Social Farming in the South-East

Waterford LEADER Partnership CLG delivers the Social Farming programme in co-operation with Leitrim Development Company, the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine and the Department of Justice.

Waterford LEADER Partnership supports the development of Social Farming in the South East of Ireland including the areas of:

- Carlow
- East Cork
- Kilkenny
- Waterford
- Wexford
- South Tipperary

Social Farming

Comhpháirtíocht Leader Phort Láirge
Waterford Leader Partnership

Leitrim DEVELOPMENT company

An Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara
Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine

An Roinn Dlí agus Cirt
Department of Justice

Contact

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Waterford LEADER Partnership CLG

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Social Farming

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Waterford Leader Partnership

Social Farming

Social Farming offers people who are socially, physically, mentally or intellectually disadvantaged the opportunity to **spend time on a family farm** in a **healthy, supportive and inclusive environment**. The focus is on encouraging participants to socialise, gain confidence and build relationships.

Participants **take part in activities on the farm they are interested in** such as gardening, animal care or indoor activities such as baking bread.

Benefits of Social Farming

For the Participants

- Improved **mental health** and wellbeing and increased **self-esteem**
- Enhanced social contact and **social confidence**
- The **development of skills** in a natural, non-pressured environment
- Increased sense of **self-worth and self-belief**
- Improved **physical fitness**

For the Farmers

- an opportunity for **income diversification**
- reconnects farmers with their **local communities**
- **company while working**, as farming can be an isolating job
- a sense of **personal achievement** from making a difference in the lives of the participants

Youth Justice Projects

Waterford LEADER Partnership has been awarded a **Community Safety Innovation Fund** grant from the **Department of Justice** to deliver a Social Farming Programme working with **Youth Justice Projects** in the South East.

The grant will allow for the provision of **840 placement days on farms for young people** in the South East referred from Garda Youth Diversion Projects.