

## 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 131 projects, many more than once, across the island of Ireland and in Australia. This report provides an overview of the combined activities of The Australian Ireland Fund Limited, The Australian Ireland Fund and our Australian Ireland Foundation Public Ancillary Fund (established in 2015 to support projects in Australia) in 2019–2020.

### PROJECTS SUPPORTED 2019–2020



#### COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT / EDUCATION IN IRELAND

- Community Action Network
- Extern
- Fighting Words
- Inner City Enterprise
- Learning Hub Limerick
- No Minds Left Behind Scholarships
- Suas
- UCD Scholarship
- Women'sTec
- Youth Action



#### COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT / EDUCATION IN AUSTRALIA

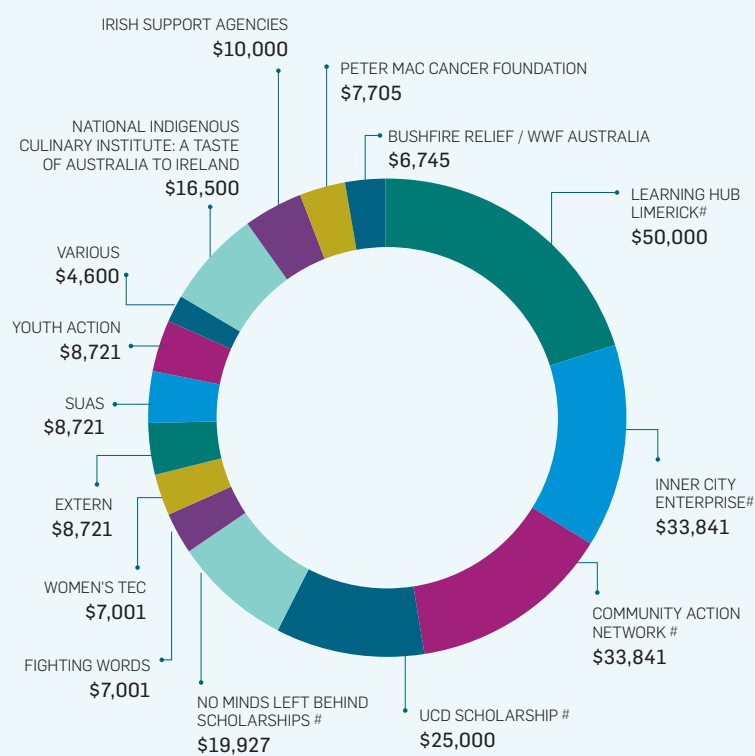
- Bushfire Relief / WWF Australia
- Irish Support Agency
- National Indigenous Culinary Institute
- Peter Mac Cancer Foundation



#### DONOR ADVISED GRANTS

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

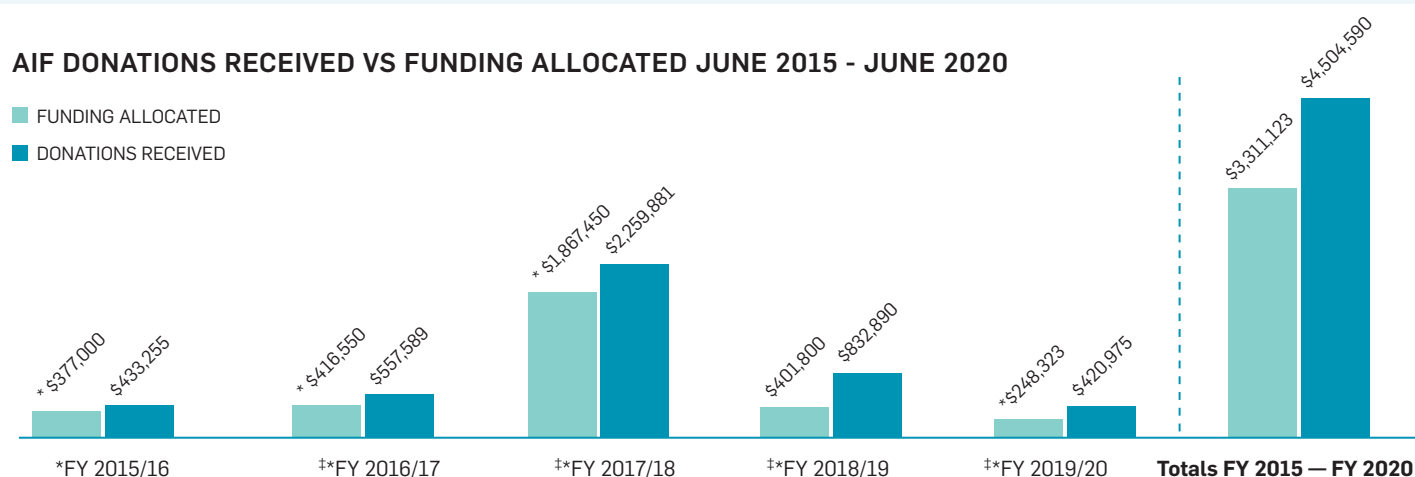
### TOTAL DONATIONS 2019 – 2020 \$248,323



#Donor Advised Grant

### AIF DONATIONS RECEIVED VS FUNDING ALLOCATED JUNE 2015 - JUNE 2020

- FUNDING ALLOCATED
- DONATIONS RECEIVED



\* 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 2020 totalled \$248,323\*

### LEARNING HUB LIMERICK

Working with parents, schools and the wider community, Learning Hub Limerick provides a safe, welcoming and inspiring learning environment where young people can explore education.



As a result of the COVID19 outbreak, LHL endeavoured to **adapt their learning delivery** and programmes to **online** resources and platforms.



Funding from The Ireland Funds Australia enabled LHL to reach more children most in need of help, **raising educational aspirations** and **creating positive experiences** in a happy, child-friendly environment.



### 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.



Currently, **half of people aged under 24** in Ireland are **unemployed** and the COVID-19 pandemic has only made this worse; ICE is committed to changing that statistic.



With the help of The Ireland Funds Australia, ICE is running a **Youth Enterprise Training Programme**, a 4-week course to train young people aged 18-30 in **hard and soft business skills** and **consider entrepreneurship** as a future career.

### COMMUNITY ACTION NETWORK

Community Action Network is a social justice organisation that works with local communities to tackle local low-socioeconomic issues with innovation. As a direct result of our funding, CAN will further their work in the inner-city communities of Dublin South Central to:

#### RESPOND



to serious anti-social behaviour in their neighbourhoods arising from the drug trade

#### ENABLE



effective youthwork to draw young people engaging in anti-social behaviour into more productive lives

#### SUPPORT



the regeneration of inner-city communities especially flat complexes



### WWF

After the devastating bushfires this summer where more than **12 million hectares** of forest and bushland was **burnt**, at least **1.25 billion animals** perished, **34 lives** were lost and around **2,700 homes destroyed**. The Ireland Funds Australia mobilised with our supporters, raising funds to respond to the devastation and be part of the rebuild and recovery effort by helping to regreen Australia and rescue and regenerate the wildlife population now and into the future. We have become a Conservation Partner of World Wildlife Fund Australia, aiding them in their bushfire recovery effort to:

#### RESPOND



with emergency support to the front line of the fires, rescuing and caring for injured and fire-affected wildlife.

#### PROTECT



by working together to safeguard the wildlife and restore habitats after the fires.

#### FUTURE-PROOF



Australia's native wildlife and precious natural resources for people and nature for many generations to come.

\*Some projects not shown include Women'sTec, Extern, Peter MacCallum Cancer Foundation, Men's Sheds, Trinity Access Programmes

## IRISH SUPPORT AGENCY



The effects of the COVID-19 pandemic have been felt far and wide, and as a result, The Irish Support Agency in Australia experienced a significant increase in requests from **more than 18,000 vulnerable Irish citizens** living in Australia, most of them **young individuals and families** who fall outside any assistance from the Government and are struggling to fund their basic needs.



The Ireland Funds Australia are committed to supporting worthwhile causes in Ireland and here in Australia and supported the ISA's fundraising initiative with a **\$10,000 donation to help Irish people in need** in Australia.



## NATIONAL INDIGENOUS CULINARY INSTITUTE



In 2019, **four talented young indigenous chefs** from Australia's National Indigenous Culinary Institute were invited to attend the famous international food festival in Ireland *"A Taste of West Cork"*.



With the support of the then Ambassador to Ireland Richard Andrews and The Ireland Funds Australia, amongst others, the chefs cooked in restaurants throughout West Cork and at special gala dinners in Dublin, using **Australian indigenous ingredients** such as kangaroo, pepper berry and finger lime and **exchanging culinary and cultural ideas that will only help to strengthen our nations' special bonds**.



## NORTHERN IRELAND

Since our inception The Ireland Funds Australia has supported projects in Northern Ireland. This year, with the help of The Australian Young Leaders, we continued that support to impactful projects such as:

### YOUTH ACTION



YouthAction  
NORTHERN IRELAND

who work with young people in Northern Ireland and border counties to **tackle inequalities; improve their life chances; inspire them as activists** and contribute to flourishing communities in a peaceful, shared society.

### FIGHTING WORDS



which uses the creative practice of **writing** and **storytelling** to strengthen **children and young people** to be **resilient** and **successful** shapers of their own lives.

### SUAS



suas  
Literacy Changes Everything

who are launching their literacy interventions in Northern Ireland in late 2020. Through their **proven literacy and numeracy education models** they have been **providing 1:1 support** to children across DEIS schools in Ireland since 2002.

## 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



CBS James Street

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 **3 worthy students** from his former school, CBS James St, to fulfil their undoubted potential.

### UCD SCHOOL OF MEDICINE



UCD School of Medicine and Medical Science

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 starting in 2020**. 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 Teresa Keating, Executive Director:

☎ 02 9357 2350

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

## Fundraising Activities 2019 – 2020



### THE BRISBANE LUNCHEON

**143** guests  
**\$35,897**



### THE SYDNEY GARDEN PARTY

**522** guests  
**\$166,851**



### THE GLOBAL 5K RUN

**330** runners nationally  
BRISBANE • SYDNEY • MELBOURNE  
**\$13,926**



## CLOSING STATEMENT

At the start of the 2019/2020 year there was much excitement and anticipation as we worked towards returning to Fairwater for our annual Garden Party – our flagship fundraising event – and as we pursued becoming a carbon neutral charity. Little did we know, as we enjoyed the stunning Sydney Harbour on a beautiful Sunday in October, what challenges lay ahead. Fortunately, the

Garden Party was a great success and the funds raised supplied our much-needed financial backbone for the support of our projects and ourselves throughout the year.

December and January saw us face catastrophic bushfires. Vast tracks of Eastern Australia were burnt, lives were lost, and countless numbers of native animals were decimated. We felt helpless yet compelled to respond to the devastation in some way. As such, we launched our first ever Global Appeal, buoyed by the response of Ireland Fund Chapters from around the world who agreed to come to Australia's aid. Unfortunately, just as we worked to launch our global appeal the COVID-19 pandemic took hold.

The Ireland Funds Australia revenue has been dramatically reduced this year. As with any crisis, the most vulnerable people are the hardest hit. These are the people who are already suffering, the people who rely on us. We are very grateful to our most generous supporters who not only enabled us to have a **grant round** of just under **a quarter of a million**

**dollars this year to June 2020** but made it possible for us to release those funds earlier than June in order to deliver immediate support to those in desperate need. Our main grants are outlined in this Trustee Report and the full list is on our website **[www.irelandfunds.org](http://www.irelandfunds.org)**.

Though 2020 has come with significant challenges we have adapted well, and I could not be prouder of our staff, Board and voluntary young leader committees who have all helped us continue to support the people who rely on us. We have introduced virtual bootcamps, trivia nights, art workshops, a remote Global 5K and hosted our annual Worldwide June Conference to continue to engage with you, our supporters, virtually.

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. Many of us, through a good education and hard work, have comfortable lives and can provide opportunities for our own children. However, this pandemic is widening the gap within society and has made obvious that the work of the Ireland Funds Australia is just as vital today as it ever has been. I 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