

### Street Feast Sligo

Brought to you by



Supported nationally by the Department of Community & Rural Development. Street Feast is a Neighbourhood Network initiative.









"Getting out after the two years we've had is a big deal.

Just sitting down, chatting, having something to eat - it sounds very simple but the power of it is extraordinary for the individual; for that sense of community... to stave off all the things that have been challenging people, like isolation and mental health.

When you feel part of a community those challenges are easier to manage - you can keep them at bay"

Minister Joe O'Brien

Department of Rural & Community Development

"Street Feast is just an amazing, amazing event...
We're just enjoying the food and the company, the friends... Everyone's like family here, and do you know what, it's just the best event that brings everyone together! We love it!"

Laura O'Connor, Community

Garda



# Thank you for your invaluable support of Street Feast Sligo 2022.

Thanks to Sligo PPN, **12** Street Feasts were registered in your local area bringing an estimated **1,104** neighbours together, contributing to approximately **88,320** participants nationwide\*.

\*from an average of 92 participants per feast



### Street Feast

is Ireland's nationwide day of street parties, community celebrations and neighbourhood lunches, which took place across the country on Sunday 26th June 2022.

Established in 2010, it has grown steadily over the years. This year 960 Street Feast events were held nationwide and an estimated 88,320 people took part.







### A Playful Street Feast

This year we partnered with Change X through the Lego Foundation 's Build a World of Play initiative to bring more play, more fun and more energy to our Street Feasts!













Rialtas na hÉireann Government of Ireland



















THE TIMES

















Full press clippings

#### Radio Interviews











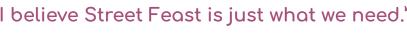




Interest was generated by Street Feast's Sam Bishop's appearances on the Ray Darcy show and the Alison Curtis show on Today FM, along with regional radio interviews -East Coast FM, Midlands Radio 3, Radio Kerry, WLR FM, South East Radio.

"I heard your spokesperson person on our local radio station this morning & thought it would be a nice gesture for our lovely neighbours. The lockdowns brought us closer together but now that everyone's returned to work, we're back to just saluting at our cars.

I believe Street Feast is just what we need."





Patrick Carroll, Host Street Feast Waterford 2022

### IRELAND WEATHER: MET EIREANN WARNS 17 COUNTIES OF EXTREME RAIN AND THUNDERSTORMS AS TERRIBLE WASHOUT WEEKEND BEGINS



Ireland is in for a wet and windy weekend as a band of rain and strong squalls sweeps across the country, starting in the west and spreading east.

# Weather Warnings & Street Feast 2022

The Street Feast Team has provided continued support for Street Feasts that were rescheduled to dates throughout July, August and September due to extreme weather warnings.

"The ONLY challenge we had was the weather. But, we loved every minute of it!"

Gina Duffy, (Host, Dublin City Street Feast)





In the following slides,

you'll find a selection of photos and quotes

from Street Feast 2022 including Street Feast Sligo 2022

As well as some statistics about Street Feast 2022 overall.

We hope you enjoy!





"Thanks so much to you and the streat feast team - we will be back on board next year for sure!"

Linda Hegarty, (Host, Street Feast Sligo 2022)

"Like everywhere else, our neighborhood got a bit isolated over Covid.

We all need something to celebrate each new day!"

Kathleen Pearse (Host, Street Feast Silgo 2022)





Local businesses were so kind! We had three prizes for the draw contributed by the Sligo Park Hotel across the road - and the Spar on the corner."

Linda Hegarty, (Host, Street Feast Sligo 2022)



"We've worked to keep everyone safe and connected through covid...

Now the time is right to Ceílí."

Geraldine Courtenay (Motivations to host, Sligo 2022)



"We added a tin can garden project in addition to all the street games provided in the fun box!"

Linda Hegarty (Host, Street Feast Sligo, 2022)

# The Impact

### Taking the First Step towards Community

We've discovered that hosting a Street Feast is typically the first participative activity that residents do in their neighbourhood. It's the first step towards getting to know each other. It's the first step towards building community.

"We haven't met up in 2yrs in my area.

We have new people moved in on our street and it would be nice to get to know them. Everyone keeps very much to themselves which is a shame.

I am living here a long time and it would be nice to have a sense of Community Spirit."

Ger Lynch, (Motivation to Host, Sligo 2022)





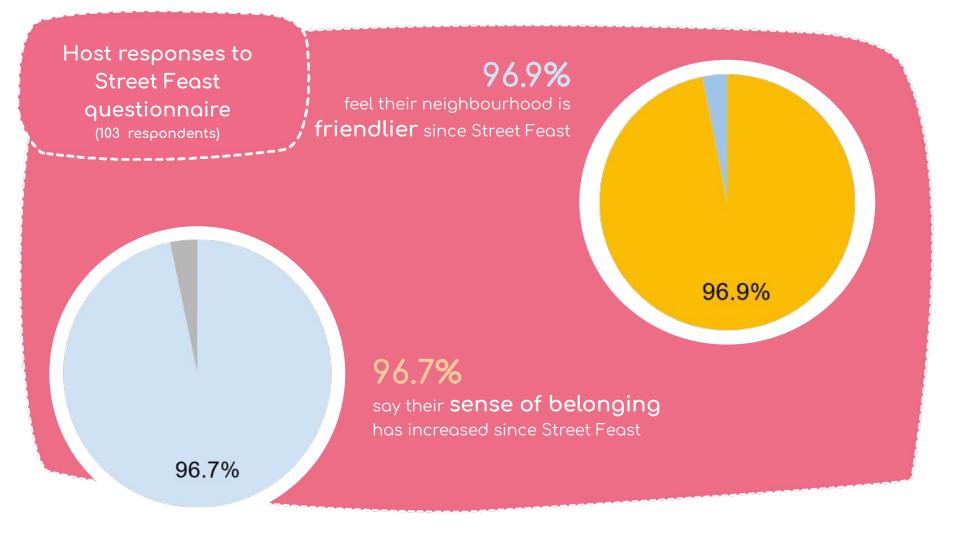
#### Local Authorities making it happen

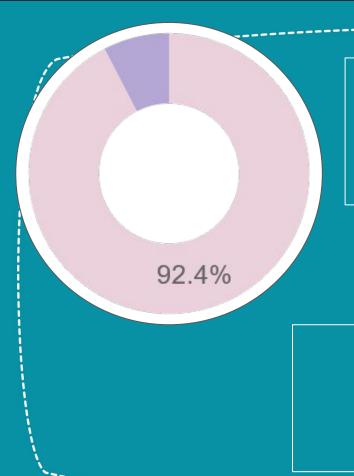
Thanks to Local Authority support we provided Street Feast Hosts with free Street Feast Packs including decorations, invites, posters & flyers.

We provided ongoing support to those preparing for their feast, including an online platform for the Street Feast community to organise their celebration, regular newsletters and blog full of inspiration and advice, an active Social Media campaign, and we responded to all enquiries.

We ran a local press campaign and ran local paid advertising to recruit Street Feast organisers.





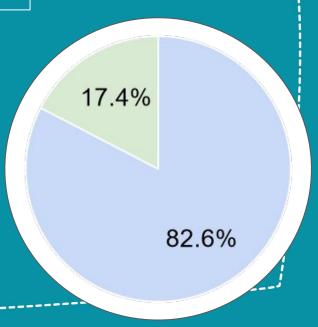


92.4%

have made plans for more **community projects** since Street Feast

82.6%

feel **safer** in their neighbourhoods since Street Feast



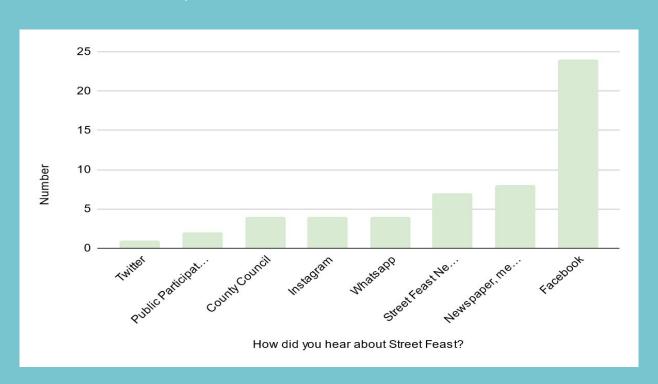
## 100%

of hosts would host a feast again!





#### How they found out about Street Feast



# Testimonials from Sligo and across Ireland

"Street Feast brings people together."

Breda McElroy (Street Feast host, Sligo 2022)



"We have lived in the estate just for 2 years - but people who have been here since it was built said it's the first time in almost 20 years that something like this was done.

The vibe in the street today was even different!!!

More stopping to chat with people rather than the wave and 'hiya!!!"

- Linda Hegarty, (Street Feast Host, Sligo, 2022)



"IWe are a rural community with plenty of newcomers since covid."

It would be nice to have a focal event to get everyone together"

- Rosemary McGovern (Motivation to Host, Sligo, 2022)





"A great get together for our estate!"

Marion Mahon (Host, Street Feast Sligo 2022)

"I love the fact that it is a national event and it really helps bond together the elderly residents who have lived in our Estate for 60 years with the new families who have moved in recently - it really works as an event"

- Margaret Dunne (Host, Fingal Street Feast 2022)





"We live in a small estate and everyone who was around came out and got completely behind it.

We had a bbq - people brought out their garden furniture.... We had tonnes of art on the street & games & face painting."

Linda Hegarty, (Host, Street Feast Sligo 2022) "We came together to celebrate Inclusion, equality, and community."

Everyone, including refugee families and young children, came together to organise the Solidarity Street Feast with us, feeling they were doing meaningful work "

- Thoiba Ahmed (Host, Street Feast Letterkenny, Donegal, 2022)



"Through Street Feast we discovered new friends, a history project started on our street - families and their descendants and local ancestors, and we invited new Ukrainian friends to meet us"

Deirdre Lane (Street Feast Host, Kildare 2022)





"Children need to get back to normal play time and toys.

I feel like kids are missing out on so much being on screens. Most of the kids in our area are very active and like using their imagination at playtime."

Ashleigh Farrell (Host, Dublin City Street Feast 2022)

"During our street feast, kids were running, playing, and even giving us their ideas for other events we could hold.

Old and new neighbours met each other for the first time and we had catch ups galore with our existing neighbours. A lot of people remarked on how they had missed this sense of connection and how great it was to have again.

Street Feast 2022 has inspired us to create an all ages play area in our estate to serve as a hub to get together again.





- Deborah Tierney (Host, Street Feast Roscommon, 2022)



"Since Street Feast, I think there is a lovely community vibe. We got to know each other a bit better.

We had ball room dancing on the road and such amazing food from all over the world "

Sarah McKenna (Street Feast Host, Louth 2022)

# More about the National Day of Street Feast

## Street Feast does a few good things. It...

- Brings the tools for community building; inspiring neighbourhoods celebrations and providing the support to make it happen;
- Promotes social inclusion, multiculturalism and diversity in an age-friendly environment;
- Encourages participatory culture, collaborations and mutual aid;
- **Empowers** residents to do things for themselves, fostering more decision makers;
- Tackles social isolation



### Street Feast also...

- Promotes environmental awareness and educates communities on sustainable practices;
- Is the conversation starter from which more community-led projects and ideas are formed;
- Provides an online platform for residents to organise their feast; and
- Provides a FREE DIY Pack, including decorations, invites, flyers and a DIY guide providing the basics to kick-start a Street Feast event, removing the obstacles of organising a get-together.



# Why?

Irish communities are not what they once were. The Future of Ireland Report conducted in 2015 by Amárach Research finds that isolation exists in Irish communities with nearly one in ten saying they have no close friends. One in ten either don't have relatives or don't feel close to the relatives they do have, 30% don't have a sense of belonging within their community and only one in four feel completely safe in their neighbourhoods.



Street Feast addresses these issues by connecting neighbours, strengthening relationships, giving people a sense of identity and facilitating a space for the sharing of knowledge and culture to take place.



"All of our public events gain from the widest community participation. We must all by now realise the importance of community, inclusion, creativity and togetherness - all values that require support and a conscious effort of care, protection and solidarity. Initiatives such as Street Feast provide exactly that type of opportunity."

President Michael D. Higgins
Patron of Street Feast



"In terms of the thousands of people that have been involved in organizing these Street Feasts today - I want to thank you.

It's been windy, it's been rainy at times... but if you've seen any two people who've met each other who didn't see each other for a while, or hadn't met each other before, your effort has been worth it because the power of actually bringing people together is impossible to understate.

We would like to help you to continue and to encourage people who have not done a Street Feast to do it next year - because you're really having an enormous impact on community spirit, on community development and on individual lives.

So I want to thank you and encourage you - and let us know how we can do it better and more next year."

Minister Joe O'Brien
Department of Rural & Community Development





# Thank you for your invaluable support!

If you have any questions or ideas you would like to discuss, we would love to hear from you, so please do not hesitate to contact us.

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Patron: Michael D. Higgins, President of Ireland
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