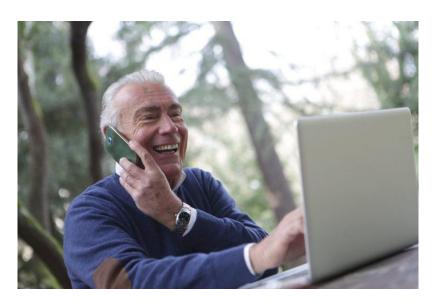
## **Covid19 Tech Help**

Volunteer tech helpline for older people cocooning in Ireland

## Why Volunteer

The Covid-19 pandemic crisis has brought many of us to a place where we are very aware of everyone in our world, in our societies and communities; if every single person is not considered, we could all fall down. We have been asked to cocoon the elderly and vulnerable. There are currently just over 1 million elderly (65+) on the island of Ireland, cocooning themselves, with extreme physical distancing and strict hygiene protocols when they are in physical contact with caregivers.

This has led to an increase in the use of modern technologies by the elder population, as relatives and caregivers gift them with smartphones, tablets, iPads, laptops and other smart gadgets, and initiate them into software communication and social media services such as WhatsApp, Skype, Twitter and other means to keep in touch via text, phone and video calls.



However, the lack of physical contact, and the need for extreme physical distancing means that older people are having problems configuring and using these technologies and software services, and that they can't rely on a caregiver or family member to come around and sort it out.

Covid19\_Tech was set up to address this gap, providing a free, volunteer run, over the phone service for the Elderly, to help them with their tech issues, so that they can stay in touch with their loved ones.

