The Future is Social

Margaret Leahy
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Who we are

Rethink Ireland is a venture philanthropy fund, providing cash grants and business supports to the most innovative charities and social enterprises.

Every euro we raise in philanthropy is matched by the Department of Rural and Community Development via the Dormant Accounts Fund.
2018-2021 Sector development

- **Funds**
  - Social Enterprise Development Fund
  - Genesis Programme
  - Social Enterprise Start-up Fund

- **EU project**
  - Financing Social Enterprise in Ireland

- **Awareness Raising**
  - The Future is Social

**National Policy**
- Completed legal form research
- Seat on Social Enterprise Policy Implementation Group
A Snapshot: 2020 Awardee Impact

**Overall, the 16 awardees of the SED Fund 2020:**

- Worked with people of all ages and minority groups
- Reached 353,000 people
- Supported 268 people to access employment in 2019
  - 217 (80%) of whom are from minority groups
- Employed 231 staff members
- Mobilised 1,878 volunteers
- Combined turnover in 2019: €6.8M
Cork Counselling Services provide university and professional body accredited degree-level training. The courses are accredited by the University of Coventry as well as the Irish Association for Counselling and Psychotherapy (IACP). They currently have 90+ part-time students studying to become qualified counsellors. This training is integrated into their service provision which ensures their therapies are leading edge and that the training is grounded in the real world. The training raises 50% of their annual costs, which is then used to subsidise the counselling for those who cannot afford to pay.

The seamless integration of education, clinical practice and research, all carried out at community level, with one feeding the other makes Cork Counselling Services unique and ensures they are current and responding to the community’s needs.

Since they opened in 1982 they have supported over 11,000 clients. In 2019 Cork Counselling Services provided therapy to 378 clients, 198 of whom were new clients. This entailed delivering 3,268 hours of professional one-to-one or couples counselling. In 2019 they also educated 100 students in counselling at both foundation and professional level.
Together-Razem addresses problems related to marginalisation, exclusion and isolation faced by the Polish and Eastern European migrant community in Ireland. From their community hub in Cork city centre, they provide advice, education, counselling and psychotherapy (in the native language of their service users) and integration supports.

The Polish community are the largest group of migrants in Ireland. Many are economic migrants arriving in Ireland alone, or with only immediate family members, and speak very limited English. Many enter into precarious employment and living situations and experience racism and discrimination. Additionally, for Polish and Eastern European migrants who have lived in Ireland for longer, balancing integration into Irish culture while still maintaining their national identity can also be a big challenge.

Together-Razem helps Polish and Eastern European migrants navigate their life in Ireland providing advice, support and education to enable them to integrate into their local Irish community. They also promote the language and traditions of their mother countries. Their main office is located in Cork City and acts as a hub for the community. Services are provided to migrants by migrants. They act as a centre of support for vulnerable members of the migrant community.
Thank you

For more information contact: socialenterprise@rethinkireland.ie

https://rethinkireland.ie