



THE
IRELAND
FUNDS

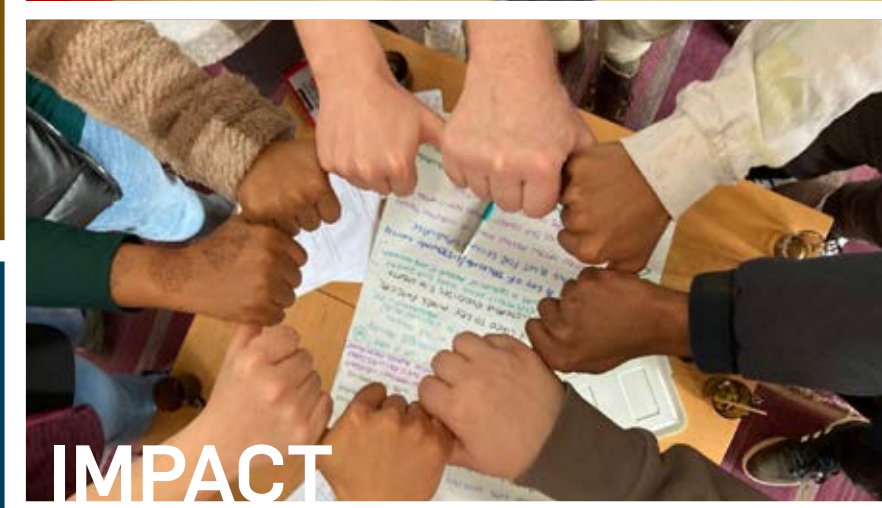
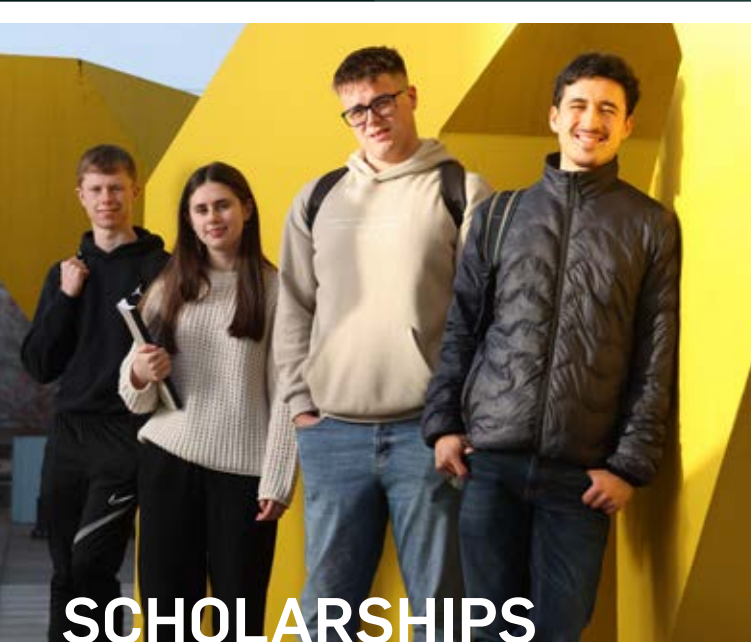
DELIVERING FOR IRELAND IN 2024



—
Progress
Through
Philanthropy
—

OUR DONORS MADE 2024 ONE OF THE MOST IMPACTFUL YEARS IN THE HISTORY OF THE IRELAND FUNDS.

THE IRELAND FUNDS WORLDWIDE MADE 1,250+ GRANTS TOTALING OVER \$28.5 MILLION TO SUPPORT THE WORK OF MORE THAN 330 ORGANIZATIONS. THANK YOU FOR HELPING US DELIVER:



THE FOUR PILLARS OF THE IRELAND FUNDS

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
EDUCATION
ARTS & CULTURE
PEACE & RECONCILIATION



DEAR FRIENDS, 2024 WAS ONE OF THE HIGHEST YEARS OF GRANTMAKING SINCE THIS ORGANIZATION WAS FOUNDED ALMOST 50 YEARS AGO.

Thanks to our donors' unprecedented generosity, The Ireland Funds worldwide made 1,250+ grants totaling over \$28.5 million to support the work of more than 330 organizations.

Our supporters' investment in 2024 addressed critical needs and created opportunities for organizations and individuals. In June, our Heart of the Community Fund brought support to 93 organizations delivering vital services in 29 counties. Then, in December, our Heart of the Community Fund delivered grants to 20 organizations providing essential services to children experiencing poverty, marginalization, and difficult circumstances across the island of Ireland. Our No Mind Left Behind program increased the number of scholarships for students by 24%, an investment from our donors which positively impacts the lives of those young scholars both now and in future.

We're filled with appreciation for what our donor-advised partnerships accomplished in 2024. We worked closely with our donors to tailor significant philanthropic investments around the causes that meant the most to them. These gifts for the greater good are now helping incredible organizations working in education, healthcare, the arts and more.

Hundreds of projects and thousands of people benefitted from your extraordinary generosity to The Ireland Funds in 2024. We look forward to continuing to deepen the reach of our mission in 2025 as we strive to accomplish even greater things for the island of Ireland and beyond.

With gratitude,



Gene McQuade
Chair
The Ireland Funds America



Caitriona Fottrell
President & CEO
The Ireland Funds

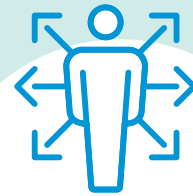
HOW DID WE DELIVER FOR THE ISLAND OF IRELAND IN 2024?



UNDERGRADUATE
& GRADUATE
SCHOLARSHIPS



HEART OF THE
COMMUNITY FUND
GRANT ROUNDS



DONOR
ADVISED
GRANTS



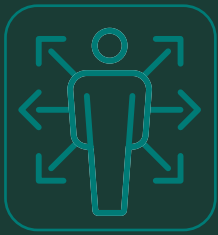
NON-FINANCIAL
SUPPORT FOR
GRANTEES

THE IRELAND FUNDS
**STRENGTHENED THE
ISLAND OF IRELAND**
WITH MULTIPLE STREAMS OF SUPPORT

“

We were fortunate to begin our long and impactful relationship with The Ireland Funds in 2011. With its help since then, we've bred, trained, and placed 380 assistance/therapy dogs with families and treatment facilities across Ireland. This support has made our journey possible because **THE IRELAND FUNDS SUPPORTED US WHEN WE NEEDED IT THE MOST AND FOR THIS, WE ARE FOREVER GRATEFUL.** ”

— *Irish Dogs for the Disabled*



HOW DID WE DELIVER FOR THE ISLAND OF IRELAND IN 2024?

DONOR ADVISED GIFTS

CANCER FUND FOR CHILDREN

SUPPORTING FAMILIES AFFECTED BY CANCER



IMPACT: Donor-advised gifts in 2024 have now helped break ground on a second respite center in Mayo. This new center will more than double the number of children and parents they support each year from 1,800 to 4,000.



BLACKWATER VALLEY OPERA FESTIVAL

FREE AND INCLUSIVE MUSIC PROGRAMS

IMPACT: Donor-advised gifts in 2024 helped Blackwater Valley Opera Festival extend their reach across the Blackwater Valley, providing professional employment for more than 100 artists to perform for 5,000 audience members, while creating memorable experiences for 2,000 children and young people through its inclusive music education program.



GOOD SHEPHERD CORK

EMERGENCY ACCOMMODATIONS AND EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT

IMPACT: Donor-advised gifts in 2024 enabled Good Shepherd Cork to provide educational, therapeutic and well-being supports to over 200 women and children who are homeless in Cork.

In 2024, 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. We find, fund, and grow organizations worthy of investment. Our expertise enables us to make recommendations and tailor plans with donors, giving them the freedom to focus on their areas of interest. The following are just a few examples the ways in which The Ireland Funds partnered with donors to make gifts to the causes most important to them.



174 TRUST

A SHARED AND SAFE SPACE IN NORTHERN IRELAND

IMPACT: Donor-advised gifts in 2024 ensured 174 Trust could deliver numerous programs that restore hope and promote peace to 200+ families and young people. Gifts also helped its Duncairn Centre welcome thousands of people from the community to participate in arts and cultural activities.

SAILING INTO WELLNESS

EMPOWERING INDIVIDUALS TO OVERCOME CHALLENGES

IMPACT: Donor-advised gifts in 2024 contributed to Sailing Into Wellness' core costs and unique therapeutic programs for 400+ people. The organization serves marginalized communities including at-risk youth, those improving their mental health, those with intellectual disabilities, those in addiction recovery, and those who are homeless.



THE SEAMUS HEANEY CENTRE AT QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY

EXCELLENCE IN CREATIVE WRITING

IMPACT: Donor-advised gifts supported the opening of the new building at the Centre in June of 2024. The new space expands the Centre's writing and creative areas and is home to a public exhibition area for the Seamus Heaney archive.





HOW DID WE DELIVER FOR THE
ISLAND OF IRELAND IN 2024?

HEART OF THE COMMUNITY FUND

IN JUNE

WE DELIVERED CORE COSTS
FOR KEY SERVICES

\$1,000,000
in **GRANTS**
AWARDED

93 Organizations

29 Counties across
the island of Ireland

93 organizations across 29 counties on the island of Ireland recently received **\$1,000,000** in funding through our 2024 Heart of the Community Fund, enabling them to deliver vital services and supports to their communities. **Thanks to you, we're helping organizations working in education, community development, peace & reconciliation, and arts & culture improve the lives of thousands of people, every day.**





IN DECEMBER

WE DELIVERED ESSENTIAL SERVICES FOR CHILDREN

\$500,000+
in **GRANTS**
AWARDED

20 Organizations

Grants totaling over **\$500,000** were awarded to 20 organizations that provide essential services to children experiencing poverty, marginalization, and difficult circumstances. Each organization received **€25,000** to support their work. They span a range of services, including homelessness and family supports, education, youth outreach, mental health care, and food provision.

FUNDED ORGANIZATIONS INCLUDE:

BARNARDOS, providing trauma-informed family and child services.

CAPUCHIN CENTRE, providing homeless supports in Dublin for over 50 years.

CITYWISE EDUCATION, bridging the educational gap in underserved communities.

COPE GALWAY, alleviating hardship and social isolation for families.

DILLON QUIRKE FOUNDATION, providing cardiac screening for young people involved in sport.

FOODCLOUD, tackling food poverty through surplus redistribution.

HOME-START NORTH DOWN, supporting families with children facing challenges such as ill-health, domestic violence, substance misuse or disability.

KINSHIP CARE NORTHERN IRELAND, providing advocacy, support, and practical assistance to carers of young children.

LAURALYNN, Ireland's only children's hospice, offering vital palliative care.



2,000

SANCTUARY RUNNERS Funding helped create opportunities for refugees and asylum-seekers to meet their local neighbors in a safe, friendly, and fun environment. 2,000 people across 22 counties connected and strengthened their communities.

SING IRELAND Funding empowered 1,400 young people from marginalized communities across Ireland to discover their voice through singing.



1,400

In 2024, support from The Ireland Funds meant...



4,000

CORRYMEELA COMMUNITY Support brought over 4,000 people of all backgrounds together in 2024 to encourage understanding, dialogue, and positive relationships in divided communities.

CHILDREN'S GRIEF CENTRE

Funding provided 2,478 free counseling sessions for 359 grieving children and their parents navigating loss, parental separation, and divorce.



2,478



HOW DID WE DELIVER FOR THE ISLAND OF IRELAND IN 2024?

NON-FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR GRANTEES



The Ireland Funds has provided us with so much more than funding—it has offered us a truly meaningful partnership that’s enriched our mission. Their unwavering support and invaluable guidance have empowered us to make significant strides, such as achieving over 10,000 cardiac screenings in 2024. The connections, networks, and opportunities facilitated by The Ireland Funds, such as addressing guests at the Chicago 40th Anniversary Gala, continue to extend Dillon’s legacy, ensuring we can undertake widespread cardiac screening for young people (aged 12-18) and reduce the number of young people dying from Sudden Adult Death Syndrome. We are profoundly grateful for its commitment and belief in our vision.

—Dan Quirke, Founder of The Dillon Quirke Foundation



Connection 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.

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 ensure great work gets seen by a wide audience.

Research The Ireland Funds conducts research that serves to benefit both the knowledge base of our donors and the projects they support. This ranges from researching 600+ organizations across the island of Ireland to inform policy and decision making to assessing grant making impact with onsite visits. Research into the Irish diaspora’s demographics, genealogy, and cultural, personal and business connections increases knowledge within the community.



HOW DID WE DELIVER FOR THE ISLAND OF IRELAND IN 2024?

ACCESS TO EDUCATION

NO MIND LEFT BEHIND SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

No Mind Left Behind is an initiative that provides financial support to promising young people from areas of social disadvantage so they can access, and stay in, third-level education. Recipients of a No Mind Left Behind scholarship receive €4,000/£4,000 for each year of their undergraduate degree to help cover the cost of books, accommodation, and other living expenses. In 2024, we expanded the program to support students from Northern Ireland as well, with an initial pilot of 12 students.

2024 / 2025 ACADEMIC YEAR



379 Students

(24% increase)*

RECEIVED A NO MIND LEFT BEHIND SCHOLARSHIP



81 Schools

(76% increase)*

IDENTIFIED STUDENTS TO RECEIVE SCHOLARSHIPS



137 New Students

(36% increase)*

SUPPORTED TO COMMENCE THE FIRST YEAR OF UNDERGRADUATE STUDY



242 Continuing Students

(19% increase)*

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



€1,468,000 & £48,000

(25% increase)*

AWARDED IN SCHOLARSHIPS
€7.5M+ & £48,000
AWARDED TO DATE



29 Third-Level Institutions

REPRESENTED ACROSS THE ISLAND OF IRELAND AND THE UK



21 Counties Represented

(54% increase)*

- ANTRIM
- ARMAGH
- CAVAN
- CORK
- DERRY
- DONEGAL
- DOWN
- DUBLIN
- GALWAY
- KILDARE
- KILKENNY
- LIMERICK
- LOUTH
- MAYO
- MONAGHAN
- OFFALY
- ROSCOMMON
- SLIGO
- TIPPERARY
- TYRONE
- WATERFORD

* Indicates an increase from 2023

“

We were trying to figure out how we were going to pay for accommodation, how we were going to pay for transport, everything. Getting that call that we got the scholarship was just like a weight lifted off our shoulders. As a young woman in STEM, I want to express my gratitude and appreciation to every person who donates towards this scholarship. It means the world to all of us and all of our families, and we can't thank you enough.

”

— *Christina Ward, No Mind Left Behind Scholar from Donegal, studying mathematical science at the University of Galway.*





HOW DID WE DELIVER FOR THE
ISLAND OF IRELAND IN 2024?

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.

2024 / 2025 ACADEMIC YEAR



62 New Scholars and **12 Continuing Scholars** from **19 counties** across the island of Ireland received scholarships totaling over **\$3.5m** to support them in pursuing courses across **16 academic disciplines** at **33 universities** in the US, Canada, the UK, and Europe.

The Ireland Funds does phenomenal work in supporting students—both undergraduate and postgraduate—in achieving their dreams, unlocking their potential and building their skills to make impactful change in the world.

— Beverly Genockey, George Moore Scholar MPA Urban Innovation & Policy, University College London



The George Moore Scholars



PEOPLE ARE AT THE HEART OF WHAT WE DO



DOGS FOR THE DISABLED

Max's life has been changed by Dogs for the Disabled. They paired him with Nicky, who Max says is a "perfect match" and makes him feel safer. Today, Max is moving faster and stronger than ever before.

SUPPORT FROM THE IRELAND FUNDS HAS HELPED PLACE HUNDREDS OF LIFE-CHANGING THERAPY DOGS WITH INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES ACROSS IRELAND.

[WATCH VIDEO](#)



MERCHANTS QUAY

Kevin became ill, lost his apartment, and his elderly mother passed away. He almost gave up. But he found his way to Merchants Quay and they got Kevin back on his feet with services that reestablished a stable living space.

SUPPORT FROM THE IRELAND FUNDS HELPED MERCHANTS QUAY PROVIDE HOT MEALS, HELPING HANDS, CRISIS INTERVENTION, AND HEALTH SUPPORTS TO THOSE IN NEED.

[WATCH VIDEO](#)



CRANN CENTRE

Bram has quadriplegic spastic cerebral palsy and Crann Centre has been a game-changing resource for him. Not only do they support his physical wellbeing, they care for the entire family with their holistic approach to those with neurophysical disabilities and those who care for them.

SUPPORT FROM THE IRELAND FUNDS HELPED CRANN CENTRE GROW FROM SUPPORTING 380 FAMILIES IN 2023 TO 500+ FAMILIES IN 2024.

[WATCH VIDEO](#)



WOMEN'STEC

WOMEN'STEC trains women and girls in construction and non-traditional trades. Jeanette found her way to their supportive environment in Belfast and has been empowered with new confidence and new opportunities through their courses.

SUPPORT FROM THE IRELAND FUNDS HELPED 700+ WOMEN AND GIRLS FROM CHALLENGING BACKGROUNDS LEARN SKILLS THAT ENHANCE THEIR LIFE OPPORTUNITIES.

[WATCH VIDEO](#)

“

Thanks to the generous grant from The Ireland Funds and its dedicated donors, we've been able to amplify the voices of our incredible Clare women and weave a powerful tapestry of shared experiences. **YOUR GENEROSITY HAS NOT ONLY PRESERVED THE STORIES OF REMARKABLE WOMEN, BUT ALSO FOSTERED A VIBRANT, CONNECTED COMMUNITY IN CLARE.**”

— *Cuimhneamh an Chláir*



Funding from The Ireland Funds meant Cuimhneamh an Chláir was able to create a shareable digital archive of County Clare's oral heritage, preserving the collective wisdom of older generations for the generations to come.

[LISTEN TO THE STORIES](#)



THANK YOU

FROM ACROSS THE ISLAND OF IRELAND

“ POLITICS IN ACTION

Once again the Heart of the Community Fund is helping to support our core costs. This is essential as we continue to grow in reach and impact. In one of the most interesting times for politics in Northern Ireland, Ireland and around the globe, it is wonderful to have The Ireland Funds' support yet again.

— *The Ireland Funds helped Politics in Action deliver civic engagement programs to young people 15-18 to facilitate connections with key decision-makers across the island of Ireland.*

“ YOUTHACTION NI

The support of The Ireland Funds in 2024 has enabled us to have greater impact by ensuring we can focus our resources on our essential program work with young people while still meeting rising back-office costs and key staff salaries.

— *The Ireland Funds helped YouthAction NI not only meet core costs but also enhanced youth work activity through the continuation of Radio YNP, their youth-led radio and social media station which amplifies the voices of young people.*

“ DAISYHOUSE HOUSING ASSOCIATION

Words alone cannot describe the unfaltering support which The Ireland Funds has delivered to Daisyhouse Housing Association over the last number of years. It is instrumental in changing women's lives forever. — *The Ireland Funds helped Daisyhouse strengthen partnerships to advance their mission of supporting women who are homeless and in recovery from substance misuse.*

POLITICS IN ACTION





KINAFFE NATIONAL SCHOOL

KINAFFE NATIONAL SCHOOL



The generous funding provided by The Ireland Funds will be instrumental in creating a supportive and inclusive environment for refugee children at our school. Thank you to The Ireland Funds for its continued trust and investment in our mission. — *Kinaffe National School is a rural school in Mayo with 54 children from 14 countries. Support from The Ireland Funds has helped with trauma alleviation activities to support the arrival of refugee children into the Mayo community. The school was awarded a 2024 Science Blast award and a UNESCO Eco Young Environmentalist Award for their work. Support provided transportation for children to attend these events.*



YOUTHACTION NI

THANK YOU

“ The Ireland Funds has harnessed the great potential of the Irish spirit and has put it to incredible use. I have seen the impact of the projects that you have backed, the difference you have made in countless lives, and in countless communities. ”

— **SIMON HARRIS**

*Taoiseach of Ireland addressing
The Ireland Funds Worldwide Conference
in June, 2024*



irelandfunds.org

—
Progress
Through
Philanthropy
—