



CANDIDATE BIOGRAPHIES	
Categories	Candidates
Category 2 – intellectual disability nursing	Liam Hamill
	Sharon Phelan
Category 4 – midwifery	Nicola Clarke
	Mary Gorman
Category 5 – care of older persons	Eileen Kelly
	Deirdre Lang
As there was only one nominated candidate in each of the following categories a poll shall not be taken and the nominees are deemed to be elected	
Category 1 – psychiatric nursing	Catherine Cocoman
Category 3 – public health nursing	Essene Cassidy

Liam Hamill



Current role

- Has worked for the past 18 years in St. Josephs ID Service (SJIDS) in North Co. Dublin as a staff nurse, CNM1 and CNM2.
- In 2012, in a joint project between SJIDS and Beaumont Hospital, took up the role of Intellectual Disability Liaison Nurse (IDLN) based in Beaumont Hospital. This role was unique in Ireland and its purpose was to provide equitable acute secondary hospital access for people with intellectual disabilities.
- Continues to promote and develop the role of IDLN and believes that this role can influence improved healthcare outcomes for people with intellectual disabilities.

Divisions of NMBI Register of Nurses and Midwives

- Registered Nurse Intellectual Disability

Education

- Has just completed a MSc. in Intellectual Disability Nursing Practice at DCU and is an ardent supporter of the need for continuous development of the nursing profession.

Professional practice, other roles

- An RNID with over 28 years' experience working with people with intellectual disabilities.
- My nursing career began in the UK and I have worked in a variety of settings in the field of intellectual disability.
- Experience includes working in adult residential care, respite care (acute & planned), care of the older person (ID), community nursing (ID), crisis intervention team, family support team mental health of ID, acute admission and assessment (MHID) and forensics in ID.

Interests

- Part of SJIDS Nurse Practice Development Department which has responsibility for staff training, student undergraduate programme, policy development, auditing and nursing metrics.
- Member of the steering group which examined the future of ID nursing in Ireland. This was a joint project by Trinity College Dublin and the HSE, and the final document, 'Shaping the Future of Intellectual Disability Nursing in Ireland', is currently awaiting publication by the HSE.
- Committed to promoting the nursing profession and achieving and maintaining high standards of professional practice.

Sharon Phelan



Current role

- Clinical Placement Coordinator in the Muiriosa Foundation
- Works with students and registered nurses to deliver the highest quality educational experience and to enhance the lives of those availing of the services.
- Committed to nursing and the role of the RNID and this has been central to not only to my day to day work, but also to my role as a representative for the Irish Nurses and Midwives Organisation where I have taken a leading role in the local committee.

Divisions of NMBI Register of Nurses and Midwives

- Registered Nurse Intellectual Disability

Education

- Registered as an RNID in 1995, having trained in Moore Abbey.
- Completed a BNS degree in Dublin City University in 2007.
- Has been heavily involved in the provision of education to staff across a number of service delivery models.

Professional practice, other roles

- Since registration has worked continuously in intellectual disability settings.
- Committed RNID who believes in the value of evidence based practice, and achieving the highest quality of life possible for persons with an intellectual disability irrespective of the service they utilise or the location where they live.

Interests

- Promotion of the role of the RNID and the positive contribution that RNIDs can and do make to the lives of persons with an Intellectual Disability. I am conscious that the role of the RNID has been marginalised in many services and that persons availing of services in those locations have a missed opportunity in terms of the knowledge, skills and competencies an RNID can utilise to support both persons with an intellectual disability across the spectrum and their lifespan. Interested in representing the professions of nursing and midwifery on the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Ireland.
- Believes skills, experience and insight can make a positive contribution to the work of the Board. Most of all I will use a position on the Board to advocate for better and more practical services to the members of the professions, including; practical and responsive guidance on workplace issues, and a greater role for the NMBI in promoting and safeguarding the role of the RNID.

Nicola Clarke



Current role

- Current role is as an Assistant Director of Midwifery and Nursing, at the National Maternity Hospital Holles Street, Dublin 2.

Divisions of NMBI Register of Nurses and Midwives

- Registered Children's Nurse
- Registered General Nurse
- Registered Midwife

Education

- Reg. Sick Children's Nurse (Temple St.)
- Reg. General Nurse (St. Vincent's University Hospital)
- Reg. Midwife (National Maternity Hospital)
- International Board Certified Lactation Consultant (I.B.C.L.C.) for over 20 years, re-certified four times, and co-ordinated the Exam Nationally
- Higher Diploma in Neonatal Care
- Achieved a Fellowship in the Faculty of Nursing & Midwifery at the R.C.S.I, M.Sc. in Midwifery from T.C.D. and M.Sc. in Health Informatics from the University of Limerick
- Diploma in Health Services Policy and a Certificate in Health Services Management from the I.P.A. / N.U.I.

Professional practice, other roles

- Practising in midwifery and nursing for over 30 years
- Current position as ADOM/N for over 12 years
- Prior to that Clinical Practice Development Co-ordinator and C.M.S. in lactation for several years.
- Various roles in Breastfeeding Support, Education & Training, Research Midwife, Outreach Clinic Midwife, Staff Midwife, Pupil Midwife, Staff Nurse and Student Nurse
- Experienced ADOM/N managing the largest maternity hospital in the state, on a daily basis.

Interests

- Past committee and public service involvement:
- Treasurer/ Board member at the Faculty of Nursing and Midwifery RCSI 2004-2008,
- Board member, Bishop's International Bioethics Committee 2008-2012 ;
- Board member, Parkinson's Association of Ireland (PAI) 2010-date;
- Member of National Group Site co-ordinators for R.N.P. Project 2007-2014.
- Active volunteer with Cuidiú, BFHI, ALCI, helping breastfeeding women.

Mary Gorman



Current role

- Clinical Midwife Manager 3 in Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital, Drogheda.
- Responsible for Maternity Gynae OPD, a Maternity Day Unit, Foetal Assessment Parent Craft, Teenage Pregnancy, Anti Natal Ward, Post Natal Ward, Gynae Ward and Colposcopy.

Divisions of NMBI Register of Nurses and Midwives

- Registered General Nurse
- Registered Midwife
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Education

- Post Graduate Diploma in Clinical Practice Midwifery from Trinity College, a Diploma in Healthcare Management.

Professional practice, other roles

- 23 years' experience in all areas of midwifery.
- Involved in the MIDU Study and was involved in the development of the Midwifery Led Units' Service.
- Represented the INMO at national level and was a key member of the Maternity Strategy Steering Committee and a member of the Maternity Care Assistant Review Group.
- Possesses the necessary education training and skillset to ably represent the midwifery profession on the NMBI. My experience on the Midwifery Strategy Steering Committee and the Maternity Care Assistant Review Group make me an ideal spokesperson for the profession on the Board of the NMBI.

Interests

- Deeply committed to the implementation of the maternity strategy and the continued development for the fulfilment of midwives in their roles.

Eileen Kelly



Current role

- CNM2 working on a 20 bedded long stay ward.
- Co-ordinates and manages the daily care of residents and ensures that it is delivered according to best practice guidelines and in tandem with legal and regulatory requirements.
- Nationally elected member of the Executive Council of the Irish Nurses and Midwives Organisation.

Divisions of NMBI Register of Nurses and Midwives

- Registered General Nurse

Education

- Qualified as a Registered General Nurse from Beaumont Hospital working predominantly in surgical divisions post qualification.
- Undertook a BA in Journalism and completed final year thesis on The National Cancer Strategy.
- Completed a Certificate in Psychology and gained a Masters in Human Rights and International Law.
- This September will pursue studies in nurse prescribing.

Professional practice, other roles

- Following studies, took up a post in the Sacred Heart Hospital as a staff nurse.
- Completed a post graduate diploma in Gerontology and worked for 5 years as a community RGN with the Intermediate Care Service, which provided short term domiciliary rehabilitation services to older people.
- Worked with the local community voluntary sector and was a core member of the regional practice development group responsible for completing policies and procedures for use in the community.
- When the Intermediate Care Service was disbanded, returned to work in the rehabilitation unit of the Sacred Heart Hospital

Interests

- Passionate and interested in working with older people and have gained expert knowledge over a long career working in this area.
- Committed to ensuring that high quality, safe and effective care is delivered and is equally eager to fulfil the role of supporting and advising nurses on how best to maintain practice standards in all healthcare settings.

Deirdre Lang



Current role

- Director of Nursing Lead, National Clinical Programme for Older People (NCPOP) and Leadership Development Nursing Profession Older Persons

Divisions of NMBI Register of Nurses and Midwives

- Registered General Nurse

Education

- Trained in St Vincent's Hospital, Elm Park as a Registered General Nurse.
- MSc Leadership, BNS (Hons), Dip Mgt, HDip Gerontological Nursing, HETAC Level 6 Special Award in Coaching

Professional practice, other roles

- Worked in acute services both in Australia and in Ireland.
- Has had a variety of experiences in healthcare, including mental health nursing and practice development.
- Experience in Older Persons Services includes the role of CNM 2, Assistant Director of Nursing and Director of Nursing both in the HSE and private sector.
- My passion for Older Person Services and nurses working in this specialist area, saw me set up a subgroup within the Irish Association of Directors of Nursing & Midwifery (IADNAM). The aim of this group is to provide a forum and network for Directors of Nursing to support each other in managing unprecedented challenges and change.
- As a qualified coach I have provided support through my coaching to colleagues both formally and informally.
- My role as Director of Nursing National Clinical Programme for Older People brings together all aspects of my experience to date, together with my passion for the older patient and those who provide their care.
- My approach to life is Henry Fords "Whether you think you can or you think you can'tyou are right"

Interests

- Professionally I have a keen interest in person centered care. I have played a lead role in the national roll out of "What Matters to You" which is a person centred initiative to counter balance the sense of invisibility older people feel when admitted to hospital.
- I am also passionate about education as the key to unlocking new ways of working, especially as it related to the care of older people. In my present role I am leading on the roll out of a National Frailty Education
- I am a Twitter enthusiast and use that forum to promote healthy attitudes to aging.

Catherine Cocoman



Current role

- Clinical Nurse Specialist in self harm and works in line with the national clinical care programme for self-harm.
- Delivers a high standard of evidence based care.
- Always works with the best interests of the patient in mind and advocates on their behalf with multiple agencies on a daily basis.

Divisions of NMBI Register of Nurses and Midwives

- Registered General Nurse
- Registered Psychiatric Nurse

Education

- One of the first graduates of the 4 year undergraduate degree programme in Ireland in 2006, having spent 4 years training to become a general nurse in St James Hospital.
- Completed a Higher Diploma in Mental Health/Psychiatric Nursing in DCU.
- Graduated in 2013 from TCD with a Masters in Mental Health.

Professional practice, other roles

- Worked in the acute hospital as a general nurse and across the acute and community mental health sectors as a psychiatric nurse.
- Passionate about improving services for staff and service users alike and has been a champion of different things over entire nursing career.
- Actively involved in continuing professional development.
- Has a keen interest in education and is committed to lifelong learning.
- Strives to enhance the professional development of others.

Interests

- Works fulltime with enthusiasm and motivation while balancing a family life with a young child, husband and a big hairy dog, and its demands.
- Looks forward to the challenges working with NMBI would bring.

Essene Cassidy



Current role

- Director Public Health Nursing (Interim) CHO9 DNCC

Divisions of NMBI Register of Nurses and Midwives

- Registered Children's Nurse
- Registered General Nurse
- Registered Public Health Nurse

Education

- Educated to Masters Level at University College Dublin in Child Health
- Higher Diploma (H.Dip) Rehabilitation Management from University College Dublin
- Higher Diploma (H.Dip) in Public Health Nursing (PHN) from University College Cork
- Bachelor of Nursing Studies (BNS) from Trinity College Dublin
- Recently obtained a Professional Certificate in Governance from the Institute of Public Administration.

Professional practice, other roles

- A Registered Children's, General and Public Health Nurse with over 17 years experience working across a variety of roles and functions within the Community and Primary Care Setting from Immunisations, Disability, Area Public Health Nursing, Schools Nursing Teams and Early Years Inspectorate.
- As Interim DPHN I have clinical governance and supervision responsibility for all nursing staff working at a community level within the Dublin North West area of the DNCC Region and have active involvement and input into frontline clinical care within the community.
- First elected to the Board of NMBI as representative of Public Health Nursing in 2012.
- As chairperson of NMBI's Ethics Committee, I oversaw and supported the revision and development of the updated Code of Professional Practice and Ethics for Nurses and the Scope of Practice Framework for Nurses.
- As Vice Chair of the Fitness to Practice Committee 2012 - January 2016, I have experience of the inquiry process and the principles of natural justice and fair procedure.
- Elected as Board President in January 2016, I have led out on a significant organisational review and package of reform within the NMBI and am committed to strengthening the Boards relationship with our registrants, the public and our key stakeholders by making our work more open and transparent and ensuring value for money by being more efficient and effective in all the work of the Board.

Interests

- Walking, baking and spending my weekends supporting my children at their soccer/football matches (Soccer Mom)