



THE
IRELAND
FUNDS

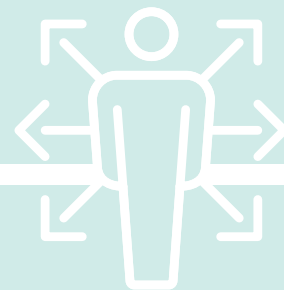
DELIVERING FOR IRELAND IN 2023



—
Progress
Through
Philanthropy
—



In 2023, The Ireland Funds worldwide made **1,100+** grants totaling over **\$22** million supporting the work of more than **340** organizations.



THE FOUR PILLARS OF THE IRELAND FUNDS

01

COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT

02

EDUCATION

03

ARTS & CULTURE

04

PEACE &
RECONCILIATION



THANK YOU

In 2023, we marked the 25th anniversary of the Good Friday Agreement in Northern Ireland. Our donors have always understood the power and promise of peace and it remains a key pillar of our mission. Indeed, this organization was founded almost 50 years ago to bring a positive presence to Northern Ireland and we have heard time and again that this investment has made a profound difference. Our support continues for organizations strengthening lasting reconciliation across all communities.

The Ireland Funds Heart of the Community Fund once again listened to the needs of hundreds of organizations across the island of Ireland. Together we ensured that the doors of organizations stayed open, hot meals and safe spaces were provided, and programs widening access to education were delivered. If you attended an event or supported The Ireland Funds with a donor-advised or unrestricted gift, you changed lives in 2023.

Your love for this island and vibrant engagement with our mission truly make all of this possible. It is an honor to steward the philanthropic vision of our donors. That vision has created a living legacy of educational opportunities, cultural spaces, and community developments which will serve future generations to come.

We hope you will take a moment to see within these pages some of the transformational work you've made possible. On behalf of the thousands of people whose lives have been improved by the work of The Ireland Funds, we thank you.



Gene McQuade
Chair
The Ireland Funds America



Caitriona Fottrell
President & CEO
The Ireland Funds

HOW DID WE DELIVER FOR THE ISLAND OF IRELAND IN 2023?



**UNDERGRADUATE
& GRADUATE
SCHOLARSHIPS**



**HEART OF THE
COMMUNITY FUND
GRANT ROUND**

THE IRELAND FUNDS

strengthened the island of Ireland

WITH MULTIPLE STREAMS OF SUPPORT



**DONOR
ADVISED
GRANTS**

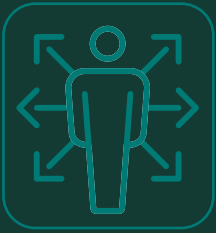


**NON-FINANCIAL
SUPPORT FOR
GRANTEES**



There are programs that we're running that would not be running if it weren't for the support of The Ireland Funds. There are children in those programs who would not be getting support and education if it weren't for The Ireland Funds. **Support from The Ireland Funds is a validation of the work we do and it is encouragement to keep doing it better. It's incredible.**

— *Learning Hub Limerick*



HOW DID WE DELIVER FOR THE ISLAND OF IRELAND IN 2023?

Donor Advised Gifts

CANCER FUND FOR CHILDREN

Cancer Fund for Children is there for children and young people diagnosed with cancer or living with a parent with cancer. Over 1,500 children and young people are supported each year in hospitals, homes, and at Daisy Lodge, The Cancer Fund for Children's therapeutic short break center.



IMPACT:

Donor-advised gifts in 2023 are helping to build, equip, and open a second therapeutic short break center in Mayo.

TRINITY COLLEGE DUBLIN

Home to 350,000 early printed books and the famous Book of Kells exhibition, Trinity College Dublin is Ireland's oldest university with a rich cultural history as well as a strong reputation as a leading center for research.

IMPACT:

Donor-advised gifts in 2023 contributed to the redevelopment of the Old Library, helping to preserve it as a beacon of scholarship and a cultural landmark.



IRISH DOGS FOR THE DISABLED

Irish Dogs for the Disabled was founded in 2007 to improve the lives of children and adults living with physical disabilities in Ireland. It delivers approximately 28 trained assistance / therapy dogs each year and is active in prisons, schools, adolescent therapy, and drug and alcohol rehabilitation.



IMPACT:

Donor-advised gifts in 2023 supported the training of these life-changing dogs assisting their disabled partners.

In 2023, 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.

NATIVE WOODLAND TRUST

Native Woodland Trust is dedicated to the preservation of Ireland's remaining ancient woodlands. They are committed to ecosystem restoration through the re-creation of woodlands, using only native seed.

IMPACT:

A donor-advised gift in 2023 increased the capacity of the Trust to manage and protect thousands of trees across Ireland over the next three years.



BARNARDOS

Barnardos transforms the lives of children whose well-being is at risk by working in partnership with them, their families, and their communities. Over 20,000 children and families receive services each year.

IMPACT:

In 2023, donor-advised gifts supported vulnerable children, helping them to achieve their developmental, social, and educational milestones.



PHOENIX EDUCATION CENTRE

The Phoenix Education Centre provides mentoring, support, and education opportunities for people in East Belfast to promote improved educational and training outcomes.

IMPACT:

A donor-advised gift in 2023 supported the Centre's running costs to ensure various programs were available to youth and adults identified as at-risk.





HOW DID WE DELIVER FOR THE ISLAND OF IRELAND IN 2023?

Heart of The Community Fund



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

Heart of the Community Fund is an open call Grant Round designed to meet the needs of organizations delivering vital services and support for people across the island of Ireland. We recognize the challenges organizations face in securing funding to build their capacity, so the Heart of the Community Fund 2023 provides support to meet these needs.

Supporting people with a disability

Enhancing the quality of outcomes in education

Working with vulnerable families

Encouraging community regeneration

Empowering women

Providing legal supports



190

ROSCOMMON WOMEN'S NETWORK A grant enabled 190 marginalized women in rural Roscommon to receive training with the goal of obtaining employment.

PIPS Thanks in part to support from The Ireland Funds, 749 people in Northern Ireland struggling with their mental health and in financial difficulty received free phone counseling.



749

In 2023, support from The Ireland Funds meant...



300

CITYWISE EDUCATION

A grant from The Ireland Funds purchased key equipment for its STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Maths) program, enabling it to reach 1,526 students.



1,526

PEACEPLAYERS NORTHERN IRELAND

Support equipped 300+ young people with the skills to combat sectarianism and build positive cross-community relationships.



HOW DID WE DELIVER FOR THE ISLAND OF IRELAND IN 2023?

Non-Financial Support for Grantees

“**Thank you to The Ireland Funds. You are always there, especially when we need you most and your support goes far beyond financial assistance. We would be lost without you.**”

— *AsIAm, Ireland's autism charity*

Workshops

The Ireland Funds offers workshops to any organization applying to us for funding. We not only give guidance on applying, we offer guidance that can also be used when applying to other funding bodies and donors to strengthen the organization's chances of success.

Visibility

The Ireland Funds promotes the work of organizations it supports across social media and other platforms to share their stories and their impact. Social media, public relations support and fundraising partnerships help make sure great work gets seen by a wide audience.

Networking

The Ireland Funds is known for its impactful philanthropy and for bringing people together. Our keen understanding of our donors' interests and vision, along with our knowledge of the nonprofit sector, means we match transformational investments to the right projects at the right time.



HOW DID WE DELIVER FOR THE ISLAND OF IRELAND IN 2023?

Access to Education

NO MIND LEFT BEHIND SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

No Mind Left Behind is an initiative that gives promising young people from areas of social disadvantage access to 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.

2023 / 2024 ACADEMIC YEAR



305 Students

RECEIVED A NO MIND LEFT BEHIND SCHOLARSHIP.



46 DEIS Schools

SELECTED TO RECEIVE SUPPORT THROUGH THESE SCHOLARSHIPS



13 Counties Represented:

CAVAN
DONEGAL
DUBLIN
GALWAY
KILKENNY
LOUTH
MAYO
MONAGHAN
OFFALY
ROSCOMMON
SLIGO
WATERFORD
TIPPERARY



101 New Students

SUPPORTED TO COMMENCE THE FIRST YEAR OF UNDERGRADUATE STUDY



204 Continuing Students

SUPPORTED TO RETURN TO YEAR 2,3, 4 OR 5 OF UNDERGRADUATE STUDY



24 Third-Level Institutions

REPRESENTED ACROSS THE ISLAND OF IRELAND, UK AND EUROPE



€1,212,000

AWARDED IN SCHOLARSHIPS
€4.9M+ AWARDED TO DATE



“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*



“

The Ireland Funds made a huge impact on my career. I wouldn't be where I am without them. People who didn't even know me believed in me. They believed I was good enough to go into the world and achieve whatever I wanted to do.

— *Roisin Gallagher*
No Mind Left Behind Scholar now working
at Abbott Diagnostics

”



HOW DID WE DELIVER FOR THE ISLAND OF IRELAND IN 2023?

Access to Education

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 wish to thank the George Moore Scholars and The Ireland Funds for supporting me on this journey. Without your generosity and belief in my ability, none of this would have been possible. This year was truly life-changing and confirmed that my true passion in life lies within the world of leukemia research. For that, I cannot thank you enough." —Dylan Casey, George Moore Scholar, and MRes Biomedical Sciences and Translational Medicine graduate



8 Higher Education Institutions
REPRESENTED



SCHOLARS ARE ENROLLED AT **22 universities**
ACROSS THE US, CANADA AND THE UK AND PURSUING COURSES
ACROSS **33 academic disciplines.**



9 Scholars
RECEIVED SUPPORT TO RETURN FOR THE
SECOND YEAR OF THEIR MASTER'S DEGREE



48 New Scholars
144 SCHOLARS FUNDED
TO DATE



14 Counties
ACROSS THE ISLAND
OF IRELAND
REPRESENTED





ST. PETER'S IMMACULATA YOUTH CENTRE & HOLY TRINITY YOUTH CENTRE

Youth clubs like the St Peter's Immaculata Youth Centre and Holy Trinity Youth Centre offer young people like Tony a safe, educational, and cross-community space to grow in the sometimes difficult environments in Belfast. Massive budget cuts have threatened the services of these safe havens.

HOWEVER, THANKS IN PART TO SUPPORT FROM THE IRELAND FUNDS ITS WORK CONTINUES AND UNIVERSITY ATTENDANCE RATES ARE UP FROM 3% TO 10.5%.



MAKING CONNECTIONS

Grants from The Ireland Funds have helped Making Connections alleviate loneliness and isolation. The support empowers older people to stay healthy and socially connected. Vera was isolated and with health challenges could no longer leave the house alone.

THANKS TO THE IRELAND FUNDS' SUPPORT, MAKING CONNECTIONS IS HELPING VERA GET OUT AND ABOUT AND SHE SAYS HER LIFE IS NOW "TOTAL JOY."



HOLYWELL TRUST

The Holywell Trust Future Leaders Programme brings together local people to build leadership skills that serve their communities. Claire says the program is "a safe space to realize that we all have the same dream and the same future" regardless of political and religious differences.

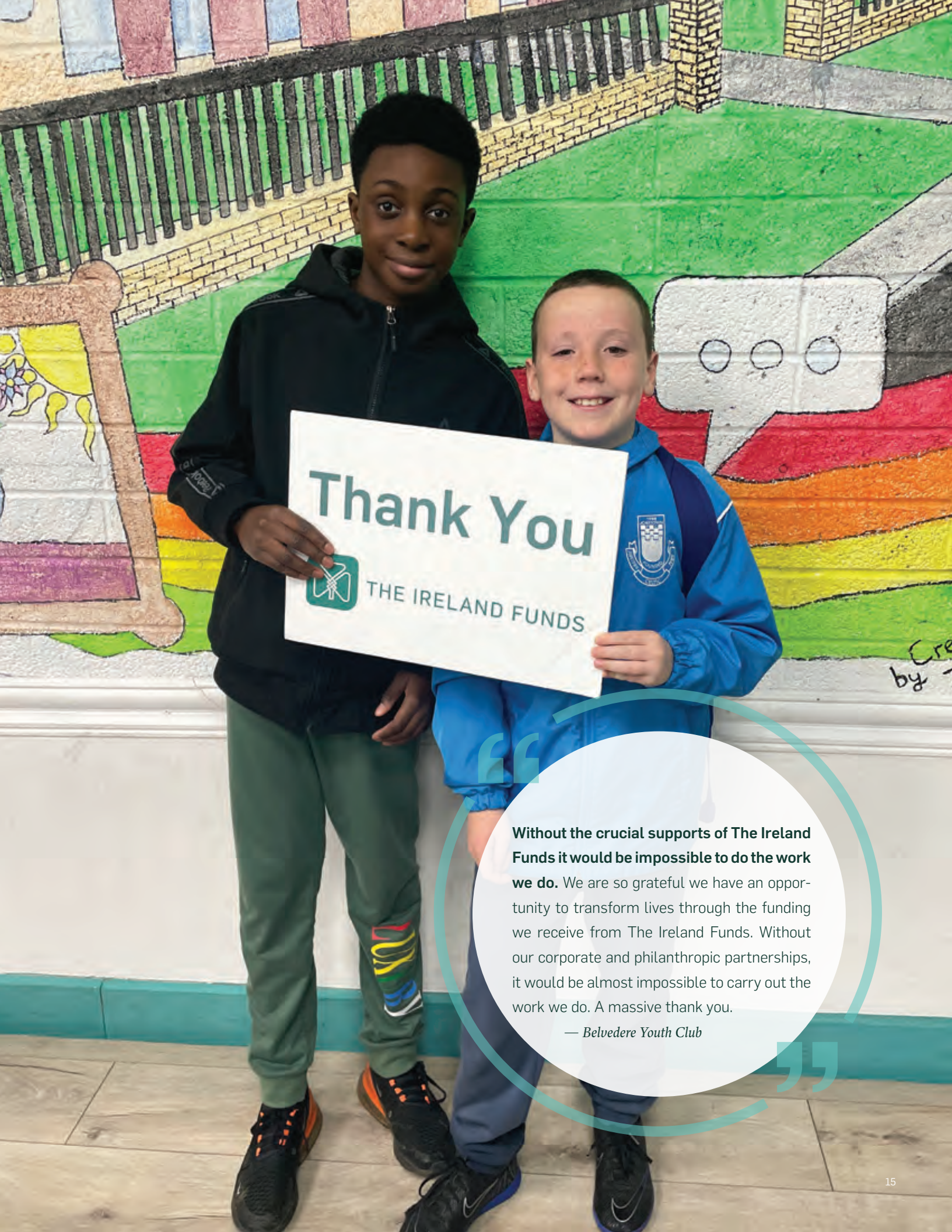
WITH THE IRELAND FUNDS' SUPPORT, THE PROGRAMS OF THE HOLYWELL TRUST ARE DELIVERING SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION ACROSS NORTHERN IRELAND.



LIQUID THERAPY

As a mother of a child with autism, Sarah knows just how isolating childhood can be. Liquid Therapy is the only place where she sees her son feels part of a group. The Ireland Funds is helping Liquid Therapy, the only adaptive surf program in Ireland, provide the therapeutic benefits of the surf and ocean to young people facing physical and intellectual challenges.

A GRANT ENSURED 64 FAMILIES WERE ABLE TO RECEIVE ITS INCLUSIVE SERVICES AT NO COST.



Thank You
THE IRELAND FUNDS

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Without the crucial supports of The Ireland Funds it would be impossible to do the work we do. We are so grateful we have an opportunity to transform lives through the funding we receive from The Ireland Funds. Without our corporate and philanthropic partnerships, it would be almost impossible to carry out the work we do. A massive thank you.

— Belvedere Youth Club

”



THANK YOU

FROM ACROSS THE ISLAND OF IRELAND

“ SPEEDPAK GROUP

The Ireland Funds has allowed us to ask for the resources we need now and for the foreseeable future. Not only has this investment improved our service, efficiency, and profitability, it has provided the methodology to train, provide work experience, and improve the employability of long term unemployed people furthest from the labor market. — *Support helped the Speedpak Group train adults with low formal education to develop their IT skills in the workplace.*



“ ARC FITNESS

Gratitude in action. We're sending a heartfelt thank you to The Ireland Funds for its unwavering support and dedication to ARC. Your commitment is a beacon of hope to all those on their journey to recovery. — *Support helped Arc Fitness serve individuals battling substance abuse in the North West of Ireland. Programs improved their mental and physical well-being through physical activity, professional support, education, and community.*



“ OPERA COLLECTIVE

Your generosity paves the way for positive change and empowers Irish-related causes worldwide. Everyone at Opera Collective Ireland thanks you for your support! — *Support helped Opera Collective ensure Ireland's most promising young opera artists could thrive and develop.*





ROYAL IRISH ACADEMY OF MUSIC

The Ireland Funds is capable of making profound and positive interventions in the lives of Irish arts and educational institutions. We are hugely grateful to The Ireland Funds for its dedicated support of RIAM, and the non-profit sector in Ireland. — *Support strengthened its infrastructure to train gifted musicians from all over the world for careers in music performance, composition and pedagogy.*



DAISYHOUSE HOUSING ASSOCIATION

The thing I love about The Ireland Funds is that they understand the nuances of organizations. They **trust organizations**. — *Support allowed Daisyhouse Housing Association to provide new services, transport, and household items to women emerging from homelessness.*

THANK YOU

“ I am grateful for the work that you do, the investment you make and the commitment that you have to this place, to this island. ”

— JOE KENNEDY,

U.S. Special Envoy to Northern Ireland for Economic Affairs

The Ireland Funds Worldwide Conference 2023