CHANGING LIVES DLR

Supporting Parents & Babies

"The impact it's had on me, and my family, has been great. My daughter is much happier day to day. She loves it. Happier baby equals happier Mammy!"

"It's so helpful for parents to have somewhere to go, because it can be quite isolating."

"It helps to have a real person to talk to and not just Google everything. Someone always has a solution."

"Matteo, as an only child, is getting to interact with other babies. Learning how to navigate everything has just been phenomenal."

- PEEP Parents, Gemma & Jane.

PEEP+ DLR is a programme for parents and their young children who live in disadvantaged communities in DLR county. PEEP+ stands for Parents as Early Education Partners and it is based on a tried and tested model. A University of Oxford study of its impact found positive effects on parent/child interactions and the quality of the care-giving environment at home. It also found an increased rate of progress for the children in early literacy development. Group sessions are held weekly for parents and their children aged 0-2 years, in disadvantaged areas and located within pram-pushing distance. Through a range of joint activities parents are supported to build strong, secure relationships with their child, learn how to help their child's learning and play, and strengthen their child's emotional and cognitive development.

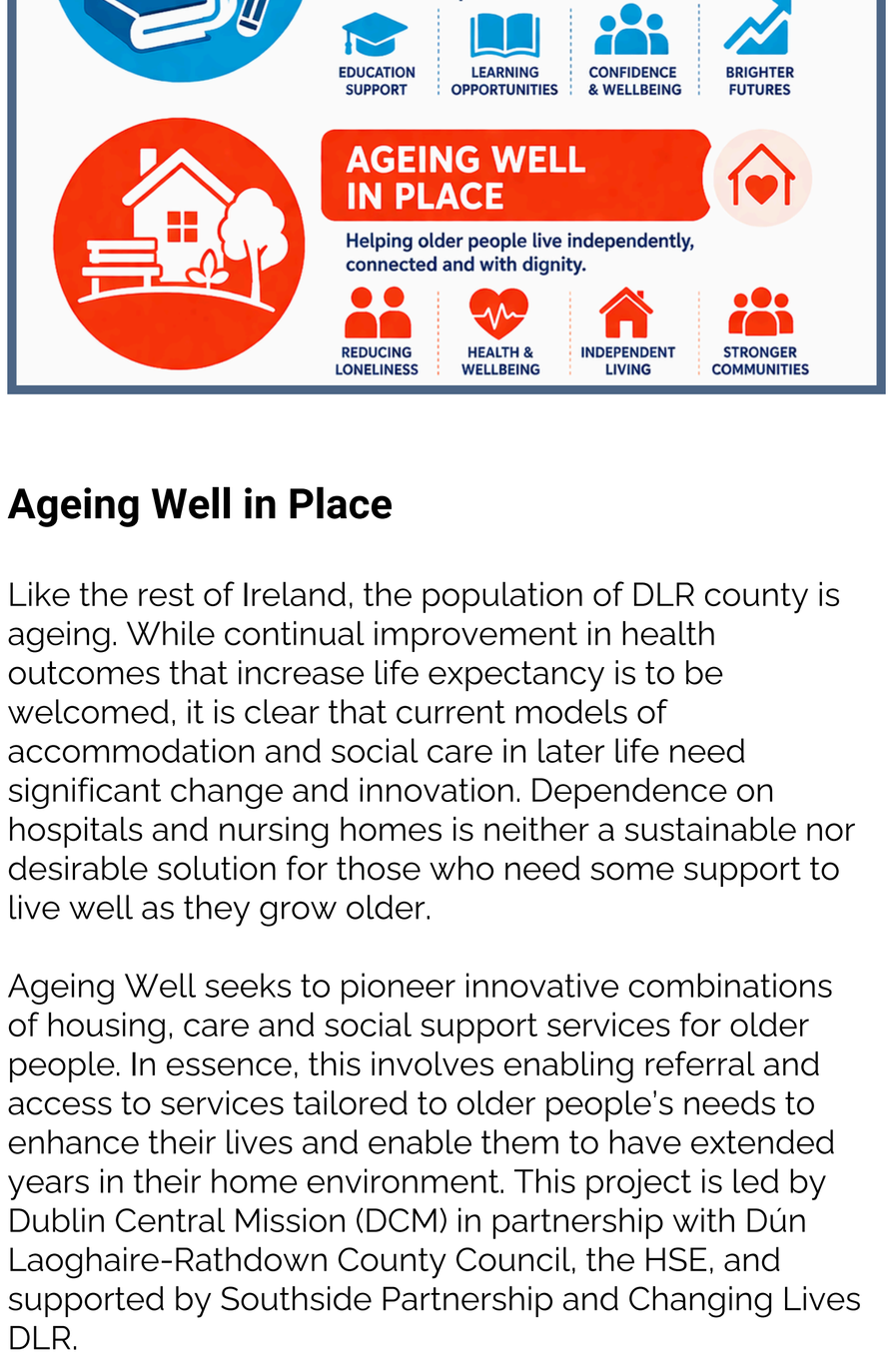
Keeping Kids in School

Despite DLR's apparent prosperity, there are many small and often hidden, communities in the county, where people experience low levels of employment and job security and have poor educational progression. There can be high incidences of mental distress, addiction and domestic violence. Amidst apparent affluence, people in such communities can experience a sense of marginalisation, and invisibility and feel forgotten and overlooked. Education is a proven route out of poverty and disadvantage, but attending school and keeping up is not always easy or straightforward.Holly House is open five days a week during school term and includes a Homework Club for primary school students; an After School Programme for 4-7 year olds; grinds for Junior Cert and Leaving Cert students in small groups; and a range of life skills and health and wellbeing activities for children, their families and the wider community.

"We know that early school leaving leads to long-term unemployment. We're here to break the cycle of disadvantage."

- Sandra King, Southside Partnership.

Find Out More



Ageing Well in Place

Like the rest of Ireland, the population of DLR county is ageing. While continual improvement in health outcomes that increase life expectancy is to be welcomed, it is clear that current models of accommodation and social care in later life need significant change and innovation. Dependence on hospitals and nursing homes is neither a sustainable nor desirable solution for those who need some support to live well as they grow older.

Ageing Well seeks to pioneer innovative combinations of housing, care and social support services for older people. In essence, this involves enabling referral and access to services tailored to older people's needs to enhance their lives and enable them to have extended years in their home environment. This project is led by Dublin Central Mission (DCM) in partnership with Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council, the HSE, and supported by Southside Partnership and Changing Lives DLR.