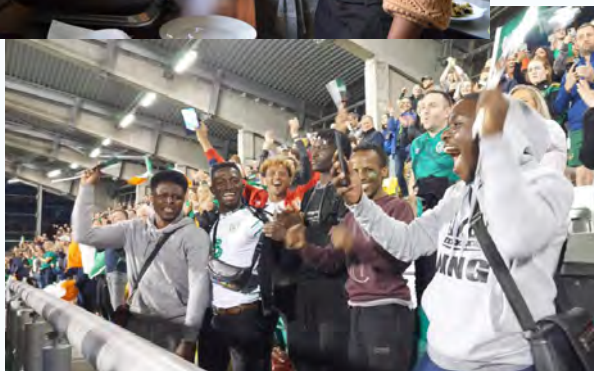


2022

IMPACT REPORT



Contents



Above: Irish Refugee Council Cooking Classes - a chef with a participant during a session
Youth Group members at Ireland Women's National football team match

Cover: Members of our youth group on a camping expedition in Galway, August 2022

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Introduction

2022 was an exceptional and unprecedented year for refugee protection in Ireland.

More than **70,000** people, from Ukraine and around the world sought refuge here.



IRC staff Natasha Muldoon receiving flowers from some of the young people supported at a Youth Work celebration event.

In a year of records, we should remember that behind every number there is a person. From the young mother from Ukraine alone with her toddler, to the man fleeing political persecution in Eritrea with the simple aspiration of seeking safety, all come to Ireland with hope. It is our mission to help all people in this situation.

We gave direct and substantial support to more than **11,000** people, received more than **5,000** email queries and received more than **24,000** calls to our helplines.

We undertook advocacy and changed policy on a broad range of issues. It was a difficult year, but we are proud of our achievements.

I want to thank the organisation's staff, volunteers and trustees for their dedication and commitment. As a group we also want to publicly thank the Irish public for their support to people fleeing war and persecution. Most of all, we thank the people we have the privilege of working with and who are directly experiencing the challenges the system is facing.

Nick Henderson

Nick Henderson
CEO, Irish Refugee Council

Highlights:

24,556



60%

INCREASE FROM 2021

incoming calls to our general helpline & Ukraine Language helpline

89



people facing homelessness supported

137



clients assisted with family reunification applications

1,173

new people engaged with Drop-in Centre Service

146



ONGOING LEGAL REPRESENTATION FOR
PEOPLE IN THE
INTERNATIONAL
PROTECTION PROCESS

9

631

PEOPLE PROVIDED WITH
INFORMATION AND ADVICE

20



properties added this year
for our Housing Programme,
bringing the total to

80

people accommodated through
our Housing Programme:
A Place to Call Home

221

housing applications and
Housing Assistance Payment
(HAP) paperwork processed

1,300

people supported over phone, email and WhatsApp

960

resettled or relocated
Syrian and Afghans
refugees received
various supports



Publication of
Accommodation
Crisis report and
ongoing advocacy
work on deterioration
of standards in IPAS
accommodation

95

appearances
across radio, TV,
print and online

6

ADVOCACY REPORTS
AUTHORED AND CO-AUTHORED
ON A BROAD RANGE OF ISSUES
RELATED TO RIGHTS AND
ENTITLEMENTS FOR PEOPLE IN
THE PROTECTION SYSTEM

8

YOUTH PROJECTS

34

WORKSHOPS
IMPLEMENTED

130

YOUNG PEOPLE
ENGAGED

119

young people received one-to-one support

Coordination of the Asylum
Support Network, with over

190

active members from

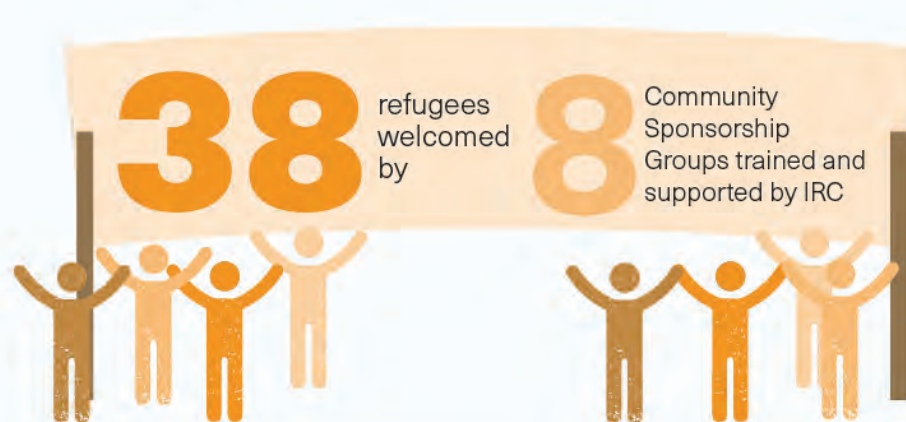
90

organisations
across Ireland

297



APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT RECEIVED



14

groups were trained on best practice integration supports for Community Sponsorship

67

students awarded financial grants via our Education Fund

61



students assisted to receive university or state funding



20

WOMEN PROGRESSED TO SUSTAINABLE EMPLOYMENT

2,683

PEOPLE RECEIVED INFORMATION SUPPORT VIA OUR UKRAINE LANGUAGE INFORMATION HELPLINE

110,000

REACHED ONLINE AND OFFLINE

240

women enrolled for the Integration From Day One programme

126



WOMEN COMPLETED THE PROGRAMME

Information and Advocacy Service:

Providing critical information and casework advocacy supporting people in the protection process

197

members in the Asylum Support Network

1,173

new people engaged with Drop-in Centre Service

28

PEOPLE REPRESENTED IN AFGHAN HUMANITARIAN ADMISSIONS PROGRAMME

people supported with family reunification applications



1,363

queries responded to on email



Know Your Rights Training sessions run with DLA Piper

24,556

incoming calls to our general helpline and Ukraine language helpline

60%

INCREASE FROM 2021

147

people at risk of homelessness assisted

Law Centre:

Providing expert legal advice and representation to people fleeing war and persecution

ONGOING LEGAL REPRESENTATION FOR

280

PEOPLE IN THE INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION PROCESS

67 clients represented in family reunification applications

55 clients in Afghan Admissions Programme

48 CLIENTS RECEIVED REFUGEE STATUS

24 GRANTED PERMISSION TO REMAIN

22 REUNITED WITH THEIR FAMILIES

71 young people supported in family reunification and citizenship in partnership with Immigrant Council of Ireland; through KIND project with support from Pro bono partner firms

12 positive family reunification decisions

3 positive citizenship decisions received

23 clients supported with reception conditions representation

12 clients referred to A&L Goodbody solicitors for representation in their international protection applications

18 age-disputed minor clients represented in age assessments and international protection applications

4 Developed partnerships with firms A&L Goodbody Matheson Philip Lee Arthur Cox

90 and supported them to represent clients in applications for their Afghan families to join them

4 new High Court Judicial Review cases concerning family reunification and age assessments

“A Place to Call Home” Housing Programme:

Homes for refugees as they build
their new lives in Ireland



Housing Casework and Policy:

Helping people transition from Direct Provision to secure accommodation

236

people facing homelessness supported

221

housing applications and Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) paperwork processed

63

1

PEOPLE PROVIDED WITH INFORMATION AND ADVICE

48

families who arrived through family reunification supported

350

people in Direct Provision received orientation on securing accommodation in Ireland

HOUSING POLICY SUBMISSIONS MADE

4

Education Programme:

Supporting people to access higher and further education

online information sessions for students and potential students held

€650

Average grant awarded

38% male

GRANT RECIPIENTS

62% female

PEOPLE SUPPORTED AGED

18-60

FROM 41 COUNTRIES

903

PEOPLE NOW MEMBERS OF OUR EDUCATION FACEBOOK PAGE

297

APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT RECEIVED

webinars, training sessions and Continual Professional Development conducted to support people working in the sector

1723

people on our Education Programme database

67

students awarded financial grants via our Education Fund

64

students assisted to receive university or state funding

Employment:

Supporting women to achieve dignity and independence



partnerships with employers secured

195

women enrolled for the Integration From Day One programme



women enrolled for upskilling programmes

126

**WOMEN
COMPLETED THE
PROGRAMME**

20

women progressed to sustainable employment



WOMEN SUPPORTED TO SECURE INTERNSHIPS

105

women received individual employment coaching

Youth Work:

Empowering young people in the international protection process to reach their full potential



young people received one-to-one support

8

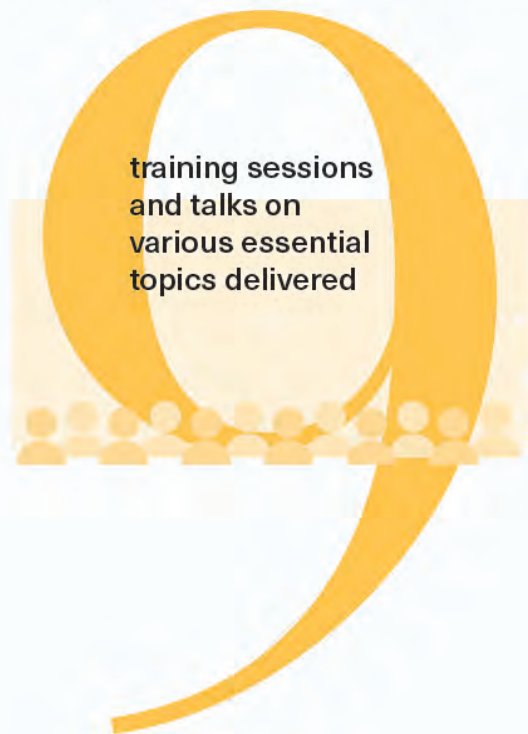
YOUTH PROJECTS

34

WORKSHOPS
IMPLEMENTED

130

YOUNG PEOPLE
ENGAGED



training sessions
and talks on
various essential
topics delivered



COLLABORATIONS
WITH OTHER YOUTH
ORGANISATIONS AND
EXTERNAL FACILITATORS
CONDUCTED



young leaders
empowered with
leadership skills under
our Youth Leadership
Programme



outreach sessions
conducted

Community Sponsorship:

Supporting communities across Ireland to welcome refugees

442

new people supported through email queries

15

training sessions held with Community Sponsorship groups

workshops for refugee-hosting communities organised to share lessons from Community Sponsorship

14

groups trained on best practices for Community Sponsorship

PARTICIPATED IN THE GLOBAL CONFERENCE FOR SPONSORSHIP IN SPAIN

38

refugees welcomed by

8

community sponsorship groups

CO-HOSTED A SPONSORSHIP CONFERENCE WITH DELEGATES FROM

14

COUNTRIES

Ukraine Response:

Providing those fleeing the war in Ukraine with vital information

3,500+
1,000
200

email queries responded to

Ukrainian people reached with general information, employment, and integration supports via outreach

people received information at the Airfield Family Day Out event

116
devices sourced from LinkedIn distributed

2,683

ANSWERED CALLS TO OUR UKRAINE LANGUAGE INFORMATION HELPLINE

20,000

people reached with relevant content via our Employment Facebook page

Accommodation and pledges, steps for a new life in Ireland

Created a detailed database of information on people's rights and entitlements

Member of the Ukraine Civil Society Forum and core group

1,896
173

unsolicited accommodation pledges were assessed using a survey to collect structured data

vacant property pledges were prioritised by evaluating the feasibility and condition of the property and, accordingly, offered tenancy advice to pledgers

Over 90,000

website views of the Ukraine Information Note

70

Temporary Protection Holders were accommodated in pledged houses in Leinster, working in collaboration with an Approved Housing Body

Resettlement:

Supporting Syrian and Afghan refugees in rebuilding their lives in Ireland

30 people supported with housing
7 people supported with follow-ups on travel and joint spouse visa applications
3 people supported with medical cards

3 women **2** men
assisted to gain employment

27 Syrian
2 Afghan
clients supported with citizenship applications

1,300
people supported over phone, email and WhatsApp

**Irish Resettlement
Community of Practice
meetings held monthly**
13 cultural orientation sessions delivered online and in person

1 Burmese **8** Afghan **11** Syrian
refugees assisted with family reunification

PARTICIPATED IN
2
INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

7 trainings (including two in-person) for resettlement workers in Ireland delivered
5 training sessions for interpreters conducted

962
resettled or relocated Syrian, Afghan and Burmese refugees supported

12
WOMEN'S GROUP MEETINGS DELIVERED IN COLLABORATION WITH ONE MILLION STARS

9 cooking sessions held with women in Direct Provision

6 IHAP (Irish Humanitarian Admission Programme) outreach sessions conducted

Policy and Advocacy:

Advocating for best practice, fair procedures and the rights of people seeking international protection



Publication of Accommodation Crisis report and ongoing advocacy work on deterioration of standards in IPAS accommodation

Engagement with government and other civil society groups advocating for the extension and implementation of independent monitoring of IPAS accommodation by HIQA, to include “emergency” and “pre-reception” accommodation

Coordination of the Asylum Support Network, with over

1900 active members from 90 organisations across Ireland

10 returns to the Lobbying Register

Submissions to the Government, research and engagement on implementation of Vulnerability Assessments for international protection applicants

Evaluation of Vulnerability Assessment pilot conducted and submitted to Minister Roderic O’Gorman



Coordinated advocacy stakeholders on child protection and safeguarding young people in the international protection process

BUDGET 2023

SUBMISSIONS TO RELEVANT DEPARTMENTS, HIGHLIGHTING NEED FOR UNIVERSAL CHILD BENEFIT TO EXTEND TO CHILDREN LIVING IN DIRECT PROVISION

6 reports authored and co-authored on a broad range of issues related to rights and entitlements for people in the protection system

2022 AUTHORED THE AIDA (ASYLUM INFORMATION DATABASE) COUNTRY REPORT FOR



In partnership with our Law Centre, advocacy for procedural changes in age assessment procedure for unaccompanied minors in the international protection process

Communications:

Delivering strategic communications to promote the dignity and rights of people in international protection

200,000 Twitter profile visits
1,000 new followers
2,400 mentions
1.2M impressions

12
press releases on policy, launch of new services and events

95
appearances across radio, TV, print and online

LinkedIn
2,054 new followers
23,000 unique visitors
2.1M impressions
9,500 clicks (average CTR 0.46%)
2,000+ conversions from three LinkedIn Campaigns

26% increase in Facebook reach
207% increase in Instagram reach
1,800 new followers combined



188% increase in website traffic
180% increase in sessions
370,000 page views

Thank you

We want to thank everyone who has donated to support our work. Without you, our work is not possible.

We also say thank you to our donors and funders who we partner with to deliver our work:

- The Atlantic Philanthropies
- A & L Goodbody LLP
- AIB
- Alex Brown Realty
- Amazon Web Services
- The Asylum Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF)
- AMRI
- Apple
- Bank of Ireland
- BT Ireland
- Community Foundation for Ireland
- Coillte
- Dell Ireland
- Department of Justice
- Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth
- Department of Community and Rural Development
- DLA Piper
- Dropbox
- ECRE
- European Social Fund
- ESB
- EY
- Fidelis Insurance Group
- Google
- Horizon Therapeutics
- Indeed
- International Catholic Migration Commission
- The Ireland Funds
- Irish Youth Foundation
- Irish Life
- Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission
- KIND Incorporation
- Lakeside Foundation
- Lovely Things
- Mason, Hayes and Curran
- Microsoft
- Mount Street Club Trust
- Museum of Everyone
- Musgrave Trust
- National Youth Council of Ireland
- One Foundation
- Pobal
- Rethink Ireland
- Sisters of Mercy
- Sky Ireland
- St Stephens Green Trust
- Standard Life
- Sunflower Foundation
- The Wheel
- Workday



IMPACT REPORT 2022

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