



Established in 1987, The Australian Ireland Fund is a non-political, non-sectarian registered Australian charity. We fund community level projects focused on education, community development, peace, reconciliation, arts and culture in both Ireland and Australia.

The global philanthropic network we are part of, the Worldwide Ireland Funds, celebrated forty years since establishment in 2016. Over those forty years, the Worldwide Ireland Funds have collectively raised US\$540m, with generous support from over 25,000 donors. We have supported 3,200 organisations in twelve countries.

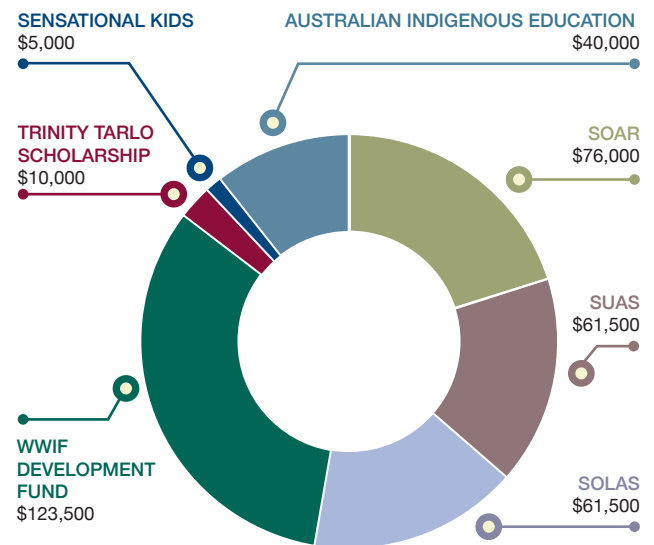
In August 2015 we established the Australian Ireland Foundation Public Ancillary Fund to more effectively continue our work in Ireland and Australia. This report provides a commentary on the combined activities of the Australian Ireland Fund and the Australian Ireland Foundation Public Ancillary Fund in 2015-2016.

PROJECTS SUPPORTED 2015-2016



TOTAL DONATIONS 2015-2016

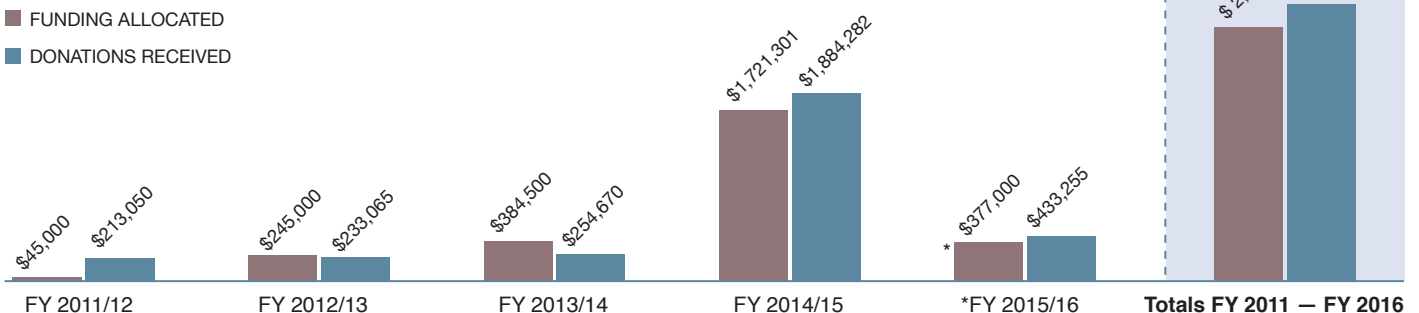
\$377,500



91.87% of donations received have been allocated to charities

AIF DONATIONS RECEIVED VS FUNDING ALLOCATED JUNE 2011 – JUNE 2016

■ FUNDING ALLOCATED
■ DONATIONS RECEIVED



*Relates to the aggregated donations and funding allocations of the Australian Ireland Fund and the Australian Ireland Foundation Public Ancillary Fund

ABOUT OUR PROJECTS



SOAR

Inspired by Jim Stynes' Reach Foundation of Melbourne, Soar creates and delivers early intervention, preventative, wellbeing programs inside and outside of the school system for young people aged 12 – 18 years from all backgrounds throughout Ireland.

Soar is a 100% independently funded which believes that there is a greatness within all young people.

The AIF has provided a flagship grant to Soar this year to invest in the future of the young people of Ireland. In 2015 Soar worked with 5,817 young people and have assisted over 14,000 young people since their first workshop in 2012. Their goal is to reach 50,000 young people by 2020.



"Soar has inspired me in the best possible way. It has changed the way I act, think and interact with people. Soar has not only given me self believe but I wake up every morning with a new found confidence. After each Soar session I feel as though I can take on the world! Soar is a journey that I am so privileged to be a part of. Every teenager deserves to have an experience like this."

MOIRA, YOUNG PERSON, CO. CLARE



SUAS EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT



"I loved reading with my Literacy Mentors. They were very kind to me"

DEMI, AGED 8

Suas Literacy Support Programme delivers support to improve literacy skills to school children from 8-14 years old from disadvantaged communities.

The National Literacy and Numeracy Strategy of Ireland (2011) found that in disadvantaged communities one in three girls and boys have serious difficulty with reading or writing. These girls and boys are more likely to end up in poverty, on our streets, or even in prison.

With your help last year the Suas Literacy Support Programme reached 708 participants - 97 more children helped than last year, had 750 volunteer mentors, and completed 64 projects completed.



"My student told me on the last day that he prefers books to video games now!"

GEORGE, VOLUNTEER MENTOR



SOLAS

Solas works to address the imbalances that contribute to certain children and young people in Ireland growing up at a socio-economic and/or educational disadvantage.

Through learning and mentoring, as well as personal and social development, they support young people to create

a brighter future for themselves and their communities.

This year saw Sarah - one of the first people Solas started to support back in 2007 - complete her Leaving Cert and is now attending 3rd Level - the first in her family to do so.



AIEF

The AIEF is a private sector led non-profit organisation focused on empowering Indigenous children to build a future through quality education and careers at Australia's leading schools, universities and companies. Together AIF and AIEF provide scholarships at Marist College, Ashgrove and St Peters Lutheran College, Indooroopilly in Queensland and Kincoppal-Rose Bay School and St Catherine's School, Waverley in New South Wales.

DONOR ADVISED GRANTS

Donor Advised Grants enable donors to recommend and contribute directly to projects they are passionate about and that they wish to support. This is a wonderful way for the Fund to work with donors to make a difference and to, where possible, ultimately match them with specific projects.

- Ruth Tarlo provided the second **Hyman Tarlo Scholarship in Law** for 2016/2017 at the Law School of Trinity College. The scholarship is in memory of Ruth's late husband, Hyman Tarlo, who attended Trinity during the 1940s.
- The Worldwide Ireland Funds received a donor advised grant from Dr. Stanley Quek for the **development of the global Funds**.
- **Sensational Kids Dublin** received a donor advised gift from the Lansdowne Club of Australia. They provide accessible and affordable developmental and educational services to help the 1 in 5 children with special needs in Ireland to realise their potential.

HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT THE AUSTRALIAN IRELAND FUND AND OUR CHARITIES:



INDIVIDUALS

Become a Governor of the Fund

The **Governor's programme** was launched in 1997 to support major initiatives and flagship projects of the Fund. Supporters are invited to make a tax deductible annual gift of \$10,000 a year for five years to the Fund.

Become a Benefactor of the Fund

The Benefactor Programme is at a more affordable level. Supporters are invited to become Benefactors of the Fund, upon payment of an annual tax deductible contribution of \$1,000.

Become a Young Leader

The **Young Leaders' Network** is a key Ireland Funds Programme attracting the next generation of leaders. The mission of the Young Leaders' network is to encourage the involvement of an emerging generation of philanthropists, and to provide a forum for networking locally and globally, while financially supporting the work of The Worldwide Ireland Funds. We have Young Leader Networks in Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane. Young Leaders membership is open to those aged between 20-40 and costs \$200 annually.

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CORPORATE

Become a Partner Sponsor

Your company can become a **Partner Sponsor** of The Australian Ireland Fund by contributing a nominated amount for a **3-year period starting in 2016**. This would allow us meet some or all overheads and underwrite the cost of day-to-day operations freeing us to focus on fundraising for the recommended and worthy projects we would like to support.

Event Sponsor

We are very lucky to have many companies donate items to us for our Live and Silent Auctions at our 3 major fundraisers in Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane throughout the year. If you can help we would love to hear from you.



OTHER WAYS

If you have a particular skill and some time you can donate to us, we would love to talk to you. If you like what we do please promote the work of the Australian Ireland Fund to your friends and colleagues.

For more Information on any of the above activities please contact Teresa Keating, Executive Director:



0410 633 598



tkeating@irlfunds.org

OUR MISSION STATEMENT:

We aim to be the largest network of friends of Ireland in Australia, and to mobilise this network to contribute to worthy causes in Ireland & Australia. We support projects that advance and promote education, peace & reconciliation, community development and arts & culture. We are part of the global philanthropic network that is the Worldwide Ireland Funds.

FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES 2015-2016

HIGHLIGHTS



THE BRISBANE LUNCH



145 Guests



Raised \$47,854



THE SYDNEY GARDEN PARTY



515 Guests



Raised \$172,649



THE GLOBAL 5K IN BRISBANE, SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE



Raised \$17,753



THE MELBOURNE LUNCHEON



168 Guests



Raised \$50,142

COMMUNICATIONS – HOW WE CONNECT WITH YOU:

CONNECT MAGAZINE

Provided biannually to over 1000 of our supporters



ONLINE



www.theirelandfunds.org/australia



[www.twitter.com/OzIrlFund](https://twitter.com/OzIrlFund)



www.facebook.com/TheAustralianIrelandFund/



Search 'Australian Ireland Fund Young Leaders'



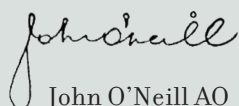
App Store search 'The Ireland Funds'

CHAIRMAN'S CLOSING COMMENTS

The Worldwide Ireland Funds celebrated their 40th anniversary this year – Australia celebrates its 30th anniversary in 2017. I am delighted to have been Chairman of the Australian Ireland Fund for two periods, totalling almost 15 years, we have changed the lives of many people during this time and I am very proud of that.

During this year we updated our structure to ensure we could effectively continue the work we do in Ireland and Australia. The Australian Ireland Fund Ltd. ACN 003 415 487 is now the Trustee of The Australian Ireland Fund and the Australian Ireland Foundation Public Ancillary Fund.

We are continually hearted by the tremendous support we receive from major Donors, Governors, Benefactors, Sponsors and Supporters. Increasingly, our donors want to recommend to us how they would like their donations directed and we appreciate their support and interest. We are committed to promoting philanthropy; developing our Young Leaders Network; and playing a leading role in supporting and growing the Global Irish Network. We will continue to support projects in Ireland and here in Australia and we look forward to interacting more with you and sharing our progress.



John O'Neill AO
Chairman

31st October 2016

The Australian Ireland Fund is audited by KPMG.