



Honoring our Irish Heritage, Investing in Ireland's Future.

Impact Report

SPRING 2021 APPEAL



Empathy Education

Launching an innovative social and emotional learning program

Pathways Out Of Homelessness

Partnership Commits \$1 Million to Provide Education to Homeless and At-Risk Youth

Your Impact

The generosity of our donors has changed thousands of lives

Learn more at www.irishap.org



INVESTING IN THE NEXT GENERATION OF LEADERS

Our members have always recognized the importance of education, providing resources to rural and disadvantaged schools

WESTERN SEABOARD SCIENCE

The Partnership promotes science education in small rural schools in the west of Ireland.

More >> pg. 5

“

You celebrate your links to Ireland in a most meaningful way through your support of the Partnership. I want to express my appreciation as Taoiseach, as a former Minister for Education and as a teacher, for your support, which makes a real difference in the lives of children and schools on the island of Ireland.

- Taoiseach Micheál Martin

”

YOUR IMPACT

40,000+

Irish students, young people and community leaders have benefited from Partnership funding.

\$35,000,000+

has been invested in the future of Ireland - its people.

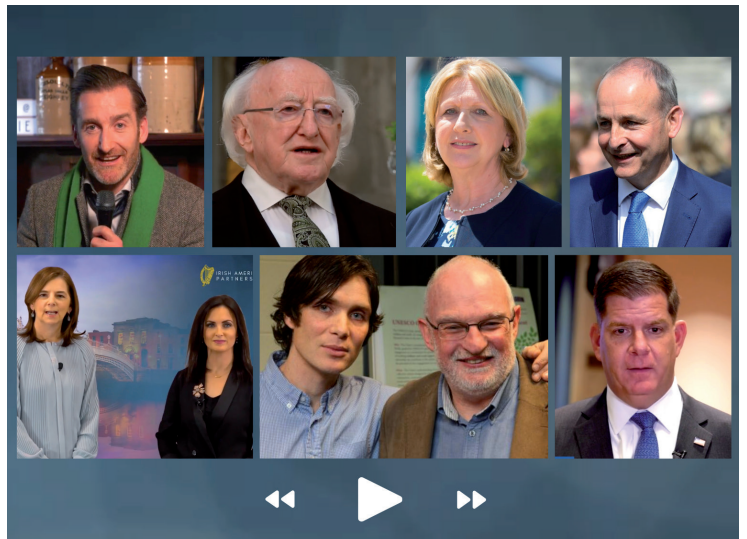
500+

Schools and community organizations have received your support.

Our Online Community

Supporters from across the globe enjoyed hearing from a tremendous coterie of speakers for our Nollaig na mBan Women’s Leadership and St. Patrick’s Day celebrations earlier this year. These included President Michael D. Higgins, Taoiseach Micheál Martin, 7th President of Ireland, Mary Robinson, 8th President of Ireland, Mary McAleese, Editor-in-Chief of *Glamour*, Samantha Barry, Permanent Representative of Ireland to the United Nations, Ambassador Geraldine Byrne Nason, Irish Ambassador to the US Daniel Mulhall, national broadcast journalist Caitriona Perry, and US Secretary of Labor Martin J. Walsh who said:

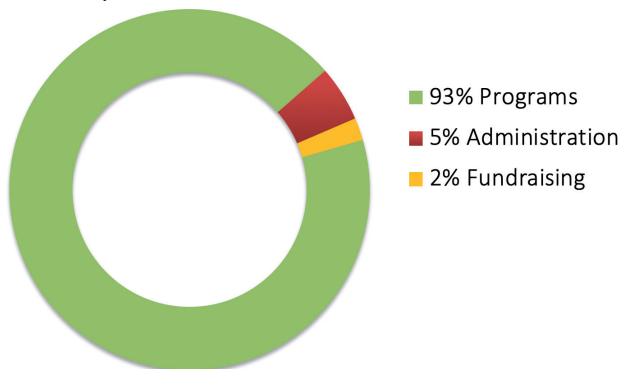
“We know how important it is to build community and take care of people who are struggling. Our fates, our health, and our futures are tied together. I am grateful to the Irish American Partnership for turning those values into action.”



We are so grateful for our wonderful supporters on both sides of the Atlantic for joining us, and supporting The Mary Robinson Centre, small rural schools, and the launch of the Activating Social Empathy program. We remain steadfast in our mission to build a more peaceful, prosperous, and inclusive Ireland.

The recordings of these livestream events are available to enjoy at www.irishap.org/events and we look forward to seeing you in person in the near future.

Our Efficiency



Activating Social Empathy



Activating Social Empathy Patron, Actor Cillian Murphy with secondary school students and below - with Youth Researchers and Professor Pat Dolan, UNESCO Chair in Children, Youth & Civic Engagement

Your donation means that for the very first time a selection of schools across religious and political communities in Northern Ireland can now experience this program.

- Cillian Murphy

The Partnership remains steadfast in our mission to build a more peaceful Ireland where all have the opportunity to thrive. As part of this ongoing commitment to building a more inclusive and equitable Ireland, we are pleased to announce our support of this empathy education program.

Professor Pat Dolan, director of the UNESCO Child and Family Research Centre at National University of Ireland, Galway, is passionate about promoting empathy among schoolchildren. Empathy, he says, is key to preventing bullying behaviour, tackling racism, promoting understanding and improving social connectedness.

Activating Social Empathy is an interactive, student-focused, social and emotional learning program, developed by Professor Dolan and Dr Ciara Boylan as a resource tool for post-primary schools. The Partnership sees the importance of this timely work and is delighted to support the rollout of this program to students across Ireland.

“Where young people learn empathy, they learn compassion. Where young people learn compassion, they gain the capacity to be active supporters to others in school.”

- Prof. Pat Dolan

Empathy education is urgently needed in schools to curb hate speech, aggression, and racial and other forms of negative profiling.

“The world is quickly changing and our education systems have to catch up. We believe social empathy is now a crucial global issue that needs further discussion and attention in our society,” says Dolan.

Actor Cillian Murphy said: “As patron of the UNESCO Child and Family Research Centre I want to say thank you to everyone at the Irish American Partnership for furthering our youth-led empathy education program in secondary schools. Your donation means that for the very first time a selection of schools across religious and political communities in Northern Ireland can now experience the program.”



THE GIFT OF OPPORTUNITY



Victoria O'Toole, Law & Society Student at DCU

Victoria O'Toole is a final year Law and Society student at Dublin City University (DCU) from Co. Wicklow. She explains how your support has helped her in her dreams of pursuing third level education.

"I was never really aware of the social divide in Ireland until I got to secondary school. I'm the youngest of four children. Sadly, my dad passed a few years ago, leaving my mam to look after myself and my siblings on a widower's pension.

After struggling at secondary school, I was so happy to receive an offer from the DCU Access Program to study my dream course, Law and Society."

The Partnership enjoys a strong tradition of creating equality of access to third level education for students from groups currently under-represented in higher education.

Propelled by the generous contributions of our members, the Irish American Partnership is able to provide critical funding to students like Victoria through university access programs.

"None of this would be possible without your support. I am eternally grateful for the opportunities the Partnership and DCU have opened up for me in life."

- Victoria O'Toole

Partnership grants ensure that an equal opportunity is afforded to all students, regardless of socioeconomic background, to reach their full potential by enabling them to study at **Dublin City University, Trinity College Dublin, University College Dublin, University College Cork, Queen's University Belfast, or Ulster University.**

These scholarships have an immediate and transformative impact on the lives of students, and in turn, Irish society.

Bringing Science to the West

The Partnership is proud to support the Western Seaboard Science Program (WSSP) – which offers invaluable professional development in science to teachers in small primary schools in the western counties.



Thanks to your support, the Partnership sponsors a pioneering program to help transform science education in rural primary schools.

In association with the Institute of Education at Dublin City University (DCU), and regional education centers, the Western Seaboard Science Program affords teachers the opportunity to attend science workshops, prepare lesson plans, gather new ideas, and create a local network of teachers.

“A really important theme of the program is to break down the professional isolation that teachers in small rural schools face.”

- Dr. Greg Smith, Professor of Science Education, DCU

Teachers working in small rural schools in the west of Ireland can lack the resources, and the adequate training to effectively present science in the classroom.

At the heart of this initiative is the ongoing engagement of local science program coordinators who regularly travel to the schools to share innovative teaching methods. As a result, teachers reported increased confidence, greater student engagement, and positive ripple effects for the entire school.

This year, WSSP is working with schools in Clare and Kerry. In collaboration with DCU as well as Mary Immaculate College, Limerick, the Partnership also funds similar programs in Cork, Tipperary, Kilkenny, and Limerick, reaching over 5,000 students and teachers annually to inspire budding scientists across the island.





Surge in Demand for Integrated Education in Northern Ireland

Though education remains highly segregated between the Protestant and Catholic traditions in Northern Ireland, the growth of integrated schooling inspires as a beacon of hope in the post-conflict society.

Each year, your generosity awards a grant of \$10,000 through our longtime partners at the **Integrated Education Fund (IEF)**. This organization is at the fore of the innovative movement celebrating respect, friendship, and understanding.

Recently, actor Liam Neeson expressed his pride as Northern Ireland's first Catholic school, Seaview Primary School, Glenarm, has been approved to transform to integrated status. He has been an advocate of integrated education in Northern Ireland for many years and has worked with the IEF as an ambassador.

“I want to congratulate all of the parents, staff and governors in schools right across Northern Ireland, who are taking courageous steps to ensure children from different traditions, will get to learn and play together, every day, in the same school. You are actively helping to build inclusive communities. Well done.”

- Liam Neeson

Baroness May Blood, Campaign Chair, of the IEF said, “I would like to thank the Irish American Partnership for the years of support given to integrated education in Northern Ireland. It really is outstanding.”

She continued, “Over the years, Partnership funding has made a huge change to thousands of childrens’ lives in our schools. You have allowed us to open schools where children celebrate each other’s culture, not fear it.”



Almost 25,000 children are now educated in 65 integrated schools in Northern Ireland, with 500 new places being created every year. Educating all children together is a vital part of the reconciliation process in Northern Ireland and of building a society that celebrates respect and friendship across traditional divides.

Leading the Fight Against Homelessness in Ireland

Partnership Chairman Michael Clune commits \$1 million to the Peter McVerry Trust (PMVT) to prevent and eradicate homelessness through education.

As founder of Clune Construction, Michael T. Clune has devoted the majority his life to building—structures, relationships, and dreams.

Having arrived in the U.S. with just \$40 in his pocket, Clune has since built a life beyond his wildest imagination, propelled by a tireless work ethic, an entrepreneurial spirit, and above all, a deep desire to give back. Clune reflected:

“In 1978 I left Ireland, but Ireland never left me. The Partnership has been the vehicle that has allowed me to give back to my homeland in a meaningful way.”

The Partnership is humbled to announce what will be perhaps his most meaningful contribution to Ireland yet—\$1 Million toward eradicating homelessness in Dublin in association with the Peter McVerry Trust, a leading Irish homeless charity. With support from Clune’s secondary school friend and Irish financier, Dermot Desmond, the Partnership’s support will go toward the development of a comprehensive educational program aimed at the prevention and alleviation of homelessness.

Targeted investment in education is a crucial aspect of homelessness prevention, particularly among vulnerable children: this grant will expand and enhance these educational offerings for homeless and at-risk youth. With Partnership support, the Trust will be able to provide nearly 100 underprivileged young people (aged 13-17) who have been removed from mainstream schools with a high quality of education at two new learning centers in Carline and Lucan.



Partnership Chairman Michael Clune

The Trust and the Partnership envision that through the generosity of people like Clune, all children will prosper, have access to an education system, and have an equal and meaningful opportunity to participate in society.

“I am delighted that the Partnership is supporting our work in the education sphere, an area which is of huge importance to young people with stronger educational supports ultimately improving outcomes and reducing the risk of homelessness in later years.”

– Pat Doyle, CEO, PMVT

The Partnership would like to express its profound gratitude to Clune and Desmond not only for their life-changing generosity, but also for their leadership and deep commitment to our mission to build a more inclusive and equitable Ireland.

To join Chairman Michael Clune and Dermot Desmond in their fight to end homelessness, and protect the most vulnerable, visit www.irishap.org/pmvt.



**Peter
McVerry
Trust**

Opening doors for
homeless people

Investing in the Children of Ireland

Each year, thanks to your generosity, the Partnership is able to transform young lives through the Children of Ireland Program by equipping teachers across the island with the resources they need to educate and inspire.

“We are heavily reliant on the generosity of others in order to run our school. Unfortunately, we have not had the financial resources to purchase some necessary science equipment. It is our hope to enhance the educational opportunities available with the help and generosity of the Partnership.”

- Lisa Crowe, Principal, Sacred Heart National School

This past March, your participation in this program allowed the Partnership to fund five schools who had requested our help:

1. St. Oliver Plunkett Primary School, County Antrim
2. St. Joseph’s Christian Brothers School, County Louth
3. Cloontuskert National School, County Roscommon
4. Sacred Heart National School, County Wexford
5. Abbeystrewry National School, County Cork

Every gift matters. You can support and honor your heritage in a way that works best for you. Clearly see the impact of your philanthropy. We encourage Partnership donors to select the school, community program, or region as the recipient of your giving, making you a true partner in their success.

JOIN US AND GIVE THE GIFT OF EDUCATION

CONNECT, GIVE BACK, AND CHANGE YOUNG LIVES

Yes, I am pleased to support the Irish American Partnership’s work to empower and educate!

Enclosed is my check in the amount of _____ Checks payable: Irish American Partnership

Please accept my gift in the amount \$2,500 \$1,000 \$500 \$250 \$100

I wish to make my gift in honor of / in memory of (Name) _____

Credit card number _____ Exp. date _____

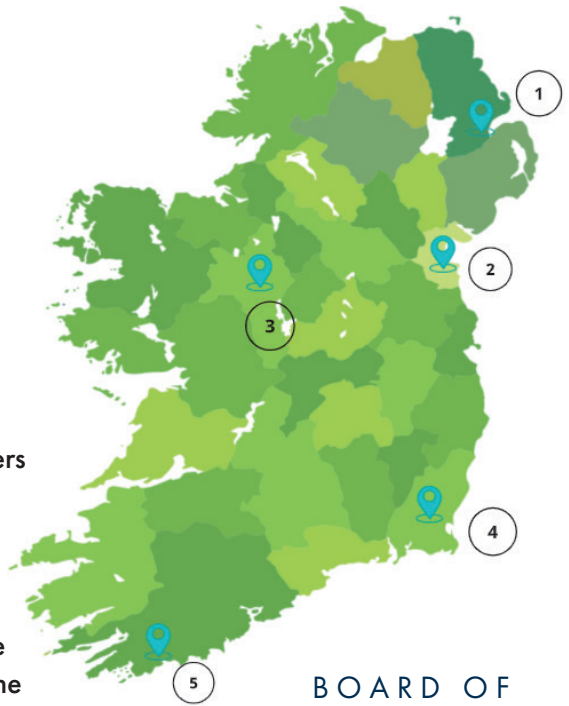
Name _____ Signature _____

Address _____

Email _____ Phone _____

I would like to make this a recurring monthly gift. Enclosed is my company’s matching gift form.

I would like to know more about planned giving with the Irish Legacy Society; our special community of forward-thinking supporters who invest in the Partnership’s transformative mission through a planned gift or provision in their estate plans.



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