

# Institute for Social Banking Summer School, 2017

Giving Workshop

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“To give away money is an easy matter and in any man’s power. But to decide to whom to give it, and how large, and when, and for what purpose and how, is neither in every man’s power nor an easy matter.”

*Aristotle (384-322 B.C.)*

# Overview

- Giving – a spectrum of approaches
- Introducing community foundations
- Philanthropy in Ireland
- The Community Foundation for Ireland
- Grants versus loans
- Case studies:
  - Supporting advocacy
  - The Year of Belonging

# The Giving Spectrum

## Philanthropy –

- Origins in Greek term *philanthopos* – for the love of humanity
- “Voluntary action for the public good (Payton 1988); “The private giving of time or valuables (money, security, property) for public purposes (Salamon 1992)

Spectrum/continuum (continuous sequence in which adjacent elements are not perceptibly different from each other, but the extremes are quite distinct); volunteering through to major gifts

# Introducing Community Foundations

- Proven model of philanthropy – over one hundred years old, 1800 community foundations globally
- Cleveland Foundation, 1913 Banker and lawyer Frederick H. Goff vision to pool the charitable resources of Cleveland's philanthropists, living and dead, into a single, great, and permanent endowment for the betterment of the city (\$2.13bn)
- Roles:
  - Grant-making: investing in people and solutions to build stronger communities
  - Making giving easy - working with donors
  - Leadership & civic engagement – convening role
- Partnering with professional advisers
- Partnering with other stakeholders

# Philanthropy in Ireland

- Strong tradition of charitable giving
- Strategic, engaged, purposeful giving less frequent, also low levels of giving
- Benefacts – Non profit Sector analysis 2017 ([www.benefacts.ie](http://www.benefacts.ie))
- Small number of charitable trusts and foundations One Foundation, The Atlantic Philanthropies and JRCT all ceased funding
- Grant making foundations €5m+ - the Ireland Funds and The Community Foundation for Ireland

# The Community Foundation for Ireland

- Philanthropic organisation, established in 2000 – cumulative grant-making of over €30m, almost €6m in 2016, endowed fund €40m
- Roles:
  - Grant-making: over €30m in cumulative grants, €5.7m in 2016
  - Making giving easy - working with donors – 70+ funds – individuals and families, corporates, other charitable organisations/ trusts and foundations
  - Leadership & civic engagement – CFI grants & convening role
- Partnering with professional advisers (including CFI Advisory Group)
- Partnering with other stakeholders including The Wheel, Clann Credo, Social Entrepreneurs Ireland

# Grants vs loans?

- Grants and /or loans – need for both
- CFI – virtually all grants to date – looking at social investment (e.g. King Baudouin Foundation) although grantmakers moving into social finance not always seamless (core competencies)
- Grants
  - Philanthropic donations important opportunity for civic engagement – chance to give back
  - Where little/no income stream
  - Advocacy and hard to fund causes
  - As potential to demonstrate new approaches/ test water (if successful can be mainstreamed through public monies/ social investment/finance)
  - May not change the world but may still make it a better place (including small grants)



# Supporting Advocacy

- Grant making has a critical role to play in supporting advocacy (not to say all philanthropic funding is progressive)
- Examples of CFI at its best:
  - LGBT – 10 years plus, including marriage equality
  - Older Persons' Fund (supported by The Atlantic Philanthropies), including CRAOL community radio project
  - Women for Election
  - Turn off the Red Light Campaign (Sexual Offences Bill)
  - Irish Penal Reform Trust

# The Year of Belonging 2016

- Chose Belonging theme for year (1916 centenary and Canadian Community Foundations)
- Vital Signs Survey on Belonging – what it feels like to belong in Irish society and communities and who may feel excluded
- Grants focussed on Trans Gender, Older People, Youth, Travellers and Families at Risk
- Community Gatherings – 250 Community Gatherings throughout Ireland in 2016



# The Year of Belonging 2016

*"The grants for community parties from The Community Foundation for Ireland are a great incentive for communities to get to know one another and build a sense of community within the neighbourhood"*

*"Thanks so much to The Community Foundation for your continued support for our activities. I can't stress enough what these small occasional grants allow us to do. They really make a difference."*



# Thank You

