

WHAT DOES SOCIAL FARMING LOOK LIKE?

The needs/wishes of the participant and the daily farm activities combine to create the structure for the day for the participant and farmer.

A typical day might be.....

- feed and care for animals
- daily maintenance of farm environment
- prepare and eat lunch together
- horticultural activities; potting, planting, weeding etc.
- cup of tea before home...



*If you would like to get involved,
we'd love to hear from you*

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<http://www.kerrysocialfarming.ie/>



<https://www.facebook.com/KerrySocialFarming/>



[@KerrySocialFarm](https://twitter.com/KerrySocialFarm)

KERRY SOCIAL FARMING

Kerry Social Farming Project, which began with two farms in 2013, continues to expand, with 28 host farms now engaging with the project across the county. Thanks to the dedication and voluntary effort of our host farmers, Kerry Social Farming offers long term social farming opportunities to people with disabilities (participants) in all parts of Co. Kerry.

In Spring 2022, our host farmers are providing social farming opportunities on a weekly basis to over 50 participants, some of whom have been attending the same farm for 4-5 years. Our host farms are varied, offering a great range of farming activities to suit the needs and preferences of all our participants. Host farms range from suckler, dairy, sheep farming as well as horticultural enterprises.

Through this innovative community-led initiative, we at the Kerry Social Farming Project endeavour to promote and support social inclusion and well-being of our participants.

We are seeking support from our local farmers throughout Kerry to engage with us and offer opportunities for our participants on your farms. This will ensure the projects continued growth and success.



KSF and Skellig CRI/UCC have developed a Certificate in Practice Support in Social Farming Course –Level 6. Here are some Kerry farmers who graduated in 2021. Please contact us if you would like more information on this course.



KERRY SOCIAL FARMING



OVERALL WINNERS OF
KERRY COMMUNITY AWARDS 2017
NATIONAL PRIDE OF PLACE
FINALISTS 2017



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An Roinn Talmhaíochta,
Bia agus Mara
Department of Agriculture,
Food and the Marine



The Kerry Social Farming Projects offers an opportunity for people with disabilities to pursue some of their personal life choices by engaging with local farm families and the farming community. The model of Kerry Social Farming is a voluntary model, whereby host farmers offer their time on a voluntary basis, typically one day a week (4-6 hours), supporting participants to engage in activities on and around the farm.

We believe that the voluntary model of social farming is more sustainable and at its heart is a social inclusion project enabling real working relationships and friendships to develop. Financial support is provided to cover the costs of any adjustments that have to be made to the farm (for health and safety and to provide activities for participants).

These costs, along with any additional insurance costs are fully covered so no farmer is 'out of pocket'. Personnel supports are also provided to host farmer and farm families by the Kerry Social Farming Facilitators, the Working Group along with service provider staff who provide ongoing support on the farm.

OUR VISION

To promote and operate social farming in Kerry as a viable option for achieving improved quality of life, greater inclusion and community networking for people with disabilities.

OUR MISSION

Through working collectively in a shared service with the social care service providers, people with disabilities, local communities, local development companies, national and local government, the business community, farm organisations & farm families to develop and provide Social Farming opportunities in Kerry.

KERRY ECO-SOCIAL FARMING

Recent funding awarded in 2021 from Department of Agriculture, Food and Marine under EIP, has allowed Kerry Social Farming to expand into the development of nature-based actions and training courses on host farms during 2022.

The Kerry Social Farming Project (KSFP) is voluntary and community based and is steered by the KSF Working Group, whose membership comprises representatives of project partners. South Kerry Development Partnership CLG provides the legal, financial and administrative governance of KSF.

The project was developed with funding from the Social Inclusion and Activation Programme (SICAP) funding, and has been the recipient of Community and Economic Development of Rural Areas (CEDRA) Funding from Department of Agriculture, Food and Marine (DAFM).

The KSF Project Partners:

- South Kerry Development Partnership CLG
- North, East & West Kerry Development CLG
- Kerry County Council ● Local Link Kerry
- Kerry Parents & Friends Association
- St. John of God Kerry Services
- Enable Ireland Kerry Branch ● HSE
- Cúnamh Iveragh ● Down Syndrome Kerry
- Department of Employment Affairs & Social Protection
- Kerry Education & Training Board
- Rehabcare ● Resilience Care ● Studio 3
- HSE Mental Health Service ● National Learning Network

