



THE  
IRELAND  
FUNDS  
GREAT BRITAIN

# Delivering Impact

Driving change together

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Progress  
Through  
Philanthropy

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“ We want to support people no matter what the obstacles. Funding from The Ireland Funds Great Britain makes that possible. ”

- Irish Cultural Centre, Hammersmith



## Proud to Support

Delivering for Ireland and Irish communities is at the heart of The Ireland Funds' mission, and the generosity and compassion of our donors is the lifeblood that powers our work. Every year, funds raised by The Ireland Funds Great Britain are directed to charities and not-for-profit organisations through our Annual Grant Round and our Donor Advised Grants programme. We work closely with our donors to connect them with charities and causes that they are passionate about supporting.

### Impact where it is needed most

Maximum impact is what we strive to achieve in allocating these funds. We are proud to share with you the impact of your generosity in 2022. The cost-of-living crisis, the war in Ukraine and rising fuel prices make this an uncertain time for many people. We are proud to offer some certainty to the organisations we support by helping them ensure a continuity of care for the communities they tirelessly deliver for. In this Impact Report we celebrate our brilliant grantees, the outstanding work they do and the lives they have changed. In joining us to praise their valuable work, please also take a moment to feel proud of the role your support has played.

Kind regards,

**Katie Jemmett**

Executive Director, The Ireland Funds Great Britain

**Rory Godson**

Chair, The Ireland Funds Great Britain





The generosity of our donors and supporters allowed us to grant more than **£550,000** to over **50** organisations, helping thousands of people across Great Britain and the island of Ireland in 2022.

## How did we support communities in 2022?

The Ireland Funds Great Britain has supported charities and not-for-profit organisations in six key ways



The Ireland Funds supports organisations across 4 pillars:



Arts & Culture



Education



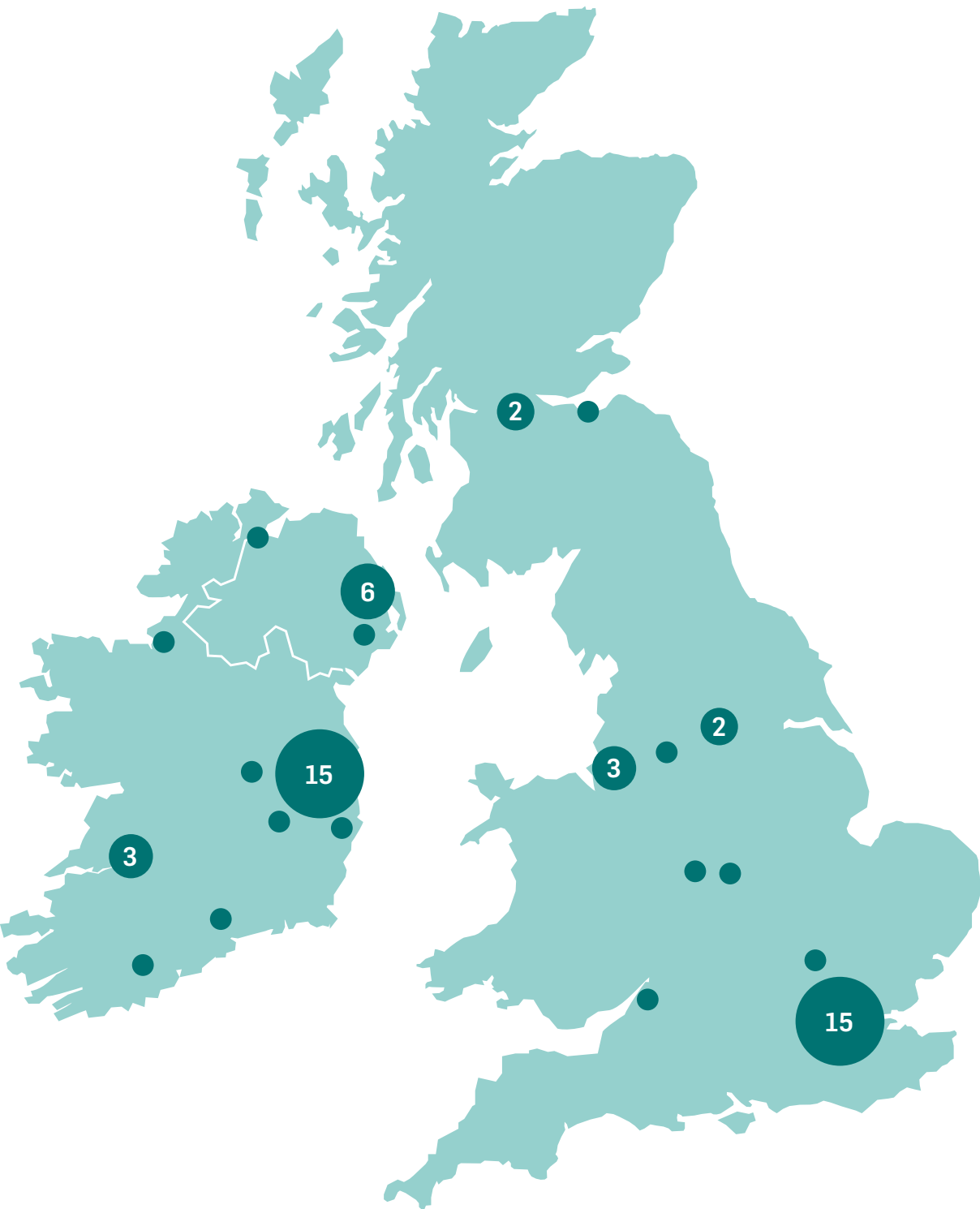
Community Development



Peace & Reconciliation

# Where did we deliver in 2022?

The Ireland Funds Great Britain continues to provide vital support for communities across Great Britain and the island of Ireland. Working with trusted organisations, this wide-ranging support delivers funding and impact directly to the heart of the community.



# How did we raise funds in 2022?

Everything we deliver is made possible by the generosity of our donors and supporters. Their passion for Ireland and commitment to the mission of The Ireland Funds allows us to deliver transformative change together.



Fundraising Events



100 Club Members



Corporate Donors



Private Donors



Young Leaders Society



# Stories of Impact

Since 1988, our donors have helped The Ireland Funds Great Britain 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. Donor Advised Grants and our Annual Grant Round have had a direct impact in the areas of education, entrepreneurship, culture, mental health and wellbeing of both young and older members of the Irish community.

## Irish Sailing Foundation

Irish sailors shone at World and European championships thanks to the provision of world-class coaching. This was part-funded through grant support from The Ireland Funds Great Britain.

**Our Impact:** The impact of this coaching was seen during prize giving ceremonies on four memorable occasions that Irish sailors excelled on foreign shores. Such success breeds success, inspiring young sailors from across Ireland to dream big.



Credit: David Branigan

## Blackwater Valley Opera Festival

Funding from The Ireland Funds Great Britain provides vital support for specific, artistic projects, including outreach initiatives in schools and the community.

**Our Impact:** Classes for more than 2,000 school children, performance opportunities for artists and care home concerts for the elderly were some of the events that Donor Advised Grants helped make possible in 2022.



## “ Social Entrepreneurs Ireland (SEI)

The SEI Ideas Academy exposed me to what being a social entrepreneur really means. It has been life-changing. Each session left me completely renewed and energised. Instead of getting frustrated, as I once did, I now celebrate every little thing as one step closer to my goal. The impact on my mental health has been immeasurable.

- SEI Ideas Academy Participant 2022







## The National Maternity Hospital Foundation

A new echocardiogram to detect heart problems in babies was bought using donor advised funding from The Ireland Funds. The vital equipment has been helping newborns and their families since February 2022.

**Our Impact:** More than 1,000 babies will arrive, survive and thrive over the lifespan of the echocardiogram as the grant support directly contributes towards saving lives and improving outcomes for women and babies.



## “ Immigrant Counselling and Psychotherapy

Having a therapist who instinctively and respectfully understood the specific issues of an Irish Catholic was so important.

- Anonymous Client

”

## “ Abbey Theatre

‘Her, Sive’ at the Abbey Theatre reminded us of the power and beauty of theatre in schools. The play captivated students from a myriad of ethnic backgrounds, while the post-show conversations were rich and important.

- Maire O’Higgins, Assistant Principal,  
Larkin Community School

”



## Irish Chaplaincy

Irish Chaplaincy supports vulnerable Irish people to stay out of prison. Grant support allowed Irish Chaplaincy to supply essential items to newly-released people.

**Our Impact:** More than 135 Irish people released from prison benefited from emergency support and the creation of conditions to help make them less likely to reoffend. “Truly angels sent from above,” is how one former prisoner describes Irish Chaplaincy.



## Learning Hub Limerick

A safe, welcoming and inspiring learning environment is what the Learning Hub strives for. It’s a place where young people can reach their true potential.

**Our Impact:** Dynamic after-school programmes, summer camps, and the expansion of their community garden were some of the positive community initiatives that Donor Advised Grants supported. Gardening classes showed all how to grow healthy food, while the community café opened for longer.



## “ The Jack and Jill Foundation

I never expected I’d become a full-time carer at 37. My little girl will be dependent on me for the rest of her life. The nurses that Jack and Jill provide for us helps reassure me that she is in good hands when I’m not there and allows me time to focus on our boys.

- Sharon, parent of 3 children

”





## “ Community Sports Network:

After spending most of my life in Australia, I was deported to Northern Ireland. I had no family there. No friends. I started from scratch. The Community Sports Network programme was a lifeline. It gave me purpose and structure - a key part in ensuring that I avoid drug and alcohol relapse.

- Stephen

”



## “ IamIrish

I had the best time ever, I loved it and made so many connections. I feel proud to look around the room and see a diverse Irish community.

- James, beneficiary

”

## Brent Irish Advisory Service

BIAS strives to improve the wellbeing of the Irish community across North West London and beyond. Expanded lunch clubs helped reduce social isolation and improve mental health, while digi-sessions help the elderly navigate new digital skills.

**Our Impact:** 47 club days and a trip to the seaside were enjoyed by more than 200 people, among them Joan, 68, who said: “Every newcomer is welcomed. I'd be totally lost without BIAS”.



## The Vale Pantry

The Vale Pantry provides food parcels to financially disadvantaged people, whilst also tackling the underlying issues that can lead to food poverty, such as domestic violence, unemployment and homelessness.

**Our Impact:** Around 250 families ate fresh, healthy food seven days a week for three months, thanks to the grant from The Ireland Funds. It also enabled the provision of 'recipe bags' to help families with little kitchen confidence to increase their skillset, confidence and self-esteem.



## “ Irish Cultural Centre Hammersmith:

The singing group gives my mother a wonderful opportunity to socially engage, despite her dementia. This wonderful resource for the local community brings together so many lovely people. I'm so glad we joined.

- Mary, service user

”



## “ Royal Irish Academy of Music

Receiving this amazing scholarship was incredibly affirming to me as a performer and a person. It helped me to see that there are people truly invested in my future as a musician. The generosity brought me financial relief, but also a chance to meet and perform for incredible individuals, as well as to collaborate with other outstanding musicians.

- Jennifer, RIAM Alumnus

”



## “ Irish Elderly Advice Network

I now have a home where I can feel safe for the rest of my days. The housing service has changed my life.

- Patrick

”



## The Ukrainian Relief Fund

### Globally coming together

In 2022, global chapters of The Ireland Funds came together to deliver crucial relief and support for the more than 65,000 Ukrainian refugees arriving in Ireland. We are proud that the Great Britain chapter and our supporters were a part of this collective effort.

This global effort supported organisations 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 organisational capacity had to increase rapidly, which was made possible with the support of The Ireland Funds.”

- Irish Refugee Council



## Read for Good

Read for Good support children and young people whose learning, well-being and development is at risk due to ill health and hospitalisation. Grant funding helps provide new books and story sessions in Northern Ireland.

**Our Impact:** Seriously ill children of all ages benefit from Read for Good's project at the Royal Belfast Hospital for Sick Children. Grant support has helped add 365 books to the hospital's mobile bookcase, while nearly 50 seriously ill children enjoyed magical, interactive story sessions.



## “ Liverpool Irish Centre:

The garden and shed are an oasis for an elderly man, like myself. I go for the coffee and stay for the chats. Having them there has transformed the Centre.

- Phil

”



## Depaul Ireland

Depaul Ireland is a cross-border charity and a pioneering organisation in the area of homelessness, supporting the most vulnerable in society.

**Our 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.

## 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.

**Our 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.



## Forás Forum: Sharing Skills

The Ireland Funds Great Britain goes further than financial support. Our Forás Forum offers non-financial support and expertise to charities. We deliver it with the assistance of a team of volunteers - many of whom are members of our Young Leaders Society. The programme was founded in partnership with Anthony Harte, former IFGB Grants Committee member.



Two volunteers, Sean and Dermot, supported lamIrish through the **Forás Forum** programme, providing strategic and legal support and advice.

"Many charities deliver fantastic work, but with little resource. It means that they are often so busy with their day-to-day operations that they don't have the time for longer-term strategic thinking. This is why I got involved with the Forás Forum. My skills meant I was able to help lamIrish develop a strategic plan. This was done over five months and the plan will develop and be rolled out over the next three years. The charity is going from strength-to-strength, as a result, and I'm always proud to hear how much they are progressing."

- **Dermot**, Young Leaders Society

"Growing from a grassroots operation to a not-for-profit is a big leap. We found early on that we didn't have the capacity to track the impact of our work in the way we wanted. Working with Sean and Dermot through the Forás Forum was an incredible experience. They enabled us to develop a clear business plan, think about the correct operating model, and make the most out of our ambition. It's a delight to say that they have both become part of our extended lamIrish family."

- **Lorraine**, Founder, lamIrish

## Young Leaders Society

The Young Leaders Society is a membership network of young professionals dedicated to supporting charitable causes. It is active in its busy calendar of events from networking and social events to inspiring talks from professionals in various industries, and is a valuable fundraising source for The Ireland Funds and the charities it supports.

With four membership tiers, there is a Young Leaders Society membership for all budgets. At every level there are great benefits and best of all, your membership fee supports The Ireland Funds Great Britain and the community organisations funded through its Annual Grant Round. If you would like to be part of this society or know someone who would, please contact [ifgb@irelandfunds.org](mailto:ifgb@irelandfunds.org)



## Helping your donations to go further

The Ireland Funds works with donors to channel support to causes they are passionate about in Great Britain and the island of Ireland. Donations made to The Ireland Funds Great Britain may be eligible for Gift Aid, adding a valuable boost to your donation and offering tax relief to higher rate taxpayers.



Gift Aid is available to donors who are resident in Great Britain for tax purposes, and donations will qualify as long as they are not more than 4 times what you have paid in tax in that tax year (6 April to 5 April). We would love to work with you to help you deliver maximum impact with your giving.

**Contact Katie Jemmett to request a Gift Aid declaration, and to discuss your charitable objectives for the coming year.**



# Thank You

Every donation to The Ireland Funds has the potential to change a life. This is the extraordinary impact of your generosity. We are proud of the charities we fund throughout the year and we are grateful for the important work they do. The Ireland Funds Great Britain would like to extend our thanks to all of our supporters, including our private and corporate donors, 100 Club members, Young Leaders, guests at our fundraising events - without your dedicated donations and support, this valuable funding would not be possible.

Your support enables the charitable organisations we fund to continue to change lives. It helps to build communities for the better during these challenging economic times, and it provides certainty and security to charities, allowing them to plan for the future.



# Make a difference with us

Members of the 100 Club donate £100 a month to The Ireland Funds; 100% of your donation is ring fenced for our Annual Grant Round, providing grants and funding to charities and communities in need.

**Join the 100 Club today.** Scan the QR code and in less than one minute you can set up your direct debit for a monthly donation of £100.



# About The Ireland Funds Great Britain

Established in 1988, we are a proud chapter of The Ireland Funds; a global network of friends of Ireland dedicated to creating a positive social impact and making a real difference to communities in need. We raise funds to support charities working to further community development, culture, education, and peace on the island of Ireland and across Great Britain.

## We connect people

Our aim is to curate a network of like-minded individuals; people who are passionate about making a difference and to bring them together so they can connect with each other.

## We channel support

We work closely with our network of donors and supporters to understand the causes that they are passionate about and to guide and assist them to deliver the impact that they want to make with their giving through our Donor Advised Grants programme.

## We change lives

In 2022, the passion and commitment of our donors enabled us to fund over 50 organisations on the island of Ireland and across Great Britain. We are honoured to be the stewards of that care and investment which improves so many lives and creates so many opportunities for growth.

All charities supported by The Ireland Funds are subject to scrupulous due diligence checks to ensure that they are in line with the ethos and high expectations of The Ireland Funds and its supporters. Our Annual Grant Round follows a rigorous process overseen by our Grants Committee, who give their time to ensure your donations are awarded to outstanding organisations making a real impact in our community.

## The Ireland Funds GB Board of Directors

Eoin Bastible	Emer Finnan	Sue O'Brien OBE
Emily Bohill	Rory Godson (Chair)	Declan Tiernan
Evelyn Bourke	Garrett Hayes	Bridget Walsh
Ruairi Conneely	Conor Hillery	Zachary Webb
John Feeney	Rachel Naughton	Susan Whelan OBE DL

## The Ireland Funds GB Grants Committee

Ruairi Conneely	Eileen Kelliher	Victoria Wallace
Ruairi Cullen	Gemma Moynihan	Susan Whelan OBE DL
Michael Keaveney	Rachel Naughton	





## THE IRELAND FUNDS GREAT BRITAIN

**The Ireland Funds Great Britain raises funds to support community, culture, education, and peace in Great Britain and on the island of Ireland.**

### **Progress Through Philanthropy**

Executive Director: Katie Jemmett

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