



c/o Newbridge Health Centre, Henry Street, Newbridge, Co. Kildare

21<sup>st</sup> September 2017

Ms. Sonya Kavanagh  
Kildare LCDC Chief Officer/Director of Services Economic, Community and Cultural Development  
Kildare County Council  
Level 7  
Aras Chill Dara  
Naas  
Co. Kildare

Dear Sonya,

I would like to sincerely thank Kildare LCDC for their ongoing support to Mojo Kildare. The LCDC were instrumental in securing Mojo, initially as a pilot programme from the National Office of Suicide Prevention in 2014 and supporting its ongoing development and expansion.

## 1. Short Update

Mojo Kildare are currently delivering our seventh Mojo programme located in Athy and will shortly commence our eighth and ninth Mini Mojo programme in Athy (October) and Naas (November). To date, two hundred and ten men, from across Kildare have engaged with Mojo since we began in September 2015. Our external evaluation launched by Minister McEntee earlier this year highlighted the positive impact of participating on the programme has had, not only for the men themselves but also their families. 76% of participants progress onto further education, employment and training. The men themselves have also developed peer support groups (Mojo Male Spaces) in Newbridge and Celbridge.

2017 saw us offer three full Mojo programmes in Kildare North, South and Central Kildare and four Mini Mojo programmes. Demand for programmes continues to outstrip supply. For example our current programme in Athy had 30 referrals for 14 places as men, their partners and services recognise the real hope and opportunity that Mojo offers to men in distress. The overall budget for 2017 was €166,000.

Mojo is now hosted by County Kildare LEADER Partnership, transferring from Teach Dara, as the programme expanded across the county from its' initial base in Kildare Town.

## 2. Plans 2018

Mojo Kildare will continue to be part funded by the National Office of Suicide Prevention (NOSP) of €40,000 and is required to source the remainder from sources locally. Our main sources of local funding 2017 were:

- |                 |         |     |
|-----------------|---------|-----|
| • HSE, CH07     | €53,200 | 24% |
| • KCC           | €31,650 | 19% |
| • McVerry Trust | €10,000 | 6%  |
| • KWETB         | €8,132  | 5%  |

- CKLP €14,060 8%
- SWRDATAF €3,713 2%

On behalf of Mojo Kildare I would again like to thank the LCDC in your support as partners. The financial commitment received is instrumental to implementing the programme in Kildare and your support has enabled strong interagency engagement with men at risk.

I am liaising with agencies individually, however the collaborative commitments made by the LCDC are very supportive in securing funding for the programme.

There are significant opportunities to expand Mojo. The sustainability sub group have outlined that in order to meet the needs across the county in identified priority areas will require the optimum level of provision as outlined below:

5 Mojo Programmes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Including a programme for young men aged 18 – 25 years</li> </ul>	North / Mid /South Kildare
8 Mini Mojo programmes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Including Men at work programme</li> </ul>	North /Mid/South Kildare
6 Thematic Workshops	Wellbeing, Anger Management, Positive Coping Strategies, Managing Change etc
3 Mojo Male Spaces – Peer support	Newbridge/ Celbridge / Athy

This level of provision would enable us to support 218 men in 2018 across the county at a budget cost of €180,000.

An application is pending under the Healthy Ireland application process, which if successful, will enable further programmes to take place.

### 3. Request

I am currently seeking continued support from the LCDC to

- a) Continue to provide at a minimum the financial contributions received from partner agencies in 2018
- b) Ideally to increase financial contributions in order to expand Mojo in line with demand. This could be achieved by funders contributing an additional 10% in 2018 or by other members of LCDC financially contributing towards Mojo Kildare.

I would welcome the opportunity to present or meet with you individually to discuss this further and thank you again for your support to date.

Yours sincerely,

**Niamh Keaveney**

Manager Mojo Kildare

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