

INFO CARD – Know about community Groups and the roles they play in your locality

What is a community group?

Community Groups are connecting points for our community. They are usually a group of people with a similar interest who gather to share and support each other and others.



Different Community Groups

[TidyTowns](#)

Tidy Towns is a National competition and the success of the National Competition from the 1950s onwards encouraged many other bodies, notably local authorities and communities themselves, to organise their own initiatives under the TidyTowns banner thereby spreading the message far and wide. Hundreds of thousands of people have participated in local TidyTowns initiatives of every shape and size over the last fifty years, each with an experience and story to tell as valid as those who took part in the national initiative. Their input has made a massive contribution to making TidyTowns the national movement that it is today.

[St Vincent de Paul](#)

The aim of the St Vincent de Paul Society is to tackle poverty in all its forms through the provision of practical assistance to those in need. The concept of need is broader than financial hardship, so visiting the sick, the lonely, the imprisoned form a large proportion of the Society's work. The Society operates in small groups, called "Conferences", based on local parishes which meet regularly and their work is usually concentrated on local visiting.

[The Simon Community](#)

The Simon Communities in Ireland is an affiliation of local Communities in Cork, Dublin, Dundalk, Galway, the Midlands, the South East, the North West and the Mid-West. Simon Communities across the country provide support and services to between 4,500 and 5,000 individuals and families experiencing or at risk of homelessness every year.

[ISPCC](#)

The Irish Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (ISPCC) is Ireland's oldest and most well-known children's charity. The ISPCC has a long, proud history of service delivery and advocacy on behalf of children. The ISPCC aims to create an Ireland where children are heard and valued. The aim is to provide independent, unique services which are preventative and empowering in nature.

Getting Involved

These organisations play huge and vital roles in communities along with many more. One thing in common with all of these organisations is that success is possible by the dedication, determination and good will of volunteers. It is for these reason why getting involved in community groups is so important and so rewarding. Do you think that as a Patrol or Troop that you might be able to do something to help in a local community group in your area?