



c/o Care Alliance Ireland, Coleraine House, Coleraine Street, Dublin 7, Ireland
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PRESS RELEASE: (Monday 13th June – 09.01 am embargo)

IRELAND'S 499,000 FAMILY CARERS BEING SUPPORTED BY CHARITY PARTNERS TO MAKE CARING VISIBLE.

CLOSE TO ONE IN EIGHT PERSONS AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER PROVIDE CARINGⁱ.

Ireland's family carers are this week being encouraged to participate in events marking National Carers Week 2022, which is taking place from June 13th to 19th. This year marks a return to scores of in person events, together with online events. Over 90 events are lined up; including quizzes, information sessions, sibling workshops, lunches, walks, crafty carers virtual get together, tea dances, virtual yoga, virtual belly-dancing, mindfulness sessions, poetry readings and 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 year, 50 members of our newly arrived Ukrainian community with caring responsibilities will also be sent welcome packs.

Tetyana, originally from Ukraine, but living in Ireland for the past 22 years, cares for her teenage son with autism.

"My sister, niece and two grand-nieces arrived in Ireland in March. As a family they have significant additional support needs and I am doing my best to support them daily. Currently they are living in a hotel. I am hoping we can secure some more suitable accommodation for them near where I live."

Liam O'Sullivan, Executive Director, Care Alliance Ireland, says carer visibility is vital if we as a community are to recognise and appreciate the care that family carers provide.

He went on to say;

"This year, we wanted to make sure that family carers from the Ukraine are part of this important week. For this reason, we have reached out to the various support agencies and are currently distributing over 50 care packages to Ukrainian's throughout Ireland – we are





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delivering to hotels, B & B's, as well as to family carers living with the wonderful hosts who have opened up their homes to these families with additional support needs."

"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"

Ends.

Notes to the Editor:

Ireland's 499,000 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 sixteenth year, is coordinated by Care Alliance Ireland in partnership with ten other leading Irish charities who support Family Carers: The Alzheimer Society of Ireland, the Central Remedial Clinic (CRC), the Irish Cancer Society, 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 the Jack and Jill Children's Foundation, which this year celebrates its 25th Anniversary.

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 #CarersWeek2022.

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

ⁱ Estimate of number of family carers in Ireland, December 2020. See <https://www.cso.ie/en/csolatestnews/pressreleases/2020pressreleases/pressstatementirishhealthsurvey2019-carersandsocialsupports/>

