GAWAY RURAL DEVELOPMENT PRESS RELEASE

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GALWAY RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND GALWAY LIONS CLUB PROMOTE MESSAGE IN A BOTTLE SCHEME IN CONNEMARA

L to R: Anne Cassidy, Rural Resource Officer, GRD, PJ Leavy, Maam Community First Responders, Mark Callanan, Community Engagement Officer National Ambulance Service West, Bernie Kelly, Head of Galway Library Service, Sean Mannion, Galway Lions Club, Linda Woodman, Sergeant Clifden Garda Station , Gearóid Ó Fátharta, Bainisteoir Chomharchumann Dhúiche Sheoigheach Teo.

[Leagan Béarla thíos | English version below]

Tá an scéim Teachtaireacht na mBuidéal i gConamara á tiomáint ag Forbairt Tuaithe na Gaillimhe i gcomhar le Club na Leon, Gaillimh, a dhéanann urraíocht ar an scéim. Is seirbhís saor in aisce í seo a d'fhéadfadh cabhrú le beatha a shábháil. Tá foirm rabhaidh leighis sa mbuidéal leis an eolas uilig a theastódh ó sheirbhísí éigeandála chun cabhrú le duine nuair a fhreagraíonn siad do ghlaoch. Tá eolas tábhachtach ann maidir le riochtaí míochaine an duine, sonraí cógais, aon ailléirgí a d'fhéadfadh a bheith acu, cé hiad a neasghaol, más cúramóir é an duine nó fiú má tá peata acu. D'fhéadfadh an Buidéal difríocht ríthábhachtach a dhéanamh

mar a mhínigh Mark Callanan, an tOifigeach Rannpháirtíochta Pobail le Seirbhís Náisiúnta Otharchairr an Iarthair:

‘Is easca dearmad a dhéanamh ar fhaisnéis mhíochaine othair le linn éigeandála nó tinnis. Is féidir leis an bhfaisnéis seo atá in easnamh a bheith an-úsáideach i gcóireáil an othair i dtaca leis na riochtaí reatha atá á bhfulaingt ag an othar nó na cógas atá á ghlacadh ag an othar faoi láthair. D’fhéadfadh Teachtaireacht na mBuidéal an chontúirt a bhaineann le dearmad a dhéanamh ar fhaisnéis ríthábhachtach a mhaolú agus cuidiú leis an tSeirbhís Náisiúnta Otharchairr agus iad ag freastal ar othar’.

Coinnítear an buidéal sa gcuisneoir i gcónaí agus is eol do na seirbhísí éigeandála é a lorg de bharr na ngreamán glas a chuirtear ar an taobh istigh den doras tosaigh, an doras cúil agus doras an chuisneora. Tá sé an-tábhachtach a bheith in ann teacht ar an mBuidéal seo agus duine ina gcónaí ina n-aonarc nuair a d’fhéadfadh deacrachtaí cumarsáide cuimhne a bheith aige freisin.

Tá an tseirbhís seo ar fáil i gConamara le tacaíocht fhlaithiúil ó bhrainse na Gaillimhe de Chlub na Leon, a bhronn beagnach 1,000 buidéal go dtí seo le dáileadh ar an bpobal. Is iarracht chomhoibritheach é seo le tacaíocht ó Sheirbhís Náisiúnta Otharchairr an Iarthair, Céad Fhreagróirí Phobal an Mháma, a bhfuil sé beartaithe acu iad a dháileadh ar chuile theaghlach i nGleann an Mháma, chomh maith le tacaíocht ó Chomharchumann Dhúiche Sheoigheach Teo, le bainisteoir an Chomharchumainn Gearóid Ó Fátharta ag tacú le dáileadh na mbuidéal ar fud ceantar Dhúiche Sheoigheach. Tá tacaíocht á fáil freisin ó Sheirbhís Leabharlainne na Gaillimhe atá á ndáileadh trína leabharlanna i gConamara. Tabharfaidh Stáisiún Garda an Chlocháin amach iad agus beidh roinnt ar fáil le bailiú ag an stáisiún féin. Más mian leat féin nó duine a bhfuil aithne agat orthu buidéal a fháil déan teagmháil le Anne Cassidy, Oifigeach Acmhainní Tuaithe le Forbairt Tuaithe na Gaillimhe ar 087 7685711 nó acassidy@grd.ie.

The Message in a Bottle scheme in Connemara is being promoted by Galway Rural Development in collaboration with the Galway Lions Club who sponsor the scheme. This is a free service that could help to save lives. The bottle contains a medical alert form with all the information that emergency services would need to be able to help someone when they respond to a call. It contains important information such as a person’s medical conditions, medication details, any allergies they might have, who their next of kin is, if a person is a carer or even if someone has a pet. The Bottle could make a vital difference as noted by Mark Callanan, the Community Engagement Officer with the National Ambulance Service West:

“*A patient’s medical information can very easily be forgotten in the midst of injury or illness. This missing information can prove very useful in the patient’s treatment such as current conditions the patient suffers from or medications the patient is currently on. The ‘Message in a Bottle’ can alleviate the risk of forgetting vital information and aid the National Ambulance Service in patient treatment*”.

The bottle is always kept in the fridge and responders know to look for it by the green stickers that are put on the inside of the front door, back door and the fridge door. Having access to

this Bottle is very important in situations where someone lives alone, and might also have communication difficulties or memory issues.

In Connemara this is being rolled out with the generous support of the Galway branch of the Lions Club who have donated almost 1,000 bottles to date for distribution in the community. The campaign is a collaborative effort with support from the National Ambulance Service West, the Maam Community First Responders who plan to distribute them to every household in the Maam Valley as well as Comharchumann Dhúiche Sheoigeach Teo, whose manager Gearóid Ó Fátharta will support their distribution throughout the wider Joyce Country area. It is also being supported by the Galway Library Service who are distributing them through their libraries in Connemara. Clifden Garda Station will give them out and will also have some available for collection at the station itself. If you or someone you know would like a bottle please contact Anne Cassidy, Rural Resource Officer with Galway Rural Development on 087 7685711 or acassidy@grd.ie.

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For more information on this press release or to arrange further information for media purposes please contact GRD Information Officer on 087 9170904 or info@grd.ie