



In 2023, The Ireland Funds America made 950+ grants totaling over \$19.5 million supporting the work of more than 260 organizations.



THE FOUR PILLARS OF THE IRELAND FUNDS

01 02 03 04

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT EDUCATION ARTS & CULTURE 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





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.

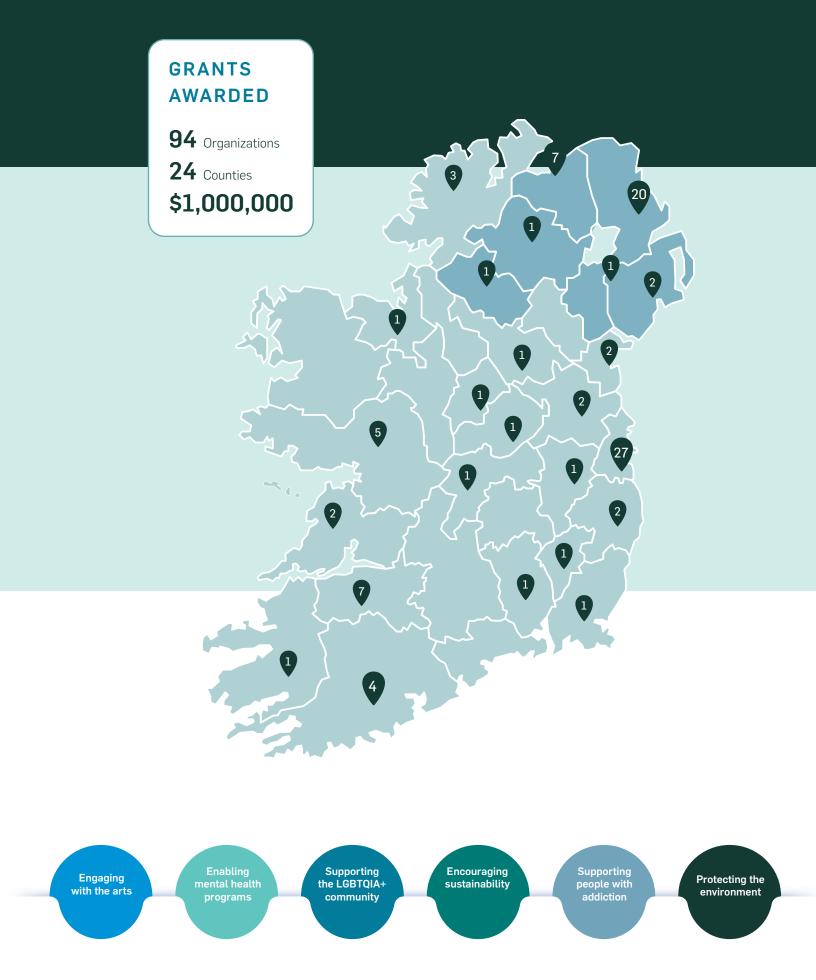
Supporting people with a disability

Enhancing the quality of outcomes in education Working with vulnerable families

Encouraging community regeneration

Empowering women

Providing legal supports

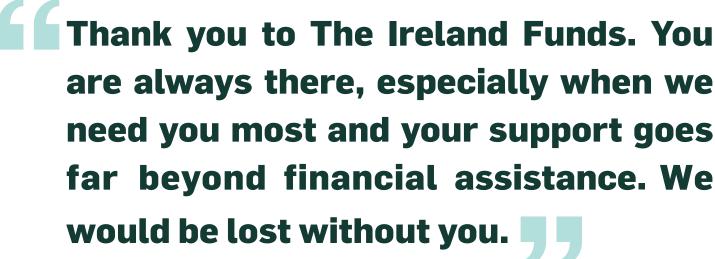




In 2023, support from The Ireland Funds meant....







— 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.



24 Third-Level Institutions

REPRESENTED ACROSS
THE ISLAND OF IRELAND,
UK AND EUROPE



46 DEIS Schools

SELECTED TO RECEIVE SUPPORT THROUGH THESE SCHOLARSHIPS



204 Continuing Students

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

13 Counties Represented:

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



SUPPORTED TO COMMENCE THE FIRST YEAR OF UNDERGRADUATE STUDY



€1,212,000

AWARDED IN SCHOLARSHIPS €4.9M+ AWARDED TO DATE

66

"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





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

2023 / 2024 ACADEMIC YEAR





10 Scholars

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



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









People Are at the Heart of What We Do



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 lone-liness 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.

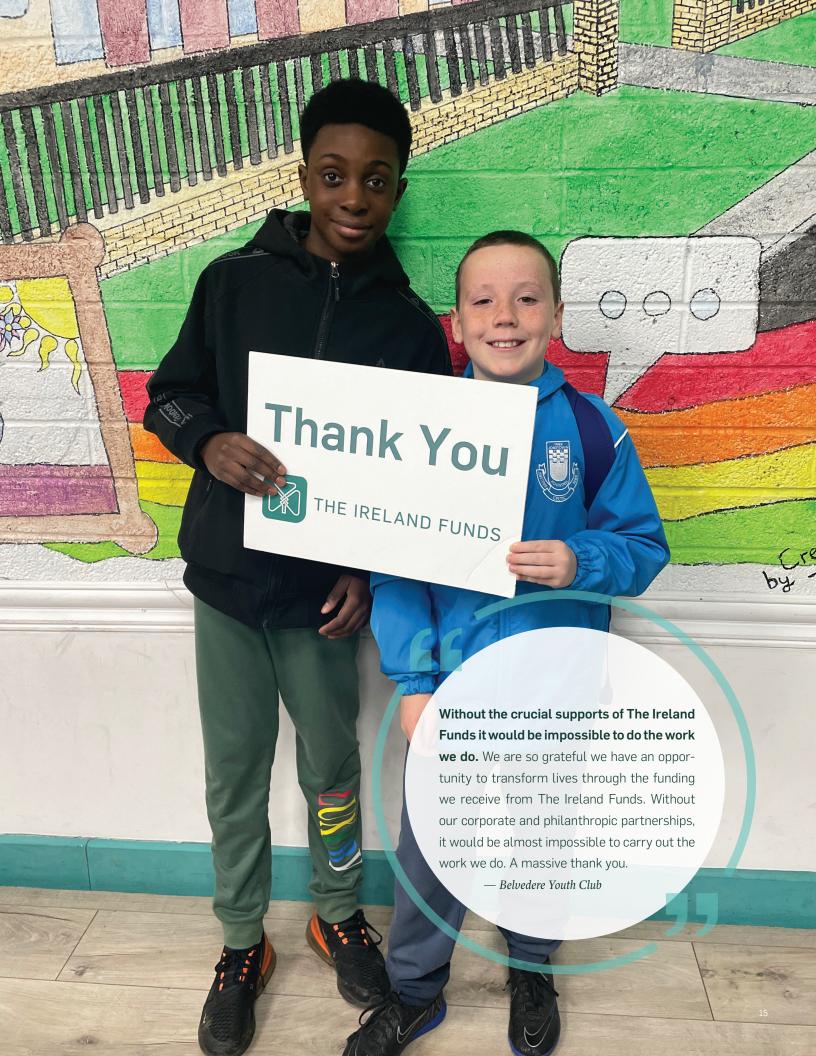
WITH THE IRELAND FUNDS' SUPPORT, THE PROGRAMS OF THE HOLYWELL TRUST ARE DELIVERING SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION ACROSS NORTHERN IRELAND.



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

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.





GG 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.

OUR MODEL

THE IRELAND FUNDS PARTNERS WITH PHILANTHROPISTS, FOUNDATIONS, AND CORPORATIONS, TO GIVE BACK TO IRELAND IN A MEANINGFUL AND IMPACTFUL WAY.

Vision & Focus

The Ireland Funds' vision is of peace, equality, and opportunity across the island of Ireland and among Irish communities worldwide. Our focus areas are Arts & Culture, Community Development, Education and Peace & Reconciliation.

Expertise

As one of Ireland's largest grantmakers, our donors have unparalleled access to our:

- Four-and-a-half decades of grantmaking experience
- · Expertise in due-diligence, project vetting and impact evaluation
- In-depth local and national knowledge of Ireland's nonprofit sector and our long-standing relationships with the outstanding nonprofit organizations that strive to make Ireland a better place for all its people

A No-Cost Philanthropic Partner

The Ireland Funds works with our donors to identify outstanding organizations worthy of support that are in line with their philanthropic goals and ambitions. Thanks to our operating model, 100% of all donor advised gifts made by our supporters are granted to their chosen charities following Board approval. The Ireland Funds absorbs all costs associated with due diligence, administration, payment, reporting, monitoring, and evaluation to maximize our donors' generosity and ensure that the organizations we support meet the highest standards of transparency, accountability, and governance.

National Impact

Through our grantmaking, The Ireland Funds invests in people, communities, and organizations across the island of Ireland, North and South, and in Irish communities throughout the world. In 2023, thanks to the generosity of our donors, The Ireland Funds America made 950+ grants to further the work of more than 260 organizations.

Come for the Party, Stay for the Mission

Every year, The Ireland Funds hosts a series of special events recognizing the business, cultural, political, and philanthropic achievements of the Irish diaspora. These gatherings provide a unique forum for supporters to connect with like-minded peers who are not only passionate about Ireland's past, but also invested in its future, while also raising vital funds for our grantmaking and operations.



THE YEAR IN NUMBERS

2023

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022 IN US\$		
	2023	2022
Revenue and Support		
Contributions	18,957,056	15,967,499
Fundraising Events, net	7,069,134	3,388,088
Changes in Net Assets without Donor Restrictions: Net Assets Released	-	1,235,149
Other	149,261	2,088,124
Total Revenues and Support from Operating Activities	26,175,451	22,678,860
Changes in Net Assets with Donor Restrictions: Contributions & Net Assets Released	_	(1,235,149)
Investment Income	2,299,358	(3,035,675)
Total Revenues	28,474,809	18,408,036
Expenses		
Grant Awards	19,550,642	16,474,438
Other Program Services	1,971,797	1,659,198
Total Program	21,522,439	18,133,636
Management and General Administrative	1,932,651	1,563,352
Fundraising	2,088,313	1,659,181
Total Expenses	25,543,403	21,356,169
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Change in Net Assets	2,931,406	(2,948,133)
Net Assets at Beginning of Year	18,048,198	20,996,331
Net Assets at End of Year*	20,979,604	18,048,198
% of Contributions Revenue from the largest single contribution received in each year	14%	11%
# of Organizations who received Grants from The Ireland Funds America in each year	261	239
Notes:		
*Endowment Balance at End of Year (included within Net Assets at End of Year)	15,871,150	13,766,316

Grant Thornton, LLP, performed the 2013 –2023 audits for The American Ireland Fund. To review our audited financial statements and IRS Forms 990, please visit irelandfunds.org

OUR GRANTMAKING

THE IRELAND FUNDS MAKES GRANTS IN FOUR WAYS:

1 Donor Advised Gifts

The Ireland Funds works closely with our donors to identify and fund organizations in line with our focus areas and their philanthropic interests and goals. We are committed to stewarding our donors' giving, and ensuring their generosity has maximum impact with 100% of all donor advised gifts awarded to a donor's chosen nonprofit following Board approval.

2 Annual Grant Rounds

Each year, The Ireland Funds runs grant rounds which provides nonprofits in every county of Ireland with the opportunity to apply for much needed funding.

Grant Rounds typically award €1 million euro annually and are often the starting point of an organization's relationship with The Ireland Funds. Time and time again, we've seen organizations that have received small grants from The Ireland Funds go on to receive additional funding from our donors, as well as other funders.

Critically, the Grant Rounds enable us to nurture organizations with particular promise, identify emerging areas of need and leaders in the sector, and discover new organizations that are doing essential and impactful work. Funding is available under two categories:

> Small Grants (Heart of the Community Fund)

The Small Grant Round supports small organizations that are making an impact and positive contribution in their local community. Grants typically range from €5,000 to €25,000.

These grant rounds are made possible by unrestricted gifts, and with proceeds generated from our events.



3 Scholarships

Since our founding, increasing access to and excellence in education has been a core tenet of our philanthropy – from early learning intervention initiatives to scholarship programs that ensure our schools and universities reflect every aspect of Irish society, regardless of background.

Our flagship scholarship programs are aimed at breaking down the barriers that Irish students from marginalized communities face in accessing education and helping exceptionally talented students pursue their educational ambitions up to a master's level:

- > No Mind Left Behind gives promising young students from areas of social disadvantage a multi-year scholarship to attend third level education.
- **George Moore Scholars** offers high value funding to academically talented students from all disciplines who wish to undertake a master's degree in the US, the UK, or Canada.

These scholarships are funded by our donors, and in 2023 their generosity enabled The Ireland Funds to award hundreds of scholarships.

4 Special Grants & Strategic Initiatives

In certain circumstances, The Ireland Funds will make special grants to support initiatives that are of strategic importance to Ireland or the Irish diaspora.

This includes funding to promote and nurture Irish arts and culture at home and abroad, support for Irish immigration centers that provide a range of social, legal and pastoral services, local grants to communities that have given so much to The Ireland Funds, as well as grants made in times of tragedy or emergency.

These timely, important and on occasion, urgent grants, are made possible by unrestricted gifts, and with proceeds generated from our events.



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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

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