



NEWKD is a local development company operating in North, East & West Kerry with offices in Castleisland, Dingle, Listowel & Tralee.

**We are delighted to support Social Farming.**

**We operate a range of programmes and services including:**

- Rural Social Scheme
- Tús Employment Programme
- Community Employment Programme
- Social Inclusion & Community Activation Programme (SICAP)
- LEADER Rural Development Programme
- Tralee Local Employment Service
- Jobs Clubs
- Moving On Programme
- Skillnet
- Community Services Programmes
- Community Drugs Initiative
- Revamp Furniture Store
- North Kerry Home Maintenance Service
- Home Visitation Service
- Social Farming Programme

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# Kerry Social Farming



Mary Walsh of Little Black Hill Farm, Tralee Road, Killarney with Eamon Horgan, John Francis Moynihan and Pat O'Connor planting the fresh produce for next season.

## 'Social Farming adds a new and positive dimension to your farm...'

I HAD just started a market garden when I got involved in Kerry Social Farming. People of all abilities have been part of farming and agriculture for centuries, so I just wanted more people to become involved in my farm.

Pat and John Francis come to me once a week and I feel they've become more confident in themselves. They're becoming independent by being given more responsibility. We work as a team here and everyone is treated the same. We have a lot of volunteers visiting the farm and the lads get to meet different people. It's that sense of inclusion that Kerry Social Farming brings and no one is made feel any different.

Pat and John Francis are really happy here and they are genuinely disappointed on a day they can't come. For me it's good fun and I enjoy having them. It's good craic and by making sure

the lads are enjoying it makes you less concerned about yourself. It's quite a nice feeling to put them first. I'm a bit more present on the farm as well when they visit and this is good also.

There is more benefits than disadvantages in being a host farmer. You might think to yourself: 'Oh, I have my routine and this is how it is', but by inviting Social Farming into your farm it opens up a different dimension to it. Farming can be very isolating and you can be on your own for long periods of time. Social Farming takes you out of yourself and makes you part of a social community that really means something. That's what farming is all about, essentially.

Mary Walsh,  
Knockeendubh, Killarney



### Kerry Social Farming Contact Details

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