



January 2020

## We've been busy – in 771 ways!

The past two years have been exceptionally busy for Clann Credo. We're delighted to have been able to help 771 project partners realise their ambitions during this time!

This outstanding level of progress has only been achieved because of the vision of our partners – all the community groups, social enterprises and charities we work with. Their actions address social, environmental and economic needs in their communities, and it is their projects that bring our finance to life.

Likewise, we could not enable the goals of our project partners without our investors. We are honoured to have their continued trust and support.

And, we applaud every member of our team; each has made a huge contribution to the approval of a staggering 409 proposals totalling €35,000,000 in 2018 and 362 proposals totalling €34,300,000 in 2019.

- €21.9 million was disbursed to 250 projects in 2019, up from €17 million to 206 projects in 2018.
- In excess of €137 million disbursed to over 1,900 projects since Clann Credo was established in 1996
- At the end of 2019, Clann Credo had €34.6 million in loan finance working for social and environmental impact across Ireland.

We know that these numbers only tell a small part of the story. The thousands of people whose lives are made better by our project partners each have their own story, and these are the stories that matter most to us and motivate our work.

So, to all our project partners, our investors and to every member of our team, both board and staff, we thank you.

# THANK YOU

To read more about the great work our loan finance makes possible, browse through some of our success stories on our website [www.clanncred.ie](http://www.clanncred.ie) or link [here](#).

## The Social Enterprise Development Fund is open for applications.

The Social Enterprise Development Fund is a €3.2 million Fund which is being delivered over four years: 2018 – 2022. The fund was created by Social Innovation Fund Ireland ([SIFI](#)) in partnership with Local Authorities Ireland and funded by IPB Insurance and the Department of Rural and Community Development.

The objective of the Fund is to find and back social enterprises that add to the social and economic fabric of their community by way of social impact. The Fund will provide critical support to the most innovative and impactful social enterprises across Ireland, helping them to:

- Increase their social impact
- Increase their traded income
- Create more jobs
- Develop long-term, effective and sustainable solutions

We're very proud that one of our customers, [Irish Seed Savers](#), was one of the [recipients in 2019](#).



## Case Study: A Friend in Need

It would be impossible to put a value on the work carried out by Circle of Friends.

Operating out of the Station House Enterprise Centre in Tipperary town, the group was founded in 2013 and offers support and key services for people living with cancer and their Carers.

But such a generalised description barely does their work justice, which ranges from a drop-in centre, provision of complementary therapies free of charge, support groups, counselling and an outreach programme.

Staffed largely by volunteers, Circle of Friends puts a premium on delivering those services in a warm, welcoming environment for people living in the West Tipperary, East Limerick and north Cork areas.

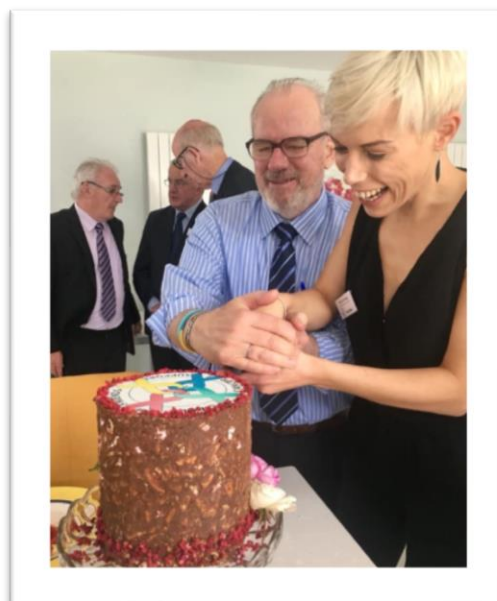
With over 30 people a day utilising their essential services it wasn't long before Circle of Friends had outgrown their original premises and so began the search for a new location.

A site was quickly acquired courtesy of Tipperary/Cashel Municipal Council and ambitious plans were drawn up for a purpose-built centre complete with office facilities, treatment rooms, private spaces and a large, modern kitchen designed to accommodate the numerous coffee mornings and culinary demonstrations.

An extensive fundraising drive saw Circle of Friends raise substantial sums towards the cost of the new centre. The group also approached Clann Credo, seeking the support and investment needed. That support was forthcoming, and work began in earnest on making their ambitious plan a reality.

Find out more about Circle of Friends on their [website](http://www.circleoffriendscancersupport.com/) <http://www.circleoffriendscancersupport.com/>.

*Pictured below: A fabulous turnout, and impressive cake to celebrate the launch of the new centre in June 2019!*



## Are you ready for the next call for Sports Capital Fund applications?

**Sports Capital funding provides substantial grants and the benefits to successful communities are huge! Preparation is the key to success...**

The aim of the fund is to:

- Assist voluntary and community organisations, national governing bodies (NGBs) of sport, local authorities and Education and Training Boards and schools to develop high quality, accessible, safe, well-designed, sustainable facilities in appropriate locations and to provide appropriate equipment to help maximise participation in sport and physical recreation.
- Prioritise the needs of disadvantaged areas and groups (such as people with disabilities) in the provision of sports facilities.
- Encourage the sharing of sports facilities by clubs, community organisations and national governing bodies of sport.

Your application will benefit greatly by explaining how you plan to attract disadvantaged groups to use your current or planned facilities. Such initiatives could include offering lower cost access to people with disabilities, the unemployed or pensioners. Are there any groups in your area such as people with disabilities, migrants or members of the Traveller community who could be encouraged to participate more in sports? What specifically will you do to encourage such groups

to use your facilities? Is the proposed project likely to benefit those suffering from mental health issues?

All organisations, other than local authorities, must make a minimum contribution of 5% of the total project costs from your own funds. This can be in the form of a loan or savings. When assessing applications, the Fund gives higher marks to organisations that show they can provide a higher percentage of own funding (with weighting in favour of disadvantaged areas). You should therefore contribute as much own funding as you can towards your project.

**Watch this space for details of information events with our partners the Federation of Irish Sport.**

Here's the link to all the information: <https://www.sportscapitalprogramme.ie/>

Visit our website:  
[www.clanncredo.ie](http://www.clanncredo.ie)



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Clann Credo Company Limited by Guarantee is a self-financing not-for-profit organisation serving the community, voluntary and charity sectors. All its capital comes from private sources; religious charities and the retail banking sector through the Social Finance Foundation (SFF). The interest paid on its socially directed investments covers its operational costs.

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