



THE  
IRELAND  
FUNDS  
AUSTRALIA

# Delivering Impact

## Driving Change together

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Annual Grant Round 2023

IMPACT REPORT

—  
Progress  
Through  
Philanthropy  
—





Australian Indigenous Education Foundation (AIEF) is a private sector led non-profit organisation focused on empowering Indigenous children to build a future through quality education. Our ten-year partnership will see us fund 80 scholarship places across the following four schools – Marist College Ashgrove QLD, St Peters Lutheran College Indoorpilly QLD, Kincoppal-Rose Bay School NSW and St Catherine’s School Waverly NSW.

“

The Ireland Funds is a powerful force for good.

”

- President of Ireland Michael D. Higgins



# Delivering for Ireland

We are a dynamic philanthropic organization dedicated to fostering positive change and creating lasting impact across the Island of Ireland and Irish communities around the globe.

Our mission is simple yet profound: to support and empower Irish communities by providing vital resources and opportunities for growth, innovation, and social transformation.

The generosity and compassion of our donors is the lifeblood that powers our work enabling us to fund our annual June grant rounds.

## Impact where it is needed most

Maximum impact is what we strive to achieve in allocating these funds. We are proud to share with you the impact of your generosity in financial year to June 2023. The cost of living crisis, and the war in Ukraine make these uncertain times for many people. We are proud to offer some certainty to the organisations we support through this grant round. In this Impact Report we showcase the innovative approaches being delivered by passionate and compassionate people, we are lucky to have such leaders delivering for the people of Ireland. We celebrate their outstanding work and we celebrate you our donors and supporters and our amazing voluntary board, none of this wonderful work would exist with you. THANK YOU!

Kind regards,

**Teresa Keating**  
Executive Director,  
The Ireland Funds Australia

**Yvonne Le Bas**  
Chair,  
The Ireland Funds Australia



# About The Ireland Funds Australia

Established in 1987, we are proud to be part of The Ireland Funds; a global network of 12 chapters of friends of Ireland around the World dedicated to creating a positive social impact and making a real difference to communities in need in the areas of community development, culture, education, and peace on the island of Ireland and across Australia.

## We connect people

Our Founders, the great Tony O'Reilly and Dan Rooney, 46 years ago as two successful business people in America were asked to make corporate introductions for many. They agreed to make those introductions but also to hold events where people would come together to network and socialise and do something good, give back to people less fortunate themselves. Little did they know the Ireland Funds would grow to **12 chapters globally** having supported more than **3,200 organisations** with **US\$600 million** over that time. People come for the party and stay for the mission!

## We impact the present and future

As we strive to do so we realise that many issues are not only local but global. At our recent worldwide conference in Ireland we discussed topics like climate change and strategic activities that can be effective such as Grow It Yourself and transportable in a global sense. Food Cloud rescuing good food to help people and the planet for example. We actively look for and support young people who are innovative and are tackling global issues.

## We nurture the next generation

The Young Leaders Network is unique to the Ireland Funds and is a key programme attracting the next generation of young leaders and philanthropists. We are very proud of our Australian Young Leader Committee one of the most vibrant across the globe.



# Making a difference locally

It's very important to us to give back to people and projects in Australia some of that work includes a 10 year partnership with the Australian Indigenous Education Foundation , when completed we will have provided 80 scholarship places; Beyond Blue; Science Gallery Melbourne pioneered in Trinity College Dublin; WWF; National Indigenous Culinary Institute; Peter MacCallum Cancer Institute; Displaced Ukrainians in Australia (and Ireland); GO (Goodes O'Loughlin) Foundation. Over the last few years with a change to our structure we are committed to building out and supporting Irish activities and networks in Australia such as The Irish Film Festival; the St. Patrick's Day Parade Citizenship ceremony; The Irish Support Agency.



And Irish Innovations  
in Australia

Science Gallery  
Melbourne

pioneered in Trinity  
College Dublin



## The Irish Film Festival

for the last two years and now reaching a national audience



## The St. Patrick's Day Parade - Irish Citizenship Ceremony

for the last two years





Together with the Lansdowne Club provided assistance to the  
**Irish Support Agency NSW**



THE  
**LANSLOWNE  
 CLUB**

Partnering with  
**The Adelaide Writers Festival,**  
 University of UNSW the State Library  
 and the Consul General of Ireland to have  
 Acclaimed author *Fintan O'Toole* attend  
 a community event



Partnering with the local community and  
 University of NSW to have The Australian  
 Ireland Fund Chair of Modern Irish Studies  
 at UNSW for 5 years.

Continuing to work with UNSW, the Irish  
 Consulate and local community bodies to  
 build on the next iteration of Irish Studies.



## Irish Community Support

We were delighted to come together with 21 Irish community groups and networks to have our own merchandise manufactured to support the Irish Womens World Cup team in Australia 2023 - with profits to go to the Irish Support Agency NSW.



**IASRB**

We are very proud of the work of our Young Leaders and for the 2023 year 100% of all profits raised by our Young Leaders will directly support the Irish Support Agencies in NSW, Victoria and Queensland.

# How did we raise funds in the last 12 months?

Everything we deliver is made possible by the generosity of our donors and supporters. Their passion for Ireland and commitment to the mission of The Ireland Funds allows us to deliver transformative change together.



**Fundraising Events**



**Platinum and Governor Programmes**



**Associate and Benefactor Programmes**



**Corporate Donors**



**Private Donors**



**Young Leaders Society**

## Projects Supported

2022 – 2023



### Community Development / Education in Ireland

- Community Action Network<sup>#</sup>
- Inner City Enterprise<sup>#</sup>
- Learning Hub Limerick<sup>#</sup>
- No Mind Left Behind Scholarships<sup>#</sup>
- UCD Scholarship<sup>#</sup>
- Royal College of Surgeons<sup>#</sup> in Ireland
- My Mind<sup>#</sup>
- Trinity College<sup>#</sup>
- Trinity St James Cancer Institute<sup>#</sup>
- 174 Trust<sup>#</sup>
- Trinity Hyman Tarlo Scholarship<sup>#</sup>



### Community Development / Education in Australia

- Australian Indigenous Education Foundation
- Science Gallery Melbourne
- Beyond Blue

## Total Donations 2022 – 2023

\$1,894,174

### Donor Advised Grants

Trinity St James Cancer Institute #	\$1,599,000	•
UCD Scholarship #	\$25,000	•
Trinity Hyman Tarlo Scholarship #	\$10,000	•
Trinity Law School #	\$1,000	•
Trinity TCD Library #	\$2,000	•
174 Trust #	\$25,000	•
Learning Hub Limerick #	\$50,000	•
Inner City Enterprise #	\$30,000	•
Community Action Network #	\$30,000	•
No Mind Left Behind Scholarships #	\$60,000	•
Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland #	\$16,000	•
Trinity Access Fund #	\$2,000	•

Over the last 11 years 84%<sup>†</sup> of donations received have been allocated to our charities.

### Grants

My Mind	\$6,000	•
Home Tree Ireland	\$1,579	•
AIEF	\$20,000	•
Beyond blue	\$6,000	•
Science Gallery Melbourne	\$10,000	•
Carbon Positive Australia	\$595	•

# Stories of Impact

Since 1987, our donors, corporate sponsors, table captains and individuals have helped us improve the lives of people in Ireland and Australia. Our events bring people together to have fun and feel good about helping others, this is an impact we cannot measure but is invaluable.



## No Mind Left Behind

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.

**Our Impact :** An annual scholarship of €4,000 is provided to cover the costs of books, accommodation, and other key expenses. Our \$54,000 donation this year is supporting 9 students from St James Street CBS. The programme has helped 300+ students so far.

“

I remember Dad ringing us to say I was awarded the No Mind Left Behind Scholarship from The Ireland Funds. Mum and I busted out crying because I couldn't have imagined living in Dublin with the cost and I was a bit nervous going to the capital. It pushed me to go that someone believed in me. The No Mind Left Behind Scholarship and The Ireland Funds, they completely just changed the whole course of my life.

A big thank you to The Ireland Funds for giving us the support and investing in our abilities to succeed.

”

**Shauna Gallagher**

No Mind Left Behind Graduate now studying at the Royal College of Surgeons





## Learning Hub Limerick

Works in partnership with parents, education providers, statutory agencies and the wider Limerick community to provide a safe, welcoming and inspiring learning environment where young people can reach their true potential. As well as providing education support and coaching.

**Our Impact :** The Hub provides access to enriching experiences, such as kayaking and rock-climbing to help young people develop active lifestyles. Each week in 2022, 150 children aged 5-15 and 100 young adults aged 17-25 received support at The Hub.

“

My son wouldn't be the young man he is today if it weren't for the Learning Hub. Since he was six years of age he attended Music, Science, Art, creative writing he was so painfully shy but has now grown in confidence. The Hub even helped him to get through his state-exams.

”

- C -

mother of young person attending the Hub since he was 6 years old.

## Inner City Enterprise (ICE)

Advises and assists unemployed people in Dublin's inner city to set up their own businesses or create their own self-employment.

**Our Impact :** 2022 grant supported the Young Entrepreneurs Training Programme (YETP) and a Start Your Own Business (SYOB) Programme for the Ukrainian community. The YETP Programme provided skills training to 110 young people, with 25 new businesses launched.

“

As always, this work could not have been done without the support of The Australian Ireland Funds. Many thanks again to all our Australian Friends! ”





## Trinity St James Cancer Institute

The Trinity St James's Cancer Institute (TSJCI) is an OECL accredited Cancer Centre that is transforming cancer care in Ireland by combining frontier science with excellent patient care and world-class education to pioneer new ways to prevent and detect cancer and to lead the transformation to scientifically driven personalised cancer care and after care for patients in Ireland.

**Our Impact :** Helping to accelerate translation of scientific discovery to patient treatments.

Helping to provide world-class education and training to the next generation of cancer leaders in Ireland.





## Young Leader Network

The Young Leaders Network is unique to the Ireland Funds and is a key programme attracting the next generation of young leaders and philanthropists. From 25 upwards we cultivate an emerging generation to create and inspire positive change.

Our Young Leader Committee is a National Committee, holding events in Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane. Your membership fee supports the projects chosen by the Young Leaders in the Annual Grant Round. If you would like to be part of this network for good AND enhance your own network, please contact [tkeating@irelandfunds.org](mailto:tkeating@irelandfunds.org) for more information.



# How you can help

## Giving Programmes

The Governor Programme was launched to enable us to provide further support to flagship projects complementing our event fundraising. To further help those less fortunate than ourselves we have since launched additional tiers at various levels.

Supporters can help us to further our vital work by making a one off, or annual, tax-deductible contribution to become a member of:

GIVING PROGRAMME	ANNUAL TAX DEDUCTIBLE CONTRIBUTION
Platinum Governor Programme	\$25,000
Governor Programme	\$15,000
Associate Programme	\$5,000
Benefactor Programme	\$1,000

## Donor Advised Grants

Enable donors to recommend projects they are passionate about and wish to support. This is a wonderful way to work with donors and ultimately match them with specific projects. Ask us about pledges and bequests.

## Corporate Partner

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 annual fundraisers in Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane. If you can help we would love to hear from you.

## Become a Young Leader

The Young Leaders' Network is a key Ireland Funds Programme for the emerging generation of philanthropist connecting the global Irish community inspiring positive change. Membership costs \$200 annually, of which \$150 is tax-deductible.

## 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.

For more information on any of the above activities please contact Teresa Keating, Executive Director:

 0410 633 598

 [tkeating@irelandfunds.org](mailto:tkeating@irelandfunds.org)



# Thank you

Every donation to The Ireland Funds has the potential to change a life. This is the extraordinary impact of your generosity. We are proud of the charities we fund throughout the year and we are grateful for the important work they do building better communities. We extend our thanks to all of our supporters, including our Private and Corporate Donors, our Platinum Governors, Governors, Associates and Benefactors, Young Leaders, guests at our fundraising events - without your dedicated support this valuable funding would not be possible.



Make a difference with us our QR code

# Acknowledgements

The Ireland Funds Australia extends our sincere gratitude to our major sponsors for their continued generosity and support.

The following organisations & people make valuable contributions that enable us to continue our work.



Michael & Annie Cannon-Brookes

# The Ireland Funds Australia

## Board of Directors

**Yvonne Le Bas**

*(Chair)*

Chief Financial Officer,  
Resolution Life Australia

**Patrick Tuttle**

*(Treasurer)*

Executive Director, Azora Finance

**Frank Curran**

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**John Gallagher**

General Counsel, Australia  
AXA XL

**Ted Johnson**

Adviser to Heathley Keystone Property

**H.E. Tim Mawe**

Ambassador of Ireland to Australia

**Dr Tom Moore**

Doctor

**Ray Wilson**

Non-Executive Director, Plenary Group

**David Woodward**

CEO Glen Dimplex Australia

**Teresa Keating**

Executive Director

## Former Chairs

**Anthony McGrath**

1987 - 1991

**John O'Neill AO**

1993 - 1999

**Alan Joyce AC**

2010 - 2012

**Cameron O'Reilly  
& Peter Cosgrove**

1991 - 1993

**Charles Curran AC**

1999 - 2010

**John O'Neill AO**

2012 - 2016

## 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.

**Teresa Keating**

Executive Director

The Ireland Funds Australia

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Progress Through Philanthropy

