

IRISH · YOUTH · FOUNDATION ·



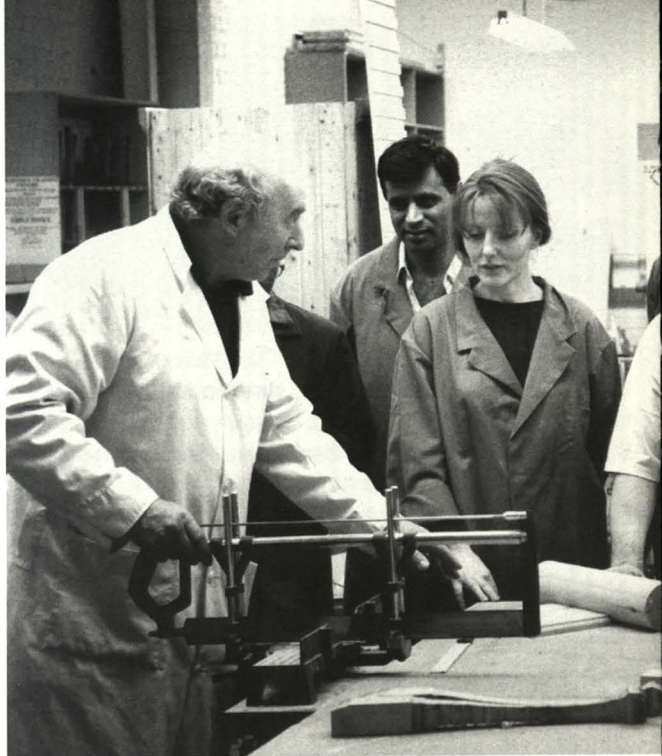
working together for

Irish children

and

young people

in the UK



Learning a skill at the Luton Day Centre
for the Homeless, above and below



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he Irish Youth Foundation (UK) was founded in 1989 and since its inception has raised more than £1.4m for programmes which support young disadvantaged Irish people under the age of 25.

The Foundation was established by Norma Smurfit, President, to help the large numbers of young Irish people arriving in Britain during the late 1980s. In recent years the numbers have decreased, but the needs of these young people are now greater and more complex. The aim of the Irish Youth Foundation (UK) is to be pro-active in the Irish community and to help those in need to lead a more integrated and useful life.

Funds raised come from covenants, donations and events organised by a dynamic and tireless Fundraising Committee who plan a series of events throughout the year. The Irish Youth Foundation (UK) supports a wide range of projects which encompass:

- Training
- Counselling
- Advice/Advocacy
- Homelessness
- Disability
- Cross-culture
- Cultural/social activities



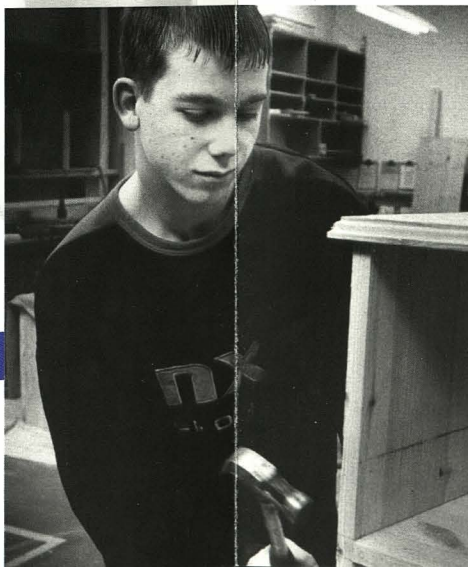
The grants for these projects fall into three categories:

- Small grants – up to £2,000
- Medium grants – up to £10,000
- Large grants – up to £10,000-£25,000

All applications for grants are carefully assessed by an independent Advisory Committee and their recommendations are passed to the Board of Trustees for approval. The Trustees meet regularly to review the criteria for awarding grants in response to the changing requirements of society.

every penny makes a difference

The grants are presented annually at a reception hosted by the Irish Ambassador at the Embassy in London. More recently, over £220,000 was awarded to 45 varying projects. Large grants included £20,000 to London Irish Centre Charity, to assist a youth resettlement project helping young Irish people who face housing problems in London; and £19,000 to Irish Community Care, Manchester, for a research and development worker whose role is to identify the needs of, and assist, young Irish women to gain equality of access for social benefits and entitlements in this country.



Carpentry at
the Luton Day
Centre for the
Homeless



The medium grants included £4,000 to Action Group for Irish Youth to help develop access to information for young people on the Internet; £3,000 was awarded to the Hammersmith and Fulham Irish Centre for the Children's Irish Saturday and Summer School and for setting up an annual Irish Arts School project.

Smaller grants included £1,300 to Bristol Playbus towards updating equipment for a mobile after-school project; and £2,000 to the Irish Support and Advice Centre for their repatriation project.

The Fundraising Committee and Advisory Board of the Irish Youth Foundation (UK) work on an entirely voluntary basis which ensures that all money raised goes directly to disadvantaged young people. They need our help – and yours.



Lessons in dress-making
at the Ealing Project, left
and cover



For further details of how you
can make a difference to the lives of
these young people, please write to us:

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