

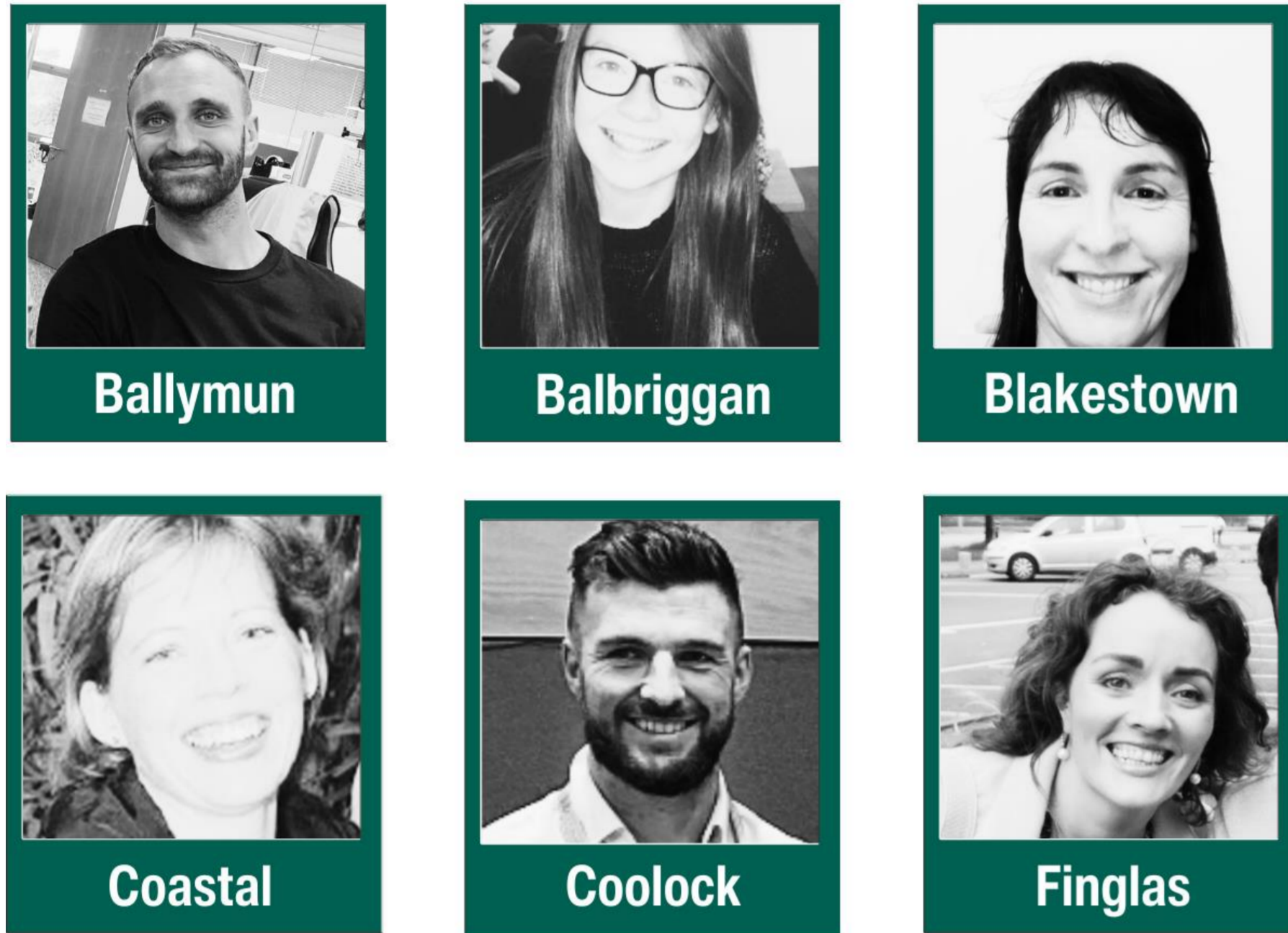
## THE ROLE OF THE HEALTH PROMOTION AND IMPROVEMENT OFFICER WITHIN THE COMMUNITY HEALTHCARE NETWORK

### SUMMARY

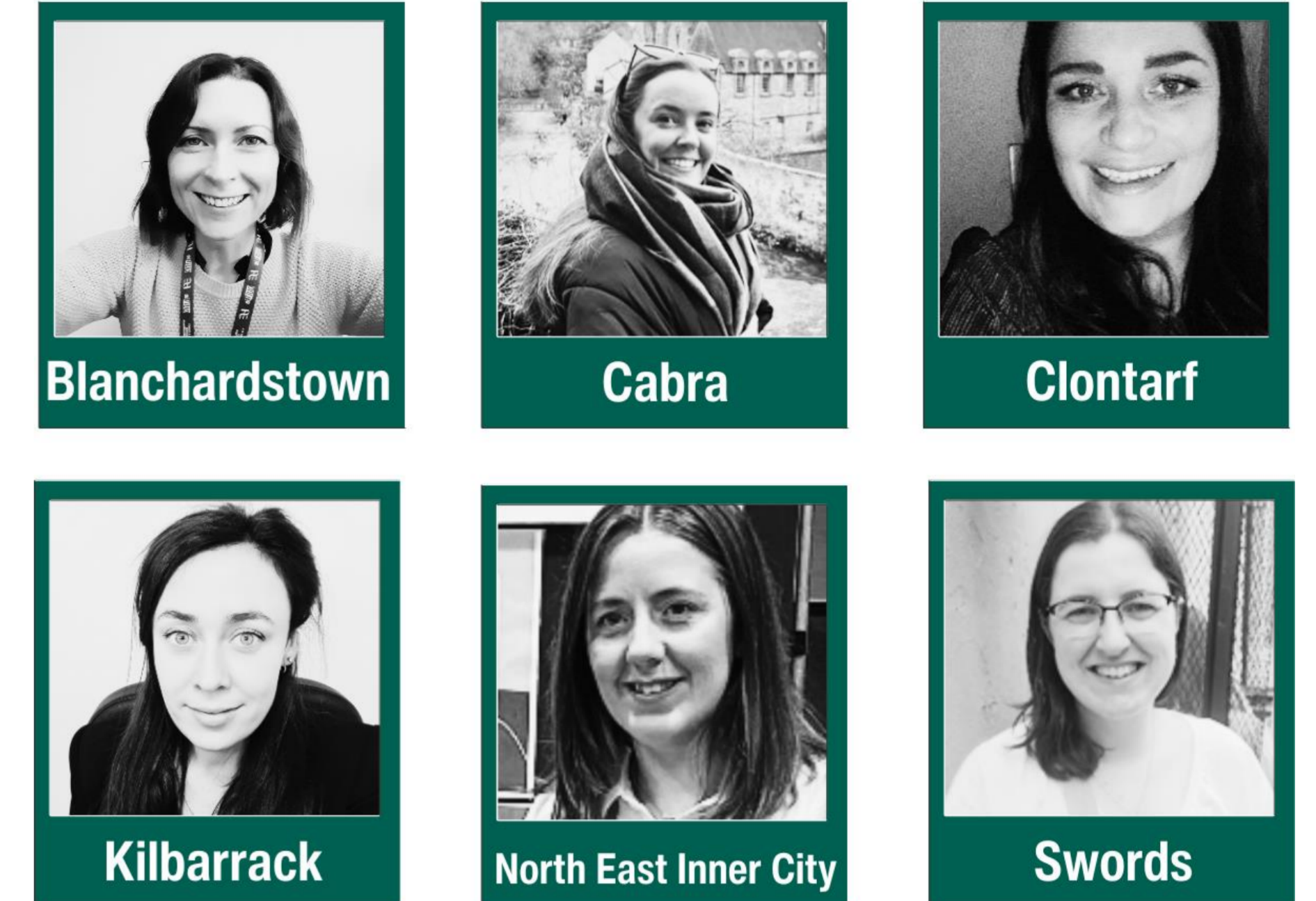
The Health Promotion & Improvement Officer within the Community Healthcare Network (CHN) supports the implementation of the Enhanced Community Care Model to increase health and social care services at a community level and meet the identified health needs of the local population. A Health Promotion & Improvement Officer post is allocated to each CHN with the aim of promoting the key priority areas of the Healthy Ireland Strategy.

### BACKGROUND

As part of the Sláintecare Implementation Strategy 2021-2023, Community Healthcare Networks were established to support Reform Programme 1 – Improving Safe, Timely Access to Care, and Promoting Health & Wellbeing. Health Promotion & Improvement Officers implement the ‘Healthy Living’ work-stream. The focus of this work-stream is on ‘prevention’ and decreasing the prevalence of unhealthy behaviours that contribute to chronic disease.



### COMMUNITY HEALTHCARE NETWORK HEALTH PROMOTION AND IMPROVEMENT OFFICERS COMMUNITY HEALTHCARE ORGANISATION DUBLIN NORTH CITY AND COUNTY



### PROMOTE AWARENESS OF TOBACCO FREE CAMPUS & 1-2-1 STOP SMOKING SERVICES

Health Promotion and Improvement Officers support sites to move towards a Tobacco Free Campus and also promote, refer and raise awareness of local Stop Smoking Services with HSE staff, community organisations and the public; helping to increase referral numbers and enabling more people to become tobacco free.

#### IMPACT

- 22 Stop Smoking Clinics, covering all 12 Networks, established in CHO DUBLIN North City and County
- 615 clients engaged in the 1-2-1 Stop Smoking Service (Jan-Jun 2023)
- 40 sites to receive the Tobacco Free Campus Bursary in 2023



### SUPPORT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF STAFF HEALTH AND WELLBEING INITIATIVES

Health Promotion and Improvement Officers support and engage HSE staff to implement health and wellbeing initiatives within their site; enabling staff to access funding, organising local events and increasing awareness of national staff health promotion campaigns.

#### IMPACT

- 39 staff Health & Wellbeing funding applications granted (Jan-Jun 2023)
- 727 staff participated in the Steps to Health Challenge 2023
- 144 staff participated in Escape your Chair Challenge 2023
- 130 staff attended Minding your Wellbeing (Jan-Jun 2023)



### RAISE AWARENESS, PROVIDE TRAINING AND SUPPORT STAFF TO EMBED MAKING EVERY CONTACT COUNT IN THEIR PRACTICE

Health Promotion and Improvement Officers promote and deliver the Enhancing your Skills workshop to HSE sites and support staff to implement Making Every Contact Count by providing local services directories, creating Making Every Contact Count notice boards and working to support local champions.

#### IMPACT

- 152 staff completed Making Every Contact Count e-learning (Jan-Jun 2023)
- 75 staff completed Enhancing Your Skills workshop (Jan-Jun 2023)
- 35 champions recruited and supported to promote Making Every Contact Count across the CHO in 2023



### DELIVER PRIORITY PROJECTS BASED ON HEALTHY IRELAND ACTIONS SPECIFIC TO THE NEEDS OF EACH CHN

Health Promotion and Improvement Officers work with HSE staff and local community groups to identify local needs and support programmes and initiatives that meet the health related needs of the community and align with Healthy Ireland action areas.

#### IMPACT (Examples)

- Healthy Childhood:** Infant feeding room established in Tonleeg Road Primary Care Centre, Kilbarrack CHN
- Positive Ageing:** Minding your Wellbeing for Older Adults delivered to a community group in Priorswood, Coolock CHN
- Healthy Eating:** Promoted Healthy Food Made Easy, Baby Food Made Easy and Fussy Eaters Webinars across all CHN's
- Active Living:** Supported the development of walking groups and walking routes across multiple CHN's



### SUPPORTING THE ENHANCED COMMUNITY CARE MODEL

The Health Promotion & Improvement Officer supports a whole-system shift towards a culture that places greater emphasis and value on prevention, early intervention, self-management and keeping people well. Improving the health and wellbeing of the population is a key action of Sláintecare reform and of the Healthy Ireland Framework where health and wellbeing is valued and supported both in our health service and at every level of society. The HSE National Service Plan 2023 referenced key objectives that Health and Wellbeing implement in relation to the Enhanced Community Care model.

**Tara Curran**  
**Health Promotion & Improvement Officer**  
 tara.curran1@hse.ie

#### Acknowledgements

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