

How you can help

Introduction

You can play your part and get involved!
Get active and support the work of your local Simon Community.

If we want Ireland to be a better place,
we all need to play a part.

You can play your part in a number of ways:

1. Take the time to think about your reaction to people who are homeless and remember all you have learnt in this DVD.
2. Run a fundraising event at your school or with some friends.
3. Talk to your friends and family about what you have seen in this DVD.
4. Invite a representative from your Local Simon Community to give a talk in your school.
5. Write a letter to your local newspaper.

You can Fundraise!

What you could do

Your class could organise an event to raise money for your local Simon Community.

See examples below:

- Non-uniform day.
- Sponsored sports tournament.
- Sponsored walk.
- School concert.
- Fashion show.
- Coffee morning.
- Bag packing in your local supermarket.

What's involved?

To hold a fundraising event you and your friends need to:

1. Decide on an event.
2. Contact the appropriate person for permission.
3. Contact your local Simon Community for support.
4. Set a date and time.
5. Book the venue.
6. Promote the event.
7. Appoint people to run the various components of the event.
8. Collect funds / sponsorship during or after the event.
9. Present the money raised to your Local Simon Community.
10. Publicise the event and the funds raised afterwards.



How you can help

You can Campaign!

Through our campaigning, the Simon Communities of Ireland work to make Ireland a fairer and more equal society. We meet with the people who make decisions on homeless services and policies. We work to make sure that politicians, civil servants and other public officials are aware of the needs of people who are homeless and that this is reflected in the legislation and policies that they draw-up.

You can help us in this important work...

You can help us by speaking to your friends and family - telling them more about the work of Simon Communities in Ireland and everything you have learned in this DVD.

You could ask a representative from your local Simon Community to come in to your school to talk to you.

What's involved?

Students would have to:

1. Identify a potential speaker.
2. Book the speaker.
3. Set a date and time for the presentation.
4. Make sure that audio-visual equipment is available.
5. Prepare questions for the speaker.

Further Ideas

As a class you can survey students about their thoughts on homelessness.

What's involved?

Students would have to:

1. Develop a survey questionnaire.
2. Choose people to carry out the survey.
3. Use the information collected to develop a report.

If the survey reveals a different impression of homelessness from what the class have learned through this pack and DVD, students could:

- Raise awareness about the issue by developing a series of posters for display.
- Prepare a short play to be performed for classmates.
- Make presentations to other classes / groups.
- Write a letter to your local paper.

You can also come up with your own ideas and contact your **local** Simon Community to talk through your ideas.

We can support you and give you step-by-step guidance on whatever it is you are planning to do.



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