

CURRICULUM VITAE

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1. OVERVIEW

Neil Haran is a freelance research consultant with extensive social sector experience. He brings a mature mix of knowledge, skills and values to consultancy roles, having engaged deeply over the past 30 years with the public service, education, not-for-profit, and social policy sectors – both in Ireland and overseas.

2. EMPLOYMENT OVER PAST TEN YEARS

- Freelance Social Research & Training Consultant, Sept 2014 – Present
- Programme Manager, Supporting Social Inclusion and Regeneration in Limerick Initiative under the University of Limerick, Sept 2008 – Aug 2014

3. OTHER CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- Country Director, GOAL India, March 2006 – April 2008
- Head of Research & Policy Analysis, Tallaght West Childhood Development Initiative, May 2004 – March 2006¹,
- National Coordinator of Demonstration Programme on Educational Disadvantage, Combat Poverty Agency, 2000-2001,
- Assistant Country Director – Uganda Programme, Concern Worldwide, 1996-1997
- Technical Support Officer – Bangladesh Education Programme, Concern Worldwide, 1992 - 1994

4. NOTABLE CONSULTANCIES IN THE LAST FIVE YEARS

Research & Community Consultation

- Leading a study into the health impacts of Covid-19 on the Traveller Community in Counties Galway, Mayo and Roscommon, a research project commissioned by Galway Traveller Movement on behalf of the HSE Traveller Health Unit, Community Healthcare Organisation West (current)

¹ Which laid the foundations for the current Childhood Development Initiative (CDI).

- Undertaking an assessment of need among children and families (antenatal to five years) in Dolphin House Estate on behalf of Dolphin House Community Development Association and the Dolphin House Social Regeneration Sub-Group (September 2022-May 2023)
- Contracted under the Clare LEADER Programme to facilitate a research, community-based consultation and strategic planning exercise to create a roadmap for the strategic regeneration, development and sustainability of North Clare (April 2021 – May 2023).
- Leading a research project, in association with Nexus Europe, into the housing pathways and experiences of older people in the private rental sector, a study on behalf of national organisations, ALONE and Threshold (September 2021 – October 2022)
- Undertaking research, in association with CDI, into the current and unmet needs of children (antenatal to five years), families and services in Dublin’s North East Inner City, a study on behalf of the Young People At Risk Working Group (September 2021-March 2022)
- Sub-contracted by Nicholas De Jong Urban Design Associates to undertake a series of community consultation exercises associated with the planned development of community parks in Killinarden Park (August 2020 – May 2021); Whitestown Stream Neighbourhood Park (June 2022), St. Cuthbert’s Park (July-Sept 2022), Jobstown Park (Jan-Feb 2023) and Quarryvale Park (Jan – Feb 2023), projects in disadvantaged communities of South Dublin completed on behalf of South Dublin County Council²
- Contracted by Clare County Council to undertake a pre-feasibility study into the provision of stepped accommodation and associated services in the Stella Maris Centre, Lisdoonvarna (December 2020 – February 2021)
- Conducting a community-based needs assessment in the Swinford Community, Mayo on behalf of Mayo North East Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme (November 2020 – January 2021)
- Conducting a comparative³ research project into impactful ‘own-front-door’ Emergency Accommodation Models for homeless families in Ireland on behalf of Focus Ireland⁴ (January 2020 – December 2020)
- Facilitating an exploration of the experience of adolescence with youth in Ballyfermot, Dublin 10, through the medium of process and performance drama, a project completed on behalf of the ABC Family Matters Project under the Ballyfermot/Chapelizod Partnership in association with the Ballyfermot Youth Service (September 2019 – July 2020)
- Collaborating with Sue Targett on a study to establish a baseline of Traveller health for the Primary Health Care Programme (PHCP) of the mid-west region, a research project undertaken on behalf of West Limerick Resources CLG and the CHO3 Traveller Health Unit (August 2019 – February 2020)
- In collaboration with Sue Targett, undertaking a research and consultation process to establish the profile and needs of young people aged 10-18 years in County Limerick on behalf Limerick Youth Service (May 2018 – August 2019)
- Conducting a Needs Analysis of Traveller Men in North Tipperary on behalf of North Tipperary Leader Programme (March – November 2018)

² These projects were undertaken in partnership with Charlie Jackson and Sue Targett.

³ Drawing comparison principally with the State’s primary emergency accommodation responses for homeless families, that is, hotel and B&B accommodation and communal family hubs.

⁴ In collaboration with Sean Ó Siochrú.

- Coordinating a research and consultation project into parents’ and young people’s experiences of mental health services on behalf of the ABC Family Matters initiative, Ballyfermot (May – November 2018)

Evaluation

- Evaluating CDI’s Doodle STEAM Programme, an evidence-based programme designed to build parental confidence and capacity to support their children’s early STEAM learning (current)
- Leading a process evaluation of Tusla’s Traveller Parent Support Pilot Programme (June – November 2022)
- Undertaking a strategic review of service-provision in Mahon Family Resource Centre, Cork with a view to resourcing the Board of Directors to establish a strategic framework for the centre for the next five years (April – September 2019)
- In collaboration with Sean Ó Siochrú, leading an evaluation of the enablers and barriers to successful outcomes in the implementation of the ABC Family Matters initiative, Ballyfermot (April 2017 – January 2018)

Planning and Development

- Contracted by Waterford Sports Partnership to facilitate a multi-partner, collaborative research, consultation and planning project designed to remove systemic barriers to the participation of people with chronic conditions in physical activity through the creation of a replicable, multisectoral, evidence-informed, collaborative initiative (April 2021 – Ongoing)
- Providing project planning, research and development support to Haven Horizons National Education and Research Centre, a County Clare based charity focused on the prevention of gender-based abuse, and the Genders and Sexualities Research Group in Limerick Institute of Education on the establishment of a Gender-Based Abuse Research Translation Centre (April – December 2021)
- Supporting the development of a community-based, evidence-informed, three-year Community Development Strategy for Shannon Town under the Clare LEADER programme on behalf of Clare Local Development Company (August 2020 – June 2021)
- Participating in a series of consultancy teams⁵ involved in mentoring community planning structures, facilitating those structures to develop area-based Community Development Plans in thirty communities across County Clare on behalf of the Clare Local Development Company (March, 2018 – July 2020)

Policy Formulation

- Developing a series of policy statements for Katherine Zappone TD, former Minister for Children and Youth Affairs in respect of:
 - the DEIS School Support Programme (March – October 2018);

⁵ Over three individual contracts and inclusive of Sue Targett, Charlie Jackson, Carol Gleeson and Michael Gleeson.

- to the Area-Based Childhood (ABC) Programme (October 2017 – January 2018); and
- the School Completion Programme (October 2017 – January 2018)

Governance and HR

- Supporting a review of HR policies and procedures in Haven Horizons, a County Clare-based charity dedicated to the prevention and elimination of domestic and gender-based abuse (November 2021 – February 2022).
- Providing consultancy support to the Board of Haven Horizons on effective governance (July 2018 – May 2019)

Capacity-building

- Provision of ongoing monthly supervision to two senior managers in the Childhood Development Initiative (September 2020 – Ongoing).
- Provision of Training in Equality, Diversity and Inclusion to the Older Person’s Council under the Clare Age Friendly County Programme on behalf of Clare County Council (September 2019).

5. EXAMPLES OF WRITTEN WORK ARE ACCESSIBLE AS FOLLOWS:

- The final and interim evaluation reports of CDI’s ATTI initiative along with the Baseline Research report, all of which are accessible on the research and policy page of CDI’s website: <https://www.cdi.ie/research-policy/evaluation-reports/>
- Keeping a Home: Preventing Families from Becoming Homeless (2017)⁶, accessible at <https://www.focusireland.ie/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/Haran-and-OShiochru-2017-Keeping-a-Home-Full-Report.pdf>
- Exploring Own-Door Models of Emergency Accommodation for Homeless Families in Ireland: A Comparative Case Study of Four Models (2020)⁷, accessible at https://www.focusireland.ie/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/Exploring-Own-Door-Models-of-EA-Report_FINAL.pdf
- Double Deficit: Older and Ageing Persons in the Irish Private Rental Sector. Neil Haran, Paul Butler and Joe Finnerty. 2023. <https://alone.ie/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/Threshold-Alone-Report-highres-web.pdf>

⁶ In collaboration with Sean Ó Siochrú.

⁷ Also in collaboration with Sean Ó Siochrú.