

Womens Community Projects (Mullingar) Association CLG. County Westmeath, Ireland.



By Paula O' Connor
15th April 2025



Website: www.womenscommunityprojects.ie

Email: coordinator@wcpmullingar.ie

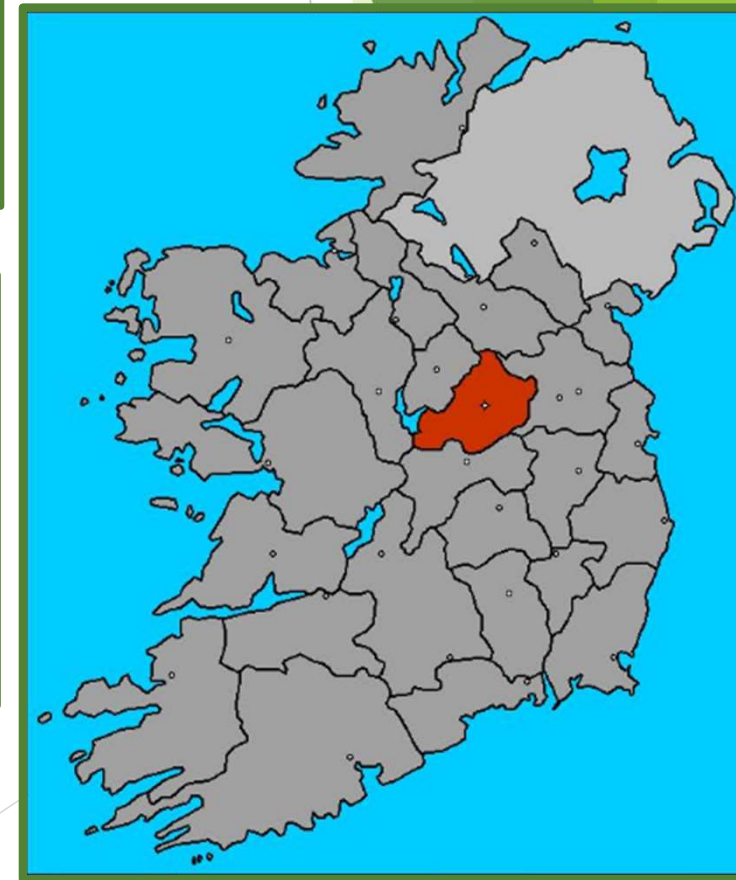
coordinator.mullingar@womenscollective.ie

About Womens Community Projects Mullingar

- ▶ Not for profit
- ▶ Charitable Status
- ▶ Governed by a Board of Directors
- ▶ Location: Parish Community Centre, Bishopsgate Street, Mullingar, Co. Westmeath, Ireland.



WCP Mullingar
has a proud 40 year
record of achievement
and service to the
local community in
particular to women,
children and their
families.



Beginnings: Womens Community Projects Mullingar

- ▶ Mullingar like most other Irish towns was in the grip of recession, and suffering from high levels of unemployment.
- ▶ Many of the women and families Sr Finbarr came in contact with were struggling and trying to make ends meet.
- ▶ Sr Finbarr identified a need for a community centre or meeting place where these women could meet during the day, socialise and learn new skills in order to improve the quality of their lives and that of their families.
- ▶ The seeds were sown for a group which would grow and develop into Women's Community Projects Mullingar.
- ▶ Over the years the WCP Mullingar has grown, diversified and expanded in response to needs identified in the community and funding available. It is now home to one of the largest training and development centres and childcare facilities in the country.

Founder: Sr. Finbarr Breslin



Womens Collective Ireland

- ▶ Women's Collective Ireland - Mullingar (formerly NCCWN Mullingar) have worked in partnership with Women's Community Projects Mullingar since 2011.
- ▶ Women's Collective Ireland (WCI) staff support Women's Community Projects Mullingar (WCP Mullingar).
- ▶ Over the years, a range of training programmes have been developed, providing women with the skills and supports and enabled them to secure employment or continued education and continues to expand, modify and diversify its activities, in line with the needs of women in the local Community.
- ▶ Today three WCI Mullingar staff support WCP Mullingar to provide a range of integrated support services to families and in particular, to women and children. www.womenscollective.ie



Women's
Collective
Ireland
Mullingar

Mission Statement / Aim / Vision

► Mission

“To facilitate the empowerment of women through education, training and community enterprise development”

► Aim

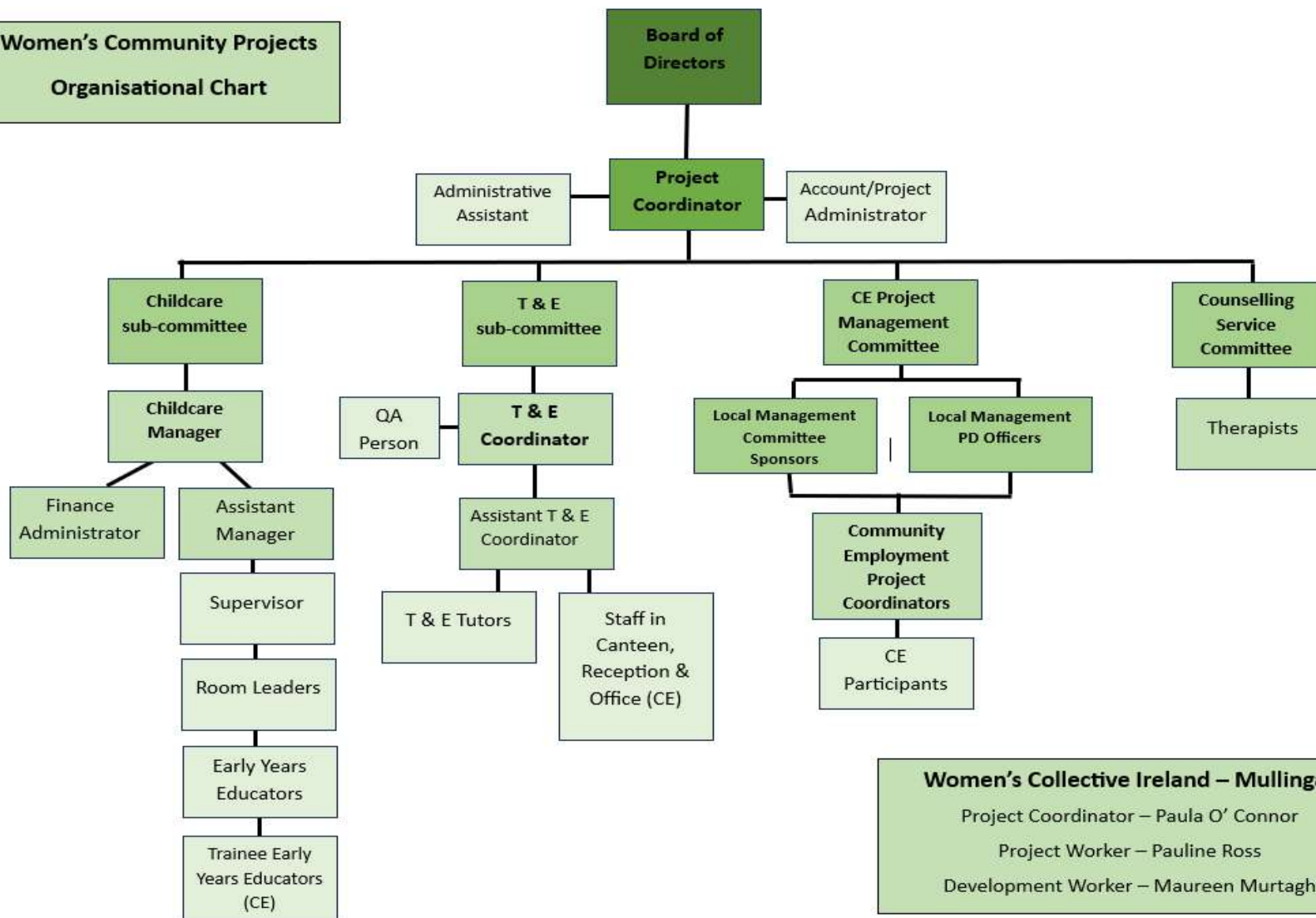
To facilitate women in identifying their needs and in developing their potential through the provision of appropriate personal development and educational programmes / opportunities and support services.

► Vision:

Ensure a just and equal society for women and their families.



Women's Community Projects Organisational Chart



Women's Collective Ireland – Mullingar
 Project Coordinator – Paula O' Connor
 Project Worker – Pauline Ross
 Development Worker – Maureen Murtagh



Organisational Structure

Overview of our Services



Childcare Programme

We aim to provide a creative, caring, stimulating and safe environment with an emphasis on education, development of social skills and encouragement of independence and to provide children with key experiences which will afford them a positive, safe and enriching childhood.

- Crèche: Caters for children from 2 to 3 years
- ECCE: Caters for children from 2 years and 8 months to 5 years
- Afterschool: Caters for children from school going age to 12 years.
- Parent and Toddler group

Supported by the *Department of Social Protection* under the *Community Services Programme (CSP)*.



Mullingar Community Counselling

- ▶ Low cost Counselling Service funded by CUAN
- ▶ Face to face, telephone or online by experienced, fully qualified & accredited therapists
- ▶ Currently, approximately 11 appointments available per week.
- ▶ Referral to appropriate services when needed



An Roinn Dlí agus Cirt
agus Comhionannais
Department of Justice
and Equality



**MULLINGAR
COMMUNITY
COUNSELLING
SERVICE**



Supporting People to Heal
the Effect of Domestic Abuse

Free
Counselling Service
Phone: 0862655066

Community Employment (CE) Programme

- ▶ CE is a programme that integrates employment placements and training for job seekers.
- ▶ Supports the provision of community services.
- ▶ WCP Mullingar are the main sponsor for the ***Childcare Training & Education Programme within Westmeath and Offaly***.
- ▶ Our programme offers work placement and training within Early Years, Social Care & Business Administration, Building & Grounds Caretakers.
- ▶ Currently 57 placements, 48 participants currently on the scheme.
- ▶ Funded by Department of Social Protection (DSP).



Training & Education (Adult/Community Principles)

Programmes

BTEI

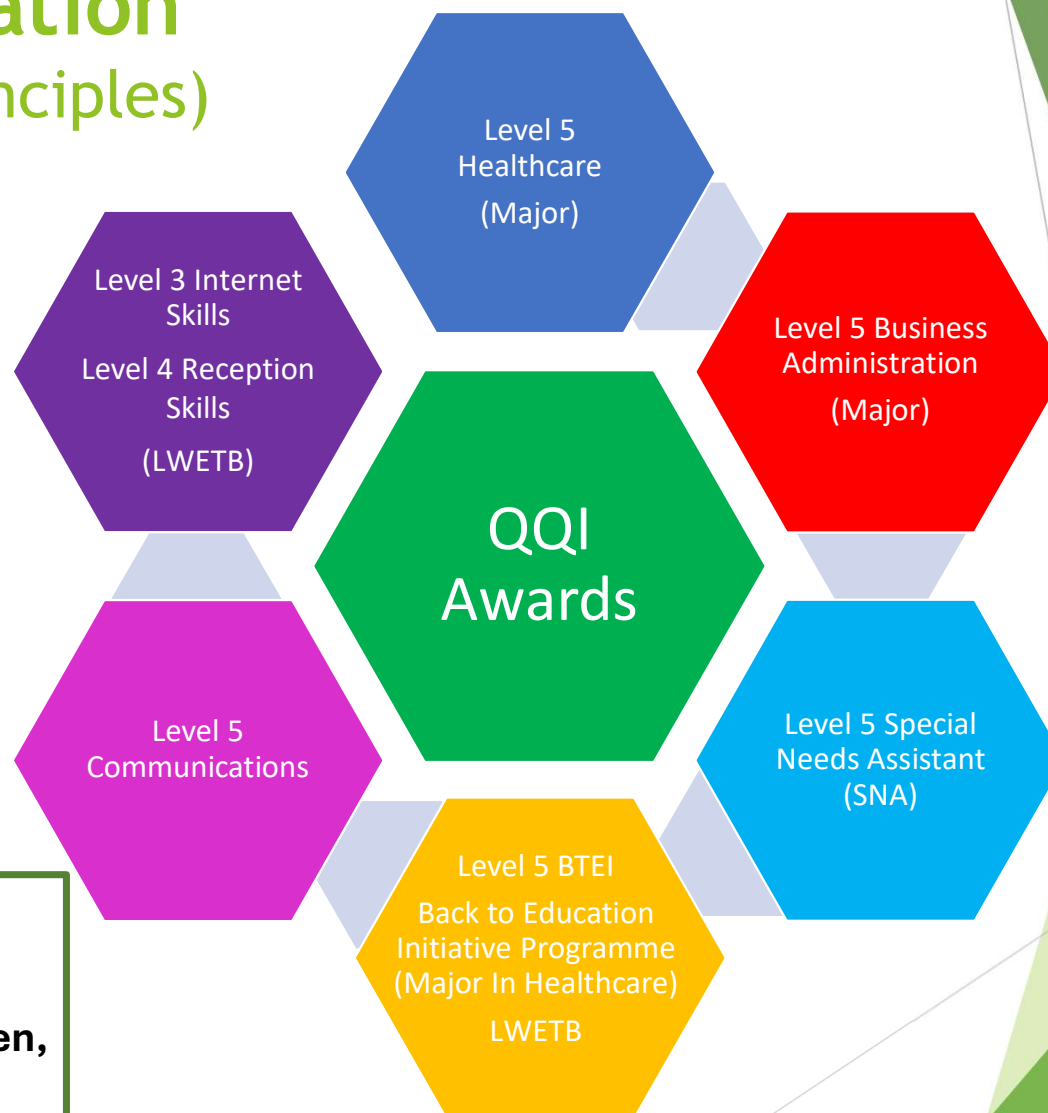
Women's
Social
Group

One off
Workshops,
Events &
Awareness
Raising
Campaigns



University College Dublin
Ireland's Global University

**Outreach
Programme:**
**Certificate in Women,
Gender & Social
Studies Level 7**



Workshops / Courses



S
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Workshops / Courses at WCP



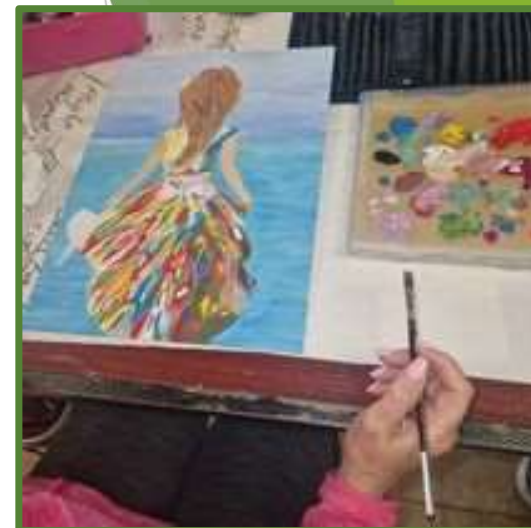
Computers



Workshops / Courses at WCP



Art



Upcycling

Workshops / Courses



Womens Collective Ireland (WCI)



Dail Visit 23rd November 2023

Women in Leadership Programme

IWD & Graduation Event
Striking the **'Accelerate Action'** Pose in
support of IWD 2025 Theme

IWD Guest Speakers

L3 & L4 Component Awards Graduates

IWD Celebration & Student Graduation 2025

Cw0

L5 - BTEI Programme

L5 Component Award Graduates

L5 Safety & Health
Component
Award
L5 Business
Administration
(Major Award)

Hobby & Interest Programmes Non-Certified

- ▶ Pilates
- ▶ Art
- ▶ Monday Morning Club
- ▶ Women's Wit & Wisdom Book Club
- ▶ Storytelling from Years gone by
'Capturing the stories of women over the last 40 years in Westmeath'.
- ▶ Women in Leadership (Sept 25)
- ▶ Computers for Beginners



Pilates Classes

Join us our Pilates classes. Pilates is a mind-body exercise that requires core stability, strength, and flexibility, and attention to muscle control, posture, and breathing

SUITABLE FOR ALL LEVELS

Register your interest with the Training and Education Department
Women's Community Projects Mullingar, 100 Westmeath
Phone: 01456 4328 Email: info@wcpmullingar.ie

WCP Women's Community Projects Mullingar

Art Class

Join us for art classes where you can learn basic painting techniques, materials, color mixing theory, and landscape painting

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Register your interest with the Training and Education Department
Women's Community Projects Mullingar, 100 Westmeath
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WCP Women's Community Projects Mullingar

The Monday Morning Club

Join us on a Monday from 10am-12.30pm for lots of different workshops

- Healthy & wellbeing talks
- Money saving tips and tricks
- Arts and crafts
- Flower Arranging
- Mindfulness
- Budgeting
- Gardening tips and tricks
- Diet & fitness
- Batch cooking
- Stress busting activities

Starts Monday 28th April

FREE to registered learners

Women's Community Projects, Mullingar

WOMEN'S WIT & WISDOM BOOK CLUB

€5.00 per session

- Monthly meet ups
- Hear from women authors and explore their stories
- Meet new people
- Chat over a cuppa

Join today, our first book is - 'Poor' by Katriona O'Sullivan

Starts Thursday 8th May 10am to 12pm

Women's Community Projects, Mullingar

Storytelling From Years Gone By

Capturing the stories of women over the last 40 years in Westmeath

A six week programme
Starting Tuesday 6th May 2025
10am to 1pm

FREE Programme to registered learners

PRODUCE A BOOKLET WITH ALL OUR RESEARCH

Develop research skills, improve your communication and writing skills, learn how to create podcasts and much more

Lots of chats and friendships formed

Women's Community Projects are celebrating 40 years in Mullingar

WCP Women's Community Projects Mullingar

Women In Leadership

Want to be a LEADER in your community or organisation?

We are now taking bookings for our fully funded 8 hour per week programme, for September 2025. This is a limited opportunity and we want to see you there!

Topics include:
Dare to Lead: A model of Personal and Professional Empowerment Leadership
Public Speaking
Women's Voices: Feminist Analysis
The Power of Words and Visible Power
Career and Success
Making Women's Voice
Please come for a free inspirational event. Speakers!

Contact Paula or Maureen on 044 9344331 or email: info@wcpmullingar.ie

WCP Women's Community Projects Mullingar

Certified Courses

Develop your skills and employment opportunities in a friendly & supportive environment with WCP Mullingar.

A range of student supports are available.



Level 3

- ▶ Word Processing
- ▶ Internet Skills
- ▶ Career Preparation

Level 4

- ▶ Reception Skills

Level 5

- ▶ Care Support
- ▶ Business Administration Skills (evening / online)
- ▶ Work Experience (evening / online)



Level 7 in Women, Gender & Social Justice

To register or find out more contact
our Training & Education
Department

Phone: 044 - 93 44301

Email: adult.ed@wcpmullingar.ie

Introductory Programme to Women, Gender & Social Justice

(6 Weeks – Starts 9th May 25)

10:00am to 1:00pm

Preparation Course:
Pathway to Level 7 Certificate

Outreach Programme:

Certificate in Women, Gender & Social Justice

- ▶ WCP Mullingar are delighted to be offering the Level 7 Certificate in Women, Gender and Social Justice in collaboration with UCD this September.

Aims:

- ▶ To widen access to 3rd level for women, especially those facing social and economic challenges.
- ▶ Empower participants to make informed personal, educational & career choices while engaging in social, political & cultural activities.
- ▶ Enhance job opportunities by developing key educational, intellectual & personal skills.
- ▶ Make higher education more inclusive & participatory.

Blended Learning

Student Supports Available



University College Dublin
Ireland's Global University



Local Events / National + International Campaigns

- ▶ International Womens Day (8th March)
- ▶ Go Purple Event (April/May Annually)
- ▶ UN International Day for the Eradication of Poverty (17th October)
- ▶ 16 days of Action (25th November - 10th December)



LONGFORD WESTMEATH DOMESTIC ABUSE LOCAL AREA NETWORK



GO PURPLE DAY EVENT



14TH MAY 2025 | 11.00AM - 1.00PM

HOSTED BY WOMEN'S COMMUNITY PROJECT MULLINGAR



Athlone (Midland)
Rape Crisis Centre



Esker House
Domestic Abuse Support Service
09064 74322



Westmeath Support Service
Against Domestic Abuse

- ▶ Come join us at the *Women's Community Projects (Mullingar) Association CLG* for a day dedicated to raising awareness about domestic abuse.
- ▶ Wear your purple attire to show your support and solidarity.
- ▶ This in-person event will feature guest speakers and resources to help those affected by domestic abuse.
- ▶ Let's come together as a community to make a difference!

Nationally
Friday 16th May

Go Purple Day

Raise awareness about
DOMESTIC ABUSE

Stand in solidarity for
#ZeroTolerance

An initiative of An Garda Síochána and
domestic abuse services nationwide.

Register via eventbrite
To find out more contact our
T&E Department

Phone: 044 - 93 44301

Email:

adult.ed@wcpmullingar.ie



Working as Collaborative Project

WCP Mullingar Grassroots

- ▶ Empowering women & providing them with the skills, knowledge and confidence to implement positive changes in their lives and communities.
- ▶ Benefitting the local community
- ▶ Providing employment within the local community,

Womens Collective Ireland

- ▶ National Representation, lobbying & policy submissions to government
- ▶ Striving & lobbying for changes required to improve the equality status & opportunities for women.
- ▶ Acting on insights, evaluations & feedback from 17 WCI projects throughout Ireland.



Thank You

