

Annual Report **2025**



Traveller Visibility Group

Director of Advocacy Statement

2025 was a very, very busy year covering a broad range of different pieces, including finishing up projects that were coming to an end and starting new exciting programmes and activities within TVG. As ever, the age-old issues impacting Travellers were experienced, with accommodation crisis and Traveller homelessness at an all time high. Accommodation has dominated our work in the project for years as it is such a key determinant of health and impacts every other area of people's lives. Over the years TVG has sat on various different accommodation committees that have worked towards supporting Travellers into permanent accommodation. Unfortunately very little has changed since TVG began its advocacy work in the early 1990s. There has been no additional Traveller accommodation provided in Cork for the last 35 years. While we have seen state legislation and policies come in that directly impact Traveller accommodation and culture such as the Anti-Trespass Act 2002 which effectively criminalised nomadism, a key part of Travellers' ethnic identity, way of life both economically and socially. So 23 years on, in 2025 I have seen the continued growth of the impacts of these housing policies and legislation somersault my community into catastrophic homelessness- with no way out clear. While there has been some positive change over the decades, the constant efforts of Traveller organisations and allies to support Travellers caught up in such issues have noted very slow change and some situations have become worse than before. These critical issues impact the health and well-being of all Travellers with longstanding effects on their social determinants of health. I believe it is also adding to community stress and strain, and plays no small part in the escalated community violence and conflict that we have seen increase over the years. In 2025 TVG staff were supporting many families who were victims of conflict and violence that can all too

easily be blamed on or named as "Traveller feuds" and dismissed as cultural issues. This is not the case, feuding is not part of Traveller culture but a symptom of the continued failure of our government to respond to the crisis and discrimination that the Traveller community are facing on a daily basis.

In 2025 I delivered Traveller Cultural Awareness Training with the Judicial Council which included 5 judges from around Ireland. This was a very successful meeting with the participants providing positive feedback on the training but also a meaningful discussion and understanding on the experiences of discrimination in the Irish justice system for Travellers. TCAT is a very important resource for improving the understanding, acceptance and celebration of Traveller culture, ethnicity and heritage among settled people. To this end I will be working more with the TCAT steering group in 2026. As part of this focus TVG is also supporting the new framework for the HSE to develop, deliver and support TCAT services around the country.

In 2017 when the state finally granted Travellers ethnic minority status it was hoped that this would create some policy change to help improve Traveller outcomes in accommodation, health, education and employment. Unfortunately this has not been the case. We are still campaigning today, a big part of our work is to advocate for these changes and to continue to support our community and bring about meaningful change at a quicker pace- this is ongoing work and requires both leadership from our government and direct, real collaboration with Traveller organisations locally to ensure the needs of the Traveller community are considered and supported. In this report you will hear of some of the real positive work and progress that TVG is making in the areas of health, education, training and mental health.

Our team has worked tirelessly throughout the year to deliver meaningful events and support services and the Traveller community to create positive change. It's been a pleasure working with my team and our allies in the wider community this year. As you'll see from this year's report there has been a lot of meaningful collaborative work and there are some really positive new initiatives that TVG are involved in for 2026 including the community-based Traveller mentorship programme, the Traveller Education Unit, with plans to lead on a large-scale campaign tackling anti-Traveller racism in society.



Breda O'Donoghue
Director of Advocacy



Chairperson's Statement

TVG has had a very productive year in 2025. So much positive work is done by TVG staff in the context of continuing individual and institutional anti-Traveller racism. The enthusiasm, creativity and energy of staff who continuously encounter barriers when promoting Travellers' rights and justice is outstanding.

Plenty was heard in 2025 from politicians about the lack of housing for the general population, but little was heard about the ongoing crisis in accommodation for Travellers. Growing overcrowding, discrimination within the private rented sector, increased risks of homelessness, and poorly maintained council halting sites are all parts of the crisis that national and local governments chose not to recognise. TVG advocates with individual Traveller families and demands that local authorities provide a variety of culturally appropriate accommodation for Travellers, such as halting sites and group housing schemes, while improving conditions in existing sites, and addressing barriers to accessing private rental and social housing. TVG works diligently with the local advisory committees, such as the Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee, however, our experience indicates that pursuing legal complaints is the most effective way to bring about meaningful change. To this end, throughout 2025 we have strengthened our working relationships with three Community Law Centres (Free Legal Advice Centre Cork, Community Law & Mediation, and the Mercy Law Centre).



TVG staff actively and constructively participate in many local government, housing, health, and education advisory groups. This is often a very frustrating process, in which change is slow and/or non-existent. However, Traveller children's education has been one area in 2025 where there have been some positive outcomes. A community-based Traveller mentorship programme has been developed to support young people at school. The mentors work with Traveller young people as well as their parents and teachers to promote Travellers' education at school. 36% of the Traveller population are under the age of 15 (CSO Census 2022). This makes youth work a key area for TVG and in 2025 we were very pleased to obtain funding to employ a Traveller youth worker. This worker will strengthen the links between our successful TVG Goras Childcare Centre, the community-based mentoring project, and the existing youth service and schools.

Another positive development in 2025 has been expansion of the TVG men's project. The two men's workers and men's community intern have engaged Traveller men in a range of projects, from attending conflict resolution courses to running in the Cork City marathon, from participation in youth and community courses to hiking up Croagh Patrick. It is very positive to have men Travellers becoming increasingly involved in the work of TVG.

International bonds were built in September 2025 when a Blackfeet women's group from Montana (USA) and Alberta (Canada) visited Cork during culture week. As well as various meetings, a residential weekend, hosted by Cork ETB, was arranged for the Blackfeet women group and women from TVG. There are so many similarities in treatment of First Nation communities such as Blackfeet and Travellers in Ireland. Housing, health, education, racism and denial of identity and culture, as well as the strength, resilience and joy being part of the

Blackfeet and Traveller communities featured strongly in the discussions

TVG is a community-based organisation with at any time over 20 local groups of Traveller women, men and young people coming together to work on various projects that focus on strengthening Traveller identity and Traveller empowerment. Groups focus on health, identity, culture and literacy, and activities range from sewing to advising the School of Education at University College Cork to produce an undergraduate module – 'Ending Traveller Exclusion in Education'. By TVG maintaining its community focus the organisation is able to keep its values and mission central to all our activities. While Anti-Traveller racism is a growing feature of society, TVG continues to successfully fight for Traveller rights and social justice.



Alastair Christie

Chair, TVG Board of Directors.

Executive Summary

9 NATIONAL
6 REGIONAL
24 LOCAL



Inter-agency Work

TVG participates in 39 local, regional and national committees:

- **24 Local** Committees and Working Groups
- **6 Regional** Committees and Working Groups
- **9 National** Committees and Working Groups

Public Events

TVG hosted 30 public events including 4 events for Traveller Pride celebrations and further events on Traveller ethnicity, early years education, addiction and recovery events, mental health awareness and St. Brigid's Day and St. Patrick's Day activities.

Research

TVG was involved in 16 distinct research projects in 2025. Research topics included education, health, sustainable energy, anti-racist and inclusive practices, early years education and accommodation.

Presentations

TVG delivered 23 presentations on the TVG service and issues impacting the Traveller community to audiences across Cork and nationally including Early Childhood Ireland, HSE, UCC, Cork City Council, Youth Work Services, Probation Services, Addiction Treatment Services.



Accommodation Workers Highlights

- A very useful meeting on using a tool-kit on the Public Sector Equality and Human Rights Duty (PSEHRD) regarding Traveller Accommodation was delivered during the year, as well as a legal information session on Traveller accommodation and the law, delivered by Free Legal Advice Centre (FLAC).
- TVG staff continue to advocate for positive change in the provision of Traveller accommodation in Cork through attendance at the Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee (LTACC). However it seems that this advocacy makes little difference in the delivery of Traveller accommodation and the TVG has found that engaging in legal complaints and equality act complaints is the only real way to bring about meaningful change for Travellers in the current public housing system in Ireland. The TVG team has seen some success for families either being properly accommodated or supported by social housing after taking formal steps with WRC or FLAC. TVG will continue to advocate on a national and international level to see the introduction of an independent housing body to deliver Traveller accommodation in Ireland.
- The Irish Traveller Movement (ITM), along with National Traveller Women's Forum & Pavee Point, also engaged FLAC for a legal analysis of the departmental conditions regarding the current Caravan Loan Scheme, which found those conditions to be without legal basis.
- TVG will support the national call for State funding to be provided to recruit Traveller Accommodation workers for Traveller organisations.
- Working Relationships with three Community Law Centres (FLAC, Community Law & Mediation and the Mercy Law Centre) have been established and further developed during 2025.

Education and Employment Team Highlights

- During 2025 TVG in collaboration with partners such as ETB and Cork City Partnership supported Traveller men to attend 3 separate construction or trade skills training. These were metal arc welding, MEWP training and 360 excavator training.
- The Traveller Women's Community Development Worker, Elizabeth McGrath, collaborated with ETB and Cork City Partnership to develop a number of training programmes for Traveller women in 2025.
- TVG community development workers continue to work with Cork City Partnership, Cork City Council, ETB, UCC and MTU Access through local interagency subgroups to create meaningful employment and training opportunities for Travellers in Cork.
- The Social Determinants of Education video was completed with Traveller activists taking leading roles. This is available to be used in schools, teacher training colleges and workshops on anti-racism and inclusive education.
- A module titled Ending Traveller Exclusion in Education was developed with the TEU and Nicola Ingram, Head of the School of Education. This will be available as a micro-credential within the School of Education at UCC and will be launched in 2026, educators and people working with Travellers in education are encouraged to complete this module.
- In September 2025 TVG was delighted to see one of our founders, and coordinator of the STHN, Anne Burke, receive UCC's Bertram Windle Award in recognition of her pioneering work in advancing education within the Traveller community in Cork.

Health Team Highlights

- The Health team and community development teams have created and work with 19 different local groups varying from younger Travellers to Traveller men's groups to training and development groups for Traveller women. We used funding from the REACH Fund to fund sewing and literacy groups for Traveller women.
- The Traveller Community Health Workers played a key role in completing the second phase of research on the unique Traveller microbiome with scientists from UCC. There has been great connection and interaction within the wider Traveller community to complete this research and raise awareness about some of the positives of Travellers' traditional lifestyle, particularly some of the health benefits gained by living a nomadic, collective, communal life with substantial engagement with animals.
- TVG Health Team organised a group of 70 Traveller women to attend the Knock shrine with the National Traveller Mental Health Network to raise awareness of Traveller mental health.
- The Primary Healthcare Workers delivered a presentation to a packed audience of GP trainee students in UCC Boole auditorium to discuss the social determinants of health and the issues impacting Traveller health outcomes.
- The Primary Healthcare Team is involved in an ongoing awareness campaign with HSE Public Health on increasing the up-take of HPV vaccine in young Travellers and assisting in the delivery of catch up vaccines to help prevent various cancers related to the HPV infection. In 2025 the team were also involved in the recording of information videos as part of this important campaign.

TVG Men's Development Team Highlights

- In June 2025, 10 Traveller men took part in the Cork City Marathon 10K event with the group completing a 6 week Road Running Training Programme with all members completing the 10k in under 60 minutes. This group has continued to meet to attend gym and swim classes throughout the year and have signed up to undertake the to "Hell and Back" Cross Country event in County Wicklow in February 2026. The group has already started their training programme with our health development team for this event.
- The TVG Community Development Internship Worker, Bernie McDonagh, completed Year one of his UCC Youth and Community Diploma and during 2025 Bernie worked closely with our men's health development team. During 2025, Bernie worked with Foroige Youth workers in the Meelagh Traveller Community Centre with the co-facilitation of Traveller boys' youth groups and outings.
- The TVG Men's Associate Community Development Worker, Patrick McDonagh, oversaw a number of projects including: a 6 week conflict, mediation and resolution project with TVG and the Traveller Mediation Services and teenage Traveller and Ukrainian boys. 10 Traveller boys from Mahon participated in the TVG summer scheme outdoor activities programme and finally 15 Traveller young people have taken part in the Toy Show craft Boxes Project in Meelagh Community Centre.
- Patrick McDonagh completed a 20 week online group facilitation training programme
- The Traveller Men's Team in TVG coordinated a group of 14 Traveller men to hike up Croagh Patrick with the Traveller Mental Health Network to raise awareness of the mental health crisis within the Traveller community.

TVG Advocacy Work

Over the course of 2025 TVG engaged in a number of Traveller advocacy activities, this mainly focused on issues impacting Travellers' social determinants of health such as advocating for Traveller rights and culturally appropriate services in the justice, education and healthcare systems. We also spent some time focusing and celebrating Traveller culture and connecting with the wider community through our activities in Traveller Pride and at various local events across the year. In 2025 some of our team joined a community multicultural celebration of St. Brigid's Day which took place on the banks of the Lee at Cafe Myo. TVG workers told stories, made paper flowers and St. Brigid's crosses and celebrated Traveller culture and how it is an integral part of Ireland's rich heritage and multicultural present.

TVG also worked with Cork Community Media Hub to create a documentary on the meaning and relevance of the name Brigid in the Traveller community. This film was launched in the Triskel Arts Centre to a large and warm audience. Further events and screenings will take place in 2026 to build awareness of Traveller culture and heritage and make connections with the settled community in Ireland, celebrating commonalities of the two communities who have lived alongside each other for centuries.

The TVG team also collaborated with Cork Traveller Women's Network and two archivists James Furey and Patricia Quilligan to collate a wonderful collection of photographs which have been digitally displayed on a specially designed website. The launch of this project was held during Traveller Pride in the Cork Public Museum, with a great reception and a packed audience. It was particularly lovely to see that the audience included a local primary school who attended the event as part of their Yellow Flag activities.

TVG launched its 5 year strategic plan to mark the 8th anniversary of the state's recognition of Travellers as a distinct ethnic group, Ireland's only indigenous ethnic minority group. At this event we showcased some great Irish performers including young singer Rosie McCarthy who sang beautifully on the day. We also had the pleasure of listening to Chrissy Donoghue Ward reading from her collection of stories "The Fairy Queen." It was lovely to see young Travellers gather around one of our celebrated Traveller activists and learn of the stories of old.

Traveller Pride was another great success, with the Family Fun Day in Fitzgerald's Park being the centrepiece of a busy week of Traveller cultural celebrations. We worked with the Cork City Council, UCC and the Cork Traveller Women's Network, to name a few.

TVG advocated for Traveller rights and equality in 2025, meeting with a number of regional and national offices and leaders including:

CORK CITY COUNCIL // OFFICE OF THE CHILDREN'S OMBUDSMAN // IRISH COUNCIL OF GPS // WRC (WORKPLACE RELATIONS COMMISSION) // TRAVELLER HEALTH, NATIONAL SOCIAL INCLUSION OFFICE, HSE. // DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION // TRAVELLER ROMA EDUCATION STRATEGY (TRES) // DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN, EQUALITY AND DISABILITY (DCED) // IRISH TRAVELLER MOVEMENT

Drugs and Alcohol Project

In 2025, the TVG Drug & Alcohol Project observed a noticeable increase in community involvement, trust, and engagement. Building on the groundwork established in September 2024 by Amanda & Ruth's initial planning.

What launched in 2024 as a modest outreach-focused project has grown into a more organised programme that provides group sessions, one-on-one help, and more effective methods for connecting with surrounding service providers. This progress has been largely due to the connections Amanda & Ruth have made within the Traveller community, especially in tackling the stigma associated with addiction and promoting authentic discussions.

The positive engagement between family members, who embrace one another's personal qualities has been one of the most beneficial developments. In order to provide greater culturally appropriate approaches, we have made significant improvements to our working relationships with health and social care professionals.

Our community interactions have played a significant role in this success, particularly in confronting both conscious and unconscious bias towards the Traveller community and offering TCAT training.

However, problems still exist. The complex nature of addiction, accommodation issues, and little resources all continue to impede progress. Additionally, discrimination and service access continue to be obstacles.

In spite of this, the Traveller community's determination and Amanda & Ruth's commitment contribute to drive and deliver important, culturally aware support.

Our work in 2025 focused on assessing client needs, delivering tailored harm-reduction and recovery programmes. Collaborating closely with agencies and services to ensure safe, consistent, and effective support for individuals and their families who are experiencing substance-use challenges.

Ruth Bailey

TVG Drug and Alcohol Worker



Traveller Youth Development and Mentorship Development

Much has changed in TVG over 2025, firstly the National Traveller and Roma Inclusion Strategy's pilot education project (STAR) came to an end after 5 years in Cork and in 3 other areas of the country. While the STAR project presented its own challenges, TVG has learned a significant amount about the current issues impacting Traveller education.

We have also made some meaningful relationships in the Department of Education, the Traveller Roma Education Strategy (TRES) and within the local education field in Cork through the Traveller Education Unit (TEU). The TEU was founded and developed by TVG and the Southern Traveller Health Unit over the course of 2024 and 2025. It has led TVG to develop its own education strategy through the support of the Traveller Education Strategy Coordinator, Dr. Linda Greene and to create a video and supporting document on the Social Determinants of Education. This work will add to the legacy of STAR as it was through this national programme that TVG turned its focus to inequalities in education for Traveller students in Ireland. Education and youth development has become a priority at TVG due to the efforts of the STAR team over the past 5 years.

One of four pillars of the TEU is to provide a community-based Traveller mentorship programme. This project is overseen by the STHN and supported by the Department of Children, Disability and Equality (DCDE), the Community Foundation of Ireland (CFI) and the Traveller Interagency Subgroup for Education including representatives from MTU, UCC, ETB, Cork City Partnership, Cork City Council, TVG and STHN. STHN and TVG successfully recruited Traveller Mentorship Development Workers in August 2025. They have hit the ground running providing an after school support programme where children from local North-side schools learn about culture, identity, human rights and also can approach the workers about issues at school. The Traveller Mentors also support the school-based Traveller mentorship programme and have met with the school teams to develop better communication and engagement with Traveller families and schools alongside developing more inclusive practices in schools to support Travellers' sense of belonging and connection to their education.

TVG was delighted to be able to recruit for a Traveller Youth Development Worker in 2025. We found an exceptional candidate in Rachel Coffey who has previous work experience at the National Youth Council of Ireland (NYCI) and as a Traveller Education Worker in TVG's STAR pilot. Rachel will be working closely with our Early Education Centre, TVG Goras Childcare Centre as well as supporting the community-based mentoring project overseen by the Southern Traveller Health Network (STHN). Rachel will focus on advocating for Traveller voices, inclusion and anti-racist practices to be embedded in early years education, youth services and school settings. Rachel will also be developing long term strategies to improve Traveller engagement, access and participation in youth services, advocating for the rights of Traveller young people and ensuring there is a Traveller voice at local Youth forums, youth work steering groups and committees.

A highlight of our youth work in TVG during 2025 was our participation in the ITM youth Leadership course led by ITM. Three workers in TVG graduated from this programme in 2025 and are heavily involved in our youth development work in TVG.

Blackfeet Tribe - Inter-Cultural Weekend



TVG was contacted by Fiona Quinn LCYP (Local creative youth partnership) and Catriona McNaeidhe ETB (Education Training board) regarding a group of Blackfeet Indigenous women travelling from Montana USA and Calgary Canada to Ireland for September culture night, they were interested in connecting with the Traveller community and learning more about our culture, identity, and shared experiences.

A residential weekend was organised in LEAP, West Cork, hosted in collaboration with Cork ETB Youth Services and LCYP, where seven or eight Blackfeet women joined twelve Traveller women from TVG (Traveller Visibility Group).

The weekend was thoughtfully planned to create a welcoming and culturally respectful space, with a variety of workshops and activities including poetry, films, sewing, equine storytelling, traditional crafting, and group discussions. One of the highlights was a day dedicated to traditional clothing and cultural expression, allowing participants to celebrate heritage through dress, creativity, and storytelling.

Throughout the weekend, both communities shared their languages, traditions, and lived experiences, while also speaking openly about experiences of discrimination, racism, and marginalisation. The Blackfeet women reflected on life on their reservation in Montana and the challenges they face, which resonated strongly with Traveller women's experiences in Ireland. Alongside the learning and dialogue, there were moments of fun, laughter, and spiritual connection, including a meaningful visit to the Holy Well where ribbons were hung to mark personal intentions and remembering our loved ones. Overall, the weekend created a powerful sense of solidarity and mutual respect, strengthening cultural understanding and building lasting relationships between the Traveller and Blackfeet communities.



TVG Goras ChildCare Centre



TVG Goras Childcare Centre including the TVG creche and pre-school service had had a very busy year in 2025 with a range of special events and activities for Traveller Ethnicity Day and Traveller Pride. The creche also celebrated Children's day on the 20th November and the children marked the occasion by releasing colourful balloons.

The creche was involved in 2 different research projects on inclusion of Traveller children in early years settings, one report was based in Early Childhood Ireland (ECI) and the other with the Department of Education. The ECI research will continue into 2026 and TVG is delighted to take part in research that adopts anti-racist methods and child-centred research to inform early years services how to be as inclusive as possible.

The early years centre continues to engage with great programmes like Happy Talk sessions which connects with children and parents with speech & language therapists which has been a great support. The Beag creative arts sessions with the creche children has also been really well received. This year the TVG preschool have taken part in the Bia Blasta nutrition programme which started in October. This programme offers funding to services to provide daily lunches for pre-school children in disadvantaged areas. It's going down a treat!

Working alongside the TVG Traveller Youth Development Worker, Rachel Coffey, to support children and families in the service has been really helpful and has added additional supports to Traveller families using the service. It has also helped connect the centre with other early years supports and research and development projects. We have also held play therapy sessions with a family link support worker based in Newbury House during 2025 which has been really beneficial.

Progression and development in the TVG Goras Childcare Centre is always a focus for us. Staff have taken part in various training courses. We have 1 staff member who has completed her level 6 and another staff member from the Traveller community completing her level 5 which is great to see. The CE scheme creche team have started on a CE scheme the 2 workers will start their Level 5 in early 2026. 52 children in total between the Preschool and Creche.





Fond Farewells

2025 was a year of much change in TVG, our trusted Project Administrator and great friend of TVG for over 25 years, Mary Prendergast finished up with TVG in April 2025, what can we say...**we'll miss you Mary!**

Another old friend of TVG's parted ways after 8 years of working as Community Development Worker, Thomas Erbsloh left the TVG in October 2025 and will continue to be a fantastic ally and activist for Traveller rights. Thanks for everything Thomas!

Finally, the NTRIS STAR Pilot Project came to an end after 5 years providing support to Traveller families and schools in primary and secondary school. With that ending we bid a fond farewell to Dr. Linda Greene who worked tirelessly and passionately as TVG's Education Strategy Coordinator and managed the STAR programme since 2023. We would like to thank all workers past and present who helped to deliver the STAR programme in Cork, thanks to this dedicated team there are legacy education and family supports working to provide better outcomes for Travellers in education.

TVG has always been lucky to work with great people, and are fortunate enough to enjoy long working relationships with our team. It has been a real pleasure working with colleagues mentioned above over the years, each one of them providing TVG and the Traveller community with great support, experience, skill and creativity. You know you're appreciated and your work was invaluable- and we'll say it again: thanks for everything!

In Memoriam

On February 19th 2025 the TVG team lost a dear colleague, Ray Manning, who died suddenly but peacefully at home. Ray had worked with TVG as the Caretaker and did exactly that, he took care of the TVG building, was friendly, helpful and committed to supporting the TVG. He is missed very much and a week doesn't go by that someone doesn't say his name or recalls a story. At the time of his first anniversary we send deep condolences and thoughts to Ray's friends and Family.

Rest Easy Ray.



Management and Staff

List of TVG Board of Management 2025:

Chair and Secretary: Alastair Christie

Treasurer: Deirdre Kelleher

Jason Sheehan // Cora Williams // Leanne McDonnagh // Maggie O'Neill

List of TVG Staff 2025:

Breda O'Donoghue

Eileen O'Shea

Claudia Dallek

Mary Coughlan

Sarah McCarthy

Joanne O'Donoghue

Tehmina Kazi

John O Sullivan

Patrick McDonagh

Bernie McDonnagh

Thomas Erbsloh

Elizabeth McGrath

Biddy McDonagh

Jean Donoghue

Nora Cash

Eileen Burke

Maria Stokes

Noreen O'Reilly

Ruth Bailey

Amanda O'Donnell

Dr Linda Greene

Maryanne O'Donoghue

Rachel Coffey

Bernadette O'Donoghue

Patricia Quilligan

Ann Marie Rogan

Anne Burke

Gemma Lewsley

Susan Mannion

Jemma Coughlan

Shauna Kiely

Shauna Carroll

Tanya

Kayleigh Curtin

Donna Cambridge

Director of Advocacy

Director of Operations

Project Administrator

Project Administrator

Assistant Administrator

Assistant Administrator

TVG Traveller Health Coordinator

Men's Health Development Worker

Associate Community Development Worker

Traveller Men's Strategy Intern

Community Development Worker

Women's Health Development Worker

Traveller Community Health Worker

Traveller Community Health Worker

Traveller Community Health Worker

Traveller Community Health Worker

Domestic & Sexual Gender Based Violence

Domestic & Sexual Gender Based Violence

Community Drugs and Alcohol Worker

Traveller Peer Drugs and Alcohol Worker

Education Strategy Coordinator

Traveller Education Worker

Traveller Youth Development Worker

Roma Education Worker/Traveller Mentorship Worker

Traveller Mentorship Worker

STHN Coordinator

STHN Coordinator

Childcare Manager

Childcare Team Leader

Childcare Worker

Childcare Worker

Childcare Worker

Childcare Worker

Childcare Worker

Childcare Worker

Community Employment Scheme (CE)

We continued to provide 10 CE placements to people in the Traveller community in 2025. CE workers are an excellent addition to the team as they are strategically placed within each section of the organisation so they can support the day to day running of the overall project and also take up training opportunities in their personal interest areas. These have included Administration Assistants, Receptionist, Caretaker, Community Development Worker and House Keeping.

CE placements can have a duration of 3 years per participant which can be very beneficial to the participant as well as the organisation. This can give adequate time to building of skill sets and preparation for the workplace. Many of our current and past staff started at TVG on a CE scheme and then through on the job experience, certified training and career development were able to progress to long term employment.

In 2025, the CE Workers included:

Helen O'Connor
Ray Manning (RIP)
Aimee Daly
Megan Cash
Destiny Quilligan
Shannon O'Driscoll
VACANT
VACANT
Ayesha Camara
Jodie Delaney

Reception
Caretaker/Maintenance
Community Development
Community Development
Community Development
CE Childcare
Drugs and Alcohol Project
Front House/House Keeping
CE Childcare
CE Childcare

An incredibly busy and successful year, with higher attendance than ever at key events such as the trip to Knock, continued group outreach and successful cultural projects and events, such as the launch of our Cork City Traveller archive.

Tehmina Kazi
Health Team Coordinator



Acknowledgements

We would like to thank all our funders throughout 2025 including: Social Inclusion and Cork Community Work Department (HSE), Traveller Health Unit (HSE), Cork Local Drugs and Alcohol Task Force (HSE), Pobal, Cork Education Training Board, Cork City Council, Community Foundation of Ireland, Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration & Youth, Cork City Partnership and all our colleagues in the Cork and Kerry Traveller Health Unit.

A further thank you to the UCC Social Work Students who took up work placement with our team in TVG over the year, thanks for your interest, passion and commitment to delivering anti-racist and culturally aware services in your future careers.

A special thank you to Traveller allies, our friends and supporters who join us in solidarity in the pursuit of social justice for Travellers in Ireland.

Thank you

AS EVER, WE COULDN'T DO THIS WORK WITHOUT THE INPUT AND COLLABORATION OF THE TRAVELLER COMMUNITY IN CORK. A HUGE THANK YOU TO ALL THE PEOPLE WHO LINK IN WITH TVG IN OUR COMMUNITY GROUPS, RESEARCH PROJECTS AND SPECIAL EVENTS AND WHO REACH OUT TO TVG FOR SUPPORT.





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