



Ag Rialáil Gairmithe Sláinte
agus Cúraim Shóisialaigh
Regulating Health +
Social Care Professionals

Election of Members to the Social Workers Registration Board at CORU

Candidate: Maria McGloughlin

Registration No: SW003747

County of Practice: Co. Tipperary

Nominated in Category 2: Registrant engaged in the management of services provided by the profession

Personal Statement/ Biography:

Maria McGloughlin has been a registered social worker since 2007 having completed her Masters in Social Work in Trinity College, Dublin. Currently working in Children's Services Regulation within TUSLA, she has worked as Child Protection Social Worker, and Social Work Team Leader with TUSLA since 2010. She has been active within the Irish Association of Social Workers (IASW) since 2012 and previously was chair of the Special Interest Group for Children and Families and was also elected to the Board of IASW in 2018.

Maria has experience working with the United Nations in Cape Town and whilst in this role, established a centre supporting women and children who had experienced violence. Maria has also worked in international development with 'Right to Play' creating play and development opportunities for children and young people in refugee camps in Uganda and Tanzania. In her current role, Maria focuses on ensuring children and young people are provided with high quality child centred services within regulated children's services. She also has overall responsibility for the Child Safeguarding Statement Compliance Unit.

Maria has a Masters in Social Work, a Bachelor's Degree in Sociology and Social Policy, a Certificate in Children and Loss as well as a Certificate in Enforcement for Public Bodies.

Maria believes strongly in a human rights based approach to service provision and has an ongoing commitment to quality, relationship and rights-based practice for all people who may need support from social work services.



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Election of Members to the Social Workers Registration Board at CORU

Candidate: Gerrita Russell

Registration No: SW001964

County of Practice: Co. Kildare

Nominated in Category 2: Registrant engaged in the management of services provided by the profession

Personal Statement/ Biography:

Since January 2020, Gerrita Russell has been Principal Social Worker for the Kildare West/Wicklow Mental Health Service. She feels privileged to be leading a social work service at a time of great change and the development of practice towards a newer model of service delivery focused on human rights.

Gerrita completed all of her third level education at University College, Dublin (UCD), graduating in 2004 with MSocSc in Social Work. She began her social work career as a Professionally Qualified Social Worker in the HSE Child and Family Services in Portlaoise. She spent six years gaining valuable experience on the Children in Care and Duty Teams, and an overall understanding of the demands on practice in this area.

In 2010, Gerrita became a Senior Social Worker on an Adult Community Mental Health Team in Laois/ Offaly Mental Health Service. During this time Gerrita had strong links with her social work colleagues in Primary Care. In 2015, she transferred to the Kildare West/Wicklow Mental Health Service joining the Rehabilitation and Recovery Team.

Gerrita has almost twenty years' experience in social work. She is passionate about the development of the social work profession. She has a proven track record for fostering high standards of professional conduct, training and competence amongst her team through establishing links with Maynooth University and supporting her team to provide twelve practice placements over the past two years.

Gerrita is seeking an opportunity to contribute to overseeing the governance and strategy of the Social Workers Registration Board of CORU. She commits to continue to act with integrity and the highest professional standard. She aims to promote transparency and accountability and to fulfil the CORU mandate to protect the public by ensuring a service user focus.



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Candidate: Marie Kennedy

Registration No: SW005450

County of Practice: Co. Kilkenny

Nominated in Category 2: Registrant engaged in the management of services provided by the profession

Personal Statement/ Biography:

Marie Kennedy has practiced as a social worker for over 30 years in the areas of child protection and fostering and adoption – both as practitioner and manager. She holds a Bachelor in Social Studies, an Advanced Diploma in Child Protection and Welfare, a Masters in Health Services Management from Trinity College, Dublin and a Higher Diploma in Quality and Health Care from Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (RCSI).

Throughout her career, Marie has established and been involved with a range of community initiatives in the areas of youth services, women's health, domestic, sexual and gender based violence. She also established the initial County Child Care Committees in Carlow and Kilkenny. More recently she has set up and acted as Chairperson to the Children's Services Committees in Carlow, Kilkenny and South Tipperary.

Marie has been a member of the CORU Social Workers Registration Board since May 2019 and currently acts as Chairperson. Having worked as Area Manager in Tusla for Carlow, Kilkenny and South Tipperary since the establishment of the agency, and as National Lead for Fostering to Adoption, Marie has an in depth understanding of the opportunities and challenges of social work today. She is also a member of the Irish Association of Social Workers (IASW).

Marie's current passion lies in the continued development of the social work profession and practice. Her extensive experience will help in ensuring the continued protection of the public by promoting high standards of professional conduct, education, training and competence through the statutory registration of social work.