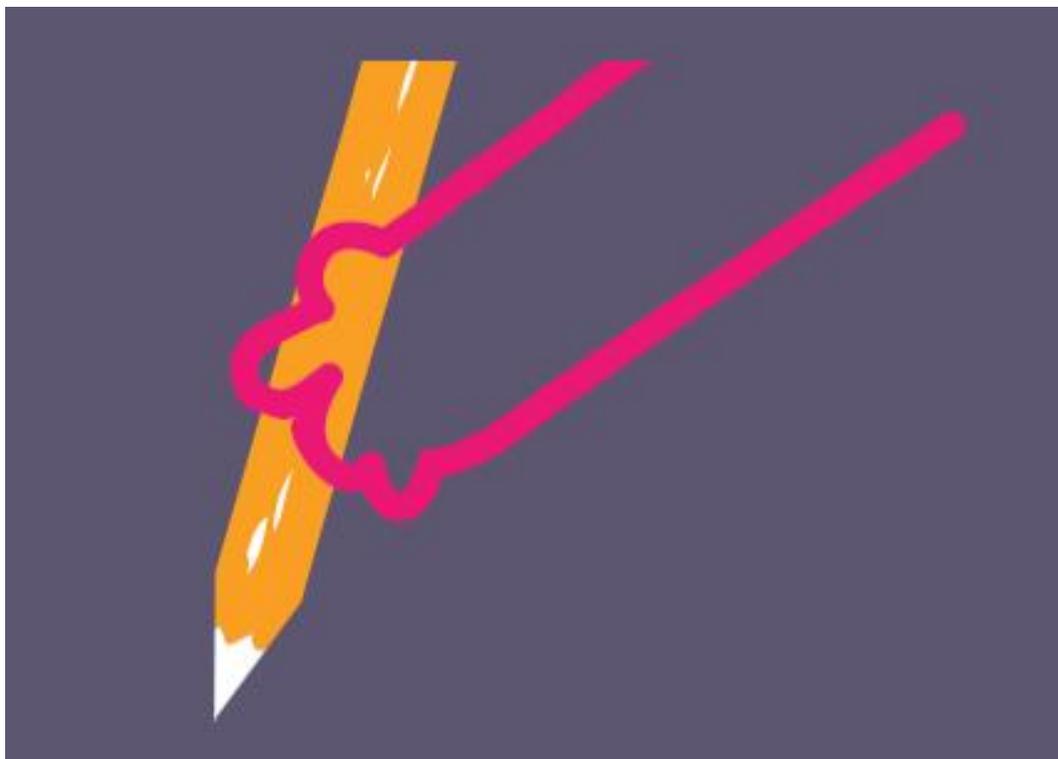




Talking about Ireland's Draft State Report on the UNCRPD



This is an Easy to Read Report

About Mental Health Reform



This information has been put together by Mental Health Reform, also known as MHR.



MHR gives advice to the Government, its organisations, and the public on mental health issues.



We want to have better mental health services and supports in Ireland.



We want everyone in Ireland to get the support they need to have the best mental health they can.



We can do this with good policies and research, by sharing ideas, and by speaking up about mental health.

Our Work on the UNCRPD



The UNCRPD stands for the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.



Ireland must send a report to a committee at the United Nations every four years. This State report says how we are doing with the UNCRPD.



Mental Health Reform is a member of the Disability Participation and Consultation Network or DPCN.



The DPCN talked with members of the public about the UNCRPD.



MHR helped to give the public information about the UNCRPD.

We held an online information session.



We talked to the public about how Ireland is putting the UNCRPD into action and about the State report.

We held two online meetings.



We talked to our members about the parts of the UNCRPD that are most important to them.



- Work
- Education
- Health
- Access to Justice
- Raising awareness
- Government supports.



We wrote a report with our feedback on the first draft of the State report.



An Roinn Leanaí, Coibhionannais,
Míchumais, Lánpháirtíochta agus Óige
Department of Children, Equality,
Disability, Integration and Youth

We sent this to the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth.



MHR wants to thank everyone that took part in our meetings and gave their views.



We hope the UNCRPD will bring good changes to the rights of persons with disabilities.

What Our Report Said



The State report should say more about how the UNCRPD is being put into action.



It should give more information about laws and policies that support the rights of persons with disabilities.



The State report should show what life is really like for persons with disabilities in Ireland.

It should be honest about the challenges that people and the State face.



MHR talked about a number of important things for good mental health services.

Sharing the Vision
A Mental Health Policy
for Everyone.



Laws and Policies

We need laws to change so the UNCRPD and policies like 'Sharing the Vision' can be put into action.



The Mental Health Act 2001 needs to be updated.
The Assisted Decision Making Act should start.



'Sharing the Vision' talks about working together and supporting people to make decisions about their own mental health.

It says that mental health services should change to meet the person's needs and wishes.



There should be a plan and more resources so the ideas in this policy can become real actions.



Work and Employment

It can be very hard for persons with mental health disabilities to get and keep a job.



Many people on Disability Allowance have mental health disabilities.

Some of these people would like to work if they had the right supports.



Our members say that the Disability Allowance payment is not enough money to have a good quality of life.



The payment does not allow for the extra costs of having a disability.

This could be the cost of medication, equipment or transport.



Some people do not want to say that they have a mental health disability.
They are afraid they will not be treated fairly at work.



This can stop them asking for the supports that they need to do the job.



Some people with mental health disabilities said they are paid less money and have less job opportunities than other people.



It can be hard to use the law to help with problems at work.
For example, the costs are high and cases can take a long time to get to court.



There should be more information and supports to help people to get and keep a job.



A programme called IPS is supporting persons with mental health disabilities to get work.

There should be money to roll this out across the country.



There should be more training for staff in Intreo so they know how to support persons with mental health disabilities.



People should be able to take a job without losing money or other benefits such as the medical card.



Education

There are good policies for mental health in schools in Ireland.

It is important that these are put into action across the country.



School staff need to get the right information and training to support young people with mental health disabilities.



There are long waiting lists for children that need health and education supports.

The State report should show this.



It can be hard to get clear information on services and supports and how to get them.



Not getting the right supports can affect a child's wellbeing and education.



Some people have to pay for private services. These cost a lot of money.



There should be more supports for people that want to stay in education part-time.



More education supports are needed for students with mental health disabilities.

This is so they can look after their mental health and go to school or college.



Health

More work is needed to support persons with mental health disabilities to make choices about their healthcare.



There should be better supports for persons that are deaf and have mental health disabilities.
This means better access to sign language services.



There are money barriers that stop people using health services.

There are public and private services and this can be hard to understand and manage.



The drug and alcohol plan for Ireland is not talked about enough in the State report.



There are technology barriers that stop some people from using health services.



Services and supports are different in different parts of the country.

Better plans are needed to make things fairer.



There are too many staff changes in mental health services.

The people using these services are not happy with this.



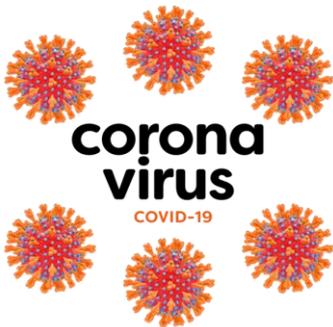
Some people do not feel they are treated with dignity and respect in mental health services.

Freedom from cruel treatment



We are worried about prisoners with mental health disabilities.

Some do not get the special mental health care that they need.

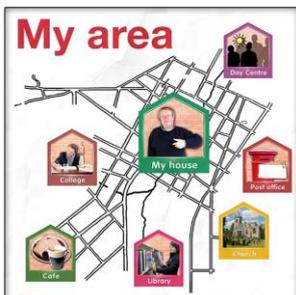


COVID-19 has meant extra problems for mental health services in prisons.

For example, no family visits or less mental health supports.



More talking therapies are needed so we do not use medication too often to treat mental health disabilities.



More supports are needed in the community to stop persons with mental health disabilities coming into the justice system.



Government Supports

Money supports from the Government should help people to take part in education and work.



There should be better ways to check if people with mental health disabilities need these money supports.



It can be very hard to apply for social welfare and other supports.

For example, application forms can be hard for a person that feels anxious, cannot read and write, or speaks a different language.

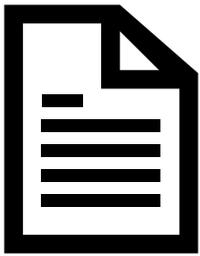


There should be new rules for benefits such as the Partial Capacity Benefit.



Collecting information

The State does not collect enough information to check on mental health services in Ireland.



This information is called data.

We need data to plan services and supports for people in Ireland.



Mental health data should show if policies and plans are working.

It should show the cost of different supports.



Data should show how people use supports and how they move from one mental health service to another.

More information



Mental Health Reform are providing training and information on the UNCRPD.



You can find resources, reports and webinars on our website at mentalhealthreform.ie.



For more information, please contact us at info@mentalhealthreform.ie

You can call us on 01 874 9468



An Roinn Leanaí, Comhionannais,
Míchumais, Lánpháirtíochta agus Óige
Department of Children, Equality,
Disability, Integration and Youth

This project is supported by the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth

