

## Who are the Self Employed Community Midwives (SECM's) in Cork & Kerry?

They are six experienced SECM's, who practice in a community setting in the HSE South for Cork and Kerry. They provide midwifery care throughout the pregnancy, labour and after the birth, to low-risk women planning a home birth. The HSE has engaged the services of these midwives to provide midwifery services to expectant mothers wishing to have their babies at home. There are also 2 other experienced hospital midwives available to attend as 2nd midwives at home births.



**CAROLINE CORCORAN,** 68, **Rosary Place, Midleton, Co. Cork**

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Caroline joined the team in 2017. Her babies were born at home in Cork, and she was inspired by her experiences to study midwifery. She qualified in 2013 in the UK, and worked in both delivery suite and a low-risk birthing unit before moving back to Ireland in 2015, where she worked as a midwife in CUMH. She lives in Midleton with her husband and two children, Finn and Tess, and now works in the Cork City and County area as a Community Midwife.



**MARY CRONIN,** **The Coven, Mellifontstown, Kinsale, Co. Cork**

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Mary qualified as a midwife in England in 1984. She set up her practice in Cork as a community midwife in 1994. She has been assisting mothers to birth their babies at home for 26 years. Her Midwifery Practice is located in the Kinsale area. She works in Cork city and within a 30 mile radius of both Cork City and Kinsale. Mary lives with her husband Brendan and their son Matthew and daughter Annie.



**ELKE HASNER,** **Kilnarovanagh, Toames, Macroom, Co. Cork**

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Elke is married with three children and lives on a small farm, near the village of Toames, five miles from Macroom. After qualifying as a midwife in Germany in 1983, Elke worked in two major maternity units and a small cottage hospital, for about two years in each. Her first Irish home born baby was born on 1st January 1990.



**SOPHIE EGE**

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**Cashel, Rosscarbery, Co. Cork**

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Originally from Germany, Sophie trained as a midwife in Cork. After working for several years in a hospital labour ward in the south of Germany, she came back to Ireland.

Sophie lives with her family between Rosscarbery and Leap in West Cork. She is delighted to be joining the wonderful Cork and Kerry Homebirth team and to be providing care in a continuity model to families who choose the option of a homebirth.



**SINEAD MURPHY,**

**8 Mountain View, Kilcummin, Killarney**

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Sinead worked as a community midwife in London since 1999, attending homebirths. She worked in a birth centre providing midwifery centred care to women and their families. She is practicing as a homebirth midwife in the Kerry area since 1992. Sinead resides in Killarney.



**KIRSTY HAWTHORN,**

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Kirsty trained and worked as a Midwife in the NHS in a large tertiary hospital in Southampton, qualifying in 2016. First as a core midwife on labour ward/high risk antenatal and postnatal wards then as a community midwife and then as a case-loading midwife supporting homebirths and women needing focused care. Kirsty moved back to Ireland in 2020 and now works part-time as a staff midwife on labour ward at UHK in Tralee Co Kerry in conjunction as an SECM supporting women having homebirths in the locality. Before becoming a midwife Kirsty specialised in holistic care for pregnancy, labour and the postnatal period and continues to combine evidence based knowledge from both pathways including yoga, massage, acupuncture, reflexology, baby massage and aromatherapy, where clinically appropriate.