Dublin City Interfaith Forum

SAFE HAVEN

Hate Crime Report and Response Project

What is the Dublin City Interfaith Forum?

The Dublin City Interfaith Forum (DCIF) works with interested members of faith communities to deliver interfaith gatherings and activities in Dublin City.

Recognising the diverse nature of the backgrounds of the residents of Dublin, DCIF seeks to provide the space and opportunity for faith communities, statutory and voluntary organisations and the residents of Dublin City.

What is 'Safe Haven'?

'Safe Haven' is DCIF's hate motivated incident response project. It uses existing online reporting mechanisms for reporting and recording faith-based hate motivated incidents through engagement with faith communities, civil society, relevant government agencies and intergovernmental agencies.

Furthermore, 'Safe Haven' seeks to provide the effective reporting, recording, responding and referral of Hate Crime and hate motivated incidents through community-based victim supports.

How does 'Safe Haven' do this?

Firstly, the 'Safe Haven' project team provides training to other service providers, civil society and public sector frontline support staff on recognising, acknowledging and responding to racism and religious hatred.

Why does 'Safe Haven do this?

Hate motivated incidents, whether they contain a criminal component or not, have significant impacts on both individual victims and the communities to which they identify. Though the initial victim suffers greater psychological distress, it goes to the heart of their identity affecting their sense of belonging.

Hate crimes are "message crimes" between groups and often, other members of the group respond as though it had been done to them. As such, it harms community relations & creates tension and leaves other minority groups feel vulnerable.

Where can you find out more about DCIF or Safe Haven?

Contact Dublin City Interfaith Forum by email at: **info@dcif.ie**

What if I wish to report an incident of anti-Semitism, Islamophobia (anti-Muslim) or anti-faith hate incidents?

You can report incidents directly on iReport.ie or report such incidents to your faith community leader who can initiate the report on behalf of Dublin City Interfaith Forum.

You may also wish to contact the 'Safe Haven' project team directly at: **projects@dcif.ie**

Remember – we are all neighbours in faith, be a good neighbour and support those who are suffering to report!

Coimisiún na hÉireann um Chearta an Duine agus Comhionannas
Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission

This project is supported under the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission Grant Scheme

Why should we encourage people to report racism and other forms of discrimination?

Encouraging people to report racism and other forms of discrimination allows us to break the silence and isolation of those affected by racism.

By providing information, support and discussing the best way to seek redress, we can find out how to take action against those responsible.

To monitor racism and other forms of hatred, we need to understand who is experiencing it and make relevant authorities and public aware of its nature, the scale and the many expressions of hate, hostility and discrimination.

Why does DCIF and 'Safe Haven' use the iReport.ie racist incident online reporting system?

The iReport.ie racist incident online reporting system is a confidential, independent, civil society-based reporting system to document racist incidents nationwide, developed by ENAR Ireland.

Who can report?

Any person who has experienced racism or other forms of hate motivated incidents including victims themselves, witnesses, bystanders and those who have heard of incidents in their community.

iReport.ie intends to make it as easy for people to self-report racist incidents online.

iReport.ie permits photographs, videos, screen grabs and other files to be uploaded.

Local organisations, such as DCIF and 'Safe Haven' can retain locally gathered data, which they use to inform localised responses to racism and other forms of hatred. This makes it easier for DCIF, through 'Safe Haven' to offer pastoral or holistic victim support from an interfaith or faith-based perspective that focuses on the restoration of the dignity and wellbeing of the people affected.