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Office of Head of Service
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Mid-West Mental Health Services
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Deputy Jackie Cahill
Parnell St,
Townparks,
Thurles,
Co. Tipperary,
E41 VY66

9th March 2023

PQ 10358/23 "To ask the Minister for Health the mental health day services that are currently operating in Thurles, County Tipperary; how an individual may avail of such services; and if he will make a statement on the matter".

Dear Deputy Cahill,

The Thurles Adult Community Mental Team is located in St. Mary's Health Centre Thurles. The Consultant Psychiatrist led Team in North Tipperary is staffed by members of the following disciplines: NCHD's, Nursing, Psychology, Social Work, Occupational Therapy and Addiction Counsellor and is supported by administration staff.

Currently, this service is provided on a community-based, out-patient level with access to in-patient treatment at the Acute Psychiatric Unit in Ennis, Co Clare.

Out Patient Clinics are ran by Doctors (one consultant psychiatrist and two junior doctors) 5 days a week in St. Mary's and 3 days a month in Roscrea Primary Care centre.

Referrals are received from General Practitioners, Emergency Department and other Health Care Professionals. The medical secretary supports the Doctors in the delivery of the clinics. Referrals to all other team disciplines are received from the Mental Health Service Doctors when a need is identified during a service user's assessment or review appointments and the service user consents to the referral.

Nursing staff carry out new patients bio-psychosocial assessments, run blood monitoring clinics, depot clinics, provide one to one nursing support, facilitate groups (anxiety management and mindfulness at present) and carry out home and nursing home visits. X2 nursing staff also provide Cognitive Behaviour Therapy.

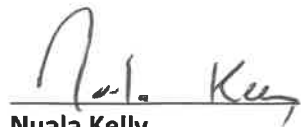
The Psychologist provides psychological assessments and psychotherapy for our patients who have been diagnosed with a mental illness.

The Addiction Councillor provides counselling to those with both mental health and addiction issues.

Our Occupational Therapist works with service users to enable them to increase their independence and implement structure into their daily routine. He assists service users to seek employment, apply for course and organises activities such as social farming, walking soccer, etc. with external agencies.

The Tenancy Support Worker who is employed by Focus Ireland but is a fully integrated member of the MDT supports services users in maintaining tenancies or settling into a new tenancy.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nuala Kelly', written over a horizontal line.

Nuala Kelly
Head of Service
Mental Health Services
Mid West Community Healthcare