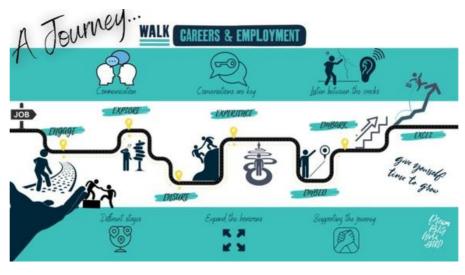
WALK CAREERS & EMPLOYMENT NEVVSLETTER

WALK Careers & Employment programme is part of WALKs Day Supports Services



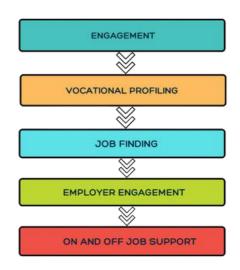
The beginning of 2023 has been very busy and the WALK Careers & Employment team would like to highlight the latest news, updates and what's going on from across all the locations and the Careers & Employment participants.

Remember This is YOUR newsletter so if you are a team member with a story to share, a participant with something exciting to say or something you want to share...get in touch!!!! Email Donna at **onlinetraining@walk.ie**, we would love to share your story and put it in the next newsletter issue.



JOURNEY TO WORK

The WALK Supported Employment model is a framework that, when followed, helps participants to get thinking about their career goals and aspirations. It also gives staff the space and opportunity to get to know participants, have career conversations and develop relationships. Each location has an Employment Champion to ensure that there is a consistent WALKs Careers & Employment good practice guide to the Supported Employment model by supporting staff to help participants reach their careers and employment ambitions.



Employment Champions have been working hard on dedicating a space in each location to create a Careers & Employment wall that is full of dreams, hope, vision and peer role models who are in the world of work.



















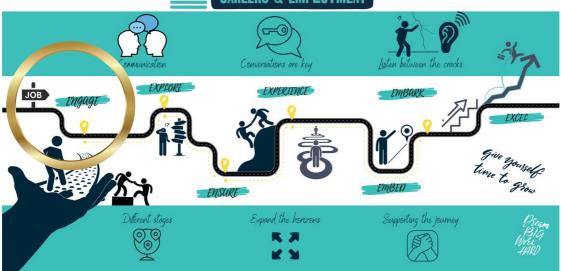






JOURNEY TO WORK

WALK CAREERS & EMPLOYMENT



WALK's Careers & Employment training has been developed to help participants on their journey to work. The Engage stage is all about learning more about the participants and their employment ambitions. This is done through Journey to Work sessions by having career conversations on a 1 to 1 basis or through workshops. Let's take a look at some engage pieces.



Group workshop. The goal of the workshop was for the peers who has experience in the world of work, to talk about their journey to peers who are at the beginning of the journey or at the experience stage.





Staff using the online career training courses to have that important career conversation with Margaret in a coffee shop and with Declan in the library.









Collaboration across two locations to come together to help plan and co-facilitate Journey to Work workshops in the library.







Group workshops covering important employment topics, including topics like handling anxiety or nervousness prior to starting your first day in the workplace.











Encouraging participants to co-facilitate in the workshops as an 'Employment Support Assistant' - acting as a PEER mentor buddy in the workshops.



Employment information that helps both participants and staff to be aware of events and training in the community.



SUNDRIVE



Changing the location of the Journey to Work workshops helps to keep engagement levels high.

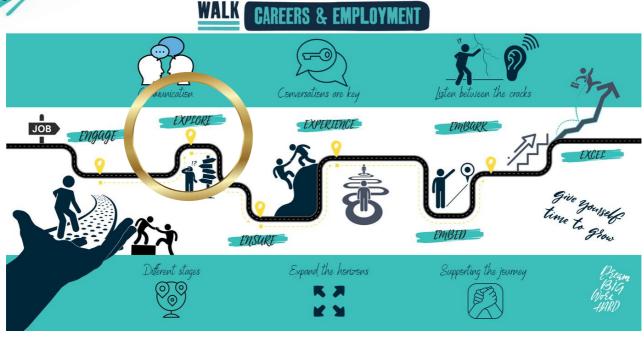








Experie JOURNEY TO WORK



The Explore stage of the WALK's Careers & Employment training is to explore more about oneself and the world of work, such as important qualifications or training needed. Let's take a look at some explore stages.





Thinking outside the box! Employment champion, making connections to explore the world of work while being out in the community. Mark had a good discussion with the staff on the Luas to learn more about the role of a Luas driver.



Exploring more about the world of IADT





David learning more about the world of work. Staff organised a visit to the fire station, so David could learn more about the working as a fireman!







Daniel has been exploring different ways of working with dogs. Staff organised an opportunity for handson experience, learning what goes into keeping dogs trim and tidy! Daniel put the skills into practice on his own dog, Leo!



Waverley team organised training in DSPCA for participants to explore and train about the caring of animals. Participants learned loads, made friendships, had a great day and all received certificates that will accompany their CVs.





IADT research study open day, which involved a tour around all the campus, exploring courses and chatting to students/lecturers about their experience.

Participants even got to explore what it is like to work with model clay making.





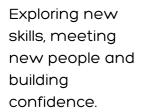
Explore

Ena has always had a passion for working in the beauty industry. Staff created an opportunity for Ena to visit a beautician salon who talked to Ena about the daily tasks, qualifications needed and some basic nail techniques! This really helped Ena understand the steps involved and all the work required before applying for a job in this industry. Most importantly, this solidified to Ena that this is a career she would be happy with.



















Exploring the different training courses available in the Liberties and An Cosan.





JOURNEY TO WORK



The ensure stage of the WALK's Careers & Employment training is the preparation stage of the Journey to Work. After discovering and exploring, it is now of importance to prepare participants to experience the world of work. Let's take a look at some ensure stages.



Staff supporting
Julieanne to do her
CV and Cover Letter.
Supporting the
essentials for
employment
applications.







Successfully completed cooking course.

Megan giving her peers a presentation about what she learned from the site visit to Dublin Airport and the jo they provide. Pee inspiring peers, as well as building confidence in public speaking.









Staff implementing independent travel. Preparing, training and supporting participants to be able to travel independently in preparation for when they are in a place of employment.









Staff facilitated a workshop about 'Money'. Participants learned how to save and budget their money in preparation for when they are earning their own money in a place of employment.



Well done to Ciara who successfully completed a 'Money Management' course as part of Arts Connection Ireland.













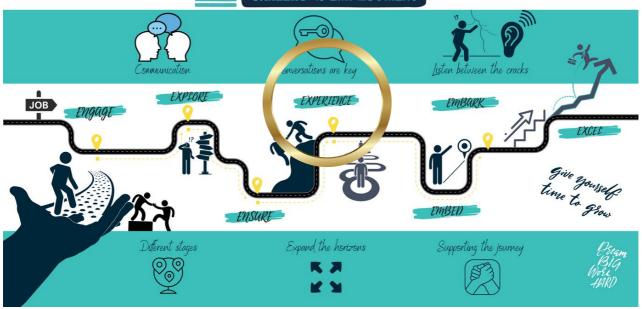
The team in Waverley also had Mark and Patrick completing the one-day Barista Training at the Dublin Barista School! Well done!

The training was executed without any issues and had a wonderful ambience. Additionally, the small group size allowed for an individualized approach to each participant, with topnotch teaching materials and a generous supply of delicious treats and highquality coffee. The instructor exhibited an exceptional level of expertise in her role. Sam and Chi Hung were thoroughly impressed and gained valuable knowledge from experience. We are still working with the guys to complete a three-hour online course to obtain certificates" - Marcin (Community Connector)

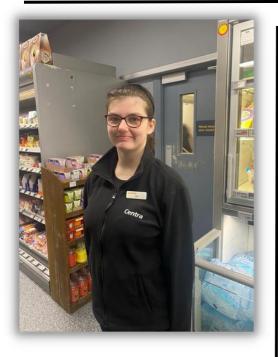


WORK EXPERIENCE





The Experience stage of the WALK's Careers & Employment training is the experience stage of the Journey to Work. After discovering, exploring and preparing, it is now the stage to start to experience the world of work. Let's take a look at some 'experience' stage.



Ciara doing work experience in Centra. Good luck Ciara!



Employment champion supporting Glenn, who is busy in work experience. Glenn's task are feeding and watering the horses, making new bedding, keeping the horses well groomed and exercising the horses.

DCU Sports Complex







Supporting Daniel in his work experience in DCU sports complex. Great to experience his area of interest, gaining an insight into the work involved and gaining important skills.

Youth Horse Project









Jarden Centre





Staff in Waverley and Crumlin worked hard in preparing Paul and Joe with their CV and interview skills in order to successfully secure a work placement in The Garden Centre. Paul and Joe will do their work placement on Sundays. This was a fantastic collaborative teamwork between the job coach, day services and the residential team. We hope both Paul and Joe enjoy their work placement and learn many new skills.







Cathal loves his work experience in the Garden Centre. Cathal is progressing well and learning to take direction under Colm.





Zoe packing and sorting oranges as part of her volunteering work with Foodcloud.





Darragh delighted to start his work experience in Heuston Station.





Andy is back with his colleagues, working as part of a team.





Kathryn started her fourweek work experience in WutzNuts, great work and positive mindsets throughout

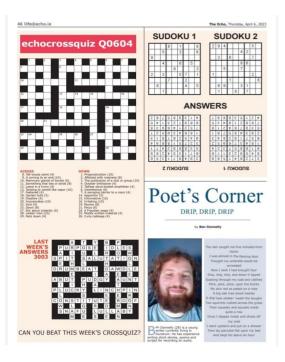


Experience



Employment Champion worked hard in creating a carved out opportunity to volunteer at the Comic Con event. Jason thoroughly enjoyed the weekend and was asked back for the next convention. Jason said he has so much more confidence!









Margaret and Robbie, enjoying their work tasks and being part of the team in Kokonut and Dominos.



Ben has always had a huge passion and skill in script writing. Staff created an opportunity for Ben to do two hours a week to write for the Tallaght Echo. We all look forward to reading more articles to come!

Poet's Corner

DRIP, DRIP, DRIP

HAROLDS CROSS

by Ben Donnelly



en Donnelly (28) is a young writer currently living in Dundrum, He has experience riting short stories, poems and cripts for recording on audio.

home I was almost in the flaming door Thought my umbrella would be unneeded Now I wish I had brought four Drip, drip, drip, and down it tipped Soaking through my coat and clothes Plick, plick, plick, upon the bricks My skin red as petals on a rose A big oak tree stood nearby A dog took shelter 'neath the boughs Two squirrels rushed across the grass Their squeaks and squeals made quite a row Once I slipped inside and shook off

The rain caught me five minutes from

my coat I went upstairs and put on a shower

Then lay pancake flat upon my bed And slept for about an hour



WALKways TUH Programme



Growing Career Ambitions









WALK Airfield Estate Programme





Ever wondered what it is like to work as a Mounted Garda Siochana? Ask Jordie who got a surprise visit on his work experience in Airfield!





Rory working hard in Airfield Rory now, with staff support, travels independently to and from Airfield Estate. Staff say that Airfield has been amazing for Rory, gaining many skills while boosting his confidence and independence.

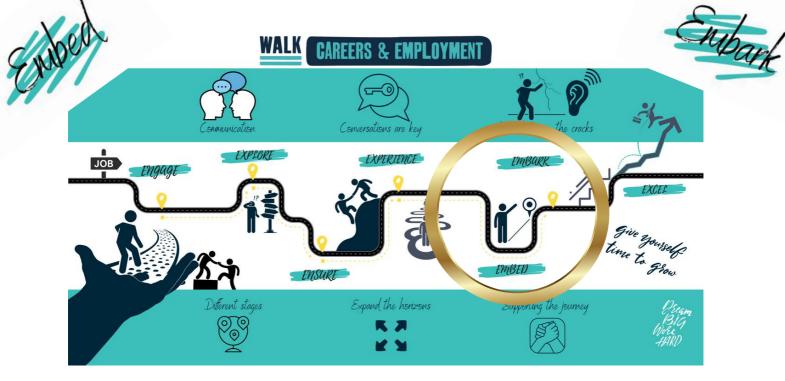






Billy has a passion for animals and enjoys the outdoors. Billy looks forward to his work experience in Airfield each week, and staff have already learned from this experience. Billy enjoys hard work when it involves the benefit of animals. This is valuable information for Billie's future career.





The Embark stage of the WALK's Careers & Employment training is the stage whereby a participant embeds all the previous learning and work experience and is now ready to enter paid employment. Let's take a look at some embark stage.

Pfizer Programme



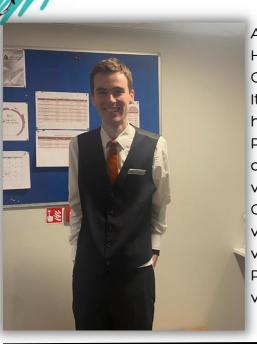




Clipper Logistics

Five participants have been working for several months in paid employment in Clipper Logistics. They are showing a hard work ethic and are valued members of the team.





After Paul left his job in Siro, he thought he wanted an office job. However, he took on the opportunity in Airfield in the Café/Restaurant to try some new things and gain some soft skills. It was in Airfield that Paul thrived in the hospitality environment.(to his surprise). Working with a supportive team and being kept busy. Paul was only there a few weeks, and the team were saying what a valuable member of the team he was, and that they'd be lost without him. The job coach opened an opportunity to work in the Clayton hotel. Paul was successful in his interview and is now working in the Clayton hotel 2 days a week for a total of 6 hours, with the goal to increase his hours the more comfortable he gets. Paul is also still doing 1 day a week in Airfield - keeping the training wheels on for now but aiming to finish up at the start of May!



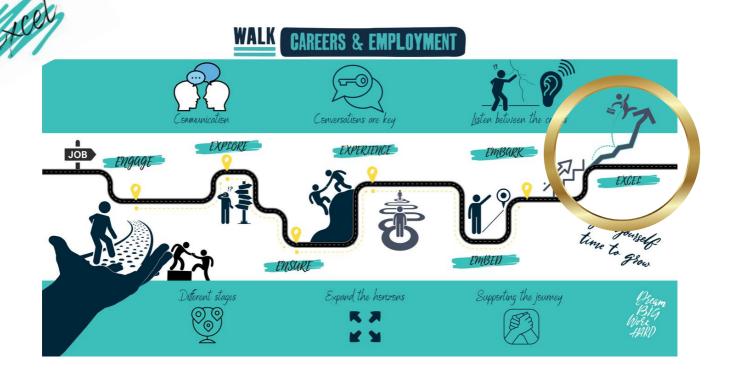
I.T. wiz Matthew who has recently been hired by SIRO through the Supported Employment model. Matthew is currently working on mapping the entirety of Ireland for potential business opportunities and broadband expansion! Way to go, Matthew!





Laura has been on her journey to work since September 2018 where she started her one-year work experience in Tallaght University Hospital. Following this, Laura then went into the OWL Programme. From these experiences - Laura learned her passion was around hospitality and catering. She then did some more experience in the Green Kitchen Cafe to get used to working again before getting a paid job. In mid-April, Laura started a job in the Red Cow Moran Hotel with the support of the job coach. Laura now works two days a week for a total of eight hours a week in the Food & Beverage Department. The goal to increase the hours in the future with the support of the job coach.

"Laura is getting on great so far, the team seem to be really supportive, and she's working in the same department as fellow WALK participant Hamza Moussa. Feedback suggests he's one of the best on the team!" - Aoife (Job Coach)



The Excel stage of the WALK's Careers & Employment training is the stage whereby a participant excels in their job or career. This could mean transitioning to a new job, increased hours and days, being offered a permanent contract or even a promotion.

At the beginning of 2023, the job coaches conducted job satisfactions with participants currently in a place of employment. The purpose of these job satisfactions was to ensure that participants, currently in paid employment, were happy in their place of work and felt supported.

The outcome was:

- 21 currently happy in their place of work
- 2 completed courses alongside working for career progression
- 1 would like extra hours
- 2 would like different tasks in work
- 2 progressed to more hours
- 1 would like to progress to their dream job
- 3 needs further review

"One participant has been working in a retail store and is very happy in the role. She told me that she is making new friends and really enjoys the environment. Throughout the discussion, she explained that she would like to grow within the company and explained she didn't know how to approach this. Throughout the conversation, she mentioned that she wanted to train up to be an associate team leader. Staff advised and prepped her on how to go about this, and she did so independently. She approached her management team and is currently engaging in associate team leader training" Jo (C&E Team Leader)

TEAM CHALLENGE

Teams were challenged to problemsolve the riddles in the December newsletter. Thank you to everyone who took part, we received many answers, and we are proud to say that the 'Best Riddle Problem Solvers' was Wendy Farmer for the Healthcare Clinical team - Well done!





Riddle 1:

I have cities but no houses. I have mountains but no trees. I have water but no fish.

What am I? Answer: A map!

Riddle 2:

I speak without a mouth and hear without ears. I have no body, but I come alive with wind. What am I? Answer: An echo!



How well does your team work together to problem-solve? Email your team's answer to onlinetraining@walk.ie! The first location to solve the riddle (no googling!) wins the title in the next newsletter as the 'Best Riddle Problem Solvers'.

What has a mouth, but cannot eat. Moves, but has no legs. Has a bank, but no money?

What is as big as an elephant but weighs nothing?

That's it for now!

Thank you for taking this time to read the April edition of the Careers & Employment newsletter. There has been a lot of fantastic work since the last newsletter in December.

The Careers & Employment team would like to thank the staff in Waverley and Harold's Cross who took the initiative to make the training videos as seen in this newsletter. To capture important steps in the Journey to Work is incredible. We would also like to thank all the Employment Champions who have taken the time out each week and for monthly meetings to implement and support their team with the Journey to Work process in their locations. Thank you to the team leaders who are on board with the Careers & Employment journey, and to all the key workers who have worked closely with the job coaches to support participants in their employment journey.

We look forward to highlighting more 'ordinary things in ordinary places' stories in the next newsletter and the Journey to Work successes across the twelve locations.

Lastly, we would like to welcome our new Careers & Employment team leader Jo Donohue to her new role and also look forward to welcoming our new job coach to the team.

Until next time...