

FOOD EQUALITY COORDINATOR

Job Title:	Food Equality Coordinator
Reporting To:	Community Development Manager
Employer:	Donegal Local Development CLG (DLDC)
Main Purpose of Role:	<p>DLDC is a community-led local development company covering all of County Donegal except the Inishowen area. We work to improve opportunities for people and communities in Donegal to bring about positive changes in their own lives and in their community.</p> <p>DLDC now has successfully secured PeacePlus funding to recruit a Food Equality Coordinator to oversee the delivery of the Food Equality Initiative (FEI). This is a 2-year values-driven project focused on improving food equality across Donegal. The role will be part of DLDC's Community Development Team, and the project will be delivered in partnership with the Inishowen Development Partnership. The initiative will be delivered using a person-centred and needs-led approach, guided by the All-Ireland Standards of Community Work.</p> <p>The Food Equality Coordinator will be responsible for planning, delivering, and evaluating a range of community-focused activities and training programmes that address food inequality across Donegal, in collaboration with regional and cross-border partners.</p> <p>They will support the work the Donegal Food Response Network through training, workshops, and local and cross-border partnerships. The coordinator will focus on promoting food equality by supporting community-led actions, developing initiatives, and encouraging learning & collaboration.</p>
SALARY:	€40,000 per annum gross, in accordance with Specialist Officer salary scale
Conditions of Work:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The successful candidate will be required to work 35 hours per week. • A probationary period of up to 6 months, with ongoing one-to-ones. • The role is fixed term and funded for a period of two years. • Main base will be in the Letterkenny Office. • Benefits include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Eligibility for a 6% employer-contributed pension scheme ○ 25 days annual leave & other leave options ○ Flexible and hybrid working options ○ Travel and subsistence allowance ○ Learning and development opportunities ○ Employee Assistance Programme
Main Duties You will be required to...	

1	<p>Programme Delivery</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lead and manage all aspects of the FEI project delivery in line with funders guidelines & requirements. • Promote food equality by supporting community voices, developing policy recommendations, and encouraging collaboration across different agencies. • Coordinate delivery of 25 six-week community-based training courses titled "<i>Balance / Healthy and Affordable Cooking for All</i>". • Ensure courses are inclusive, community-based, and responsive to participant needs and interests. • Plan and host three large-scale Food Fair events open to course participants and the wider public. • Collaborate with IDP, DFRN, Slaintecare and the Food Equality Forum to ensure stakeholder input and alignment. • Support the work of the DFRN by providing initiatives, actions, training, advice, and networking opportunities. • Manage project outcomes within budget with a focus on long-term, county-wide and cross-border impact. • Work with diverse individuals (age 16+) currently or previously supported by food banks, Families at risk of food poverty and social exclusion.
2	<p>Training Coordination</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recruit and manage qualified tutors (drawing from DLDC's Healthy Food Made Easy programme and new recruits). • Provide induction and ongoing support to tutors to ensure quality, consistency, and alignment with programme goals. • Oversee delivery of training and workshops for at least 50 DFRN members, focusing on skills like project planning, community engagement, and food equality advocacy. • Ensure high-quality delivery of practical, food, health, and budgeting sessions in community venues across Donegal. • Monitor attendance, participation, and learning outcomes. • Ensure delivery of 25 directly targeted sessional 6 weeks courses under the title 'Balance Healthy and Affordable Cooking for All' at community locations covering a range of food, budgeting and health related topics, with an emphasis on inclusion and reducing stigma.
3	<p>Stakeholder Engagement & Interagency Collaboration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engage in an inclusive way with a diverse range of participants, including individuals aged 16+ currently or previously supported by food banks, families at risk of food poverty and social exclusion, network members and volunteers of the Donegal Food Response Network. • Facilitate meetings of stakeholders to ensure alignments and open communication • Foster cross-border connections with organisations such as Acorn Farm in Derry and other food security initiatives across borders. • Organise reciprocal visits, shared learning opportunities, and knowledge exchange sessions.
4	<p>Reporting & Financial Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Track progress on project activities, keeping records of participation and impact. • Track participant engagement and progress, maintaining accurate records.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assist with data collection and evaluation related to programme outcomes and impact. Provide verbal and written reports on progress, including updating OKRs. Write clear progress reports for DLDC, funders, and stakeholders. Ensure that project spending stays within budget and follows agreed plans. Manage budget €200,000 in accordance with programme requirements.
5		<p>Miscellaneous:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work collaboratively as part of the wider DLDC team to help achieve FEI project outcome and support delivery of SICAP outcomes. Carry out other reasonable duties. Be willing to work evenings, weekends as required.
Core Competencies: Essential		
1	Community Health Promotion	The Coordinator must possess strong knowledge and proven working experience in the community, with a particular emphasis on health promotion. They should have a solid track record of coordinating community-based programmes and demonstrate a clear understanding of food inequality, poverty, and community health initiatives. A commitment to embedding the principles of equality, social inclusion, and anti-poverty into all aspects of work is essential.
2.	Interpersonal & Liaison Skills	The Coordinator will have experience in cross-agency collaboration and capacity-building work. They will be required to be able to liaise effectively and efficiently with individuals, groups, cross border partners and agencies providing services to local community groups and social enterprise. Ability to work independently and as part of a multidisciplinary team. They will be required to act as a positive and contributing member of the wider team within DLDC.
3.	Project Management Skills	They must demonstrate clearly experience of organising and managing a similar funded programme and prioritising own workload. Possess excellent organisational and project management skills. A good working knowledge of the standard suite of business- related software and IT packages is essential.
4.	Motivation & report writing	The Coordinator will be required to be a flexible, motivated self-starter who can communicate effectively. They will have excellent report writing and presentation skills. They will be required to produce timely and relevant reports as required by PeacePlus administration, Board and other groups within the DLDC structure.
5.	Communication Skills	The Coordinator will have experience of forming good working relationships with organisations and communities, combined with excellent communication and listening skills. Must have excellent verbal and written abilities in English.
6.	Skills/Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A recognised and relevant Third Level qualification in Community Development, Health Promotion, Social Care, or a related field and / OR a minimum of three years' experience of coordinating community-based health programmes. Demonstrated understanding of food inequality, poverty, and community health initiatives. Experience in cross-agency collaboration and capacity-building work. Flexibility to work evenings/weekends and travel within and beyond Donegal.
7.	'Other'	You must hold a clean, current driving license with access to own mode of transport

Core Competencies	Desirable
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ability to communicate fluently in Irish is advantageous. Experience of group facilitation & training. External experience on community based committees/boards et al. Training delivery experience. 	
<p>DLDC reserves the right to enhance criteria, dependent on the responses received to the advertisement. A panel may be formed from this recruitment process.</p>	

Application Process

To apply for the position, **please submit by email a Letter of Application together with a current Curriculum Vitae and clearly outline how you meet the criteria to:** HR Department at: vacancies@dldc.org

- The closing date for receipt of applications is **Friday 11th July 2025**
- Interviews are likely to take place on the week of **21st July 2025**.

We reserve the right to enhance the shortlisting criteria. A panel may be formed from which similar vacancies may be filled. Donegal Local Development CLG is committed to a Policy of Equal Opportunity. Canvassing will disqualify.

DLDC is an equal opportunities employer and welcomes applications from all suitably qualified applicants. We have measures in place to ensure that no job applicant receives less favourable treatment on the grounds of race, gender, civil status, family status, age, disability, religion, sexual orientation or membership of the Traveller Community. If you require any accommodations during the recruitment process, please let us know, and we will work with you to meet your needs.