

# Equal right to health for all...

Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and wellbeing of themselves and their family

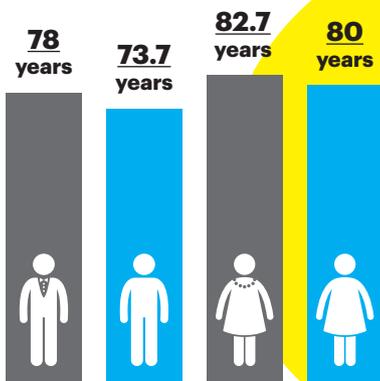
The United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights



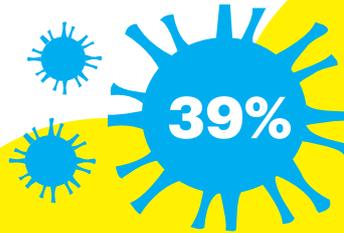
Community Platform

...but this right is being denied to people living in poverty and social exclusion.

Did you know that:



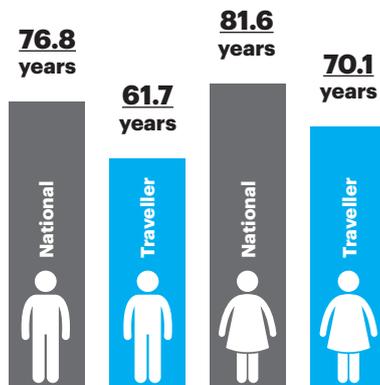
... you will die younger. Men die 4.3 years earlier and women die 2.7 years earlier compared to affluent areas...



...you have a 39% higher chance of dying from cancer...

Living in a disadvantaged area means...

...you are three times more likely to have severe depression...



Traveller men die 15.1 years earlier than the general population and Traveller women die 11.5 years earlier



1 in 6 Irish adults cannot read, understand and act on basic health information

**345**

345 homeless people died in the Dublin region between 2005-2015



In the first half of 2016, 201 Deaf people reported significant barriers in accessing services. 2 out of 3 cases (64%) related to health contexts

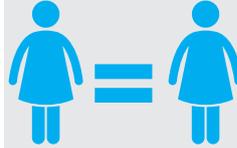
## This must change!

Ireland must address the causes of poor health and inequality and build a more inclusive health service.

# The Government must deliver a high level of health and wellbeing where:



The causes of health inequalities are identified and addressed



Everyone has equal access to a free publically funded and high quality health and social care system



Everyone has access to primary and social care according to need



The health service is built and maintained on a culture which treats everyone with respect and dignity no matter what their background, ability or identity



People have a say in health policies and programmes and can claim their right to health



The Irish State acts responsibly in relation to the health of people beyond its borders

From the Community Platform Six principles for an inclusive health policy.

## What can you do to make this a reality?

Inform yourself about the unequal health outcomes for many people and communities in our society.

Demand the implementation of the all-party [Sláintecare](#) plan for reforming the health service and ensure it addresses health inequalities.

Remind the Government that it must realise its commitment in the [Healthy Ireland](#) strategy to addressing health inequalities.

Make yourself aware and promote the [Public Sector Duty](#) which places a legal duty on public sector bodies to have regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, promote equality, and protect human rights, in their daily work.



**Community Platform**

The Community Platform is a network of 27 national networks and organisations in the community and voluntary sector working to address poverty, social exclusion and inequality.

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