

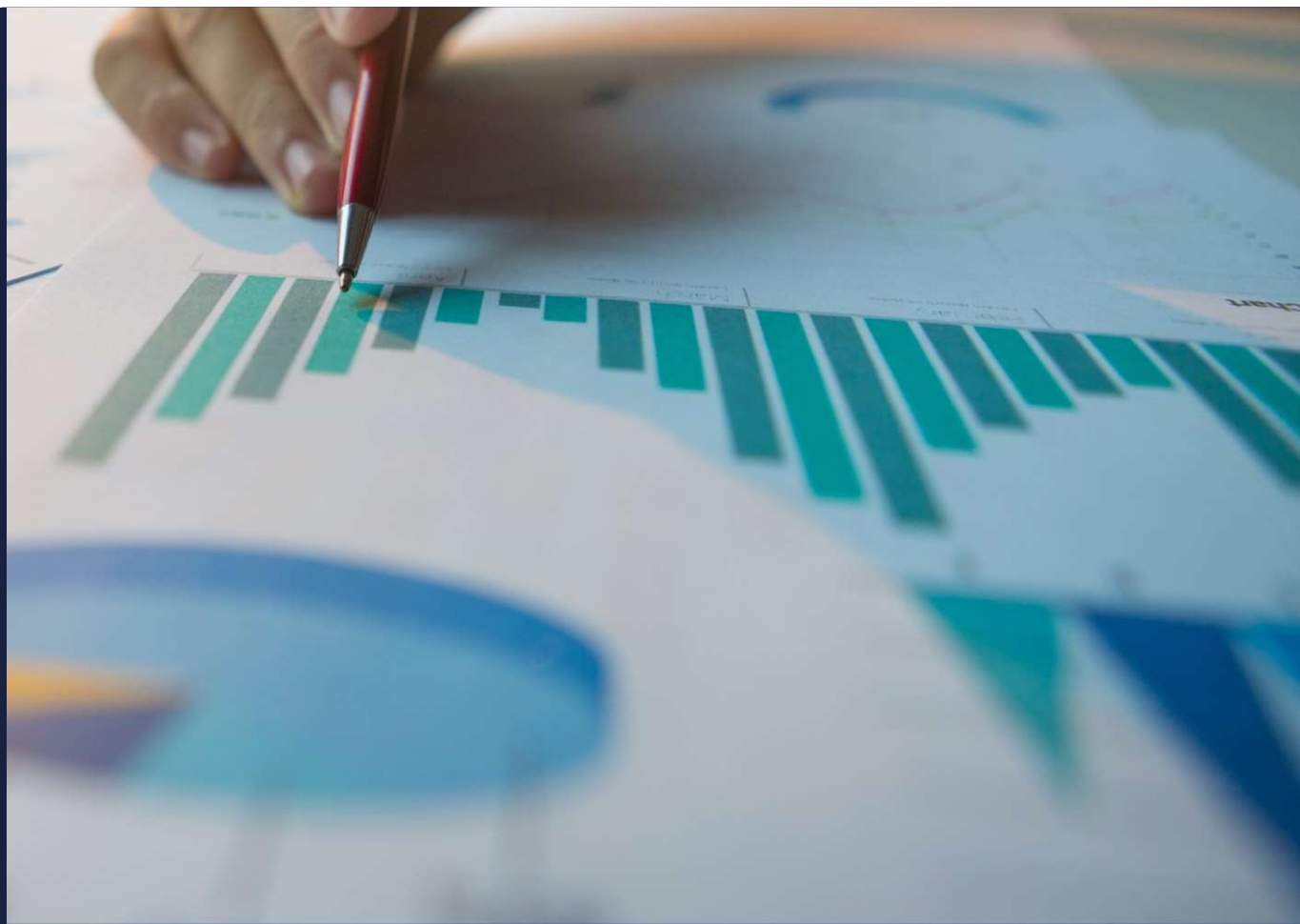
# Energy Poverty Conference 2024

## DATE

6<sup>th</sup> November 2024

## VENUE

ESRI, Whitaker Square, Sir  
John Rogerson's Quay,  
Dublin 2





# Energy Poverty among Older People: Insights from ALONE

Dr Aileen O'Reilly, Head of Research, Evaluation & Policy

6<sup>th</sup> November 2024





YOU'RE NOT ALONE

## Who We Are

**Our Vision:** An Ireland where older people can age happily and securely at home and are strongly connected to their communities

**Our Mission:** Lead the drive to support positive ageing at home, strengthen our services, innovate and create new services, be more sustainable and realise our full potential as we grow



# What We Do

Improved quality of life

Improved independence

Improved physical and mental health

Increased wellbeing

# Integrated Services

**Coordinated Support:**  
One point of contact to help and facilitate ageing at home.



**Support and Befriending:**  
Regular visits, help with practical tasks, telephone services and social prescribing.

**Helpline for older people**



**0818 222 024**

Call ALONE between **8am-8pm** if you have concerns about your own wellbeing, or of an older person you know. Visit [HSE.ie](https://www.hse.ie) for updated factual information and advice.



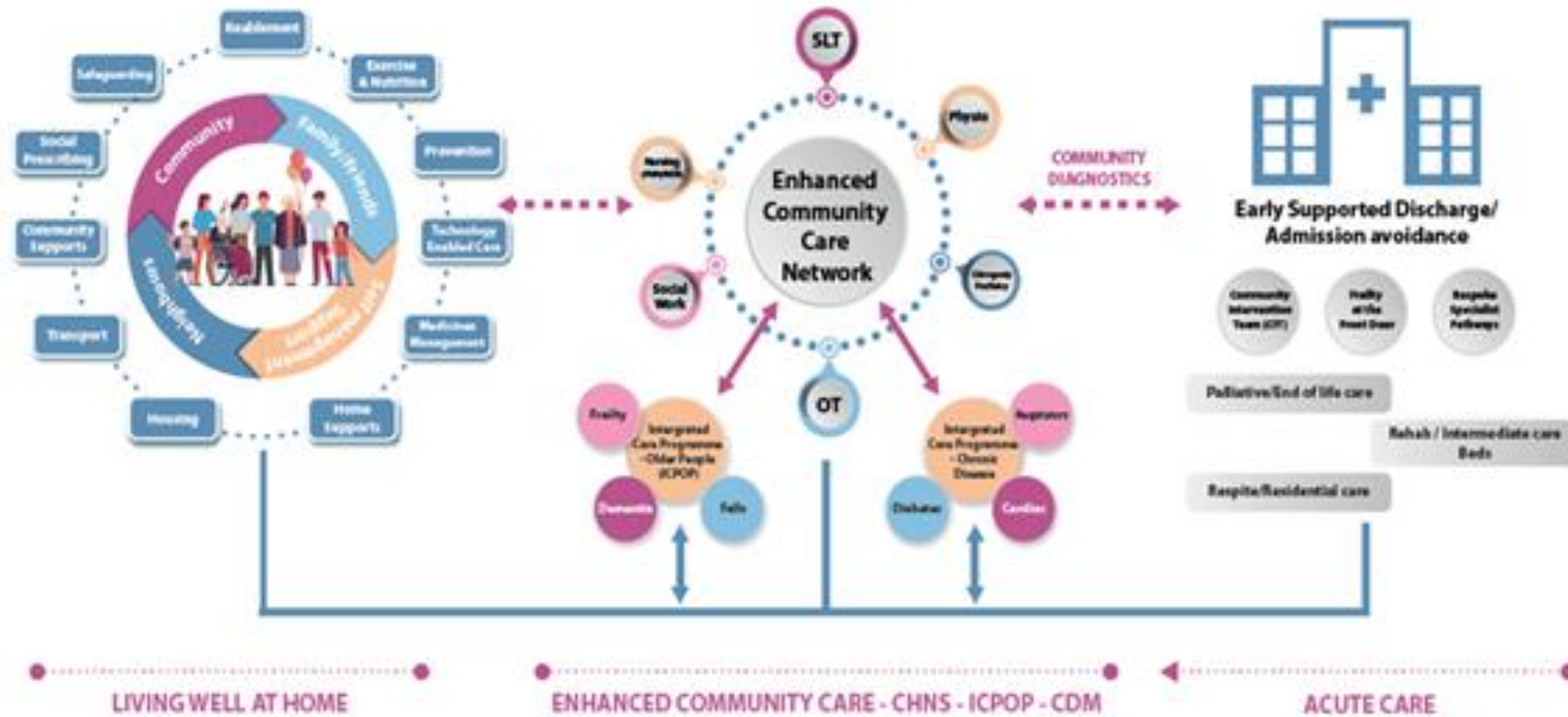
**Housing with Supports:**  
Provides age friendly housing to older people.

**Technology:**  
Using technology to build networks and enable older people to stay secure and well while living independently



# Enhanced Community Care – Home First

Shift left of Resources & Activity



# Community Impact Network

## Statutory Services and government departments

- Discharges/Referral Pathways
- Befriending
- Hospitals, Community & Tech-Enabled Care
- Campaigns
- Housing Facility & Conditions Report

## Local Authorities & AHBs

- Housing with Support

- St. Marys Hospital, Dublin
- Clonskeagh Hospital



BEAUMONT HOSPITAL



Tallaght University Hospital



Sláintecare.



NORTHSIDE HOME CARE SERVICES



An Roinn Sláinte DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH



Comhairle Contae County Council



circle VOLUNTARY HOUSING ASSOCIATION



Age Friendly IRELAND



Comhairle Cathrach Bhaile Átha Cliath Dublin City Council



An Roinn Tithíochta, Pleanála agus Rialtais Áitiúil Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government



Wexford County Council



Money Advice & Budgeting Service



LGBT IRELAND



Your supporting light through depression



cross care



AgeAction For all older people



Engaging Dementia



Threshold Solving housing problems, preventing homelessness



Age & Opportunity



CARANUA support for survivors of institutional abuse



The Alliance of Age Sector NGOs

164 CIN members

## NGO & Community Groups:

- Training for staff & volunteers on: Budgeting, LGBT, depression, dementia, Care & Repair
- Campaign for housing needs
- Social Prescribing/ Activities & events for older people to attend
- NGO stakeholder collaboration & action



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# Research and Evaluation in ALONE

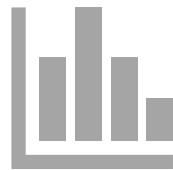


## Provide Impact through Robust Monitoring and Evaluation

Develop robust monitoring and evaluation framework including enhancing organisational KPIs, metrics, augmenting existing report systems and processes

Enhance data mgt and quality using technology

Embed operationally relevant impact measurement



## Conduct Cutting-edge Research to Shape a New Ageing Paradigm

- Commission research to influence policy, decision-making, services
- Drive establishment of national Loneliness Taskforce Research Network to drive development of evidence-based policies/services
- Prioritise voices of older people, families, volunteers in our research



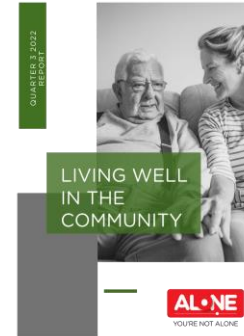
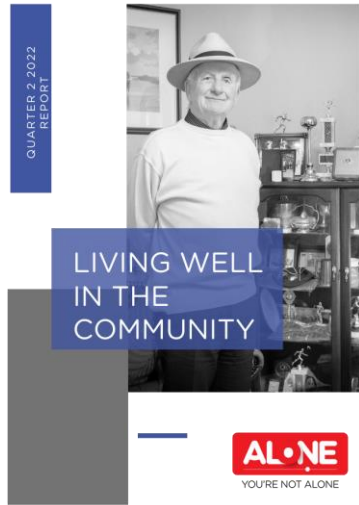
## Disseminate Evidence to Inform National Policy, Decision-making, and Service Provision

- Promote ALONE model of support through dissemination to general audience and scientific publications
- Drive translation of evidence into policy advice and recommendations
- Close research/service translation evidence gap by ensuring evidence contributes to knowledge on what works best for services



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# ALONE ECC Reports

# ALONE Services 2023

38,042 older  
people supported  
across all services

12,108 unique  
older people  
newly supported

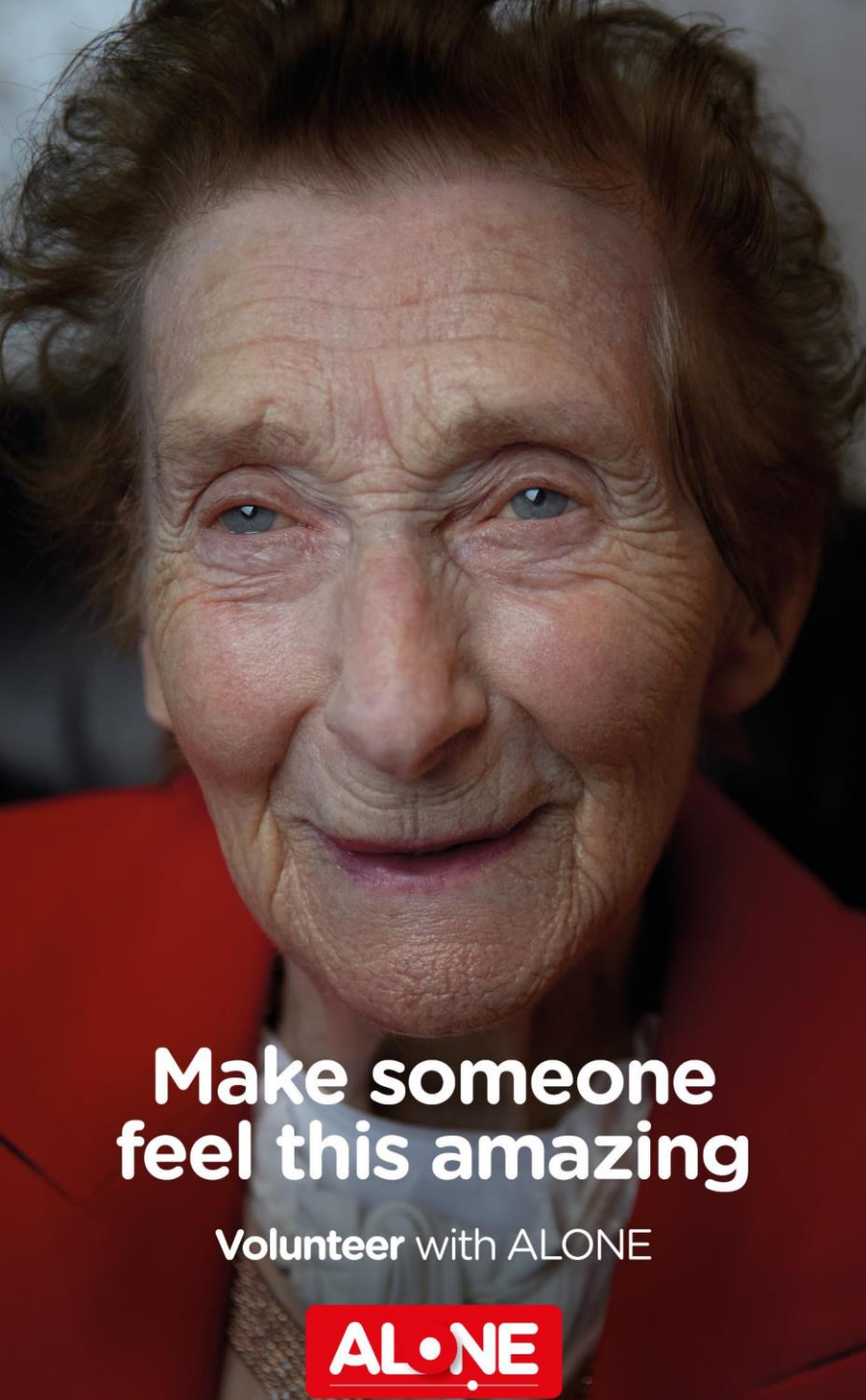
47,260  
interventions

91,098 visits

219,462 support  
and befriending  
telephone calls

26,413 NSRL calls

154 CIN member  
organisations



Make someone  
feel this amazing

Volunteer with ALONE



# ALONE Volunteers 2023



7,267 volunteers engaged  
in ALONE in 2023



Volunteers contributed  
support worth €6.21  
million in 2023\*

CHO Area	Volunteers Engaged
CHO1	779
CHO2	718
CHO3	554
CHO4	708
CHO5	699
CHO6	823
CHO7	1,112
CHO8	769
CHO9	1,101

**Note:** Based on average hourly earnings, and calculation from Charities Institute Social and Economic Report 2018

[Registered Irish Charities - Social and Economic Impact Report 2018 \(charitiesregulator.ie\)](https://www.charitiesregulator.ie/Reports/Registered-Irish-Charities-Social-and-Economic-Impact-Report-2018)



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# Who came to ALONE?

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62% female

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58% aged 71-85

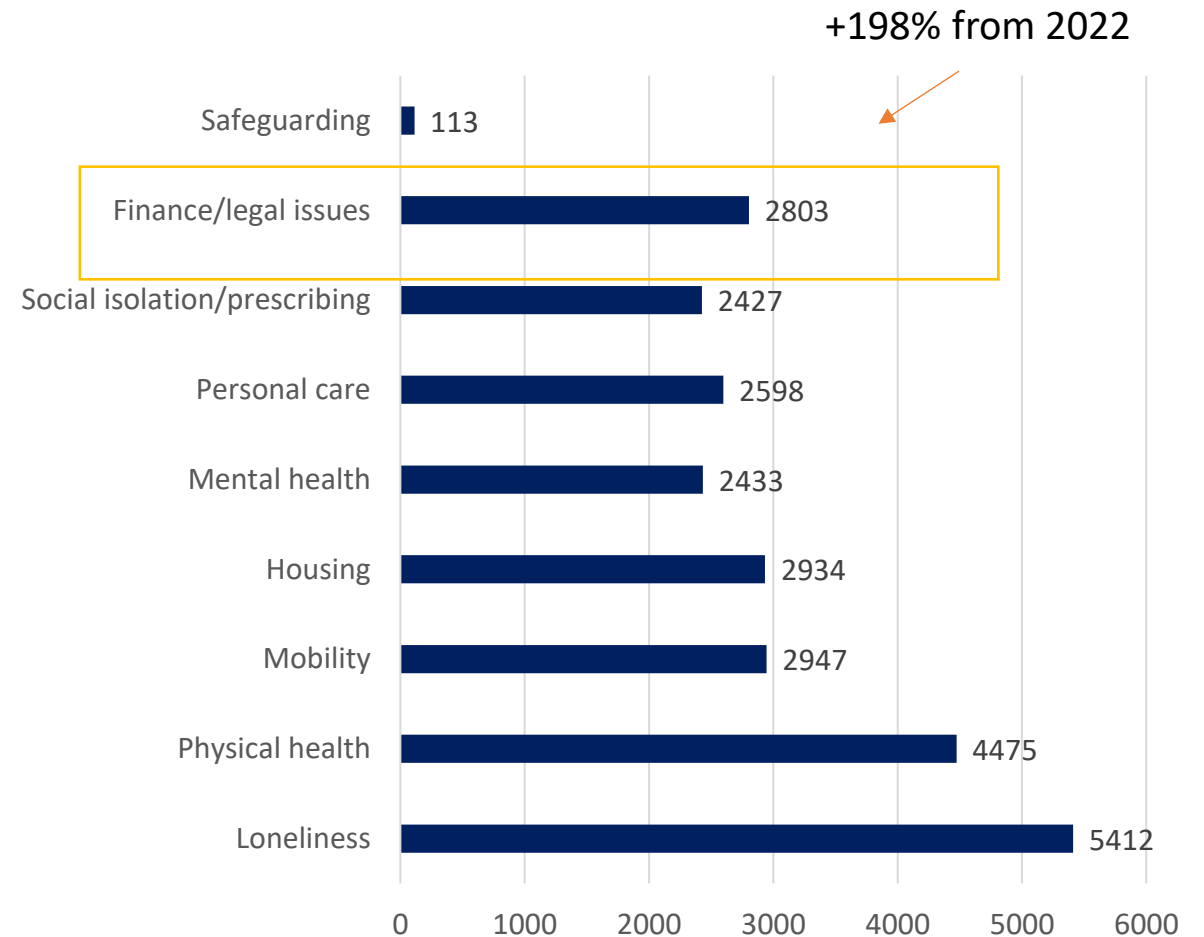
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56% living alone

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76% owned home

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# Energy Poverty as an Issue for Older People

- Increase in older people living alone unable to keep home warm from 8.9% to 10.6% (SILC, 2023)
- Older people (living alone) more at risk of energy poverty due to:
  - Low income
  - High expenditure on fuel/heating
  - Higher reliance on oil/solid fuel (49%)
  - Energy inefficient homes
- Can increase risk of mortality and physical/mental health problems (McLoughlin & Scarlett, 2018; Orr et al., 2016)

“I had an (sic) horrible winter because I didn't heat the house enough, and didn't eat properly, it impacted my health. I have savings but I feel like the cost of living crisis is robbing me of everything and I won't have anything for emergency.”

# ALONE's Work on Energy Poverty

- Partnership commenced in 2022/23 with DECC
  - "Stay Warm and Well" campaign
  - Promotion of NSRL - 11,200 calls with 1,300 specifically for winter concerns
  - 2,2341 successful applications to hardship funds for energy credits
  - 3,650 interventions e.g. fuel allowance, exceptional needs payments
- Energy Poverty campaigning based on policy asks

