Cork Kerry Refugee Resettlement Initiative

 A new initiative aimed at improving the health outcomes of Syrian and Iraqi
 Refugees residing in CHO4.



Áit shábháilte (Safe Place)

• An Innovative and Community Orientated Multi-Tiered Approach to meeting the mental health and psychosocial needs of Refugee families in Cork and Kerry was established in 2017 as a direct response to the arrival of 70 Syrian an Iraqi Refugee family.







Responses

<u>Immediate</u>

- HSE handbook on access to services, translated to Arabic
- Useful contact numbers/local resources pack
- Emergency contact numbers magnet-English & Arabic.
- English classes booklet-a guide for healthcare professionals and frontline staff.
- Health talks on vaccinations and Women's Health checks
- Health Literacy Programme
- Appointment translation card
- Advocacy, guidance and support with accessing healthcare, navigating health systems and appointment follow ups

Responses

Medium Term

- Focus on education, career guidance, personal development plan.
- Befriending
- Specific/targeted workshops as needs arise e.g. widowed women.

Long Term

- Active citizenship and political participation
- Naturalisation
- Individualised action plans
- Exit strategy

Evidence Based Interventions

Targeted at frontline staff to increase knowledge, improve workforce capacity and to improve outcomes for refugee families (multi-agency approach)

- →Intercultural Training
- →Self care Workshops
- →Trauma Training-protection against vicarious trauma

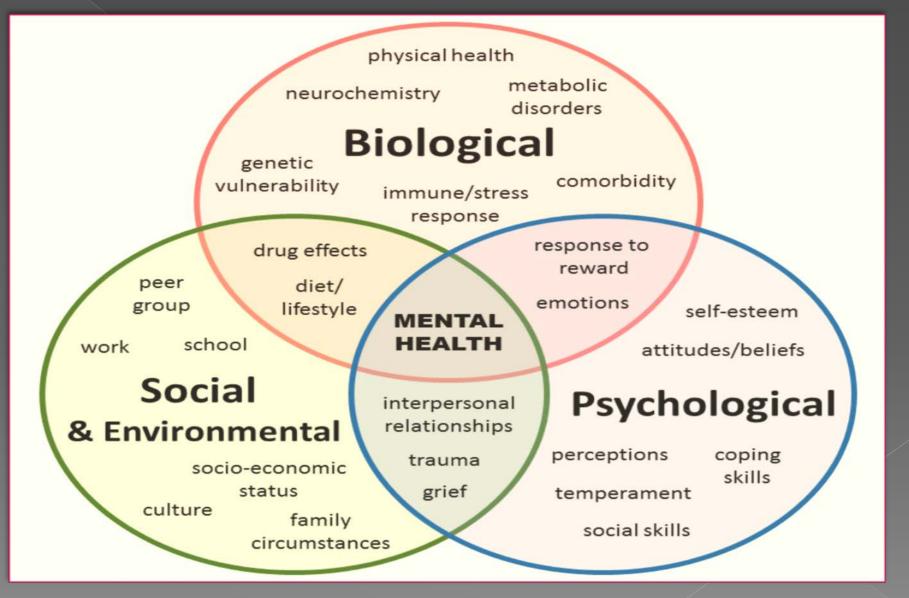
Challenges

Refugees	Services
Acculturation —	
Loss of self/country/culture	Awareness/Education
Grief	Governance
Trauma/PTSD	Provision of interpretation
Language	Culture/Attitudes
Racism/Discrimination	Time
Housing	Alternative frameworks
Employment access	Trauma informed
Disruption to education	Vicarious trauma
Children's development	Resource burn out
Qualification recognition	
Expectations	

Models of Practice to Elicit Needs and to Improve Health Outcomes

- 1) Social Determinants of Health:
 - social inequalities such as poverty, education, access to health and housing lead to health inequalities.
- 2) Person Centred/Partnership Approach
 - fosters independence
 - works on *strengths*
 - improves mental wellbeing
 - gives agency/autonomy over self
 - sustainable

3) Bio psycho social model



Case Studies

- Family Reunification
 - trials and tribulations in unchartered territory
- Resettlement
 - when the outcomes are almost too good to be true

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 - Many thanks for listening