

Community Foundation Ireland



Your Legacy Gift

Transforming Lives for Generations to Come

For change. For better. For all.

“I have two young grandchildren and I want them to live in a fairer, safer world. I have decided to leave a legacy to Community Foundation Ireland to support organisations and projects that can make a real difference.

I feel the best legacy I can leave them is action on climate change and social justice..”

– Legacy Pledge Donor



Planning what's right for you

Your legacy gift is a lasting reflection of your values and hopes for the future you want. In choosing to pledge your legacy gift to Community Foundation Ireland, you can ensure that positive change in communities can happen, now and into the future.

Equality for All in Thriving Communities

With our mission of equality for all, we work with a network of like-minded donors to match their philanthropic donations with our 5,000 charity and community organisations working to shape an Ireland that delivers change for those who need it most. When you choose Community Foundation Ireland for your legacy gift, you're not just making a donation – you are driving change and having a positive impact.

Unique Solution to Legacy Giving

Grant-making will be guided to where you want to see true positive change happen. This could include areas in relation to your philanthropic interests such as frontline services, climate and biodiversity solutions, tackling sexual violence, poverty and inequality, backing bold, agenda-setting research and other key societal issue. We offer a full philanthropy advisory service and would be delighted to support you in your decision-making.

Peace of Mind

We ensure your peace of mind and guarantee the greatest possible societal impact for your gift, irrespective of the amount. You can rest assured that with our track record of over 15,000 grants since the year 2000, we continue to be informed by best-in-class research, expertise, top advocates and our charitable and community partners. Whether your goal is immediate impact or long-term transformation, we will ensure your gift, no matter the size, will have the power to create real and lasting change.

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Our Impact

**€160
million**

in Total Grants



**€50 +
million**

*in Community
Foundation Ireland
Endowment Fund*



Connectivity with

5,000

*voluntary, charitable
and community partners*



Our Expertise

There are many benefits to pledging your legacy gift to Community Foundation Ireland:

- Realising your philanthropic interests, and ensuring that the implementation of these interests does not rest with your next of kin or solicitors.
- Identifying grant-making opportunities in your area of philanthropic interest and work with our network of 5,000 charities and community partners to optimise the impact of your grant-making.
- Due Diligence Checks by our expert Grants and Donor Care Team to derisk your philanthropic investment in charitable organisations considered for funding.
- Capturing impact and insights from grant-making activities to ensure your donation has the desired impact.



**Strategic
Giving Vehicles**



**Due
Diligence**



**Support
& Advice**

Your legacy, giving into the future

When you choose to make a legacy gift to Community Foundation Ireland, your donation will be invested into the Foundations' endowment fund, unless otherwise directed. This is a secure long-term fund meaning that the capital amount will be untouched into the future. Our expert Investment Committee manages over €50 million of endowed funds, comprising the Community Foundation Ireland Endowment Fund, as well as private named donor funds.

Endowment is key to long-term giving

Our Endowment Fund is a powerful way to create a lasting contribution. It is a proven model of philanthropy that ensures donations can have perpetual impact. Like-minded donors pool resources and grow a fund from which returns are drawn down every year.

Each year, we distribute the returns to meet the greatest needs of our time and deliver grant-making to charities that our legacy donors wish to support. This provides sustainability to the Foundation and our many partners who rely on us for funding to drive change and impact.

Endowment funding is a strategic way to support the most pressing social issues of our time. It can support areas such as education, young people, older people, biodiversity and climate, those experiencing poverty and disadvantage and addresses those pressing issues that our communities face, now and into the future.

Donors can ensure their giving lives on beyond their lifetime, continuing to support the issues that matter most to them.

In Memoriam Gifts

You may wish to set up an In Memoriam Fund, to honour the life of someone that has passed on before you. You can leave a gift in memory of this person and through endowment fund grant-making, this person's legacy lives on for generations to come.





Leaving a Legacy Gift

Types of Legacy Gifts to choose:

Selecting the type of legacy gift you wish to leave is one of the first steps.

- **Residuary Gift:** A percentage of your remaining estate after family, other gifts and fees have been taken care of.
- **Pecuniary Gift:** A fixed sum of money.
- **Specific gift:** A gift of assets or shares.

Ways to leave a legacy gift

- **Include Community Foundation Ireland in your Will.**

You can name Community Foundation Ireland as the recipient charity in your will, including our name, address and charity number, alongside your area of charitable giving. Please find suggested wording [here](#) for ease of download. This offers complete peace of mind that your wishes are transparent and clear.

- **Include a Letter of Wishes with your Will**

Alongside your Will, you can write a 'Letter of Wishes'. A sample Letter of Wishes [here](#) for you to download. This is not a legally binding document but does place a moral obligation on your executor to follow your guidance, unless there is a valid reason why your wishes cannot be honoured. We would recommend you keep a copy securely with your Will, with your solicitor and inform Community Foundation Ireland of your wishes.

- **Add your legacy wishes to your existing Community Foundation Ireland Fund Agreement**

If you are an existing Fund Holder or want to set up a Fund to start your giving, we can add your legacy wishes as an amendment to your Fund Agreement. The team would be delighted to work with you to develop the optimal plan for your legacy. Our team will know your beloved causes and the Executor simply transfers the amount of your gift. Again, you would need to send a copy to your Solicitor.

These clauses and suggested wordings act as a guide and the Foundation recommends that donors work with a legal, tax or financial professional where there is any complexity around a donation.



Marian Finucane Scholarship Award

To acknowledge and remember the role of Marian Finucane in achieving social change, Community Foundation Ireland in partnership with Marian's family established a scholarship award in her name. This award supported women in challenging circumstances to access further education in Ireland.

The funding ensured that Marian's tireless work on equality and her interest in human rights as well as her commitment to women in particular was not just remembered, but passed on in way that ensured a lasting legacy.



Justin O'Brien Bursary

This bursary is named in honour of Justin O'Brien, a tireless advocate for vulnerable young people and a driving force in Irish social care reform. Community Foundation Ireland is proud to join CRAVA (Children's Residential and Aftercare Voluntary Association) and Don Bosco Care, to provide the annual award, established to support care-experienced young people in accessing and succeeding in third-level education in Ireland. This bursary celebrates Justin's legacy and builds on his unwavering belief in education as a path to empowerment.

“Community Foundation Ireland is a very real philanthropic option for people who have a definite idea about what they would like to achieve through their will. They can help implement their charitable wishes. Equally, for those who want to do something charitable, but aren't sure what, Community Foundation Ireland can offer a number of interesting options to ensure that, no matter what, monies will be well used to address the key future issues in society– whatever they may be.”

– Susan O'Connell, Founder, and Partner, O'Connell Brennan Solicitors

Together, We Can Achieve More

About Us

Community Foundation Ireland is a charity with a clear mission – equality for all in thriving communities. Our team is dedicated to building an equal and better future. We provide a trusted source of expertise for individuals, families and organisations who are looking to maximise the impact of their donations.

Get in Touch

If you believe in creating a better and more equal society for all, our team would be delighted to start a conversation about your philanthropy and legacy wishes. Contact us to learn more about how your legacy can make a meaningful difference in communities all over Ireland, for many years to come. You can call us on +353 (0)1 8747354 or email us in the Development Team.

We commit to stewarding the legacy gifts gifted by our donors and to celebrate and honour them for generations to come.

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