



c/o Care Alliance Ireland, Coleraine House, Coleraine Street, Dublin 7, Ireland
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PRESS RELEASE: (Monday 12th June – for Immediate Release)

CENSUS REPORTS 53% INCREASE IN THOSE PROVIDING UNPAID CARE.

CLOSE TO ONE IN SEVEN OF THOSE IN THEIR FIFTIES ARE NOW CARING¹.

Ireland’s family carers are this week being encouraged to participate in events marking National Carers Week 2023, which is taking place from June 12th to 18th. During the week there will be scores of in person events, together with many online events. Over 80 events are lined up; including quizzes, information sessions, excursions, lunches, walks, yoga, wellbeing events, podcast launches, and care package giveaways for hundreds of family carers.

This morning’s launch will be marked with a competition for all family carers, where several hundred will be provided with complimentary packages of branded merchandise and chocolates.

This comes as the latest Census of Population figures highlight the surging numbers of family carers. An increase of 103,000 carers was reported since 2016. 299,128 individuals identified as being a carer, with over 86,000 providing more than 43 hours of care each week.

Liam O’Sullivan, CEO of Care Alliance says carer visibility is vital if we as a community are to recognise and appreciate the care that family carers provide. He goes onto say “We know from the latest Census figures that more and more people are caring for loved ones across the country, often invisible to the rest of our community”.

“This National Carers Week we are encouraging everyone across the country to help Making Caring Visible and to show their appreciation for the work of family carers”

Family Carer Laura Egan, from Athlone and founder of the charity Rare Ireland says ; “We are delighted to be partners in this weeks carers week. Our families in Rare Ireland support their loved ones to live their best lives possible often under difficult circumstances”

Ends.

Notes to the Editor:

¹ <https://www.cso.ie/en/releasesandpublications/ep/p-cpsr/censusofpopulation2022-summaryresults/healthdisabilitycaringandvolunteering/>



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Ireland's Family Carers provide care and support to a person with a disability, chronic condition, mental health concern and/or long-term illness, in the person's own home. National Carers Week, now in its seventeenth year, is coordinated by Care Alliance Ireland in partnership with eleven other leading Irish charities who support Family Carers: The Alzheimer Society of Ireland, the Central Remedial Clinic (CRC), the Irish Cancer Society, the Jack and Jill Children's Foundation, the Disability Federation of Ireland, MS Ireland, Acquired Brain Injury Ireland, the Irish Hospice Foundation, St. Michael's House, and Spina Bifida Hydrocephalus Ireland. New to the partnership this year is Rare Ireland, who support families living with rare conditions.

Details of the events taking place throughout National Carers Week are available at <https://www.carersweek.ie/> Sustained media campaigns will be run throughout the week using the tags #MakingCaringVisible and #CarersWeek2023.

Supporting Photos will be sent by Paul Sherwood, Photographer 087 230 9096 Mobile

Family Carers from across Ireland are available for media interviews.

For more information contact Liam O'Sullivan on 087 - 207 3265 or email ndo@carealliance.ie