

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

The Ireland Funds' mission is to harness the power of a global philanthropic network of friends of Ireland to promote and support peace, culture, education and community development across the island of Ireland and among Irish communities around the world.

The Australian Chapter was established in 1987. Since our inception we have supported 135 projects, many more than once, across the island of Ireland and in Australia. This report provides an overview of our fundraising activities and grants made from The Australian Ireland Fund Limited in 2020 - 2021.

PROJECTS SUPPORTED 2020 – 2021



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT / EDUCATION IN IRELAND

- Community Action Network
- Heart of The Community Fund
- Inner City Enterprise
- Learning Hub Limerick
- MyMind - Mental Health
- No Minds Left Behind Scholarships
- Trinity College



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT / EDUCATION IN AUSTRALIA

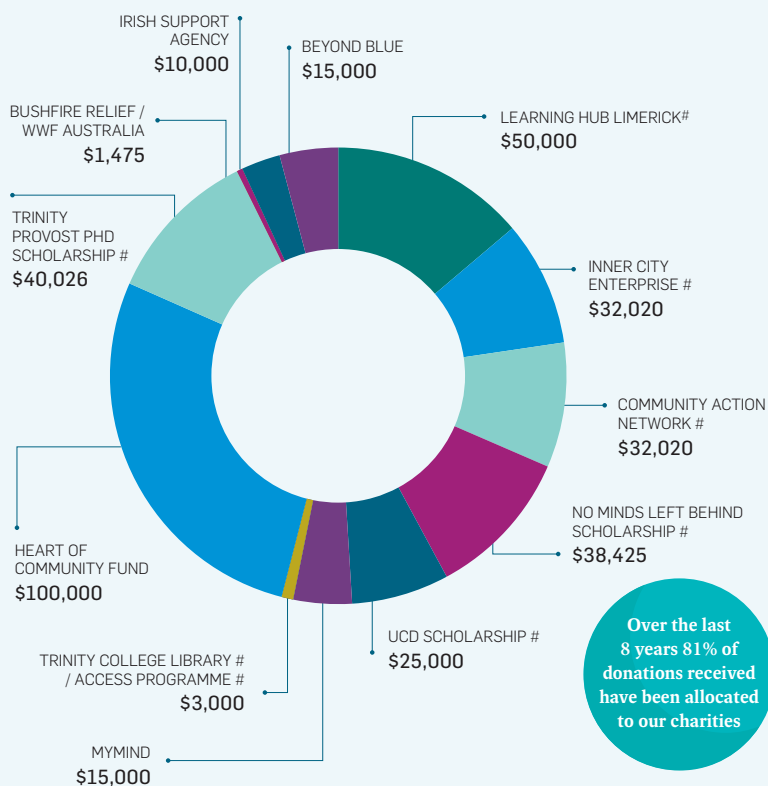
- Bushfire Relief / WWF Australia
- Irish Support Agency
- Beyond Blue - Mental Health



DONOR ADVISED GRANTS

- Community Action Network Scholarships
- Inner City Enterprise
- Learning Hub Limerick
- No Minds Left Behind
- UCD Scholarship
- Trinity Provost PhD Scholarship

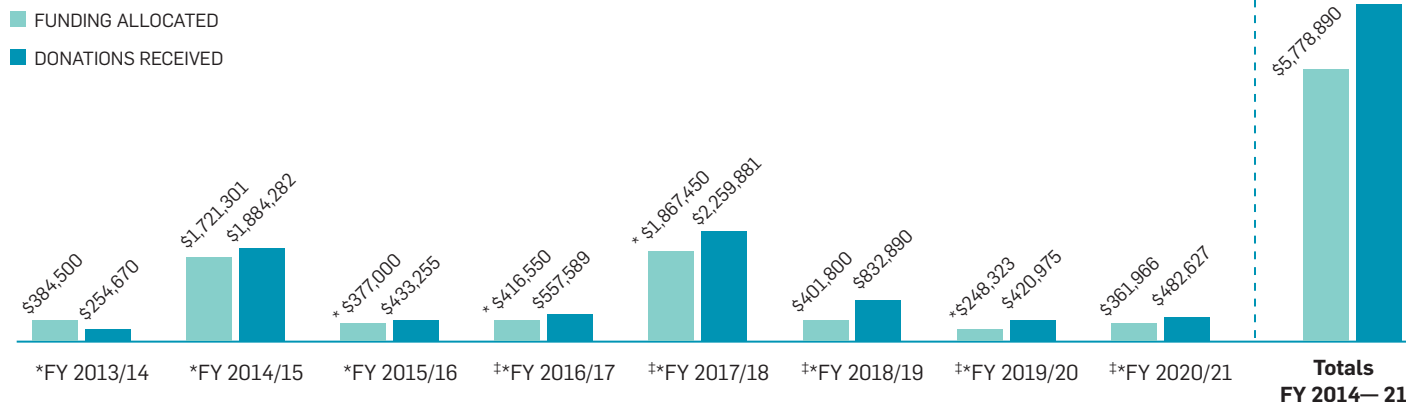
TOTAL DONATIONS 2020 – 2021 \$361,966



Over the last 8 years 81% of donations received have been allocated to our charities

#Donor Advised Grant

AIF DONATIONS RECEIVED VS FUNDING ALLOCATED JUNE 2014 - JUNE 2021



* Relates to the aggregated donations and funding allocations of The Australian Ireland Fund Limited, The Australian Ireland Fund and The Australian Ireland Foundation Public Ancillary Fund

† Donations received represent the donation element of ticket receipts, tax-deductible donations and event sponsorship. It excludes receipts from auction and raffle events.

Snapshot of our Projects

Our grant round in June 2021 totalled \$361,966*

HEART OF THE COMMUNITY FUND



Due to the challenges of COVID-19, communities around Ireland have become **more isolated** than ever before.

The Heart of The Community Fund is an immediate investment in the life of Ireland's communities, providing critical and timely funding to a wide range of not-for-profit organisations across the Island of Ireland, North and South.



Globally, The Ireland Funds came together to direct **\$500,000**, including **\$100,000** from The Ireland Funds Australia, to assist **100** projects across the island of Ireland and truly making an impact. We were delighted our friends at the Lansdowne Club provided some support towards this initiative too.



INNER CITY ENTERPRISE

Inner City Enterprise helps unemployed individuals, social enterprises and potential youth entrepreneurs establish their own businesses in the inner-city Dublin area, with a strong focus on trying to reach **underserved and low-income young people** who may not have had any opportunities to engage with entrepreneurial training previously. The continued support from The Ireland Funds Australia via a Donor Advised Grant of \$32,000 enabled ICE to run free **Youth Enterprise Training Programmes**, a 4-week course to train young people aged 18-30 in hard and soft business skills and consider entrepreneurship as a future career. In 2020 over three rollouts in February, May and October, ICE supported **102 young people** through the programme. The advent of Covid-19 in March 2020 meant that ICE had to quickly pivot their services and move all of their training online. Whilst this was challenging, ICE successfully recreated the programme using virtual tools and as a result of this programme, **36 new businesses** were started!

COMMUNITY ACTION NETWORK

Community Action Network is a social justice organisation that works with local communities in South Dublin to innovatively tackle local issues such as poor housing conditions, community safety threats arising from drug abuse, unemployment and racism. With the continued help of a Donor Advised

Grant of **\$32,000** CAN has managed to **consolidate and strengthen** their community safety work into a single project called

Building Community Resilience. With minimal funding from local councils, these ongoing donations enable CAN to put the required level of time into the project and continue in fourth gear rather than in second!



LEARNING HUB LIMERICK

In disadvantaged areas of Limerick, only **6%** of young people progress to a university education, so **instilling a love of learning is key.** Learning Hub Limerick (LHL) is a place where art, science, music, health, stories, and digital learning for all children come together.

Before the pandemic the Hub was thriving, and they had wonderful plans in place for their 2020 programmes. Then COVID hit and unforeseen costs in delivering these programmes via post and online evolved. The Ireland Funds contacted LHL and, including a Donor Advised Grant of **\$50,000** from The Ireland Funds Australia, provided a safety net to enable LHL to pivot and deliver its educational and mentorship programmes to hundreds of families, in a secure, child-friendly and safe online environment.



*Project not shown WWF Australia

MYMIND IRELAND

With **\$15,000** raised from the 2020 Australian Remote Global 5k, the Australian Young Leaders supported MyMind, the first and largest blended model of mental health care in Ireland, putting Ireland at the forefront of **mental health innovation**, providing counselling and psychotherapy services.



MyMind works towards giving every person in Ireland **equal access** to mental health support **early**, affordably, without stigma or delay.



TRINITY PROVOST PHD SCHOLARSHIP

In 2017 TCD launched the **Provost's PhD Awards** which provides **40 scholarships** to PhDs across all areas in the College. With a very generous Donor Advised Grant, The Ireland Funds Australia was able to support this fantastic initiative in 2021 for a wonderful student, as a tribute to Dr. Patrick Prendergast and his extraordinary leadership.



TRINITY COLLEGE DUBLIN

Our long-standing funding partnership with Trinity College continued this year with two Donor Advised Grants to support: **Trinity College Library** and **Trinity Access Programmes**.



IRISH SUPPORT AGENCY

The effects of the COVID-19 pandemic have been felt far and wide. The Irish Support Agency in NSW experienced a **significant increase in requests** from more than **18,000 vulnerable Irish citizens**. Most are young individuals and families who fall outside any assistance from the Government and are struggling to fund their basic needs. The Ireland Funds Australia, together with The Lansdowne Club, supported the ISA's ongoing fundraising initiative with a **\$10,000** donation to help Irish people in need in Australia.



BEYOND BLUE

With more than **3 million Australians living with anxiety or depression**, Beyond Blue provides support and information to help everyone in Australia achieve their best possible mental health, wherever their age and wherever they live.

Since the beginning of last year Beyond Blue has seen the number of people reaching out to their Support Service skyrocket. With funds raised from the 2020 Australian Remote Global 5k, the Australian Young Leaders supported Beyond Blue with **\$15,000**. The donation will help **provide immediate counselling, advice and mental health support** to countless people in the community who are experiencing anxiety, depression and thoughts of suicide.

SCHOLARSHIPS

As part of our commitment to supporting important projects of education, The Ireland Funds Australia has been able to provide the following scholarships:

NO MIND LEFT BEHIND



which gives promising young people from areas of severe social disadvantage access to an **annual scholarship** to enter third-level education and covers the cost of books, accommodation and other key expenses. With the help of one of our generous donors, **scholarships were given to help 6 students** from his former school, James St CBS, providing them with an opportunity to **fulfil their potential**.

UCD SCHOOL OF MEDICINE



via a generous donor-advised grant, a Masters of Science in Clinical and Translational Research bursary has been established at UCD, aiming to **train the next generation of investigators** who will lead **cutting edge clinical research** into the future. This bursary will be available for many years to come and will help ensure novel interventions are developed to **improve patients' lives**.

How you can support The Ireland Funds Australia and our Projects:

GIVING PROGRAMMES

Supporters can help us to further our vital work by joining one of our Giving Programmes. You can make a one off, or annual, tax-deductible contribution to become a member of:

GIVING PROGRAMME	ANNUAL TAX-DEDUCTIBLE CONTRIBUTION
The Governor Programme	\$15,000
The Associate Programme	\$5,000
The Benefactor Programme	\$1,000

BECOME A YOUNG LEADER

The Young Leaders' Network is a key Ireland Funds Programme. In Australia we attract professionals aged 25–40 in Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane. Paving the way for the future, the Network cultivates an emerging generation of philanthropists, connects the global Irish community, and inspires positive change. Membership costs \$200 annually, of which \$150 is tax-deductible.

DONOR ADVISED GRANTS

Donor Advised Grants enable donors to recommend projects they are passionate about and wish to support. This is a wonderful way for The Fund to work with donors to make a difference and to, where possible, ultimately match them with specific projects.

CORPORATE

BECOME A PARTNER SPONSOR

Your company can become a **Partner Sponsor** of The Ireland Funds Australia by contributing a nominated amount for a **3-year period**. This would allow us meet some or all overheads and underwrite the cost of day-to-day operations freeing us to focus on fundraising for the recommended and worthy projects we would like to support.

EVENT SPONSOR

We are very lucky to have many companies donate items to us for our Live and Silent Auctions at our 3 major fundraisers in Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane throughout the year. We also welcome support for our Young Leader activities. If you can help we would love to hear from you.

OTHER WAYS

If you have a particular skill and some time you can donate to us, we would love to talk to you. If you like what we do please promote the work of The Ireland Funds Australia to your friends and colleagues.

For more information
on any of the above
activities please contact
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Executive Director

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tkeating@irelandfunds.org

www.irelandfunds.org

Fundraising Activities 2020 – 2021



THE BRISBANE LUNCHEON

154 guests
\$41,010



VIRTUAL EVENT

200 virtual guests
\$70,076



THE GLOBAL 5K RUN

227 runners joined us remotely
from all around Australia
\$23,035



CLOSING STATEMENT

At the start of 2020/2021 life was uncertain as we were still in the midst of COVID and very unsure of the challenges that lay ahead for us here in Australia and indeed the world. However, with so many people relying on us we looked for ways to continue to communicate with our supporters to stay in touch and in true Ireland Fund tradition, have some fun, as we looked to raise vital funds for so many in need.

Our G5K in September 2020, powered by our Australian Young Leaders, supported two mental health projects Beyond Blue in Australia and My Mind in Ireland. November 2020 saw us put on our first Virtual Fundraising event with many new skills learned by Executive Director Teresa Keating and Jennifer Najdek and the professionalism of the wonderful corporate entertainer Paul Martell and singer-songwriter Ciaran Gribbin a fun night was had. More than 40 groups decorated their houses to join us virtually and there was lots of excitement as we crossed live to various groups in their homes! The bonus... the night was a financial success!

We did manage to have one physical event in Brisbane in April 2021, it was very special and so obvious that bringing people together as community is a very important part of the Ireland Funds DNA, an activity we all love and all the more meaningful as it enables us to give back.

I am so very proud of our Board, staff, supporters and voluntary young leaders that in these extremely challenging times we were able to have a grant round in June 2021 of \$361,966 supporting projects in Ireland and Australia. \$100,000 of our Australian grant round was contributed to the Heart of the Community Fund for which the Ireland Funds globally raised over AUD\$660,000. These funds supported 100 projects across the island of Ireland, 65 in the South and 35 in the North, in direct response to COVID-19 which saw communities around Ireland become more isolated than ever before. You can read about our grants in the previous pages or learn more at www.irelandfunds.org.

As I said before there have been, and will be, tremendous learnings as a result of this pandemic. My sincere hope is that we can all deeply appreciate the lives we have here in Australia – in many respects, still the lucky country. As we look forward to opening up again over the next few weeks we will so appreciate getting together again in person, something I know we have all truly missed. The pandemic has widened the gap within society so I again urge you to please stand with us, to help those that need us, and to guide us to be the best that we can all be together.

Yvonne Le Bas
Chairman
Ireland Funds Australia