

My story is that of so many other volunteers in St. John Ambulance, the Red Cross, Civil Defence and Order of Malta – I have dedicated countless hours of service over many years to a registered charity all to realize a simple vision, that everyone in Ireland should have access to first aid no matter where they are or what they are doing at the onset of injury or illness.

Ideally suited to the role having nearly two decades of experience as an OFA, CFR, and EFR instructor, as well as over thirty five years of practical experience as an active ambulance volunteer, I am Deputy Director of Training for St. John Ambulance in Ireland.

My remit includes defining a holistic strategy that allows the charity offer everything from basic first aid courses for the public, to the more advanced courses required by members in order to sustain the operational capacity of the Brigade.

Over the years, I have been able to apply my project and line management skills acquired in my professional life to my work for St. John. I play an instrumental part in an evolving organisation, as it adapts to meet the higher standards set by PHECC's regulation of our industry. I am keenly aware of the unique challenges and opportunities regulation poses for voluntary services and continue to help St. John Ambulance rise to meet these while protecting the viability of the voluntary ethos of the organisation.

A specific responsibility of my role is to be Program Director for the EMT course. As a registered EMT myself, I understand the financial and time commitments required of those attempting to achieve registration. I work hard to ensure that St. John EMT candidates not only satisfy the requirements as set out by PHECC, but also get the hands on practical experience required of those who wish to use their new skills as Health Care Practitioners in the community.

Outside of St. John, I have a long history of working with other voluntary and statutory organisations within the sphere of pre-hospital care. Most notably, I am an instructor with the Irish Heart Foundation and actively involved in their mass CPR events which draw on personnel from both statutory and voluntary services to help train members of the public in basic life saving skills. I have also received training at the National Ambulance Training School including PHTLS and instructor courses.

In my professional life, I am the Head of Technical Services at the Novartis facility in Ringaskiddy, Co. Cork, which employs over 700 people. Novartis is a multi-national pharmaceutical company. I am also on the Energy Committee of IBEC, and have key skills in industrial relations.

My background is in Electrical Engineering and I am a Chartered Engineer with the Institute of Engineers Ireland. I also hold a Bachelor of Science Degree and a Diploma in Environmental Studies. I am a member of the Irish Institute of Training and Development.