

## New Foundations 2024 – New Civic Society Partners

Civic Society	Contact Information	Desciption
Organization Pieta House	Dr Pádraig Ó Féich padraig.ofeich@pieta.ie Phone: (01) 2333789 www.pieta.ie	Established in 2006, Pieta is a charity that provides free professional counselling and psychotherapy services to those impacted by suicidal ideation, self-harm, and bereavement by suicide. In line with the goals outlined in Connecting for Life, Ireland's national strategy to reduce suicide, Pieta have been working to increase our research capacity and produce high quality research aimed at improving the understanding of suicide and self-harm and delivering high quality effective services. Pieta is experienced working with students and faculty from academic institutions, including UCD, TCD, UCC, DCU and RCSI. Pieta are open to collaboration and are eager to work on and support research meeting any of the following criteria:  • Research that contributes to our knowledge of suicide and self-harm in a practical and potentially impactful way.  • Research aimed at developing and improving the services and supports available to all those impacted by suicide.  • Research aimed at developing and improving Pieta services.  • Research providing an evidence-base for Pieta's programmes and services.  • Research with the potential to improve staff well-being.
PAKT (Parents and Kids Together) – YMCA Ireland	Norma Merrick norma@ymca- ireland.net YMCA National Family Support Lead Phone: (087) 7712899	PAKT (Parents and Kids Together) is a community-based family support programme which involves children and youth (ages 6 - 24) and their families in a range of holistic developmental activities carried out both separately and together.  PAKT aims to provide a quality intervention designed to promote the key factors of resilient young people including social competence, participation, global justice, spirituality, healthy eating, physical wellbeing, and positive relationships. We have several PAKT centres in the West Dublin Region (Crumlin, Brookfield, Jobstown), North Kildare (Celbridge) and in the Cork Region (Blarney, Ballincollig, and Cobh)  PAKT would be open to collaboration and creating partnerships with researchers who are interested in identifying and measuring the impact of family support of family youth work, particularly hearing the voice of the PAKT young people and PAKT parents. We would also be interested in researching how PAKT supports and includes families, children, and young people who are neurodivergent in our inclusive programme and understand more about the impact and value of relationships in our work with parents/families.

<b>Gheel Autism</b>
Services

Patrick Hallinan patrickhallinan@gheel.ie (086) 1072137 gheel.ie Gheel supports autistic people in the greater Dublin and North Kildare region. We provide day, residential, supported living and outreach services, with the goal of maximising independence and enhancing quality of life. All our programmes are tailored to recognise the neurodiversity model, with an emphasis on collaboration with and empowerment of autistic people. Staff receive regular autism-specific, person-centred training with a view to enabling each individual they support to have positive and meaningful life experiences.

A key area of need, in order to nurture and grow the quality support relationships, is staff resilience, empowerment and retention. The staffing of services within the section 39 disability sector has become increasingly difficult, due to funding and other factors. This puts a strain on staff teams and risks diminishing the capacity to provide high quality, innovative supports. This is why, alongside enhanced recruitment efforts, we also need measures to generate resilience within staff teams.

We propose the generation and evaluation of a peer-led reflective practice process - 'Intervision' - within Gheel, as a means to addressing these professional quality of life and service issues. It is proposed that a systematic, evidence-informed Intervision process can increase team collaboration, co-regulation, sharing of resources, insights and supports. This can in turn promote a reduction in burnout, staff turnover and ultimately generate more inclusive, empowered and innovative relationships with autistic people in Gheel.