

October
2024

2024 SICAP Case Study Narrative

TITLE OF CASE STUDY:

New Arrivals 2024.

Collaborative Responses to Identified Needs

LDC:

Southside Partnership DLR



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The Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme (SICAP) is co-funded by the Irish Government, through the Department of Rural and Community Development and the European Union through the European Social Fund Plus under the Employment, Inclusion, Skills and Training (EIST) Programme 2021-2027.

2024 SICAP Case Study Narrative

CAB NO:

Dun Laoghaire/ Rathdown (5-1)

TITLE OF CASE STUDY:

New Arrivals 2024. Collaborative Responses to Identified Needs

CASE STUDY THEME:

(3.3) Core Area of Work

ASSOCIATED SUB-THEME:

(3) Collaborative Responses to Identified Needs

SYNOPSIS:

Southside Partnership DLR's Case Study 2024 features our SICAP New Arrivals Programme to showcase the work of SICAP funded staff and activities in this project 2024 to date, profiling the collaborations needed for the success of the programme, identification of the needs of our beneficiaries, and the impact the programme has had on the new arrivals arriving into Dun Laoghaire Rathdown.

INTENDED AUDIENCE:

Pobal; LCDC; DRCD, Southside Partnership DLR Board of Management, Staff, visitors to SSP website, viewers of our Social Media posts; Stakeholders, collaborators, local agencies and organisations; attendees at information and support events; additional distribution / showing of video as relevant to our work and for peer learning.



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Southside Partnership DLR Case Study 2024 Narrative

New Arrivals 2024. Collaborative Responses to Identified Needs

Southside Partnership DLR has historic experience (2000—2010) of working in collaboration with key stakeholders to welcome and support asylum seekers arriving into Dún Laoghaire. When Direct Provision Centres moved to the City Centre and outside Dublin we continued to support integration with a focus on migrant women through our Women's Programme - promoting leadership, women's voices and celebrating culture.

This previous experience gave us a strong foundation that allowed us to draw on our knowledge and expertise in developing a SICAP New Arrivals Support Team in response to the war in Ukraine and the influx of new arrivals into our county in 2022. Our strong relationships with our community and statutory partners as well as our openness to work collaboratively, all presented us with a range of opportunities to both lead and support the initiatives, projects and programmes created to assist in the integration of new arrivals and supporting local communities to welcome them, key examples include:

- We leveraged funding from CYPSC (Children and Young People's Services Committee) to support children, young people and their families living in long term accommodation centres. Our successful application for €50,000 allowed us to provide an age appropriate outdoor play area, an age appropriate early years indoor play area, a youth room (designed by young people), access to summer and mid-term camps, we also worked with Crosscare who delivered young engagement programmes. We engaged the Loughlinstown, Ballybrack and Shankill (LBS) Men's Shed to develop a serenity garden for parents, this was a great learning experience for the men and this opportunity changed many opinions of how we welcome IPa's into our communities. We are delighted to have secured more funding in 2024 and this will be used for a socially engaged artist who will support children and young people living in the IPa system and who are experiencing trauma.

Partners: CYPSC DLR, Dundrum Crosscare Youth Service, LBS Men's Shed.

- We worked in collaboration with Irish Red Cross, Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Council Community Department and OneSight (International NGO committed to improving vision for those experiencing poverty and disadvantage) where we lead out on this European pilot programme. Over 30 volunteer opticians joined us in a Dundrum DLRCC premises. Our team supported over 100 individuals and families to get to the location (thanks to Crosscare for lending us their bus) who were able to get their eyes tested and receive glasses on the same day. 3 individuals were referred for further tests and received their prescription glasses 2 weeks later, for those who didn't require glasses they received sunglasses. We hope to engage with our partners to roll out this initiative each year.

Partners: Irish Red Cross, DLRCC, OneSight, Crosscare Dundrum

- The business community has also shown their support to our team and the new arrivals, Phonewatch provided our team full use of their premises for 18 months allowing us to develop a Ukrainian Hub and host English Classes, CV Workshops, children's activities, Mindfulness and Trauma Informed Round table Discussions. Dundrum Shopping Centre lent us our 2nd premises in an accessible location (close to many accommodation centres) which we use for English Classes, employment Workshops and as a Drop-in Centre. This connection is invaluable and was possible as Dundrum Town Centre's Operations Manager sits on our Board. TAMI (marketing company) provided 2 fully furnished apartments for 12 months to 2 Ukrainian families with the option of them staying longer.

Partners: Tami, Leopardstown Ukrainian Support Group, Dundrum Town Centre, PhoneWatch



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- Using SICAP funding we facilitated community conversations across 2 communities who were engaged in protests against the arrival of IPA's to the community, we worked in collaboration with local schools, local community groups, Ballybrack Crosscare and the Gardai to identify how we could promote a positive community response. This model proved very successful, providing a space for local residents and those working in the community to share their experiences and develop positive responses locally. Southside Partnership DLR engaged Partners Training for Transformation (community development facilitators) and we hosted 2 day training for community groups and organisations supporting communities on Building Intercultural Communities. Over 20 participants joined us in exploring the new changes in the community and how we can work together to build positive intercultural communities.

Partners: DLRCC Community Dept, Crosscare Ballybrack, Ballybrack Project Centre, Loughlinstown Community Rooms, 3 local DEIS schools, Loughlinstown Estate management, Shankill Garda Station, Loughlinstown Estate Management and local residents from the Ballybrack and Loughlinstown community

We also leveraged funding from Ireland for Ukraine, The Community Recognition Fund, and Community Integration Fund to update and improve existing community premises, enhance integration, promote inclusion and tackle issues such as strengthening women's voices and celebrating cultural differences. Our SSP Women's Programme hosts 3 Multi-Cultural Women's Breakfasts each year and the SAVE Network (Southside Addressing Violence Effectively) hosts workshops on topics such as gender based violence, Domestic Violence impact on children and young people and understanding coercive control. We make referrals to our other SSP programmes such as Enterprise Supports, HSE Healthy Food made Easy Programme, DLR Social Prescribing Programme and our Tús Community Work Placement initiative.

We are members of the DLR Integration Forum and we facilitate and lead the DLR new Arrivals sub-group for local community groups and organisations supporting new arrivals.

In 2024 to date, we have provided 317 interventions to 130 individuals, supported 62 people to progress into further education, 2 individuals to start up their own business, and conducted 49 non-case load activities catering to children, young people and adults covering a range of activities including CV workshops, Safepass courses, cooking programmes, mindfulness sessions, art, sports and summer camps for young people and children. We also supported 3 Local Community Groups.

Key Challenges:

1. The delay in us being informed of New Arrivals into the county can be challenging for the team in relation to planning and making sure we are reaching people to offer supports.
2. The movement of Ukrainians this year from what was their long term accommodation. Many residents have lived and settled in the county since their arrival and are distraught with having to move. This has had a deep impact on them which filters down to the team who continue to support them with their move and make it as smooth as possible.

Next Steps:

Dún Laoghaire Rathdown has engaged their new LAIT (Community Integration Team) and we are working with them to ensure resources are spread evenly and effectively across the accommodation sites. We believe that 2025 will present opportunities for more integration (less firefighting) and we look forward to working with our partners in developing a DLR county Integration plan.

Video Link: <https://vimeo.com/1023271719>



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