

**Irish
Aftercare
Network
News
July 2022**



***Irish Aftercare Network
Annual Conference 2022
Friday 7th October
Sheraton Hotel, Athlone***

***Please hold the date in your diary
We are looking forward to seeing you all.***

Another date for diary:

Information event for IAN members followed by Q&A

Social Care Workers Registration Board and the benefits of CPD. An information event for Irish Aftercare Network members followed by Q&A

Presenter: Charlotte Burke, CPD Coordinator, Social Care Ireland

Date: Tuesday 13th September 2022

Time: 10am – 12.00pm **online** via Zoom

The Social Care Workers Register will open on the 30 November 2023. This will begin a 2 year transition period for existing practitioners to apply to register with CORU. On the 30th November 2025, the title 'Social Care Worker' will become a legally protected title in Ireland. If you are currently working as an aftercare worker you may be eligible to apply during the grandparenting phase, which is a two-year transitional period. Grandparenting allows for three mechanisms to be utilised to register; including a specific allowance for social care called an assessment of competency that is filled out with your employer.

Further information is available here

[CORU Registration - Social Care Ireland](#)

Bursary Scheme for young adults who have had a care experience

Tusla and DCEDIY have secured Dormant Accounts funding to provide a Bursary Scheme to young adults who have had a care experience of at least 6 months and are aged between 18 and 30 years old. The funding is intended to support and assist them to achieve their full potential in education or training.

This scheme will provide funding for young adults to access further education and to support their career development. It has been developed to support young people who are not receiving specific funding for their education and/or training through another source such as SUSI.

Eligible young people will be able to apply for funding up to €5,000. Applications, which seek support for access to education and/or career development, will be considered. This could be for a new course/training or continuation on an existing course/training. Applications can also be made for financial support with course fees and/or hardware/software required to enable the young person to participate in a course (for example tools to complete an apprenticeship, a laptop or a printer).

Applications are now being received now and the scheme will be open up the 28th October 2022.

Application available here

[Education and Training Bursary Scheme for Care Experienced Young People 2022- 2023Tusla - Child and Family Agency](#)

Area of Origin Query

At one of the recent online Irish Aftercare Network meetings a discussion took place around the following:

Area of Origin and the need for a transfer option. Policy states there is no option to transfer and even if there were aftercare workers have no capacity due to caseloads. This is also a time management issue as aftercare workers using time travelling when already stretched with caseloads.

Post meeting we contacted Tusla to see if they had any data around this or any related communication we could share with you, Irish Aftercare Network members.

We received the following response:

“The aftercare policy states that transfer can occur when there is capacity in the service, however I am aware that there are challenges in relation to this in most instances.

We are undertaking a national consultation in aftercare in the coming months with a view to developing service improvement plan similar to the work we have undertaken in residential care and foster care and I am sure this matter will arise as part of this work.

I do not have the exact dates of when this work will commence as I am finishing up the foster care piece at the moment, however will be in touch with you and your colleagues to be part of the consultation that will inform the service improvement plan.
Also to note we do not collate data on case transfers”

[**What the Decision Support Service & ADMC Act 2015 means for Wards of Court**](#)

A webinar took place on Tuesday May 24th (online event) hosted by The Courts Services. The purpose of this information session was to outline and explain the changes to wardship that will be brought about by the Assisted Decision Making (Capacity) Act 2015, which is due to commence in June 2022. Once the Act commences, there will be a period of three years to be discharged from wardship, before wardship itself ceases.

For those who couldn't make it here is access to the recording of the session <https://youtu.be/tlcFW0kv8SY>

[**Reunification between parents and children in care**](#)

The Independent Guardian ad Litem Agency (TIGALA) hosted a seminar on reunification between parents and children in care on 17th June. The seminar was recorded and we were informed prior to circulating this newsletter that it will be available on their website in early July. Link to website below.

[**TIGALA | The Independent Guardian Ad Litem Agency**](#)

[**How important is the role of the Social Care Worker in supporting the Young People they care for in their transition from Residential care and into After Care?**](#)

The purpose of this piece of research was to explore the thoughts of a mix of professionals working in both SCW and AC Work (ACW) to see what challenges the YP face throughout their time in care and into adulthood. The research was conducted through a qualitative method and in total 6 participants took part, these were made up of 4 ACW's and 2 SCW's and there were 12 questions that explored 4 main research objectives. Chris Kearney thanked the network for their support at the beginning of the process and is happy to share the final draft of their thesis with members. (attached separately)

[**Health Services Staffs Credit Union**](#)

Health Services Staffs Credit Union got in touch to provide information about the services they provide. Many of our members may be eligible to join one of Ireland's best performing credit unions. Click on the link below to watch a short Welcome Video about HSSCU and their wide range of services.



[Credit Union - Nationwide | Dublin | Galway | Cork | Limerick – HSSCU](#)

Network Support

The network is always here to support you, please get in touch if we can help in any way or if you have content you would like to share in the newsletter



We would like to take this opportunity to wish all our members a very enjoyable summer.

IRISH AFTERCARE NETWORK

Providing Support to People Working With Care Leavers