictured at the Project Assembly in Sligo in July.

The West Hub staff have been delivering courses across Derry and Donegal and are bringing courses out to rural areas to ensure people who have limited access to transport can still avail of the project's activities. This has been warmly received in Gweedore, Portnoo, Moville and Gortahork to name a few. The East Hub staff are delivering courses in many rural villages also and have extended the delivery of courses in County Louth as far as Drogheda. The South Hub staff have recently moved to a new office at Cavan Institute. From this base they will be delivering courses in Monaghan, Cavan, Sligo, Fermanagh and Leitrim. The staff have been busy developing creative courses to commence in the Autumn term such as "The Easel Way to Recovery".



Innovation Recovery Project Board members at their meeting in July (l to r): Adrian Corrigan, SHSCT; Mary O'Brien, BHSCT; Cathy McCloskey, CAWT Innovation Recovery Project; Edel O'Doherty, CAWT; John McCardle, HSE; John Meehan, HSE; Briege Quinn, PHA; Brenda Toal, SHSCT; Maria Quinn, SHSCT and Michael Ryan, HSE.

The Project Assembly that took place in Sligo on 4th July was a resounding success with 100% of participants indicating that the day was very beneficial. The purpose of the day was to share knowledge, update colleagues on activity within each hub area, network with colleagues cross border and exchange good practice in Innovation Recovery. 25 project staff participated in the event and there was representation from the Project Board, the East, South and West hubs and our contracted partners.

Overall, the summer has proven to be a busy period in terms of planning course prospectuses, developing new courses as a result of demand from participants and engaging with the community and voluntary sector and other stakeholders.

There is great excitement among health and social care professionals that WRAP level 1 and level 2 training will take place between August and December this year. The 'Suicide or Survive' organisation has been awarded the contract for WRAP training and are currently working closely with the project team in planning the delivery of training to over 80 participants. Further training will be arranged from January 2020 onwards.

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Pictured at the mPower Project learning event (l to r): Pauline McKeown, WHSCT; Vincent Ryan, WHSCT; Myrtle Harron, WHSCT; Soo Hun, PHA; Dr Anne Kilgallen, WHSCT; Allison Forbes, SWAP; Alan Connor, mPower Project; Prof James Ferguson, SCTT; Dr Miriam Dolan, Maple Group; Anne Clark, NHS Ayrshire & Arran and Elaine Aughey, WHSCT.

Learning events in the CAWT region: Over 80 people joined the most recent mPower learning event hosted by the Western Trust in Enniskillen earlier this year. It was attended by community and voluntary organisations and a wide range of health and social care professionals. Guest speakers shared their experiences of how local projects can empower older people to live more independent lives in rural areas and how Technology Enabled Care practices can support older people to remain in their own homes for longer. Previous learning events hosted by HSE in their Community Health Organisation (CHO) areas 1 and 8 and the Southern Health and Social Care Trust, saw over 300 guests attend. These events held in Sligo, Letterkenny, Drogheda and Newry were a huge success and generated great enthusiasm about the project. CEO of ALONE, Sean Moynihan, presented at one of the events on how to build empowered and connected communities. He said: **"It is vital that older people are supported to live happily at home for as long as possible. We are delighted to be working with mPower. We hope that by working together we can reduce the challenges older people face and enable them to age with confidence, security, and dignity"**.

A new digital health intervention for South Leitrim: In South Leitrim CHO 1 area, the Chronic Pain Management Team based in Sligo University Hospital referred three of their clients to mPower. They were interested in the possibility of being able to have a health consultation from the comfort of their own home and avoid having to travel to the hospital. The mPower team were able to set them up with 'Attend Anywhere,' a simple to use video calling tool for remote health appointments on their mobile device. All three clients gave positive feedback after each had a successful consultation with their clinician. Dr Therese O'Connor and her team are enthused by the results and have agreed to refer new clients living in the South Leitrim area who would benefit from using 'Attend Anywhere.' Buoyed by this success the Respiratory Integrated Care Team in Donegal have undertaken 'Attend Anywhere' training and plan to roll the service out there for clients in the near future.



A warm welcome to new team members: We're delighted to have welcomed Pauline McKeown, Martina Virtue, Kathy Foy and Aidan McCabe to the mPower family. Kathy and Aidan are the new Community Navigators in the Southern Health and Social Care Trust area. Pauline and Martina are our new Community Navigators in the Western Trust area. Former Implementation Lead in the Western Trust, Elaine Aughey has taken up a role as Community Navigator with HSE's CHO 8 based in Drogheda. We wish them all well in their roles and are looking forward to working together.

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Through the CAWT Partnership, the MACE Project has been awarded grant funding from the EU INTERREG VA programme with the aim of transforming the lives of vulnerable families who are at risk from multiple adversities in their lives, through identification, early intervention and the provision of nurturing support within their own communities. The project operates across five community network areas in the border region of Ireland/Northern Ireland.

Through cross border co-operation, the Project will build on infrastructure that already exists within each community network area and will facilitate local communities to build local capacity by working together and learning from each other and will be jointly owned by both jurisdictions through management and oversight of the project.

Following a recruitment process, the new Project Manager, Deirdre McDaid, took up post during May and is working with a full team of project staff to progress the objectives of the project. The Project Board is delighted that all staff are now in place.

A specialist was appointed through a tender process to complete a review of existing assessments, screening tools and practices relevant to childhood adversity which will inform the Project Board on the future development of any assessment/screening tools that could support the early identification of children, young people and families at risk of multiple adversities. This report will be completed by the end of the summer.

Under the direction of the Project Co-ordinators, the Cross Border Community Networks have been meeting, hosting workshops and events, building relationships and planning activities to build sustainable trauma informed communities. They have also been considering interventions and approaches which could improve outcomes for children and young people at risk of multiple adversities. In addition, each of the 5 Project Co-ordinators have been busy working with their Network to complete a scoping report and to develop and agree a menu of interventions that may be suitable for procurement. All of the efforts of the Cross Border Community Networks will help to inform a competitive tendering process to commission a wide range of services for children and young people aged 0-3 and 11-13 years who have been identified as at risk of not meeting their full potential. Once commissioned, these services will be available to families throughout the Cross Border Network areas.



MACE Project Team and Project Board representative pictured at the 'Aces to Assets' conference in Glasgow earlier this year.



The MACE project was jointly developed by a collaboration of six statutory sector partners, namely the HSE and TUSLA in the Republic of Ireland, the Southern and Western Health and Social Care Trusts, the Public Health Agency and the Health and Social Care Board in Northern Ireland. Each of these organisations is represented at Project Board level.

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EU INTERREG VA projects in pictures



Pictured at the Armagh and Dungannon CoH-Sync Hub launch are (Back row / l to r): Liam Jackson, Connected Health; Shane Devlin, Southern Trust; Gerard Rocks, Southern Trust & Irene Smith, NSMC. Centre row: Sean McAteer, NSMC; Brigid McGinty, CoH-Sync Project & Dougie Adams, Connected Health. Front row: Sinead Donnelly, Laura Winter & Andrea Milligan, Connected Health.



Some of the members of the Dermatology sub group at a recent meeting (l to r): Dianne Ross and Hilary Nicholson, National Improvement Nurse Leads Scotland, David Pratt, Scottish Government; Louise Potts, CAWT; Maeve Brown, Western Trust; Marie McCloskey, Western Trust; Dr David Todd, Northern Trust; Lisa McGovern & Colette Patton, Letterkenny University Hospital.



Community Paramedic workshop attendees. Seated (l to r): Andy Brady SAS; Hillary Collins, PHECC; Martin Dunne NAS. Standing: Tom Howell, NAS; Laura Coulter, NIAS; Murray McEwan, SAS; Bill Forbes, NAS; Macartan Hughes, NAS; Prof. Cathal O'Donnell, NAS, Louise Potts, CAWT/HSE & Dr Seamus Clarke, Monaghan.



Guests and speakers pictured at the Cavan and Monaghan CoH-Sync Hub launch held in Carrickmacross in June.



Innovation Recovery project reps at a cross border assembly (l to r): Padraig O'Beirne, HSE; Cathy McCloskey, CAWT / WHSCT; Mairead McKelvey, CAWT / WHSCT, & Edel O'Doherty, CAWT.



Pictured at recent event in Gortahork Co. Donegal (l to r): Bernice Alcorn, CoH-Sync Project; Tina Duffy, Innovation Recovery Project, Wendy Risby, Innovation Recovery Project and Siobhan Coyle, CoH-Sync Project.