

The Employment Specialist takes referrals from all members of the MDT.

Rapid Job Development – job searches within 4 weeks of first session.

IPS Principles

- Aims for competitive employment.
- Brings Employment Specialists onto clinical teams.
- Open to all services users who want to work in paid employment.
- Uses a “place and train” model which provides time unlimited and individualised support for the person and their employer.
- Places people in jobs consistent with their preferences.
- Employment Specialists develop relationships with employers based upon a person’s work preferences.
- Rapid job development. Job searches within four weeks of first session.
- Guidance on employment benefit and entitlements is provided.

IPS Regional Implementation group

OT Manager/IPS Lead: Orla O’ Conor
SRF Lead
Senior Employment Specialist Wexford
Employment Specialist Waterford
Senior OT
National Learning Network rep.
Wexford Mental Health Association rep.
Service User rep.

For further information on the SRF Employment Strand Contact:

Paula Lowney
087 2754752
paula.lowney@hse.ie
or
Sheila Kissane
087 6297087
sheilab.kissane@hse.ie



South East Community Healthcare
Carlow/Kilkenny/South Tipperary/
Waterford/Wexford



**Service Reform Fund
EMPLOYMENT
STRAND**



Employment Strand

Many service users identify work as a key goal in their recovery. It can give purpose and meaning. However, the rate of unemployment for mental health service users is significantly higher than the rest of the population.

This strand of the SRF supports service users to gain mainstream employment through the **Individual Placement and Support (IPS)** model in Community Mental Health and Rehabilitation and Recovery teams.

The SRF team works in partnership with community partners to recruit Employment Specialists onto mental health teams to support people 18 and over attending the service to gain employment.

Progress To Date

- ✓ Expressions of interest sought from mental health teams to participate in IPS.
- ✓ Community partners contracted for Wexford and Waterford Mental Health IPS Programme.
- ✓ Establishment of Regional and local IPS implementation groups.
- ✓ Recruitment of three wte Employment Specialists for County Wexford and Waterford City Mental Health Services.

What's Next ?

- Ongoing delivery of IPS Programme in County Wexford and Waterford City.
- Further training in IPS model for Employment Specialists, Employers and Mental Health Staff.
- Further internal and external supervision for Employment Specialists
- Recruit service users with lived experience onto IPS implementation groups.
- Ongoing data collection and monitoring of IPS service in Wexford and Waterford.
- Conduct fidelity reviews of IPS service and make recommendations.
- Expand to other areas in South East region if additional funding is secured.