



Tusla is inviting Expressions of Interest from organisations for the Provision and Co-ordination of Evidence Based Parenting Programmes aligned to Parenting Support Advisor roles in existing or new Community Based Parenting Hubs within the Tusla Southwest Region.

This funding has been made available under the European Social Fund + (ESF+) co-financed programme. This ESF+ Action is co-funded by the Government of Ireland and the European Union.

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The European Social Fund Plus (ESF+) is the EU's main instrument for investing in people, focusing on improving employment and education opportunities as well as enhancing social inclusion and tackling poverty. The Managing Authority for the Government of Ireland and EU funding is the Department of Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science.

Background & Context

a) Community Based Parenting Hubs

The impetus for Community-based Parenting Hubs and Parenting Support Advisor roles can be traced back to Government Policy, Supporting Parents: A National Model of Parenting Support Services 2022-2027; Tusla Parenting Support Strategy 2022-2027 and research by the UNESCO Child and Family Research Centre (CFRC) University of Ireland Galway Parenting Support and Parental Participation Research Report (Devaney et al., 2022). Key themes emerging from policy, research and strategy highlight the need for **increased awareness** amongst the public and practitioners of parenting and family support and **more information** for staff, organisations and parents – delivered through different means. The strategy noted that parents expressed concern about the lack of knowledge of support available. Equally research by UNESCO CFRC highlighted that some parents had little or no knowledge of services available other than by word of mouth and want to be more informed.

The DCDE has provided the policy direction to all agencies involved in supporting parents and has provided a comprehensive overview of the parenting support landscape, outlined below.



Parenting Support Landscape



Supporting Parents: A National Model of Parenting Support Services p19.

In 2024, Tusla with the support of DCDE commissioned research into the area of Community-based Parenting Hubs (CBPH's). A report was produced by Nexus entitled *Community-based Parenting Hubs and Supporting Advisor/Coordinator Roles in Ireland, Report of Scoping & Review*, (October 2024). Nexus was further commissioned to develop a National Outcomes Framework and two Implementation Guides to support the development of a national consistent approach to Community Based Parenting Hubs'.

Community Based Parenting Hubs Purpose and Function

Community Based Parenting Hubs tend to be locally based within a defined catchment area; they act as a crucial point of contact and information point for all parents. They are universally available and tend to be multi-agency. Some of the functions include.

- User friendly and up to date information
- Parenting advice and signposting
- Shared calendar
- Coordinated and seamless parenting supports in their local communities.

1. Expectations

- Engage with line managers of Parenting Support Advisors (or Relevant Local Manager), CBPH and ESF+ Project Officer in respect of ESF+ reporting and compliance requirements.
- Maintain accurate up to date records and files in accordance with national guidelines, procedures and Children First (2017).
- Seek the advice of relevant specialist personnel when appropriate/as required, regional colleagues, Area Managers and Commissioning Manager's.
- Promote culture diversity and awareness.



2. Training Budget Allocation

Regional Budget for training in additional evidence-based parenting programmes aligned to Parenting Support Advisor roles and CBPH (70k per Tusla region) not currently provided by Tusla.

Region	Training Needs
Southwest 1. South Tipperary / North Cork 2. Cork East 3. Cork North West 4. Cork South West 5. Kerry / North Cork	1. Training for Practitioners for Parenting Neurodivergent Teenagers / Adolescence 2. Parenting when Separated 3. Managing challenging behaviour of Adolescence

Please specify in your application under “Alignment with Tusla Region adhering to needs analysis” which of the training needs can be fulfilled e.g:

1. fulfil all training needs
2. fulfil one training need
3. partially fulfil training needs (e.g. 2 training needs)

3. Criteria for selection of the Expression of Interest

- Alignment with Tusla Region adhering to needs analysis Training and delivery plan, performance monitoring
- Supervision and fidelity
- Co-ordination and integration
- Value for money
- A commitment to a Community Based Parenting Hub that will deliver on the objectives of the DCDE Supporting Parents: National Model of Parenting Support (P.66)
- A commitment to adhere data collection, reporting and evaluation requirements – both Tusla and ESF+

4. Terms and Conditions

Tusla will not be liable in respect of any costs incurred in the preparation or presentation of tenders.

It is expected that the successful organisation will be able to commence work immediately after the contract is awarded and in compliance with ESF+ Funding requirements.

The proposal should be returned to Regional Representative tracey.holt@tusla.ie by the close of business on 05/10/2026. Your application MUST be subject labelled and saved as “ESF+ Parenting Programmes EOI Southwest” in the e-mail. Late or incomplete proposals, as per above, will not be accepted.



Appendix I: Parenting Support Advisors and Community Based Parenting Hubs (CBPHs) Expression of Interest Form:

Provision of training in evidence-based parenting programmes aligned to Community Based Parenting Hubs and Parenting Support Advisor roles

Section 1: Organisation details

Organisation Details & Contacts			
Name of Organisation <i>(This should be the official or Registered Legal Entity name)</i>			
Trading Name (known as) <i>(If different from above)</i>			
Address of Organisation <i>(This should not contain the personal name or address of an individual e.g., secretary)</i>	Line 1		
	Line 2		
	Line 3		
	Town		
	County		
	Eircode		
Telephone Number/s		Contact e-mail/s	Website if Applicable
Mobile:			
Landline:			
Application Contact Details			
Organisation Key / Main Contact Details <i>(This should be the person who has overall responsibility for this application and potential funding arrangement and will act as key contact person with the Executive)</i>			
Title			
Name			
Address			
Email			
Phone		Mobile	
Authorised Signatory Contact Details <i>(The person authorised by your organisation to sign the Funding Arrangement should this application be successful) – Chairperson or delegate</i>			



Title			
Name			
Address			
Email			
Phone		Mobile	

Organisation Overview			
Status /Structure of Organisation			
	Yes	No	Tick Yes / No as Appropriate
Is your Organisation a registered Charity?			If yes, please provide Charity Regulatory Authority Number >
Is your Organisation registered with Revenue for Charity Tax Exemption?			Please provide Revenue CHY Number >
Is your Organisation a registered Company?			If yes, please provide Company Number (CRO Number) >
Is your Organisation a voluntary or community “Not for Profit” organisation?			If yes & you are neither a Registered Charity / Company or Statutory Body, please give details of your organisation’s structure/status > If no, please describe your organisation >

Organisation Aims & Objectives (Please provide an overview of your Organisation’s aims & objectives)



Section 2: Criteria for selection

- Alignment with Tusla Region adhering to needs analysis Training and delivery plan, performance monitoring
- Supervision and fidelity
- Co-ordination and integration
- Value for money
- A commitment to a Community Based Parenting Hub that will deliver on the objectives of the DCDE Supporting Parents: National Model of Parenting Support (P.66)
- A commitment to adhere data collection, reporting and evaluation requirements – both Tusla and ESF+

Responses to the following questions will inform the assessment by the panel against the criteria listed above.

Alignment with Tusla Region adhering to needs analysis (20%)

Please specify which of the training needs can be fulfilled within the South West Region e.g: fulfil all training needs, fulfil one training need, partially fulfil training needs:

1. Training for Practitioners for Parenting Neurodivergent Teenagers / Adolescence
2. Parenting when Separated
3. Managing challenging behaviour of Adolescence

Please specify whether this EOI will enhance capacity of an existing hub or a new parenting hub within the designated Tusla Region:

(Max Word count 250 words)

Training & Delivery Plan, Performance Monitoring (30%)

Delivery commitment: Please indicate the delivery formats your organisation commits to co-ordinating (Tick all that apply):

Individual-based (One-on-one tailored parent training/coaching)

Group-based (Structured group-based parenting programme)

Targets & Projections

- *Please specify the projected number of practitioners to be trained under this funding and your target audience for training*
- *How do you plan to manage and co-ordinate a pool of trainees or an established network of practitioners to scale capacity and meet the localised needs of the community parenting hub.*
- *Please specify the projected number of parents you expect to benefit*



- Please detail the monitoring mechanisms, data collection procedures, and outcome measures (e.g., parent attendance, practitioner logs, pre/post standardised assessments) used to measure performance

(Max Word count 250 words)

Supervision and Fidelity to the Programme (30%)

Can you confirm that all trained practitioners will have direct access to official, licensed programme manuals.

Yes/No

(Max Word count 250 words)

Please outline how you will ensure fidelity to the programme. What supervision structures will you put in place, peer, programme specific etc.

(Max Word count 250 words)

Evidence of organisational capacity to deliver the training/ co-ordination and integration

Please detail how your proposed parenting programme will link, collaborate, or integrate with existing Sláintecare Healthy Communities parenting programmes or other local parenting support initiatives, parenting hubs etc. if applicable.

(Max Word count 250 words)

Budget for 2026 only (Max of 70k per Tusla Region) (20%)

Use this table to summarise your funding request. Ensure all costs directly match your implementation plan.

Budget Category	Particulars	Total Funding Requested (€)
Training & Materials	Please specify cost per practitioner per training place), materials etc.	€
Supervision		€
Delivery & operations for trainees	e.g. venue rental, refreshments	€



Other		€
TOTAL REQUESTED	Sum of all particulars	€

Please confirm your commitment to collaborating with the Community based Parenting Hubs National Programme

Yes ☐

No ☐

Please confirm your commitment to Tusla and ESF+ requirements in respect of branding, data collection, reporting & evaluation

Yes ☐

No ☐

The proposal should be returned to Regional Representative tracey.holt@tusla.ie by the close of business on 5th October 2026. Your application MUST be subject labelled and saved as “ESF+ Parenting Programmes EO1 Southwest” in the e-mail. Late or incomplete proposals, as per above, will not be accepted.



Appendix II: The Aims and Objectives of the Parenting Support Advisors and Community Based Parenting Hubs (CBPHs)

The role of a Parenting Support Advisor is to act the key worker within the CBPH in a defined catchment area, to provide guidance for parents in respect of supports and information available in their local community.

Parenting Support Advisor role is:

- To participate in the development and implementation of the CBPH.
- To work directly with both parents and professionals in their community.
- To signpost parents to information and services, supporting parents and professionals with referral pathways to child, parent and family support services.
- Consolidate and coordinate information and data in relation to all parenting activity in a defined catchment area.
- Maintain and promote a calendar of parenting support events.
- Consult on, develop and implement a local communications plan including public awareness campaigns.
- Review and update information and data on social media and the Parenting Hub website.
- Increase visibility of services and raise awareness for parents.
- Promote Tusla's 'Parenting 24/7', HSE's mychild.ie, DCDE Supporting Parents page and other relevant sources of information for parents through public awareness raising opportunities.
- To promote parental participation as per the Lundy Model.
- To develop strong partnerships between Tusla and other agencies, such as the HSE, Education, CYPSC, Family Resource Centres and Community and Voluntary partners involved in supporting children, young people and their families.
- To facilitate and promote enhanced inter-agency cooperation to ensure that services for children, parents and families are coordinated and provide an integrated response to the needs of children and their families.
- To work collaboratively with other stakeholders to identify and map the needs of parents across a defined catchment area and to identify gaps in service provision.
- To provide updates and participate in the respective CYPSC parenting support sub-groups or equivalent.
- To attend inter-agency meetings and provide up to date relevant information in relation to parenting supports as appropriate.
- To support the Parenting Support Champions Initiative and the delivery of existing parenting programmes through enhancing interagency referrals and communication processes.
- To train, facilitate/co-facilitate the delivery of evidence-based parenting programmes in the area as required.
- To gather agreed data on availability and provision of parenting support services in the defined catchment area, in line with the Community Based Parenting Hubs National Outcomes Framework and aligned with parenting data gathered by Parenting Support Advisors nationally.
- To comply with all ESF+ requirements, including the gathering of data and provision of reports.



- To keep regular records in relation to all aspects of work, gather information, statistics and prepare reports as required.
- To work closely and liaise with your line manager to ensure integrated working and support positive outcomes for all children and young people.
- To implement tailored strategies developed by your line manager for engaging specific sectors and services in prevention, early intervention and family support, for example in schools, early years, youth work, public health nursing, GP's, primary care, specialist services including disability and mental health, adult services etc.