



A Look at the Impact of the Promoting Reconciliation and Integration through Safe Mediation (PRISM) Project Update

THEME:

Building Positive Relations: Regional Level

FUNDING (ERDF + Match):

€613,600.92

MATCH FUNDERS:

The Executive Office NI and the Department for Rural and Community Development, Ireland

LEAD PARTNER:

British Red Cross

PROJECT PARTNERS:

ArtsEkta, Corrymeela, Irish Red Cross, British Red Cross

Start Date: 01/09/2017

End Date: 31/03/2021



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The PRISM project helped to implement an integration and good relations programme to participants from the Catholic; Protestant; Refugee; Asylum Seekers and Vulnerable Migrant communities across Northern Ireland and the border counties of Ireland.

Participants engaged in user 'contact models' that explored perceived tension points, identified commonalities and developed integration pathways to ensure the continuation of peace-building activities and multi-cultural promotion, as well as the enhancement of local diversity.

Focusing on arts and holistic therapies, participants enjoyed activities such as massage, sound healing, dance, flower arranging and basket making, providing an environment for everyone to talk in a safe place.

In February 2021 PRISM held a special week-long online conference to celebrate its key achievements. As part of the event, PRISM unveiled a research report, gathered throughout the duration of the project, with key findings and a pathway to future improvements. Download a copy [HERE](#)

"I met people from all around the world and there was a great diversity and multiple nationalities...I enjoyed cultural sharing and learned a lot about other cultures while taking part in the range of exciting arts activities."

"I knew I was saying things about my story in front of people who would find it difficult. Without respect, it's hard to get your voice heard and people interrupt you and you are subject to their agenda. It was different here – people listened."

"I realised they were like us. They had conflict in their country just like us and they have responsibilities. We bonded over children."

Participant Reflections