

RTÉ Toy Show Appeal 2024 Impact Grants Criteria

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About Community Foundation Ireland

Community Foundation Ireland and its partners believe in equality for all in thriving communities. We 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. We use our skills and knowledge developed over 24-years to help donors turn aspirations into effective investments.

The Foundation works with partners to achieve solutions for both long-standing and emerging challenges. The work is built upon four pillars: Empowering Generations, Sustainable Futures, Inclusive Communities and Accelerating Change.

Through our many partnerships we are working towards an Ireland where barriers are broken down and communities are empowered to thrive. Working with you, other non-profits and donors we are committed to making this vision a reality.

About the RTÉ Toy Show Appeal

The RTÉ Toy Show Appeal was established in 2020 to raise funds for Irish children's charities through the televised Late Late Toy Show. Since then, more than €21 million has been raised to support these charities.

The RTÉ Toy Show Appeal mission is: *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, wellbeing, play and creativity we aim to change children's lives for good.*

Last year €4,000,000 raised and distributed in 134 grants to support more than 1.1 million children and their family members all across Ireland. Thanks to the continued generosity of the Irish public, this year the Appeal raised over €3,600,000 which will be distributed through two open grant rounds in both the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland:

- The Community Grants Round
- The Impact Grants Round

The Impact Grants Round

Children and family charities working at local, regional and national level can apply for a grant under one of the following thematic strands:

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

The Impact Grants Round will open on Monday 12th February and children and family charities with an annual income of more than €500,000 can apply for funding. Grants of **€20,000 - €50,000** will be awarded, and applicants should apply for funding within these brackets. The grants call will close on Thursday 14th March 2024.

Community Foundation Ireland is hosting an informative how-to webinar on Wednesday 14th February to support charities in their application. This covers information relevant to both the Impact and the Community Grants rounds including the criteria, the application form and how to write a strong application. Sign up to the webinar on our website: www.communityfoundation.ie.

We recommend that applicants attend this webinar to find out more about the criteria and how to apply. The webinar will be recorded and published if you cannot make it on the day.

Timeline for Impact Grants

Opening Date for applications:	Monday 12 th February 2024
Closing Date for applications:	Thursday 14 th March 2024
Grants will be awarded:	End of May 2024
Interim Report due:	January 2025
Work should be completed:	June 2025
Outcome Report due:	July 2025

Organisations that are eligible to the Impact Grants Round

Eligible organisations must...	Ineligible Organisations include...
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be a child or family charity that <u>regularly</u> works with disadvantaged or vulnerable children from 0-18 years old. This includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Those at risk of poverty and facing consistent poverty ○ Those facing discrimination ○ Those with disabilities, life-limiting conditions and additional needs ○ Those facing and recovering from trauma 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Charities that do not regularly work with disadvantages or vulnerable children (ie less than ~60% of their time). • Charities with an annual income of less than €500,000. • Schools, universities and childcare facilities. • Sports organisations.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be registered with the Charities Regulator. • Have an annual income of more than €500,000. • Have up to date and sufficient governing documents, annual accounts and child safeguarding policies. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Profit-making companies. • Animal welfare organisations. • Proposals from individuals.
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Charities with local branches across the country should coordinate their application through their Head Office. One application per charity will be accepted.

Projects that are eligible to the Impact Grants Round

Eligible projects...	Ineligible projects include...
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must meet the objectives of your chosen strand, outlined below. • Must work with vulnerable or marginalised children and young people at a regional and/or national level. • Must create strong impact for the children who will benefit <u>and</u> the wider community. • Must employ models of best practice. • Should empower the children and young people who are benefiting from the programme. • May be a current programme that will be developed or upscaled with the funding, or a new innovative programme. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing core costs such as insurance, rent, bills etc. • Advocacy. • Small contributions to large scale building work or procurement. • Purchasing vehicles. • Religious or political activities. • Projects that have already happened or any activities that will happen before the grants are awarded. • Projects taking place outside of the Republic of Ireland.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May be to continue a project funded in last year's RTÉ Toy Show grant round. • Must start no earlier than June 2024 and run until the end of June 2025. | |
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Ineligible organisations and projects will not be successful, so please do not apply.

Meeting the objectives

Children and family charities with an annual income of more than €500,000 may apply for €20,000-€50,000 to one of the three strands:

- Addressing Essential Needs
- Improving Wellbeing
- Creativity and Play

Within these strands, Community Foundation Ireland has identified objectives that all successful projects will meet. Please choose one objective from the those listed below.

Strand 1: Addressing Essential Needs Strand

There are three aims of the Addressing Essential Needs strand. Applicants applying to this strand should choose one of the aims below that their project or programme will address:

- **Poverty**
 - Increase the number of children facing poverty to receive preventative wrap around supports that empower children and their families alongside meeting their basic human needs.
 - OR
 - Break the cycles of poverty through education by increasing the number of children accessing and remaining in high quality education and supporting models of best practice of alternative forms of education.
- **Safety**
 - Protect and empower children and young people to be safe online and in their homes by providing high quality supports to those in danger or at risk.

- **Environment**
 - Enable more children have access to green, vibrant and healthy spaces by developing current or new green spaces for children to enjoy.

Strand 2: Improving Wellbeing

- **Mental Health**
 - Improve the mental health of marginalised children and young people by increasing the number of children accessing high quality mental health programmes.
- **Physical Health**
 - Empower more children and young people with disabilities and those who have life-limiting illnesses, through personal development programmes, assistive technology, education and employment.

Strand 3: Creativity and Play

- **Access to the Arts and Recreation**
 - Ensure marginalised children and young people can benefit from the Arts and creative programmes by breaking down financial barriers and increasing access for those with disabilities or severe illnesses.
 - OR
 - Increase the number of accessible recreational spaces, including green spaces, by developing existing or new spaces.

Additional Notes:

- Projects may be to grow a current innovative programme or to start a new one.
- Proposals to this fund can include the proportion of staff time costs specifically related to the project. This also includes new staff salaries required to increase service provision.
- Applications can include small and large scale equipment or furniture that is relevant to the project.
- Small scale development of buildings or outside spaces is eligible in the Impact Grants Round. Developing or constructing a new building or buying a building or land is not eligible.
- Elements such as training and evaluation that ensure the success of the project are eligible.

- Charities are encouraged to collaborate with other organisations as part of their work. There will be one lead applicant for this application who must be eligible, but this charity may collaborate with organisations who are not eligible or who may also put in their own application.

Priorities for this Strand

We anticipate that this will be a very competitive grant round so proposals that meet all the priorities of this grant round will be prioritised for funding:

- Projects that have a strongly justified need based on research or feedback.
- Project or programmes that show innovation.
- Projects or programmes that are centred around prevention and early intervention.
- Projects that have a strong impact on the wider community as well as upon the direct beneficiaries.
- Projects that have the potential to be sustained beyond the life of this grant.
- Proposals that include evaluation as a part of the project and budget.
- Projects that will include the voice and feedback of beneficiaries in its development.

Governance Documents:

When submitting the application, all organisations will be required to upload digital copies of the following governance documents.

- **The Constitution or Memorandum and Articles of Association.**
 - This must show the mission statement or main objects of the organisation, how any donations will be used and the winding up clause.
 - For the purposes of this grant round, children and/or families should core or central to the charitable objectives.
- **A current list of your organisation's board / committee members and the dates they were appointed.**
- **A bank or credit union account statement header.**
 - This statement header must clearly show the Account Name, BIC and IBAN.
 - Please blank out any transactions, as this is purely to verify the account to pay the grant into.
 - If your organisation has a credit union account, you must supply an IBAN for your specific account. We are unable to accept applications without a unique account IBAN.
- **The organisation's most recent signed annual accounts.**

- Annual accounts should include unabridged financial statements for the year, or where relevant, a monthly profit and loss for the year.
- All applicants must declare their organisation's annual income on the application form, and this will be verified in your most recent annual accounts.
- Organisations with an annual income of less than €100,000 may provide a Profit and Loss account for the previous year if formal financial accounts are not available.
- Organisations with an annual income of more than €100,000 must provide audited annual accounts.
- Accounts should be from 2022 and must be signed.

If you do not submit the correct governance documents, your application will not be considered for funding.

Reporting requirements

All grantees will be required to submit a Progress and Outcome Report during the project. Progress reports will be due at the end of January 2025 and Outcome reports will be due in July 2025.

Where a project or budget change is required, approval from Community Foundation Ireland must be sought ahead of time.

How to apply

The Fund is open for applications on Monday 12th February 2024 and will close at 6pm on Thursday 14th March 2024.

Click on the following links to apply to the relevant strand of funding:

- [Addressing Essential Needs](#)
- [Improving Wellbeing](#)
- [Creativity and Play](#)

Transformative Grants Round

This year, we are running a Transformative Grants Round. This is an opportunity for charities applying in the Impact Round to submit an Expression of Interest to be invited apply to the Transformative Grants Round. Applications can be up to €150,000 and this funding may be spent down over 2 years.

The Transformative Project must be to significantly upscale your Impact Project. We won't be accepting proposals for other projects through the Transformative Grants Round. Part of significantly upscaling may also include building the capacity of your organisation.

Only projects that will benefit the following groups of children and young people will be eligible to access the higher level of funding for the Transformative Grants Round.

Children and young people...

- in emergency/temporary accommodation
- in care
- who are members of Traveller or Roma communities
- facing acute physical or mental health challenges
- who have been impacted by the prison system
- who have been impacted by abuse of any kind
- who have been impacted by sexual exploitation

A 500-word Expression of Interest should be submitted as part of your application to the Impact Grants Round. If your Expression of Interest is shortlisted, you will be invited to submit a full proposal to the Transformative Grants Round.

In the Expression of Interest, the following should be included:

- What the upscaled project will look like.
- Why the upscaling is needed and why the funding would be transformative.
- Top-level estimated budget figures for the Transformative Grant. Please note, we don't require a fully detailed budget at this stage.
- What the impact would be for the beneficiaries if the Transformative Grant was awarded.
- What the impact would be on the organisation, wider community and sector if the Transformative Grant was awarded.

This is an additional and optional element to the Impact Grants Round so there is no requirement to submit an Expression of Interest. If your Transformative application is not successful, your application to the Impact Grants Round will still be considered.

FAQs and contacts

It is recommended that you read our Grant FAQs before starting your grant application and join or watch our webinar on how to apply.

Should you have any further questions, please contact the Grants Team at info@foundation.ie. Please note that due to the high number of enquiries we may not be able to respond to queries immediately.