



COVID-19 RESPONSE FUND

AS THE WORLD FACES THE UNPRECEDENTED CHALLENGE OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC, THE IRELAND FUNDS HAS COME ALONGSIDE THE ORGANIZATIONS WE SUPPORT WITH AID FOR IMMEDIATE AND LONG-TERM NEEDS.

The COVID-19 pandemic is proving devastating to nonprofit organizations across the island of Ireland. The key services they provide to Ireland's communities have never been more vital. Yet organizations are facing limited resources and collapsing fundraising streams as they strive to deliver. For some, this crisis is challenging not only their reach, but their very existence.

"We are very grateful to The Ireland Funds for helping us support those in our community that need assistance, especially during COVID-19." — *COPE Galway*

"We are incredibly grateful to The Ireland Funds for supporting our work during this particularly challenging time, helping us ensure that our frontline staff can provide essential assisted living services and outreach to people with physical disabilities. Thank you so much!" — *Irish Wheelchair Association*

The Ireland Funds COVID-19 Response Fund has identified the following priority areas:



Food & Food Distribution



Disability Support



Domestic & Child Abuse
(Family Support)



Elderly Services



Access to Education



Mental Health



Community Support

Examples of Impact:



174 Trust

174 Trust in Belfast has pivoted its cross-community services and is now serving as a food-hub to the local neighborhood. Support is now ensuring that 174 Trust can safely deliver meals each week to hundreds of vulnerable people in the community.



Alone

ALONE coordinates the care and support of all older people in Ireland. The Ireland Funds COVID-19 Response Fund is helping meet the cost of training and vetting volunteers to ensure that the 1,100 daily calls to its hotline can be answered and older people in need can be helped.



AsIAm

2000+ people have remotely accessed AsIAm programs since the COVID-19 pandemic began. Support is ensuring that it can continue to innovate to effectively support members of the autism community



Barnardos

Barnardos is currently working with over 1,500 families affected by domestic abuse, mental health challenges, addiction and homelessness. Support is delivering crisis services, safety planning for those faced with domestic abuse, food parcels, diapers and other essential items.



Cope Galway

Since the COVID-19 pandemic began, COPE Galway has seen the demand for its meals program increase by 300%. Support is providing thousands of meals to older people in the community and much-needed services to those affected by homelessness and domestic abuse.



Depaul

Depaul cares for Ireland's homeless population many of whom are at high risk for COVID-19. Support from The Ireland Funds COVID-19 Response Fund is helping provide hundreds of beds each night that safely adhere to social distancing. Support is also providing medical equipment to care for this vulnerable community.



Early Learning Initiative (ELI)

Support for Early Learning Initiative (ELI) of the National College of Ireland is providing remote home visits, activity packs and materials to 1,000+ educationally disadvantaged children and their families to create a positive home learning environment during the COVID-19 crisis.



Fighting Words Northern Ireland

Closure of schools in Northern Ireland has forced Fighting Words Northern Ireland to adapt the delivery of all its creative writing programs. Support is providing for staff members who are directly helping over 1,000 young people make sense of their experiences of this quarantine through the most compelling and human act of writing stories.



FoodCloud

Food distribution is facing unprecedented challenges. Support for FoodCloud is helping continue delivery of food to 700+ charity partners across Ireland reaching 250,000 people in need.



Good Shepherd Cork

Good Shepherd Cork provides emergency shelter and services to families in crisis. Support is helping up to 100 families with safe accommodation, tablets for homeless children to access education, and other emergency supplies.



Irish Men's Sheds Association

Irish Men's Sheds Association provides critical social and supportive environments. All 450 sheds have now closed following the Government's instructions. Support is ensuring that the program will exist once the pandemic is over and social isolation will not once again become the norm for many users.



Irish Wheelchair Association

Irish Wheelchair Association serves over 4,000 people a week. Essential services of food shopping, filling of prescriptions and vital daily care are still being provided. Support is purchasing Personal Protective Equipment to ensure that frontline staff and medically vulnerable users are protected while still receiving vital care.





JIGSAW

Young people's health in mind

Jigsaw

COVID-19 has exacerbated the long-existing youth mental health crisis in Ireland. Support is enabling Jigsaw to meet the rising costs of their digital resources which ensure that any young person, parent or teacher in Ireland can turn to Jigsaw as a resource. To date over 112,000 people have used their online services since the grant was made.



Learning Hub Limerick

Support from The Ireland Funds COVID-19 Response Fund is helping Learning Hub Limerick pivot to deliver its educational and mentorship programs in a secure, child-friendly and safe online environment. Hundreds of families, many deeply disadvantaged, are benefitting.



Making Connections

Support for Making Connections is helping ensure that those most at risk/living alone are supported during the COVID-19 crisis. It has mobilized 100 volunteers to provide shopping, offer emotional support and monitor phone lines for older people in need. Nutritious, hot meals are provided 6x a week for older people and those with underlying health conditions.



MyMind

MyMind has almost 2,000 clients who rely on its mental health counseling services. Support is improving and delivering over 9,000 online counseling sessions at a time when face-to-face counseling can no longer be provided. It is anticipated that these improvements will be of great benefit even after the pandemic is over.



SAFE Ireland

Support for SAFE Ireland is providing for the immediate needs of over 300 women and 600 children experiencing domestic violence including food, basic supplies, and accommodation to keep women and children safe in the face of the COVID-19 crisis.



Tech2Students

Education is not being accessed by many of Ireland's most vulnerable and disadvantaged students due to lack of technology at home. Support for Tech2Students – a collaboration between Trinity Access Program & Camara Ireland – is providing computers and software to ensure all students can continue their education during these challenging times.

To watch video about the impact of The Ireland Funds COVID-19 Response Fund visit:

