

IRISH YOUTH FOUNDATION (UK) GRANT AWARDS 2017 FOR PROJECTS BASED IN ENGLAND, SCOTLAND & WALES

Birmingham Irish Association

www.birminghamirish.org.uk

£3,000 has been awarded for Bereavement Support for young Irish Children: funding to provide a culturally appropriate and sensitive bereavement support service to young Irish children who have suffered a loss of a close family relative. The project will provide support to young people and their families in the home setting, or wherever comfortable for the child, and aims to increase wellbeing, build confidence and self-esteem, and enhance educational attainment following a recent bereavement.

Birmingham Irish Association was established in 1957 and aims to provide a range of support, advice and information to meet the welfare and cultural needs of the Irish community in Birmingham.

Birmingham TradFest

www.birminghamtradfest.co.uk

£2,000 has been awarded for The Trip to Birmingham TradFest: towards the promotion of Irish traditional music in a variety of ways throughout the year, aiming to foster greater levels of engagement with, and appreciation of, a shared sense of Irish heritage among young Irish people. The biggest project is the annual 'Trip to Birmingham Tradfest' festival in November and others include a 'Schools Programme', monthly participation sessions and concerts.

Birmingham TradFest is a not-for-profit organisation set up by 4 Birmingham-born Irish individuals under 25 in November 2013 with a number of aims centred on positively impacting other young Irish people in Birmingham. Their overarching aim is to promote greater levels of engagement with, and along with this a greater appreciation of, a shared sense of Irish heritage among young Irish people in Birmingham, and in turn other cities in the UK through the celebration of Irish traditional music.

The Brandon Centre, London

www.brandoncentre.org.uk

£3,000 has been awarded as a contribution towards the cost of the provision of a priority counselling and psychotherapy service for young Irish people aged 12-24 and their families. The Brandon Centre, formerly The London Youth Advisory Centre, was founded in 1968. The principal objective of the Centre is to provide an accessible and flexible professional service in response to the psychological, medical, sexual and social problems of troubled young people aged 12-25 and their families. It aims to relieve distress, mobilise personal resources and facilitate growth in adolescents towards responsibility and self-fulfilment.

Brent Centre for Young People, London

www.brentcentre.org.uk

£4,000 has been awarded towards the Mental Health Support & Liaison Project: to provide vital centre-based AET and Psychotherapy to at least 40 young Irish people. These are effective talking therapies, helping Irish young people to develop the capacity to think and to recognise their own thoughts and feelings about their situations, the first step on the path to recovery from entrenched mental and emotional difficulties. Practical support will be offered to the most vulnerable who have a range of other complex issues preventing recovery such as homelessness, debt, or not being in education, employment or training. These young people will be provided with Intensive, tailored, culturally sensitive and practical support sessions for as long as necessary to achieve self-set goals, such as entering education, training or employment, accessing benefits or finding housing.

The Brent Centre for Young People has been delivering support to young people with mental health problems and emotional issues since 1967. BCYP has grown to become the leading provider of mental health services for young people before they reach crisis point, working from the Centre, in local schools and at the Youth Offending Service in the borough of Brent and helping over 600 young people every year.

Conradh na Gaeilge Glaschú, Glasgow

www.cnag-glaschu.co.uk

£1,000 has been awarded towards Irish Culture Summer Scheme for Children: towards a 5-day Summer Scheme for children involving them in Irish culture through music, songs, dance, drama & sports activities in the southside of Glasgow which has a large 1st-4th generation Irish community in an area of some deprivation with few facilities particularly for children. All activities are used to introduce/improve the children's Irish language skills.

Conradh na Gaeilge Glaschú (The Gaelic League Glasgow)'s aim is to promote and maintain Irish language and culture in Glasgow's large Irish community. It provides each week 7 Irish language classes for adults and 1 for children as well as social and cultural activities, events and workshops for the Irish community living in Glasgow and surrounding areas.

Feith an Cheoil School of Traditional Irish Music, Enfield, N London

www.feighancheoil.co.uk

£500 has been awarded towards the purchase of new equipment to develop the musicianship and talent of Feith an Cheoil's young members.

Feith an Cheoil School of Traditional Irish Music has been established since September 2006 and has students ranging from age 7-18 from local primary and secondary schools in the Enfield and surrounding areas of Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire.

Friends, Families & Travellers, Brighton, Sussex

www.gypsy-traveller.org

£3,000 has been awarded towards the Training & Capacity Building Manager's salary: towards the salary costs of a part-time dedicated support worker and small travel costs for young people. The project aims to access 30 young Irish Travellers who are not in education, employment or training and offer intensive support through assertive outreach by a trained support worker from the travelling community. It will target young Irish Travellers aged 16-25 living in unauthorised encampments, on Traveller sites and in housing.

Friends, Families & Travellers is a small, dynamic, community led charity, supporting and advocating on behalf of Gypsies & Travellers. Using assertive outreach and community role models, it aims to help Travellers identify their health, education and cultural needs and bridge them into the services that meet their needs. They also work with mainstream agencies and national policy makers to encourage fair legislation, inclusivity, community cohesion and accessible services.

icap (Immigrant Counselling and Psychotherapy), London & Birmingham

www.icap.org.uk

£5,000 has been awarded towards Supporting Young Irish People: towards the provision of 200 psychotherapy sessions for up to 10 young Irish people under the age of 30 years old in London and Birmingham.

icap provides individuals and groups with culturally sensitive, weekly open-ended psychotherapy, particularly to the Irish community in Britain. Whilst the target group is Irish, immigrants from any ethnic background are also welcomed.

Irish Arts Foundation, Leeds

www.irisharts.org.uk

£1,000 has been awarded towards the Ireland in Schools Programme: to consolidate and further develop the 'Ireland in Schools' programme of workshops in primary schools across Leeds, targeted at Key Stage 2 (ages 8-11) and focused on music, dance and Celtic Art. The workshops take place in schools with a large 2nd, 3rd and/or dual heritage Irish and settled Irish Traveller intake, many of which are in areas that experience deprivation on a number of levels.

Formerly Irish Music Project Leeds, Irish Arts Foundation is a community based youth and cultural development inner city project providing access to engagement in Traditional Irish music and cultural activities through classes, workshops, access to materials, resources, promotion and performance.

Irish Chaplaincy

www.irishchaplaincy.org.uk

£6,500 has been awarded for Irish Youth in Prison: funding towards the development of the prisoner advocacy service to address the growing needs of young Irish people within the criminal justice system throughout England and Wales. Factors such as distance, cultural differences, education issues, mental health, legal difficulties, and the welfare of the partners and children of young Irish prisoners are addressed in a holistic way. The project includes a special focus on the literacy needs of young prisoners from the Traveller community and makes no distinction between prisoners in terms of background, conviction, sexual orientation or gender identity, religion or prison status. Prison visiting and casework provides advocacy and support throughout a young person's period of incarceration which can be a considerable number of years.

The Irish Chaplaincy is a leading social action charity established in 1957 addressing anti-Irish and anti-Traveller discrimination and the needs of vulnerable and socially isolated Irish people by offering free support through the following areas of work: Prisoners, Older Persons Outreach, Travellers Outreach and new immigrants.

Irish Community Care, Liverpool

www.iccm.org.uk

£9,500 has been awarded for Children and Young People Information, Advocacy & Support: funding to sustain ICCM's work with children and young Irish people the North West to ensure that they have a decent place to live, access appropriate support services and their entitlements, maintain family links, stay safe and well, do not reoffend, have opportunities for personal growth and development, education, training and employment opportunities, encouraging community participation, cohesion and citizenship.

Irish Community Care is a small dynamic needs-led agency aiming to identify and respond to the needs of Irish people, offering a range of professional and culturally sensitive services. ICCM offers a comprehensive service meeting the health, social care and cultural needs of young Irish people and Irish Travellers in the North West.

Irish Cultural Centre, Hammersmith, London

www.irishculturalcentre.co.uk

£7,000 has been awarded towards Children & Youth Music Education: towards the continuation of the Youth Education Scholarship for 3 young musicians (2 under 16, one 17-30) who wouldn't otherwise be able to afford to attend weekly music classes or buy an instrument with access to London travel expenses and the option of Grade exams; a contribution towards the core Irish Traditional Music Classes a contribution towards the traditional Irish music termly student performances.

The Irish Cultural Centre aims to provide a high quality Irish Arts and Education programme which is available to all Irish people and to everyone who wishes to share and participate in Irish arts, education and cultural activity.

Irish Film London

www.irishfilmlondon.com

£750 has been awarded for Youth Film Workshops & Screenings: a contribution towards 2 projects "I'm Irish and Proud" film screenings and talks run through the year on themes of Irish identity, isolation and mental health. Working with mental health organisations such as icap, Brent Centre for Young People and Mind Yourself to identify service users who would benefit from free attendance at activities around the films. "Irish Film London Scholarship" to provide free places for young people who would benefit from professional training in film and animation who would otherwise be unable to access it.

Irish Film London is a not-for-profit company established in 2012 with a year-round programme delivering Irish film screenings, Q&A sessions with directors and animators, and runs workshops with children and young people in London. It aims to expand the youth section this year with additional workshops dedicated to young people.

Irish Music and Dance in London (IMDL)

www.returntocamden.org

£750 has been awarded for The Trad Gathering Youth Project: to bring together a large number of young traditional Irish musicians from across London and further afield to work on big collaborative projects and high profile performances. The Trad Gathering was initially run from 2008-2011 with great success and, after a 6-year break, a whole new wave of young musicians is ready for this project following a pilot performance at the Lord Mayor of London's St Patrick's celebration in 2016. Irish Music and Dance in London (IMDL) exists to promote traditional Irish arts in London, to serve and bring together the London Irish community through its high-quality events and local outreach activities. The organisation aims to promote the positive identity of the Irish in London by including traditional Irish arts on mainstream platforms and by acting as a consultant to other arts organisations and aspiring promoters of Irish arts around the country. This organisation draws on the skills and experience of the Director and the 50-plus team of volunteers who have successfully planned, promoted and delivered the internationally renowned Return to Camden Town Festival and fringe events for the past 18 years.

Liverpool Irish Centre (formerly St Michael's Irish Centre)

www.liverpoolirishcentre.org

£5,000 has been awarded towards the salary of the Activities Co-ordinator to provide cultural activities for young people.

St Michael's Parish Centre was given to the Irish Community on Merseyside by the Liverpool Archdioceses in May 1999. In October 2001 the Parish Centre became St Michael's Irish Centre and a registered charity with its own constitution and management structure, since when it has been the centre of Irish social, cultural, sporting and recreational activities in the area. The Centre changed its name to Liverpool Irish Centre in 2017.

London Irish Centre

www.londonirishcentre.org

£7,000 has been awarded towards the Advice and Outreach Service: funding for face-to-face, telephone, email and online advice and information for young Irish people in London and those in Ireland thinking about moving to London, offering help on access to housing, benefits, finding accommodation, healthcare, crisis care and employment. Where appropriate LIC will refer young people to organisations able to offer specialist assistance, i.e. mental health. The London Irish Centre was established in 1956 to serve the welfare and cultural needs of the Irish community in London, especially the disadvantaged. Within the Centre, the Youth Resettlement Project provides vital safety and support for the growing numbers of young Irish people forced to leave Ireland for economic or other reasons offering advice, information, advocacy, referral, counselling and practical help.

Luton Irish Forum

www.lutonirishforum.org

£5,000 has been awarded a New Irish – Health & Wellbeing Project: towards the cost of a welfare officer to help the under 30's "new" Irish emigrants to become established in Luton and surrounding counties, whilst preventing the adverse experiences shared by many including isolation, poverty, homelessness, addiction problems and suicide by providing practical information, advice and support and promoting access to job, skills and social opportunities.

Luton Irish Forum was established 15 years ago to meet the needs of the local Irish community, providing welfare assistance, health promotion, social and cultural activities.

Luton Irish Forum has also been awarded the Quality Award 2017

in recognition of Luton Irish Forum's excellent service provision to the young Irish people of Luton and surrounding counties, particularly the provision of information and advice to the many new young arrivals from Ireland.

Manchester Irish Education Group

£2,000 has been awarded towards the Children's Irish Music Festival in partnership with Manchester Music Service: to provide workshops in Irish song, music and dance for children from schools in all ten Greater Manchester boroughs in the weeks leading up to the 3-day festival before St Patrick's day. Each school will be invited to send 30 children and a couple of staff to participate. The Manchester Irish Education Group was founded in 1986. Its aim is to promote a positive image of Ireland and the Irish in schools, community, colleges and universities in the belief that the large Irish community should have access to its cultural background and that this should be shared with others. Over and above this, the group tries to give support to people of any age who want to explore and reaffirm their Irish identity.

New Horizon Youth Centre

www.nhyouthcentre.org.uk

£9,500 has been awarded for the Irish Youth Project: a contribution towards salary costs of providing a holistic model of support including lifeskills; literacy and numeracy; drug and alcohol advice; counselling; physical and mental health primary care; connection to services in participant's home area; securing ID; and primarily a listening and non-judgmental ear in a warm and safe environment. The project will also focus on young Irish men and women who are involved, or in danger of becoming involved, in dangerous street activities, have gang affiliations, are in prison and/or who have multiple and complex needs. A culturally sensitive service will engage with young Irish women and men on the streets and in custody and divert them to New Horizon's centre-based housing/advice service. It will help young people access appropriate housing and support them through resettlement work and introduce them to the in-house counselling and lifeskills training service. Regular prison visits will be made to young Irish people in custody with the aim of steering them towards appropriate services on their release before they are drawn into any street-based/criminal/gang-related or other potentially harmful activity.

New Horizon Youth Centre provides a 7 day a week service including advice and tenancy sustainment as well as facilities such as food, laundry, showers and clothes store to young homeless people from 16-21 years old. The street outreach team complements the day centre services and operates in the boroughs of Camden and Islington. Projects provided in-house include drugs education, literacy & numeracy training, basic skills training, counselling, peer education and training programmes that focus on young people between 16-21 as well as sex workers 16-35.

Play Midlothian, Dalkeith

www.playmidlothian.org.uk

£2,000 has been awarded towards funding for a one-year project of outreach play sessions and participatory engagement with children resident at the local Gypsy and Traveller site. Children from the site attend a local primary school but do not access play provision currently available in the area. The project seeks to erode barriers between communities by including children living at the Gypsy and Traveller site at existing play sessions with children from their school.

Midlothian Association of Play was established in 1996 and works to improve the welfare of children in Midlothian through improving and increasing their opportunity to play, because this has known benefits to children's health, wellbeing and development. Services are targeted to the areas with most social need. The organisation changed its name in 2017 to Play Midlothian to give the charity a strong and clear identity and reflect the many ways it supports children in Midlothian.

St John Bosco Youth Club

£1,000 has been awarded towards the hire of the hall to run Youth Club activities for children from low-income Irish families in the deprived area of Tower Hamlets. The club was started 40 years ago by the late Sister Mary Lawrence and some of the children's parents attended when they were children. It is affectionately known in the community as "Sister's Club" in her memory.

St John Bosco Youth Club runs Irish dancing classes and sporting activities for young people in the deprived Tower Hamlets area of East London.

Solace Women's Aid

www.solacewomensaid.org

£9,000 has been awarded for the Irish/Irish Traveller Domestic Violence Project: a contribution towards the provision of one-to-one case work to Irish Traveller women who are affected by domestic violence. The project will help them flee abuse, live safely and recover from trauma. The project also runs domestic abuse awareness-raising and empowerment groups aiming to increase the women's self-esteem, confidence and resilience; raise awareness of their rights, benefits and safety issues, and the impact of abuse on themselves and their children. The programme will be run in partnership with The Traveller Movement.

Solace Women's Aid provides services across London which addresses the support needs of women and children affected by domestic and sexual violence. It provides specialist services in the community and in refuges, to women, children and young people (including dedicated support to Irish and Irish Traveller families). Their services are holistic and empowering so that service users can live independent lives free from abuse. SWA was founded in June 2007 as a result of a merger between Camden, Enfield and Islington Women's Aid. In 2012 SWA merged with DVSS (Barnet) and Lambeth Women's Aid to form a charity dedicated to supporting survivors of domestic and sexual violence with over 100 collective years' experience in this area of work. SWA manage multiple refuges sites across the capital and a number of pan-London services with dedicated teams in Islington, Southwark, Haringey, Camden, Barnet, Waltham Forest, Lambeth and Enfield.

Tyneside Irish Cultural Society

www.tynesideirish.com

£1,500 has been awarded towards Storytelling in Schools: As part of the Tyneside Irish Festival, a Storyteller and Musician will visit 10 selected primary schools in NE England during the festival period. The schools selected will include those with significant Irish connections and with a high proportion of disadvantaged pupils. The project aims to work with young people enabling them to make direct links with their Irish heritage and raise awareness of their cultural identity sharing skills, stories and music with pupils from Ireland.

Tyneside Irish Cultural Society's aim is to promote & maintain Irish culture on Tyneside, through concerts, music classes, drama, education and a 2-week festival in October.