



IRISH AMERICAN
PARTNERSHIP

A Bridge of People

Honoring our Irish Heritage, Investing in Ireland's Future
Learn more at www.irishap.org

2021 Impact Report

YEAR-END APPEAL



Your Impact

The generosity of our donors has changed thousands of lives in 2021.

Answering The Call

Responding to the needs of Ireland's most disadvantaged schools and communities.

Building Excellence in Youth Work

Youth Link Northern Ireland's collaboration between young people of differing faiths and backgrounds.

INVESTING IN THE NEXT GENERATION



Consider making a gift in support of the Partnership's work to empower and educate.

We encourage you to select a specific school, village, town or county throughout Ireland as the recipient of your giving.

2022 EVENTS CALENDAR

Writer, Producer and Creator of *Derry Girls* Lisa McGee, Editor-in-Chief of *Glamour* Samantha Barry, and Producer and Actor Geraldine Hughes will be honored at our Nollaig na mBan Women's Leadership Celebrations in Boston and Washington, D.C. in January.

For more on our events that create and celebrate our direct connection to Ireland, see page 12.



Dear Friends,



As another year draws to a close, I am filled with gratitude for friends of the Irish American Partnership like you. This year, I am particularly humbled by the generosity of our incredible supporters and the important news I share with you.



It is my privilege to inform you that the Partnership has received a legacy gift from a long-time champion of our work. This donor shared in our deep love of Ireland, passion for education, and commitment to the vitality of the Partnership. His generous legacy will empower us to cover all operational expenses going forward—we are now in the unique position of being able to direct 100% of all giving to beneficiary programs.

For over 35 years, our beloved Partnership has proven itself to be authentic, effective, and efficient. With your support, we will continue to grow the impact across the island of Ireland. 100 cents of every dollar will now go directly to Ireland.

The Partnership takes great pride in connecting people back to the places and people they hold dear. Together, we have

created a dynamic, grassroots organization which is greatly respected.

With the wonderful news of the legacy gift, there has never been a better time to give back to Ireland. Your pride in your past will be felt for generations to come.

On behalf of the people and communities whom we support, *míle míle buíochas*, a thousand, thousand thanks,

Mary Sugrue
CEO, Irish American Partnership



OVERCOMING & ENGAGING THROUGH SCIENCE

Encouraging student learning, creating a positive effect on the entire community.

St. Francis Senior National School is located in Priorswood, on the north side of Dublin - an inclusive senior primary school which caters to children from 3rd to 6th class.

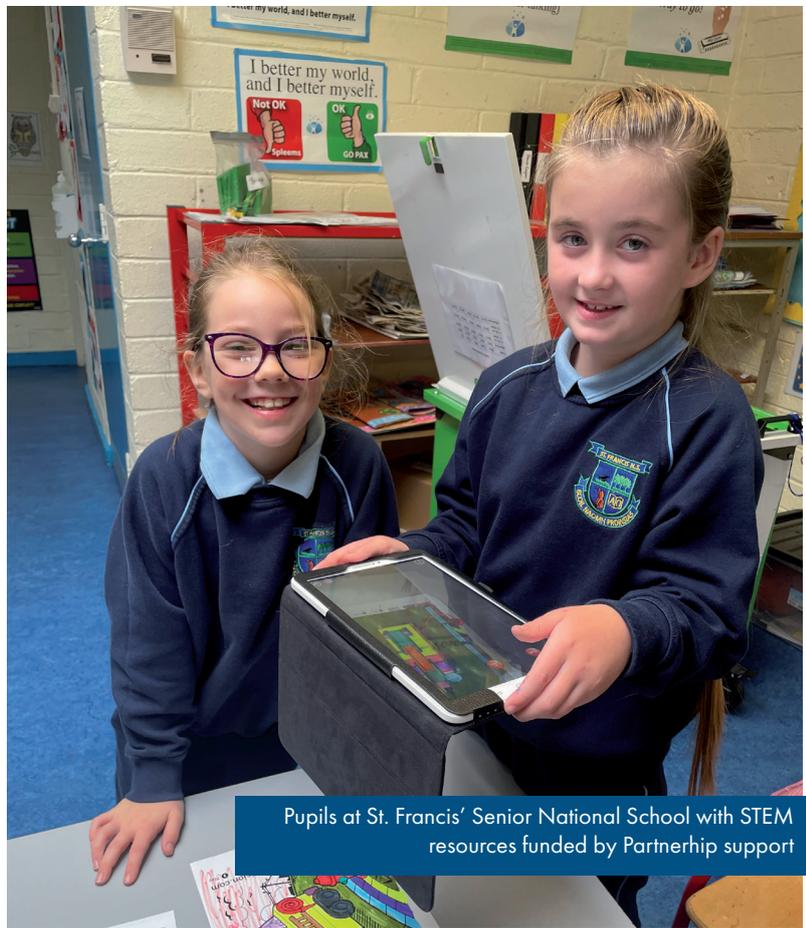
St. Francis is also designated a DEIS school by the Department of Education. This program is aimed at providing supports to schools with high concentrations of students from socioeconomically disadvantaged backgrounds who are at risk of educational failure.

In Priorswood, St. Francis strives to have its schoolchildren feel safe and happy, though there are high numbers of unemployment, local authority housing, poverty, and recent statistics show parts of the area to be the most disadvantaged in the country. As Principal Deirdre Kiely said, "There are many factors that prevent our children from deriving the appropriate benefit from education."



"THESE NEW RESOURCES CREATE AN EXCITING ENVIRONMENT FOR OUR CHILDREN TO LEARN, ENCOURAGING INCLUSION FROM ALL BACKGROUNDS AND ABILITIES. THANK YOU TO THE MEMBERS OF THE IRISH AMERICAN PARTNERSHIP."

- Principal Deirdre Kiely



Pupils at St. Francis' Senior National School with STEM resources funded by Partnership support

The school has begun to put extra emphasis on STEM education, engaging young learners with exciting materials and experiences to motivate higher achievement and teach problem-solving skills. With a new generation of forward-thinking teachers, the school requested funding to cater to this new era of education.

Thanks to you, the school purchased math and science resources equipping young learners with the tools that will help them throughout their schooling and beyond. Your generosity means so much to the children and teachers at St. Francis school. **Every single gift matters as we continue to respond to the needs of Ireland's most disadvantaged schools and communities.**



Reconnecting In The Kingdom



Pupils from Presentation Primary School, Tralee, Co. Kerry

Presentation Primary School located on Castle Street in the heart of Tralee, County Kerry, is a vibrant, engaging school with more than 270 school children.

A designated disadvantaged (DEIS) school, there is a diverse enrolment of pupils from 39 countries and a cohort from the local Travelling community. 17 teachers and 5 special needs assistants also comprise the school, which recently opened a special class for children with autism.

Presentation Primary is a school whose expenses surpass its government funding, and while no fundraising activity was permitted during the rolling lockdowns, the staff and students were left in a difficult position.

Partnership friends and supporters, Jim and Bonnie Kelliher, recently visited the school to present a gift having felt that during COVID-19, "these times are tougher than others for the school and we can continue to help."

This gift has enabled the school to modernize facilities and to bridge the 'digital divide', all working towards enhancing the educational opportunities for the children of Tralee, furnishing:

- Mental maths materials for each class
- Installation of WiFi for the school
- Purchase of laptops for teachers to facilitate distance learning during lockdown.

"We count ourselves very fortunate to have the support of people who clearly understand and believe in the power of education," said Principal John Hickey

Jim's grandfather on his father's side emigrated from Tralee to Boston in the early 1900's and many of his second cousins still reside in Tralee.

"Working with the Irish American Partnership and the Presentation School allows us an opportunity to help improve the educational experience these kids have and hopefully longer term create more opportunities for them. My late father always encouraged us to never forget where we came from and, working with the Partnership, Bonnie and I hope to pass this same legacy down to our children for generations to come."

- Jim Kelliher



The Kelliher Family at Presentation Primary in Tralee

The Partnership in 2020

We are dedicated to connecting Irish America and friends of Ireland to their Irish heritage through direct giving - we invest in schools, university scholarships, community development organizations, youth homelessness alleviation, programs of peace and reconciliation in Northern Ireland, integrated education initiatives, Irish Arts, Sports and Cultural Heritage programs, and more, throughout the island of Ireland.

Since 1986, our wonderful supporters have honored their heritage raising more than \$50+ Million in support of these programs, nurturing the next generation of global leaders.

**The Irish American Partnership.
A Bridge of People.**

\$1.8M

\$1,832,047 raised in support of the Partnership mission

YOUR IMPACT

50,000+

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

\$50,000,000+

has been raised in support of the future of Ireland - its people.

550+

Schools and community organizations have received your support.

\$1M

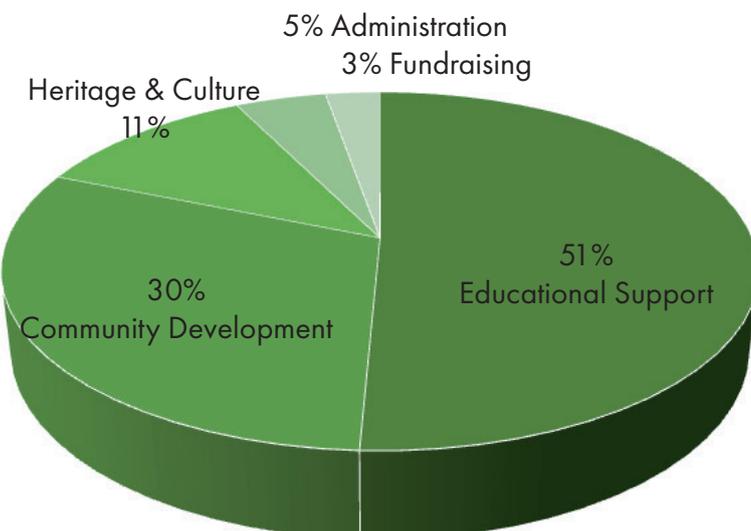
\$1,003,444 raised to benefit educational programs like direct grants to schools, university scholarships and integrated education initiatives in Northern Ireland.

\$600K

\$602,255 raised for community development organizations and programs

\$225K

\$226,346 raised for programs promoting Irish heritage and culture



92%*

The Partnership operates at a 92% efficiency level with 5% administrative costs and 3% fundraising costs.

**This figure will be 100% next year as 100 cents of every dollar will go directly to Ireland moving forward.*



2020 Grants Highlights

2020 O'Neill School Grants

ANTRIM	Integrated Education	\$ 11,000
CARLOW	St. Brigid's National School	\$ 1,500
CAVAN	Ballinamoney National School	\$ 5,000
CAVAN	St. Felim's National School	\$ 5,000
CAVAN	St. Patrick's National School	\$ 5,000
CLARE	Cooraclare National School	\$ 2,000
CLARE	Rineen National School	\$ 2,500
CLARE	Lahinch National School	\$ 2,500
CORK	North Monastery Primary School	\$ 2,000
CORK	Kilmagner National School	\$ 2,000
CORK	Banteer National School	\$ 1,500
CORK	Scoil Barra	\$ 5,000
DUBLIN	Scoil Naomh Padraig	\$ 5,000
GALWAY	Scoil Naisiunta Inis Meadhoin	\$ 1,000
GALWAY	Scoil Naisiunta Caomhain	\$ 2,000
GALWAY	Scoil Naisiunta Ronain	\$ 1,000
GALWAY	Inishbofin National School	\$ 5,000
KERRY	Presentation Primary School	\$10,000
KERRY	Gneeveguilla National School	\$ 1,500
LONGFORD	Tang National School	\$ 2,000
LONGFORD	Lanesborough Primary School	\$ 12,500
LOUTH	Our Lady's College	\$ 5,000
SLIGO	Achonry National School	\$ 5,000
TIPPERARY	Clonmore National School	\$ 1,000
TIPPERARY	Mullinahone National School	\$ 2,000
WESTMEATH	An Grianan National School	\$ 6,056
WESTMEATH	St. Ciaran's National School	\$ 6,056
TYRONE	St. Malachy's Primary School	\$ 1,000



“ 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 very grateful to the Irish American Partnership for turning those values into action. ”

**US SECRETARY OF LABOR
MARTIN J. WALSH**



2020 University Scholarships

DERRY	University of Ulster	\$110,000
DUBLIN	Technological University Dublin (DIT)	\$ 47,142
DUBLIN	Dublin City University	\$10,000
DUBLIN	UCD Chemical Engineering	\$ 7,500
DUBLIN	UCD School of Medicine	\$10,000
NATIONWIDE	Gaelic Players Association (GPA)	\$25,000
NATIONWIDE	Women's Gaelic Players Association	\$10,000

2020 Science Education

DUBLIN/LIMERICK/BELFAST	RDS Primary Science Fairs	\$50,000
LIMERICK	Mary Immaculate College	\$10,000
DUBLIN	DCU Institute of Education/St. Patrick's College	\$20,000

2020 Community Grants

ANTRIM	YouthLink	\$10,000
ANTRIM	Center for Democracy & Peace Building	\$10,000
ANTRIM	Ulster Historical Foundation	\$ 2,120
ANTRIM	Community Foundation for NI	\$ 1,700
DERRY	Children in Crossfire	\$10,000
DONEGAL	Ramelton Town Hall	\$ 5,000
DUBLIN	National Council for the Blind of Ireland	\$ 5,000
DUBLIN	Thomas Davis GAA Club	\$ 1,500
DUBLIN	Friends of Dublin Football	\$25,000
GALWAY	Kylemore Abbey	\$26,000
GALWAY	Aran Islands GAA	\$ 3,000
GALWAY	Druid Theatre Company	\$ 2,500
KERRY	Ballylongford Playground	\$ 11,500
KERRY	Coiste Forbartha na Sceilge	\$ 12,274
LIMERICK	Foynes Flying Boat Museum	\$ 2,000
MAYO	Mayo GAA	\$50,000
MAYO	Mary Robinson Centre	\$10,000
TYRONE	Ulster American Folk Park	\$ 20,150
WICKLOW	Bray Lions Club	\$ 73,000

2020 Youth Homelessness Alleviation

DUBLIN	Peter McVerry Trust	\$300,000
--------	---------------------	-----------

HONORING A GREAT MAN: O'NEILL SCHOOL GRANT PROGRAM

We have renamed our hallmark direct grants to schools program the O'Neill School Grant Program in honor of a long-time supporter. He felt the greatest connection back to Ireland when he saw and visited the rural schools nestled in the Irish countryside—and the smiling faces of the children who learn there each day. It is only fitting that this program will continue in his memory.



Fellowship Advisory Board Chair John Healy, VP and Managing Director, Allstate NI with Vice Chair Professor Karise Hutchinson, Ulster University

Our partners at the Centre for Democracy and Peace Building (CDPB) launched a new Fellowship program for political and civic leaders earlier this year with vital Irish American Partnership support.

The Fellowship will develop and build the capacity of 24 mid-career leaders in civic society, business, and politics in Northern Ireland, with the goal of strengthening the democratic institutions and ensuring that these young people are best placed to lead into the next decade.

The carefully selected participants are studying at the Blavatnik School of Government at the University of Oxford. In discussions with leading policymakers, academics, business leaders and public figures, Fellows will engage with global social, political and economic issues and seek to develop their understanding of how to tackle those issues in Northern Ireland.

“WHEN YOU MEET SOMEONE WHO YOU FEEL YOU MAY DISAGREE WITH AND END UP WITH AMAZING OPEN AND HONEST CONVERSATIONS, YOU CAN SAY THAT THE CDPB WORKS, AND WORKS WELL.”

- Brian Donaldson, 2021 Fellow

FUTURE PEACE BUILDERS IN NORTHERN IRELAND

We congratulate the CDPB for this opportunity to reimagine complex political and civic leadership in Northern Ireland through innovation and capacity building.



CDPB Fellowship Program class of 2021

Churches Together Building Excellence in Youth Work

Youth Link Northern Ireland - working towards a just, peaceful and flourishing society.

From the past 30 years, Youth Link has provided support and training for youth workers and community relations experiences for young people in Northern Ireland.

In a society where past violence has polarized and divided people, and where sectarianism and racism traps people in silos, the challenge is to build healthy and inclusive relationships and to empower those relationships to exist on the basis of respect, trust and openness. To see the good in each other.

From its inception, collaboration has been at the heart of Youth Link's development and programs. Youth Link began as a collaborative project between the Churches, but collaboration moved beyond the Churches sector to include the statutory and voluntary sectors.



Youth Link Northern Ireland graduates

“THIS COURSE ENABLES GRADUATES TO BE AGENTS OF TRANSFORMATION AND HOPE.”

- Sharon Raine
Academic Studies Manager/Senior Tutor

The Partnership has been a core supporter of this inclusive mission for many years. In October last, seven students graduated from the BA Honors degree in Youth Work, Communities and Practical Theology class in Belfast. These students benefited from financial support from the Irish American Partnership for either one or all three years of their program.

The graduation ceremony was a poignant opportunity to celebrate the achievements of students who had worked incredibly hard amidst significant challenges posed by the pandemic.

Youth Link staff also enjoyed the space to celebrate and reflect on the resilience needed to keep the program going and support students to progress with their studies, none of which could happen without Irish American Partnership support.

“Empowered, reflective practitioners emerging from this degree programme brings a high level of professional skills to youth work and to the building of social and reconciliation capital within communities and across Northern Ireland.”

- Patrick White, Director, Youth Link: NI



GAELIC ATHLETES PLAY A UNIQUE ROLE IN IRISH CULTURE.

They are amateur players, participating in sports that have professional expectations. They attract hundreds of thousands to games across the season while millions watch on television. They are students, teachers, business owners, farmers, accountants, nurses, doctors, plumbers, holding down careers while trying to balance a full-time commitment to the games they love. And in their spare time they are role models in their communities.

That is why the Gaelic Players Association exists. We are here to to enable players to balance the huge demands placed on them with the support and opportunities required to allow them be their best on and off the pitch.

A vital component of our work is providing educational support for our members. In 2021, alone we have supported 1,100 inter-county Gaelic players through undergraduate scholarship payments with still more benefitting from enhanced scholarships at post graduate level in arrangements made directly with universities all across Ireland.

We could not do this without the support of the Irish American Partnership. In 2018, \$100,000 was committed to supporting players wishing to pursue a career in education. This generosity has a life-changing impact on

the lives of our members and in turn younger generations.

“WE COULD NOT DO THIS WITHOUT THE SUPPORT OF THE IRISH AMERICAN PARTNERSHIP. YOU HAVE ALLOWED MORE THAN 150 ATHLETES, WHO WOULD NOT OTHERWISE BE ABLE TO AFFORD THE FEES INVOLVED, PURSUE THAT CAREER IN EDUCATION.”

For many of our members, the coaching and mentoring they experience throughout their playing careers from a young age inspires a love of teaching. This, combined with their position as leaders within their community, leaves them ideally positioned to connect with younger people through education.

More than 150 players have been supported by the Irish American Partnership over the past four years. 150 lives directly impacted, not counting the hundreds, if not thousands of lives each individual player will then go on to impact positively throughout their careers as teachers. The impact here is staggering in scale.

The support you are providing through these scholarships is therefore empowering players, students and communities to lead, grow and learn together. Thank you.

- Tom Parsons, CEO, Gaelic Players Association

Giftting A Vocation



Though Dr. Trevor McGill has spent over four decades of his esteemed career working in the United States, he has maintained close ties to Ireland, and to his alma mater, University College Dublin (UCD).



DR. TREVOR MCGILL

Dr. Trevor McGill retired recently after 40 years as a Senior Surgeon in Otolaryngology at Boston Children's Hospital and Professor of Otolaryngology at Harvard Medical School, leaving

behind an unmatched legacy of clinical, scientific and educational accomplishments. In recognition of unmatched teaching and educational activities, an endowed chair in Pediatric Otolaryngology was created in his name at Boston Children's Hospital in 2011.

Dr. McGill has always maintained a very close relationship with his alma mater University College Dublin Medical School. Recently, he created a scholarship through the Irish American Partnership that will support two medical students through their entire studies at UCD.

The first scholar began her studies at UCD in 2020/21, with the majority of academic work taking place online due to COVID-19. She has now started the second year

of her course and is eager to participate in labs and practicals now that the University has returned to in-person teaching.

"I COME FROM A SINGLE PARENT LOW-INCOME HOUSEHOLD. MY MOTHER DOES HER BEST TO SUPPORT ME AND I AM VERY GRATEFUL TO HER. RECEIVING THIS FUNDING WAS A SUCH A RELIEF. I AM VERY GRATEFUL TO DR. MCGILL FOR GIVING ME THE OPPORTUNITY TO CARRY OUT MY STUDIES WITH LESS FINANCIAL PRESSURE."

Dr. McGill's support has made a tremendous impact on his student, who went on to say, "I have worked part time since the age of sixteen, which has taught me to be independent and reliable, but it did affect my studies dramatically. I worked 3 nights a week in a local pub while repeating my Leaving Certificate and preparing to sit my HPAT exam. This scholarship allows me to cut back my hours and concentrate on my studies."

The study of Medicine is a six-year course in Ireland. At a time when more students are experiencing financial hardship due to COVID-19 (government restrictions in Ireland meant the loss of part-time work and paid internships for countless young people), support from donors like Dr. McGill provides a much-needed lifeline.

2022 Events Calendar

- JAN 6 NOLLAIG NA MBAN WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP CELEBRATION
Boston
- JAN 11 NOLLAIG NA MBAN WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP CELEBRATION
Washington, D.C.
- MAR 11 ST. PATRICK'S DAY CELEBRATION
Chicago
- MAR 17 ST. PATRICK'S DAY CELEBRATION
Boston
- APRIL 7 NEW YORK BUSINESS LEADERS BREAKFAST
New York
- JUNE 6 CHICAGO GOLF TOURNAMENT
Chicago
- JUNE 13 NEWPORT GOLF TOURNAMENT
Newport Country Club
- JUNE 27 ALBANY - Albany Golf Tournament
Schuyler Meadows Golf Club
- SEPT 15 YOUNG PARTNERS GATHERING
Boston
- SEPT 25 - 28 LEADERSHIP MISSION TO IRELAND
Dublin and Belfast
- OCT 20 BOSTON BUSINESS LEADERS LUNCHEON
Boston
- NOV 16 YOUNG PARTNERS GATHERING
New York



For information and sponsorship inquiries, contact Clodagh Boyle
Clodagh@irishap.org or 617 723 2707.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Michael T. Clune - Chairman
Chicago, IL

Mary Sugrue
Chief Executive Officer
Boston, MA

Aidan F. Browne, Esq.
Boston, MA

Dessie Farrell
Dublin, Ireland

David Greaney
Boston, MA

Michael J. Kilbane
Chicago, IL

Thomas A. Leonard, Esq.
Philadelphia, PA

Lorna Martyn
Dublin, Ireland

Donal O'Brien, Esq.
Chicago, IL

Kathleen O'Toole
Boston, MA

Maureen Pace
Boston, MA

Niall Power Smith
Dublin, Ireland

William J. Reilly Jr.
Boston, MA

Sir Bruce Robinson
Belfast, Northern Ireland

Brian Ruane
New York, NY

Regina Sullivan
Boston, MA

DIRECTORS EMERITI

Joseph F. Leary, Jr.
President Emeritus

John P. Murray
Chairman Emeritus

Liam Connellan

Charles L. Donahue Jr.

John V. McManmon, Jr.

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.