



ACET Care

What is ACET?

ACET's Care (est. 1992) exists to help improve the lives of those living with HIV in Ireland. Based in the Dublin area, our work is a highly relational model of care, valuing empowerment and seeking to bring about positive changes by establishing relationships of mutuality, equality and trust. Confidentiality and compassion are crucial tenets within our care ethos.

Our Care Project is for individuals who are living with a HIV diagnosis within the greater Dublin area, whether newly diagnosed or long-term, who are open to receiving additional support around living with HIV.

How do we work?

We have 30 years experience focusing on relationships rather than goals and outputs, working with multiple generations within families, supporting individuals with HIV over decades or longer. "Take more time, cover less ground" is an adage we adhere to.

We meet people in their own place — their home, their community — rather than our space.

We can offer:

- Support for those receiving a new HIV diagnosis: including emotional and practical support for issues such as disclosure or stigma and tools for living positively with HIV.
- Accompaniment to hospital appointments or HIV clinics.
- Health advocacy: information on treatment options or new treatments; medication regulation; and liaising with medical teams.
- Assistance with resources or referrals to other appropriate agencies: housing, welfare, education, finances.
- Emotional support: meeting over a cup of tea to discuss concerns, outcomes or other issues relevant to HIV status, isolation, care or treatments.

Our Care work is rooted in the foundation of creating a safe space for someone to comfortably share their concerns and story with our respectful team. With backgrounds in counselling, social care and addiction, our Care team is Garda vetted and trained in child safety. We collaborate in creating a personalised care plan that is needs-led and adaptable towards whatever else is happening at the moment, recognising that needs and circumstances are likely to change at any given time.

What happens after referral?

Our Care team will get in touch directly with the referred individual to schedule a suitable time to meet together in person, at an agreed venue that is safe and comfortable for more in-depth conversation. This meeting gives the Care team an opportunity to assess the referred person's support needs, ask any further questions, and collaborate in making a plan that might enable us to work together. The referred person will also have plenty of space to ask whatever questions they may have in regard to our service and how we might support them.