

### 2022 ANNUAL REPORT

(MAR)

Progress Through Philanthropy

#### OUR DONORS' GENEROSITY MADE 2022 A YEAR OF GREAT IMPACT

In 2022, our donors enabled The Ireland Funds America to make

## 540 grants totaling \$16.5 million

which supported the work of 239 organizations.





## THANK YOU

2022 was a year of immediate response to urgent needs and strategic investment in communities across the island of Ireland.

The Heart of the Community Fund saw its second year of providing operational and programmatic support to nonprofit groups working diligently in areas including environmental sustainability and cross-community relations. Our Reconnection Fund ensured that nonprofits serving disadvantaged and marginalized communities were strengthened and vulnerable people were not forgotten.

2022 also saw The Ireland Funds continue its investment in providing access to high-quality education through our scholarship programs: No Mind Left Behind and the George Moore Scholars. Thanks to these programs, hundreds of bright minds have been able to advance their studies, explore their potential, and invest in their futures.

Our Ukrainian Relief Fund deployed support to seven Irish organizations serving the complex needs of refugees fleeing war and arriving in Ireland. Our donors stepped up to support an impactful response to this humanitarian crisis and their compassion has now made a difference to thousands of people in crisis. Thanks to you, these carefully chosen organizations provided key services ranging from provision of much-needed mental health care to resettlement and community integration.

The opportunities we had to connect with you were a highlight of 2022. We worked closely with our donors to connect them with impactful programs and ensured their Donor Advised Gifts had the maximum impact across a broad range of priorities. We welcomed thousands of friends back to our in-person fundraising events. Working with donors and grantees, we translated that love for Ireland into results. This report shares some of the highlights and we hope you will read it with pride. Much remains to be done and as stewards of your investment, we will continue to identify the areas of greatest need and greatest promise.

All across the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland, our donors transform lives. Take a look at the headline numbers of 2022 and know that through your generosity, you made this possible.

#### **KIND REGARDS**,



Gene McQuade Chair, The Ireland Funds America

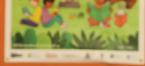


Caitriona Fottrell President & CEO, The Ireland Funds



HOW DID WE DELIVER FOR THE ISLAND OF IRELAND IN 2022?







I wanted to say a big **THANK YOU**. With support from The Ireland Funds, Children's Books Ireland has been able to bring the joy of reading to many children which in turn will open the minds of these young readers and ignite the passion and joy that reading can bring to a child's life." — Gráinne Kennedy, Development Manager, Children's Books Ireland

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HOW DID WE DELIVER FOR THE ISLAND OF IRELAND IN 2022?

Donor Advised Gifts

#### CHILDREN'S GRIEF CENTRE

The Children's Grief Centre in Limerick works with children between the ages of 4 and 18 years old who have experienced loss or trauma through bereavement, separation, or divorce. The Centre is the only one of its kind in Ireland and all services are provided free of charge.

## **IMPACT:**

A 2022 grant helped fit out child support rooms in the brand new, state-of-the-art space. Due to open in April 2023, it will support up to 500 children per year.



### **BELVEDERE YOUTH CLUB**

Belvedere Youth Club empowers and educates young people in Dublin's north inner city and helps break the cycle of systemic poverty and marginalization.



## **IMPACT:**

A 2022 grant supported the Homework & College Supports Program, providing a safe, free, wraparound environment for up to 50 young people to participate in homework and recreational activities along with a hot meal.

### ROYAL IRISH ACADEMY OF MUSIC

The Royal Irish Academy of Music is Ireland's oldest conservatoire, ranked in the top 50 institutions in the world for the performing arts. For almost 175 years it has nurtured over 1,000,000 gifted musicians from all over the world.

## **IMPACT:**

In 2022, support contributed to its capital campaign to redevelop the Royal Irish Academy of Music, including the construction of a state-of-the-art 300 seat recital hall on their new campus.



In 2022, we worked with our donors to achieve their philanthropic goals with great impact. Our team's understanding of needs and how philanthropy can make a difference across Ireland is unparalleled. This expertise enables us to tailor plans with donors, giving them the freedom to focus on their areas of interest.

The following are just a few examples of the ways The Ireland Funds partnered with donors to make gifts to the causes most important to them.

#### LEARNING HUB LIMERICK

Learning Hub Limerick works in partnership with parents, educators, statutory agencies and the community to provide a safe, welcoming and inspiring learning environment, broadening the horizons of young people. A 2022 grant enabled Learning Hub Limerick to reach more children in need.

## **IMPACT:**

Each week, 150 children aged 5-15 and 100 young adults aged 17-25 received support at Learning Hub Limerick.



#### MUSIC GENERATION

In 2022, Music Generation celebrated 10 years of transforming lives through music. Co-founded by The Ireland Funds and U2, Music Generation is Ireland's National Music Education Program which helps children and young people access high quality musical training in their own communities.



## **IMPACT:**

Music Generation has now expanded to 29 cities and counties and employs 442 staff. In 2022, it reached 80,000 children and young people.

### **CO-OPERATION IRELAND**

Co-operation Ireland builds better economic and social relationships between the people of Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland. With longstanding support from The Ireland Funds, Co-operation Ireland strengthens fragile community infrastructures to help create a positive future.

## **IMPACT:**

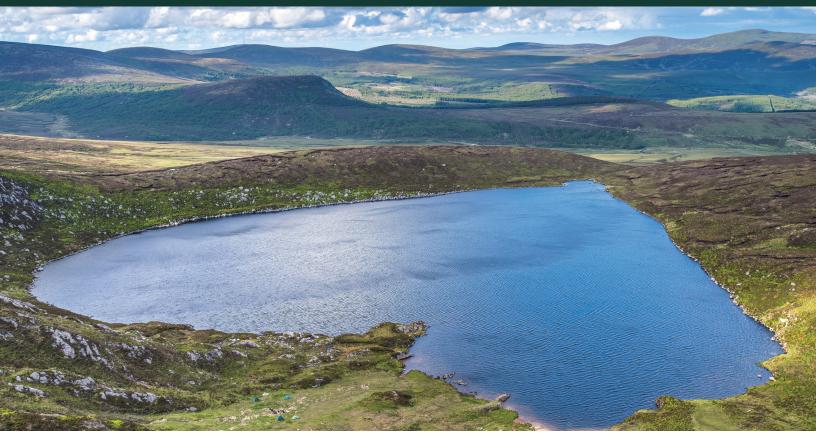
A 2022 grant supported Co-operation Ireland's "Future Leaders" program, providing 150+ young people with the opportunity to develop leadership skills, gain qualifications, boost employability and create change around issues they're passionate about.





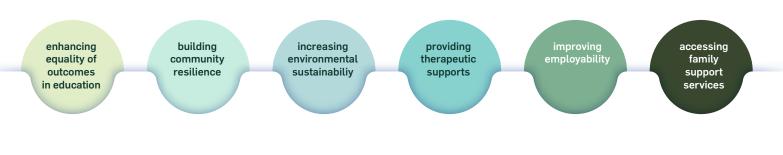
HOW DID WE DELIVER FOR THE ISLAND OF IRELAND IN 2022?

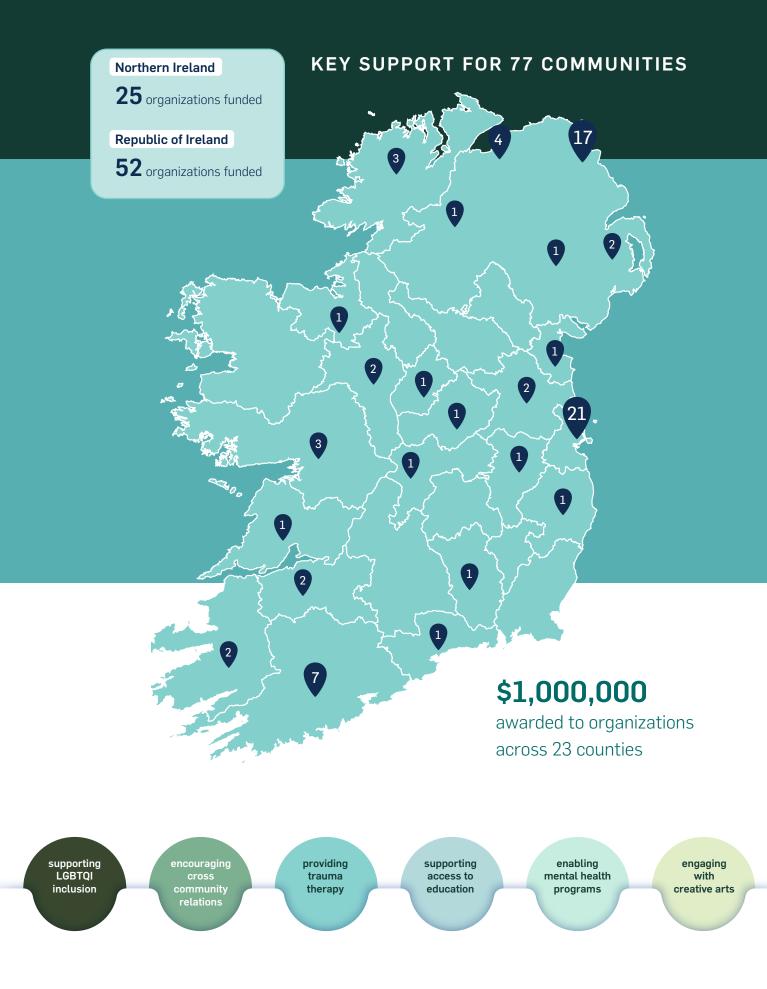
## The Heart of The Community Fund



The Ireland Funds Heart of the Community Fund supports organizations working in communities across the island of Ireland.

The essence of The Heart of the Community Fund 2022 grant round was trusting the community and responding to the needs of organizations working within our four pillars of peace, culture, education and community development. We responded to what organizations needed, be that operational or programmatic support, to make the greatest impact.







## HOW DID WE DELIVER FOR THE ISLAND OF IRELAND IN 2022?

## The Ireland Funds Reconnection Fund

The impact of COVID-19 is still being felt today, with these groups struggling to reconnect to their communities and the organizations that were providing support to them before the pandemic. The Ireland Funds addressed this disconnection to prevent a severe long-term impact on lives across the island of Ireland.

## MENTAL HEALTH

People with mental health issues are disconnected from their support structures.

YOUNG PEOPLE

Young people have been disconnected from school and cultural activities.



Those who were most socially and economically disadvantaged suffered the most.

The Ireland Funds Reconnection Fund was launched at the end of 2021 and throughout 2022 met the urgent needs of organizations serving these vulnerable groups.



#### EXAMPLES INCLUDE:

#### **COMMUNITY LAW & MEDIATION**

**Community Law & Mediation is an independent community law centre providing free legal advice, advocacy, mediation and education services. IMPACT:** Funding provided free legal advice clinics on topics such as housing, homelessness, employment, equality, family, consumer, and social welfare law to 120 individuals. It also delivered two virtual 'Know Your Rights' legal information talks to 60 individuals from across the island of Ireland, covering the importance of making a Will and Enduring Power of Attorney.

"Without access to justice, it is impossible to challenge injustice or hold decision makers to account, particularly for vulnerable people or at vulnerable times. Community Law @ Mediation is very grateful for this grant which allowed us to meet a real need in communities experiencing poverty, social exclusion or inequality for access to justice."

#### CRAIGAVON TRAVELLER SUPPORT COMMITTEE

Craigavon Travellers Support Committee improves the quality of life of Travellers in the Craigavon area of Co. Armagh, Northern Ireland, by adopting a community development approach which enables Travellers to articulate their needs and supporting them to ensure these needs are met. IMPACT: Funding financed 50% of the core running costs of the organization's Family Support Service, which worked with 178 families, supporting 381 members of the community. 82% of people accessing this service reported feeling less anxious and more in control of their family's finances as a result of the support provided.

"Dedicated Traveller support services have been decimated in recent years in the North of Ireland. Special thanks are due to funders such as The Ireland Funds, who recognize the need to support and fund core services. Without these services, Craigavon Travellers Support Committee would not be able to deliver a community development program or partake in the development of regional policy and good practice."

#### WAVE TRAUMA

WAVE Trauma Centre was established during the darkest days of the Troubles in Northern Ireland. Now, it is the largest cross-community victims' group, serving those injured or traumatized by conflict. IMPACT: The Ireland Funds helped establish WAVE by the Sea, a respite center providing space for healing, for reconciliation and for the pursuit of lasting peace. To date, 23 families have benefitted from a weekend away by the sea with 80% reporting positive changes to their mental health and wellbeing.

"We had a fantastic few days, it was just what the family needed."



HOW DID WE DELIVER FOR THE ISLAND OF IRELAND IN 2022?

## Access to Education

## NO MIND LEFT BEHIND PROGRAM

No Mind Left Behind is an initiative designed to give promising young people from areas of social disadvantage an opportunity to complete third-level education. An annual scholarship of €4,000 is provided to cover the costs of books, accommodation, and other key expenses. Students come from the Irish Government's DEIS (Delivering Equality of Opportunity In Schools) schools, a program of the Department of Education and Skills aimed at lessening educational disadvantage in primary and second-level education.



#### 2022 / 2023 ACADEMIC YEAR

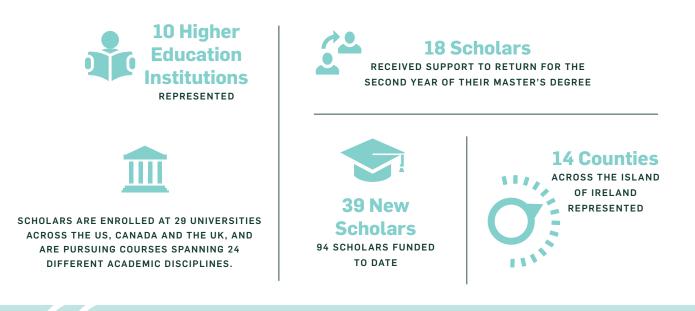
89 New Students 41 DEIS Schools **9** Counties 52 Students SUPPORTED TO COMMENCE SELECTED TO RECEIVE RECEIVED A NO MIND LEFT BEHIND **Represented:** THE FIRST YEAR OF SCHOLARSHIP. 300+ SCHOLARS SUPPORT THROUGH THESE CAVAN UNDERGRADUATE STUDY SCHOLARSHIPS FUNDED TO DATE DONEGAL DUBLIN LOUTH MAYO 22 Third-Level **166 Continuing** MONAGHAN Students Institutions **€1,020,000** ROSCOMMON REPRESENTED ACROSS SUPPORTED TO RETURN SLIGO AWARDED IN SCHOLARSHIPS THE ISLAND OF IRELAND. TO YEAR 2.3 OR 4 OF WATERFORD €4.9M+ AWARDED TO DATE UNDERGRADUATE STUDY UK AND EUROPE

"One parent began to cry when I called her... The other student's dad was over the moon as this will remove his financial worries for his daughter... Our third student could not believe this was happening for her. It was compared to winning a jackpot." —*School Principal after sharing the news with selected students* 



### **GEORGE MOORE SCHOLARS PROGRAM**

The George Moore Scholars program is an ambitious, all-Ireland scholarship program that offers extraordinary supports to talented students in all academic disciplines who wish to undertake a master's degree in the US, UK, Europe or Canada. The program helps them to realize their full career potential and make a lasting impact in their chosen field.



"I am very honored to have been chosen as a George Moore Scholar. The scholarship has given me an amazing opportunity and will greatly impact my future." *—Louise, MA Communication: Design Kingston University London* 



HOW DID WE DELIVER FOR THE ISLAND OF IRELAND IN 2022? The Ukrainian Relief Fund

IN 2022, THE IRELAND FUNDS DELIVERED CRUCIAL RELIEF SUPPORT FOR THE 65,000+ UKRAINIAN REFUGEES ARRIVING IN IRELAND

WE SUPPORTED ORGANIZATIONS IN IRELAND WORKING TO ENSURE:

Access to education Resettlement and community integration Accommodation Employment

Provision of mental health services

"We are extremely grateful for the support of The Ireland Funds which has enabled us to assist thousands of refugees from Ukraine. This has been an exceptionally challenging year. Our organizational capacity had to increase rapidly, which was made possible with the support of The Ireland Funds."

— Irish Refugee Council

## The Ukrainian Relief Fund

#### **EXAMPLES INCLUDE:**

#### **DEPAUL IRELAND**

Depaul Ireland is a cross-border charity and a pioneering organization in the area of homelessness, supporting the most vulnerable in society. **IMPACT:** Funding provided basic, essential items such as clothing and toiletries to refugees. It also allowed for an integration service to connect refugees with their new communities through English classes, educational opportunities, and information on housing.



#### CHILDREN'S RIGHTS ALLIANCE

#### CHILDREN'S RIGHTS ALLIANCE

Uniting 100+ organizations serving Ireland's youth, Children's Rights Alliance has led the children and youth sector response to Ukrainian people arriving to Ireland. **IMPACT:** A grant co-funded a child refugee coordinator to provide a sectoral response to support the thousands of Ukrainian children seeking refuge on the island. The post facilitated information sharing and vital connections between member organizations and services.

#### MAKING CONNECTIONS

Making Connections alleviates loneliness and isolation among older people by providing befriending and wellbeing supports that empower them to stay healthy and socially connected. **IMPACT: Funding enabled a new lead advocate role which meant that 100+ refugees over the age of 65 received support to access government welfare, medical assessments and English classes.** 



#### MYMIND



MyMind is putting Ireland at the forefront of mental health innovation by creating a unique movement for community-based mental health services that provide every person in Ireland equal access to mental health support early, affordably, directly, without stigma or delay. **IMPACT: Ukrainian mental health professionals were recruited to engage with almost 100 individual clients providing much-needed psychotherapeutic and trauma support. It also provided intensive trauma training to its wider network of current therapists, who will train fellow clinicians and non-clinicians to support those suffering from the effects of trauma.** 



For over 45 years, our donors have helped The Ireland Funds improve the lives of people in Ireland and around the world. We are proud to support a legacy of philanthropy that impacts the present and invests in the future.

The No Mind Left Behind scholarship was transformative to me. I wouldn't have gotten where I am today without the help of The Ireland Funds. They provide opportunities to people like me that otherwise might not have been able to progress in education.

> — Rebecca Green, No Mind Left Behind Scholar at Queen's University Belfast

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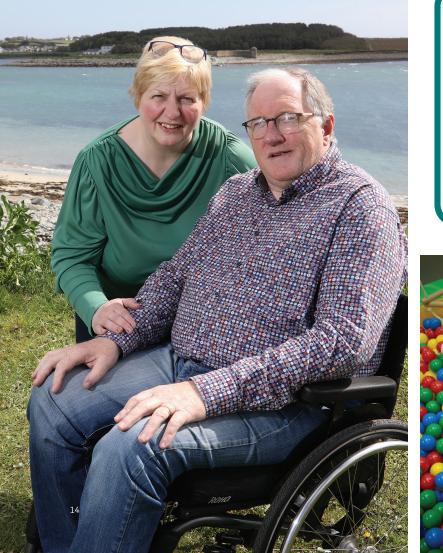
I wanted to thank you for saying yes to our application! It's the very best news. I'm thrilled for the kids and what the funding will mean for them. To have The Ireland Funds supporting our work means so much to us. It's a big responsibility you carry, but a very important one. Thanks again.

—Irish Chamber Orchestra

## **FG** The gra

The grant will support the upgrade of our conferencing facility for the provision of community dialogues and the delivery of peace education and seminars, as we move ever closer towards becoming a Centre for Practical Peace Building. We greatly appreciate the support of The Ireland Funds in helping to make this possible.

-Glencree Centre for Peace and Reconciliation





## "

Very grateful for The Ireland Funds' support through this grant that will deliver a peace and reconciliation project with young people in Turf Lodge! Much needed work in testing times. - Holy Trinity Youth Centre

"

AsIAm is deeply grateful to The Ireland Fund for its support during the course of the Flagship Grant. This support provided vital core funding which has been instrumental to the significant and sustainable development of the organization over the course of the last 2 years. However, we feel strongly that the links we have developed with The Ireland Funds have also had a far deeper impact - supporting us to grow and develop our network of supporters, providing us with access to advice from your deeply experienced team and strengthening the awareness and trust of our own brand amongst donors and key stakeholders.

—AsIAm

We know that the effects of The Ireland Funds support here will enhance so many lives through singing and we look forward to sharing the impact of your support in the coming months.

— Sing Ireland

"





My journey at the University of California, Berkeley, so far has been nothing short of extraordinary — personally, professionally and intellectually. For that I am truly grateful for the support of the George Moore Scholars program! I couldn't possibly put into words just how this experience is benefiting me. — *Barry McLaughlin, Master's in Development Engineering student and George Moore Scholar* 



# OUR GRANTMAKING

#### THE IRELAND FUNDS MAKES GRANTS IN FOUR WAYS:

#### 1 Donor Advised Gifts

The Ireland Funds works closely with our donors to identify and fund organizations in line with our focus areas and their philanthropic interests and goals. We are committed to stewarding our donors' giving, and ensuring their generosity has maximum impact with 100% of all donor advised gifts awarded to a donor's chosen nonprofit following Board approval.

#### Annual Grant Rounds

Each year, The Ireland Funds runs grant rounds which provides nonprofits in every county of Ireland with the opportunity to apply for much needed funding.

Grant Rounds typically award €1 million euro annually and are often the starting point of an organization's relationship with The Ireland Funds. Time and time again, we've seen organizations that have received small grants from The Ireland Funds go on to receive additional funding from our donors, as well as other funders.

Critically, the Grant Rounds enable us to nurture organizations with particular promise, identify emerging areas of need and leaders in the sector, and discover new organizations that are doing essential and impactful work. Funding is available under two categories:

#### > Small Grants (Heart of the Community Fund)

The Small Grant Round supports small organizations that are making an impact and positive contribution in their local community. Grants typically range from  $\pounds 2,500$  to  $\pounds 10,000$ .

#### > Flagship Grants (Reconnection Fund)

The Flagship Grant Round provides grants for core funding, capacity building or program costs. Grants are for multi-year support and typically range from €50,000 to €100,000 over two years.

These grant rounds are made possible by unrestricted gifts, and with proceeds generated from our events.



#### Scholarships

Since our founding, increasing access to and excellence in education has been a core tenet of our philanthropy – from early learning intervention initiatives to scholarship programs that ensure our schools and universities reflect every aspect of Irish society, regardless of background.

Our flagship scholarship programs are aimed at breaking down the barriers that Irish students from marginalized communities face in accessing education and helping exceptionally talented students pursue their educational ambitions up to a master's level:

- > No Mind Left Behind gives promising young students from areas of social disadvantage a multi-year scholarship to attend third level education.
- George Moore Scholars offers high value funding to academically talented students from all disciplines who wish to undertake a master's degree in the US, the UK, or Canada.

These scholarships are funded by our donors, and in 2022 their generosity enabled The Ireland Funds to award hundreds of scholarships.

#### 4 Special Grants & Strategic Initiatives

In certain circumstances, The Ireland Funds will make special grants to support initiatives that are of strategic importance to Ireland or the Irish diaspora.

This includes funding to promote and nurture Irish arts and culture at home and abroad, support for Irish immigration centers that provide a range of social, legal and pastoral services, local grants to communities that have given so much to The Ireland Funds, as well as grants made in times of tragedy or emergency.

These timely, important and on occasion, urgent grants, are made possible by unrestricted gifts, and with proceeds generated from our events.

# OUR MODEL

## THE IRELAND FUNDS PARTNERS WITH PHILANTHROPISTS, FOUNDATIONS, AND CORPORATIONS, TO GIVE BACK TO IRELAND IN A MEANINGFUL AND IMPACTFUL WAY.

#### Vision & Focus

The Ireland Funds' vision is of peace, equality, and opportunity across the island of Ireland and among Irish communities worldwide. Our focus areas are Arts & Culture, Community Development, Education and Peace & Reconciliation.

#### Expertise

As one of Ireland's largest grantmakers, our donors have unparalleled access to our:

- Four-and-a-half decades of grantmaking experience
- · Expertise in due-diligence, project vetting and impact evaluation
- In-depth local and national knowledge of Ireland's nonprofit sector and our long-standing relationships with the outstanding nonprofit organizations that strive to make Ireland a better place for all its people

#### A No-Cost Philanthropic Partner

The Ireland Funds works with our donors to identify outstanding organizations worthy of support that are in line with their philanthropic goals and ambitions. Thanks to our operating model, 100% of all donor advised gifts made by our supporters are granted to their chosen charities following Board approval. The Ireland Funds absorbs all costs associated with due diligence, administration, payment, reporting, monitoring, and evaluation to maximize our donors' generosity and ensure that the organizations we support meet the highest standards of transparency, accountability, and governance.

#### National Impact

Through our grantmaking, The Ireland Funds invests in people, communities, and organizations across the island of Ireland, North and South, and in Irish communities throughout the world. In 2022, thanks to the generosity of our donors, The Ireland Funds America made 540 grants to further the work of 239 organizations.

#### Come for the Party, Stay for the Mission

Every year, The Ireland Funds hosts a series of special events recognizing the business, cultural, political, and philanthropic achievements of the Irish diaspora. These gatherings provide a unique forum for supporters to connect with like-minded peers who are not only passionate about Ireland's past, but also invested in its future, while also raising vital funds for our grantmaking and operations.



#### THE YEAR IN NUMBERS

# 2022

#### **STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES** YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2022 AND 2021 IN US\$

	2022	2021
Revenue and Support		
Contributions	15,967,499	18,320,554
Fundraising Events, net *	3,388,088	2,978,005
Changes in Net Assets without Donor Restrictions: Net Assets Released	1,235,149	1,001,778
Other	2,088,124	521
Total Revenues and Support from Operating Activities	22,678,860	22,300,858
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Changes in Net Assets with Donor Restrictions: Contributions & Net Assets Released	(1,235,149)	(1,001,778)
Investment Income	(3,035,675)	2,280,256
Total Revenues	18,408,036	23,579,336
Expenses		
Grant Awards	16,474,438	17,742,439
Other Program Services	1,659,198	1,402,048
Total Program	18,133,636	19,144,487
Management and General Administrative	1,563,352	1,443,126
Fundraising	1,659,181	1,281,332
Total Expenses	21,356,169	21,868,945
Change in Net Assets	(2,948,133)	1,710,391
Net Assets at Beginning of Year	20,996,331	19,285,940
Net Assets at End of Year**	18,048,198	20,996,331
% of Contributions Revenue from the largest single contribution received in each year	11%	16%
# of Organizations who received Grants from The Ireland Funds America in each year	239	304
Notes:		
* The impact of Covid19 led to the cancellation of in person fundraising events in Q2 2020 until Q4 2021		
** Endowment Balance at End of Year (included within Net Assets at End of Year)	13,766,316	17,016,904

Grant Thornton, LLP, performed the 2013 –2022 audits for The American Ireland Fund.

To review our audited financial statements and IRS Forms 990, please visit irelandfunds.org



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# THANK YOU

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#### "I've always been a great admirer of the work that The Ireland Funds does.

It is an unprecedented commitment. It is also the bringing together of so many people from different backgrounds and harnessing that togetherness. Ideas and innovation come out of that mix, and it is not just about the funding. It is the powerful global network that you have created.

I would like to thank The Ireland Funds and its donors for the support they have given to a great many programs, which enrich the lives of communities the length and breadth of the island of Ireland."

TAOISEACH MICHEÁL MARTIN TD
The Ireland Funds Worldwide Conference in Kerry
June, 2022

THE IRELAND FUNDS



irelandfunds.org

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Rachel Alabiso Chief Communications Officer

**Doreen Bowman** Senior Administrative Assistant

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