

DELIVERING FOR  
IRELAND IN 2021



—  
Progress  
Through  
Philanthropy  
—



WITH THANKS TO OUR  
CORPORATE SPONSORS

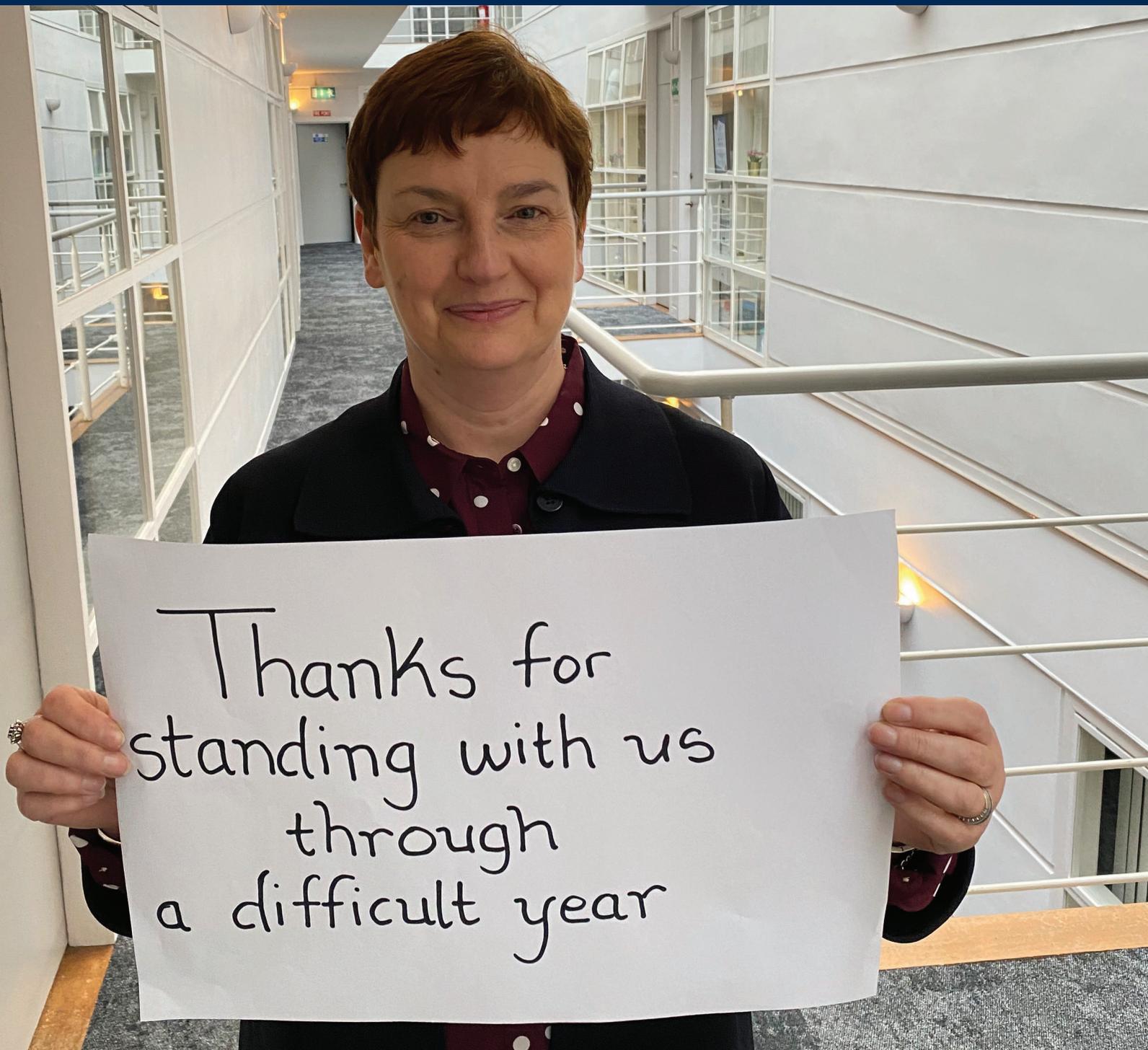


EVERSHEDS  
SUTHERLAND



## OUR DONORS' GENEROSITY MADE 2021 A YEAR OF GREAT IMPACT

In 2021, our donors enabled The Ireland Funds worldwide to make over **900 grants** totaling **€17.5 million** which supported the work of more than **300** organisations.





# THANK YOU

In 2021, an incredibly challenging year, our donors' passion for Ireland and commitment to the mission of The Ireland Funds was transformative.

The Ireland Funds continued to support communities hardest hit by the current crisis. Our Heart of the Community Fund provided critical and timely support to organisations supporting the most vulnerable in society. We worked closely with our donors to ensure their Donor Advised Grants had the maximum impact across a broad range of priorities. The Ireland Funds continued its investment in providing access to high-quality education through our scholarship programmes—No Mind Left Behind and the George Moore Scholars.

As we celebrated our 45th anniversary in 2021, it was clear that the level of commitment and compassion our donors have for the island of Ireland has never wavered. We are honored to be the stewards of that care and investment which improves so many lives and creates so many opportunities for growth.

**We're immensely grateful to you for helping sustain so many organisations throughout the year. Take a look at the headline numbers of 2021 and know that by joining with us, you made this possible. We look forward to working closely with you to make 2022 another year of great impact for Ireland.**

KIND REGARDS,

Caitriona Fottrell  
President & CEO,  
The Ireland Funds



# HOW DID WE DELIVER FOR THE ISLAND OF IRELAND IN 2021?



THE IRELAND FUNDS  
HEART OF THE  
COMMUNITY FUND



UNDERGRADUATE  
& GRADUATE  
SCHOLARSHIPS

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



DONOR  
ADVISED  
GRANTS



FLAGSHIP  
GRANTS



**THANK YOU** to your Donors. The support helps ensure we can continue operating the food hub that's currently **helping in excess of 350 families** every week as the crisis continues. Thanks to The Ireland Funds for helping us keep the doors open!

— *Rev. Bill Shaw of the 174 Trust  
Belfast, Northern Ireland*



## HOW DID WE DELIVER FOR THE ISLAND OF IRELAND IN 2021?

Donor Advised Grants: over €14.8 million in 2021

### EARLY LEARNING INITIATIVE

The Early Learning Initiative is changing lives through education. A 2021 grant supported its Parent Child+ program, an innovative, home-based literacy and parenting programme that strengthens families and prepares children to succeed academically. Families often live in areas that suffer from long-term problems of social deprivation, poverty, poor educational attainment and mass unemployment. Parent Child+ employs specially trained local women as Home Visitors to visit the family twice a week to teach families how to advance children's language, literacy and numeracy skills.

#### IMPACT:

**383 families were supported with 17,337 home visits in 2021. Studies have proven children's language, behaviour and cognitive skills have vastly improved.**



### DAISYHOUSE HOUSING ASSOCIATION

Women become homeless for different reasons – domestic violence, sexual abuse, sexual violence, addiction, ill health, relationship breakdown, loss of income and others. Daisyhouse breaks the cycle of homelessness to help women achieve independent, safe, sustainable living. The organisation is using its 2021 grant for additional counselling and other special supports for clients during COVID-19 as well as the operational costs of running the service including maintenance costs.

#### IMPACT:

**“When I first moved into Daisyhouse I'd been homeless for a few years. It was the first time I had somewhere of my own in a very long time. I also had the support and encouragement from the staff in Daisy to pursue my passion for acting and writing.”**

*– Elaine Ryan, Former Daisyhouse resident discussing her new career*



In 2021, 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.

## MAYO | ROSCOMMON HOSPICE FOUNDATION

Mayo Roscommon Hospice Foundation funds palliative care services to people with life-limiting illnesses and their families in County Mayo and County Roscommon. The Foundation affirms life, respecting the uniqueness of each individual, and enables patients to live out the remainder of their lives in comfort and dignity. The organisation receives no government funding.

### IMPACT:

2021 grants supported the capital development of the hospice in Roscommon. The Roscommon Palliative Care Unit officially opened in November 2021. In 2020 during the pandemic, the Foundation cared for 924 patients and carried out 4,474 home visits.



## NATIVE WOODLAND TRUST

The Native Woodland Trust is dedicated to the preservation of Ireland's remaining ancient woodlands. Irish woodlands are under constant threat of development and the Trust counters this to protect rare and irreplaceable ecosystems. The new Trees for Communities initiative provides community groups across Ireland with native Irish trees to establish their own small woodlands or hedgerows.



### IMPACT:

2021 support is enabling 300 community groups to plant 15,000 native trees across the country. This is equivalent to 15 acres of woodlands and over 5km of new biodiverse hedgerows.



HOW DID WE DELIVER FOR THE  
ISLAND OF IRELAND IN 2021?

## The Heart of The Community Fund

**IN 2021, WE LAUNCHED THE NEXT CHAPTER  
OF OUR COMMITMENT TO IRELAND:**

THE IRELAND FUNDS HEART OF THE COMMUNITY FUND.



Time and time again, we've seen that local community organisations are at the heart of the response to the crisis, especially in small towns, cities and villages across Ireland. The Ireland Funds Heart of the Community Fund is helping uniquely-placed organisations increase their response and bolster their resilience. Grants are not only assisting with day-to-day operations, they are also helping communities in Ireland to get on their feet again.

## PROJECTS SUPPORTED BY COUNTY:

# Key Support for 100 Local Communities

### Northern Ireland

**35** organisations funded

**€157k**

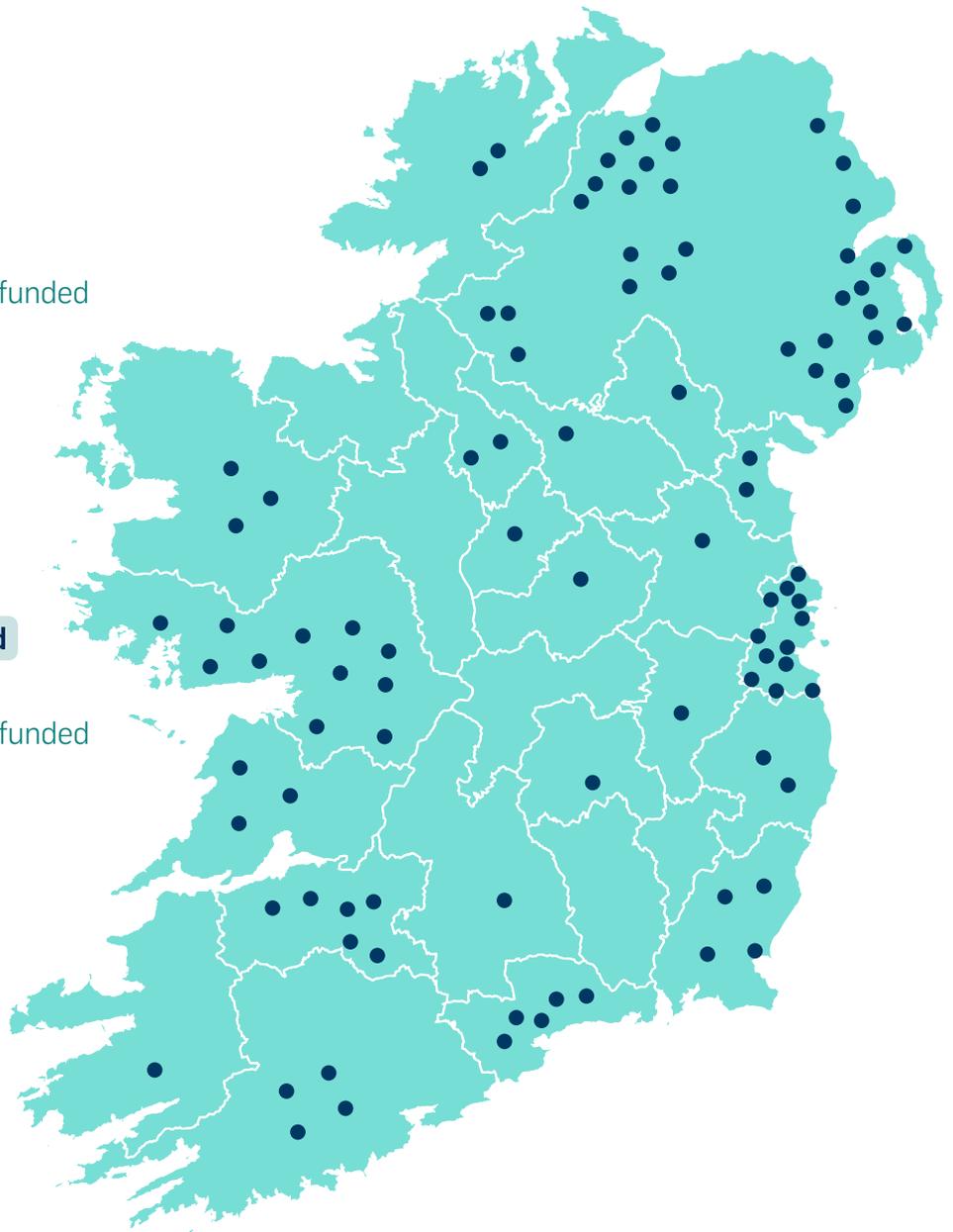
awarded in grants

### Republic of Ireland

**65** organisations funded

**€257k**

awarded in grants





## HOW DID WE DELIVER FOR THE ISLAND OF IRELAND IN 2021?

### Access to Education

NO MIND LEFT BEHIND PROGRAMME

No Mind Left Behind is an initiative designed to give promising young people from areas of social disadvantage an opportunity to complete third-level education. An annual scholarship is provided to cover the costs of books, accommodation, and other key expenses. Students come from DEIS (Delivering Equality of Opportunity In Schools) schools, a programme of the Department of Education and Skills aimed at lessening educational disadvantage in primary and second level education.



**€904,000**

AWARDED BY THE NO MIND LEFT BEHIND PROGRAMME



**42** DEIS SCHOOLS  
SELECTED TO RECEIVE  
SUPPORT THROUGH THESE  
SCHOLARSHIPS



**226** STUDENTS  
RECEIVED A NO  
MIND LEFT BEHIND  
SCHOLARSHIPS



The George Moore Scholars programme is an ambitious all-Ireland scholarship program that offers extraordinary supports to academically talented students who wish to undertake a master's degree in the US, the UK, Australia, or Canada to realise their full career potential.



**€2,000,000**

AWARDED BY THE  
GEORGE MOORE SCHOLARS  
PROGRAMME



**48** STUDENTS  
RECEIVING A  
SCHOLARSHIP



STUDENTS ARE  
PURSUING COURSES  
ACROSS **29** DIFFERENT  
ACADEMIC DISCIPLINES



2021 SCHOLARS ARE ENROLLED  
AT **26** UNIVERSITIES

# THANK YOU

FROM ACROSS THE ISLAND OF IRELAND

“

Like many community projects, we are struggling to deal with expenses as all our revenue streams have disappeared. Receipt of this grant will now place us in a much stronger position financially and will assist us in maintaining our Community Center to the necessary standards.

—*Meithil Oibre Kilenne*

”

“

We are extremely grateful to have the support of The Ireland Funds towards our homeless service at The Lighthouse Centre. We have distributed over 100,000 hot take-away meal parcels during COVID to our homeless friends thanks to the generosity of supporters like you!

—*The Lighthouse Centre*

”

“

The generous funding provided by The Ireland Funds will enable New Horizon to launch its Forest Experience for children living in Direct Provision. Projects such as this are a lifeline for this isolated, vulnerable and socially excluded group of children who face so many challenges in Ireland.

— *New Horizon*

”



“  
If anything, my words are an understatement. The support we have received from The Ireland Funds has been revitalising. The financial boost is an external validation and affirmation of the work we do.  
—Limerick Learning Hub  
”



“  
I can't thank The Ireland Funds and its donors enough for helping us to empower our young people by providing a much-needed sporting outlet for our local community.  
—22nd Old Boys & Ladies Football Club  
”

“  
What was amazing was that The Ireland Funds contacted us and asked, 'What are you doing and how can we help?' The support that we got from The Ireland Funds has enabled us to offer even more to the families we work with.  
— Barnardos  
”



THE  
IRELAND  
FUNDS

1976—2021

45 YEARS OF FRIENDSHIP & PHILANTHROPY

THANK YOU



**I want to pay warm tribute to the extraordinary contribution The Ireland Funds has made over the past 45 years to the beautiful island that I have been lucky enough to be born in.** And

let me remind you of your own mission statement. And I quote. 'To harness the power of a global philanthropic network of friends of Ireland. To promote support, peace, culture, education and community development across the island of Ireland and among Irish communities around the world.'

**We all know the change is hard to get, but you have stayed the course and remained dedicated to making a difference.** Central to that is mobilising the resources to support those all across Ireland who are trying to make it a fairer, more inclusive and sustainable place. While much progress has been made, much remains to be done. **Your careful work is still very much required.**



— **Mary Robinson,**  
Former President of Ireland  
at The Ireland Funds 45th Anniversary Dinner  
New York City, December 6, 2021



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[irelandfunds.org](http://irelandfunds.org)

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Progress  
Through  
Philanthropy  
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