

PRESS RELEASE FOR PUBLICATION



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RACIST AND SECTARIAN INCIDENTS MUST BE REPORTED

Sligo Family Resource Centre launches Racist Incident Referral and Support Services Project, an unique initiative in County Sligo.

We aim to establishing a third-party computerised database which will record all racial and sectarian incidents and provide support and referrals to people experiencing or witnessing racism and sectarianism in County Sligo. This project has been funded by the PEACE III Programme through the European Union's European Regional Development Fund managed for the Special EU programmes Body by Sligo County Council on behalf of Sligo Peace & Reconciliation Partnership Committee.

Mr. Deo Ladislav Ndakengerwa, Coordinator of Racist Incident Referral and Support Service Project says : " There can't be a peaceful and harmonious community if everyone is not welcomed and valued irregardless of skin colour, ethnic origin, religious beliefs, accent,... So fighting racism and sectarianism should be everyone's duty, those experiencing it and witnessing it alike"

By the end of November 2013, members of the formed interagency group from ethnic minority communities, an Garda Siochana, Social Authorities, Sporting Bodies, Government Departments, Social Partners and broader Civil Society including Cultural Groups and special groups such as Asylum Seekers and Refugees living in Sligo will be fully empowered to deal with racist and sectarian incidents including helping in reporting, supporting and referring cases to appropriate statutory services.

The information and trends generated from annual database analysis will be used for further advocacy work and Policy and legislative change at County Council Level.

END

EDITOR NOTES:

- This project has been funded by the PEACE III Programme through the European Union's European Regional Development Fund managed for the Special EU programmes Body by Sligo County Council on behalf of Sligo Peace & Reconciliation Partnership Committee.

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