

New Communities Partnership





Report on NCP activities for 2016

New Communities Partnership

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Sponsors





















CONTENT

Table of Content	1
NCP Mission and Vision	2
Foreword	3
Goal 1. Ensure Representation and Participation at all Levels in order to Influence in Policies that Impact on the Lives of Ethnic Minorities in Ireland	_
Goal 2. Deliver Training to Enhance the Capacity and Leadership Development of	
Goal 3. Promote Effective Integration & Social Inclusion Initiatives at Local, Reg Levels	
Goal 4. Promote Awareness of and Improve Access to Services in the Local Co Information Provision & Advocacy	, -
Goal 5. Develop and Sustain Strategies to Increase the Economic Integration of Eth	nic Minorities31
NCP in Numbers 2016	32
NCP Board 2016	36
NCP Staff, CE, TUS and Volunteers	37
NCP Funders 2016	38
NCP Income and Expenditure 2016	39



New Communities Partnership

Our Mission

New Communities Partnership (NCP) is a national network of 175 ethnic minority-led organisations. The mission of NCP is to be an effective network, representing and empowering ethnic minority-led groups, at all levels, in order to influence positive change in policies that impact on their lives.

Our Vision

We are working towards an intercultural and inclusive Irish society where immigrant groups are achieving equality in economic, social, political and cultural aspects of Irish life.

Strategic Goals 2015-2016

New Communities Partnership is working towards an intercultural and inclusive Irish society where migrant groups are achieving equality in economic, social, political and cultural aspects of Irish life.

For the period of 2015-2016 we worked towards 5 strategic goals that contain specific actions to continue our mission of representing and empowering ethnic minorities in Ireland to impact positively on their lives by promoting policies, programmes, and services that will benefit them in the long term.

2016 was a very productive year for New Communities Partnership, we progressed in achieving the goals we set up for this period, and we saw the growth of our Projects. Our goals are:

- Ensure **representation** and **participation** of ethnic minorities at all levels in Irish society in order to influence a positive change in policies that impact on their lives.
- Deliver training that enhances the capacity and leadership development of ethnic minority communities in Ireland.
- Promote effective **integration and social inclusion** initiatives for migrant communities at local, regional and national levels.
- Promote awareness of and improve access to services for migrants in the local community in Ireland through information provision and advocacy.
- Develop and sustain strategies to increase the **economic integration** of ethnic minorities across Ireland.



Foreword

2016 was another great year for New Communities Partnership full of events, activities and hard work to continue our mission of representing and empowering ethnic minority-led groups and individuals, at all levels, in order to influence positive change in policies that impact on their lives.

In 2016 we supported over 14,000 people from new communities through drop-ins, outreach, training, information, advocacy and referrals provided by our national and local services; a huge number for a small team with limited resources.



Anca Lupu, NCP CEO

Throughout the years NCP identified challenges that new communities were facing in Ireland and responded to these challenges by setting up various services to help on one hand, migrants understand the Irish systems, create awareness and improve access to services and on the other hand, to help service providers understand the migrants background and how to better reach out and support their needs while in Ireland.

Our projects carried out in 2016 were: Citizenship Application Support Service, Migrant Family Support Service, English Homework Support Programme, Social Inclusion and Activation Programme and newly set-up Cultural Support Ireland.

ALL NCP services provided are unique and migrant-led. Our team has 15 staff from 4 continents, 13 different nationalities, speaking 16 languages with over 100 volunteers.

In 2016 NCP continued to work and collaborate with various Irish and European Government Departments, state agencies, local authorities, health agencies and voluntary sector partners to influence the development of the services which respond to the needs of new communities at local, regional and national levels.

NCP organized intercultural events which received a lot of positive feedback and highlighted the contribution of new communities in Ireland. Among the events in 2016 we had *International Women's Day* valuing the contribution of migrant women in Ireland; *Information Day for New Communities* with over 25 organizations represented on the day, "New Shades of Green" — multicultural photographic exhibition portraying 30 people from our network (NCP members, volunteers, Board and staff) and *Intercultural Family Day* celebrating the various cultures which are now part of Irish Society.



New Communities Partnership – Annual Report

We have had many challenges and equally many successes and we are here due to the dedication and commitment from our member groups, Board, staff and our volunteers.

We are very grateful to all of funders and supporters who continue to believe in us and the valuable work that we do for new communities.

I would like to formally thank all our staff and volunteers for their commitment and passion, for helping us carry out our flag, NCP multicultural flag with a lot of pride!

Anca Lupu, NCP CEO



GOAL 1.

Ensure Representation and Participation at all Levels in order to Influence a Positive Change in Policies that Impact on the Lives of Ethnic Minorities in Ireland

Actions

Policy and Representation

NCP in 2016 continued engaging with local authorities to ensure new communities' representation and participation in key policy making areas locally and nationally. We collaborated with a variety of organisations and agencies such as South Dublin City Council, Dublin City Council Social Inclusion Unit, POBAL, Fingal County Council, Dun Laogharie Rathdown County Council, Dublin City Council Integration Office, and Department of Social Protection. These meetings are focused on finding a common space between new communities members and County Council's integration agenda, through collaborations on events and supports. Through this collaborations, local councils have access to new communities at grassroot level while the communities get much needed exposure in Irish society, in a two way integration process.

New Communities Partnership had significant inputs into Dublin City Policy and the Dublin City Council Integration plan at city level, in which migrant integration, migrant social inclusion, and young migrants at risk were considered in the policy making. The collaboration with Dublin City Council (DCC) on drafting and finalising the Integration Strategy in September 2016, let to the inclusion on NCP in the said document, with specific actions, such as supporting the local communities through providing of a common meeting space for consultation and debate, services signposting and support.

Additionally, NCP joined Dublin City Public Participation Network (PPN), South Dublin PPN and Cork City PPN, in which two NCP members were successfully elected into Social Inclusion and Community in Cork City Council Secretariats, securing representation of ethnic minorities in the Public Participation Network. In what regards Dublin City PPN, New Communities Partnership has been extremely active, with the Social Inclusion Coordinator being elected in the Secretariat (PPN's Board) and actively involved in organising the Network, setting up the Memorandum of Understanding with Dublin City Council, designing the Work Plan and implementing it, etc.

NCP through the Social Inclusion and Community Activation Program and Migrant Consultation Forum mechanism, meets 4 times a year with Directors of Departments in Department of Social Protection in order to identify issues that new communities members have in accessing services and proactively work in improving access service.

A collaboration with tradition already, is the presence on the Board of Directors of Fingal Ethnic Network (FEN), Fingal Dublin Council's premier ethnic consultation Forum. In bi-monthly meetings,



FEN discusses and implements actions that contribute to new communities integration in Fingal

In Cork, NCP was present during the first public consultation meeting on National Women Strategy which took place on Monday 19th December 2016, at the Imperial Hotel in Cork. The views of Migrant women and girls were presented to the Minister of State with special responsibility for Equality, Immigration and Integration, David Stanton TD. The new Strategy will set out Government policy on promoting equality and the empowerment of women and girls from 2017 to 2020

As such, overall, during 2016 NCP participated in over 50 meetings, consultations and initiatives from Local Authorities with outcomes that will influence new communities members in short and long term.

Collaborations

In order to continue facilitating participation of migrants in Ireland, NCP continued collaborations, strategic meetings and seminars in a wide range of initiatives that aim to empower migrants, promote social inclusion, and provide support to individuals and families. These include:

- NCP became part of the Steering Committee of the Female Genital Mutilation National Action
 Plan that is working towards the end of FGM through education, empowerment and support of
 girls and women at risk. (January December 2016)
- NCP was invited to be part of TUSLA Parenting 24/7 National Committee to develop the online platform and its resources to support a wide range of parents from new communities. (January – December 2016)
- NCP met with His Excellency Mr Olushola I. Iginla Chargé D'Affaires in the Nigerian Embassy in Ireland in order to promote NCP Child Protection Awareness training, raise concerns of disproportionate number of Nigerian children in care and provide embassy and consular staff with the MFSS guide to what constitutes child abuse. (February 2016)



NCP team at TIGALA Conference in March 2016

- TIGALA working group and NCP service MFSS put together and launched a cultural guide at the **TIGALA Conference** "Getting it Right- Cultural Care Planning for children from Ethnic Minorities in Alternative Care"- In this event NCP officially launched its social enterprise project, Cultural Support Ireland. (March 2016)
- NCP CEO was invited to take part to an Information Visit of Migrant NGOs from Ireland to the European Commission and European Parliament to discuss the migrant issues, challenges and future plans at European level.



- NCP CEO was invited to be part of Migrant-Led Coalition policy meeting with Emily Logan, Chief Commissioner of Irish Human Rights & Equality Commission to highlight and address the issues faced by migrants in Ireland. (September 2016)
- NCP presented the integration challenges of new communities living in Ireland and their experience of working with them through their services at the Dublin National Conference hosted by Akidwa, African Women's Network, opened by David Stanton, Minister of State at the Department of Justice and Equality.
- NCP was invited to TUSLA Dublin North City Area Stakeholder Consultation Conference to raise awareness of needs of migrant communities and families living in Ireland and the challenges they face because of cultural clash with service providers (November 2016)
- NCP Youth continued to collaborate with YPAR (Young People At Risk) in its monthly meetings to discuss the issues foreign national young people face in Ireland (Jan – Dec 2016)
- NCP was invited to the "Roma and Traveller **International Day**" organised by Pavee Point. (April 2016)
- NCP through Citizenship Application Support Service attended 4 meetings during the year to participate in sessions of questions and answers held by the Irish Naturalisation and Immigration **Service** in relation to Naturalisation and immigration processes in order to present challenges faced by individuals when applying NCP team at the International Roma Day- with Ms Emily for citizenship (March 2016)



Logan- Chief Commissioner of the IHREC, Ms Gabi Muntean and Mr Martin Collins, Pavee Point Director

- NCP staff received a 2 days Volunteer Management Training (March 2016) and 1 day Garda Vetting Training on new legislation (April 2016) organized by Dublin Volunteer Centre.
- NCP participated in the Legal Aid Board Working Group presenting NCP position, migrant families perception of child protection and recommendations on the matter to the LAB (May 2016)
- New Communities Partnership was present at the **Dublin City University Volunteer Fair**, where students were able to meet with many fantastic not for profit organisations and learn about volunteering opportunities (September 2016)
- NCP was part of City of Sanctuary events that are aimed at shaping the public opinion about new communities in a positive light, promote civic participation and empowerment. (November 2016)

NCP through the collaboration with other organisations and agencies, has also been able to identify the appropriate services for individuals, families and groups in need of other specific supports and

further referrals, and at the same time has promoted its services through a wide range of organisations and agencies.

NCP also worked with the following organisations and departments: Romanian Embassy, Armenian Embassy, Slovak Embassy, Nigerian Embassy and other Consulates; Crosscare, Cairde, European Network Against Racism, YPAR, Dublin Volunteer Centre, Irish Muslim Peace & Integration Council, Pavee Point, Legal Aid Board, Wesheza, SIPTU, ENAR, Immigrant Council of Ireland, Migrants Rights Centre, Citizens Information Centre, Barnados, Pieta House, Akidwa, Jesuit Refugee Service, Barka Organisation, and other NGOs.

Promoting "migrant voice"

NCP continued engaging with Local Authority Integration Forums such as Fingal Ethnic Network, North Side Community Forum, South Dublin Migrant Integration Forum and Migrant Community Forum. The ongoing participation has resulted in:

- Better understanding of the needs of migrants in specific areas of the country,
- anti-racist initiatives,
- a greater coordination between stakeholders in what regards reporting issues faced by migrants when contacting the Department of Social Protection,
- coordination and collaboration between Migrant Led Organizations to promote access to services and education for ethnic minorities,
- coordination among forum members in what regards young people,
- evaluation of activities and services to promote social integration of new communities living in Ireland.
- Providing specific training for those Local Authority Integration Forums as to ensure information, capacity building and access to series in the relevant geographical areas.

In 2016 NCP was represented in over 72 events including conferences, family days, information days, consultations, and report launches to promote migrants' voice, facilitate access to service and empower new communities locally and nationally. Some of these are:

- NCP met with Irish Association of Social Worker Special Interest Group for Migration to promote its services and research in the arena of child protection in Ireland. (October 2016)
- NCP was present at the UN Population Fund + Irish Family Planning Association State of the
 World Report Launch in Shelbourne Hotel. (October 2016)
- NCP participated in the Barnados Domestic Violence and Children Seminar, discussing the issue of domestic violence and the impact this has on children (December 2016)
- NCP attended SIPTU Conference for Migrant Workers. (January 2016)



 NCP was part of the SIRIUS European Network Conference in Brussels to discuss a three year plan with all the network members and promoting migrant education in Europe (April 2016)



Sevak Khachatryan, NCP Youth Coordinator at the SIRIUS European Network Conference in Brussels

NCP was part of the Intercultural Family Day organised by South Dublin Migrant Integration
 Forum in Tallaght Library. The event showcased traditions, culture, food and photographs from
 around the world. (December 2016)



Intercultural Family Day organised by South Dublin Migrant Integration Forum.

- NCP Cork attended North Lee monthly meetings to identify needs of new communities' members in the area of social integration and develop strategies to assess their needs in collaboration with the Social Work department.
- NCP was part of the **Croke Park Community Fund Event** organized by Croke Park to celebrate the projects supported by this organization during the past year in Dublin North Inner City. (January 2016)
- NCP attended the Launch of "Rock the Vote" Campaign promoted by The Immigrant Council of Ireland to encourage migrants to participate at local elections (February 2016)
- NCP assisted over 60 members among staff, board and community leaders, to attend President D. Higgins' Intercultural Garden Party organised to celebrate Multiculturalism in Ireland. (June 2016)
- NCP attended European Network Against Racism (ENAR) Conference about understanding Muslim experience in Ireland and ways of combating racism.



NCP members at the President D. Higgins' Intercultural Garden Party





NCP Team at Darkness into Light Campaign

- NCP Youth Volunteers participated in the event "Darkness Into Light 2016" organized by Pieta House to raise awareness on selfharm and suicide. (May 2016)
- NCP was present at the **NUI Maynooth Equality Conference**, to create greater awareness about migrant's political involvement in the Irish Society. (Feb 2016)
- NCP attended Immigrant Council of Ireland Conference, an event to form Ireland's response to the Refugee and Migration crisis. (March 2016)
- NCP Cork promoted its services in "Our Ireland, our Home" event in Vision Centre Cork, in which a significant number of Cork agencies participated to provide support and information to individuals about services available in the area. (July 2016)
- NCP hosted the delegation from **Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit** (GIZ), Germany to share information about NCP programmes, services and good practices with new communities in Ireland. (November 2016)



Anca Lupu, NCP CEO, with the delegation from GIZ, Germany

- NCP was involved in the consultation group in organising IOM's Migrant Fair held in Dublin City Hall (November 2016)
- NCP attended the Information Day organised by Fingal County Council in Blanchardstown Shopping Centre (November 2016)





- City Interfaith Charter, an initiative by Dublin City Interfaith Forum supported by Dublin City Council. The Charter adheres to the following aims: to commit, to dedicate, to promote, to share, to encourage, to focus, to develop and to create dialogue between different communities of belief co-existing in Dublin.(December 2016)
- NCP supported Social Inclusion week organised by South Dublin County Council in

Dublin City Interfaith Charter launched by Lord Mayor

their efforts to promote social inclusion and social inclusion activities in South Dublin (November 2016)

- NCP in partnership with Hugh Lane Gallery organised a tour of collections and exhibitions of modern and contemporary art with the aim to promote services and activities that are free and easily available for new communities in order to access integration at cultural levels (November 2016)
- NCP attended the first public consultation meeting on National Women Strategy held by Department of Justice and Equality in Cork where the views of migrant women and girls were presented to the Minister David Stanton, Minister of State with special responsibility for Equality, Immigration and Integration. (December 2016)



GOAL 2.

Deliver Training to Enhance the Capacity and Leadership Development of Ethnic Minorities

New Communities Partnership provided a variety of community & education programmes, trainings, presentations and meetings to new communities members, women's groups, social workers, schools and churches in order to enhance their skills and promote NCP services to the community, in total we . Some of the most relevant training sessions were:

- FETAC Level 6 Training in Leadership in NCP Cork supported by Community Foundation for Ireland. The training enhanced and developed the leadership skills of Community leaders, so they can apply those abilities in their groups and better represent them in the community sector.
- **Good Governance and Financial Accountability training** in NCP Cork supported by Cork City Council Community Grant. Training provided to community groups in relation to good financial practice, good governance and financial management.
- Workshop/ Coffee Morning in Balseskin Reception Centre on Women's Health. NCP staff
 raised awareness on Female Genital Mutilation, domestic violence and women's health,
 and provided information of supports available in one of the accommodation centres in
 Dublin.
- Leaders Training organized by Forum Polonia and the Polish Embassy. A training session for community leaders with an ethnic background with the view of building a platform for leadership and empowering diverse communities through civic participation and engagement. (October 2016)

In addition, NCP promoted its services in over 40 different presentations, radio interviews, coffee mornings and seminars in Dublin and Cork, targeting a wide audience of service providers, professionals, TUSLA staff, academics, community leaders and network members, religious leaders and members of the community.



Social Inclusion Coordinator, Rares Nicula, delivering a Leadership Training at the Polish Embassy



Participants of the Good Governance and Financial Accountability Training in NCP Cork



Actions

Deliver series of Awareness Training on Child Protection Guidelines to Migrant Community leaders, Mosques, Churches, Quranic School and Sunday School teachers to support their work in dealing with migrant children.

Outcomes:

Migrant Family Support Service has maintained its commitment in delivering training and information sessions to a wide range of participants from state agencies, community leaders, religious institutions, schools and individuals from all over the country.

In 2016, NCP through our Migrant Family Support Service delivered 24 training sessions on Child Protection Awareness, Cultural Competency and Cultural Awareness to over 330 participants.

Additionally, Migrant Family Support Services continued the promotion of the service through meetings and collaborations with other state agencies, NGOs and community leaders, with the intention to expand the scope of participants in the trainings and provide information of NCP services to a greater audience.



NCP staff in Child Protection Awareness Training sessions

Collaborations with Direct Provision Centres

One of the most significant collaborations in 2016 was with Direct Provision Managers to coordinate Child Protection Trainings to asylum seeker parents living in different Accommodation Centres all over Ireland.

As a result, our staff delivered trainings in Clondalkin Towers and Mosney Accommodation Centre, with more than 45 participants from Uganda, Burundi, Zambia, Bangladesh, Congo, Nigeria, Ethiopia, Tanzania, Albania, Malawi, Congo, Pakistan, Zimbabwe, Brazil, Syria and South Africa, and also managed to coordinate new dates for 2017.



Migrant F	amily Support Serv	vice – Trainings in 2	016
Date	Topic	Venue	Targeted Audience
	Child Protection Awareness Training	Lord of the Harvest Church, Dublin.	Pastors, School teachers, youth ministers, Pentecostal Christian churches. (35 Participants)
January	Child Protection Awareness Training	Mountain of Fire Ministries, Drogheda, Co. Louth.	Pastors, School teachers, youth ministers, Women's Ministry Leaders. (25 Participants)
	Child Protection Awareness Training	NCP Cork Office	NCP volunteers and staff (15 participants)
	Cultural Awareness Training	North Lee Social Work Department, Cork	Social Workers (15 participants)
February	Migrant Family Support Promotion and training	North Lee Social Work Department Cork	Social Workers (13 participants)
,	Child Protection Awareness Training	NCP Cork Office	Sudanese Community (12 participants)
March	Cultural Competency and Child Protection Training (in collaboration with NYCI)	Carmelite Centre, Aungier St., Dublin.	Community Development employees, Gardai, IFPA staff Athletics Ireland, Irish Red Cross, DLRCC. (17 participants)
	Child Protection Awareness Training	NCP Cork Office	Roma Community (4 participants)
April	Cultural Awareness Training	TUSLA Offices, Ennis, Co. Clare.	Foster Carers, TUSLA Fostering Social Workers and team leaders. (10 participants)
	Child Protection	Redeem Church,	Pastors and parents



	Awareness Training	Cork.	(4 participants)
	/wareness rraining	COTK	(4 participants)
	Child Protection	Voice of God	Pastors and parents (3 participants)
	Awareness Training	Ministry, Cork.	
	Child Protection Awareness Training	Clondalkin Towers- Accommodation Centre.	Parents living in Direct Provision Centres (15 participants)
May	Child Protection Awareness Training	Saint Mary of the Isle, Cork.	Migrant parents (2 participants)
	Child Protection Awareness Training	Trend Church, Cork	Pastors and parents (6 participants)
June	Cultural Awareness Training	TUSLA Offices, Tullamore, Co. Offlay.	Foster Carers, Child Protection Social Workers, Principal Social Workers, TUSLA Fostering Social Workers and team leaders. (32 participants)
	Cultural Awareness Training	TUSLA Offices, Dublin North East Swords Social Work Department.	Foster Carers, TUSLA Fostering Social Workers. (9 participants)
July	Child Protection Awareness Training	NCP Cork Office	African Parents (5 participants)
	Child Protection Awareness Training	Mulhuddart Community Centre	Migrant Parents (15 participants)
October	Child Protection Talk	Young Mother's Network- Hill St. FRC	Migrant Parents (8 participants)
	Child Protection Awareness Training	NCP Head Office	Migrant Parents (9 participants)
November	Child Protection Awareness Training	Mulhuddart Ladyswell Junior Infants Parents	Junior Infants Parents (33 participants)
	Child Protection	Mosney	Parents living in



New Communities Partnership – Annual Report

	Awareness Training	Accommodation	Direct Provision
		Centre	Centres (30 participants)
	Children First Awareness Training	Cork Church	Childcare workers and youth workers (16 participants)
December	Child Protection Awareness Training	Young Mother's Network- Hill St. FRC	Migrant Parents (11 participants)

Deliver specialist training to migrant volunteer information providers on legislative processes to ensure best practice in service delivery in the Citizenship Application Support Service in Cork & Dublin.

Outcomes:

Citizenship Application Support Service offered 50 training sessions to volunteers, interns, staff, students, and other services providers in Dublin and Cork. One of the most relevant ones was in February 2016, in which CASS provided training to Waterford Citizen Information Service, with 40 participants from CIC staff and peace commissioners.

All training sessions aimed to improve the quality of services delivered to clients going through the Citizenship Application process by providing participants with a clear understanding of the Naturalisation system, application forms, eligibility criteria, documents and other requirements of the naturalisation process.

Additionally, in 2016 Citizenship Application Support Service in Dublin and Cork continued to serve as a platform for professional practice and work experience for students and graduates from United States, Italy, UK, Ireland, and Venezuela, offering them training not only on the citizenship application process in Ireland but also in administrative, organizational, communicational and customer services skills through the provision of the service to new communities.

In November 2016, NCP Cork provided ongoing training to the Master Students from Migration Department of University College Cork, Cork College of Commerce and undergraduate students from Community Development Department of Cork Institute of Technology.

Support the continuous delivery of English language training to the most vulnerable members of their communities.

Outcomes:

In 2016, NCP Cork recruited English volunteer teachers to continue the delivery of English language training to vulnerable members of the community to facilitate social and economic integration. From



New Communities Partnership – Annual Report

January to June three English programmes were organised, running for 12 weeks and with an average of 6 participants in each session. From September to December, NCP Cork managed to secure two hours English classes every Friday with 13 participants from different countries (Syria, Poland, Germany, Spain, French and Ivory Coast).

From September to May, NCP actively supported groups in organising their member's attendance to English Classes. Such an example is Romanian Community of Ireland who, with the aid of NCP and City of Dublin Education and Training Board, organises 2 sessions of 20 participants each of English Classes for Beginners. Furthermore, NCP, through SICAP, signposts adults towards education institutions providing English Classes or other relevant educational courses. Over 80 service users were directed towards Long Life Learning programs.

As well, NCP has established a strategic partnership with Inchicore College of Further Education, in trying to fulfil the educational needs of new communities members and furthering adult life education.



GOAL 3.

Promote Effective Integration & Social Inclusion Initiatives at Local, Regional and National Levels

Action

Promote interaction between ethnic minorities and the host society and facilitate the provision of shared civic spaces for friendly encounters and intercultural dialogue

Outcomes:



NCP Members Forum Meeting on November 2016

One of NCP main goals is to be an effective network for migrant groups and serve as a platform in their interaction in different scenarios. Therefore, in 2016 NCP has been facilitating office space for almost 70 Ethnic Minority Led Organisations from faith communities, women's networks, youth networks, arts, sports and ethnic led community support groups, who used NCP premises in Dublin and Cork for office

administration and avail of information and training. NCP met with each of these groups on an average of 4 times a year, mentoring and supporting them to ensure a coordinated voice for new communities in relevant government plans towards integration and migrant participation. Those meetings were also a great opportunity to assess groups' needs, learn about their actions in their communities and hear feedbacks and inputs about NCP's activities.

Additionally, we organised four main events during the year to promote integration, cultural exchange and celebrate the immense contribution that new communities have in making Ireland a more inclusive and positive society.

International Women's Day (March 2016)

NCP celebrated the 8th of March 2017, the immense contribution women from new communities have in a better Ireland, and we also discussed challenges and way forward to live in a more equal and inclusive society.



International Women's Day at NCP Head Office on the 8th March 2016



NCP Information Day for New Communities (April 2016)

The event promoted NCP services across new communities and helped over 80 migrant individuals in Dublin to familiarise with the supports available to them. Some of the organisations and agencies that participated on the day were: Crosscare, Focus Ireland, Cairde, Ruhama, MABS, CIC, DCC, Parent's Line, Rape Crisis Centre, NCP, TUSLA, SIPTU, Woman's Aid, Community Policing Unit, English Classes Ballybough Centre, HIV Ireland, ENAR Ireland, Migrants for Ireland, CDETB, INTREO and Dublin Fire Brigade.



NCP members at our Information Day for New Communities.

New Shades of Green Photo Exhibition (November 2016)

The 23rd of November 2016, Mr. David Stanton TD, Minister of State for Justice at the Department of Justice and Equality with special responsibility for Equality, Immigration, and Integration launched NCP photographic exhibition titled "New Shades of Green", with the support of Dublin City Council, Social Inclusion Unit, in the Atrium of Dublin City Council.



The photographic exhibition highlighted the contribution of new communities' members to the development of NCP over the past 13 years since its inception and their integration journey in Ireland. The multicultural exhibition portrayed over 30 individuals:



Mr. David Stanton TD, Minister of State for Justice and Mary Freehill, representing Lord Mayor of Dublin with NCP members.

NCP community leaders, board members, staff and volunteers from 20 different nationalities who have supported the organisation over the years and whose commitment and passion brought NCP to where it is today. We also welcomed the presence of Mary Freehill speaking on behalf of Lord Mayor of Dublin, and the Romanian Ambassador to Ireland Manuela Breazu.



Intercultural Family Day (December 2016)

NCP in collaboration with Peruvians in Ireland, hosted in Drimnagh Castle its annual Intercultural Family Day, which has become a tradition for us since 2007. On the event, we gathered over 100 members to spend a wonderful day honouring new cultures and migrant families. We had a wonderful day in which all the new communities families and their children shared a day filled with cultural music, dances, entertainment, face painting, raffle tickets, Santa and a lot of fun.



Intercultural Family Day on December 2016

We were delighted to have Cllr. Gus O'Connell, Mayor of South Dublin County Council, welcoming our guests and celebrating with us. And we were happy to have the collaboration of a variety of groups such as: Peruvians in Ireland, Latvian Choir, Marinera Dance Group, Alma Boliviana Ballet, Sandra and DJ Raspizo who help us to entertain our guest.

Events and collaborative successes with NCP

NCP continued collaborations with different organization and agencies to increase access to services and develop information for migrants. Some of them are:

- NCP Cork collaborated with Cork City Partnership, the HSE and Razem Cork in the Launch of the Multilingual E-directory of Services for Alcohol and Drug misuse. (October 2016)
- NCP prepared and edited the Mental Health Guide for Ethnic Minorities in Ireland, in collaboration with Caidre and other NGOs. The guide is available in 8 different languages. (November 2016)
- We supported the Hills Street Family Resource Centre in the translation of their domestic violence poster into 6 languages, for their Domestic Violence Campaign. (January to June 2016)



NCP Cork at the launched of the Multilinguan Edirectory of Services for Alcohol and Drug misuse

- NCP Youth supported "Recipes From Home" book, published by 5 North Inner City students from all over the world. (May 2016)
- NCP supported Parentline to celebrate Parents Week by hosting a Coffee Morning with NCP members and speaker from Parentline who talked about the challenges migrant parents face and ways to support them. (September 2016)



Additionally, as a migrant led organisation, one of our most important actions is to support new community groups in the activities they organise for their community members in order to empower and promote their initiatives for a positive impact in the Irish Society. In 2016 we supported:

- Africa Day event in Cork in order to promote African culture and facilitate the integration of African people in Ireland. (May 2016)
- Cultural Integration Day in Millstreet Drishane Castle. (July 2016)
- Miss Centenary Ireland, event organised by Diversity Media Ireland to promote integration of migrants in Ireland (February 2016)
- Malayalee Indians (MIND) Kid's Festival (April 2016)
- International Women's Day, organised by the Romanian Community of Ireland. (March 2016)



NCP members at Africa Day in Cork.

- International Children's Day, organised by the Romanian Community of Ireland. (June 2016)
- Celebration of Ivory Cost Independence Day in Cork, organised by the Ivorian Community in Ireland. (August 2016)
- Guinean National Day, organised by Guinean Community of Ireland (October 2016)
- **Festival of Nations** in Mounjoy Square, organised by Diversity Media. The event brought together new communities and Irish sharing the same space (October 2016)
- Slovak National Day, organised by the Slovak Consulate with the participation of Slovak Centre (December 2016)
- NCP was invited to launch the International Women's Group to address the value of diversity in Ireland, community, friendship and indeed the supports all women can access in Ireland. Over 60 participants from 12 different countries, of all ages, came together. (December 2016)



Rares-Mihal Nicula, NCP Social Inclusion Coordinator at the Festival of Nations in Mountjoy Square



Daniela Jurj, NCP Project Coordinator at Miss Centenary Ireland



Migrant Led Coalition

As the largest migrant led, umbrella organisation, NCP was at the frontline of promoting migrant's contribution at all levels of the Irish society, including political rights and activism. Together with other ethnic led organisation, NCP formed the **Migrant Led Coalition** in January 2016, which promoted the migrant's right to vote and encouraged new communities members to use that right in the 2016 Elections.

Practically, this campaign was rolled out in information sessions and conference, interviews and articles in local and national media, in encouraging migrants not only to vote but to run in future elections, from the point of view that new communities members are here to stay and contribute, from a buy in principle, to the Irish Society. Three major themes were to be met touched on during the campaign: Equality, Legislation and the end of the Direct Provision System. The campaign was a success, as we have

The DEMAND YOUR SUPPORT FOR EQUALITY FOR MIGRANTS IN: Labour Market Ensure equal access to and treatment within the labour market Wages Access to housing should be based on needs, not legal status Standardise school admission policies to tackle the overconcentration of migrant pupils in migrant-only schools: Ensure access to interprete for migrant students: Provide English language support and home language tuition for all migrant pupils. Change support and home language tuition for all migrant pupils. Change support and home language tuition for all migrant pupils. Change support and home language tuition for all migrant pupils. Change support and home language tuition for all migrant pupils. Change support and home language tuition for all migrant pupils. Change support and home language tuition for all migrant pupils. Change support and home language tuition for all migrant pupils. Change support and home language tuition for all migrant pupils. Change support and home language tuition for all migrant pupils in the discontinuous tudents. Health & Mental Health Gender Policies Include culturally diverse systems and staff Ensure meaningful provisions for migrant women in accessing services including in relation to gender-based violence Establish inclusive institutions to reflect treland's diverse society WE DEMAND YOUR SUPPORT FOR LEGISLATION Include anti-racism policies in policing, employment, education, health and other assential services to protect vulnerable members of the community Include anti-racism policies in policing, employment, education, health and other assential services to protect vulnerable members of the community Include anti-racism policies in policing, employment, education, health and other assential services to protect vulnerable members of the community Include anti-racism policies in policing, employment, education, health and other assential services to protect vulnerable members of the community in the chief and the chief and the chief and the chief and the chief and

Migrants for Ireland: **ELECTION MANIFESTO**

3 WE DEMAND YOU END THE DIRECT PROVISION SYSTEM AND END DEPORTATIONS.

Migrant Led Coalition Manifesto

attracted a great number of participants at our events, both from a migrant background and an Irish one. Even more importantly, we consider that we have started a conversation at societal level about how the 12% migrant population currently residing in Ireland is represented at decision making levels.

Ratify Istanbul



NCP at the Migrant Led Coalition Launch



GOAL 4.

Promote Awareness of and Improve Access to Services in the Local Community through Information Provision & Advocacy

Actions

Provide practical support for ethnic minorities' to apply for Irish citizenship under the Citizenship Application Support Service (CASS) initiative

Outcome:

Citizenship Application Support Service (CASS)

NCP's Citizenship Application Support Service provides guidance and free advice to individuals who wish to apply for Irish Citizenship. People who avail of the service are assisted by a multilingual team trained to ensure that applicants meet the legal requirements and fulfill the criteria to become and Irish Citizen. Applications and supportive documentation are thoroughly checked to verify they are in line with the Department of Justice standards and guidelines.

In 2016 the number of people availing of the service continued to grow in comparison with 2015, which still represented a challenge in terms of resources of staff, interns and volunteers available to provide support and information.

The service increased 5.1% in providing support to apply for Irish citizenship, which means that 14363 individuals in total received free advice in a local CASS centre, through the telephone information line or online help desk from our multilingual information officers. Also, our team of staff and volunteers supported 3016 individuals in submitting their completed application forms with an increase of 3.7% of applications sent compared to 2908 from 2015.

It is important to note, that CASS continues to receive referral from a wide range of agencies and services, but most importantly the majority of people come to our office recommended by a friend or family member who have previously availed from the service.

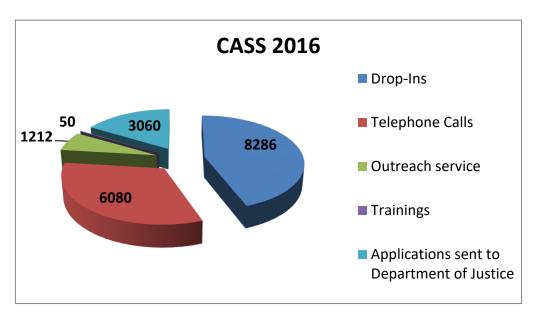
Other organisations and agencies such as Citizens Information Centres, Crosscare Migrant project, Irish Refugee Council, TUSLA and other NGO's in Dublin, Cork and other surrounding areas, continued to receive information, training and technical advice about the Naturalisation process, application forms, eligibility criteria, and required documents through telephone and outreach supports. In doing so, staff and advisors gain relevant knowledge and experience about the Irish Citizenship application process and therefore more individuals, especially from areas outside Dublin and Cork, can access accurate information and support.

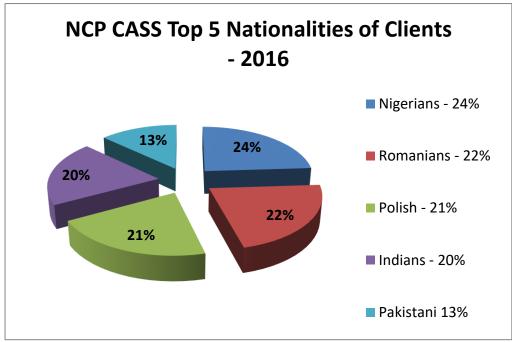
The overall outcome has been successfully allowing individuals to apply for the Irish Citizenship by reducing the large number of applications returned to applicants, reducing the processing time



through proper information provision, providing a professional and free service, and promoting greater understanding of the duties and requirements that Irish citizenship entitles.

You can find the full list of locations on the NCP website: www.newcommunities.ie/services2/cass.html.





Testimonials from our clients:

"Thank you very much for your help in order to become an Irish Citizen. Every time I was coming your office I was getting very professional help from beginning till the end of my naturalisation process. I really appreciate your help."



"Thanks a lot to the entire NCP CASS Office! Without you, I do not think that I would be able to finish a send my documents for the request of the Irish Citizenship. You were very accurate and available, and you have done always everything possible to help me. Thanks again to all the staff members for your work and I hope that more and more people can take advantage from the service that you offer."

"Thank you very much for all your help! If not you, I would never get my Irish Citizenship. I am very happy that an organisation like you exists. I hope that your organisation will exist for long time."

Continue to provide support to migrant families experiencing child-protection interventions

Outcome:

Migrant Family Support Service (MFSS)

Migrant Family Support Service provides confidential and free assistance and support to migrant families with children in care or who are going through childcare protection interventions, by acting as advocates and a link to cultural understanding between families from new communities and states agencies involved in their cases.



MFSS Team: Yemi Ojo, Daniela Jurj and Doris Abuchi Ogbonda

The service also offers cultural consultancy and support to foster families and front line professionals (Social Workers, Guardians at Litem, Legal Aid Board Solicitors, Gardai, Teachers, Probation Officers, etc.) about understanding cultural differences in assessment and support practices in working with migrant families.

2016 was a busy year for MFSS, the service had over 90 referrals only in Dublin, 301 drop-ins clinics between Dublin and Cork offices, received over 4400 calls, and had 36 ongoing cases, 45 cases closed and 5 family reunifications. T represent contact made and received by MFSS staff from MFSS clients, Social Workers, Guardian ad Litem, Solicitors, Daughters of Charity assessment teams, general public making enquiries about Children First, making and receiving referrals from other services and NGOs in order to support MFSS clients. 80% of the referrals are still made by TUSLA - Child and Family Agency, and approximately half of them are from professionals who recommend families that do not have children in care and who are at assessment stage or case conference stage to avail of MFSS support and prevent the children coming into care.

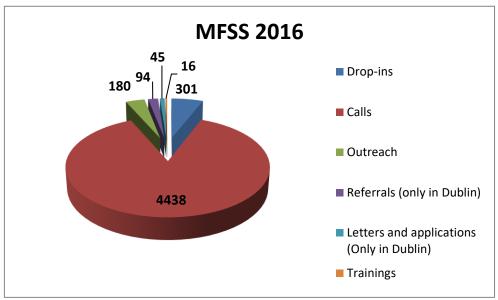
During 2016 MFSS team also offered outreach services through advocacy meetings, court support, Social Work Department meetings and other relevant meetings accompanying client engaging with other services. MFSS has identified some of the challenges clients face leading to the team providing

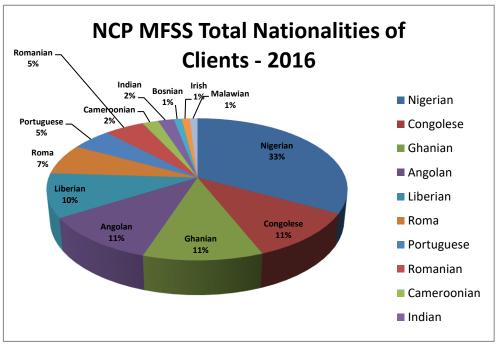


outreach, these are: lack of English, illiteracy, cognitive difficulties, lack of childcare arrangements, struggles to register for various services, being culturally misunderstood by professionals, and lack of trust in professionals.

Additionally, during 2016, MFSS continued to deliver training sessions on Child Protection Awareness, Cultural Competency and Cultural Awareness and supported individuals in writing letters to different services and departments.

Some of the nationalities we have engaged with include: Romanian, Nigerian, Congolese, Chinese, Cameroonian, Ghanaian, Roma, Liberian, Pakistani, Bosnian, Brazilian, Angolan, Portuguese, and Indian.







Continue to provide English language support to migrant children in primary and secondary schools

Outcome:

NCP Youth

NCP Youth Ireland under the "English Language and Homework Support" continued to provide English Language and Homework support to migrant students in primary and secondary education from non-English speaking families in Dublin. This service works towards and intercultural and inclusive Irish society where migrant students achieve their full potential in schools and have the same opportunities as their Irish peers.

From January to June 2016, NCP Youth worked in St. Mary's School and Mt. Secondary School once a week helping migrant students with English and Homework. Overall the service supported 80 migrant students, 70 students in St. Mary's School and 10 students in Mt. Carmel Secondary School.

In the month of September, the NCP Youth recruited 8 volunteers for the period of 2016-2017 academic year and organised meetings with schools' staff to identify students who were in need of the programme. Form October to December 2016 the eight chosen volunteers worked in Mary's Primary School every Monday from 2:30 to 3:30 to support 4 groups of 10 students each with English and homework. Some of the nationalities of the students who availed of the service were: China, Romania, Poland, Brazil, Bolivia, Mongolia, and India.

Additionally, NCP Youth had maintained since 2014 ongoing collaboration with Young People at Risk (YPAR), and from January to June 2016 attended their monthly group meetings to discuss the issues young foreign nationals face in Ireland and identify solutions to those issues.

At the European level, NCP Youth has been representing Ireland at the SIRIUS European Network on education of children and young people with a migrant background since we joined in 2014. In 2016 SIRIUS became a legal entity in Brussels and NCP Youth has been taking part on the meetings and Conferences organised by this Network.



"English Language and Homework Support" in St. Mary's Primary School



Provide information on health, housing, access to educational opportunities through dropin clinics, outreach, NCP website and social media

Outcome:

Social Inclusion and Community Activation Program (SICAP)

Since 2015 when NCP became part of the Coop member organizations implementing the Social Inclusion and Community Activation Program, we had a new service, Social Inclusion and Community Activation Program (SICAP), which focuses on reducing poverty and promoting social inclusion and equality through local and regional engagement and collaboration.

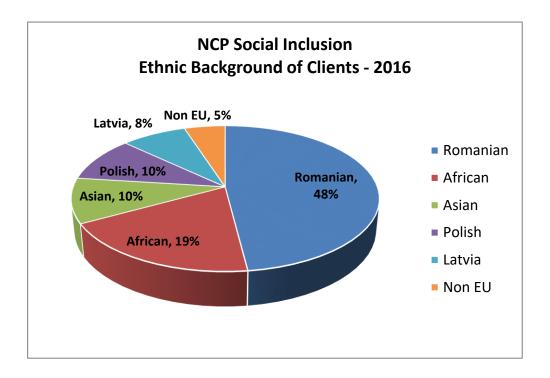
The aim of the service is to improve life chances and opportunities of those who are marginalized in society, living in poverty or unemployment through community development approaches and local engagement and partnership between disadvantaged individuals, community organizations and public sector agencies.

SICAP offers to individuals: drop in clinics, advocacy, referral to external support services, learning supports (including referrals to English language classes and computer classes), referral to courses for new skills and adult education, community assistance clinics (including rights and entitlements, information and advocacy) and CV writing clinics and mock interviews and/or referrals to Adult education services for up skilling. Under that line, during 2016 NCP supported directly more than 200 individuals, out of which 124 have proven progress in the area where they were assisted. As SICAP is designed to target the most marginalised individuals in society, in a lot of cases there is very intense work even before any recorded interventions can be made. As such, in most of the cases there is a mentoring and empowering piece of work that needs to be done even before starting alleviating the difficulties that the person goes tough. Providing supports is often difficult by either lack of English language skills or by lack of understating the system individuals have to navigate through.

In working with groups, NCP, through SICAP supported 60 groups in different areas, depending where that group is situated at that specific moment on the development continuum. The first stages of engagement are identifying the needs and formulating objectives followed by a common vision. Registration in view of formal constitution of groups, in all its stages, is another support we offer. As well, we offer a common space for meetings where groups can meet in a formal environment and have access to modern IT tools. As well, training for capacity building is paramount as it is important that after a period of support, groups can become independent and improve the communities' life.

As we are very strategically placed at a grassroots level, working with both individuals and groups, NCP is in an ideal place as serving as a consultation platform for both communities and Statutory Bodies. As such, NCP has contribute to almost all the major Policies in 2016, ranging from DCC's own Local and Economic Community Policy and Inclusion Policy to the Department of Justice own national Integration Policy.





Cultural Support Ireland (CSI)

NCP officially launched in March 2016 a new service called Cultural Support Ireland at the TIGALA conference 'Getting it right - caring for children from ethnic minority backgrounds in alternative care'.

CSI works as an independent agency that provides cultural consultancy to services interacting with migrant individuals or families experiencing cultural challenges in court, and cultural clash and challenges when accessing services. It provides information and support with respect to the various cultures of the new communities in Ireland.

This type of project comes from the need of migrants accessing a fair system in which their cultural backgrounds and customs are assessed and properly considered when professional services are dealing, supporting or deciding on their particular cases

Cultural Support Ireland offers:

- Independent cultural advice specializing in cultural and religious norms, and domestic life.
- Cultural advice in court proceedings involving child protection interventions experienced by migrant families.
- Cultural consultancy in other requested meetings.
- Cultural advocacy in court proceedings or any other legal scenarios.



CSI recruited 8 highly skilled volunteers from a variety of cultural backgrounds; Algeria, Nigeria, Poland and Romania to work as Cultural Advisers. They are experienced in social work/care, counselling, law and mediation. Cultural Support Ireland advisers operate in both Dublin and Cork.

CSI held two meetings with the advisers during the year. The first was a training and induction session led by David Little and Valerie Mawe from TUSLA, Mieke Ryan from TIGALA and guest speaker Margaret Beaumont. The second meeting was to gain extended knowledge of the court system.

In 2016, Cultural Support Ireland received 18 calls and offered cultural consultancy 11 times in court proceedings involving child protection interventions.

As a newly set up service, the aim is: to increase the number of clients by promoting the service among different agencies, services and NGOs engaging with migrant individuals and families (FLAC, Courts, Immigration Solicitors, Citizens Information Service); to recruit more Cultural Advisers primarily from African cultures and Eastern European and Middle Eastern cultures; and finally, to identify other professional groups that might be in need of the service.



Part of NCP Team in Head Office (May 2016)



GOAL 5

Develop and Sustain Strategies to Increase the Economic Integration of Ethnic Minorities

Under this goal, NCP has strived to develop and deliver practical supports in assisting members of the new communities to accessing the Irish Job Market. SICAP Program was still, in 2016, the component through which NCP supported individuals in getting job ready. These supports include but are not limited to one to one sessions regarding CV writing, mock interviews, information about the work market and relevant organizations that can support individuals in furthering their career or accessing jobs. The final scope of these supports is furthering our member's career or accessing jobs.

An important part of this service is our partnership with Inner City organizations such as Inner City Enterprise.

Another component in delivering this service is the Migrant Consultation Forum and the regular meetings with Department of Social Protection. Through this mechanism, NCP has proposed initiatives to be taken by DSP in the area of labour-force activation and to develop and implement strategies that promote the entering of migrants into the labour force and/or the prerequisite training and education programs.

All this measures and actions will lead to the improvement of socio-economic status of our members. The awareness of opportunities for self-employment and the access to labour market opportunities has increased. Moreover the barriers to labour market are removed and ethnic minorities gain relevant work experience in an Irish context.

As well, NCP has worked hard towards becoming a place of tradition in excellence and experience. NCP Youth in 2016 had over 11 volunteers who were involved in "English Language and Homework Support" and had the opportunity to gain first hand teaching experience working in the Schools, as a result, two of them have found full time teaching job.

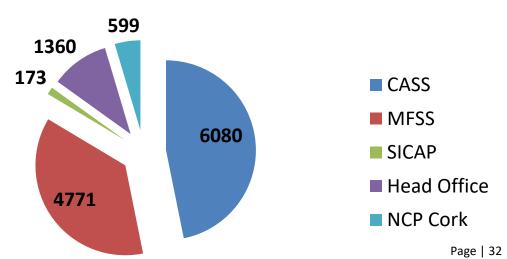
NCP had an important number of volunteers, TUS workers, CE scheme and interns, who were part of NCP services providing information and assistance to migrant families and individuals. Those people gained work experience, and built up their CV increasing their chances to gain employment after their voluntary work with NCP, as such New Communities Partnership being regarded as a platform from where our interns can specialise or acquire new skills. To such extent, in NCP Cork two people found employment after their work experience with NCP.



NEW COMMUNITIES PARTNERSHIP IN NUMBERS

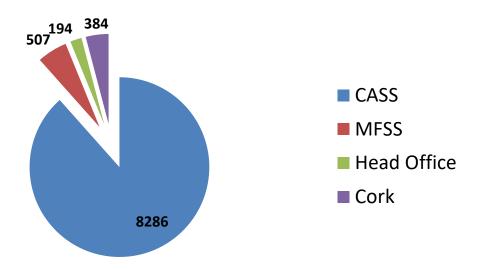


NCP CALLS

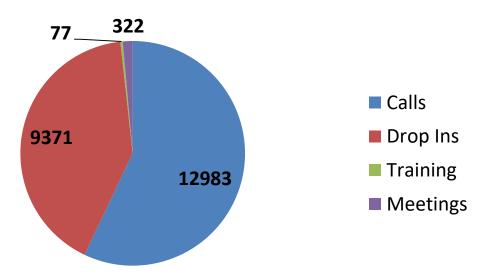




NCP Drop Ins

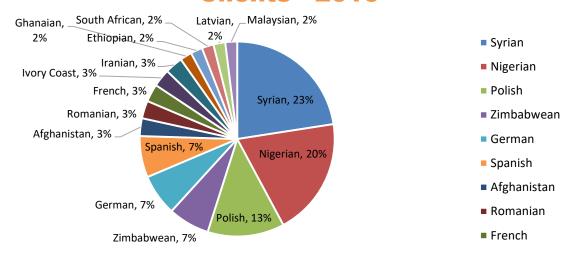


TOTAL NCP Activities

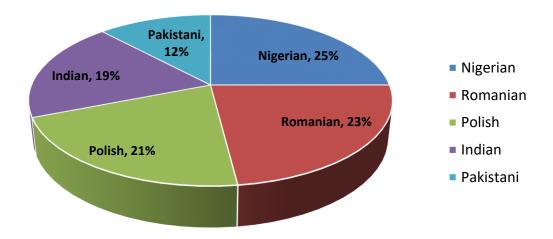




NCP Cork Total Nationalities of Clients - 2016



NCP Top 5 Nationalities - 2016



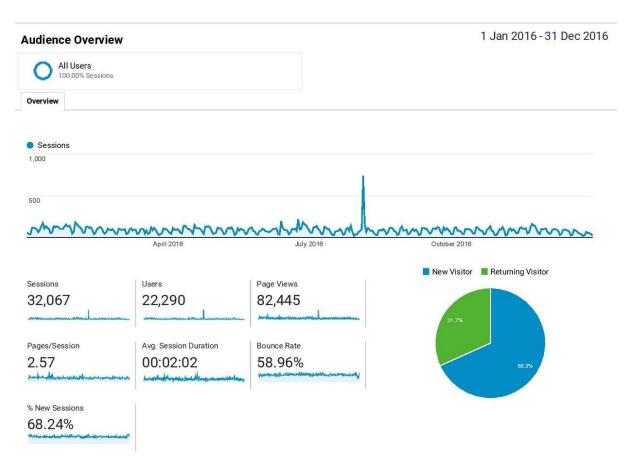


Online presence

Social media plays an integral part of getting our message and vision to the public being of the main information tools. 2016 saw excellent activity and interaction between NCP and the general public. Our NCP website had over 80,000 views and the vast majority, over 65%, were first time visitors.

Social media presence on both Facebook and Twitter increased in followers and likes. On Facebook our post and news were served to 4349 people, which represent a 16% increase in the audience compared to 2015. On Twitter, from January to December 2016 our tweets and interactions reached an audience of 3000 people.

Both social media accounts and the NCP website is updated daily with news, pictures and information relating to NCP activity, events, job opportunities and news relating to the new communities.





The Board of NCP

The board meets regularly to plan and oversee how the work is carried out in NCP; in 2016 the board met 5 times. The CEO reports to the board on all NCP activities staff and budget.

In 2016, The Finance and Human Resource Committee met five times. This Committee was appointed to guide and support CEO with budget allocations, income and expenditure, staff recruitment etc.

Additionally, Migrant Family Support Service has an Advisory Board comprised of a panel of experts from various agencies and departments which meets 4 times a year to guide the direction of the service and to advice on best practice and code of ethics.

Members of the Board 2016

- Chairperson: Florin Andreiu, Dublin Community representative
- Treasurer: Veronica Bokeng Akale, Finance and Fundraising
- Company and BM Secretary: Anca Lupu
- Ben Uzoma, Cork community and regional representative
- Alphonsine Masaba, Limerick community and regional representative
- Shaykh Dr. Muhammad Umar Al-Qadri, advisory executive.
- Lamin Bojang, Chartered Accountant and Tax Consultant.
- Issah Huseini, Board Consultant
- Ewa Flood, Working in Community Response.
- Sarah Duku, Community development and social inclusion.

Finance and Human Resource Committee

- Florin Andreiu
- Lamin Bojang
- Anca Lupu
- Issah Huseini

Migrant Family Advisory Committee

- Anca Lupu, NCP General Manager
- Daniela Jurj, NCP Programme Co-ordinator
- Rita O'Reilly, Parentline
- Marguerite McCaffrey, One Family
- Michele Guerin, HSE
- Anne Garvey, Independent Consultant and Researcher
- Gilbert Storrs, Independent Consultant and Researcher
- Shaykh Dr. Muhammad Umar Al-Qadri, IMPIC
- Dr Colletta Dalikeni, DKIT Lecturer in Social Care



NCP Staff

- Anca Lupu
- Laura Kersulyte
- Edward Boakye
- Daniela Jurj
- Anna Talipina
- Frank Odei Tettey
- Yemisi Ojo
- Doris Abuchi Ogbonda
- Sevak Khachatryan
- Rares Mihai Nicula
- Erin Geraghty
- Jeannett Taku
- Tatiana Dima
- David O'Connor
- Angelisa Zerpa

CE, TUS and Volunteeers

- Noel O'Neil
- Ying Ying
- Ludmila Gorbaczewska
- Simon Makumba
- Eric Mark
- Grant Mason
- Amaury Adja
- Abimbola Salami
- Stanley Foday
- Brian Smyth
- Nomma George



NCP FUNDERS in 2016

NCP would like to thank all our funders and sponsors for their continuous support and commitment:

Funders:

- Department of Environment, Community and Local Government
- POBAL SICAP
- Department of Justice and Equality
- TUSLA Child and Family Agency
- Dublin City Council

Other income:

- Dublin City Council Social Inclusion Section
- South Dublin County Council Social Inclusion
- Cork City Council
- Croke Park Fund
- Community Foundation for Ireland

Other supports:

- Department of Social Protection (Jobbridge Internships)
- Dublin Aids Alliance (CE Scheme)
- Canal Communities (TUS scheme)
- Cradle (premises)



NCP INCOME AND EXPENDITURE 2016

New Communities Partnership (NCP) Ltd

(A Company Limited by Guarantee and not having a Share Capital)

Income and Expenditure Account

for the year ended 31 December 2016

	Continuing operations	
	2016	2015
Income	428,595	343,644
Expenditure	431,643	(352,531)
Surplus on ordinary activities before taxation	(3,048)	(8,887)
Tax on surplus on ordinary activities	-	<u></u>
Surplus on ordinary activities after taxation	(3,048)	(8,887)
Retained surplus for the year	(3,048)	(8,887)

The turnover and surplus relate to continuing operations as no business were acquired or disposed of in the above two financial years.

A separate statement of Total Recognised Gains or Losses is not required as there are no recognised gains or losses other than the surplus or deficit for the above two financial years.