

Reference ID: PAC15

PAC Letter Reference: S1399 PAC33

Query: Whether RTÉ is fully compliant with Charities Regulator guidelines

Response:

Monies donated on the night (and in the weeks that follow) are received directly into the accounts of Community Foundation Ireland (Charities Regulator Number: 20044886) where the fund exists as a Donor Advised Fund. The registered charity to which the funds are actually donated is Community Foundation Ireland. Community Foundation Ireland operates in full compliance with the Charities Regulator guidelines.

The donation destination (Community Foundation Ireland) is shown on both the Revolut app, and the website (which is taken down after the Appeal donation period has ended and restored at the time of the programme each year). Recognising the importance of transparency as to the recipient of the donation, this information is available to read on the donation interface for both options.

Community Foundation Ireland is one of a network of 1800 community foundation networks globally. In existence since 2000, it has over 20 years' experience and expertise in grant making.

As agreed with RTÉ in their Donor Advised Fund agreement, a panel of members of Community Foundation Ireland's Board provide authorisation and final sign off on the grants to be awarded.

All grants are assessed independently by experts, and not by members of RTÉ. In terms of the RTÉ Toy Show Appeal, only registered charities are eligible to apply, and registration details are required within the application process.

Due diligence on the charities funded through the Toy Show Appeal is performed by Community Foundation Ireland, as part of the agreement with RTÉ.

In summary, Community Foundation Ireland carries out due diligence checks for every grant made to ensure that the organisation is charitable, not-for-profit and has shown that they have the capacity to manage the grant. The project to be funded must be in line with the constitution of the Foundation, in line with the criteria agreed for the RTÉ Toy Show Appeal and score highly against an assessment matrix.

All due diligence is carried out in line with Community Foundation Ireland's due diligence policy and Governance Checklist. In distributing grants on behalf of donors, the overarching objective is to ensure that all grants are utilised appropriately and effectively and within the highest standards of governance. In advance of processing a grant for payment, Community Foundation Ireland carries out due diligence checks on all applications before a grant is finally approved and paid. Additional checks are carried out in the context of larger and more complex grants. This is a key part of the assessment process.

Community Foundation Ireland reviews how all of the Toy Show Appeal funding has been spent in line with the agreement with RTÉ and due diligence procedures.

Toy Show grantees are expected to complete an Interim Report every 6 months from the date of payment and a final Outcome Report once the project is complete. The organisations are required to complete a template form that allows them to show the progress of the project, the budget spent at that time, and impact of the project so far. Where larger grants are made, more in depth due diligence is performed at the Interim and Outcome report stages.

Reports for the first two years of the Appeal (including SORP standard Financial Reports) have been provided. A report for the most recent Appeal will be complete by the end of October 2023.

As above, Community Foundation Ireland operates in full compliance with the Charities Regulator guidelines.

RTE TOY SHOW APPEAL



 The Community
Foundation for Ireland

Changing Children's Lives for Good.



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The RTÉ Toy Show Appeal

The 2021 *Late Late Toy Show*
was watched by an average
audience of 1.8 million viewers.



Watched in

150 countries



Raised a total of

€6.8 million

to help children



Funds raised helped over

1.1 million children

and family members



Projects to improve children's lives from infancy
to late teen supported in

32 counties

RTÉ Toy Show Appeal Mission Statement

Inspired by children, we work to bring the magic of *The Late Late Toy Show* to every child in Ireland. By funding essential support, health, well-being, play and creativity, we aim to change children's lives for good.

The RTÉ Toy Show Appeal raises funds to be shared with charities across the island who work with children from infancy to teenagers in the following ways:

→ Ensuring basic needs

Providing holistic and practical supports for children such as food, shelter and warmth who are at risk;

Enhanced educational support where needed.

→ Improving health and wellbeing

Promoting mental health and resilience;

Increasing quality of life for children with disabilities and serious health conditions.

→ Reducing inequality through play, creativity and personal development

Supporting creative activities which enhance personal and emotional development, resilience and wellness;

Increasing access to play and recreation experiences for disadvantaged or vulnerable children and young people.

Acknowledgements

RTÉ would like to acknowledge with thanks the following companies and individuals who supported the RTÉ Toy Show Appeal:



ABTRAN who generously provided all professional call-centre services at no charge to the appeal. Thanks to all of the call-centre volunteers who help process all donations made by telephone.



Stripe, our payment processing provider, who facilitate online donations at a specially discounted professional rate.



Vlad Yatsenko meeting some of the children on his visit to Dublin in June 2022

Co-founder of Revolut, Vlad Yatsenko created a matched donation pledge on the morning of 27 November, which added a further €1.1 million donation to the amount raised by the public over that weekend.

In November 2021 *The Late Late Toy Show* was watched by over 1.8 million viewers, and it was watched by viewers in 150 countries on the RTÉ Player. The programme made history by being one of the highest-rating television programmes on a single channel on record.

But beyond this being an exceptional broadcasting achievement, the programme became memorable for an entirely different reason: not only did it celebrate some of Ireland's most amazing children, it created enough funds to help touch the lives of over 1.1 million children and family members across the island of Ireland in the months that followed.

When the RTÉ Toy Show Appeal first emerged in 2020, it surpassed all our expectation raising over €6.8million over a single weekend. It was a testament to our audience generosity, and their passion to help children, that such an incredible sum of money was raised. Those funds proved to be an absolute lifeline for so many charities in the year that followed.

We scarcely dared to hope that our audiences would donate to that level again, but indeed they did. A further €6.8 million was raised in 2021, and thanks to the grant making expertise of our partner, The Community Foundation for Ireland, over the year ahead, those funds will help over 160 organisations across the island of Ireland, who are working to make children's lives better.

The Community Foundation for Ireland, have offered invaluable guidance throughout in terms of philanthropic expertise, their independent management of the grant process, and the disbursement of the funds raised to the successful grant organisations.

We are enormously grateful for their expert advice and dedication. This project is also championed by the *Late Late Toy Show* production team, and other RTÉ staff, and I am very grateful for their contribution to its success.

A special note of thanks also to Revolut founder, Vlad Yatsenko, who made an exceptionally generous personal donation of €1.1 to the RTÉ Toy Show Appeal, and who inspired other donors to give by the match donation pledge that he created that incredible weekend last November.

Over the lifetime of its existence, the *Late Late Show* has shone a light on many aspects of Irish life. Over the past two years in particular, the exceptional generosity of the Irish public, has come to the fore in their huge support for the ambition of this appeal. *The Late Late Toy Show* experience was already iconic with Irish families, and within Irish culture. With the addition of the RTÉ Toy Show Appeal, its power to really add incredible value to the lives of children and families is immense.

To our audiences who tune in from home and abroad to watch, to share, to give – Thank You.

Dee Forbes
Director General, RTÉ



***The Late Late Toy Show* experience was already iconic with Irish families, and within Irish culture. With the addition of the RTÉ Toy Show Appeal, its power to really add incredible value to the lives of children and families is immense.**

National shared moments with lasting impacts.

The Community Foundation for Ireland



Viewers of the RTÉ Late Late Toy Show are bringing light into young lives every day of the year as the result of another record-breaking appeal. Their generosity is supporting projects in all counties.

Donations of over €6.8 million made during the broadcast and in the months that followed allowed the team at The Community Foundation to re-examine criteria to ensure that viewers could be assured that their generosity is being turned into actions in their own communities.

The revision of the criteria encouraged applications from smaller community groups and organisations, in addition to a continuation of larger transformative grants.

The new criteria saw the number of grants increase from 55 to 154.

More importantly the number of children, loved ones and family members benefiting from the money raised in the 2021 appeal increased to 1.1 million.

Feedback from those on the ground working with and supporting children every day informs all our work at The Community Foundation for Ireland, including RTÉ Toy Show Appeal. The response to the funding themes from the first year of the appeal was extremely positive and they remained in place.

In addition, The Foundation sought the advice of leading child experts, Tanya Ward CEO of The Children's Rights Alliance, Fergal Landy CEO of the Family Resource Centre National Forum and Owen Keenan former CEO of Barnardos to review the recommended list of grants.

The Themes

Addressing Essential Needs supports organisations working to improve living conditions and outcomes for children at risk. A total of 40 grants were issued to assist children living in poverty, in abusive homes, families fleeing war and those who are homeless.

Improving Wellbeing provides mental health and resilience support while also improving quality of life for children with disabilities. 50 grants were issued to assist those children whose young lives were most impacted by the restrictions of the Covid-19 Pandemic.

Creativity and Play supports the emotional development and resilience of disadvantaged children through creative programmes. We believe access to the arts is an equality issue and this is reflected with the provision of 50 grants to groups bringing colour and joy into young lives.

A further 14 grants were distributed by our colleagues in the Community Foundation for Northern Ireland.

None of this would be possible without the support of the team at *The Late Late Show* and all their colleagues in RTÉ who initiated the idea of linking an appeal to a television institution. For the second successive year the appeal has reached fund-raising levels which no-one could have predicted.

We also want to acknowledge our community partners and expert advisors for giving us the insights to inform our grant-making to maximise the benefits to children. But above all we want to thank every viewer who contributed to this hugely successful appeal – it is they who have made the magic happen.

Denise Charleton

Chief Executive of The Community Foundation for Ireland

“More importantly the number of children, loved ones and family members benefiting from the money raised in the 2021 appeal increased to 1.1 million.”



2022 RTÉ Toy Show Appeal Grants

The monies raised were made available as grants to registered charities who work to improve children's lives by an open application process, managed on behalf of RTÉ by The Community Foundation for Ireland.

Over 20 years in existence, The Community Foundation for Ireland works with individuals, families, companies, and other trusts and foundations to support a diverse range of not-for-profit organisations. Since 2000 The Community Foundation for Ireland has awarded over €75 million in grants. The Community Foundation for Ireland is a registered charity, (Charities Regulator Number: 20044886) and is committed to the highest standards of trust and governance.

The Community Foundation for Ireland and its partners believe in equality for all in thriving communities. They work with individuals, families, corporates and other trusts and foundations as well as Government to translate giving in the moment to giving that is strategic, sustainable and impactful.



Grants were made available against the following three themes in the following categories:

- Addressing Essential Needs
- Health and Wellbeing
- Play and Creativity

Community Level Grants

Grants of €5,000 up to €20,000 were made available to eligible organisations (with a turnover of less than €250,000) that can demonstrate the impact of their work at local and community level.

Grant amount →

up to €20,000

Impact Grants

Grants of between €25,000 and €100,000 for projects of a significant scale, likely to benefit many children, or address a very specialist need.

Grant amount →

up to €100,000

Transformation Grants

A very limited number of grants were made to organisations who demonstrated how a large scale grant could create an exceptional project or outcome.

Grant amount →

up to €300,000

How the RTÉ Toy Show Appeal Helped Children in 2022:

More than

1.1 million children

and their families will benefit, across the whole Island of Ireland

ROI total granted:

€5,991,498.62

NI total granted:

€637,617.39

Ultimately over €6.8 million was raised to help a diverse range of organisations who work to improve children's lives, across the island of Ireland. Following the hugely successful grant awards in 2021, RTÉ worked collaboratively with The Community Foundation for Ireland to identify ways in which the funds raised could have even greater impact in 2022.

With that in mind, in addition to the Impact Grant option (grants ranging from €25k to €100k), we introduced a Community Grant round (grants ranging from €5k to €20k) to enable some of the amazing smaller and community organisations who are working at a local level to improve children's lives, have the opportunity to apply for funding.

We also introduced a very limited number of Transformation Grants – one off grants at a large scale for exceptional projects which would create legacy impacts.

As in 2021, over €660,000 was issued to Community Foundation Northern Ireland, who conducted an equivalent grant application and assessment programme, for projects based in Northern Ireland.

The Community Foundation for Ireland managed all aspects of the grant application and assessment process, including review by an Expert Assessor panel, chaired by Tanya Ward, Chief Executive of the Children's Rights Alliance. We are very grateful to all involved for the rigorous process and expert guidance, which informed the final outcome of the grants awarded by the RTÉ Toy Show Appeal 2022.

ROI Community Round

68 grants,
totalling **€902,584.42**

	Grants	Amount
Essential Need	18	€227,797.00
Health and Wellbeing	22	€313,173.50
Play and Creativity	28	€361,613.92

ROI Impact Round

68 grants,
totalling **€3,938,914.20**

	Grants	Amount
Essential Need	21	€1,220,565.20
Health and Wellbeing	27	€1,615,380.00
Play and Creativity	20	€1,102,969.00

ROI Transformative

4 grants,
totalling **€1,150,000.00**

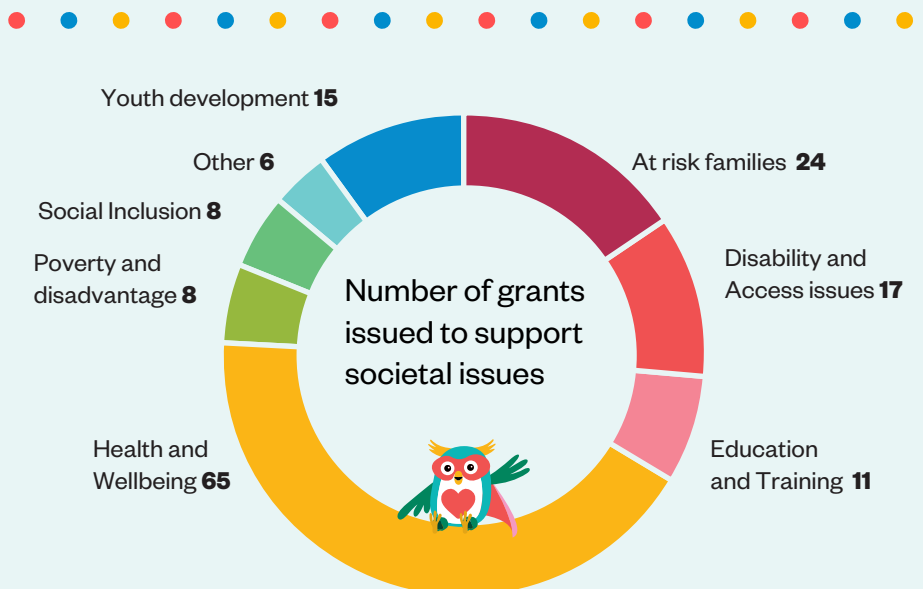
	Grants	Amount
Essential Need	1	€300,000.00
Health and Wellbeing	1	€300,000.00
Play and Creativity	2	€550,000.00

NI Totals

14 grants,
totalling **€637,617.39**

	Grants	Awarded
Community Round	8	€179,555.47
Impact Round	6	€458,061.92

*Grants distributed to registered charities only.



The RTÉ Toy Show Appeal funded at least one project in every county on the island of Ireland. Below is a snapshot of just some of those projects.

Cavan – Cavan Autism Parents Support – Awarded **€15,000** to provide social clubs for **60 children** and young people with autism

Leitrim – Mohill Family Resource Centre – Awarded **€30,000** to provide mental well-being and counselling services to **100 children** and young people in Direct Provision

Tyrone – Clonmore Youth Club - Awarded **£18,677.60** to run **activity workshops** for children and young people facing rural isolation in Clonmore village



Mayo – Claremorris Family Resource Centre – Awarded **€5,000** to provide a wellbeing a nutrition programme for **120 children** in their services

Antrim – Brain Injury Matters NI – Awarded **£48,011** to provide home-based support and **workshops for children** with an acquired brain injury and their parents to improve family life

Meath – Ability Equine Assisted Therapy – Awarded **€8,600** to provide therapeutic horse-riding camps for **80 children** with additional needs



Galway – Baboró International Arts Festival for Children – Awarded **€250,000** to provide arts programmes to **960 children** and their families.

Dublin – Musical Youth Foundation – Awarded **€7,500** to provide guitars and music lessons to more than **100 disadvantaged children**



Kildare – Barretstown – Awarded **€25,500** to provide community palliative care programmes to **30 children** facing life-limiting illnesses

Limerick – Exchange House – Awarded **€300,000** to provide educational supports to more than **100 Traveller children** and young people and their parents

Wexford – Raheen Community Development Group – Awarded **€46,692** to provide an affordable homework club to **24 children** and young people from the Traveller Community

Cork – YANA, North Cork Domestic Violence Project – Awarded **€9,000** to provide a therapeutic healing programme to **20 children** and their mothers who have faced domestic violence

Tipperary – North Tipperary Hospice Movement – Awarded **€40,000** to develop a **children's grief programme** to support them when they or their families are facing illness



Transformation Grant 1: Exchange House

Statement from **Kevin Burn**



Grant amount → **€300,000**

Exchange House Ireland National Traveller Service (EHINTS) focuses on the provision of frontline services to the Traveller Community, across a range of services including Family Support and Crisis Intervention, Education and Training, Children and Young People and The National Traveller Mental Health Service. For over 40 years EHINTS has provided a holistic approach to the person, ensuring that no matter the issues that an individual or community are facing they are provided with a range of supports so that they can have a better future.

Members of the Traveller Community face huge challenges across the many aspects of their day to day lives. Travellers in Ireland face a range of social and economic issues that deeply impact all aspects of their wellbeing. High rates of unemployment, low levels of educational attainment, homelessness; adverse living and community environments; widespread discrimination are issues the Traveller community in Ireland are overburdened with and seldom face in isolation. The ongoing impacts of these issues are high rates of suicide and a mental health crisis within the community which is unprecedented when compared to any other section of Irish society. The All Ireland Traveller Health Study in 2010 found Traveller 6-7 times more likely to die by suicide than their settled counterparts with 11% of all Traveller deaths by suicide. A 2017 study found that over 80% of the community had been directly impacted by suicide within their own family.

A gap in supporting the mental health of Travellers is a dedicated culturally specific Youth Mental Health Support for Travellers. Research has shown a correlation between

Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACES) and Adverse Community Environments and the negative impacts these have on a child's emotional and physical development with heart disease, addiction and suicide risk all greatly increased by such conditions. While there is no scientific evidence specifically relating to the impact of ACES on the Traveller community it is the experience of EHI that many Travellers have experienced significant trauma in their childhood years. This emphasises the need for a holistic, culturally appropriate mental health service for the young Travellers under the age of 18 years.

Our ongoing work on the Traveller Youth Mental Health Project funded through the 2021 RTÉ Toy Show Appeal and the Community Foundation Ireland combined with our existing core strands of work with Limerick Travellers Network and the Castletroy have reinforced our organisations opinion that working side by side with the community to conceive, design, deliver and evaluate programmes is the most effective, sustainable and meaningful way to create agency and change for the improvement of lives within the Traveller community. Empowered and connected communities are healthy communities. Communities involved and engaged in decision making and service delivery is proven to improve people's health and wellbeing.

Our findings in the area of Traveller Youth Mental Health to date have revealed 4 broad themes which can be summarised under the following headings;

1. Understanding mental health

There is a good understanding of mental health particularly amongst the Traveller young people consulted with. Most have reported participating in mental health programming of some kind in education or community-based settings. Art, creativity and cultural ways of exploring mental health have proven beneficial and engaging.

2. Help Seeking

The young people so far have all indicated they would turn to family and friends if needing help with mental health issues or in the event that a friend needed help. The adult community we engaged with felt they did not have the knowledge and skills to give effective support however they have all expressed an interest to develop their own capacity to support young people in this area.

3. High Expectations

Both adults and young people alluded to the high expectations of the culture and discussed how this was different but equally burdening to young men and young women. Adult groups often brought up Travellers

being very hard on each other and how life can be made very difficult for those failing to meet expectations and cultural norms. This is all experienced in a background of widespread discrimination against Travellers in Ireland making life experience much tougher.

Clear appetite to be agents for change in their own lifecourse

A dominant theme running throughout has been a lack of hope and low expectations for the future amongst the adults and children. Travellers in all areas have lost hope and belief in many outside services including health, community and education. This has been largely been cloaked in the lack of participation in service design and delivery. However, there is an overwhelming sense that to create hope Travellers need to be front and centre when it comes to decision making, implementation and delivery. There is a need to develop capacity for the young members for the community to be involved in these areas.

Exchange House Ireland and the Traveller women from the Limerick Traveller Network (LTN) surveyed 107 families and identified a great deficit of services and access to support services and programmes for Traveller children. The survey findings also showed a picture of Traveller families feeling isolated, unsupported and without information. The LTN also discussed their community's needs expressing concerns about how poor education outcomes and high levels of mental health distress are going to hinder their community's future.

This community survey combined with findings from the existing Traveller Youth Mental Health Project has provided an opportunity for a new programme to be piloted in Limerick City where relevant services and Travellers can develop effective interventions and learn from each other's expertise. The project will empower the Traveller community but also make professionals more aware of Traveller specific conditions and needs. This programme will maximise existing resources that at the moment are underused, and create some new specific resources for Travellers in the area. The hope is that this will positively impact on Traveller children and families, by creating a common programme that will address Traveller children's development in a holistic manner. The experience can and will also become an additional resource to the area and potentially create a model to be replicated with other marginalised groups/ minority groups.

Kevin Burn

CEO at Exchange House Ireland National Travellers Service



Transformation Grant 2: Baboró

Statement from **Aislinn Ó hEocha**



Grant amount → €250,000

Baboró International Arts Festival for Children aims to inspire all children--regardless of geographic, economic, physical, intellectual or cultural status--to engage with the world through their experience of the creative arts. We seek to celebrate and articulate the transformative power of art.

Now in our 26th year, Baboró has an extensive history of collaborating with schools, recognising them as key to our mission to provide all children access to engaging creative arts. Baboró has programmed work for children with additional needs for many years, but availability of suitable work for this audience is limited. We are fiercely passionate about supporting and amplifying diverse voices and experiences, and are committed to a vision wherein all children may actively participate in the arts, contributing their unique, varied perspectives to the cultural landscape.

We are very fortunate to be partnering with Phillida Eves on The Wonder Project. Her experience, expertise and innate understanding of this audience is hugely significant. She has amassed a fantastic network of national and international practitioners in this area, and is constantly working to improve her practice and artistic offerings. During Baboró 2020, we safely presented three different events created specifically for children with additional needs, including two projects from Phillida Eves, one of which was deemed an "essential service" by a school principal during Level 3 government restrictions.

Phillida and her team are inundated with requests looking for this specialised work. Creative experiences need to be tailor made for people with additional needs, using their real time feedback and the feedback of their carers who know them best. Being brought to a show in a theatre is rarely an option, sometimes due to access issues, but mostly due to the fact that these shows are made with their neurotypical peers in mind.

The Wonder Project is a targeted residency project ensuring that children and young people with intellectual and physical disabilities become engaged in the process of creating, participating in and enjoying multi-disciplinary arts to bring about meaningful change.

With generous funding from the RTÉ Toy Show Appeal we have been able to bring four week-long residencies to Special Schools throughout Ireland, and will reach many more schools in 2023 with additional funding via the Transformative Grant. The Wonder Project is embedded into the school environment, engaging with the children through dance, drama, music and visual art to ensure their creative voices are central to the project.

The project provides high quality engagement for the children and their educators in the planning, exploration, making, preparation and evaluation of the work. We want the children to see themselves at the centre of the creative process and as a valued part of the creative team. Giving the child a voice in the creative process allows educators to gain a new understanding of the invaluable contribution the students have to offer the creative process. We also want to lead and empower teachers and SNAs to bring their own creativity into the project and to be inspired to continue this work after the residency.

The schools that have participated in The

Wonder Project to date:

- St. Joseph's Special School, Newcastle, Galway
- Ábalta Special School, Parkmore, Galway
- St. John Of God Special School, Islandbridge, Dublin
- St. Nicholas Special School, Ballina, Co. Mayo

Quote from Marie Ryan - Principal, St. John Of God Special School, Dublin:

"It's really hard to describe how wonderful the experience has been for each and every child. None of us were sure that all would choose to participate but they all did without exception! This proved without a doubt that the project was pitched perfectly to meet their individual needs."

The pupils that participated have very complex needs. They are a group of individuals who tend not to interact with each other. They were remarkably calm during the sessions and explored new experiences that were presented to them without fear or anxiety. They shared with each other and took turns.

This may seem like small achievements, but in our world, they are huge giant steps and are to be celebrated. The staff saw the children interacting with each other in ways they had never seen before!

Phillida is such a calm and positive influence. I knew she understood what is involved when working with our pupils. She prepared a flexible programme, and allowed for change and adaptations so that each child could engage meaningfully. Phillida and her team encouraged them to work and engage at their own pace. The children found joy and what took place was wonderful."

Aislinn Ó hEocha

Executive Artistic Director
Baboró International Arts Festival for Children,
Galway



Transformation Grant 3: Spraoui agus Spóirt

Statement from

Helen Nolan



Grant amount → €300,000

Spraoui agus Spóirt is an award-winning social enterprise based in Carndonagh, Inishowen, Co. Donegal with supporting children and families at their core. We started a parent & toddlers' group in 2010, and today provide services to over 700 participants a week. Our focus is on family wellbeing and having a positive impact on the local community and economy. So, we provide high quality inclusive social, recreational, training, educational and enterprise activities, and services for our community. This includes everything from childcare, and parent & baby groups and programmes, to world class digital creative training and remote working facilities.

We are building a sustainable social enterprise, so we work to create profits we can invest back into our business, community, and local economy.

Families and children are at the core of everything we do and receiving RTÉ Toy Show funding will transform the services we offer them. The funding will contribute towards a dedicated Child and Family Hub for Inishowen, the first of its kind in our county with the capacity to cater for 1,000 participants per week.

Thanks to the RTÉ Toy Show funding we can design a space specifically for the children and families of Inishowen. It is extremely exciting to imagine what that might look like for Carndonagh. We have grown so rapidly since we opened in 2010. We continuously grow and innovate to meet the demands of our community. The result of the fast growth and innovation is that our services are spread across 8 separate locations, not always matching our needs.

A dedicated hub will be a 'game-changer' for us and the families and children who use our services. We developed and delivered creative activities for children over almost 12 years using rented accommodation, repurposed vacant buildings, and civic buildings. These spaces are not built for the services and projects we deliver, and this can restrict numbers and workshop time.

This funding will enable us to begin the process of delivering a purpose designed and built centre on a 4-acre town centre site, which can be customised for our needs. It will allow us to expand our inclusive creative and play services, in one central customised location. It will provide a new home for our family and children's services.

These include:

- Parent and Toddler, and other parenting classes and courses,
- Breastfeeding Support,
- Ante & Post Natal Support,
- Breakfast and After-School Club,
- School of Music,
- Tuition,
- Technology Workshops,
- Classes and courses in e.g., Creative Writing, Creative Sewing, Art and Crafts, Chess, Yoga, and Mindfulness,
- Holiday Camps for children,
- Day-time respite for children and teenagers with a disability and/or autism,
- Play therapy, art therapy, counselling.

The new Child and Family Hub will enable a greater number of inclusive services focused on creativity and play. It will ensure our service users can access their required supports in one central location. Our disability services have been limited by the space available in Carndonagh. Children with toileting needs and children in power chairs often must reduce their hours of activity as our current premises do not meet their needs. Our Child and Family Hub will ensure we can meet the needs of our 40 children with a disability throughout the year.

And for the first time we will have our own outdoor space. This will be "co-designed" with the children, young people, and families we work with. Outdoor play is so important for good mental and physical health and wellbeing.

But to us, this funding also sends us several strong and important messages. Firstly, it is an affirmation of everything our staff, board and volunteers are doing here at our social enterprise. We are incredibly grateful that the RTÉ Toy Show Appeal and the Community Foundation have confidence in us to deliver for families and children in our area.

Secondly, this funding sends a message to our rural community, that we deserve the best. So, we want to say a huge THANK YOU to everyone at the RTÉ Toy Show Appeal, the Community Foundation for Ireland and all who have donated to the appeal. Your contributions will help to change the lives of children and families in Inishowen.

Helen Nolan
CEO Spraoi



Transformation Grant 4: Parents Plus

Statement from

Cherie Tyner



Grant amount → €300,000

Parents Plus are delighted to have the opportunity to share the profoundly transformative and lasting impact that the RTÉ Toy Show Appeal Grant will have on the families of Ireland dealing with a variety of challenges and issues.

Our mission has always been to improve the well-being and futures of children and families, including those with disabilities, and additional and complex needs. We do this by training and supervising professionals to deliver our evidence-based parenting programmes within their services and local communities so families can avail of proven and tailored programmes at their point of need. In the last 10 years alone we have empowered over 1,000 organisations to improve outcomes for 100,000 children, young people and parents they support with our suite of programmes.

As a charity, we are consistently committed to researching outcomes and developing effective programmes for professionals supporting families. Backed by over 25 years of research, we collaborate with families to ensure that each of our eight flagship programmes meets their goals and is focused on empowering children and parents to achieve their potential.

The core work of Parents Plus involves training and supervising professionals (over 800 practitioners in 2021) to deliver our programmes in their services. However, as a response to the overwhelming demand for parenting support during Covid 19, we launched a pilot to make our programmes available online through key national parent support organisations, Parentline and ADHD Ireland. These organisations were experiencing extremely high needs from families managing challenges with their children associated with ADHD, Autism, Intellectual Disability and a wide range of additional requirements, along with anxiety and mental health issues. For many parents in these situations, the overwhelming stress for them and the impact on their children meant a much higher volume of parents and families seeking help and urgently needing our proven programmes. The impact of this pilot was incredible, the improved outcomes exceptional, yet the number of families still needing this support was overwhelming.

Fast forward and we are thrilled to announce that with the support of the RTÉ Toy Show Grant and the generosity of the public, we will now be able to scale this life-changing pilot via further national partner organisations. This funding will play a crucial role in helping us expand the number of online Parents Plus Programmes delivered to parents through our partners Parentline and ADHD Ireland, and also through Family Carers Ireland, The National Parents Council and mid-west Family Resource Centres.

We recognise that to really change outcomes for these children and families, it is not about scaling the size of our organisations, but working in partnership to respond to this crisis with evidence-based and proven programmes to empower families to change their futures.

As we previously mentioned, there are thousands of children in Ireland struggling daily with a variety of issues. Currently, there are one in four children in Ireland with a special educational need and over 70,000 children are waiting for speech and language and occupational therapy appointments. Although these are difficult statistics to read at Parents Plus, they aren't just statistics or numbers to us. These are real children and real families, struggling daily and dealing with significant challenges. Through building a unique infrastructure to strengthen existing services, and with the support of the RTÉ Toy Show Appeal, over the next two years, this project will improve the lives of thousands of children and parents. Thanks to the funding we will also be in a position to expand our 'Train the Trainer Model'.

So along with our core team of passionate expert trainers, we will also have a further group of new supervisors and trainers working with us regularly, offering supervision and mentoring to newly trained facilitators, and to those who are participating in the Parents Plus Programme Accreditation process. This will be a hugely significant and positive development for us as the expansion of our 'Train the Trainer' model means we can include accredited experienced practitioners who have extensive practice and programme delivery skills and knowledge to share further bolstering our impact in communities right across Ireland.

Furthermore, the funding will allow us to grow the Parents Plus team of devoted experts and help us optimise our programmes, services and systems to scale so that we may help even more professionals with our evidence-based parenting and mental health programmes.

Via our suite of programmes, we hope to realise our vision of a world where families have access to proven and tailored parenting and mental health tools from the services they turn to in their communities, early on in their journey, improving their outcomes and preventing difficulties from arising.

Through this grant, we initially acknowledged that the funding would "change the futures of over 2,000 children, parents and families, in the next two years." We would like to extend a huge heartfelt thank you to the RTÉ Toy Show Appeal and the Communities Foundation for Ireland as we now believe that we will transcend this and our impact together will become far-reaching and generational.

Thank you for making this a reality.

Cherie Tyner
Interim CEO, Parents Plus



Addressing Essential Needs

Grants within this category of funding are intended to ensure that more children are safe, warm, fed and properly supported in addressing educational needs. Through practical support the aim is to improve the living conditions, life experiences and outcomes for children who may be at risk of some form of deprivation and increasing educational access for vulnerable children.

Addressing Essential Needs

Continued

Exchange House Ireland

This project will provide targeted supports for Traveller children in Primary & Secondary school. Funding will develop an after-school project, and targeted professional supports for Traveller children and their parents, including social workers and counsellors.

Grant amount:

→ €300,000

SAOL Beag

This funding will help children from the North Inner City Dublin who have faced adverse childhood experiences and have survived trauma. This project will improve the lives of children by addressing issues of trauma through play therapy and trauma informed story telling sessions with mothers and their babies.

Grant amount:

→ €10,750

The RISE Foundation

The RISE Foundation will help to free family members from the trauma, stress, anxiety, and mental health impacts of a loved one's addiction. This project will facilitate greater health, wellbeing and family unity that is often affected by addiction. This funding will provide 1-1 counselling and a 10-week family programme.

Grant amount:

→ €20,000

The Down Syndrome Centre North East

The Early Intervention (EI) programme is for children with Down syndrome aged between 2 and 6 years. The programme is play based & holistic in nature. Both children and parents make great friendships in the process, and it really transforms the lives of the families that take part in the programme.

Grant amount:

→ €16,532

Raphoe Family Resource Centre

The Afterschool's programme supports children aged between 5 - 12 years old and aims to provide a safe, happy and fun space for children, by providing activities and support. The children attending are from families that are surviving on low incomes and have fewer social and educational opportunities than their peers. This funding will enable more children to benefit from the personal educational support.

Grant amount:

→ €6,520

Midlands Science

"Everyday Science" will reach students who may not engage with STEM after age 16 and promote the engaged and informed citizenship that a knowledge of science can offer. A knowledge of science can help people to feel empowered, make informed choices, and develop agency in choices they make about everything from climate change to vaccines to medical treatments.

Grant amount:

→ €16,500

Clare Crusaders Children's Clinic

Over the last year the Clare Crusaders children's Clinic has had a huge influx of children being referred for individual Play Therapy. RTÉ Toy Show Appeal funding will enable them to increase their work. The project will focus on supporting children with anxiety, depression, bullying and self-harm.

Grant amount:

→ €15,000

Longford Learning Support

Longford Learning Support is a space where children can come to learn without judgments or pre-conceptions. This grant will be used to provide targeted intervention to enable children who might otherwise 'slip through the net' receive specialist education and support.

Grant amount:

→ €5,000



The Down Syndrome Centre Cork

This grant will be used to help fund the services of an Occupational Therapist and Speech and Language therapist who will run groups for children aged 0-12 years old to focus on social skills and independence skills. This project will ensure that children are learning communication skills alongside motor skills that help make them more empowered.

Grant amount:

→ €8,000

Kinsale Youth Community Café

The grant funding will offer young people of Kinsale and the surrounding area an after-school homework club. Not every child in Kinsale receives a hot meal on a frequent basis, so the afterschool homework club will have the added benefit of providing a hot meal/tea/coffee/ at no cost, and free from judgement.

Grant amount:

→ €10,000

“Our centre is using the funds to provide a vital service for the young people in our catchment area. We have stated a new programme called “Kick Back Club”. [this is an after school homework and hangout club. The kids (and parents) are absolutely loving it. We are using the funds to pay for extra staff hours and also to buy food, the kids have started to learn how to make their own pizzas. Without these funds, we would not be able to provide this service, so from all of us here, thank you so much!”

Kinsale Youth Community Café

Addressing Essential Needs

Continued

Claremorris Family Resource Centre

This project will educate children and their families on the importance of nutrition basics, understanding food labels, caloric control, healthy meals and snacking, the importance of exercise and wellness in a fun and interactive way. The programme will be offered to the most disadvantaged children in the Claremorris community to tackle food poverty.

Grant amount:

→ €5,000

Tús Nua Artane Coolock Family Resource Centre

This funding will provide additional essential training to parents with children with autism in order to help them in their educational participation.

Grant amount:

→ €10,000

Teen-Turn

The Community Online project delivers learning opportunities in STEM and digital literacy to teenage girls from underserved areas. Presented in a supportive environment, collaborative and critical thinking skills are honed, leading to greater educational participation.

Grant amount:

→ €18,000

Áirc Midlands

Áirc Midlands aims to bring fun 'communication boards' to parks, playgrounds, libraries across the midlands. 'Communication boards' are a great way for children with disabilities to express a simple message, such as "I need to use the bathroom", ask questions, and offer choices. The 'Communication boards' help children to express their immediate needs and preferences.

Grant amount:

→ €10,000



Castlemaine Family Resource Centre

This funding will enable the Family Resource Centre to increase the number of children in their local area engaging in STEAM and ICT, through increasing their Children and Young people led programmes and Rainbows programme. This will lead to better supported children and improved educational outcomes.

Grant amount:

→ €20,000

Pastoral Centre Services

This funding will increase the number of therapy sessions delivered to children and young people across Co Donegal. The aim is to support children and young people during tough periods so that their educational and wellbeing needs can be supported properly.

Grant amount:

→ €18,000

Deaf Village Ireland

This funding will allow for the installation of a new hoist that will support children with special needs to be able to access the swimming pool. The hoist will allow entry will be a game changer for people with mobility issues. People from our community and beyond who have a physical disability or any kind of reduced mobility will now be able to safely enter the water and will have the freedom to go for a swim just like everybody else.

Grant amount:

→ €9,000

“I am delighted that Inspire are getting a pool hoist. This means I can go swimming in my local area without my parents coming along to lift me in and out of the pool. I love swimming, My physio says that it is really good for me to maintain my health and fitness. With the new hoist I will be able to go to the pool independently. I will also be able to go swimming with my friends which will be great.”

Grace Harper, 18, Full-time wheelchair User, Cabra.

The Hygiene Bank Ireland

With this funding, The Hygiene Bank Ireland will grow the Schools Programme in all active Local Project areas. This will ensure that hygiene products can be provided to charities working with marginalised and disadvantaged children. Schools who have signed up to the Programme will have the chance to collect products that will be donated to a charity in their area.

Grant amount:

→ €13,495

Silver Arch FRC Community Mothers Program

This project will provide Play Therapy to children and families in Tipperary who have experienced trauma, loss, and separation. Through Play Therapy, children learn helpful behaviours, understand their emotions and gain insight about resolving inner conflict.

Grant amount:

→ €16,000

Addressing Essential Needs

Continued

Sophia Housing Association

This funding will provide additional childcare workers who will provide holistic support for children and young people facing homelessness in their local community. The experience of being homeless is deeply traumatic for children and their parents so this funding ensures extra care and educational experiences that enable children to grow and develop as confident competent learners.

Grant amount:

→ €70,000

Involve

This funding will provide afterschool and homework supports to young people from the Traveller community and other disadvantaged young people. They will deliver the "Homework Space" programme to young people and children aged 5-14 years in an out of school, in a non-formal education youth work setting. RTÉ Toy Show Appeal funding will enable the young people to get adequate support completing their homework and engage in some fun non-formal education programmes.

Grant amount:

→ €48,548

"This funding has enabled us to provide Homework Hubs in 6 locations nationwide to support over 100 young people from the Traveller community with their homework and educational needs. The effects of "digital divide" and home schooling during Covid 19 has had a huge impact on the Traveller community, a community who were already educationally disadvantaged. We are looking forward to seeing the positive impact this project will make on young people's lives and futures."

Kay Mc Cabe, National Coordinator Involve CLG.

COPE Galway

This project will support the educational and physical development of children experiencing homelessness and living in temporary accommodation. RTÉ Toy Show Appeal funding will provide an additional Child Development Officer to provide support to children facing issues at school or challenges from living in temporary accommodation itself. The Child Development Officer will also create life-skill supports for parents, focused on diet, nutrition, and supporting positive behaviours in their children.

Grant amount:

→ €47,000

The Jack & Jill Children's Foundation

RTÉ Toy Show Appeal funding will provide additional homecare hours to children in Jack & Jill's care. While life is uncertain for Jack & Jill children, the better homecare support they receive, the stronger they are at challenging their life limiting conditions and living their best life. This funding will allow more than 50 children with life-limiting conditions to receive additional support.

Grant amount:

→ €55,000

Navan Travellers Workshops

This project will ensure that the essential needs of children and young people from the Traveller community in Meath are supported by culturally appropriate health and wellbeing activities. The programmes funded by RTÉ Toy Show Appeal will increase the physical, social and emotional health of Travellers and support with skills, social and personal development.

Grant amount:

→ €65,285



Addressing Essential Needs

Continued

Hill Street Family Resource Centre

The Preparation for Preschool programme is an innovative way to support young children from minority cultures within the North Inner City Dublin. The programme will support 1-3 year olds and their parents to access and participate in Early Childhood Care and Education which will set the children up well for accessing education later in life.

Grant amount:

→ €70,000

Donegal Domestic Violence Services

This funding will increase safety for children who have experienced domestic abuse. Donegal DVS work with children and mothers who have experienced domestic violence, and they support the families to move into safer housing and avail of appropriate legal supports. This project will ensure that children are safe throughout this process and don't face further abuse.

Grant amount:

→ €52,800

City of Dublin YMCA

The Alternative Suspension programme helps students to realise better educational outcomes by giving them the opportunity to transform their time away from school into a positive experience that fosters personal development. Alternative Suspension provides a safe and structured framework for vulnerable students, who are at risk of disengagement from education, encouraging them to stay with education in the longer term.

Grant amount:

→ €67,500

“The Alternative Suspension programme has been a significant support not only for the students we have referred but for their parents and the wider school community. The feedback and insight provided by the AS team has been invaluable and has allowed us to help teachers to work with students when they return to school in a more informed way thus ensuring better learning in class and teachers that feel supported. The AS programme is very important 1 to 1 work that schools do not have the resources to undertake.”

Guidance Counsellor Ologher Road Community College.

Depaul

RTÉ Toy Show Appeal funding will ensure that Depaul can continue to provide a safe, warm and welcoming place for the 35 families accessing their family services. With this funding, women with multiple and complex needs and their children will receive the vital support they need.

Grant amount:

→ €52,870.52

Quarryvale Family Resource Centre

The food bank will give families support through the provision of basic food staples, fresh food, basic hygiene products, and some special treats for Christmas. This will help by giving them the chance to spend money on other necessities like heating and clothing. Quarryvale will also provide additional support to the families using the foodbank, to help them stay out of poverty in the longer run.

Grant amount:

→ €44,936.68



Tipperary Rural Traveller Project

The Family Learning Support Programme will provide a culturally appropriate space, led by Travellers, where children have a haven where they can be themselves and develop a love of learning. The children learn together in an after-school programme, where they will be supported with practical aspects of their homework, given a nutritious meal, and are supported on the development of key skills.

Grant amount:

→ €60,000

Youth Work Ireland Galway – Loughrea

This project will focus on young people who are most at risk of early school leaving and students who have disengaged from schools. The project will seek to improve their interaction with, and enjoyment of education. The Supported Education Project will increase access to education to marginalised young people and will offer a suite of programmes that can significantly increase and improve the supports available to the target in Loughrea.

Grant amount:

→ €65,000

Crosscare

RTÉ Toy Show Appeal funding will support a two-pronged approach to eliminating childhood hunger and poverty. The project will address the immediate needs of families by providing food while also supporting families to overcome structural causes of poverty. By offering emergency food support and additional support (to address the routes into food poverty) Crosscare aims to minimize the need for foodbanks as well as protect and increase peoples' self-worth.

Grant amount:

→ €65,000

Addressing Essential Needs

Continued

Nasc

The New Beginnings project works with some of the most disadvantaged and marginalised children and families within society. The programme aids children and families to access education and provides much needed intensive English language support. It also connects children and families to mainstream essential services as well as the delivery of hands on practical and transitional support. RTÉ Toy Show Appeal funded programme provides innovative, effective, and meaningful change in the lives of marginalised refugee children and families.

Grant amount:

→ €70,000

Bedford Row Family Project

Bedford Row Family Project want to break the cycle of imprisonment within families and to heal the fractures in parental relationships caused by imprisonment and addiction. The funded project will improve the lives of children impacted by imprisonment by providing a safe place for both the parent and child to express their experiences of trauma. By supporting the whole family unit, the programme ensures that all family members are heard and empowered.

Grant amount:

→ €28,824

Clare Haven Services

Clare Haven Service will employ an outreach worker to support young people who have witnessed domestic violence and also to provide a prevention programme for young people. The project will work with the young people help them understand and deal with these experiences that are beyond their control, make their lives as manageable as possible and support them deal with the trauma along with the impacts of that trauma on their physiological and psychological development.

Grant amount:

→ €36,000

Peter McVerry Trust

With RTÉ Toy Show Appeal funding they will establish a 5 a-side all-weather pitch at the Learning Centre – Carline. This new facility will play a key factor in keeping young people engaged in their education program, thus allowing them to complete basic education, with the aim to reintegrate them into mainstream education or bring them into further workforce training.

Grant amount:

→ €75,000

Sensational Kids CLG

This pilot project will upscale the essential direct therapy services that Sensational Kids provides to children with disabilities. The funding will enable Sensational Kids to employ one additional Occupational Therapist whose role would be to deliver essential frontline therapy services to children with disabilities. It will improve the support available to transform their lives and improve their outcomes in the long run.

Grant amount:

→ €55,532

The Society of St Vincent de Paul

SVP resource centres work with children from disadvantaged communities in a holistic way who have experienced high levels of trauma and grief. This project will support the work of two such centres in Galway and Dublin. This project aims to increase the capacity of current services to support children, young people and parents to engage in direct education supports and in creative therapies to support them to manage their trauma and grief.

Grant amount:

→ €74,577

Citywise Education

This project will actively re-engage young people with their education, social and personal development after two years of interrupted societal interactions because of Covid. The programme will provide young people with the self-belief and the attributes needed to emerge from this pandemic to the best of their ability. This will be done through a mix of engaging, fun and interactive sessions and excursions.

Grant amount:

→ €70,000

Raheen Community Development Group

The Homework Club will be a vital opportunity for children in the Traveller Community. Access to education and successful outcomes have huge long-term payoffs for the child, the family and the society. This programme will work with some of the most disadvantaged children who will access educational support, helping them increase their grades & skills, better possibility of educational participation by remaining in school & maybe progressing to further education or employment.

Grant amount:

→ €46,692





Improving Wellbeing

Ill health is difficult at any point in life, but it can have significant and long term impacts in childhood in terms of educational outcomes and emotional wellbeing. We are also all aware that one of the legacy problems that the Covid pandemic has created are additional challenges in terms of mental health and social isolation.

Funding in this category is also for organisations who work with children and young people to improve the quality of life of children who are dealing with a disability or serious health condition, and those who help children improve mental health and resilience.

Parents Plus Charity

Parent Plus will use this grant to scale up the provision of Parents Plus Programmes online and nationally, particularly focusing on supporting families of children with complex needs and disabilities. The programme will support families to stay cohesive and united in the long-term.

Grant amount:

→ €300,000

Carlow and South Leinster Rape Crisis Centre

This grant funding will allow all teenagers in Carlow to access education workshops in the area of consent in relationships between young teenagers. This project will promote healthy boundaries around consent in relationships and to normalise discussion around positive mental health and wellbeing.

Grant amount:

→ €5,000

Westport Family & Community Resource Centre

This funding will enable the organisation to contract an additional therapist who will support disadvantaged children in Westport. The funding will ensure that children can have their mental health and wellbeing supported who would otherwise be left with their health worsening, which negatively impacts mental, emotional, educational and social outcomes.

Grant amount:

→ €6,560

Crooked House Theatre Company

The grant will help young people in County Kildare to gain self-confidence and build resilience, through 8 short term, free programmes of drama and film making. After Covid-19, it is important for young people to build emotional resilience, this project will allow young people to explore their problems in a fun and vibrant way.

Grant amount:

→ €19,960

“It is true that, after COVID, I found it hard to be in large groups – it was like I forgot how to be. And there was a bit of anxiety there. But your drama workshops really helped me become myself again.”

A 17-year-old workshop participant

Killinarden Family Resource Centre

With the funding the Family Resource Centre will be able to increase their one-to-one therapeutic intervention for children and young people. There is currently a 3-month waiting list, so this funding will allow another therapist to support vulnerable children in the community in a timely manner.

Grant amount:

→ €17,500

Cuan Cancer Social Support

This project is a support group for children to address the trauma of a parent's cancer diagnosis. Cuan Cancer Support provide a secure and healthy environment in which children are free to express their feelings of their parent's diagnosis. This project can normalise some of these struggles for the children and ease some of their anxiety and worries.

Grant amount:

→ €15,000



Cois Nore Cancer Support Centre

This funding will provide tailored supports to a surviving children and their parents when a close family member has passed away. The project will ensure that the person who is now the primary and often only carer for the child can redefine parenthood and build their own capacity to provide crucial support for their children.

Grant amount:

→ **€12,400**

Dundalk Counselling Centre

The RTÉ Toy Show Appeal Funding provided will allow more children to access specialist 'Play Therapy' and adolescent developmental psychotherapy. This counselling will support the children and young people directly, but also to help build or rebuild the relationships with their parents or caregivers.

Grant amount:

→ **€16,200**

Cobh Youth Services

The 'Thrive' project will be a 24-week programme that focuses on improving a young person's mental and physical health and promote personal development. The programme will cover confidence/self-esteem building, mindfulness/meditation, life skills for stress tolerance, and physical activities through Mixed Martial Arts.

Grant amount:

→ **€5,090**

Cian's Kennels

With RTÉ Toy Show Appeal funding, Cian's Kennels will be able to extend their service of bringing family pets to children who have serious life limiting illness nationwide. This vital service supports the emotional wellbeing for children with life-limiting / serious illnesses to bring calm and joy into their lives.

Grant amount:

→ **€20,000**

Improving Wellbeing

Continued

Shannon's Hopeline

With this funding, Shannon's Hopeline will increase the number of young people who can access low-cost counselling sessions. 75 young people will go through their 10 counselling sessions and pre and post counselling meetings with Shannon Hopeline Staff.

Grant amount:

→ €15,000

“Shannon’s Hopeline are an amazing charity, who are a shining light in the lives of everyone who reaches out to them. I will be eternally grateful for their support and help they gave to my daughter and me aswell. They made a very, very difficult time in our lives so much easier to cope with through their genuine warmth, support, advice, friendship, laughter and a non-judgemental approach.”

Audrey

Oscar's Kids Ireland

Through this funding, Oscar's Magic Moments will bring back some normality, even for a brief moment for Children diagnosed with cancer. They will provide special gifts and experiences to children who are newly diagnosed with cancer and children in active treatment or post treatment. This funding will provide experiences and memories that give them reasons to smile and reasons to be children.

Grant amount:

→ €20,000

“Our Toy Show Funding has insured we are able to spoil our incredible childhood cancer club members, and their families, with all the gifts and treats they deserve as they navigate a journey with cancer. That gift of happiness is priceless.”

The Butterfly Club

The Butterfly Club is a voluntary group in West Limerick who offer a social club for child with disabilities. The grant funding will provide specially created bicycles to approximately 20 wheelchair users within our group, allowing them to improve their health through physical activity.

Grant amount:

→ €18,590

Rosemount Community Development Group

Rosemount will use the grant money to provide vital counselling services and mental health workshops to disadvantaged children who have suffered trauma and grief in the Dublin 14 area. The funding will lead to improved mental health and resilience of the young people.

Grant amount:

→ €17,700



Improving Wellbeing

Continued

CanTeen Ireland

CanTeen Ireland teen cancer support will provide weekends away from home for their members. This funding will allow teenagers with cancer to be a “normal” teenager again not the “sick teenager”. They will spend time with their peers where they can make lifelong friendships with those who understand exactly what they are going through.

Grant amount:

→ €10,000

ADHD Ireland

This project will provide workshops, group therapy and activity days to ensure that children and young people with ADHD can improve their physical, emotional, social, and mental health needs. With the funding, the programme will encourage inclusion of those with ADHD, and increase their self-esteem and resilience.

Grant amount:

→ €20,000

Venture Out Wilderness Project

RTÉ Toy Show Appeal funding will support the Uearth intervention which involves meeting a young person on a 1:1 basis in a supportive, coaching, and mentoring capacity. Venture Out Guides will undertake an outdoor, nature-based, and often adventure-focused activity with the young person, for their enjoyment and learning, while also using the opportunity to counsel, coach, and mentor the young person around some of the issues they are facing.

Grant amount:

→ €17,000

Hand in Hand

With this funding, Hand in Hand will design, produce and distribute, 200 bespoke teddies/dolls that are representative of children in Ireland diagnosed with cancer. The teddy/doll will provide comfort and aid to reduce anxiety for children receiving treatment for cancer as it will help them understand their treatment and procedures in a way that is easy to understand.

Grant amount:

→ €16,513.50



YANA, North Cork Domestic Violence Project

YANA will create a supportive programme for children who have suffered the lasting negative effects of domestic violence. The programme will increase understanding of how brains, thoughts and feelings work so the emotional distress for the children can be lessened.

Grant amount:

→ €9,000

Offaly Down Syndrome Association

This funding will alleviate the stress of daily life and the impact of Covid-19 by providing an activity weekend away for the families that Offaly Down Syndrome works with. This break will help lift spirits and bring a little joy back into their lives of the families who have faced long-term stress and anxiety.

Grant amount:

→ €18,000

Ability Equine Assisted Therapy

RTÉ Toy Show Appeal funding will subsidise the cost of seasonal therapeutic horse-riding camps for children with additional needs. The camps provide activities where children can participate regardless of their physical, cognitive, or emotional difficulties and allows them to have personal growth and beat social isolation.

Grant amount:

→ €8,600

AdVIC

AdVIC will provide a medium to long term counselling service for child affected by homicide. The professional counselling provided helps children to deal with trauma and psychological difficulties following homicide, understand their grief and cope with loss.

Grant amount:

→ €20,000

Cottage Autism Network Wexford

RTÉ Toy Show Appeal grant will allow the 'Sow it and They Will Grow It' programme to continue. The programme will teach teens with autism that regardless of their disability they can make a difference. The teens will pick the seeds they want to grow, get the soil ready, tend to the garden throughout the year and then ultimately bring their grown produce to a local farmers market.

Grant amount:

→ €5,060

Barnardos

Barnardos Wellbeing programme has a primary focus on supporting the positive mental health and wellbeing of children and their parents. This service will empower children and adults to develop wellbeing practices, which will support them to be calm, resilient, present and to have good relationships with others. RTÉ Toy Show Appeal funding will support 4-6-week programmes and one off 1-2-hour wellbeing workshops.

Grant amount:

→ €75,000

“Anything that we’ve learned it’s only like five minutes, it’s nothing too long, so if there’s something that’s gone wrong you can just do the breathing, do the tapping, put on some music – there’s loads of little skills that I’ve learned here that I’m using every day.”

A parent

ARC Cancer Support Centres

With this funding, Arc will improve the health, well-being, and resilience of children and adolescents with cancer, parents with cancer, and their siblings. ARC sees huge need for vital psychosocial supports and interventions such as ARC's Family Support Service and will use the funding to continue and grow this work.

Grant amount:

→ €70,000

Cancer Support Sanctuary LARCC

LARCC offers a Children's Support and Play Therapy service for children who have been impacted by cancer. RTÉ Toy Show Appeal funding will enable LARCC to add a new Play Therapist to their team, so they can increase their Children's Support Service, and offer new services as well. Children use play as a form of communication - some children may be referred to Play Therapy if they cannot find the words to express how they are feeling.

Grant amount:

→ €43,680

North Tipperary Hospice Movement

North Tipperary Hospice Movement are designing and developing a children's support and grief programme. The service will support children and young people going through an illness themselves or those who traumatised by the illness or death of a parent. The programme will include play therapy, counselling and grief therapy.

Grant amount:

→ €70,000

Limerick Youth Service

The focus of this project is to extend and upscale the delivery of the Bewell Rural Mental Health Project for young people in Limerick. The programme will raise awareness of mental health, enhance emotional and psychological wellbeing, and encourage more young people to participate in mental health programmes.

Grant amount:

→ €65,000

Ronald McDonald House Charities

Childhood illness changes everything for a family. Ronald McDonald House Charities provide a home, support and comfort to families when caring for their seriously ill child in hospital on a long-term basis. RMHC Ireland will design and deliver a holistic Children & Family centred wellbeing programme to embed solid and sustainable wellbeing foundations. Each family will be invited to attend tailored wellbeing programmes, workshops, sessions and initiatives based on their wellbeing needs.

Grant amount:

→ €40,000

Rainbows Ireland

Rainbows Ireland, One Family and Ozanam House will develop a Child - Parent Hub. It will support children, young people and their parents to engage in creating a therapeutic model of child and parent support. This project will work with a target group of children directly affected by separation/loss, who are caught in family transitions and trauma which is resulting in poor mental health.

Grant amount:

→ €70,000

The Irish Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children

RTÉ Toy Show Appeal funding will support the ISPCC Shield programme that will tackle bullying through the development of an anti-bullying evaluation and educational tool. This programme aims to increase quality of life for children and young people who face bullying and to promote well-being using specific psychological resources and tools.

Grant amount:

→ €75,000





Improving Wellbeing

Continued

Childhood Development Initiative

Our project is designed to strategically address youth mental health needs in Tallaght. School avoidant behaviour, from initial reluctance to more entrenched school refusal, is often an indicator of an underlying mental health issue. This project aims to prevent longer-term educational and emotional difficulties by identifying school avoidance in the area, and treating underlying mental health issues and early intervention.

Grant amount:

→ €70,000

LauraLynn, Ireland's Children's Hospice

RTÉ Toy Show Appeal funding will support a safe and engaging outdoor space, with an accessible playground that will have a therapeutic benefit for children with palliative care needs. The gardens and the new accessible playground are designed to enhance well-being and to meet the physical, psychological, social and spiritual needs of children, family members, care givers and friends.

Grant amount:

→ €50,000

Aware

RTÉ Toy Show Appeal funding will support Aware's Life Skills for Schools programme which will be delivered to senior cycle students within their own classroom environment. The programme contains eight modules delivered over four weeks in 75-minute sessions. This gives students time to reflect on the key learning point each week and time to experiment with the 'new ways of thinking' presented. The programme will help young people to build resilience and to learn new ways to deal with the challenges they face in life.

Grant amount:

→ €70,000

Mohill Family Support Centre

This funding will support the emotional, behavioural and mental wellbeing of children, young people and families living in Direct Provision. The funding will enable additional hours of play therapy, adolescent counselling and family support for 24 families living in direct provision.

Grant amount:

→ €30,000

Enable Ireland Disability Services

Enable Ireland provides health and social services to over 700 children (0 – 18 years) in Galway City and County. RTÉ Toy Show Appeal funding will support Enable to refurbish their current service centre so that they can provide the best possible services to children and young people in their care.

Grant amount:

→ €75,000

Autism Assistance Dogs Ireland

The Family Support Programme will be a 12-month project resulting in the placement of 25 dogs with 25 families across Ireland. Without an assistance dog the child with autism and their family withdraw from community life as leaving the house is no longer safe. By providing assistance dogs, the wellbeing and quality of life for children with autism and their families greatly increases.

Grant amount:

→ €70,000

Irish Dogs for the Disabled

Irish Dogs for the Disabled will assist children living with physical disabilities to walk independently, enjoy a better quality of life, improve mental health and where possible to help them into education and later work, through the provision of specially trained Assistance Dogs. Dogs for the Disabled run a Stability Assistance Dog Programme, the only one of its kind in Europe.

Grant amount:

→ €70,000

“We are so delighted to hear that the wonderful RTÉ Toy Show Appeal is supporting the incredible work of Dogs for the Disabled so that lots more children like our Fionn can receive a life changing assistance dog just like Fionn did. Receiving Marc has been such a positive chapter in our family’s life. Getting a diagnosis of Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy leaves a family lost for words. Helping Fionn to walk is just one thing Marc has helped Fionn with, the sense of security, the special bond, unconditional love and cuddles and the messing they get up to as a pair brings us all so much joy and comfort”

Mom Maeve

Autism Support Louth & Meath

Project Starfish and will provide a club and space for autistic teenagers particularly those who have received a late diagnosis or are in mainstream school and finding it socially very difficult. There is a huge gap in services in this area where Autism Support Louth and Meath hope to fill. With RTÉ Toy Show Appeal funding, they will recruit a youth leader with specific experience to run this project.

Grant amount:

→ €37,200

Tacú Ballinrobe Family Resource Centre

This funding will support a pilot of an innovative and transformative rural community mental health programme for young people. The overarching goal is to develop a Social Prescribing Framework to address the mental Health of Youth People and to secure funding to roll it out Nationally. This programme uses that same model adapted for young people and is the first of its kind for Young People in Ireland.

Grant amount:

→ €40,000

Children in Hospital Ireland

This project will engage community volunteers to provide support to hospitalised children and their families in the most challenging circumstances. This will minimise the impact of separation and enhancing long term outcomes and emotional wellbeing through play-based respite. There is a huge need for 1:1 support where a parent or carer cannot be there themselves, so this role will be vital in ensure the wellbeing of children in hospital.

Grant amount:

→ €39,000

National College of Ireland

The Early Learning Initiative will provide children who have disabilities with support through a weekly play group specially tailored to their needs and weekly support sessions for parents with input from experts. These sessions will help parents to understand their child or children's disabilities and needs and build their confidence to advocate for top class interventions.

Grant amount:

→ €70,000

BUMBLEance

RTÉ Toy Show Appeal funding is enabling BUMBLEance to grow their fleet of ambulances and cater to more children around the country of Ireland who need their services. Each BUMBLEance is decorated in a child friendly manner, with games, streaming services and a PS5 on board. These keep the child, engaged, entertained and most importantly distracted. Children love coming on BUMBLEance so much that they completely forget what's in store for them once they get to hospital.

Grant amount:

→ €70,000

Family Carers Ireland

This project aims to work directly with 150 Young Carers to make a positive impact on their physical and mental wellbeing, educational achievement, and caring routine. The project will enhance the wellbeing of young carers across up to 18 different areas of their lives including their health, emotional wellbeing, financial situation, relationships, education, and caring role, and will support the young carer to develop a sustainable caring routine.

Grant amount:

→ €70,000

First Fortnight

First Fortnight's creative therapy services offers children and adolescents a safe place where they can be themselves and explore ways to support improved coping skills and self-esteem. Using a panel of creative therapists, First Fortnight offers creative therapies to children and young people aged 3-18 including art, music, drama and play therapy modalities. First Fortnight supports children who may be living in crises, uncertainty, often complex, traumatic situations, and constant flux.

Grant amount:

→ €70,000



Barretstown

Barretstown will introduce a Community Palliative Care Programme, which will give them a unique opportunity to provide their therapeutic programmes to children who are not able to attend their residential programme due to their diagnosis. The programme will create memories for children and their families through fun, engaging, age-appropriate activities.

Grant amount:

→ **€25,500**

Donegal Rape Crisis Centre

This charity deals with the trauma of sexual violence in North West Ireland. Now that Covid restrictions are easing, Donegal Rape Crisis Centre will bring creative arts therapies to outreach locations to enable more children and young people to engage. The RTÉ Toy Show Appeal funding will enable them to provide face to face groups, schools programmes and information sessions.

Grant amount:

→ **€70,000**

Jigsaw

Jigsaw Schools Hub is an interactive online platform that strives to provide teachers and school staff with easily accessible, high quality mental health resources and materials for use in the classroom. Students will learn the knowledge, attitudes and skills needed to enable them to protect and promote their own wellbeing and that of others. When used in the classroom, we can offer children and young people the skills to manage, and resilience to cope with, the mental health challenges they may encounter.

Grant amount:

→ **€70,000**

Meath Springboard Family Support Services

This project will provide a timely, affordable and accessible counselling support service to children with mild to moderate mental health issues, aimed specifically at children from under privileged backgrounds who would normally be unable to avail of counselling due to cost. This project seeks to harness local networks and build on the experience of providing affordable counselling and therapy to underprivileged children across the county for the 12 months.

Grant amount:

→ **€70,000**



Creativity And Play

Arts and creativity can be powerful, energetic tools that can help children solve problems, think strategically, relate to others, and manage life's ups and downs. Creativity and play are essential to supporting children's development of cognitive and social behaviours. This funding aims to enhance personal and emotional development, resilience and wellness for disadvantaged children through creative programmes and activities which help personal development and enhance inclusion.

Creativity And Play

Continued

Baboró International Arts Festival for Children

This festival will address the overwhelming demand for arts experiences for children and young people with additional needs – a forgotten audience. The RTÉ Toy Show Appeal funding will enable meaningful participation in the shared joy, wonder and the transformative power of the arts.

Grant amount:

→ €250,000

Spraio agus Spórt (Creativity and Play)

This funding will enable Spraoi agus Spórt to develop a purpose-built Child and Family Hub. Through it, they will deliver fun affordable and inclusive workshops, activities, and support services which focus on creativity and play. This will support the physical health and emotional well-being of children in Inishowen.

Grant amount:

→ €300,000

Common Ground

RTÉ Toy Show Appeal funding will support Common Ground and Core Youth Service to collaborate on a one-year visual arts programme with young people in Dublin 8, aged 10 to 24. It is an artistic and creative project, working with professional artists, creating printmaking, digital film skills and sound. This programme will help to tackle social exclusion and anti-social behaviours.

Grant amount:

→ €15,000

County Sligo Youth Theatre

This funding supported summer camps from June-July 2022. The creative summer camps explored costume design technical theatre, movement, improvisation and storytelling. The summer camps included an exciting program and mentoring by industry experts.

Grant amount:

→ €8,000

Liquid Therapy

This funding will grow Liquid Therapy's Play, Water and Surf based programs. An additional 121 people will be impacted by the physical, mental, social and educational benefits that can be experienced in the water. Many of those involved in Liquid Therapy's target demographic is young people with additional needs.

Grant amount:

→ €15,000

Beara West Family Resource Centre

In collaboration with Youth Theatre in Castletownbere, the aim of this project is to develop a youth theatre group for children aged 10-12. The Youth Theatre provides a safe space for young people not just to talk about issues that affect them, but to analyse them, perform them and, maybe, devise solutions for both personal and community concerns.

Grant amount:

→ €18,700

“My daughter has made friends for life through youth theatre, her confidence and social skills have improved immensely and this is all thanks to Shirley and Maria for their encouragement and support in a fun and creative environment. Youth Theatre has been the best thing to come into my daughter’s life.”

A parent



Musical Youth Foundation

Guitars for Kids is a proven group-based activity that provides disadvantaged children with access to life-changing music education. Guitars for Kids gives disadvantaged children access to free music lessons and instruments. Aside from being a very satisfying hobby that can last a lifetime, the children learn skills such as concentration, hand-eye coordination, relaxation, patience, resilience and self-confidence.

Grant amount:

→ €7,500

“Without the guitar classes, I could go all week and no one says boo to me unless they’re picking on me. At guitar everyone just gets along, there’s no trouble. The teacher is sound and even at home now they’re calling me Elvis, but like in a nice way.”

Clonakilty Friends of Asylum Seekers (CFOAS)

This funding will support CFOAS to upgrade the equipment in their homework club space, upgrade the play space for their parent and toddler groups, and develop the outdoor play area for the children staying at Clonakilty Loge Direct Provision Centre. This funding will ensure that children in Direct Provision have the space and opportunity to have fun, make friends and improve their education.

Grant amount:

→ €9,250

Mountview Family Resource Centre

Mountview FRC will increase access to affordable play therapy services by contracting additional therapists. The most vulnerable in the local community will be able to easily access therapy that will help build resilience, improve mental health, and allow for personal development.

Grant amount:

→ €15,000

Clara Community and Family Resource Centre

This project will provide wellbeing and educational activities and programmes for disadvantaged children and families. The funding will support children, aged 5-13, who may face challenging experiences, develop resilience, confidence and self-esteem. The funding will also create a family learning program, 3-day family workshop, focusing on reading comprehension, reading fluency, writing and oral language.

Grant amount:

→ €5,000

WHAD (We Have A Dream) project

The WHAD project was founded 35 years ago to help reduce the reoffending rate of young people in the Ballyfermot/Cherry Orchard area. With this funding, WHAD will increase the number of fun, outdoor sessions so that they can provide as many opportunities as possible for young people to express themselves and explore new environments.

Grant amount:

→ €11,000

Anne Sullivan Foundation

For children who are deafblind they may only have a limited number of books available to them that they can access with their reduced hearing and vision. The aim of the project is to create interactive books that will increase personal development, communication and learning for a child who is deafblind. This project will create adapted books for children with dual sensory impairments through voluntary groups across the country and distribute them locally.

Grant amount:

→ €20,000

Parents First

This funding will support a Parents First project worker to devise a home-based play programme targeting vulnerable parents with children 0-3 years who are suffering disadvantage. The project worker will work in the family home with families to explore well-being, identity, belonging, communication, exploring and thinking.

Grant amount:

→ €20,000

Athlone Family Resource Centre

This project will develop Children's Creative Hubs for children aged 5-12yrs across disadvantaged communities in Athlone. Children accessing the Hubs will be mentored by a volunteer led group of artists, musicians, storytellers, mindfulness instructors each week to engage in high quality arts, cultural and play experiences. The workshops will build self-confidence and improve opportunities for disadvantaged young people.

Grant amount:

→ €20,000

Foróige Connect

This funding will support additional young people to access the 'Lead Up' Programme. Lead-Up International's goal is to reduce violence by creating peaceful leaders through workshops with horses. The programme teaches vulnerable young people about the power of non-violence, trust-based relationships and peaceful leadership, while providing the opportunity to grow in confidence, self-esteem, leadership, develop their empathy and improve emotional regulation.

Grant amount:

→ €5,000

Trim Family Resource Centre

This funding will provide spaces for children and young people in rural Trim to come together to participate in a range of creative and transformative initiatives. These activities will include mindfulness, arts and crafts, and relationship building for both children and young people.

Grant amount:

→ €16,000

Taghmon Family Resource Centre

With this funding Taghmon Family Resource Centre will provide Play Therapy sessions for 15 children from 5-12 years who are experiencing difficulties in their lives. Vulnerable children from a disadvantaged area would have a safe space to address emotional and wellbeing issues that are impacting their lives, and they would gain a toolkit for coping with issues that arise going forward.

Grant amount:

→ €10,000

Twilight Community Group

This project is to develop a sensory room and deliver skills to identify, manage and suppress anxiety to young people from disadvantaged and minority circumstances. The project will be delivered in four Modules: Creative Play, Exercise and Healthy Eating Initiative; Resilience and Personal Development; and Sensory.

Grant amount:

→ €17,000

Dóchas Midwest Autism Support

The Funding received will support the development of play, movement and dance activities for children with autism. By responding to dance and music, children with autism will be engaged, have reduced anxiety, improve their communication and interaction skills and learn new movement skills while having fun.

Grant amount:

→ €8,360

Creativity And Play

Continued

West Sligo Family Resource Centre

West Sligo Family Resource Centre has identified the need to provide personal development, resilience and wellness programmes and activities for disadvantaged children and young people. RTÉ Toy Show Appeal funding means they can appoint a child and youth development worker to deliver new programmes and activities for children, young people and families in the area. The children and families they work with are from disadvantaged and underserved rural communities in West Sligo where transport and access to services remain a great difficulty.

Grant amount:

→ €20,000

C.A.P.S. Cavan Autism Parents Support

This project aims to enhance personal and emotional development, resilience, and wellness for children with autism through creative Social Clubs. The goal for the project is to support children's development of cognitive and social behaviours through art, play therapies, sports and recreation. This will in turn alleviate high stress levels, anxiety and will increase their self-belief, self-esteem and quality of life.

Grant amount:

→ €15,000

GYDP SUB Project

This funding will create a mosaic art mural that represents Birr town and its heritage through the eyes of its young people. The project will engage a large group of young people from the local area to create an appealing space for young people and the wider community. Young people will feel part of their community, have a sense of pride in their local area, and will feel connected and respected in contributing to their community.

Grant amount:

→ €7,200

Castlerea Community and Family Resource Centre

Funding will provide play therapy to children and adolescents in the area. Play is a child's natural form of communication and so through play therapy, children have an opportunity to 'play out' their feelings, thoughts, experiences and troubles in a safe and supportive environment. In doing this, children learn to better understand their feelings, develop new ways of thinking and behaving, and learn to cope better with what's going on in their world.

Grant amount:

→ €20,000



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RTÉ Toy Show Appeal
Changing Children's Lives for Good

Croom Family Resource Centre

The funding will develop a sensory space and gazebo for a sensory garden area at Croom FRC. This space will most benefit marginalised/vulnerable children and will increase self-belief and empowerment of children from disadvantaged or minority backgrounds through access to art, play and recreation.

Grant amount:

→ €8,394

Cranmore Community Co-operative Society

This funding will support the organisation to relaunch Youth City with a facilitated programme which is developmental, builds resilience, promotes wellness and is a safe social outlet to return to. The programme will provide 4-6 week blocks of sessions including art classes to encourage creativity and build confidence followed by a trip to local art gallery.

Grant amount:

→ €8,410

Love and Care for People

RTÉ Toy Show Appeal funding will provide new equipment for a sensory room for the YouthClub. They will have access to a multisensory recreation room for the first time. This project is aimed at young people with fewer opportunities including those with financial obstacles, and those at high risk of mental health illness: refugees, asylum seekers, and newly arrived migrants. The project will aim to promote positive mental health, relaxation, and well-being using youth-led creativity and non-formal educational and recreational activities in a safe, appropriate room.

Grant amount:

→ €8,800

Blue Box Creative Learning centre

Blue Box will support young people's mental health through using play and creative arts to give each child their unique voice. They will deliver trauma informed professional mental health services through creative arts therapies. During play, children build up strong internal mental models with the support of the therapist, that can be used for problem solving in later life.

Grant amount:

→ €20,000

Inishbofin Development Company

The island Youth Programme will provide workshops and events for children and young people on Inishbofin. The programme will support children and young people to help with their mental wellbeing, healthy habits, self-acceptance, self-expression, life skills and social connections. RTÉ Toy Show Appeal funding will also support the youth cafe at the Community Centre.

Grant amount:

→ €10,000

Wicklow Triple A Alliance

This funded project will help repair the mental health of their young members who have siblings with complex additional needs. For children, they will run tween/teen counselling groups consisting of a mix of play therapy and self-esteem building events and facilitated sessions by a psychotherapist. They will also run some sibling workshops to help siblings of the person with additional needs to cope with the strain of having a sibling who needs a lot of support.

Grant amount:

→ €5,000

Ballyfermot Travellers Action Project

This funding enables the Traveller Action Project to create a safe playing area for Traveller children in Labre Park, which has 42 families. They will also create a community garden – green space and soft ground area with floor games and raised vegetable and herb plots that the children and families would be able to maintain themselves. It would be a place where children could come and play and explore safely, along with parents being able to have a positive interaction with their children in a fun and creative space.

Grant amount:

→ €18,000

Athy Community Family Resource Centre

RTÉ Toy Show Appeal funding will enable the expansion of the Play Therapy therapeutic service from 1 day, to 2 days per week. This service will improve the wellbeing of the children that avail of it, improve their mental health, combat social isolation by bringing the child and their family members into the FRC and increase resilience at a local community level.

Grant amount:

→ €25,000

Karablu

With the grant funding, Karablu will offer therapeutic support, using creativity and play, to children who have experienced trauma in their lives. The play therapy process will allow engaged children to process their trauma and develop personal, social & emotional skills. The children will benefit from increased personal development, enhanced relationships, improved communication and improved emotional wellness.

Grant amount:

→ €65,750

Ballinasloe Social Services

This funding will enhance the outdoor play area and it will encourage playing and interacting with the outdoor environment. The pandemic has increased anxieties among marginalized groups around general interactions, so work is needed to reverse these concerns and anxieties. Engaging in outdoor play in a safe, non-threatening environment will improve the children's eating, sleeping, turn-taking, risk-taking and mental well-being.

Grant amount:

→ €30,324

Millennium Family Resource Centre

The Family Resource Centre will expand their play therapy service and provide additional creative mindfulness programmes for children to build their confidence and resilience. Through these interventions children also learn to value play as an important creativity tool to express themselves and their emotions.

Grant amount:

→ €25,000

Kids' Own Publishing Partnership

RTÉ Toy Show Appeal funding will support young children and their parents from the Traveller community to engage in a long-term play-based arts intervention that build confidence and resilience and combats the inequalities that hinder children's learning and development. This project will open up a space for parents in the Traveller community and their very young children to have a unique experience of the arts, through engagement with professional artist.

Grant amount:

→ €74,350

Foscadh Housing Association

In 2019, Foscadh Housing launched the Loving Life Choir, which was the community's first ever children's choir. RTÉ Toy Show Appeal funding will support them to firmly establish the Loving Life Choir as a pathway to give children the confidence, skills and inspiration to achieve their future goals. Through a structured approach, support and encouragement, and the feel-good nature of music, the Loving Life Choir helps youth members learn to trust their own abilities, work together for a common goal and develop a positive mindset to help manage life's challenges.

Grant amount:

→ €27,326

Belvedere Youth Club

This funding will support an ambitious programme of arts and drama work through employing a dedicated drama youth worker. The youth worker will train our current team and support them in designing a programme of work to support marginalised groups in our community. The programme will include a showcase event to take place in May 2023, allowing the youth work team to show off their skills to an audience.

Grant amount:

→ €70,000



Irish Wheelchair Association

The project is a disability awareness learning programme for primary school children. Learning is conducted through three creative strands: drama, arts & crafts and music. Loneliness and social isolation have negative consequences on the physical and mental health of children with disabilities. This project will create awareness, empathy and tackle unconscious bias that impacts the understanding of young children towards people with disabilities. It will encourage positive, inclusive attitudes and behaviours.

Grant amount:

→ €65,000

Cancer Care West

Children Unite in Bereavement Support is an eight-week online bereavement support group developed for children aged between 7-12 years, whose parent has died from cancer within the last 3-18 months. Across the eight weekly, one-hour sessions, through play and art activities, children learn about grief, their own grief feelings and how to cope with them. They get to explore changes in their family over the cancer journey and have space to learn about memories. Most importantly, children can connect with other children who have lost a parent to cancer.

Grant amount:

→ €67,400

“This literally helps you talk, because all the people around you know what you’re going through.”

A child taking part in the Cancer Care West programme

The Ark

Right Here Right Now will be Ireland's first ever child co-created arts festival. The Ark will create a festival for, by and about children and all are free to attend. Innovative and fun. Working with local inner-city DEIS schools, children living in emergency accommodation and Direct Provision and children with additional needs, The Ark will create a programme that caters to all children and supports their personal, academic and social development.

Grant amount:

→ €75,000

Meath Womens Refuge and Support Services

The project's primary focus is to create a welcoming and safe space for children coming into refuge so that they have the opportunity to engage with creative and cultural activities that enhance their personal development. RTÉ Toy Show Appeal funding will support a resource worker to work with the children in the services. This project will use the medium of creative play using the arts and other media to create a safe space from the crisis that children who come to refuge may have experienced.

Grant amount:

→ €43,000

The Rainbow Club Cork

The Creative Mindfulness Programme will support children with autism to overcome the emotional challenges they experience that prevent them from participating and thriving at school, socially and at home. These programs combine mindfulness practices with Art Therapy. They were specifically designed to support the needs of children and teenagers with autism.

Grant amount:

→ €30,000

West Clare Family Resource Centre

This project will work with more than 60 Ukrainian refugee children and young people who have arrived in West Clare in recent months. The funding will address the trauma experienced by Ukrainian refugee children and young people in the West Clare area, through the mediums of play therapy and art therapy

Grant amount:

→ €70,000

Graffiti Theatre Company

We Create the World will be a children's theatre festival celebrating voices from DEIS schools in Cork. The children will work with professional theatre artists to grow the children's own stories from seeds to stage, and Graffiti Theatre Company will offer 10 Youth Theatre scholarships to those who cannot afford the programmes otherwise.

Grant amount:

→ €70,000

Fatima Groups United

RTÉ Toy Show Appeal funding will increase play and art therapy provision to children in Dublin 8. Fatima Groups will provide music therapies and creative group programmes for children with additional needs. They will also deliver parent-child workshops using thera-play, baby massage and other programmes. These programmes together, will build a wider community resilience and ensure local residents can actively engage and feel part of their community

Grant amount:

→ €70,000

Sing Ireland

Sing Ireland use the transformative power of group singing to build self-esteem and social connection amongst disadvantaged children. Over the next 12 months, Sing Ireland will develop programmes with 10 newly added DEIS schools in 10 locations around Ireland, in primary school classes from 4th class to 6th class, engaging many participants in group singing for the first time.

Grant amount:

→ €69,500

“All the thoughts in my head, they just go away, and it just makes me really, really happy when I’m singing with my friends.”

YouthSing participant, Emma (4th Class)

Doras

Doras will help children from refugee backgrounds in Limerick city and its environs to process their traumatising experiences and realise their potential through a range of creative arts therapies and music/arts-based activities. These will assist in the treatment of emotional and mental health conditions and will enable traumatised children to participate fully in education, family life, and their community.

Grant amount:

→ €55,101

Children’s Books Ireland

RTÉ Toy Show Appeal funding will gift ‘Free To Be Me Little Libraries’ to schools around Ireland that will reflect the stories of Ukrainian children. The books will be welcoming for Ukrainian children as they join new schools and will reflect a diverse and inclusive Ireland.

Grant amount:

→ €70,000

Early Childhood Ireland

Early Childhood Ireland and Mother Tongues will collaborate to develop a bespoke storytelling toolkit that can encourage multilingualism in early learning and development. This funding will develop, implement and evaluate a pilot programme in pre-school settings that enables language and literacy development, strengthens parental partnership and supports social inclusion for marginalised toddlers and their mothers.

Grant amount:

→ €70,000

Coolmine Therapeutic Community

This funding will develop our outdoor Sensory Forest Garden, that promotes children’s capacity to be resilient, creative, and imaginative, as they play safely in an outdoor environment. This will support their play and interactions, especially with their parents and support their development. The children will benefit both through formal, planned interventions and through non-planned, sporadic play opportunities.

Grant amount:

→ €30,218



Grant Funding For Northern Ireland

As in 2021, over €660,000 was issued to Community Foundation Northern Ireland, who conducted an equivalent grant application and assessment programme, for projects based in Northern Ireland.

Grant Funding For Northern Ireland

Continued

South Lough Neagh Regeneration Association

This funding is for the Loughshore Children's Get Up and Discover Programme. The goal of the project is to provide children aged 1-11, especially those that are experiencing difficulties with their mental health and wellbeing, with access to support through a range of interventions in a non-clinical school and community setting. The Programme will also provide therapeutic counselling support to children and families according to their needs.

Grant amount:

→ **£20,000.00**

ADDNI Limited

ADDNI Limited will deliver two intervention programmes for young people with ADHD: the Young Peoples Programme and Post Intervention Service. These projects will enable children and young people to take charge of their ADHD and to manage it ensuring each young person can achieve their full potential in every aspect of their lives. ADDNI will also offer monthly sessions for young people that focus on reducing social isolation, improving mental health and well-being, promoting a greater sense of self-worth and feelings of community involvement.

Grant amount:

→ **£20,000.00**

Home-Start Causeway

Home-Start Causeway will establish an Outreach Service offering a range of services for families with young children in local communities throughout the Causeway Coast and Glens area. This would give young families new ways to interact, bond, learn and play together. Through the creation of a safe space in the local community, families can come together, share experiences and activities with their child and create lasting social networks with other young families.

Grant amount:

→ **£17,820.80**

Drumaness Cross Community Playgroup

The Inclusive Play Project will create an outside sensory garden in the playgroup's outdoor area which will benefit children attending the playgroup and also children attending the local Primary School. The project will provide opportunities for all children, including those with behavioural or psychological difficulties to engage in programmes in Art, Theatre, Music and Dance to contribute towards their physical well-being, confidence and self-esteem.

Grant amount:

→ **£17,308.00**

Clonmore Youth Club

The Clonmore Youth Club Good Vibes 2.0 Programme aims to tackle isolation and mental health in their small rural area by providing two additional evenings of work each week, focusing on their junior members who COVID has hit the hardest. They also aim to support monthly Mindfulness sessions for all members and increase their ability to provide their services through two new part-time workers. Senior members will be trained as Young Volunteer Leaders each week to support their growth and provide positive role models for younger members to talk to when they feel upset or worried.

Grant amount:

→ **£18,677.60**

Northern Ireland Newpin

Funding will support the continuation of the "I am me" project, which has the overarching goal of holistically meeting the emotional, mental and physical health of vulnerable children and adolescents in the Derry and Strabane District Council area. This project will consist of six different programmes all designed specifically to address the needs, disadvantage and "hidden harm" that children are facing as a direct result of the covid-19 pandemic and improve their overall well-being.

Grant amount:

→ **£20,000.00**

Tiny Tots Community Playgroup

Tiny Tots Community Playgroup proposes to further enhance the development of children in the Early Years sector within their local community by offering them a place in a well-established pre-school setting. They will provide them with personal, social and emotional development programmes through creativity and play in the form of art, dance, exercise, music therapy, new equipment resources and promotion of outdoor play and gardening.

Grant amount:

→ **£19,798.68**

Home-Start Banbridge

Home-Start Banbridge will deliver two programmes: Best Beginnings Project and Family Group. Best Beginnings is aimed at families with babies aged 0 to 12 months. Young children develop in the context of relationships and the attachment relationship between baby and care giver is central to healthy development, bonding and brain development. Family Group which supports children aged 0 to 4, operates one morning per week during school term time.

Grant amount:

→ **£19,975.32**



Grant Funding For Northern Ireland

Continued

Brain Injury Matters (NI)

The Family First project will enable the family to reconnect, build parental capacity and develop strategies to manage complex issues, help the child with acquired brain injury benefit from educational and other opportunities, ensure a more stable family life and improve overall quality of life for the impacted child. Family First delivers evidence-based, family focused interventions to children with acquired brain injury (ABI) and their families through home-based support, family workshops, online services and advocacy and consultation with statutory services.

Grant amount:

→ **£48,011.00**

Kids Together Belfast

Funding will support the design and purchase of a Sensory Integration Gym for Global Input (SIGGI). The multi-modal use of the sensory equipment and rooms will benefit all service users and will facilitate therapeutic interventions, for the enjoyment of their time at KTB, regardless of age. A sensory room provides physical and mental stimulus for children with physical disabilities, developmental delays and sensory impairments.

Grant amount:

→ **£51,213.71**

Nexus NI

The "Believe and Beyond" project" supports young victims of sexual trauma to rebuild their lives, feel safe and supported and enable them to plan for the future. Working counsellors, young people will be supported to understand trauma and the effect it can have on them and work to develop healthy coping mechanisms to control it in their day to day lives. Their family support element helps families work through what has happened to their loved one and will facilitate them to develop skills and strategies to effectively communicate with and support the young person long after the lifetime of this project.

Grant amount:

→ **£75,000.00**

Royal Mencap Society (Mencap)

The FIVE project (Friendship, Independence, Vitality and Engagement) has an overarching goal to improve the wellbeing of young people with learning disabilities and additional needs living in two areas of Northern Ireland (Greater Belfast and Fermanagh and Tyrone). The project will provide young people aged 10-18 with opportunities to improve their physical and mental health and to develop skills to support their wellbeing in the longer term.

Grant amount:

→ **£74,260.00**

Circusful

The Social Circus Programme, Social Circus Skill Up will bring the wonder and colour of circus to children and young people who have so far not been able to access a circus or have only had a taste of the difference that circus can make. They will support the mental and physical health of the children and young people they work with as well as providing access to the arts and bringing out their own creativity.

Grant amount:

→ **£61,222.96**

Kinship Care Northern Ireland

The Helping Hand Project aims to address the immediate needs of children and young people and promote family stability and the financial, emotional and social well-being of children, young people and their carers. Support is administered through a Small Grants Programme and provides support towards the cost of food, electricity, heating, beds and bedding, school uniforms, clothing and footwear, educational toys and equipment and essential appliances.

Grant amount:

→ **£75,000.00**

Financial Statements

	Euros
Opening Balance from 2020 RTÉ Toy Show	€22,287.49
Donations Received	
Donations received	€6,826,477.80
Total Donations	€6,826,477.80
Grant Payments	
ROI Community Round	
Addressing Essential Needs	(€227,797.00)
Improving Wellbeing	(€313,173.50)
Creativity and Play	(€361,613.92)
Total - ROI Community Round	(€902,584.42)
ROI Impact Round	
Addressing Essential Needs	(€1,220,565.20)
Improving Wellbeing	(€1,615,380.00)
Creativity and Play	(€1,102,969.00)
Total - ROI Impact Round	(€3,938,914.20)
ROI Transformative Round	
Addressing Essential Needs	(€300,000.00)
Improving Wellbeing	(€300,000.00)
Creativity and Play	(€550,000.00)
Total - ROI Transformative Round	(€1,150,000.00)
NI Grants Awarded	
Community Round	(€179,555.47)
Impact Round	(€458,061.92)
Other	-
Total - NI Grants Awarded	(€637,617.39)
Total Grant Payments	(€6,629,116.01)
Processing Fees	
Grant-making programme and administration costs (ROI & NI)	(€151,438.92)
Fees for online transactions	(€30,442.54)
Total Processing Fees	(€181,881.46)
Closing Fund Balance @ 30th September 2022	€37,767.82

This statement was prepared by The Community Foundation for Ireland (Charities Regulator Number: 20044886). We are committed to attaining the highest standards of corporate governance and our Annual Report and audited accounts are available at www.communityfoundation.ie and presented in accordance with SORP standards.



Financial Statements

Continued

RTÉ Toy Show Appeal - Community Round

Strand	Grant Applicant	Amount Awarded
Addressing Essential Needs	SAOL Beag	€10,750.00
Addressing Essential Needs	The RISE Foundation Limited	€20,000.00
Addressing Essential Needs	The Down Syndrome Centre North East	€16,532.00
Addressing Essential Needs	Raphoe FRC	€6,520.00
Addressing Essential Needs	Midlands Science	€16,500.00
Addressing Essential Needs	Clare Crusaders Children's Clinic	€15,000.00
Addressing Essential Needs	Longford Learning Support	€5,000.00
Addressing Essential Needs	The Down Syndrome Centre Cork	€8,000.00
Addressing Essential Needs	Kinsale Youth Community Cafe	€10,000.00
Addressing Essential Needs	CLAREMORRIS FAMILY RESOURCE CENTRE	€5,000.00
Addressing Essential Needs	Tús Nua Artane Coolock Family Resource Centre clg	€10,000.00
Addressing Essential Needs	Teen-Turn	€18,000.00
Addressing Essential Needs	Áiro midlands supporting children with disabilities	€10,000.00
Addressing Essential Needs	Castlemaine Family Resource Centre	€20,000.00
Addressing Essential Needs	Pastoral Centre Services CLG	€18,000.00
Addressing Essential Needs	Deaf Village Ireland Ltd	€9,000.00
Addressing Essential Needs	The Hygiene Bank Ireland	€13,495.00
Addressing Essential Needs	Silver Arch FRC Community Mothers Program	€16,000.00
Improving Wellbeing	Carlow and South Leinster Rape Crisis Centre	€5,000.00
Improving Wellbeing	Westport Family & Community Resource Centre	€6,560.00
Improving Wellbeing	Crooked House Theatre company	€19,960.00
Improving Wellbeing	Killinarden Family Resource Centre	€17,500.00
Improving Wellbeing	Cuan Cancer Social Support Company Limited by Guarantee	€15,000.00
Improving Wellbeing	Cois Nore Cancer Support Centre	€12,400.00
Improving Wellbeing	Dundalk Counselling Centre CLG	€16,200.00
Improving Wellbeing	Cobh Youth Services Ltd	€5,090.00
Improving Wellbeing	Cian's Kennels CLG	€20,000.00
Improving Wellbeing	Shannon's Hopeline	€15,000.00
Improving Wellbeing	Oscar's Kids Ireland	€20,000.00
Improving Wellbeing	The Butterfly Club	€18,590.00
Improving Wellbeing	Rosemount community development group	€17,700.00
Improving Wellbeing	CanTeen Ireland	€10,000.00
Improving Wellbeing	ADHD Ireland	€20,000.00
Improving Wellbeing	Venture Out Wilderness Project CLG	€17,000.00
Improving Wellbeing	Hand in Hand	€16,513.50
Improving Wellbeing	YANA, North Cork Domestic Violence Project	€9,000.00
Improving Wellbeing	Offaly Down Syndrome Association	€18,000.00
Improving Wellbeing	Ability Equine Assisted Therapy CLG	€8,600.00
Improving Wellbeing	AdVIC advocates for victims of homicide	€20,000.00
Improving Wellbeing	Cottage Autism Network Wexford CLG	€5,060.00
Creativity and Play	Common Ground CLG	€15,000.00
Creativity and Play	COUNTY SLIGO YOUTH THEATRE	€8,000.00
Creativity and Play	Liquid Therapy	€15,000.00
Creativity and Play	Beara West Family Resource Centre	€18,700.00
Creativity and Play	Musical Youth Foundation	€7,500.00
Creativity and Play	Clonakilty Friends of Asylum Seekers (CFOAS)	€9,249.92

Strand	Grant Applicant	Amount Awarded
Creativity and Play	Mountview Family Resource Center	€15,000.00
Creativity and Play	Clara Community and Family Resource Centre CLG	€5,000.00
Creativity and Play	WHAD (We Have A Dream) project	€11,000.00
Creativity and Play	Anne Sullivan Foundation	€20,000.00
Creativity and Play	Parents First (Laois, Offaly) CLG	€20,000.00
Creativity and Play	Athlone Family Resource Centre	€20,000.00
Creativity and Play	Foróige Connect	€5,000.00
Creativity and Play	Trim Family Resource Centre CLG	€16,000.00
Creativity and Play	Taghmon Family Resource Centre	€10,000.00
Creativity and Play	Twilight Community Group CLG	€17,000.00
Creativity and Play	Dóchas Midwest Autism Support	€8,360.00
Creativity and Play	West Sligo Family Resource Centre	€20,000.00
Creativity and Play	C.A.P.S. Cavan Autism Parents Support clg	€15,000.00
Creativity and Play	Foróige GYDP SUB Project	€7,200.00
Creativity and Play	Castlerea Community & Family Resource Centre	€20,000.00
Creativity and Play	Croom Family Resource Centre CLG	€8,394.00
Creativity and Play	Cranmore Community Co-operative Society Ltd	€8,410.00
Creativity and Play	Love and Care for People	€8,800.00
Creativity and Play	Blue Box Creative Learning centre	€20,000.00
Creativity and Play	Inishbofin Development Company CLG	€10,000.00
Creativity and Play	Ballyfermot Travellers Action Project	€18,000.00
Creativity and Play	Wicklow Triple A Alliance	€5,000.00

RTÉ Toy Show - Impact Round

Strand	Grant Applicant	Amount Awarded
Addressing Essential Needs	Sophia Housing Association	€70,000.00
Addressing Essential Needs	COPE Galway	€47,000.00
Addressing Essential Needs	Involve CLG	€48,548.00
Addressing Essential Needs	The Jack & Jill Children's Foundation	€55,000.00
Addressing Essential Needs	Navan Travellers Workshops CLG (Meath Travellers Workshops)	€65,285.00
Addressing Essential Needs	Hill Street Family Resource Centre	€70,000.00
Addressing Essential Needs	Donegal Domestic Violence Services CLG	€52,800.00
Addressing Essential Needs	City of Dublin YMCA	€67,500.00
Addressing Essential Needs	Depaul	€52,870.52
Addressing Essential Needs	Quarryvale Community Resource Centre clg operating as Quarryvale FRC	€44,936.68
Addressing Essential Needs	Tipperary Rural Traveller Project	€60,000.00
Addressing Essential Needs	Youth Work Ireland Galway - Loughrea (YWIG Loughrea)	€65,000.00
Addressing Essential Needs	Crosscare	€65,000.00
Addressing Essential Needs	Nasc, the Migrant and Refugee Rights Centre	€70,000.00
Addressing Essential Needs	Bedford Row Family Project	€28,824.00
Addressing Essential Needs	Peter McVerry Trust	€75,000.00
Addressing Essential Needs	Sensational Kids CLG	€55,532.00
Addressing Essential Needs	Clare Haven Services	€36,000.00
Addressing Essential Needs	The Society of St Vincent de Paul	€74,577.00
Addressing Essential Needs	Citywise Education	€70,000.00
Addressing Essential Needs	Raheen Community Development Group CLG	€46,692.00
Improving Wellbeing	Barnardos	€75,000.00

Financial Statements

Continued

Strand	Grant Applicant	Amount Awarded
Improving Wellbeing	ARC Cancer Support Centres (ARC)	€70,000.00
Improving Wellbeing	Cancer Support Sanctuary LARCC	€43,680.00
Improving Wellbeing	North Tipperary Hospice Movement CLG	€40,000.00
Improving Wellbeing	Limerick Youth Service	€65,000.00
Improving Wellbeing	Respond	€70,000.00
Improving Wellbeing	Ronald McDonald House Charities	€40,000.00
Improving Wellbeing	Rainbows Ireland	€70,000.00
Improving Wellbeing	The Irish Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children	€75,000.00
Improving Wellbeing	Childhood Development Initiative	€70,000.00
Improving Wellbeing	LauraLynn, Ireland's Children's Hospice	€50,000.00
Improving Wellbeing	Aware	€70,000.00
Improving Wellbeing	Mohill Family Support Centre CLG	€30,000.00
Improving Wellbeing	Enable Ireland Disability Services	€75,000.00
Improving Wellbeing	Autism Assistance Dogs Ireland	€70,000.00
Improving Wellbeing	Irish Dogs for the Disabled	€70,000.00
Improving Wellbeing	Autism Support Louth&Meath	€37,200.00
Improving Wellbeing	Tacú Ballinrobe Family Resource Centre CLG	€40,000.00
Improving Wellbeing	Children in Hospital Ireland	€39,000.00
Improving Wellbeing	Early Learning Initiative, NCI	€70,000.00
Improving Wellbeing	BUMBLEance	€70,000.00
Improving Wellbeing	Family Carers Ireland	€70,000.00
Improving Wellbeing	First Fortnight	€70,000.00
Improving Wellbeing	Barretstown	€25,500.00
Improving Wellbeing	Donegal Rape Crisis Centre	€70,000.00
Improving Wellbeing	Jigsaw, the National Centre for Youth Mental Health	€70,000.00
Improving Wellbeing	Meath Springboard Family Support Services	€70,000.00
Creativity and Play	Athy Community Family Resource Centre	€25,000.00
Creativity and Play	Karablu CLG, T/A BEST (Ballymun Educational Support Team) SCP	€65,750.00
Creativity and Play	Ballinasloe Social Services Ltd (BSS)	€30,324.00
Creativity and Play	Millennium Family Resource Centre	€25,000.00
Creativity and Play	Foscadh Housing Association	€27,326.00
Creativity and Play	Kids' Own Publishing Partnership CLG.	€74,350.00
Creativity and Play	Belvedere Youth Club CLG.	€70,000.00
Creativity and Play	Irish Wheelchair Association	€65,000.00
Creativity and Play	Cancer Care West	€67,400.00
Creativity and Play	The Ark	€75,000.00
Creativity and Play	Meath Womens Refuge and Support Services	€43,000.00
Creativity and Play	The Rainbow Club Cork	€30,000.00
Creativity and Play	West Clare Family Resource Centre	€70,000.00
Creativity and Play	Graffiti Theatre Company	€70,000.00
Creativity and Play	Fatima Groups United	€70,000.00
Creativity and Play	Cumann Naisiunta na gCor t/a Sing Ireland	€69,500.00
Creativity and Play	Early Childhood Ireland	€70,000.00
Creativity and Play	Doras	€55,101.00
Creativity and Play	Coolmine Therapeutic Community	€30,218.00
Creativity and Play	Children's Books Ireland	€70,000.00

RTÉ Toy Show Appeal - Transformative Grants

Strand	Grant Applicant	Amount Awarded
Addressing Essential Needs	Exchange House Ireland	€ 300,000.00
Improving Wellbeing	Parents Plus Charity	€ 300,000.00
Creativity and Play	Baboró International Arts Festival for Children	€ 250,000.00
Creativity and Play	Spraoi agus Spórt	€ 300,000.00

RTÉ Toy Show Appeal – Northern Ireland Round

Round	Grant Applicant	Amount Awarded
Community Round	ADDNI Limited	£20,000.00
Community Round	Clonmore Youth Club	£18,678.00
Community Round	Drumaness Cross Community Playgroup	£17,308.00
Community Round	Home-Start Banbridge	£19,975.00
Community Round	Home-Start Causeway	£17,821.00
Community Round	Northern Ireland Newpin	£20,000.00
Community Round	South Lough Neagh Regeneration Association	£20,000.00
Community Round	Tiny Tots Community Playgroup	£14,999.00
Impact Round	Brain Injury Matters (NI)	£48,011.00
Impact Round	Circusful (formerly Belfast Community Circus School)	£60,423.00
Impact Round	Kids Together Belfast	£51,214.00
Impact Round	Kinship Care Northern Ireland	£75,000.00
Impact Round	Nexus NI	£71,700.16
Impact Round	Royal Mencap Society (Mencap)	£74,260.00

**To our audiences who tune
in from home and abroad
to watch, to share, to give –
Thank You.**

RTÉ

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RTÉ
**TOY
& SHOW
APPEAL**

R2148 PAC33
Item 15



**Changing Children's
Lives for Good.**



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Inspired by children, we work to bring the magic of *The Late Late Toy Show* to every child in Ireland. By funding essential support, health, well-being, play and creativity, we aim to change children's lives for good.

The RTÉ Toy Show Appeal raises funds to be shared with charities across the island who work with children from infancy to teenagers in the following ways:



Ensuring basic needs

Providing holistic and practical supports for children such as food, shelter and warmth who are at risk;

Enhanced educational support where needed.



Improving health and wellbeing

Promoting mental health and resilience;

Increasing quality of life for children with disabilities and serious health conditions.



Reducing inequality through play, creativity and personal development

Supporting creative activities which enhance personal and emotional development, resilience and wellness;

Increasing access to play and recreation experiences for disadvantaged or vulnerable children and young people.

***The Late Late Toy Show*
on 27 November 2020 was
the most watched television
programme in Ireland ever.**



1.7 million people

watched the programme across the weekend



The programme was watched by viewers in

138 countries

**This show launched the RTÉ Toy Show Appeal
to help children's charities across the island.**



Audiences donated a total of

€6,839,045

to the appeal.

**It is estimated that over 600,000 children and family
members are benefitting from 55 projects across Ireland
during 2021 and into the future, thanks to the funds raised
by the appeal.**



2020 was a year that kept us apart, but there can be no doubt that on 27 November, the country came together for a shared experience. *The Late Late Toy Show* was watched by over 1.7 million viewers, and it was watched by viewers in 138 countries on RTÉ Player.

The Late Late Show is exceptional by any national broadcasting standards, both in terms of its longevity, its uniquely Irish focus, and that it is a programme that offers us moments of escapism, joy and challenging conversations. *The Late Late Toy Show* is also a national treasure; an evening where all generations unite, and the country celebrates some incredible and inspirational children.

RTÉ, as Ireland's national public service broadcaster is proud to serve the country in playing a positive and valuable role in Irish life and society. For us, the creation of the RTÉ Toy Show Appeal, is a natural extension of our purpose. We have been proud to work in partnership with The Community Foundation for Ireland, who have offered invaluable guidance in terms of philanthropic expertise, and we are very grateful to them for the role that they have played in terms of independent assessment of the grants, and the disbursement of the funds raised to 55 fantastic organisations who are improving the lives of children in all kinds of ways, right around the country.

I would like to honour all of the children on the show that night who inspired and uplifted us all, and to acknowledge the dedication and talent of *The Late Late Show* team who produced such a memorable show, under particularly difficult circumstances.

But the ultimate tribute must be to our audience, who responded with such huge generosity, and have helped to change the lives of over 600,000 children and family members in communities all across Ireland.

We very much look forward to developing further this wonderful venture and hope that it will benefit many more children and families in the years ahead.

Dee Forbes
Director General, RTÉ

National shared moments with lasting impacts.

The Community Foundation for Ireland



Now over 21 years in existence, The Community Foundation for Ireland works with individuals, families, companies and other trusts and foundations to support a diverse range of not for profit organisations. Since 2000 The Community Foundation for Ireland has awarded over €75 million in grants. The Community Foundation for Ireland is a registered charity, (Charity Regulator Number: 20044886) and is committed to the highest standards of trust and governance.

The Community Foundation for Ireland partnership with the RTÉ Toy Show Appeal is one of the highlights of our year. The coupling of the excitement and energy generated by a staple of the Irish television calendar with an appeal which reflects our mission of equality for all in thriving communities has truly ignited the public imagination.

No-one could have predicted that the generosity of *The Late Late Show* viewers would translate into donations in excess of €6.8 million. Yet this incredible total it is only part of the story.

Using our existing network of 5,000 partner organisations formed over 21-years we were able to work with the team at RTÉ to firstly identify areas of greatest need and then how best to meet that need. The pandemic has shone a light on the increasing inequality in our society and the RTÉ Toy Show Appeal is helping to support children facing additional challenges. The resilience and courage of children and young people across Ireland is incredible and we are glad to play our part in translating the outpouring of compassion and generosity into meaningful and long-term support for children across Ireland.

At The Community Foundation we are privileged to see the positive impact for over 600,000 children and family members as well as their wider community members who will benefit from the 55 projects viewers are supporting. Children from infancy to 18-years old who have overcome adversity are benefiting with grant investments made across three strands.

Ensuring Basic Needs

The RTÉ Toy Show Appeal was able to respond to some of the biggest and most difficult challenges facing children on both parts of the island. Children who have experienced violence at home, been forced to flee their homes because of war and conflict, who are living in emergency accommodation, and children whose families struggle to provide basic necessities are all being supported by ground-breaking projects.

Improving Wellbeing

The increased importance of health and wellbeing, both physical and mental, is reflected under this theme. A number of projects are improving access to health and wellbeing supports including programmes working with Transitions Year students and peer support groups for LGBTI+ young people. A new learning hub for children with dyslexia is being developed. There are projects too improving the young lives of children whose families are impacted by cancer or autism.

Reducing Inequality through Creativity

The Community Foundation for Ireland believe that arts and creativity can be powerful, energetic tools to advance accessibility and equality. This strand attracted applications from an art and creativity sector clearly yearning to bounce back from Covid-19. A South Dublin Arts Based Educational and Socialisation project is breaking down the barriers facing children living in direct provision. An artistic hub will be developed by one of our partners to bring colour and creativity to seriously ill children living in three counties in the West. The National Concert Hall now has a creative lab which champions young composers from under-represented groups.

Conclusion

Children's voices have always been at the very core of *The Late Late Toy Show*. Establishing the appeal was not only ambitious but courageous by introducing a new dimension to a cherished Irish institution. The viewers response speaks for itself. At a time of year when all our thoughts turn to family, they have looked outside their own homes to show love and solidarity with children throughout Ireland.

Denise Charlton,

Chief Executive of The Community Foundation for Ireland

“At The Community Foundation we are privileged to see the positive impact for over 600,000 children and family members as well as their wider community.”

The Impacts Achieved by the Monies Raised

In advance of the programme a commitment had been made that 50% of the monies raised in 2020 would be shared among three leading children's charities, with the remaining balance being made available as grants by Community Foundation for Ireland following an open grant round.

The three charity partners in 2020 were:

Barnardos work throughout the country to deliver services and work with families, communities, and partners to transform the lives of vulnerable children who are affected by adverse childhood experiences. Because childhood lasts a lifetime.

Grant amount →

€1,504,491.68

Children's Health Foundation – in 2019 CMRF Crumlin and Temple Street Foundation, came together to become one foundation supporting all Children's Health Ireland (CHI) sites to ensure every sick child has the very best chance. Children's Health Foundation is committed to supporting the little patients and families who attend Children's Health Ireland hospitals and urgent care centres in Temple Street, Crumlin, Connolly and Tallaght hospitals.

Grant amount →

€1,504,491.68

Children's Books Ireland exists to inspire a love of reading in children and young people and has a simple vision: every child a reader. Children's Books Ireland champions every child's right to excellent books and live literature events, informs adults who influence children's reading and supports artists who make that goal possible.

Grant amount →

€302,690.00

Statement from Suzanne Connolly, CEO Barnardos



Barnardos mission is to deliver services and work with families, communities, and our partners to transform the lives of vulnerable children who are affected by adverse childhood experiences. Barnardos has been providing practical and emotional supports to children and parents for almost 60 years in Ireland. This work takes place in Barnardos centres, in families' own homes, through the school environment, and within communities throughout the country. **Each year we work with over 18,000 children and their families.**

Through our work in communities across Ireland, Barnardos has seen first-hand the devastating impact that the COVID-19 pandemic has had on vulnerable children and their families. This has included an increased incidence of domestic violence and the exacerbation of issues such as addiction and poor mental health. These situations were compounded by job losses and the closure of schools, the latter meaning that children had no respite or place of safety for a prolonged period. Since the onset of the crisis, Barnardos has remained connected with the families we work with.

We have had to reimagine how we provide support by using a blended approach to service delivery through the incorporation of digital tools.

Addressing basic needs, such as providing food parcels and other essentials, gave our staff an opportunity on a regular, continual basis, and at a safe distance, to view and interact with children and parents. This contact has been especially important where there are pre-existing child welfare concerns, or where new concerns have arisen. Our services have collaborated with other agencies to provide support to the vulnerable families they were working with. We have received positive feedback from communities that we were one of the few services visibly still at work, out visiting families and providing on-the-ground frontline support.

At Barnardos, we feel privileged to be one of the chosen charities to benefit from this extraordinary act of public generosity. To honour the trust placed in us by the Irish public, we are undertaking the following work between 2021 and 2023 to ensure this funding has the greatest impact on vulnerable children and families now and into the future.

- We are employing a Wellbeing Coordinator and five Wellbeing Workers to develop a new and innovative approach to community wellbeing in response to the collective trauma experienced by the COVID-19 pandemic in areas of North and South Dublin, Tipperary and Westmeath.
- We are increasing the number of children and families who receive practical and emotional support from our frontline Family Support and Bereavement Services. To do this, we are employing eight new Family Support Project Workers in Dublin, Cork, Limerick, Offaly and Waterford and two new Bereavement Project Workers in our Bereavement Service in Dublin and Cork, this will help reduce the amount of time children and families are waiting for our services.
- We are creating therapeutic spaces in Barnardos' centres across Ireland to ensure that our physical environments are warm, welcoming and engaging spaces designed to support trauma informed practice.
- We are investing in research and innovation to develop programmes to support vulnerable families experiencing adverse childhood experiences in the areas of acrimonious separation and parental mental health.

On behalf of the children and families we work with, our sincere thanks to everyone who donated to the RTÉ Toy Show Appeal.

Suzanne Connolly
CEO Barnardos

**“Each year we work
with over 18,000 children
and their families.”**

Statement from **Denise Fitzgerald,** **Children's Health Foundation**



On behalf of Children's Health Foundation, as well as the patients, families and staff in Children's Health Ireland (CHI), I am delighted to have this opportunity to share the profound impact that the incredible funds raised during the RTÉ Toy Show Appeal are having on sick children in CHI hospitals and urgent care centres.

Here in Children's Health Foundation, we exist to support the urgent and life-saving work that happens in CHI hospitals and urgent care centres every minute of every day – from funding vital, life-saving equipment and providing essential patient and parental supports, to making ground-breaking, paediatric research possible.

We were so humbled to see the phenomenal response of the people of Ireland to the RTÉ Toy Show Appeal in 2020 and are immensely grateful for the support given – support that is having a real, long-term and positive impact for young patients and their families.

We believe in the profound power of research to change young lives for the better by finding new treatments and cures. That is why funds from this appeal are being invested in a range of seed-funding projects, to enable researchers to make advancements that will improve outcomes for sick children. Supporting at this early stage is an essential step in providing an evidence base for improved medicines and treatments that will help children for years to come.

When worried families arrive at CHI hospitals and urgent care centres with their sick child, it is critical that frontline teams have the very best equipment and systems to hand to enable the best possible care. That's why we have invested these vital funds in a range of state-of-the-art equipment for treatment and training, like central monitoring stations, clinical examination chairs, anaesthetic equipment and specialist microscopes and so much more.

We are committed to supporting the holistic care of children during their time in hospital, which can be an unfamiliar and even frightening experience. Creating a warm, welcoming and home-from-home environment is so important for patients and their families. We need to treat the child and not just the illness. That is why funds have been invested in a whole range of supports like playroom toys, books and puzzles, rewards, birthday presents, sensory toys, to name just a few, all of which will help create joy and special moments for children at the most difficult of times.

Supporting new services that improve and transform hospital experiences for children is crucial and we're delighted that a number of exciting new projects have been selected to benefit from this vital funding. For patients with Autism Spectrum Disorder, a new tailored phlebotomy service has been created that will transform children's experience of having blood tests and a new music therapy initiative for children undergoing dental treatment has also been made possible. As you can imagine, these initiatives are incredibly important to reduce stress and improve hospital experiences.

These projects and initiatives are just a sample of the incredible work and difference that the RTÉ Toy Show Appeal funds are making right across CHI and urgent care centres. They will quite simply, changing lives for the better by improving experiences, bringing smiles and laughter to sick children, equipping the hospitals and paving the way for new treatments and cures. This is only possible because of the kindness and generosity of every single person who donated to the appeal. Our heartfelt thank you to everyone who has made this important work possible.

Denise Fitzgerald
Chief Executive,
Children's Health Foundation

Statement from Elaina Ryan, CEO Children's Books Ireland



Children's Books Ireland is a charity which will celebrate its 25th birthday in 2022. We champion every child's right to discover and develop a love of reading. Evidence shows that reading for pleasure has a positive impact on the learning experience and wellbeing of children and young adults, and that having an author or illustrator visit at school builds confidence and encourages creative energy and experimentation. In the absence of government funding, we have been donating excellent books to schools since 2014, unlocking the myriad benefits and pleasures of reading for children and young people all over Ireland.

With the generous funding received from the RTÉ Toy Show Appeal, Children's Books Ireland will work closely with four DEIS primary schools over a three-year period to embed a long-lasting culture of reading in their school communities. Each of these 'Every Child a Reader: Reading Communities' will receive over 1,000 excellent, varied and contemporary books, benefitting over 1,200 children. Each school is paired with a Champion of Reading, an experienced author or illustrator whose role is to make reading fun and spark the children's imaginations. Teaching staff are receiving training and resource packs to help them encourage students' reading in fresh, creative ways.

The schools and champions are:

- **Scoil na Croise Naofa**, Mahon, Cork, championed by author E.R. Murray;
- **St. Brendan's NS**, Kilmeena, Mayo, championed by illustrator Kim Sharkey;
- **Scoil Chroí Íosa**, Newcastle, Galway, championed by author Sarah Moore Fitzgerald;
- **St. Joseph's NS**, Dundalk, Louth, championed by illustrator Tarsila Krüse.

A launch celebration marked the start of the project in each school, and each has received a starter library of 225 books. Each school has established a student advisory group to select the remaining books and to ensure students' ideas are central to the project. Large proportions of students in these communities experience disadvantage, and the excitement about their new libraries is already palpable. One student insisted that she couldn't read, but when her school's Champion of Reading shared a wordless picture book with her, she built enough confidence to go on and read a picture book she was familiar with to the whole class, using the pictures as prompts. For some, it may be the first time their school has had inclusive books featuring characters that look like them or come from a similar background, and for others the books will be a way to explore other identities and develop empathy but walking in someone else's shoes.

The ultimate impact we want to achieve from this project is that we will inspire and enable more children to become readers for life, overcoming barriers to access and breaking cycles of family literacy challenges, while also increasing teacher knowledge, confidence and enthusiasm in relation to reading for pleasure.

Children's Books Ireland would like to sincerely thank *The Late Late Toy Show* viewers, RTÉ and The Community Foundation for Ireland for making all of this possible.

Elaina Ryan,
CEO Children's Books Ireland



Open Round Grant Beneficiaries







Addressing Essential Needs

Grants within this category of funding are intended to ensure that more children are safe, warm, fed and properly supported in addressing educational needs. Through practical support the aim is to improve the living conditions, life experiences and outcomes for children who may be at risk of some form of deprivation and increasing educational access for vulnerable children.

SAFE Ireland National Social Change Agency

Since March 2020, Safe Ireland has been documenting the significant increase in the number of survivors looking for support to escape controlling, abusive homes in lockdown. Children and young people are the invisible victims in this shadow pandemic of Domestic Violence. This funding will set up the Children's Resilience Fund to help address the immediate, basic and critical needs of children directly. It will ensure that food, heat, safety supports and other basic needs are met. It is anticipated that the project will benefit 100 children escaping domestic violence.

Grant amount

→ €55,000

"I was living in lockdown for years before Covid. Bringing the two kids to school and weekly grocery shopping were my only freedoms. When Covid came, they too ended. The kids were off school, he was working from home, and then he took over doing the weekly shopping. Our home was a prison and our lives were a nightmare. When restrictions lifted we fled to a refuge – no money, no documents, just the summer clothes we were wearing. The local Domestic Violence Service was just fantastic. They sorted the kids with warm clothes, shoes and jammies. They got me a new SIM Card for my phone, provided welfare advice, accompanied me to Court, and arranged counselling for the children. Our journey is only beginning, but the supports we got through the RTÉ Toy Show Appeal helped us take the first steps. They probably saved our lives."
*Louise (41)**

Crosscare

The demand for food support in Ireland is increasing since the Pandemic. Food banks alone are not the solution to food poverty, as many who are using them are in chronic financial and social situations. With this funding Crosscare will provide emergency food support and wrap around services to address the routes into food poverty. This approach to eliminating childhood hunger and poverty addresses immediate needs by providing food while supporting families to overcome structural causes of poverty (e.g. housing, social welfare, labour) through information, advocacy and support. It is anticipated that the project will benefit 600 children and their families.

Grant amount

→ €82,715

"Thanks to the Late Late Show Funding this year we have been able to employ a full time support person working directly with families and children to help them move out of food poverty in the long term, by helping them source nutritious food, plan and budget for shopping and get any extra support they need. "

Depaul

Depaul will create a Child Support Worker (CSW) role in their homeless services to specifically support children. A first-of-its-kind position in Depaul Ireland, the CSW will work with children in their residential services as well as accepting referrals from our community and outreach services, ensuring basic needs are met. The project will also involve the provision of support packs including personal hygiene products, healthy snacks and toys for children experiencing deprivation and disadvantage. It is anticipated that the project will benefit 450 children aged 0-4 years old who are in emergency homeless accommodation.

Grant amount

→ €51,700

Addressing Essential Needs

Continued

Nasc, the Migrant and Refugee Rights Centre

The New Beginnings programme will ensure that the basic needs of refugee children arriving in Ireland under family reunification and children of families who are transitioning from Direct Provision are met. Nasc will work with emergency accommodation services to ensure basic re-settlement needs are met. They will also provide refugee and asylum seeker children with household items and assist with moving costs, food, setting up utilities, schools enrolment, books and uniforms, childcare, and healthcare. It is anticipated that the project will benefit 80 child refugees and asylum seekers aged 5-12 years old who are in Direct Provision.

Grant amount

→ **€40,000**

Galway Traveller Movement

The Educate to Empower programme will work with Traveller children and young people from the Craughwell site, Gort Bridge group housing scheme and Gort town, as they have been identified as high priority for intervention.

The project is the first of its kind for the county and it will use a peer led model promoting culture and identity that will nurture the children and young people's health, wellbeing, and creativity to encourage children to remain in education. It is anticipated that the project will benefit 50 school aged Traveller children.

Grant amount

→ **€82,000**

Respond

Families in Respond's Refugee Resettlement Programme (RRP), have fled the ongoing Syrian civil war, with little or no means of support other than the basics provided by the Irish Government. In many cases expectant single mothers have fled abusive relationships and as such are extremely isolated and have minimal financial means to provide the basics for their children. With this funding Respond will provide parents of new-born children with new-born baby hampers that will consist of essential items for their new-born child. It is anticipated that the project will benefit 26 families in need.

Grant amount

→ **€31,578.82**

Improving Wellbeing

Health And Wellbeing

Ill health is difficult at any point in life, but it can have significant and long term impacts in childhood in terms of educational outcomes and emotional wellbeing. We are also all aware that Covid has created additional challenges in terms of mental health and social isolation. Funding in this category is for organisations who work with children and young people to improve the quality of life of children who are dealing with a disability or serious health condition, and those who help children improve mental health and resilience.

Family Carers Ireland

My Life Now is a new project for Young Carers aiming to work directly with 150 Young Carers to make a positive impact on their physical and mental wellbeing, educational achievement and caring routine. Evidence has overwhelmingly demonstrated that as a direct consequence of their caring role, the wellbeing of the majority of Young Carers is at risk. Many young carers do not have access to respite from their caring roles - the burden of care is significant. With this funding, Family Carers Ireland will provide counselling support, access to IT equipment, grants and respite breaks. It is anticipated that 150 young carers will benefit from this programme.

Grant amount

→ **€90,897**

Sonass Domestic Violence Charity

Sonass Domestic Violence Charity aim to enhance their Children's service by developing a Recovery Programme for children and young people who have been victims of domestic abuse. This innovative programme will address the wellbeing, psychological and mental health needs of children and young people, and will encourage engagement in physical and mental wellbeing activities. The seven areas of support will be: physical health, where you live, being safe, relationships, feelings and behaviour, friends, and confidence and self-esteem. It is anticipated that 600 children aged 5-12 who have faced domestic abuse will be supported through this programme.

Grant amount

→ **€75,000**

Dyslexia Association of Ireland

The Online Learning Hub aims to develop a free online inclusive learning hub for students with dyslexia and other literacy difficulties. With support from parents/guardians, young people will be able to access online learning resources to develop their literacy and learning skills, and support their wellbeing with content on self-esteem, resilience, and self-understanding. This free online hub will provide a structured learning framework for literacy development based on the science of reading. It will support children and young people to develop their phonological skills, reading fluency, vocabulary development, and comprehension. It is anticipated that 20,000 children and young people with dyslexia will benefit from this programme.

Grant amount

→ **€100,000**

Exchange House Ireland National Traveller Service

This grant will be used for the development of a pilot project to co-produce the design of a model for a Youth Mental Health Service for young members of the Traveller community. The project will be underpinned by community development principles and best practice guidance for mental health service delivery. This innovative pilot aims to create a culturally appropriate and accepted model for a Traveller Youth Mental Health Service which can then be proposed to health and social inclusion funders. Through extensive consultation with Traveller youths, parents and organisations the project design, delivery and evaluation will be guided by Traveller community involvement. It is anticipated that the project will benefit 100 Traveller young people who have mental health issues.

Grant amount

→ **€100,000**

Improving Wellbeing

Health And Wellbeing

Continued

Early Learning Initiative, National College of Ireland

The aim of The Parenting 365 Pilot Programme is to develop and pilot a supportive programme for 1-4 year olds at risk of developing disabilities that can be replicated by home visiting programmes in disadvantaged communities around Ireland. This will be through providing disadvantaged children with creative and safe play spaces to explore their abilities; empowering caregivers/parents with limited education and/or English language skills; offering disadvantaged families facing the challenge of disability the chance to connect and support; and conducting a research study of this intervention on the child's development and parental capacity building. It is anticipated that the project will benefit 266 children aged 0-4 years who are at risk of developing learning difficulties.

Grant amount

→ €100,000

AsIAm

Bridge Forward Together is an evidence-based programme that will support children and young people with autism to develop emotional regulation and self-regulation, self-esteem, confidence and community participation. Participants will join in a 6-part workshop with peers, based in their local community and delivered by a facilitator from an education or therapeutic background. The workshops will take a strengths-based approach to support young people to better understand themselves and communicate their needs, develop coping strategies and re-connect with learning and the local community following COVID-19. It is anticipated that 200 children with autism aged 5-12 will benefit from this programme.

Grant amount

→ €100,000

ARC Cancer Support Centres (ARC)

This grant will be used to enable ARC introduce a new Family Support Service to support children/young people where a parent has a cancer diagnosis, children/adolescents with cancer (severe illnesses) and siblings i.e. child/teen where a brother/sister has cancer. This funding will allow ARC to provide psycho-social support for all family members. These include: one to one counselling, couples counselling, teen counselling, play therapy for children with cancer, sibling therapy, monthly talks and workshops for families, bereavement counselling, and the adaptation of a room specifically for play therapy with resources. It is anticipated that 500 children and young people facing trauma and grief because of cancer will be supported through this programme.

Grant amount

→ €75,000

"I would have felt so alone without the supports of ARC. I wouldn't have known where to turn for help. I received the cancer diagnosis, but it impacted my whole family, so I feel that we are all on the journey of recovery together. The staff and volunteers are so experienced, and I can't thank them enough for all their kindness and understanding."

Sarah O'Neill

Meath Springboard Family Support Services

The grant awarded will be used to fund a project which will provide a timely, affordable, and accessible counselling support service to children with mild to moderate mental health issues (MHI), aimed specifically at children from under privileged backgrounds who would normally be unable to avail of counselling due to cost. Meath Springboard Family Support Services will ensure that the children who suffered food and educational poverty during Covid 19 are supported to psychologically recover from Covid-19 and return to as full and positive a childhood experience as possible. It is anticipated that 364 children aged 5-12 with mental health difficulties will be supported through this programme.

Grant amount

→ €68,000



Improving Wellbeing

Health And Wellbeing

Continued

One Family

This grant will be used to fund essential research to develop and disseminate guidance on how to support young children and toddlers in separated families in the most age-appropriate way. Pregnancy and the first year of a baby's life is the most common point of separation for parents and many parents need assistance during the separation process; particularly when this intersects with pregnancy. With this funding, One Family will work with these parents and their babies through specialist counselling and parenting services to encourage parents and courts to make decisions that are in the best interests of both the parents and the child. It is anticipated that the project will benefit 5,000 children aged 0-4 years old whose parents are going through a separation.

Grant amount

→ **€55,317.80**

Citywise Education

The Citywise Youth in Action Programme seeks to empower young people from underserved areas by working with marginalised individuals to through a programme of community development workshops which lead to social action. This project seeks to develop positive attitudes such as increased self-worth, self-efficacy, confidence and agency. It seeks to increase overall wellbeing by empowering young people with new skills in the area of community development and working with them to deliver their own social impact through action projects in the local area which participants will initiate and lead. It is anticipated that 100 young people will benefit through this personal development programme.

Grant amount

→ **€63,250**

“In Citywise Youth in Action I enjoy working with my friends so that we can help and motivate others to have more involvement in tackling problems within our area.”

Soar Foundation

Soar creates and delivers authentic and innovative character-building programmes underpinned by key wellbeing indicators, such as Awareness, Connection, Resilience, Self-sufficiency, and Purpose. These programmes will help young people to increase their self-awareness, understand their emotional reality, identify positive coping strategies, and as a result grow in confidence. Soar believes teenagers personal and character development should be central to their teenage development. With this funding, Soar will expand their team of highly skilled facilitators to ensure that they reach their aim of working with all transition year students in Ireland annually by 2025. It is anticipated that 100,000 young people will benefit from this programme over the next 5 years.

Grant amount

→ **€100,000**

“Remarkable. All the emotions I had suppressed were all of a sudden in the open air and I no longer felt as alone as I thought I was.”

BeLonG To Youth Services

BeLonG To's project is to establish a weekly group-based therapy service for LGBTI+ young people whose mental health is poor. The service will complement their youth work programmes and provide a step-up and step-down service from the crisis counselling service they operate in partnership with Pieta. This project will create a new support system, which aims to reduce the number of LGBTI+ young people who escalate to crisis point and reduce the number of LGBTI+ youth who have completed their 10 crisis sessions with Pieta who rebound back to crisis point within a matter of weeks or months. It is anticipated that 52 LGBTI+ young people will benefit from this programme.

Grant amount

→ €38,584

COPE Galway

The grant received will enable our Helping Kids First project to address an identified gap in support services for homeless children in Galway, where children's development needs are not being adequately met. This grant will resource a Child Support Outreach Worker, qualified in early childhood development, who will work with some of the most disadvantaged and marginalised children and teenagers in COPE Galway's homeless service. Teenagers living in homeless accommodation face unique challenges, particularly with their mental health and this project will also provide targeted support for these teenagers. It is anticipated that 200 children and young people in emergency homeless accommodation will benefit from this programme.

Grant amount

→ €44,000

Limerick Youth Service

The BEWELL Rural Youth Mental Health Project will enable the development of a rural outreach mental health support for young people aged 14–18 years in County Limerick. The focus of this project is on delivering youth mental health and well-being supports using youthwork methodologies and approaches and in so doing strengthening the social, physical and mental health resilience of young people residing in rural areas. The outreach support will focus on; raising awareness of mental health and wellbeing with young people, building confidence and resilience for some young people, young people developing and delivering products and services (Youth led peer approach). It is anticipated that 200 young people aged 12-18 facing mental health difficulties will benefit from this programme.

Grant amount

→ €83,500

National Council for the Blind of Ireland (NCBI)

With this funding, NCBI will develop and rollout of the RISE Programme: Resilience, Integration and Exercise; Self-Advocacy; Engagement – a new national suite of structured interventions to support wellbeing development for children and teens who are blind. When a child has a vision impairment, alternate structured strategies for learning and education are required to support on-time development and education. The RISE Programme aspires to work in conjunction with education supports to address the gap and focus on mental health and wellness for both children and their families, supporting the development health and wellbeing, alongside education, into adulthood. It is anticipated that 250 young people who are blind will benefit from this programme.

Grant amount

→ €100,000

“I love NCBI because they have great teachers, you learn new skills but you don't just learn new skills, you really have fun with it and you make friends. I have actually made a best friend at the NCBI camps.”
A child's testimonial



Improving Wellbeing

Health And Wellbeing

Continued

A Lust For Life

Gone Past Talking will be an educational programme to create a generation of engaged activists through a series of workshops and a connected intergenerational mentoring programme. Through the programme, young people will create a better, fairer and more just world by tackling a range of intersectional, intergenerational social challenges in their community. Getting young people involved in tackling social challenges in their communities and world has proven to have profoundly positive impacts on their mental and emotional wellbeing, creating a positive sense of community, purpose, connection and identity. It is anticipated that 50 young people with mental health difficulties will benefit from this programme.

Grant amount

→ €30,000

Tacú Ballinrobe Family Resource Centre

This project will support vulnerable young people and disadvantaged young people whose mental health in particular has been negatively impacted by COVID 19. A Link Worker will be employed for a year to run a Pilot Project "HEROES" to support vulnerable young people who have struggled through COVID to pick up the pieces and to reach out and reach in. It is envisaged that as a result of the Pilot Project we will have an evidence-based programme of early intervention and prevention for young people. This programme will prevent young people from going into long-term mental health services. It is anticipated that 50 young people aged 12-18 will benefit from this programme, improving their resilience and mental health.

Grant amount

→ €25,000

Involve

The Reconnecting by Disconnecting project will improve the mental health and physical wellbeing of young people from the Travelling Community from 6 youth projects across Ireland. By leaving their homes and communities in Meath, Ballina, Letterkenny, Loughrea, Salthill and Ballinasloe and participating in a 5-day camping trip in an outdoor adventure centre they will leave behind all the worries and feelings of isolation they may have felt in the past 12 months due to the pandemic and any other issues they may have. They will participate in mental and physical health workshops and activities that will allow them to discuss and express how they are feeling and build resilience. It is anticipated that 120 Traveller young people aged 12-18 will benefit from these camping trips.

Grant amount

→ €27,410

Acquired Brain Injury Ireland

The On With Life Paediatric project is designed specifically for children who have acquired a brain injury. A brain injury is sudden, disruptive, life-changing, and terrifying for both a child and their parent. Every brain injury is unique and different with most leading to physical, cognitive, sensory, or intellectual challenges. More severe injuries can have a combination of these challenges. Supports for children with an acquired brain injury are currently limited. This project will establish a national support network that will improve the wellbeing of children with an acquired brain injury through peer support, education and information. It is anticipated that 50 children and young people aged 5-18 with acquired brain injuries will benefit from this project.

Grant amount

→ €95,140

Reducing Inequality Through Play And Creativity

Graffiti Theatre Company

The Be Your Own Hero project is an empowering three-strand programme focusing on schools in DEIS areas of Cork City. In 16 schools across the city, children will participate in drama workshops in schools, empowering children to use their voices and input in the creation of a new piece of theatre; participate in creative writing workshops and receive a printed copy of their original story; and experience a new and accessible live piece of theatre for young audiences, inspired by the Be Your own Hero theme. It is anticipated that 800 children aged 5-12 from disadvantaged areas will be involved in this programme.

Grant amount

→ €85,000

Irish Wheelchair Association

The Creative Youth for Disability programme is a curriculum-based education programme alongside online and face-to-face outreach for teachers, children and parents delivered through schools. It will engage young people through creativity and play on issues of inequality for People with Disabilities. The programme will address these issues by: Enabling the creative potential of Children and Youth; Pioneering and enabling creative outreach activity storytelling, play, games, drama, poetry, writing, art and music; and by delivering a new Schools Education and Outreach Programme to inform learners about the perceptions of disability and issues for people with disabilities such as, injustice, accessibility, discrimination, equality using a human rights lens and through the experience of people with disabilities. It is anticipated that 12,000 children and young people who use wheelchairs will benefit from this programme.

Grant amount

→ €100,000

"Our program will educate schools and school children to be more inclusive, and bring that with them as they grow, changing the overall experience of a new generation of children with disabilities."

Music Generation Cork City

Building on experience gained through working in partnership with community-based music groups, MGCC will initiate a year-long research and development project to engage in a coordinated research action plan, to build our capacity to address barriers to access to creative music-making and self-expression and to augment our partnerships with groups that work with marginalised youth. This project will develop and implement action research projects with young people with autism, Travellers and Roma and migrants to identify and eliminate barriers to participation in Music Generation's programmes. It is anticipated that 60 children and young people from marginalised backgrounds will benefit from this programme.

Grant amount

→ €97,800

Rua Red, South Dublin Arts Centre

The aim of the Anseo project is to decrease educational disadvantage and social isolation of asylum seeker and refugee children through an arts-based learning and socialisation project. Rua Red will design, develop and deliver a series of workshops and events for young participants that will focus on building confidence, creativity and developing their language skills. This project seeks to address some of the disproportionate effects of Covid-19 on the social integration of asylum seeker and refugee children in Ireland. The groups will come together in the culmination of the project for Summer School in July 2022. This will be an opportunity to celebrate and showcase their creative achievements. It is anticipated that 72 young refugees and asylum seekers aged 12-18 will benefit from this programme.

Grant amount

→ €30,000

Helium Arts

All children deserve a good childhood, but those living with health conditions face many challenges, such as social isolation and loneliness, poor self-esteem, and lack of agency and often feel like their lives are defined by their condition. The Helium Arts Creative Health Hub WEST (Galway, Mayo & Roscommon) will apply an "arts on referral" model connected to Galway University Hospital, to deliver a programme close to children's homes and in their communities. During sessions, professional artists facilitate activities which supports each child to develop the Habits of Inquisitiveness, Collaboration, Imagination, Discipline, & Persistence while supporting the development of wellbeing. It is anticipated that 900 children aged 5-12 with life-long illnesses will be impacted by this project.

Grant amount

→ €94,000

"We are delighted to be one of the projects to receive funding from the inaugural RTÉ Toy Show Appeal. This support will allow us to continue our mission of empowering children living with long-term health conditions through the arts. Thank you to everyone who supported this wonderful initiative."

Donegal Rape Crisis Centre

The Creative ReCOVERY project aims to meet the need for Donegal based therapeutic support for young people under the age of 14 who are survivors of sexual violence. Unfortunately Donegal has very high numbers of children and young people affected by sexual violence but many children have to wait until aged 14 to access services. With this funding the Donegal Rape Crisis Centre will appoint a creative arts therapist to work with young people from age 12 and up in Letterkenny. This project would be a pilot, the first of its kind in the North west and will serve as a good starting point to demonstrate the need for and the effectiveness of a project such as this. It is anticipated that 30 young people aged 12-14 who are survivors of sexual violence will be supported through this project.

Grant amount

→ €55,000

First Fortnight

Children's homeless experiences can lead to developmental challenges and a lifetime of inequality without intervention. Creative therapies have proven to be a successful approach for child development including reduced social, emotional and behavioural problems and improved communication and interpersonal skills. Intervening now can reduce inequality experienced from having a long-term impact. This funding will enable the roll out of The Creative Therapies Outreach Programme in Dublin 7 to support young people facing homelessness using a panel of creative therapists to offer creative therapies to children and young people aged 3-18 including art, music, drama and play therapy modalities. It is anticipated that 128 young people who are in homeless emergency accommodation will benefit from the programme.

Grant amount

→ €61,240

**"The generous support of the *Late Late Toy Show* viewers not only allowed us to keep our doors open and keep the lights on, it has made it possible for us to launch our CACTus outreach service to meet the needs of children and adolescents where they are."
*María Fleming, CEO First Fortnight.***

Reducing Inequality Through Play And Creativity

Continued

Meath Womens Refuge and Support Services

The Where I'm At project's primary objective is to create a welcoming and safe space for children coming into refuge so that they have the opportunity to engage with creative and cultural activities so that they can enhance their personal development. With this funding, Meath Women's Refuge and Support Services will employ a play resource worker for children in crisis refuge accommodation. Play and Creativity will be the main medium and methodology of engagement as research shows for children under 12 non-verbal play is the main means of communication for children. It is anticipated that 160 children aged 5-12 who are fleeing domestic violence will be supported through this project.

Grant amount

→ €54,903.78

National Concert Hall

The Creative Lab programme is a new initiative that will champion young composers (age 12-18) from underrepresented groups. This includes young composers who are Black, Asian, a member of the Traveller Community or other ethnic minorities. Through the programme, the young composers will gain access to a 9-month programme of one-on-one tuition, mentorship, professional development, performance opportunities, and high-quality recordings of their work, culminating in a premiere performance of their new composition in Spring 2022 at Ireland's foremost contemporary music festival, New Music Dublin. It is anticipated that 10 young composers from marginalised backgrounds will be empowered through this programme.

Grant amount

→ €30,000

**"The National Concert Hall is committed to fostering diversity in music, and through our many Learning and Participation programmes supporting young people in their musical development. Creative Lab gives us a unique opportunity work with ten talented young people selected for this programme to unlock their true potential as composers with the support of our presenting partners and expert guidance of the Artistic Directors Amanda and Emma."
Nigel Flegg, Head of Learning and Participation,
National Concert Hall.**

GOSHH Ireland

GOSHH Creative Support project aims to deliver professional creative/psychotherapy supports for LGBT+ young people as well as allowing youth group members to express themselves creatively through art projects to coincide with Limerick Pride 2021. With this funding GOSHH will employ two LGBTI+ Youth Workers to support the young people through creative therapy. This will address a range of issues and concerns including confidence and self-esteem, gender identity, sexual orientation trauma, bereavement and loss, depression, stress, anxiety, addiction and relationship difficulties. It is anticipated that 2576 LGBT+ young people will be supported through this programme.

Grant amount

→ €25,000

Baboró International Arts Festival for Children

The Wild Patterns project will ensure that children and young people with intellectual and physical disabilities, some of whom have severe long-term life-threatening conditions, become engaged in the process of creating, participating in and enjoying multi-disciplinary arts to bring about meaningful change. With this funding, this organisation will co-create a project in collaboration with children with intellectual and physical disabilities, and their educators in four new schools in Co. Galway. The project will provide high quality engagement for the children and their educators in the planning, exploration, making, preparation and evaluation of the work. It is anticipated that 350-400 children with disabilities will benefit through this programme.

Grant amount

→ €66,205.50

Anne Sullivan Foundation

The Deafblind Literacy project will create more individualised books for deafblind children by adding tactile and sensory materials, picture support, simplified content, more visible font with enlarged size, and pairing Braille to text to make them more accessible. Most typical children have hundreds of choices available to them at home, school and the local library, but a child who is deafblind may only have 2 books to choose from. Through this project, the Anne Sullivan Foundation intends to break down these barriers by supplying adapted books to all children who are deafblind in order to enhance their learning, communication, literacy and overall personal development. It is anticipated that 50 children who are deafblind will be impacted by this project.

Grant amount

→ €50,000

Kids' Own Publishing Partnership

The Our Lives, Our Voices project is a children's publishing initiative that puts the voices of children from Traveller and Roma communities at the centre of the creative representation of their identities. This project will be developed and facilitated in close collaboration with the Irish Traveller Movement, and the Yellow Flag Programme (managed by the ITM): a programme that supports schools to become more inclusive, celebrate diversity and challenge racism. With this funding, Kids' Own Publishing will: Create a child-authored, non-fiction book by Traveller and Roma children; create a classroom resource to accompany the books; and measure the impact of the project on participants. It is anticipated that 250-300 Traveller and Roma children will be impacted by this project.

Grant amount

→ €55,000

Portlaoise Community & Family Resource Centre

The Stepping Stones to Resilience Initiative, is a suite of programmes for children 0 to 18 years. The initiative is delivered through a stepping stone design based on age/ ability, supporting personal development and building resilience through creative engagement and learning. This funding will enable art and play therapy sessions for children and young people, music, dance and art for babies 0-4 years old and children aged 5-12 and run other creative programmes to develop life skills and resilience. It is anticipated that 315 disadvantaged children and young people will be impacted by this project.

Grant amount

→ €30,718

Teach Tearmainn

The Empowering Children in Refuge through Art, Education & Creativity project is focused on reducing the inequality experienced by children and young people who have been affected by domestic violence and abuse. This project will provide the children and young people who are staying at the Teach Tearmainn Refuge with access to a dedicated Project Worker who will deliver a range of creative and educational activities to them which will increase their access to Art, Music, and Education, which will in mitigate against the disadvantage they have experienced in their day-to-day lives. It is anticipated that 100 children fleeing domestic violence will benefit from this project.

Grant amount

→ €32,600

Drogheda Youth Development / Boomerang Youth Service & Cafe

This grant will foster the development of the Studio Sounds project is to use music as a vehicle to engage young people in a journey of self-discovery and development. Covering various elements of music strands and merging it with the core elements of youthwork, it will offer young people the support of both music direction and advancement and also offer personal and one-to-one support from their youth worker. Music has the ability to be the language of our emotions and it can assist young people in voicing their feelings, passions and fears. With this funding, the organisation will run sessions allowing a young person to experience various elements and genres of music, improve their self-confidence and improve skills. It is anticipated that 40 young people aged 12-18 will benefit from this programme.

Grant amount

→ €65,000

Open Round Grant Funding for Northern Ireland





Addressing Essential Needs

Kinship Care Northern Ireland

The Kinship Care Helping Hand Project will enable Kinship Care to provide essential items (clothing, footwear, school uniforms, beds, bedding etc.) for children in Kinship Care, via a small grants programme. Needs will be identified by Kinship Care staff. The RTÉ Toy Show Appeal funding will cover approximately 150 small grants. NB - the recipients will not receive cash, support will be via suppliers where Kinship Care has an account and/or vouchers.

Grant amount

→ €40,607

Improving Wellbeing

Health And Wellbeing

Extern Northern Ireland

Extern will convert two outdated chalets at Roscor Youth Village in Co. Fermanagh into a modern five-bedroom facility with disabled access. It will provide enhanced emergency respite facilities for young people from across Northern Ireland. Extern has already secured £98k for the capital works and will use this funding to purchase furniture and equipment, alongside fitting out a sensory room and creating a sensory garden space.

Grant amount

→ €46,200

incredABLE

The incredABLEy active project will facilitate 150 activity afternoons for groups of 10 young people with learning disabilities and/or autism. It aims to provide respite for carers/ parents as well as helping the children and young people become more physically active and self-confident. The RTÉ Toy Show Appeal funding will primarily be used to cover project delivery staff costs.

Grant amount

→ €25,000

Lifestart Foundation Ltd

Through the Lifestart SMILE BABY Project, the Lifestart Foundation will provide 48 support programmes with 384 families across Northern Ireland. These programmes will comprise discussions on child development concepts, interspersed with parent/child play activities, alongside demonstrations on baby massage, baby yoga and baby reflexology. Participation will be via referrals from health and social care staff. The RTÉ Toy Show grant will cover project delivery, staff input and programme costs.

Grant amount

→ €66,857

Mae Murray Foundation

The All-ability Online Participation project will allow the Mae Murray Foundation to provide a range of virtual activities for children and young people with disabilities and medical conditions. These will include drama and music sessions, arts and crafts workshops and emotional resilience sessions. It is particularly focused on children and young people who are unable or nervous about resuming social contact due to ongoing Coronavirus risks. The RTÉ Toy Show grant will cover input from project delivery staff and packs for participants.

Grant amount

→ €25,000

Nexus NI

The Believe and Beyond project will allow Nexus NI to provide counselling support to young people aged 8-18 years who are victims of sexual abuse. The RTÉ Toy Show Appeal grant will cover sessional counselling costs. It is based on providing 18 counselling sessions to 46 young people.

Grant amount

→ €49,680

Northern Ireland Newlin

The I am Me project will enable NI Newpin to provide a range of therapeutic and creative support programmes for children and young people. The aim is to address issues around anxiety, mental ill health and behavioural problems. The RTÉ Toy Show Appeal grant will allow NI Newpin to bring in specialist facilitators to run a broad range of sessions ranging from child psychotherapy to mindfulness to dance.

Grant amount

→ €25,000

Omagh Women's Aid

The Steps to Safety project will enable Omagh Women's Aid to bring in a part time Domestic Violence Children & Young People's Worker at their refuge to provide a safe and supportive one-to-one and shared learning environment for children and young people. The RTÉ Toy Show Appeal grant will cover input from the worker along with IT equipment and activities for the young people.

Grant amount

→ €22,485

Royal Mencap Society Belfast

The FIVE project (Friendship, Independence, Vitality, Empowerment) will allow Mencap to provide support to young people aged 13-18 years with learning disabilities/additional needs. The aim is to build the skills and resilience needed to support good mental health and wellbeing, and to develop a strong foundation for the transition to adulthood. RTÉ Toy Show Appeal grant will support six 15-week programmes, combining individual mentoring with group activities.

Grant amount

→ €50,000

St Peter's Immaculate Youth Centre

The H.E.A.L. project (Health-Emotions-Affirmation-Learn) will allow St Peter's Immaculate Youth Centre to provide mental health and emotional wellbeing support to young people in the Lower Falls/Divis area of West Belfast. The aim is help address self-destructive behaviours and self-harm. The RTÉ Toy Show Appeal grant will support complementary therapy sessions, mental health focused residentials and counselling.

Grant amount

→ €37,920

Versus Arthritis

The Preparing for Transition project will allow Versus Arthritis to improve the wellbeing of young people aged 14-18 years with arthritis. The aim is to provide new opportunities for the young people to improve their physical & mental health, whilst preparing them for adulthood. The RTÉ Toy Show Appeal grant will cover project delivery staff input and workshop costs.

Grant amount

→ €25,021

Reducing Inequality Through Play And Creativity

Kilcooley Women's Centre

The JIGSAW project in the Kilcooley Women's Centre in Bangor will provide play development/ sensory play sessions for children, alongside parental support activities. The aim is to support vulnerable children who reside in challenging, troubled or chaotic households through creative play focused activities to help build resilience and develop independence. The RTÉ Toy Show Appeal grant will be used to cover input from play development specialists and purchase equipment.

Grant amount

→ **€30,769**

Sticky Fingers Arts

The Chapter Two project will allow Sticky Fingers Arts to enhance facilities at their Imaginarium Arts & Story Centre in Newry. The aim is to create a tranquil sensory space where children can be engaged on a one-to-one basis. The focus will be on supporting children with special educational needs and/or those who are struggling to deal with bereavement, family breakdowns and so on. The RTÉ Toy Show Appeal grant will cover artist/facilitator/therapist input, alongside the design and fit out of a sensory room.

Grant amount

→ **€50,000**

The NOW Group

The Positive about Play project will allow the NOW Group to provide support to 30 families with children who are perceived to be at high risk due to the lack of parenting input within their families due to disability. It is particularly focused on families where a parent has a learning disability and/or autism. The RTÉ Toy Show Appeal grant will cover delivery staff input, equipment and programme costs.

Grant amount

→ **€42,461**

Financial Statement

RTÉ Toy Show Appeal 2020

Euros

Total funds received from donations	€6,839,045.14
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Republic of Ireland

Grant to Barnardos	€1,504,491.68
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Grant to Children's Health Foundation	€1,504,491.68
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Grant to Children's Books Ireland	€302,690.00
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Open Round grant recipients (41 organisations)	€2,646,559.90
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Northern Ireland

Open Round grant recipients (14 organisations)	€628,719.60
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Sub-total Grant-making

€6,586,952.86

Costs and expenses

Grant-making programme and administration costs (ROI & NI)	€142,694.63
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Fees for online transactions	€87,110.16
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Sub-total costs

€229,804.79

Balance available

€22,785.83

This statement was prepared by The Community Foundation for Ireland (Charities Regulator Number: 20044886). We are committed to attaining the highest standards of corporate governance and our Annual Report and audited accounts are available at www.communityfoundation.ie and presented in accordance with SORP standards.







 **ABTRAN**
This is Service

RTÉ would like to acknowledge with thanks ABTRAN who generously provided all professional call-centre services at no charge to the appeal.

RTÉ

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