



Clubhouse
Forum

Clubhouse Forum Strategic Plan

EVE Limited 2004 – 2007

A PLACE TO COME

MEANINGFUL RELATIONSHIPS

MEANINGFUL WORK

A PLACE TO RETURN

Welcome to the Clubhouse Forum!

The Clubhouse Forum was established in August 2004 and includes members and staff members from the four Eastern Vocational Enterprises (E.V.E.) Limited Clubhouses, along with representation from the Management Team of E.V.E. Ltd.

The Forum meets regularly and the chair is rotated between the Clubhouses every six months. As E.V.E. Limited continues to develop Clubhouse as a service option, it was agreed that we needed to evaluate the effectiveness and quality of our Clubhouses and to collaborate on common issues of concern, policies, socials, employment and importantly, accreditation within our own Clubhouse community.

We hope that the Forum will allow us share our experiences, celebrate our successes and learn from the insights of members and staff members as we work toward our common goal of providing Clubhouse to people who experience mental health difficulties in the community and the workforce.

The Clubhouse Forum

Our Mission

Clubhouse aims to provide a quality service through its unique partnership approach, which offers members the opportunity to be actively involved in the Clubhouse community.

Our Vision

Clubhouse strives to enhance the fullness of members lives through a holistic, supportive approach.

Opportunities to get involved are provided through the work-ordered day, employment, education and social activities.

What is a Clubhouse?

A clubhouse is first and foremost a community of people. Much more than simply an employment or social service it is most importantly a community of people with mental health difficulties working together towards the common goal of recovery. As with all Clubhouses, participants are known as "members", as opposed to patient or client. Members are unique individuals who possess valuable talents, strengths and abilities which when combined, assist in making the Clubhouse come alive. This sense of membership, support and belonging are at the very heart of the Clubhouse way of working.

Clubhouse communities recognise, encourage and focus on the inherent value and potential of each person involved. They believe that every member can recover from the effects of mental health difficulties and lead personally satisfying and socially contributing lives.

What can a Clubhouse offer you?

The Clubhouse guarantees four main rights:

- A guaranteed right to a place to come
- A guaranteed right to meaningful work
- A guaranteed right to meaningful relationships
- A guaranteed right to a place to return

Where did Clubhouse come from?

Clubhouse originated in 1948, when former patients of a New York "psychiatric hospital" began to meet together informally, in response to the lack of mental health services available. It was organised to be a support system for people living with mental illness, rather than as a service or treatment programme. Today there are over 400 Clubhouses worldwide who have modelled themselves on this premise and embraced the Clubhouse ethos.

How did Clubhouse start in EVE Limited?

E.V.E.'s interest in the Clubhouse model dates back to the early 1990's when we engaged in an extensive search to find a model of service, which could meet the varied and individual needs of people with mental health difficulties. After many years of advocating with other interested groups and individuals for the opportunity to establish a Clubhouse, we opened Platinum Clubhouse in Newbridge in July 1999. In February 2002, Platinum Clubhouse achieved International Centre for Clubhouse Development (I.C.C.D.) accreditation. E.V.E. Ltd. has since opened three other Clubhouses in Dublin: Phoenix Clubhouse in Clondalkin (2002), Suaimhneas Clubhouse in Coolock (2003) and Blanchardstown Clubhouse (2005). All Clubhouses have had both members and staff trained in the Clubhouse model at a certified training base in the United States.

What does the Clubhouse Forum aim to do?

Over the next three years, the E.V.E. Clubhouse Forum will focus on two main areas. Firstly, we will seek to develop the model within our services and secondly, we will aim to promote the model and raise awareness of its value for people with mental health difficulties.

In order to develop the Clubhouse Model in E.V.E. Ltd. we will:

- Develop the model in accordance with the I.C.C.D. standards.
- Consolidate progress to date in existing Clubhouses.
- Initiate a support network by which Clubhouses can create and maintain links with each other.
- Seek appropriate funding for new Clubhouses in designated areas of need.
- Obtain and maintain accreditation in all our Clubhouses thereby ensuring a quality service for members.

In order to Promote and Raise Awareness of Clubhouse we will:

- Consolidate a Clubhouse national promotional programme through workshops, conferences and articles.
- Raise awareness of the value of Clubhouse through the Irish Clubhouse Coalition (I.C.C.).
- Raise awareness locally with medical professionals, local community agencies, employers and their services through the activities of each Clubhouse in their local community.

How will we ensure a Quality Service?

1 We will comply with the International Standards for Clubhouse

The Clubhouse Standards support and sustain a quality member focused service by:

- Ensuring that clubhouse offers respect and opportunities to members
- Providing the basis for assessing Clubhouse quality through the I.C.C.D. certification process.
- Acting as a "bill of rights" for members and a code of ethics for staff.

The International Standards for Clubhouse Programmes, are agreed upon by the worldwide clubhouse community through a consensus process, and define the clubhouse model of rehabilitation. Every two years the worldwide clubhouse community reviews these standards, and amends them as deemed necessary. The process is co-ordinated by the I.C.C.D. Standards Review Committee, made up of members and staff of I.C.C.D. – certified clubhouses from around the world.

2 We will adopt a Peer-Led review System

In order to achieve this we will need to

- Complete a member and staff member self study.
- Complete member satisfaction surveys on a regular basis.

3 We will aim to achieve Accreditation for all EVE Ltd. Clubhouses

By participation in the I.C.C.D. accreditation process Clubhouses will:

- Guarantee member involvement.
- Ensure member satisfaction.
- Gain recognition as a quality approved service.

What happens in a Clubhouse?

- The daily activity of the Clubhouse is organised around a structured system known as the work-ordered day. The work ordered day mirrors normal business hours and focuses on those activities required to run the Clubhouse.
- While participation in the clubhouse is voluntary; each member is invited and encouraged to participate in the work of the clubhouse which includes administration duties, reception, catering, outreach, maintenance, employment and education programmes, orientation, recruitment of staff, evaluating clubhouse effectiveness etc.

What is the Irish Clubhouse Coalition (I.C.C.)?

The I.C.C., formally known as the National Clubhouse Development Committee, was established in 1998 "to promote and assist in the development of the Clubhouse model in Ireland in accordance with the I.C.C.D. standards". It is a forum of stakeholders who are interested in promoting the Clubhouse model at national level.

The I.C.C. has been hosted by E.V.E. Ltd. since its inception and the secretariat is based in Blanchardstown Clubhouse.

What Clubhouse means to members!

"Clubhouse means a place to spend my time in a worthwhile way with people whom I have things in common. It is place where I can build friendships and take an active part in the daily running of the clubhouse. By taking part in the units, I give myself a focus. I am learning new things and gaining more confidence as I go".

"Clubhouse is my lifeline, it has created many paths for me".

"Clubhouse is my health and my wealth".

"Somewhere to go everyday, to meet people and make friends. Also there is hope of moving on to a job".

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