Carlow Women’s Refuge Street Campaign Installation

**Release date aim – International women’s day March 8th**

To have:

* Fake everything – templates of painting, light, chair, (all painted and laminated – child-like) etc. – give an air of intimacy and bringing the “private realm” (i.e. the home) out into the “public realm” (the street) to talk policy and how they are connected.
* Tea, biscuits, lollipops
* Small wooden painted stakes
* Bright laminated fact sheets (pinned on them)
* Information from Carlow Women’s Aid / Amber Women’s Refuge
* See: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=82Vg6UdANKQ> for ideas

Date:

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| ***On screen text:***  Carlow Women’s Refuge Campaign got out on the streets and interviewed Carlovians about dv and refuge services in Ireland for International Women’s Day |

Snapshot - Heading out to Carlow Town -

Snapshot - Have someone speak into the camera about what we aim to achieve

“What is the main aim of today?”

Topics to cover:

* Informing people about current situation of dv and homelessness in Ireland
* Policy and legislation
* DV and homelessness in Carlow
* Services in Carlow
* Ongoing campaign for refuge

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| ***On screen text:***  A snapshot of Ireland in 2015:  Government spending on health was increased by 1bn between 2016/2017, but gender based violence services, which provide invaluable services, continue to be underfunded.  In 2015, 9,172 women and 3,383 children received support from a domestic violence service, and, in 2014, 18,926 calls were made to Rape Crisis Centre helplines.  NGOs have been at the forefront of responding to gender-based violence in Ireland from the 1970s.  Rape crises centres have experienced cuts of up to 30% since 2008. DV services have experienced similar cuts (38% since 2008), while the number of women accessing their services increased by 26% between 2009-2014.  In 2015 alone, 4,796 requests for refuge could not be met in Ireland. |

*Questions to ask passers-by:*

Do you know how many dv services we have in Ireland?

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| ***On screen text:***  There are over 40 dv services in Ireland. Of these, only 21 provide 24-hour accommodation. |

What kind of services do we have in Carlow for women and children experiencing or at risk of experiencing domestic violence?

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| **On screen text:**  We have Carlow Women’s Aid.   * 24 Hour National Freephone Helpline * One to one support service * Support, counselling, information services * Court Accompaniment Service * Advocacy * House Support and Referral Services |

A snapshot of Carlow in 2015:

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| **On-screen text:**  2015 was a very busy year for the local centre, with over 3,000 contacts made to Carlow women’s Aid and 808 helpline calls.  They worked with a total of 554 clients and helped obtain 254 Protection Orders.  This also involved accompanying people to 338 court sittings. |

Why do we need a women’s refuge? Housing policy and gender violence:

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| **On screen text:**  Carlow is one of the 9 counties without a specialist domestic violence refuge, and one of the 10 counties without a specialist sexual violence service.  One of the top issues in not having a specialist domestic violence refuge results in unmet requests for refuge.  Clients in Carlow who cannot return home have to be accommodated in the Women’s Refuge in Kilkenny. In 2016, 14 out of the 55 women accommodated in Amber Women’s Refuge were from Carlow. |

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| ***On screen text:***  Forcing a survivor to be placed on a waiting list, or to travel a long distance with limited public transport to access a specialist service, is inhumane and often unfeasible, due to the cost and time away from work/home, or in isolated rural areas as an escape from impending violence.  If you think you may be experiencing domestic violence, make sure you contact Safe Ireland or Women’s Aid on: |

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| ***On Screen text:***  “Shining a light on the pervasive nature of gender-based violence”  Support Carlow Women’s Refuge Campaign: Like us on Facebook  “To Carlow County Council - Carlow Needs a Women’s Refuge”: Sign the Petition  Join the campaign! |