



THE
IRELAND
FUNDS
GREAT BRITAIN

Inspiring Change

Delivering Impact in 2024



—
Progress
Through
Philanthropy
—



Making a real difference to communities in need and dedicated to creating a positive social impact, we are a proud chapter of The Ireland Funds; a network of friends of the island of Ireland. For more than 35 years we have raised funds to support community, culture, education, and peace on the island and across Great Britain.

We Connect
People



We Channel
Support



We Change
Lives



Thank you

Thanks to you, 2024 was a transformative year for The Ireland Funds Great Britain.

Your generosity empowered us to grant over £800,000 to more than 50 remarkable organisations, each one making a meaningful difference to the Irish diaspora in Great Britain and to communities across the island of Ireland. This is a year on year doubling of our grant making and is testament to the ongoing generosity and care that our supporters demonstrate for the causes they are passionate about; causes that include tackling poverty and hardship, reducing isolation, promoting inclusivity, and expanding access to education. These aren't just initiatives, they are lifelines for many.

At our flagship fundraising events the Women in Business & Philanthropy Lunch and the London City Lunch, we celebrated the power of giving. These gatherings fuelled our No Mind Left Behind programme, enabling a 24% increase in university scholarships awarded. That means more bright young people now have a path to higher education, changing the course of their lives.

This year also marked some fantastic milestones:

- We launched our Northern Ireland initiative in London, connecting the diaspora to impactful causes at home.
- Our Young Leaders network tripled in size, a powerful signal of the next generation's commitment to philanthropy.
- We partnered with Business Post for a thought-provoking business breakfast, the first of a planned series of events.

Your belief in our mission is what makes it all possible. From all of us at The Ireland Funds Great Britain, thank you for your unwavering support, your friendship, and your generosity. Together, we are shaping a brighter future one grant, one student, one community at a time.

Kind regards,

Katie Jemmett, Executive Director

Bridget Walsh, Chair

The Ireland Funds Great Britain

The Ireland Funds GB Board of Directors

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Delivering for communities in 2024

The generosity of our donors and supporters in 2024 allowed us to grant over £800,000 to more than 50 organisations, helping thousands of people across Great Britain and the island of Ireland.



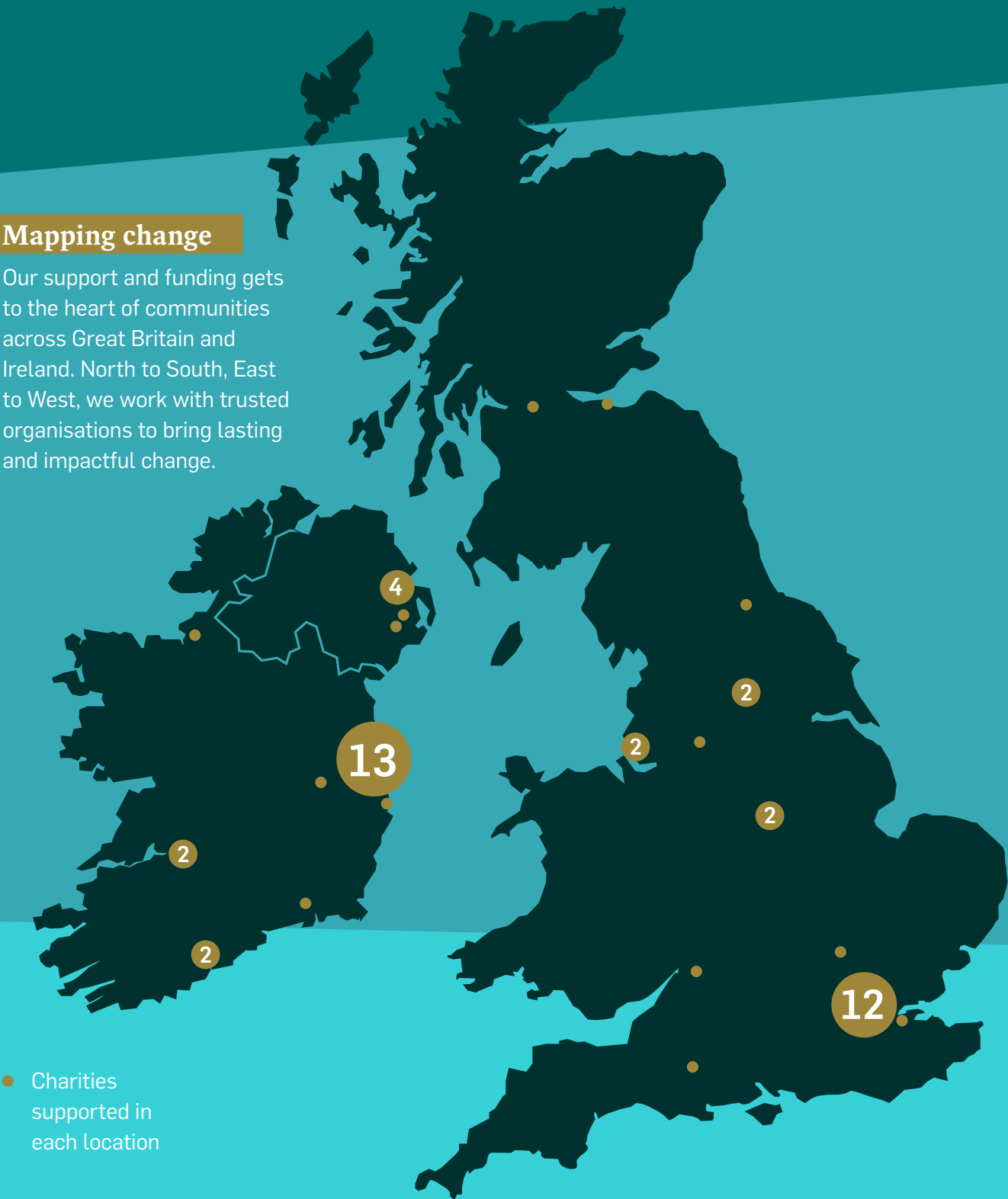
The Ireland Funds Great Britain has supported charities and not-for-profit organisations in six key ways:

- Curating a Powerful Network of Support
- Giving Visibility to Charitable Causes
- Connecting Donors with Charities
- Supporting the Irish Diaspora
- Donor Advised Grants
- Community Impact Fund

Changing Great Britain and Ireland

Mapping change

Our support and funding gets to the heart of communities across Great Britain and Ireland. North to South, East to West, we work with trusted organisations to bring lasting and impactful change.



- Bereavement support
- Fighting poverty
- Driving access to education
- Cultural enrichment
- Ending deprivation
- Championing inclusivity
- Celebrating our elders
- Mental health support
- Welfare and housing guidance
- Relief for financial hardship
- Support reducing isolation

Creating impact together

Remarkable things happen when passionate people unite. Your continued generosity at our fundraising events showed real impact, raising vital funds to deliver our mission.



Progress
Through
Philanthropy



Your deep love for the island of Ireland and belief in our mission make transformative change possible and powerful. Together, we're building a brighter future. Everything we achieve is fueled by the unwavering support of our private and corporate donors, the dedicated members of our 100 Club and the inspiring Young Leaders.



Univ

Strength in numbers

400 parents and families saw their lives improved through tailored wellbeing programmes with **The Parent Rooms**



500 engagements carried out for service users and their families by **Spinal Injuries Ireland**



20,000 people across all communities benefited from the support of **The Ireland Funds Great Britain**



336 people saw their financial hardship partially alleviated through regular food parcels, toiletries and cleaning products from **Via Wings**



382 older Irish people seen through weekly drop-in service and 102 rehoused into safe and secure accommodation by **Irish Elderly Advice Network**

Stories of Impact



The Parent Rooms

"I found people who didn't judge me. I started sleeping, eating and feeling like myself again. The Parent Rooms changed my life."

- Service user

Holy Child Killiney

Holy Child Killiney is a Catholic voluntary secondary school for girls in Dublin.

Our Impact: New modern science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) classrooms have been completed thanks to private donor support. This facility will aim to encourage more female students to pursue STEM-based career choices.



The Blackmore Vale Charity

The Blackmore Vale Charity provides food and services to anyone facing food insecurity.

Our Impact: A soft play area for children, break-out rooms for counselling and a welcoming café for families were all delivered in Blackmore Vale's new hub thanks to grant support.





Irish Cultural Centre Hammersmith

“The Irish Cultural Centre has changed my life and had an amazing impact on my husband and I. My life revolves around it.”

- Service user



Irish Music & Dance in London

Irish Music & Dance in London promotes traditional Irish arts and positive Irish identity.

Our Impact: 70 young London-Irish musicians aged 11 to 25 enjoyed a fantastic learning experience with professional musicians as they rehearsed and learned to perform in high profile settings.

Parallel Histories

Parallel Histories empowers school students to think critically so that they can analyse and debate contested histories.

Our Impact: Funding brought together young people from Protestant and Catholic communities in Northern Ireland for thoughtful debates on the Troubles. The project fostered respectful discussions in schools and equipped young people with valuable critical thinking and speaking skills.

Social Entrepreneurs Ireland

Social Entrepreneurs Ireland works with entrepreneurs to drive meaningful and lasting social change.

Our Impact: From the Ideas Academy to the Impact Programme, grant funding boosted the number of entrepreneurs supported in their quest to bring innovative solutions to critical social and environmental challenges.

Leeds Irish Health & Homes

Providing services to the Irish and wider community in Leeds for over 25 years through a mission to connect people through care, culture and community.

Our Impact: People with memory loss and their carers enjoyed a weekly coffee morning thanks to grant support. Here, they got advice and enjoyed company and cultural stimulation in a safe environment whilst their carers also benefited from some respite.

Lewisham Irish Community Centre

Lewisham Irish Community Care provides advice and advocacy to support the welfare of the Irish community and prevent poverty and homelessness.

Our Impact: Stories of emigration from the older Irish community in Lewisham were captured online for future generations thanks to grant support. Shared with local groups, the stories celebrate the contribution of the older Irish community in Lewisham.

Irish Community Care, Merseyside

“Without Irish Community Care (ICC) I would be homeless or dead. They made sure I wasn’t hungry or homeless in Liverpool. Now I’m working full time and renting a place. They saved my life.”

- James, service user





HERe NI

HERe NI improves the lives of LGBTQIA+ women in Northern Ireland through a range of peer support groups.

Our Impact: Grant funding kept HERe NI's headquarters safe, secure, warm and welcoming for more than 82 women and children as they accessed support to better their emotional wellbeing.



Munster Rugby

"Funds from The Ireland Funds helped deliver fun, learning and inclusion at grassroots level in clubs, primary schools and second-level schools throughout Munster."

- Mark O'Driscoll, Patrons Programme.

National Gallery of Ireland

National Gallery of Ireland's mission is to care for, develop and showcase art. They are dedicated to bringing people and their art together.

Our Impact: From Rembrandt to Vermeer, grant support helped deliver exhibitions that continued to make the Gallery an exciting and educational place to encounter art.

The Edge

The Edge is a youth centre that helps young people achieve their full potential spiritually, mentally, socially and physically.

Our Impact: Eight targeted groups of young people participated in an eight-week mental health programme thanks to the grant received. The programme helped participants explore stress and anxiety, while introducing self-care techniques.



MyBag

My Bag provides comfort items for children in the foster care system. Bags and boxes include hygiene products, recipe cards, books and a soft toy or blanket.

Our Impact: More than 1000 MyBoxes were provided to 16 to 18 year olds living in semi independent foster care across Nottinghamshire. These young people typically have about £7 a day to live on. A years' worth of sanitary products were also provided to all those requesting them.



Nuvo Wellbeing

"Funding helped break down barriers to dance participation for people with learning disabilities and underserved communities. Such support has had a lasting impact on the lives of those we serve."

- Natalie Jones, Chief Operating Officer

Immigrant Counselling and Psychotherapy (icap)

icap is the only British-based counselling and psychotherapy service for those in the Irish community experiencing mental health difficulties.

Our Impact: 436 online therapy spaces were made available to Irish people throughout Britain thanks to funding from The Ireland Funds Great Britain. These were people who would have been otherwise unable to access support.



No Mind Left Behind Scholarship Programme

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 programme to support students from Northern Ireland as well, with an initial pilot of 12 students. The Ireland Funds has seen support for this important education programme increase significantly in the last year.

2024 / 2025 Academic Year



379 Students
↑ 24% from 2023
Received A No Mind Left Behind Scholarship



242 Continuing Students
↑ 19% from 2023
Supported To Return To Year 2,3, 4 Or 5 Of Undergraduate Study



81 Schools
↑ 76% from 2023
Identified Students To Receive Scholarships



137 New Students
↑ 36% from 2023
Supported To Commence The First Year Of Undergraduate Study



29 Third-Level Institutions
Represented Across The island Of Ireland And The UK



€1,525,000
↑ 25% from 2023
Awarded In Scholarships
€7.5m+ Awarded To Date



21 Counties Represented
↑ 54% on 2023

- | | | |
|---------|----------|-----------|
| Antrim | Dublin | Monaghan |
| Armagh | Galway | Offaly |
| Cavan | Kildare | Roscommon |
| Cork | Kilkenny | Sligo |
| Derry | Limerick | Tipperary |
| Donegal | Louth | Tyrone |
| Down | Mayo | Waterford |

“Getting the call that I got the scholarship was a weight lifted off my shoulders. I was trying to figure out how I was going to pay for everything. I want to express my gratitude to everyone who donates towards this scholarship. It means the world to us all.

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



The Young Leaders

As young professionals dedicated to supporting charitable causes, our Young Leaders are central to the future success of The Ireland Funds. The membership network cultivates an emerging generation of philanthropists by attracting young, early career professionals. All this, whilst providing a networking forum and hosting vibrant events throughout the year.



A defining year for Young Leaders

Our busiest schedule yet saw events ranging from exclusive sessions with influential leaders to stylish seasonal gatherings as our London Young Leaders network grew by 50%.

Inspiring events in 2024 included:

- **Leadership Sessions** with industry leaders such as:
 - Susan Whelan, CEO of Leicester City; Cliff Baty, CFO at Manchester United & David Courell, CEO of the FAI
 - Amy Roberti, Head of Global Policy at Stripe and Board Member of The Ireland Funds America
 - Yvonne Le Bas, CFO at Resolution Life and Chair of The Ireland Funds Australia
- **Wine tasting** at London Cru Urban Winery
- **Supper Club** at Shankeys Restaurant, East London
- **Houses of Parliament Tour**
- **Winter & Summer Socials**



“2024 was an extraordinary year for our Young Leaders, and I am truly honoured to have been appointed as Chair during such an exciting time for the group. We held a range of inspiring and dynamic events and our robust programme allowed our members to expand their networks, make new friends and actively contribute to the impactful charitable work of The Ireland Funds. The energy and passion amongst the Young Leaders has been nothing short of incredible, and I’m thrilled to see what the future holds for us!”

- Emer Tiernan,
Chair of the Young Leaders Committee

Thank you to our dedicated Young Leaders Committee for their time and support:

Emer Tiernan (Chair)
Reilly Liotta (Vice Chair)
Hugh MacDonagh (Vice Chair)

Alba Mullen
Andrew Murphy
Brendan McDonnell
Paul McNally

Cormac McGrady
Kate Kennedy
Elisabeth-Sarah Moloney
Dale McDermott

Thank you to Dermot Skinnader, our immediate past Chair (2021-2024), for all his hard work and dedication.



Join the Young Leaders today by scanning the QR code on this page.



100 Club

Make a real difference

Members of The 100 Club donate £100 per month - 100% of which funds community and cultural organisations through our Community Impact Fund. When you support The Ireland Funds you are not just supporting great causes, you are joining a network of people who care and are committed to making a real difference.

Turning the page

The 100 Club made a significant impact on Read for Good, an organisation that enables children and young people to discover the joy of reading. The organisation helps those impacted by ill-health, disability, disrupted education or poverty. 1,820 young people at the Royal Belfast Hospital for Sick Children benefited from an Ireland Funds grant that delivered Read for Good's book and storytelling service, helping to improve children's social, emotional and mental wellbeing.



Join the 100 Club today by scanning the QR code
Thank you.



Supporter Spotlight

MURPHY

WORLD-CLASS INFRASTRUCTURE



Our partnership with The Ireland Funds allows Murphy to support causes that are close to our hearts and those of our staff. In everything we do, we are focused on building communities and creating life opportunities, and thanks to The Ireland Funds we know that our donation is changing lives for the better by supporting meaningful causes in communities across Britain and Northern Ireland.”

Events in 2024

Women in Business & Philanthropy Lunch

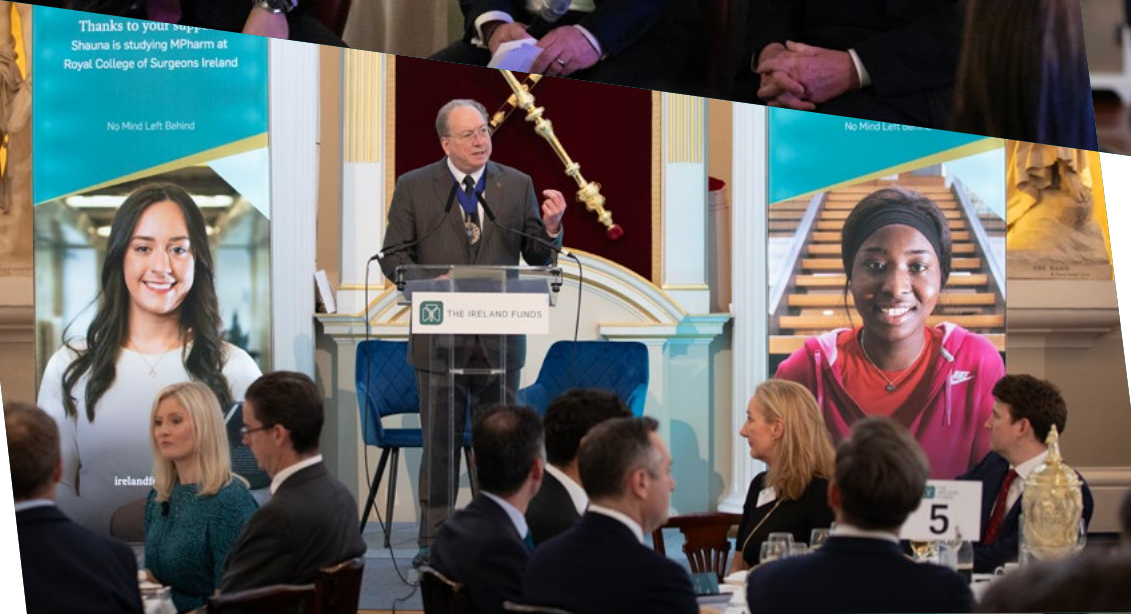
More than 200 business leaders came together to celebrate female leadership and raise funds for The Ireland Funds No Mind Left Behind scholarship programme. A panel led by entrepreneur and philanthropist, Rosaleen Blair, included Aimee Connolly, Founder & CEO at Sculpted by Aimee; Sam Smith, Champion of UK Entrepreneurship & NED; Professor Maura McAdam of Dublin City University and Noella Coursaris Musunka, Founder & CEO at Malaika.

Business Breakfast with the Business Post

Breakfast was served with a side of insightful discussion from Minister Charlie McConalogue TD, then Shadow Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, Hilary Benn MP, and Business Post Editor, Daniel McConnell. Themes included trade between Ireland and the UK, post-Windsor Framework.

London City Lunch

250 guests were focused on fostering friendship and philanthropy at our flagship fundraising event. Minister Paschal Donohoe TD sat down for a fireside chat with Rory Godson, Senior Managing Partner of Sodali and Board Director of The Ireland Funds Great Britain.



Ambassador's Annual Dinner

The evening convened the great and the good of the Irish in Britain to thank them for their support and to engage them further in the work of The Ireland Funds. Kindly hosted by Ambassador Martin Fraser and Mrs Deirdre Fraser at the Embassy of Ireland in London.

Northern Ireland Dinner

Making a real impact in Northern Ireland for generations was top of the agenda over dinner with the Northern Ireland diaspora at London's Merchant Taylors' Hall. What followed was an enthusiastic sharing of ideas from a cross-section of the Northern Ireland community at an event designed to support education and community causes in Northern Ireland.

Christmas Reception

The year was rounded off with a Christmas celebration, gathering donors, supporters and senior executives from London and Dublin in the elegant Music Room at Killik & Co. Musician, Niall McNamee, added to the festive spirit.





Thank You

Every donation to The Ireland Funds is a catalyst for change. Your generosity empowers communities and fuels life-changing initiatives across Ireland and beyond. We are proud to stand alongside the remarkable charities we support and are grateful to our donors. Your unwavering commitment makes this vital work possible. Together, we are transforming lives.

“Our young people are learning for fun in a safe and nurturing environment. The impact of this is immeasurable as they are surrounded by positive peers and adult role models. These experiences will forever resonate as these young people become young adults, empowered to become the best version of themselves.”

- James Blake, CEO, Learning Hub Limerick

From across Great Britain and the island of Ireland

“We are very grateful for the huge support for our work, helping us to provide advice to older Irish people who are struggling financially, and to secure housing for those who do not have a stable home.”

- Nora Mulready, CEO at Irish Elderly Advice Network

"The support has been truly transformative. The Ireland Funds' confidence in our mission has been a source of inspiration, enabling us to extend our reach to more vulnerable individuals and profoundly impact their lives."

- Emma Harrison, General Manager at Via Wings

“Our mission is to promote the Irish language amongst the Irish diaspora in London and we’ve been wonderfully supported in that by The Ireland Funds.”

- Darragh Finn, Treasurer at Conradh na Gaeilge i Londain

“At a time when demand for our services is growing, this funding has not only helped us keep our doors open but has also ensured that vulnerable individuals have access to the support, warmth, and community connection they desperately need.”

- Shauna Mulligan, Executive Director at Irish Community Services

“The Ireland Funds' ongoing support helps us work towards our mission of making sure that nobody in our community feels lonely, abandoned or isolated.”

- Suzanne Boraston, Operations Manager at Brent Irish Advisory Service

“Without the support of funders like The Ireland Funds Great Britain, we would not be able to help the number of bereaved people who have lost a loved one.”

- Dan Greenwood, Trust Fundraising Manager at Cruse Bereavement Support

Helping your donations go further



The Ireland Funds works with donors to channel support to causes they are passionate about. 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.

Contact [Katie Jemmett](#) to request a Gift Aid declaration and to discuss your charitable objectives.



Progress
Through
Philanthropy

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