



# #MakingItHappen together with *Get The Shifts*



Hannah Wrixon of Get The Shifts in Clare

**ANYONE WHO RUNS THEIR OWN BUSINESS IN THE HOSPITALITY OR RETAIL TRADE WILL KNOW HOW DIFFICULT IT CAN BE TO FIND SOMEONE TO COVER A SHIFT, EITHER AT SHORT NOTICE OR FOR A LIMITED PERIOD OF TIME.**

Having grown up in this sector, Hannah Wrixon was very aware of this and saw a gap in the market for a service that can match willing staff with needy employers at short notice - and so Get the Shifts was created.

“The company started in 2016 as a result of a pivot from an earlier business I had called Last Minute Minders,” she says. “Both my father and uncle have been involved in the hospitality trade their whole lives, so I approached my cousin Gillian and asked if she was interested in getting involved with me as we had both previously worked in bars in Ireland and abroad.”

“I had spotted that there was an opportunity to build a database/community of pre-vetted hospitality staff who would be available to clients when and where they needed

them. So we created software to support the provision of experienced and trained temporary staff to several industries - including hospitality, industrial, marketing and retail.”

Backed by Local Enterprise Office Clare, the company has seven employees and over 400 staff on their books. Since the start of the pandemic, they have encountered some problems, but have used the extra time to fine tune their service.

“It has been an extremely challenging time as our bookings just stopped and all pre-booked work was cancelled,” says Wrixon. “We had no income from March to July and had to put all our staff on temporary lay-off, with three still not working. In short, our industry was decimated.”

**“BUT IT WAS ALSO QUITE POSITIVE AS WE USED THE TIME TO STREAMLINE OUR PRACTICES AND HAVE BECOME A MUCH LEANER COMPANY WITH ALL EXPENSES BEING MONITORED MUCH MORE CLOSELY. WE HAVE ALSO BECOME MUCH MORE EFFICIENT AND PRODUCTIVE AND HAVE HAD THE TIME TO DEVELOP OUR SOFTWARE FURTHER. WE PLAN TO CONTINUE THIS AND BECOME A TECHNOLOGY LEADER IN THE STAFFING SOFTWARE SPACE.”**

Since the business was created, Get the Shifts, has been supported by its Local Enterprise Office and Wrixon says she is looking forward to participating in Local Enterprise Week.

“We have received grants, mentoring, training and awards from our Local Enterprise Office,” she says. “Both the support we received over the phone and the business advice that we have been given has also been worth so much to me both personally and to the company.”

*To find out more about Local Enterprise Office supports for your business, please visit [LocalEnterprise.ie/MakingItHappen](http://LocalEnterprise.ie/MakingItHappen)*



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