



Linking Generations
Northern Ireland

Linking Generations NI

Aim of organisation:

Linking Generations Northern Ireland (LGNI) was established in 2008 with the vision of a Northern Ireland where all generations are respected, understood, connected and engaged together in their communities. LGNI have led the way in connecting generations in communities across Northern Ireland since 2008. As the development body for Intergenerational Practice, LGNI promotes the concept, benefits and principles of high quality intergenerational work across all sectors. LGNI operates under the umbrella of the Beth Johnson Foundation (BJF), a UK national charity dedicated to making a future for all ages. It is important to recognise LGNI as a small self-sufficient Northern Ireland initiative.

Social Challenge:

Keeping Generations Connected during and after Covid- 19. The Covid-19 Pandemic has drastically affected the way that LGNI and the community we support work. We are unable to bring generations together physically face to face. Our major challenge is how we keep generations connected and engaged safely using digital technology. Social isolation particularly impacts older people who may be living alone and with all community activity being on hold with limited or no access to digital technology are feeling cut off from the world. This is having a devastating impact of Mental Health and wellbeing, and we know that an intergenerational approach and connection can help to break down feelings of loneliness by building positive interaction and connections. There are many evidenced benefits of intergenerational activities including Increased confidence, self-worth, well-being, understanding, respect, safety. Leading to more cohesive, connected, safe communities.

Techie Support Sought:

Seeking to develop, build or integrate a cost effective, easy to use, interactive digital solution that enables the safe and meaningful connection via video technology of generations (in care homes, schools and community settings) to utilise resources, and activities to carry out intergenerational activities in two different places.

