

# Healthy Age Friendly Homes Programme

Local Coordinator Galway City & Galway County  
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An Roinn Sláinte  
Department of Health

**Sláintecare.**  
Right Care.Right Place.Right Time.



comhairle chontae na mí  
*meath county council*

# Healthy Age Friendly Homes Programme | Objectives

1

Enable older people to **continue living in their homes** or in a home more suited to their needs.

2

Live with a sense of **independence and autonomy**.

3

Be and feel **part of their communities**

4

Support the avoidance of **early or premature admission** to long term residential care.



# Participant Assessment | Range of Supports

We are adopting a holistic person centred approach

## Needs Assessment

- **Housing** – adaptations, energy retrofits, rightsizing, minor modifications, homesharing, decluttering, others
- **Health | Medical** – GP visits, links to health supports, transport to hospital appointments, home care, meals on wheels, physiotherapy, occupational therapy,
- **Technology** – telecare, telehealth, digital training, supports with telecommunications, smart phones, connectivity, others
- **Community/Social** – Transport, social activities, assistance with shopping, wide range of community groups, befriending, good morning call services, social prescribing, libraries, physical activity programmes, others

## We will facilitate by

- Providing Information
- Signposting to supports
- Facilitate processes “handholding”
- Implement Actions
- Track progress
- Enable & Empower Older People

# Where Have Referrals Come From?

- Approximately 260 referrals to date (Galway City & County).
- Galway City - 100.
  
- Over 330 visits (needs assessments and return visits).
- Galway City – 130.
  
- Self Referrals – 70 (Galway City – 25).
- Family Referrals – 60 (Galway City – 15).
- Local Authority, HSE (e.g. PHNs, OTs, Physios, SWs) Community & Voluntary Sector Referrals – 130 (Galway City – 60).

# Information and Assistance Provided.

- Over 350 work orders (actions). Galway City – 160.
- Home adaptations – Local Authority grants (information and assistance in applying). Care and repair service. Assistance in finding tradespeople.
- Energy efficiency – SEAI grants and information on same. As part of the programme we offer a full home energy assessment for participants if required.
- Onward Referral to other services – e.g. Meals on Wheels, Befriending, community & voluntary organisations, pendant alarms, HSE. As part of the programme we can offer participants reduced rates on specific technology designed to support independent living.
- Support with filling out and assisting with applications e.g. social housing applications, library membership, fuel allowance, Carers Allowance/Carers Support Grant. Following up on applications submitted.

# Preventing, Intervening, Reacting.

- Supporting older people and their families by providing information and assistance in relation to home adaptations which will prevent falls and allow them to live with an increased level of confidence and independence. This is **preventing** future problems around the home for the older person.
- Supporting older people who already have difficulty using stairs or navigating around their home by supporting them in making applications for stairlifts and/or home adaptations. This is **intervening** in a situation and supporting the older person to make the changes necessary to allow them continue living in their own home.
- Supporting older people who have experienced a fall in recent months by helping them source pendant alarms or fall detectors along with other technology which can support them to live in their home with confidence. This is **reacting** to a situation and helping the older person remain at home with confidence.

# Reporting.

- Findings and data from all 9 sites are recorded.
- Housing issues make up the vast majority of the information and actions required.
- Regular meetings and presentations to the oversight group made up of Sláintecare, Department of Housing, Department of Health officials and other stakeholders.
- Interim report just released.

# Interim Report Key Recommendations.

- 1. Progress the service to widescale roll out and national application across Ireland, continuing the current innovative model, to include 32 Local Coordinators (2 in Dublin City) appointed on a permanent basis, based in all 31 local authorities with multi-annual funding provided by the Department of Health and hosted by Local Government, as per the terms set out in Phase 1, from April 2023.
- 2. An evaluation to monitor and measure the larger scale roll out of the programme over a 3-year period to enable forward planning for sustainability on a population planning based approach.



# Referral Process.

- Complete a referral form

or

- Call 046 909 7417

or

- Email [info@agefriendlyireland.ie](mailto:info@agefriendlyireland.ie)

- Organise a convenient time – Visit and carry out needs assessment.

- Identify issues or concerns and put a plan in place to assist.

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