This project was developed to raise awareness about the UN Day for the Eradication of Poverty 2020 by Kids' Own, our associate artist Vanya Lambrecht Ward, and writer Mary Branley for young people in Co Sligo. A group of young people came together virtually to create words and carefully-folded objects that expressed the need to act together to address and eradicate poverty. This template was created as a result of these workshops and can be folded into its own envelope. We hope it inspires you to take action on poverty too.

## Ciara Gallagher, Project Manager, Kids' Own

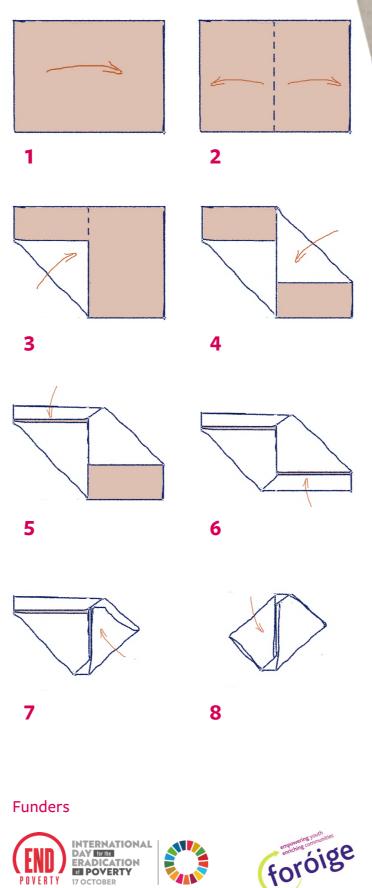
Our project aimed to bring awareness of poverty in our area to people with responsibility in education, politics, and to our friends, through writing letters. First, we discussed many issues that those experiencing poverty face: the costs associated with education, including technology, which was very important this year when schools closed during lockdown, as well as books, uniforms, and even ingredients for home economics cookery. The group noted all the things they were grateful for in Ireland including the relief of being back in school, when school attendance was denied so many millions of children worldwide and especially girls. We spoke about how living in a safe country with low-scale weather events meant that this was not an additional concern at the moment for those experiencing poverty, but recognised that it is a huge issue for people around the world. We chose an old way of communicating: letters written in ink with calligraphy pens. Participants wrote to members of government, the President, community leaders, their teachers, and others to draw their attention to the issues of poverty that they see affecting the people in their community.

## Mary Branley, Kids' Own Associate Writer

The Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection supports this project as part of its funding initiative for the United Nations Day for the Eradication of Poverty. The views expressed in this document are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection.



**Folding instructions** 







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