**Community Alcohol Detox Project Management Group communication August 2020**

Dear Colleagues,

The D12, Canal Communities, Ballyfermot and South inner City Drugs and Alcohol Task Forces are committed to delivering the community alcohol detox project. Community Alcohol Detox project but we would like to take this opportunity to provide you with an update on its progress. We have conducted extensive research across the four task force areas, and have endeavoured to ascertain current capacities in delivering a community alcohol detox programme. We have also just appointed an Alcohol Link Worker hosted by Community Response, whose role it will be to lead in the development of a local community alcohol detox framework, building referral pathways and supporting projects and service users accessing the service.

**Project Summary**

The Community Alcohol Detox project is a strategic regional response that will cover four Local Drug Task Force areas; Ballyfermot, Canal Communities, Dublin 12 and the South Inner City. The project will target individuals who would like to address their alcohol use. The strategic vision of the project is to improve the health and wellbeing of people who have alcohol dependence or are engaged in harmful drinking. It is envisaged that the Regional Alcohol Liaison Worker role will work with the Task Force staff and project staff. This will be to develop robust interagency protocols in line with the National Drug Rehabilitation Framework.The project aims to build on existing resources and expertise to respond to the issues of alcohol misuse and will work collaboratively with a variety of stakeholders. The investment in the training of staff and the strengthening of interagency work will allow projects/services to build their capacity and adapt and respond to emerging needs.

**Progress Report:**

1. All services funded through the Task Forces were invited to participate in an exercise to establish the evidenced-based interventions currently being employed in the services and to identify the core competencies of the staff resource. This will help us to ascertain training needs in the projects and to develop mechanisms to enhance case management and effective interagency practice. This work is currently being carried out by Mr Finbarr Fitzpatrick from Business Improvement Solutions. We would encourage everyone to engage in this process and work with Finbarr. If you have not been contacted by Finbarr yet and would like more information please contact the Task Force Coordinator in your area.