

# UKRAINE CONSORTIUM NEWSLETTER

Crois Dhearg na hÉireann Irish Red Cross









Welcome to the Ukraine Consortium Newsletter!

This monthly update is intended for those of you who have pledged accommodation or are hosting Ukrainians in homes in Ireland.

This edition includes:

- An introduction to the Consortium

- An overview of the process for all pledgers

- The Host Survey

- NEW Host Support drop-in sessions & other helpful resources

# **Announcing a new Consortium of Partners**

The Consortium is a partnership funded by the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth (DCEDIY) and managed by the <u>The Irish Red Cross</u>. This groundbreaking initiative is comprised of leading National NGOs an International Partner Organisation and a CLG. IRC, <u>Peter McVerry Trust</u> (PMVT), the <u>International Organisation for Migration</u> (IOM) and <u>Helping Irish Hosts</u> (HIH) collaborate with the State and Local Authorities to accommodate Ukrainians under Temporary Protection into shared and vacant pledged accommodation throughout the country.

Local Authorities are activating pledges made via the Offer A Home scheme, a complimentary initiative designed by the State to further harness the goodwill of the Irish Public.



There are now over 6,000 hosts in Ireland, accommodating over 13,500 displaced Ukrainians in pledged properties. That's over 15% of all Ukrainian arrivals into the State, living in Irish family homes and other pledged accommodation. This is unprecedented evidence of the generosity of Irish people in responding to the war in Ukraine.

#### THANK YOU.

Whether your pledge has been taken up by one of the Consortium partners, or you are hosting through a private arrangement, there are a number of ways in which The Consortium can support you at all stages of your experience.

## **How It Works**

#### Pledging Accommodation - all

Consortium Partners access a database of shared and vacant accommodation pledges, which is managed by The Irish Red Cross with support from SalesSense.

If you've pledged accommodation this way, your pledge will be followed up by one of the Consortium Partners - IRC, PMVT, IOM or HIH - who will be your primary point of contact for the duration of your journey. Your very first call may be from the SalesSense team, after that, it'll be one of us.

in shared or vacant accommodation. We have resources in place to support each placement and our teams work tirelessly

to ensure matches made are suitable and sustainable for a minimum of six months.

With you every step of the way - The Consortium Partners are here to provide support should you require it throughout your hosting experience. Read on for the resources available.

**Finding a Match** - Each Consortium Partner and Local Authority has a list of Ukrainian beneficiaries who require or are seeking accommodation. We do our best to ensure that beneficiaries and pledgers are aware of what it means to be hosted

**Solo Hosts** - If you are one of the Hosts who were not matched by any of the Consortium Partners, or your Local Authority, please get in touch with us if you need any information or support. We are here to help. Links to all resources are below.



## **Hear from a Host**

After her parents passed away and Bridie retired, she decided to become a host. She was intending to only take one guest but when she heard that two women in their 40's were coming directly from an occupied region and needed a safe place to land once they arrived in Ireland, Bridie agreed to welcome both women into her home.

"Hosting has been a very positive experience for me - it made me feel that I was doing the right thing. When I listened to their stories, the war became a lot more real for me. It is good to help and at these times, everyone has to come together. It made me think of times in our own history when the collective effort was really needed."



### **Hear from a Guest**

Lidiia has been in pledged accommodation in Dublin since May 2022. She has developed a close friendship with her host, Maria, and has been able to find a job in the sector she worked in in Ukraine.

"Everything happened very quickly, after a few hours in Citywest I was offered accommodation in Dublin. The staff were calm and everyone was very supportive... I didn't feel like I was in a new country here."

## **Have Your Say**

We have all learned a lot since the Ukraine crisis began. We are working together to deliver the highest quality of programmes and to continue to recruit new hosts.



The Consortium would love to hear your feedback on your experience and any comments or suggestions on how we can improve to encourage new pledge offers. Please take 10 minutes to share your input with us today.

Take the survey



## **Helpful Websites**

The Irish Red Cross Pledge Process

Peter McVerry Trust

DCEDIY Accommodation Recognition Payment

Local Authorities Offer a Home Scheme

## **Pledge Resources**

The <u>Helping Irish Hosts website</u> is full of practical information including a range of handy videos, toolkits and templates.

All people hosting Ukrainian guests are welcome to join the private <u>Host Support Facebook Group</u> to connect with other hosts and get peer support.





## **Beneficiary Resources**

This <u>website for Ukrainian Guests</u>, provides lots of information for beneficiaries moving into hosted accommodation, including toolkits, practical guides and other helpful links and resources in Ukrainian.

## **NEW! Host Support Sessions**

**Weekly** online drop-in sessions happen every Wednesday at 12-1pm.

**Monthly** online masterclasses take place one Thursday per month at 6-7pm.

More details and how to register can be found here.



Join a Support Session

Community spirit. Positive change. Welcome. Hope. These are the impacts your actions are having on the wider community.

Thank you. Míle buíochas. Дякую. Dyakuyu









