

The role of **CBO** in Tackling Isolation & Fuel Poverty for vulnerable households in Ireland

International Conference

Croke Park

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IRD Duhallow

The Duhallow Region of North West Cork and East Kerry



LEADER & Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme

- Reduced funding for both LEADER and SICAP – down 70% since 2016
- Cross programme approach through bottom up animation & capacity building & training
- Ability to research the need; ability to address the need with Social Inclusion Focus.
- Supporting communities to develop local facilities: playgrounds, community centres, walks, arts facilities, community sports pitches, tidy towns, pride of place, village and town enhancement, Bee Keepers Groups, Grow it Yourself,
- LEADER also supports Local Enterprises, Environment Projects and Social Enterprises.
- Elderly - 20 retired groups established: Bealtaine - 40 events for 1200 over 65's each May
- Carers Support – over 190 members;
- Children - after-schools, Summer camps, Dyslexia supports,
- Job Centre - supports Unemployed; Training - 6726 places created
- Women – Training and upskilling

Value added of CBO Delivery of Warmer Homes



Duhallow Community Food Services

36,500 dinners delivered last year, cost €6, Community Catering, Cross referral of clients between WH, DCFS & Laundry and Revamp

Duhallow Community Laundry

Affordable service to our carers, elderly and unemployed Provides a free collection & delivery service for those who have no transport. Cross referral of clients with WH

Value added of CBO delivery of Warmer Homes



Duhallow Revamp

Range of products for disadvantaged
Work Experience for RSS Tús and CE



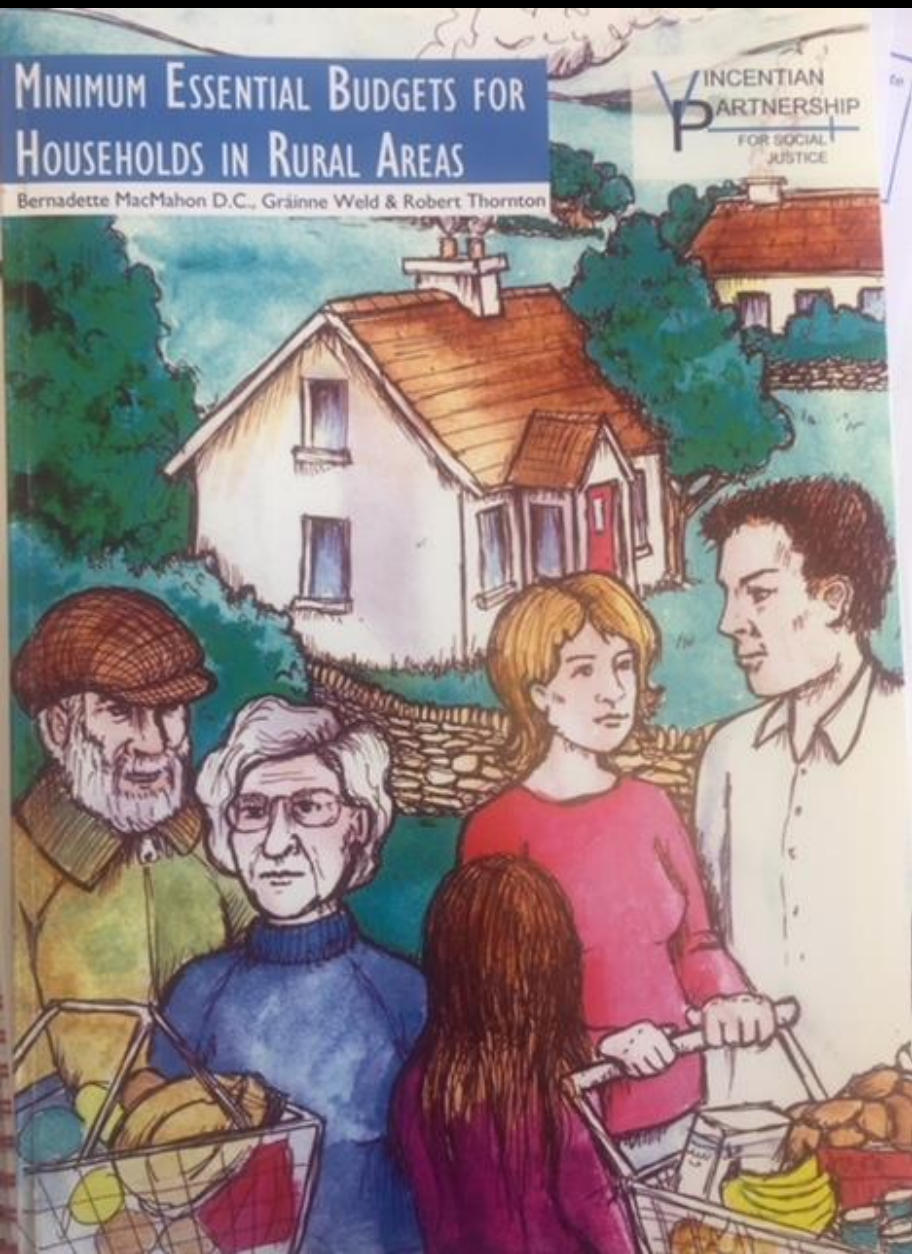
Diverting tonnes of furniture
from landfill & fly tipping



Duhallow Towards Occupation Programme & Mental Health

Targets people feeling isolated due to mental ill-
health to explore a range of new skills & set
achievable goals. Has taken referrals from WH
staff and referred participants to Warmer Homes

Vincentian Partnership on Rural Poverty



- How poverty manifests in rural areas concentration of services in larger urban centres
- Additional “Rural cost” of €69.91-€108.61 per week
- Car(s) essential » additional burden of €56-€126 per week
- Fuel poverty » reliance on heating oil - no gas lines etc
 - Single adult households remain very vulnerable Fuel Poverty
 - Households with teenagers face additional food clothing & transport costs making them the most vulnerable to poverty in Rural areas
- Rural households face double burden of relying on more expensive heating oil & paying a greater amount of carbon tax while not having financial ability to improve their situation
- Local Authorities removed from providing social housing
- Many of the poor rural families living in private, low quality, rented accommodation in fuel poverty.

Conclusions & Recommendations

- Warmer Homes Initiatives delivered by CBO's bring Rural poor into contact with a broader range of services » WIN WIN Situation
- Increasing distances between centres of services and rural areas, place additional financial burdens of €150 per week on households (Vincentian Study)
- Single people experience greater fuel poverty especially after losing partner.
- Rural families with children over 10 have severest poverty levels (Vincentian Study)
- The fall off in provision of council houses pushing more people into rented accommodation (often poor quality)
- Recognise the Value Added of CBO Delivery
- Extend Warmer Homes to include fuel poor in rented accommodation
- Extend the service to families with children over 10
- Lobby Minister to prioritise WH for CSP funded Places- tackle unemployment

