



## Press Release

March 2021

### **Cork Sports Partnership Announce Cork Sports Ability Resilience Fund 2021**

Community disability groups, disability services and disability sports clubs can now apply for the New Cork SportsAbility Resilience Fund of up to €1,000 through Cork Local Sports Partnership.

Cork Local Sports Partnership are delighted to announce the first Cork SportsAbility Resilience Fund in respect of the continued investment by Sport Ireland in response to the Covid -19 pandemic.

The aim of the Cork SportsAbility Resilience Fund is to ensure people with disabilities across Cork City and County can continue to be active and access physical activity opportunities, while living with Covid-19. This fund will support disability services, community / parent led disability groups and disability sports clubs in Cork to activate their groups, reengage their participants and continue striving towards a culture of active and healthy lifestyles for people with disabilities in Cork. Cork SportsAbility Resilience Fund is designed to provide financial support through four key areas; Training and Education, Participation Opportunities, Sports Related Equipment & COVID 19 Hygiene Supplies, and Communication & Marketing.

To launch the Cork SportsAbility Resilience Fund, Kristine Meenghan stated *“As the coordinator of Cork Local Sports Partnership, I am delighted to launch this fund in recognition to all groups across Cork City and County who continue to support sport and physical activity opportunities for all. The impact of COVID -19 is having considerable impacts in the access and availability of sport and physical activity supports and services for those with disabilities. I welcome and encourage all groups to apply under this fund as a support to your response to COVID -19 and return to activity”*.

Cork Local Sports Partnership will ensure the investment is distributed fairly and every effort will be made to ensure that the wider sporting community benefits. Maximum funding available per group is €1,000, available through a competitive bid process. Eligibility under this fund will be assessed on a group’s ability to demonstrate all requirements and adhere to the funding criteria and guidelines. Groups should not feel that they have to apply for the full amount to be considered for support. In the case of disability services, where applications are submitted on behalf of multiple sites, funding amount concessions will apply.

Speaking recently about the launch, Sports Inclusion Disability Officer, Kate Feeney highlighted *“Cork Local Sports Partnership welcomes this financial support which will support people with disabilities to continue to access meaningful sport and physical activity opportunities, while living with Covid-19. We encourage all eligible groups in Cork to explore how they can continue to offer participation opportunities to people with disabilities. We look forward to working with disability groups across Cork to Keep Cork Active.*

Terence McSweeney, Physical Activity & Sports Manager, Cope Foundation highlights *‘COVID-19 restrictions challenge us all to be more imaginative, innovative and adaptive in creating new, safe,*

*well managed and appealing ways to engage in physical activity and sports. This fund will help reduce the negative impact which, the very necessary COVID-19 restrictions have caused, especially across community groups and disability services. This fund is ring-fenced for groups such as yours and Cork SportsAbility Forum strongly encourage you to apply.'*

Applications are now open and groups seeking to apply are advised to visit [www.corksports.ie](http://www.corksports.ie) or please contact Sports Inclusion Disability Officer, Kate Feeney [kfeeney@corksports.ie](mailto:kfeeney@corksports.ie) for further information.

**ENDS**

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**CORK SPORTSABILITY RESILIENCE FUND**



**WWW.CORKSPORTS.IE**