



Offaly Traveller Movement

2018

ANNUAL REPORT



Message From the Chairperson

Another year has passed and once again it has been a very eventful and demanding year for Offaly Traveller Movement. Throughout this report you will read a lot more detail about the work of OTM, the services offered and the interactions between the staff and the Traveller community in Offaly. Despite the many challenges, obstacles and constraints of limited funding we have continued to work towards our mission; to empower Travellers and build partnerships with the wider community and services and to achieve equality and social justice for Travellers, both locally and nationally.

I want to acknowledge the significant work of our loyal staff team who are highly skilled and dedicated to their work. They work tirelessly on a range of projects consistent with our strategic plan 2015-2020 and consistently achieve much success in terms of interventions, progress and outcomes. In 2018 over 13000 interventions were recorded which demonstrates the commitment and successes of the team. Throughout 2018, Offaly Traveller Movement continued to seek innovative ways and solutions to address the many challenges and issues that Travellers face in their daily lives. Indeed Offaly Traveller Movement in partnership with the HSE designed and launched “A Guide to Developing a Local Co-ordinated Crisis Response Plan for the Traveller Community 2018”. The aim of this Plan is to facilitate the co-ordination of multi-agency responses to ensure more support for individuals and families .

who are experiencing these crisis situations. This Guide is now listed as an action in Connecting for Life 2018-2020, Midlands, Louth, Meath.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Emma Gilchreest, our former Managing Director who worked with OTM for nearly 10 years.

Emma was very dedicated to OTM, the development of the staff and to the Traveller community and we wish her all the best in her new role.

Sandra McDonagh will take over the role of Managing Director in early 2019 and we wish her the very best of luck in the years ahead. I would also like to sincerely thank our board of management for their continued dedication, time and effort in collectively directing the organisations businesses ensuring high standards of governance, transparency and accountability.



Chairperson Lily Ward with her family at Traveller Ethnicity Celebrations. 2018



In Loving Memory of Bridget "Biddy" Ward, beloved mother of Geraldine Ward, grandmother of Chantelle Ward who are among our staff team at OTM and Mother in law of Lily Ward, OTM chairperson. Biddy sadly passed away on 15th of April, 2018. May her soul rest in Peace



**Traveller Singer
Seline 'O Leary takes the stage at traveller Pride, 2018**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction and Strategic Plan	4
Accommodation	5 & 6
Health	7 & 8
Mens Health	9
Public Health Nurse	10
Mental Health	11
Offaly Traveller Counselling Service	12
Youth and Education	13
Culture and Ethnicity	14
Staff Team	15
Board of Management	16
Collaborative Networking	17
Financial Report	18 & 19



OTM Youth Project Millinery Project with Rita Daly, 2018



OTM participating in the Darkness in to Light 2018



**Horse Project Facilitator
Lesley Jones with Davey Ward participating in the St Patricks Day Parade in Tullamore 2018**



Introduction

Offaly Traveller Movement has developed from Tullamore Traveller Movement Ltd, a community development organisation response to the needs of Travellers in Tullamore and its environs. Established in 1991 TTM was launched in 1996 and we have since evolved into Offaly Traveller Movement (OTM). We continue to work for Traveller rights and social justice in partnership with the wider community throughout Offaly. We are an ever expanding non profit organisation with dedicated staff members offering programmes responding to various needs such as health and men's health, mental health, accommodation, youth, education, and human rights.

Vision

The vision of Offaly Traveller Movement is for full equality and social justice for Travellers in County Offaly.

Mission

The mission of OTM is to empower Travellers, and to work as a partnership between Travellers and settled people to achieve equality and social justice for Travellers in County Offaly.

Principles

The principles that underpin the work of Offaly Traveller Movement focus on equality and social justice. We are deeply committed to human rights using a community development approach. This encompasses empowerment, participation, partnership and challenging discrimination.



At Hugh Lane Gallery OTM Staff Development Day, 2018

Strategic Plan

Following an extensive, facilitated whole-team reflective exercise and two strategic planning meetings in 2015, it became apparent that the priorities emerging from the 2012 community consultation remain as valid and applicable to Travellers presently as they were three years ago, with many indicators that they are even more acutely pertinent now, given the continued deterioration in funding and socio-economic conditions. As such, it was considered inappropriate and unnecessary to undertake a further consultation process with members of the Traveller community in Co Offaly, but instead retain the strategic priorities as the basis of the present Strategic Plan (2015 – 2020), albeit with adjustments to reflect the ongoing development of the service.

The following areas form the basis of both the previous and current Strategic Plan, a number of OTM studies are used as well as policy statements relating to Traveller health & wellbeing.

Key areas of work

- Cultural and ethnic identity
- Health and Mental Health
- Accommodation
- Education & youth
- Enterprise and work

The OTM Annual report provides a snapshot of our work throughout the year, and highlights some key work carried out by our various departments in 2018. For more information about Offaly Traveller Movement, please visit our website on www.otm.ie

Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/OffalyTravellerMovement/>

Accommodation

Strategic Priority 1.1: To Achieve Culturally Appropriate Accommodation for Travellers in County Offaly

Offaly Traveller Movement employ two part time accommodation workers who continued to work with a high volume of referrals for support regarding various housing issues in 2018. The team liaised with relevant statutory and voluntary bodies and provided support and advice to Traveller individuals and families. The OTM Accommodation team recognised the existence of a significant gap between Traveller accommodation needs and the available supply of both Traveller specific and mainstream accommodation. In 2018 over 2,700 interventions were recorded.

Throughout 2018 Offaly Traveller Movement continued to respond to the ongoing accommodation crisis throughout Offaly. An unprecedented number of Traveller families were living in overcrowded situations, on the side of the road, in unofficial halting sites, emergency accommodation and B&B's. For many families there was no access to basic amenities such as running water and electricity or toilet facilities. Young Traveller children who were attending school in the local areas had to move resulting in a disruption to their school attendance. There had been an increase in the number of evictions due to 'illegal encampments'. Living in these conditions greatly reduces the life expectancy of the Traveller community, which is now comparable to that of the settled community in the 1950's. Studies have shown that there is a critical link between improved accommodation for Travellers and better uptake of education, health and employment services.

In September 2018 the accommodation team conducted a count and recorded 127 Travellers living with no services in Offaly, 56 adults and 71 children. OTM continued to advocate and represent Travellers at local, county, regional and national level in 2018 however the lack of appropriate accommodation continues to be one of OTM's most challenging areas of work.

Homelessness in Offaly – It's closer than we think

OTM invited local church leaders and activists to come together to highlight the accommodation and homeless crisis in Offaly. On March 20th 2018 a public discussion was organised by this group of concerned citizens from the Tullamore area among whom were members of OTM, clerical members of the Anglican, Catholic, Methodist and Presbyterian Churches in Tullamore, and local activists. The organising committees aim was to create awareness of the seriousness of the issue of rural homelessness in Offaly in general, but also to give courage to the public representatives and their constituents, to do what is legally responsible and morally right in relation to the accommodation issues for Travellers.

The public discussion was chaired by Vincent Browne and had a number of panel speakers including; Pat Doyle - National CEO of the Peter McVerry Trust, Dr. Oonagh McArdle- Lecturer at Department of Applied Social Studies Maynooth University, Dr. Brigid Quilligan Former Director of the Irish Traveller Movement and well known and respected Traveller activist, Tony O'Riordan – CEO of Midlands Simon Community and Tom Shanahan, Director of Housing at Offaly County Council. The event was a joint project between the 4 churches in Offaly with community groups and supported by the Offaly County Council. Over 300 people attended this interactive event that is work in progress. It is hoped that similar discussions will take place in the future.



Public Discussion on Homelessness with Vincent Browne in March 2018

Accommodation

Strategic Priority 1.1: To Achieve Culturally Appropriate Accommodation for Travellers in County Offaly

Traveller Accommodation Programme

Under the 1998 Traveller Accommodation Act, local authorities are mandated to draw up five-year Traveller Accommodation Programmes (TAP) to assess local Traveller accommodation needs in their area, set targets and deliver them.

Offaly Traveller Movement made a submission to Offaly County Council in October 2018 for inclusion in the local TAP Programme 2019 -2024 and once again reiterated and highlighted the ever increasing need for Traveller specific accommodation to include Halting Sites, Group Housing and Standard Housing units. Unfortunately Traveller accommodation targets have not been met at any point since they were made mandatory on local authorities.

The work of the OTM accommodation team is ongoing and we endeavour to continue to advocate for change in policy and within a consultation process with the Local Authority highlight the inadequacies of culturally appropriate accommodation and the need to meet realistic, need based targets.

Minister Doherty Visits Tullamore

In July 2018 Regina Doherty, Minister for Employment Affairs & Social Protection visited OTM. She was appalled to hear that there was 105 people, 46 adults and 59 children living without running water, electricity, toilets, bin collection or any facilities and only around 30 families living in serviced halting sites in Offaly. She visited Traveller families in their own space and saw first-hand what the conditions were like on the ground. She spoke with women and children living in the unofficial site, Kilcruttin, Tullamore and met some of the children who are growing up in very challenging circumstances. Minister Doherty learned that many of the official site residents have extended families who have nowhere to stay. The bays on the official site were built over 25 years ago but there was no succession planning and no provision for halting sites for families as they grow and go on to have children of their own. During her visit Minister Doherty was very empathetic, she expressed grave concern and was very aware of the basic human rights issues at the heart of these families living arrangements. A member of staff at OTM said it was 'brilliant to have Regina Doherty visit, she was a breath of fresh air, sat down on the grass to talk to the children which is a great indication that she was genuinely interested in what Travellers on the ground have to say'.



OTM Accommodation Workers at Public Discussion on Homelessness March 2018



OTM staff with Minister Regina Doherty July 2018

Strategic Priority 2.1: To Increase Life Expectancy for Travellers in County Offaly

The Traveller Primary Health Care programme (PHCP) is a partnership between OTM and the HSE and employs 11 part-time staff members. This comprises of 7 Traveller peer Community Health Workers (CHWs), 1 Men's Health Worker, 1 Community Development Worker, 1 Public Health Nurse and 1 Health Manager. The PHCP is in existence in Tullamore for 20 years. It began in 1999 with a comprehensive training period and has been fully operational since 2003. The programme is a community development and health promotion initiative which delivers health and wellbeing information to Travellers in Offaly.

The CHWs regularly visit local Traveller families and this work is essential to the success of the PHCP. Throughout the year the CHWs delivered health care information on a wide range of subjects including: nutrition, healthy heart, asthma, child safety, dental care, diabetes, cancer prevention, substance misuse, mental health and suicide prevention. In 2018 the CHWs provided outreach visits to over 900 Travellers in Offaly. During the year the CHWs also took part in computer training, GDPR data protection training, the new Children First E-Learning programme, Minding your Mental Health & Wellbeing training, Jigsaw Youth Mental Health training, Disability Awareness training as well as Women's Aid training on Best Practice in Woman and Child Protection in the context of domestic violence. They attended the Traveller Ethnicity Celebrations at the Royal Hospital Kilmainham, Irish Traveller Movement AGM and Conference in Galway, the Traveller Women's Forum AGM in Tullamore and a staff development educational trip to Kilmainham Jail and to Hugh Lane Art gallery.

The CHWs continued to work on fire safety prevention and awareness. They were actively engaged in supporting the work of the Mental Health Social Worker and the Public Health Nurse.

Statistics

1029 interventions with women, 613 men

These include::

- ⇒ 920 Emotional Support
- ⇒ 897 Mental Health Support
- ⇒ 471 Bereavement Support
- ⇒ 168 Child Safety Awareness
- ⇒ 177 Child Development
- ⇒ 128 Breast Screening Information
- ⇒ 95 Bowel Screening Information
- ⇒ 197 Cervical Screening Information
- ⇒ 598 Dental Health Promotion
- ⇒ 398 Smoking Cessation Information
- ⇒ 930 Nutrition information
- ⇒ 379 Diabetes Information
- ⇒ 321 Asthma Information
- ⇒ 301 Vaccine Information
- ⇒ 350 Elder care
- ⇒ 77 Anti/postnatal Information
- ⇒ 40 Domestic Violence

REFERRALS:

CHW's made a total of 56 internal referrals to the mental health social worker, public health nurse and accommodation team.



CHWs with Minister Regina Doherty and OTM Health Manager in July 2018

Strategic Priority 2.1: To Increase Life Expectancy for Travellers in County Offaly

Primary Health Care Project

In 2018 the CHW's delivered workshops alongside the Public Health Nurse in Tullamore and in Birr on dental health and managing asthma and diabetes. They worked with the Mental Health Social Worker to organise a wellness day where clients of OTM were invited to avail of massage and other de-stressing therapies.

Also in 2018, the CHWs delivered Cultural Awareness Training in Athlone Institute of Technology, Maynooth University and to students visiting from North Dakota University. They took part in the Raise the Roof, Traveller Homes Matter protest in Dublin.

The CHWs also hosted a visit from Regina Doherty, Minister for Employment Affairs and Social Protection and accompanied her on visits to official and unofficial sites in Tullamore. They worked with the men's health worker to organise a pilgrimage to Croagh Patrick and an outing to Cong and Ashford Castle for older Travellers. They also helped to organise and took part in the St. Patricks day parade, the Traveller Pride Family Day at Charleville Castle and organised Christmas wreath making classes in Banagher and Tullamore.



OTM and CHW's taking part in the Pieta House Darkness into Light Walk, in Tullamore, May 2018



OTM attending the Irish Traveller Movement AGM Conference in Galway, 2018



OTM at Raise the Roof, Traveller Homes Matter protest in Dublin 2018

Traveller Men's Health

In 2018 Frank our Men's Health Worker focused on increasing the numbers of Traveller men engaging with OTM's Men's Health Project. Frank engaged Traveller men in interventions which initiated dialogue and raised awareness around mental health and suicide. Frank's work focused on highlighting and challenging the key inequalities in Traveller men's health. Throughout 2018, he worked closely with four groups of Traveller men and recorded close to 500 interventions in both mental and physical health and wellbeing. The key inequalities in Traveller men's health, and the overall aim of his work was to improve health outcomes for Traveller men. Through group work he encouraged men from Tullamore and Birr to engage in SafeTalk, and Taking Control Workshops.

A total of 34 men from Birr and Tullamore participated in these programmes. Frank accompanied the men on social outings to Croagh Patrick, and organised handball tournaments to encourage the men to take care of their overall health and wellbeing through exercise and sport. Frank also organised the Men's Health Network across the four counties, Offaly, Laois, Westmeath and Longford. This space brings men together to discuss issues affecting them in their local areas and to share ideas and supports available. Frank and Emma OTM's Managing Director also presented the findings from the 2017 Horse Project Review at the World Community Development Conference at Maynooth University in June 2018.

The impact of the Men's Health Programme in Offaly:

- ⇒ Improving engagement of Traveller men with existing health services & Facilitating health checks
- ⇒ Developing and facilitating sports and leisure opportunities for Traveller men
- ⇒ Improving awareness of mental health issues and supports available
- ⇒ Encouraging dialogue and raising awareness of suicide prevention and intervention
- ⇒ Establishing and participating in the Traveller Men's Health Network
- ⇒ Addressing the isolation experienced by older Traveller men & engaging men in the OTM Horse Project

Horse Project

Lesley works part time on OTM's Horse Project. Travellers in Offaly have a long and rich history of keeping horses. The programme targets Traveller men who have an interest and passion for horses but who are otherwise disengaged with health services. The focus of the Horse Project in 2018 was intergenerational work and on projects that fostered father and son interactions and knowledge sharing. The overall aim is to provide a culturally responsive method of improving health outcomes for Traveller men.



OTM Mens Worker and Managing Director presenting the Horse Project Review at WCDC at NUIM June 2018



Minister David Stanton's visit to OTM Horse Project in 2018

The impact of the Horse Project in Offaly:

- ⇒ Increased engagement of Traveller men in relation to the social determinants of their health
- ⇒ Increased awareness of and access to existing health services and health professionals in Offaly
- ⇒ Increased access to and interaction with the OTM's Men's Health Programmes, Primary Healthcare Team and other specialist services
- ⇒ Capacity building and leadership roles for Traveller men
- ⇒ Improvement of men's physical and mental health through the interaction with the horse.

Minister Stanton's Visit to OTM

Minister of State for Equality, Immigration & Integration, David Stanton visited OTM in November 2018, and met with the Men's health worker, Traveller men of the Horse Project, as well as other staff and local councillors. The men highlighted the positive aspects of Traveller horse culture and took the opportunity to discuss the issue of legislation and the negative impact that this has on their culture. The Minister, accompanied by OTM staff members went out on site to visit 2 horse men and their horses and Minister Stanton got to see the Horse Project in action. The Traveller horse men also told the Minister how important horses are to them and how difficult it has become to keep this tradition strong and to pass it on to the next generation.

The Public Health Nurse at OTM

The public health nursing (PHN) role in partnership with Offaly Traveller Movement has many diverse components to it. The overall aim is always to be culturally competent, work alongside people to empower them and provide a positive experience. Nuala Hogan works as a PHN in the Primary Health Care Programme (PHCP) which serves the Traveller community in County Offaly. The importance of having a PHN working in Traveller health is essential to build trust and improve health outcomes. The need for Traveller specific programmes was outlined in the All Ireland Traveller Health Status Study (2007-2010). The strategy identifies a number of obstacles to accessing health services and the importance of PHCPs. As a PHN working in partnership with the Traveller organisations. Nuala is responsible for planning Traveller specific health programmes with the peer women in a culturally sensitive manner that meets the health needs of the wider Traveller communities. Some of the programmes she planned and delivered with the Peers in 2018 include: child safety awareness, cervical screening, breast screening, diabetes, retinal screening, asthma and immunisations.

Nuala receives referrals from all members of the health care team at OTM and other allied health care professionals within the HSE and visits clients with the wider OTM team. The six C's of care, compassion, competence, communication, courage and commitment are at the heart of her role with the aim being to maximise health and wellbeing. She describes her role to Traveller clients as "The Well Being Nurse." as this takes away any medical jargon or barriers. Nuala's role covers four main areas: therapeutic activities, liaison interventions, educative interventions, and follow-up interventions

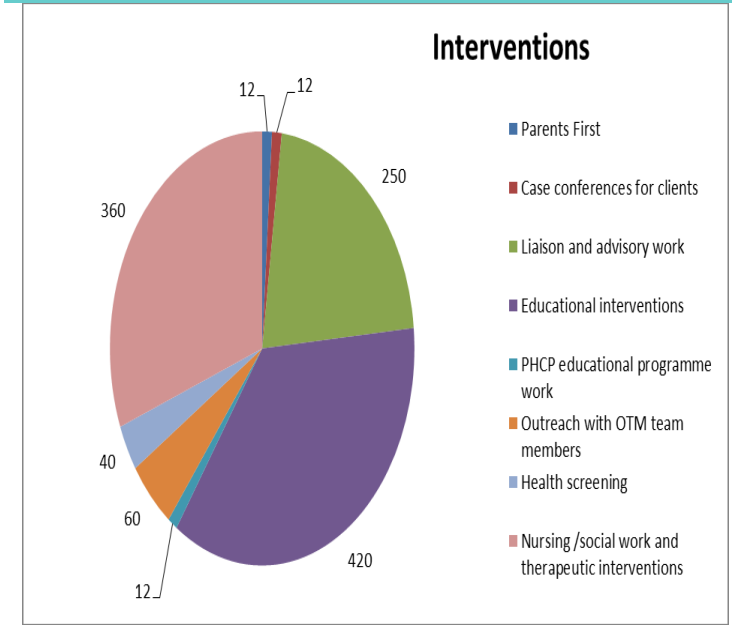
An inter-professional model of good practice is in place at OTM with the nursing / social model of care being set up over six year ago when Sandra McDonagh joined OTM as the mental health social worker. Nuala and Sandra do home visits and this decision is made on the basis of a referral. They provide family support, preventative and practical interventions, health promotion and guidance for clients. They complete holistic nursing and social assessments that are linked to poor accommodation, poor access to health, social care and for clients in crisis. The aim of this work is to make every contact count and support the health and wellbeing of the wider Traveller community. Nuala sat on the working group with members of OTM and other agencies to create "A Guide to Developing a Local Co-Ordinated Crisis Response Plan for the Traveller Community" that was launched in 2018. and was also nominated as a member of the core team for the Suicide Response Plan.

Nuala delivered cultural awareness training to American students from North Dakota along with other members of the team at OTM. Nuala also sits on the Board of Management at Parents First in Tullamore, Co. Offaly and liaises with other agencies such as Triple P Parenting Programme, TUSLA, Barnardos and nursing colleagues in the HSE.

Nuala manages and leads out on Nurse Led Health Screening Clinics for both Traveller men and women and this uses the social model of healthcare screening effectively and is Traveller specific. It allows clients to develop awareness around the need for and the benefits of routine healthcare screening in their lives. This involves screening healthy people in order to record symptoms of potential conditions which if caught in the early phase can be effectively and successfully treated. Two of the main elements that help ensure success here is trust and professionalism



PHN Nurse Nuala Hogan with Mary Ward in Cong. 2018



Mental Health

Strategic Priority 2.2: To improve Traveller Mental Health and Wellbeing

Travelling to Wellbeing

Travelling to Wellbeing continues to offer a dedicated culturally appropriate, clinical, therapeutic, recovery focused mental health service for Travellers in Offaly. This service is provided by way of individual and group support, family support, crisis intervention, mental health recovery programs, advocacy and referral pathways to other services for Travellers throughout the County. Travelling to Wellbeing continues to work in partnership and co-production with a range of services, promoting and developing mental health training and local community mental health initiatives, while utilizing the departments in OTM, Men's Health, Accommodation, Community Development and Primary Healthcare to address the needs of Travellers who engage with the service.

2018 again saw an increase in Travellers engaging with the one to one support service. 128 service users accessed the service, 69 female, 42 male and 18 family support.. Community and partnership work were also prioritised this year. The weekly peer support group, Mincéars Táirien, continued in Birr and Tullamore and in each of these groups a combination of mental health, physical health, suicide awareness educational supports and wellbeing activities were offered.

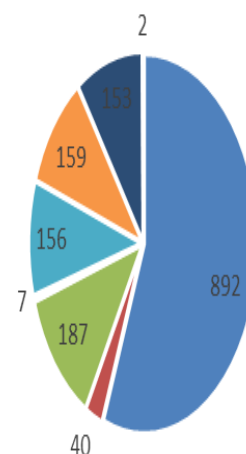
Travelling to Wellbeing, in partnership with a range of local organisations, organised and supported a varied programme of talks and activities to promote a positive understanding of mental health and reduce the stigma associated with it. These included See Change and the Green Ribbon Campaign, Shine's one day 'Taking Control' Workshop, a Mental Health and Wellbeing Pilgrimage and events to mark World Suicide Prevention Day and World Mental Health Day. There was over 2000 interventions recorded in 2018.

Offaly Travellers have been represented by Travelling to Wellbeing at the Irish Association of Social Workers Annual Conference, National Traveller Mental Health Network, Concerned Citizens Steering Group, National Travellers Women's Forum, Consultations with the Department of Health and the Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee.

Research

A Guide to Developing a Local Co-Ordinated Crisis Response Plan for Travellers was developed and launched in 2018. This Guide provides a framework for developing a Local Co-Ordinated Crisis Response Plan for the Traveller Community in partnership with relevant organisations and services, which is activated for 4-6 weeks following the occurrence of an attempted suicide, suicide or unexpected death. This is now listed as an action in Connecting for Life 2018-2020 Midlands, Louth and Meath.

Travelling to Wellbeing 1 to 1 Interventions for 2018



- Mental Health- 892
- Family Supports-187
- Welfare Rights & Advocacy-156
- Access to Community/Statutory Services-153
- Suicide Ideation - 40
- Issues relating to to abuse-childhood and DV-7
- Housing Issues-159
- Substance Misuse-2

Offaly Traveller Counselling Service



Offaly Traveller Movement

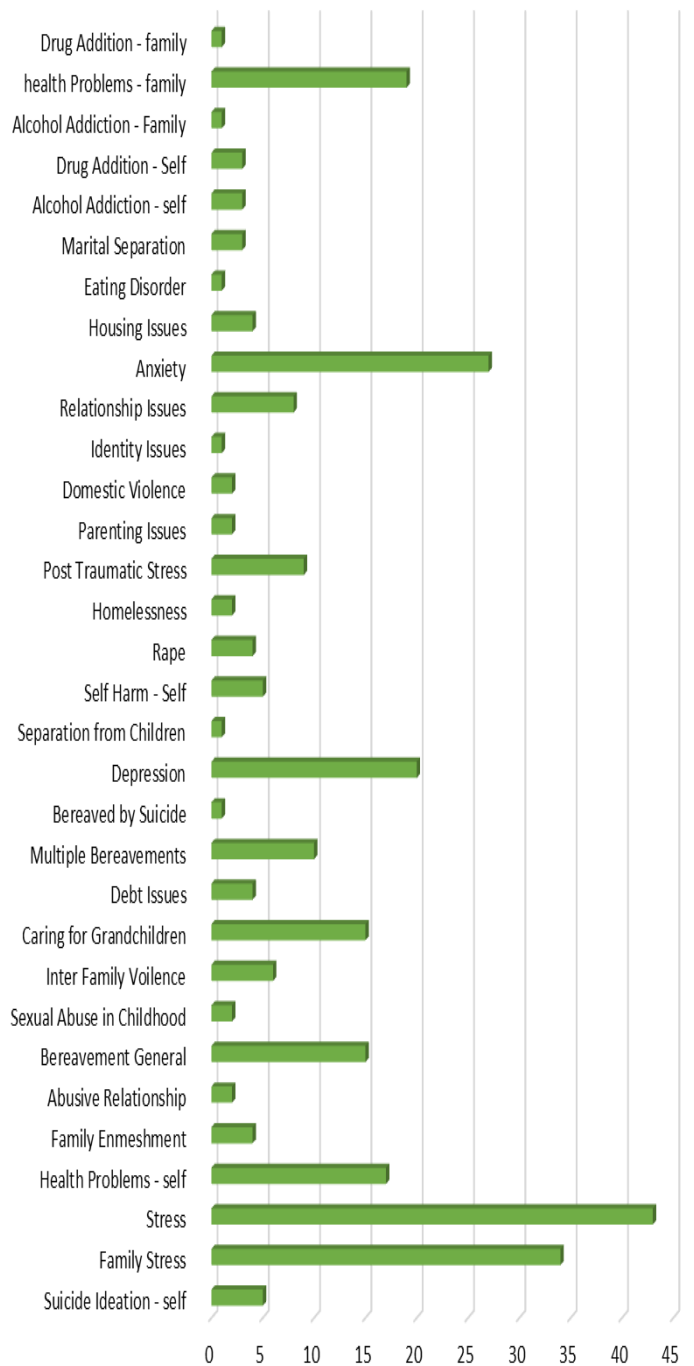
Offaly Traveller Counselling Service

It is well documented that Travellers in Ireland experience poorer mental health and are at higher risk of suicide than their settled counterparts, suicide rates for Travellers are currently 7 times higher than the settled population. Offaly Traveller Movement in recognising these alarming statistics and the gaps in service provision secured funding to pilot a local Traveller specific counselling/systemic psychotherapy service for Travellers in Offaly. This unique service operated within a community development organisation that has built up trust and relationships for over 20 years with the Traveller community throughout Offaly, many of whom are very difficult to reach and the most vulnerable people in Irish society today.

In 2018 following the success of this pilot project Offaly Traveller Movement in partnership with the National Traveller Counselling Service set up the Offaly Traveller Counselling Service. Currently operating on limited funding this culturally specific counselling/psychotherapy family support service is available to individuals and families of all ages three hours per week on a bi-weekly basis in Tullamore and Birr.

In 2018 a total of 42 therapy sessions were availed of, with 32 individual, 8 couple and 2 families engaging with the service. This included 31 female and 22 male of various ages in Offaly. This service is in the initial stages of development and Offaly Traveller Movement are working to ensure it becomes an established part of the services available to Travellers locally.

Summary of Presenting Issues



Youth & Education

Strategic Priority 4: To Support Traveller Youth and Education

OTM Youth Project

Offaly Traveller Movement Youth Project provides young Travellers with informal, social and educational support and a platform for youth development. We provide Traveller youth with a forum for peer supported activities, through drop in clubs, programmes, and a safe space for young Travellers, from the ages of 10 and over. OTM weekly drop in focuses on imperative peer support and exploration of Traveller identity as young people. It provides opportunities to explore issues and talk, confide, seek support or referral to other services where required. This is a culturally responsive, youth work focused social space with different activities every week. In 2018, OTM Youth recorded a total of 890 interventions with 91 young people. Throughout 2018, we facilitated a range of programmes and activities which included Fitness classes, nail and beauty for young females in the youth project, swimming lessons for young people in Birr, arts and crafts projects, drama, film and team development activities. Some highlights of the year included:

Spring 2018: Youth participated in celebrations such as St Patrick's Day Parade and were actively involved in arts and crafts making for the float. Participated in focus groups for research from the Youth Arts Council highlighting the need for Traveller representation in national youth arts strategies. Team building day, zip lining at Lough Key Forest Park Adventure Centre with team activities on the zip line circuits

Summer 2018: Some young people participated in the Darkness into Light walk for Pieta House with us in May. Sports day for Traveller Pride Family Fun day in June including relay races, junior quoits throwing and tug of war. Young people attended and participated in the National Social Inclusion Forum 2018 in the Aviva Stadium. OTM Youth Summer Project in July which included group development and leadership activities, with trips to Funtasia water park in Drogheda, trampolining at Jump

lanes in Athlone and a historical education trip to the heritage park in Moate.

October 2018: OTM Youth participated in a fashion show and millinery project for the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty. In preparatory workshops, They made their own headpieces with milliner Rita Daly, to model on the day. They worked with a choreographer learning dance and modelling routines, which they performed on the day. Young people were awarded for academic Achievement at the 2018 Exchange House Education Awards.

Christmas 2018: Ice Skating trip to Mullingar ice rink for members of the drop in clubs., Christmas trip to Turoe Pet Farm for youth in Birr and our annual Santa visit and Christmas party for children and young people.



Martin McDonagh receiving his Exchange House, Education Award In Oct. 2018. Martins Leaving Certificate earned him his place in NUIM, studying Law and Economics



OTM Youth Project Fashion Show to mark the UN International Day for the Eradication of Poverty 2018



OTM Youth Birr Group at Turoe Pet Farm Dec. 2018

Culture and Ethnicity

Strategic Priority: 6.1 :To Promote Traveller Culture in County Offaly



OTM Traveller Pride Family Fun day 2018

Following on from the success of last year, OTM hosted a family fun day at Charleville Castle, Tullamore, to mark National Traveller Pride week 2018. The event attracted a melting pot of people, young, old, Traveller and settled. There was plenty of kids entertainment with a mobile farm, face painting, balloon sculpting, ring throwing, bowling, relay races, piñata and tug of war. The mobile farm brought friendly farm animals to meet and teach children all about their care. The men played traditional games and a quoits tournament was held on the day. There was a traditional camp site scene set up and visitors could hear stories of days gone by, waiting for the kettle to boil on the open fire! A hand-crafted wagon, sulky and pony, and other traditional exhibits of culture were on display. As well as a BBQ, Charleville Castle hosted two ghost tours on the day. There was also a concert, showcasing song and dance from some highly talented Travellers, including singer Selina O Leary. The event was well attended and a great success overall.

St Patrick's Day Parade 2018

Each year OTM participates in the Tullamore St Patrick's Day parade representing Traveller culture. In keeping with the theme for 2018, which was "Celebrating the work of Offaly Hospice", OTM designed and created a float entitled "The Garden of Serenity" which contained the "Tree of Life", symbolizing peace and tranquility in end of life care. The OTM entry also featured a hand made "Dove of Peace" which was carried behind the float representing peace and hope for those using the hospice service and their families. As always, we had an abundance of lively participants walking with us, including St Patrick, Daisy the Cow and the usual Leprechauns. The OTM entry won Best Community Entry in the Tullamore Parade Awards, which was later presented to OTM by the Rose Of Tralee.



OTM walking in the St. Patrick's day Parade 2018 in Tullamore



Presentation of Award for Best Community Entry to OTM by Rose of Tralee

Staff Team of 2018

Name	Position	Profile
Emma Gilchreest	Managing Director	Full Time
Sorcha Lewis	Community Development Worker	Part Time
Sarah O'Brien	Traveller Accommodation Worker	Part Time
Karen Guilfoyle	Finance Manager	Part Time
Bridget McInerney	Administrator	Part Time
Pascal Delaney	Administrator	Part Time (From Sept)
Sandra McDonagh	Mental Health Social Worker	Full Time
Catherine Rountree	Counsellor / Psychotherapist	Part Time
Mags Lovett	Health Manager	Part time
Nuala Hogan	Registered Public Health Nurse	Part Time
Lesley Jones	Horse Project Facilitator	Part Time
Frank Kavanagh	Mens Health Worker	Part time
Mary McInerney	Community Health Worker	Part Time
Lily Kavanagh	Community Health Worker	Part Time
Pinkie McInerney	Community Health Worker	Part Time
Sarah McDonagh	Community Health Worker	Part Time
Brigid McInerney	Community Health Worker	Part Time
Celine McInerney	Community Health Worker	Part Time
Geraldine Ward	Community Health Worker	Part Time
Saranne Lovett	Youth Team Leader	Part Time
Elizabeth Doyle	Youth Peer Worker	Part Time
Chantelle Ward	CE Placement: Receptionist	Part Time
<i>Student Placements :</i>		
Claire Spollen	NUI Maynooth	Part Time (Jan-March)
Rachel Conroy	Athlone Institute of Technology	Full Time (Oct- Dec)
Carolyn Burne	NUI Maynooth	Full Time (Oct - Dec)
Leanne Marshall	Moate Business College	Full Time (March)
Martin Ward	Tullamore College	Part Time (Feb)
Martina Shortall	Laois Offaly ETB	Part Time (Until April)
Nichole O'Shea	Moate Business College	Full Time (Jan-Feb)



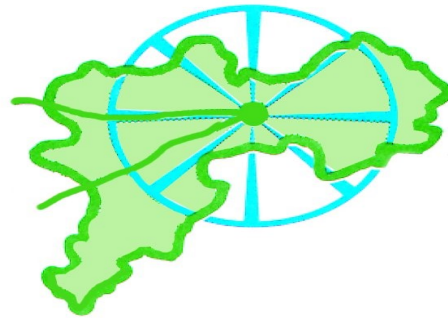
OTM Staff
Development
Kilmainham Jail
2018

Board of Management

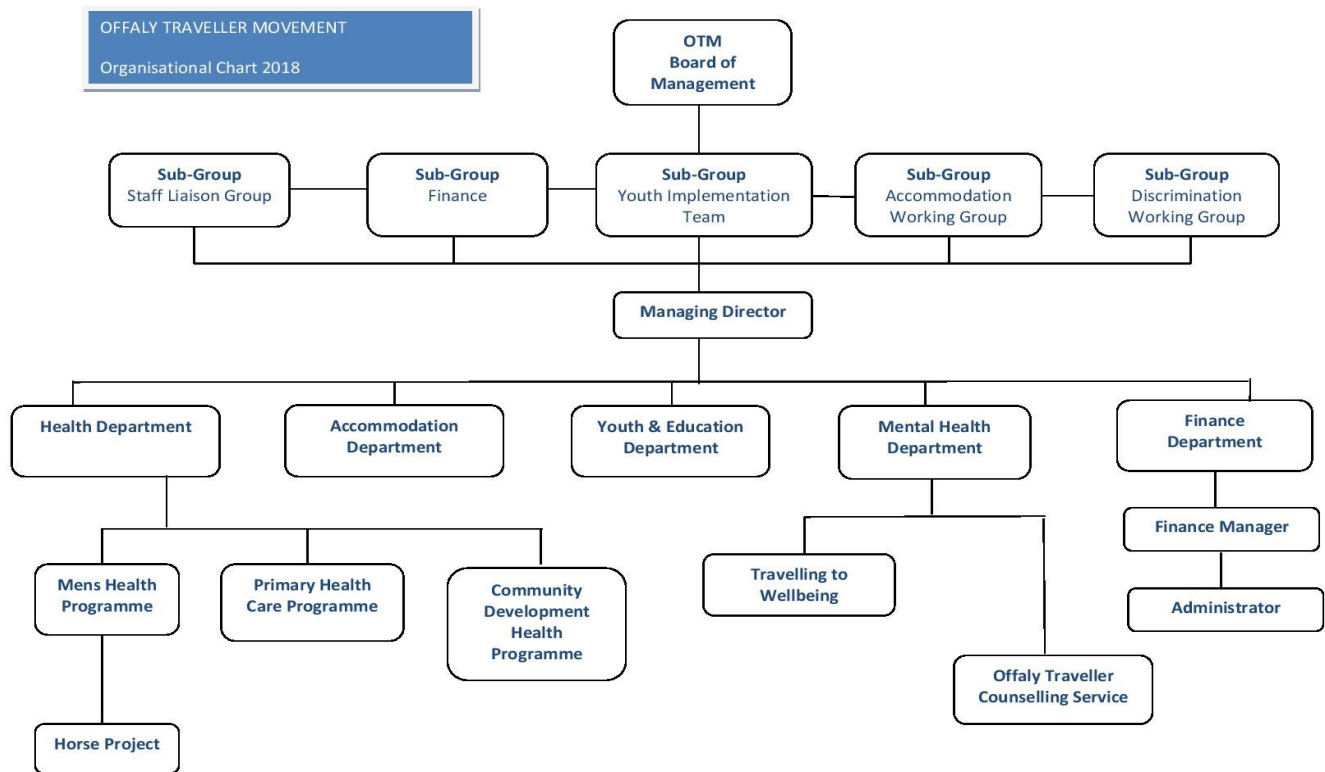
Offaly Traveller Movement Board of Management is responsible for overseeing the organisation in terms of staff development, strategic direction, and financial management . The 2018 OTM AGM took place on July 17th 2018.

Board Members for 2018

- Chairperson: Lily Ward
- Vice Chairperson: Mary Rose Kerrigan
- Secretary: Marianne O Shea
- Treasurer: Liam Rodgers
- Thomas McDonagh
- Susan Fay
- Phyllida Clarke



OTM staff representative : Sarah Joyce O’ Brien



Collaborative Networking

National Traveller Partnership, Board and Operations committee (NTP)
 European Network Against Racism (ENAR)
 European Anti Poverty Network (EAPN)
 Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee (LTACC)
 Exchange House Ireland
 Irish Traveller Movement; Central Group & Accom Sub Group
 Public Participation Network (PPN)
 Health Service Executive (HSE)
 Offaly Minding Our Mental Health Working Group
 Traveller Health Unit and finance sub-committee (THU)
 National Traveller Women's Forum (NTWF)
 National Traveller Mental Health Network (NTMHN)
 Offaly Domestic Violence Support Services (ODVSS)
 Laois Offaly Education Training Board
 Offaly Local Development Company
 UN Eradication of Poverty Committee
 Midlands Simon
 St Vincent de Paul, Tullamore & Birr
 Threshold
 Citizen's Information
 Department of Social Protection
 Tusla
 Adult Mental Health Services
 Shine
 SoSad
 Jigsaw Offaly
 Offaly County Council
 Offaly Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (OSPCA)
 Midlands Regional Drugs Task Force Education and Prevention Sub Committee
 Midlands Region Health Network (MHN)
 Midlands Regional Mens Network
 National Traveller Counselling Service
 Traveller Mediation Service

Child & Adult Mental Health Services (CAMHS)
 Money Advise & Budgeting Services (MABS)
 Pavee Point
 Tullamore Lyons Club
 An Garda Síochana
 Aware
 Asthma Society of Ireland
 Living Links
 NUI Maynooth
 NUI Galway
 Athlone Institute of Technology
 Banagher College
 Offaly Historical Society
 Mojo
 Foroige
 Teach Fáilte
 Barnardos Tullamore,
 Parents First, Tullamore.
 Triple P
 Offaly Child & Family Support Network
 Mercy Law Resource Centre
 OTM are members of:
 National Traveller Partnership
 Irish Traveller Movement



Minister for Employment Affairs and Social Protection Regina Doherty visiting OTM, July 2018

Financial Report

Tullamore Travellers Movement Company Limited by Guarantee

Schedule of Income and Expenditure for the financial year ended 31 December 2018

	2018	2017
	€	€
Note 1: Income		
Community Development Programme	100,125	91,022
Department of Children and Youth Affairs - SPY	47,290	45,470
Health Service Executive	252,240	211,555
HSE Mental Health-T2WB	47,731	-
Exchange House - T2WB	6,500	22,139
TUSLA	7,779	-
Traveller Pride Week	2,000	2,568
OLDC	-	5,092
UN Poverty Grant	2,999	9,305
General Income	23,781	24,265
Credit Union	400	-
Offaly Homeless Event Offaly Co Co	2,054	-
Irish Heritage School	1,000	-
Learn International	300	-
	<u>494,199</u>	<u>411,416</u>

Tullamore Travellers Movement Company Limited by Guarantee

**Income and Expenditure Account
for the financial year ended 31 December 2018**

	Notes	31 December 2018		31 December 2017	
		€	€	€	€
Income	1		494,199		411,416
Expenditure					
Community Development Programme	2	100,125		91,022	
Department of Children and Youth Affairs - SPY	3	47,290		46,200	
Health Service Executive	4	232,221		210,519	
Travelling to well being	5	52,973		21,897	
TUSLA	6	6,216		-	
Traveller Pride Week	7	2,000		2,488	
OLDC Grant	8	-		300	
UN Poverty Grant	9	2,999		-	
General Expenses	10	19,431		15,050	
Credit Union	11	400		-	
Offaly Homeless Event Offaly Co Co	12	2,054		-	
ITM	13	-		109	
Other Grants	14	-		5,014	
			465,709		392,599
Surplus/ (Deficit) for the year			28,490		18,817

