



Supporting people with disabilities to
live at the heart of their communities

Next Steps Conference, Portlaoise, January 2013

Presentation

1. The difference StepIn makes
2. Where StepIn came from
3. How it can save money



Vision of Home





Home wasn't built in a day

- StepIn aims to give a sense of **'home'**
- a home of your own in your own community
- Home gives us ...
 - A sense of place and ownership
 - A feeling of belonging, privacy
 - Self worth
 - Peace of mind
 - A sense of being in charge of our lives

How StepIn Started

- Using CQL Standards to assess our quality of service
- Identified that people were not getting to choose where and with whom they lived
- As a member of Next Steps this is a common issue for us all

How StepIn started

- BOC responded to this finding
- Re-modelling services in response to individuals and their families
- Shared vision

How StepIn started

- BOC researched and found Keyring
- StepIn is based firmly on Keyring model
- Sourced funding from Genio Trust for 12 month start up
- Networks – 1 established 1 developing
2 in pipeline

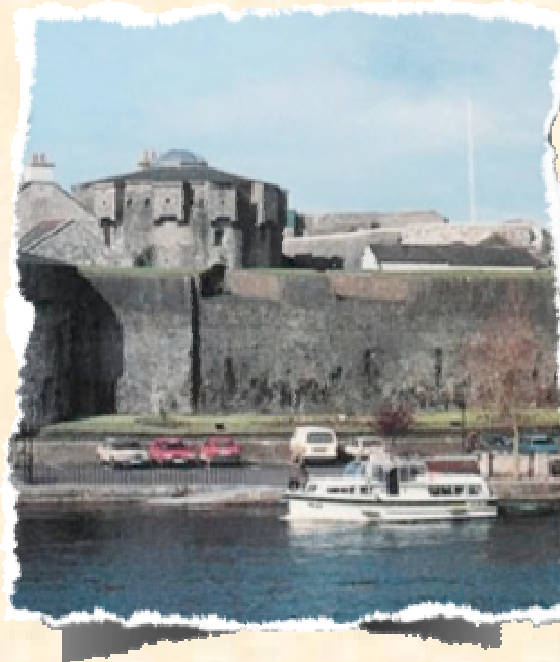
StepIn Board

- StepIn Board established includes people from all walks of life, business, media, legal, social care & BOC



The network model

- Maximum of 9 people within walking distance
- All offer their help to others in the network
- Community living volunteer
- Supported Living Organiser
- Regular network meetings

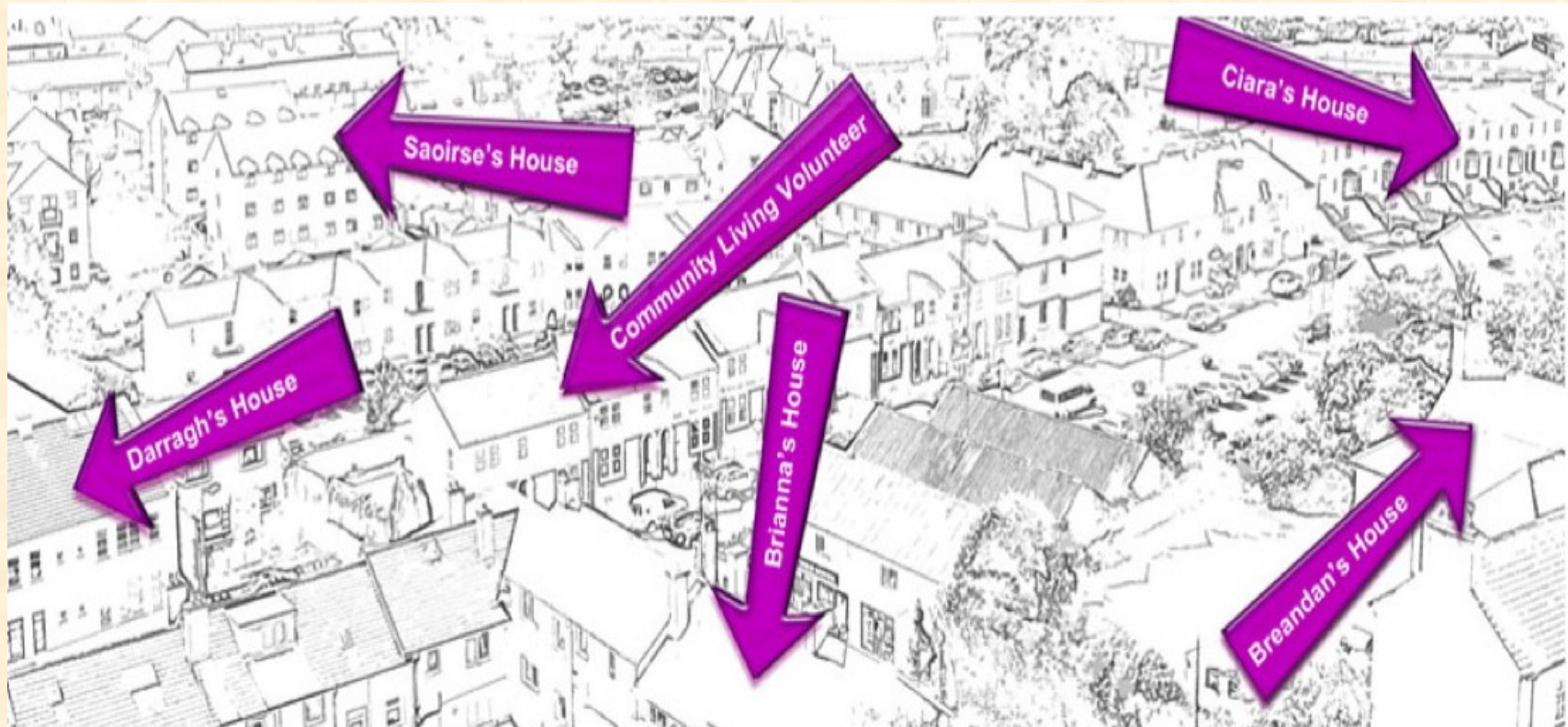


Athlone: The first network



Roscommon: The second

How StepIn Works



Layers of Support

1) Members support each other – **Key idea** behind network

2) Community living volunteer

–12 hrs a week, organises network meetings, acts as friend and helper

3) Supported Living Organiser

- liases with members, families, sources relevant training, housing and benefits

Specific support

- Potential members with additional specific support needs need to source this support from their service provider

How is StepIn different

- Expectation on the members to give mutual support – on-going
- Ready-made community of support – the Network to add to their own Circle of Support
- Own lease – sense of ownership
- Strong community focus

Cost & Benefits

- Enabling people to live more independently in their own community
- Increasing independence = reduces support needs
- Evidence to date = a reduction in wte of .43 in one service, equates to €34,000
- 5 day residential service has become a 365 day a year home

Partnerships

- Member of the National Federation of Voluntary Bodies
- Member of Next Steps working group on the Housing Strategy
- Built relationships with key agencies

Community Welfare Officer, Community Groups, Roscommon County Council, Social Protection, Gardai, Voluntary Housing Associations such as Roscara Housing Association

Where to next...

- **Housing:** Sourcing good, affordable homes
- **Awareness:** Creating greater knowledge and understanding of StepIn
- **Uncertainty:** Leap of Faith. Convincing people that the idea works
- **Spreading the word:** Making the Model available to a wider population of people
- **Fundraising:** Walking the Camino in May!



Contact

www.stepin.ie

Niamh McMonagle

StepIn Supported Living Organiser

087 2872418