

A Brief Overview of Together-Razem

Our Mission is to provide services that support and promote the integration and well-being of the Polish Community in Cork and beyond.



Some Important Data...*

- 122,515 Polish nationals in Ireland*
- 30,000 Polish nationals in Cork City and County (25% of total Polish population)*
- The Polish community is the largest non-national community in Ireland and represent 3.11% of the workforce *
- The population size has stabilised, and may grow due to Brexit concerns (almost 900.00 Polish nationals in the UK)
- Estimate 24,5% Polish nationals have limited English language competency*
- 21% of Polish are unemployed*
- Estimated 35% Polish nationals struggle to access key services

Typical Challenges Faced by Poles in Ireland...

- Some similarities with the challenges faced by some of the Irish in the UK during 1940s/1950s, exacerbated by the language difficulties
- Social isolation, particularly among those with language challenges, leading to problems such as depression, addiction, domestic violence, homelessness
- Very limited professional services specific to Polish community, particularly social and health services
- Polish nationals are not very well connected as a community, or integrated, particularly the more vulnerable sections of Polish society.
- Our experience has identified a challenges in the areas of integration & promotion of a sense of community among the Polish people

About Together-Razem:

- Registered charity based in Cork, established in 2006.
- Mainly run by Polish & Irish volunteers,
- Offers 4 core activities:
 - Mental Wellbeing Support – mainly through our U-Clinic Counselling Services
 - Advice – assistance to access services. “One to one” support for Cork area and national on-line advice service available at www.poradniaonline.org. Information seminars.
 - Improving English language proficiency – English language courses
 - Fostering Integration – organising integration events and facilitating social interaction

Together-Razem has provided support to almost 11055 Polish nationals since 2006, often multiple interventions. The charity has received multiple awards for its contribution to society.

Due to funding constraints the Together-Razem estimates that it is only addressing circa 45% of the demand for its core services.

* As per Census 2016

