

GRANGE UNITED FC: AN INITIATIVE OF MULLINGAR YOUTH PROJECT ENHANCING COMMUNITY INTEGRATION AND BUILDING RESILIENCE AMONG OUR UBU TARGET GROUPS



- Established in 2011 by Mullingar Youth Project to meet the needs of young men excluded from mainstream clubs.
 - Barriers faced: transport, cost, ethnicity, address.
 - Offers an inclusive, structured space to promote engagement, identity, and community pride.
 - Developed under UBU: Your Place Your Space, ensuring local, accessible youth support.
- “Street football turned club culture – where local youth lead, play, and thrive.”



An Roinn Leanaí, Comhionannais,
Michumais, Lánpháirtíochta agus Óige
Department of Children, Equality,
Disability, Integration and Youth



lweib
Bord Oideachais agus Oiliúna
an Longfoirt agus na hIarmhí
Longford and Westmeath
Education and Training Board

UBU & YOUTH WORK IN ACTION

- UBU: More than funding — it's a promise
- Youth work in action through Grange United
- From players to leaders: a full circle of growth
- A model of youth-led, sustained impact



CLUB STRUCTURE & LOCAL IMPACT

- 84 registered players across 4 divisions: Seniors, U16s, U12s, U11s.
- 47 players from the Traveller community, 3 from local immigration facility, 9 local volunteers.
- Positive peer culture, cross-community bonding, shared local pride.
- Active youth-led communications, mentoring and club culture building.
- ***“Football is our language, inclusion is our goal.”***



A SPACE FOR GROWTH AND BELONGING

- Partners: LWETB, Gardaí, Probation, County Council, Court Services.
- Football as a safe space for growth
- Training twice a week = structure + wellbeing
- Supports body image, resilience, and choices
- Community-driven coaching with young people at the centre
- *“Support from all corners, success from the ground up.”*



LEGACY, LEADERSHIP & LOOKING AHEAD

- A cornerstone of resilience in the community
- Youth aspire to be part of something positive
- Lifeline during COVID, leadership post-pandemic
- Giving back, building legacy, growing stronger
- ***“A community club where youth become leaders, and futures are rewritten.”***



