



In 1976, Dan Rooney, owner of the Pittsburgh Steelers football team and the former U.S. Ambassador to Ireland, along with fellow Pittsburgh-based businessman Sir Anthony O'Reilly, created what was then The Ireland Fund. The Ireland Fund and the American Irish Foundation, founded by Irish President Eamonn De Valera and U.S. President John F. Kennedy, merged at a White House ceremony on St. Patrick's Day 1987, to form what is today, **THE AMERICAN IRELAND FUND.** 

The American Ireland Fund is part of The Worldwide Ireland Funds, an international philanthropic network operating in 12 countries that has raised over \$500 million for worthy causes in Ireland and Irish causes around the world. IT IS THE LARGEST NETWORK OF FRIENDS OF IRELAND DEDICATED TO SUPPORTING PROGRAMS OF PEACE AND RECONCILIATION, ARTS AND CULTURE, EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT.

Founded in 1976, The Worldwide Ireland Funds have benefited over 3,000 organizations. Funds raised are contributed by private sources—individuals, corporations and foundations.



#### Dear Friends and Supporters,

I am delighted to report that in 2015 our donors, yet again, really stood up for Ireland. Through their generosity they delivered a great financial outcome for The Ireland Funds which enabled us to provide over \$2 million per month for grants and program services throughout the year. Giving in 2015 was accelerated by the fact that, of course this was the concluding year of our *Promising Ireland* Campaign. The Campaign was our response to the global financial crisis and the devastating impact it had across Ireland.

The Irish people, through incredible resolve and resilience, are rebuilding their economy. However, the not-for-profit sector is essential to maintaining the fabric of society. The Campaign was our exercise in contributing to that task. The Campaign which closed off at \$226 million, more than twice the original goal of \$100 million, enabled us to nearly treble our annual income, quintuple our grant-spending and all on the same cost-basis as the opening year. Our Board, conscious of the convention that immediately after a Campaign there can be a considerable drop in revenues, is determined that we should maintain the momentum of the Campaign. To this end, they are generously investing in the capacity and reach of The American Ireland Fund. We hope that this investment, particularly in our asking capacity, will reap major benefits in years to come and ensure that we contribute even more substantially to the work of Irish not-for-profit organizations.

A core part of our mission is to help develop the not-for-profit sector itself. We are doing this through training workshops advising not-for-profit groups. Critically, we are funders of Benefacts, the first resource which is providing the Irish public with an online database of all registered charities in Ireland. This is a long overdue but very welcome enhancement of transparency in the sector. We are proud to be funders of this along with Atlantic Philanthropies and the Irish Government. Indeed, this project alone demonstrates how private philanthropy is most effective when it works with Government to deliver desired public policy outcomes.

In closing I want to thank our donors again for their generosity and I want to congratulate our grantees on the remarkable work that they do across the island of Ireland and Irish communities overseas.

Thank you for making 2015 such a great year and enabling us to fulfill our promise to Ireland.

Kind regards,

KIERAN MCLOUGHLIN



#### SUPPORTING COMMUNITIES

People helping people—The Ireland Funds have always worked at the heart of communities, extending the hand of support to gifted, visionary community leaders who themselves imagine a better future for the people around them. An ever-growing extended family, supporting each other and reaching out to those around us—this is what community means to The Ireland Funds.

#### CHANNELING CREATIVITY

Artists are the great dreamers of our society; and it is to artists that we look for our greatest inspiration. The Ireland Funds have a long history of enabling, supporting and channeling the work of Irish artists and those who promote and preserve the best of Irish culture.

#### FOSTERING PEACE

Perhaps the greatest challenge The Ireland Funds have engaged with has been fostering and nurturing a lasting peace in Northern Ireland. Indeed, as one of the three pillars on which the Funds were founded, achieving peace has energized and propelled us to do some of our most important work—work which continues to have a profoundly positive impact on moving towards a shared future.

At a time when needs everywhere are heightened, our donors have redoubled their generosity through The *Promising Ireland* Campaign. They continue to stand up for Ireland when it is needed most. Through our donors' generosity, The *Promising Ireland* Campaign supported the following areas and The American Ireland Fund now pledges to continue to:

- INVEST IN IRELAND'S COMMUNITIES
- SUPPORT A SHARED FUTURE IN NORTHERN IRELAND
- PROMOTE PHILANTHROPY IN IRELAND
- PROVIDE ACCESS TO EDUCATION
- PROMOTE IRISH CULTURE AND HERITAGE
- ASSIST DISADVANTAGED YOUTH
- ASSIST THE FLORBLY 'FORGOTTEN IBISH'

IRELAND TODAY

# the challenge

- Over 1,000 families are homeless in the Republic of Ireland today.
- More than 3,000 have been waiting for over a year for autism assessment in the Republic of Ireland; 2,000 children in Northern Ireland have been waiting up to 20 months for assessment.
- In 2015, there were 451 deaths by suicide recorded in the Republic of Ireland.
   This is more than two and a half times the number of people killed in automobile accidents (166) over the same period.

the opportunity

- Unemployment in Northern Ireland has fallen to 5.9%, its lowest since November 2008.
- Unemployment in the Republic of Ireland at 7.8% is almost half its crisis level high.
- Ireland's exports increased by 34.4% in 2015.
- In March 2016, a £500m investment in integrated education in Northern Ireland was announced.

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PROJECTS HAVE TOLD US HOW YOUR SUPPORT FOR THE PROMISING IRELAND CAMPAIGN HAS MADE A DIFFERENCE:

"The Ireland Funds' grant was the difference in the end that allowed us to open a center in Limerick. We would have had to wait several months until we could raise that money somewhere else. This is not the kind of thing we necessarily get state funding for anymore. We have ambitious plans. It is the support of those like The Ireland Funds that allows us to achieve them."

- THE IRISH WHEELCHAIR ASSOCIATION

"We have to thank The Ireland Funds' donors for allowing us to do our work. Because people like them had the faith in us to do it, the wheels are now turning." – THE BIA FOOD INITIATIVE

"The support of The Ireland Funds has enabled WIP to bring together emerging leaders from all communities to reflect on the future they want for Northern Ireland, and to give them the skills to make it happen." — THE WASHINGTON-IRELAND PROGRAM

"Our work is pioneering and without The Ireland Funds' support we would not be able to deliver this. Support from The Ireland Funds is helping us to change the lives of these young people in Northern Ireland." — THE PLAYHOUSE



## In 2015, the following organizations were among those assisted by the *Promising Ireland* Campaign.

100 Club of Chicago 1428 Active Retirement Club 174 Trust Abbey School Abbey Theatre Adare Recreation & **Community Complex** Adsum Foundation Age & Opportunity Age Concern Network of Newcastle and District Aisling Irish Community Center Amber, Kilkenny Women's Refuge American Irish Historical Society An Taisce—The National Trust for Ireland Apex Housing Association ARC Healthy Living Centre Ltd Archbishop Marsh's Library Ardoyne Holycross Boxing Club Art Institute of Chicago Arthritis Care Northern Ireland Atlantic Corridor Avila Carmelite Centre Baboró Galway International Children's Festival Ltd Backstage Theatre **Bantry Hospice Project** Bantry Inshore Search & Rescue Association Barnardos Barretstown Bedford Row Family Project BeLonG To Youth Services Belvedere College S.J. Belvedere Youth Club Benefacts Bia Food Initiative Blackrock College Blanchardstown Traveller **Development Group** Blossom Ireland The Blue Box Creative Learning Centre Blue Teapot Theatre Company Boston College Boston Health Care for the **Homeless Program** Boys' and Girls' Club of Boston Brain Injury Matters NI British-Irish Association Business to Arts **Butler Gallery** Camara Education Cancer Fund for Children Cappagh Hospital Trust Care After Prison Carers Northern Ireland Center for International **Humanitarian Cooperation** Chernobyl Children's Project Children's Law Centre Children's Medical & Research Foundation Cill Rialaig Arts Centre CIT Blackrock Castle Observatory (BCO) Clinton Peace Centre CoisCéim Dance Theatre Community Action Network Community Relations In Schools Concern Worldwide

Co-operation Ireland

Cope Foundation COPE Galway Cork Foundation Cork Penny Dinners Corrymeela Crusaders Youth Academy Cuan Mhuire NI Cystic Fibrosis Ireland Daisyhouse Housing Association Darndale Belcamp Integrated **Childcare Services DCU Educational Trust** Depaul Ireland Dublin Institute of Technology (DIT) Diversity Sligo Donal Walsh #LiveLife Foundation Down Syndrome Ireland **Dress for Success Dublin City University Dublin International Piano** Competition Dublin Jewish Board of Guardians **Dublin Talmud Torah Educate Together Edward Worth Library** Enable Ireland **Enactus Ireland Energy Action** Fettercairn Youth Horse Project Fighting Words Focus Ireland Foróige Network for Teaching Entrepreneurship (NFTE) Free Legal Advice Centres (FLAC) Friends of St Luke's Front Line Defenders Funky Fish Youth Café Gaelic Players Association Gaelscoil Longfoirt Gaisce - The President's Award Galway Hospice Foundation Gay and Lesbian Equality Network (GLEN) Glenstal Abbey Goal Gonzaga College S.J. Groundwork Northern Ireland Grow in Ireland Haven Community Foundation Hawk's Well Theatre Heading Home Headstrong Headway Healthy Food for All HeartShare Helium Arts Helpful Steps Holy Trinity Abbey Home-Start North Down Hungtington's Disease Association of Ireland Inner City Enterprise Institute of Technology Tralee Integrated Education Fund Ireland Institute of Pittsburgh Ireland US Council Irish American Partnership Irish Ancestry Research Centre Irish Architectural Archive Irish Arts Center Irish Association of Youth Orchestras Irish Autism Action

Irish Charities Tax Research

Irish Council for Civil Liberties

Irish Community Rapid Response

Irish Dogs for the Disabled Irish Film Festival Irish Film Institute (IFI) Irish Georgian Society Irish Guide Dogs for the Blind Irish Hospice Foundation Irish Immigration Pastoral Center Irish International Immigrant Center The Irish Men's Sheds Association Irish Pastoral Centre Irish Repertory Theatre Irish Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (ISPCC) Irish Wheelchair Association (IWA) Irish Youth Foundation Jack and Jill Children's Foundation Jameson Dublin International Film Festival John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts John F. Kennedy Library Foundation Killarney Immigrant Support Centre Kerry Film Festival Killaloe/Ballina Community & Family Resource Centre Killarney Community College Korean War National Museum LauraLynn - Ireland's Children's Hospice Leisure Buddies Project-St Christopher's Services Leitrim Calling Lifestart Foundation Listowel Writers' Week Little Museum of Dublin Longford Women's Link Making Connections Malta Charities - Midlands Region Mary Immaculate College Mary Robinson Library The Mater Foundation Mental Health Reform Merchant's Quay Ireland Mercy Law Resource Centre Midlands Simon Community Milford Care Centre Move4Parkinson's MS Ireland Music Generation MyMind Centre for Mental Wellbeing Na Píobairí Uillean Nasc, the Irish Immigrant Support Centre National Association for Children of Alcoholics National Gallery of Ireland National Library of Ireland Native Woodland Trust **NUI** Galway **NYU Faces** NYU Glucksman Ireland House O'Hanlon Park Boxing Club One in Four Origin Theatre Company Participation and the Practice of Rights PeacePlayers International -Northern Ireland Peter McVerry Trust

Philanthropy Ireland

Raheny Community

Queen's University of Belfast

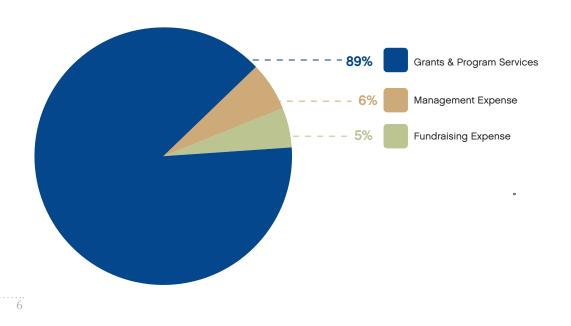
First Responder Group

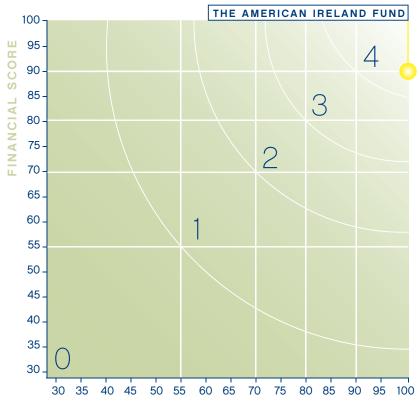
The Playhouse
The Pushkin Trust

School ReCreate Rights Watch UK Roscommon Women's Network (RWN) Rosemont Secondary School for Girls Rossinver Youth and Community Project Rough Magic Theatre Company Rowing Ireland Royal Hibernian Academy Royal Irish Academy of Music Saint Ignatius School Science Gallery Dublin Science Gallery International Sensational Kids Siel Bleu Ireland Social Entrepreneurs Ireland Social Innovation Fund Solas Project South Dublin City Partnership Southern Cross Special Olympics Ireland Specialisterne Ireland Spectrum Centre Trust Speedwell Trust Sport Changes Life Foundation St Mary's College St Jarlath's Diocesan Trust St Mel's College St Vincent's Foundation Suas Educational Development Temple Bar Gallery + Studios Temple Street Children's University Hospital Temporary Emergency Accommodation Mullingar The Belfast-Beltway Boxing Project The Festival of Curiosity The Gate Theatre The Icon Walk The Model Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) Ireland The Prince's Trust The Soar Foundation Thomas F. Meagher Foundation Thoor Ballylee Development Trinity College Dublin The Undergraduate Awards University College Cork University College Dublin University of Limerick University of Notre Dame University of St Thomas -Center for Irish Studies University of Ulster Valentia Island Development Washington Ireland Program Waterford Healing Arts Trust (WHAT) Waterford Walls West Cork Music Wexford Festival Opera Whitegates Community Business Women for Election Women in Business NI Yeats Society Sligo Youth Initiatives

Ranelagh Multi-Denominational

The American Ireland Fund is committed to support projects across the island of Ireland that promote education, cultural and community development and peace and reconciliation. Through the generosity of donors linked to Ireland by interest, ancestry and compassion, The American Ireland Fund provides ongoing support to organizations whose initiatives directly serve the people of the island of Ireland and Irish causes abroad. Our total revenue for 2015 exceeded \$20 million for the sixth consecutive year and only the eight time in our 40 year history. Thanks to the generosity of our donors, The American Ireland Fund awarded more than \$25 million in grants and program services to 365 worthy projects in 2015 across the island of Ireland and Irish communities worldwide.







The American Ireland Fund has achieved the highest recognition for its financial management and corporate governance in the US and has been used as a role model for other international diaspora fundraising organizations. We have achieved and maintained a 4 star out of 4 star status from Charity Navigator which is based upon Charity Navigator's detailed and independent review of our financial management and reporting structure as well as our corporate governance and transparency policies. Charity Navigator defines this as an "exceptional" designation, with only 6% of American charities having received five consecutive 4 star awards.

**ACCOUNTABILITY & TRANSPARENCY SCORE** 

#### STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

	2015	2014		
REVENUES, SUPPORT, OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS	\$31,538,762	\$31,210,895		
Contributions	\$18,602,429	\$17,265,097		
Fundraising events	\$12,008,141	\$11,334397		
Less: fundraising event expenses	\$(3,160,566)	3,160,566) \$(3,264,990)		
Fundraising events, net of direct costs	\$8,847,575 \$8,069,40			
Other income	\$25,507	\$25,507 \$76,341		
Net Unrestricted Revenues & Support	\$27,475,511	\$25,410,845		
Other Contributions				
Contributions of art and literary collections	\$103,225	\$63,425		
Changes in Temporary Restricted Net Assets-Contributions	\$525,460	\$2,321,635		
Changes in Permanently Restricted Net Assets-Endowment Contributions	\$274,000	\$150,000		
Total Other Contributions	\$902,685	\$2,535,060		
Net Revenues, Support, Other Contributions	\$28,378,196	\$27,945,905		
GRANTS AND PROGRAM SERVICES				
Grant awards	\$23,715,120	\$22,312,572		
Other program services	\$1,931,245	\$1,838,246		
Total Grants and Program Services	\$25,646,365	\$24,150,818		
SUPPORTING SERVICES				
General Administration	\$1,578,179	\$1,505,949		
Fundraising	\$1,444,235	\$1,243,847		
	\$3,022,414	\$2,749,796		

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION					
AS OF DECEMBER 31					
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
ASSETS					
Cash and Investments	\$10,193,896	\$11,791,065	\$11,135,811	\$14,186,728	\$14,897,992
Receivables	587,551	1,522,551	834,542	830,607	813,679
Works of art and literature on public display	114,400	148,125	292,666	241,691	344,916
Other assets	962,740	790,534	809,572	954,709	901,828
Total Assets	\$11,858,587	\$14,252,275	\$13,072,591	\$16,213,735	16,958,415
LIABILITIES					
Grants and accounts payable	\$1,993,487	\$2,725,386	\$2,232,457	\$3,596,011	5,177,262
Accrued liabilities	516,035	301,650	210,550	123,749	115,304
Deferred revenue	234,225	17,000	72,455	278,526	60,800
Total Liabilities	\$2,743,747	\$3,044,036	\$2,515,462	\$3,998,286	5,353,366
Total Net Assets	9,114,840	11,208,239	10,557,129	12,215,449	11,605,049
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$11,858,587	\$14,252,275	\$13,072,591	\$16,213,735	16,958,415

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The Worldwide Ireland Funds

"The American Ireland Fund is a further exemplar of those values of openness, generosity and hospitality. You are recognized as one of the most dynamic and successful diaspora and philanthropic organizations in the world. We are proud of the work you do and thank you for doing it. It is making a real difference to the lives of people on the ground, many of whom are still feeling the effects of the financial crisis which afflicted us in recent years. I want you to know that your work is deeply appreciated at home in Ireland." — PRESIDENT OF IRELAND, MICHAEL D. HIGGINS

## THANK YOU

Ireland is an evolving island and The American Ireland Fund has adapted to meet her modern needs. We have never wavered in our core mission: to support worthy causes which promote peace and reconciliation, arts and culture, and education and community development. For 40 years, The American Ireland Fund has been making a difference across the island of Ireland in support of more than 3,000 organizations.









The American Ireland Fund holds a 4-star rating from Charity Navigator in recognition of efficiency, sound fiscal management and commitment to accountability and transparency. The American Ireland Fund 345 Park Avenue, 17th floor New York, NY 10154 T 212.689.3100 www.theirelandfunds.org