

2018 a year of growth for Investment Funds' industry charity basis.point

basis.point is the Irish Fund Industry's initiative to make a real and visible difference by supporting educational programmes for disadvantaged children across Ireland. LOUISE EGAN and GERALDINE GLEESON summarise the year's achievements.

2018 was a year of great growth and expansion for the Irish Fund Industry's charity basis.point. €1.4m, raised through individual and corporate donations, has now been committed by basis.point to six charities working for the benefit of children and young people on multi-year, evidence based educational programmes. The geographical reach of basis.point funded programmes has also expanded in 2018 to include Wexford, Waterford, Kilkenny and Galway in addition to the existing locations of Dublin, Cork, Limerick reflecting the Funds Industry's footfall throughout Ireland.

"basis.point's reach expanded in 2018 with the launch of the 'Supporter Programme' in May which has already seen a significant uptake by industry professionals. In addition to the existing 'Patron Programme' with a €1,000 annual contribution, the Supporter Programme offers a new level of individual membership with a €250 annual contribution."

Donor support also grew in 2018. basis.point has over 400 'Patrons' and 'Supporters' representing asset managers (promoters), service providers, professional firms and individuals, and independent directors of the Irish Investment Fund and Asset Management Industry.

Joined up giving

A registered charity, basis.point is the Irish Fund Industry's initiative to come together on a "joined up giving" basis to help make a real and sustainable difference to the educational life-cycle of children and young people from areas of historical disadvantage. basis.point achieves its goal by providing grants to other registered Irish charities with similarly aligned objectives and initiatives to fund programmes that focus on education.



Students from Stanhope Street Girls Secondary School, Dublin, engaged in making balloon cars as part of the DIT Junior Cycle Product Design workshops. basis.point supports the DIT Junior Cycle Workshop Programme which promotes higher education as a realistic and achievable ambition for students

The six organisations funded by basis.point are Archways, Business in the Community, the DIT Foundation, the Early Learning Initiative of the National College of Ireland, Foróige and Suas.

'Supporter' programme launch

basis.point's reach expanded in 2018 with the launch of the 'Supporter Programme' in May which has already seen a significant uptake by industry professionals. In addition to the existing 'Patron Programme' with a €1,000 annual contribution, the Supporter Programme offers a new level of individual membership with a €250 annual contribution. Supporters form a very important part of the basis.point movement and benefit from volunteering options, engagement with grantees and networking opportunities

The team

Clive Bellows EVP Northern Trust took over as Chairman in September 2018 from Eimear Cowhey Independent Director. The



Eimear Cowhey (previous Chairperson) and Clive Bellows (current Chairperson of basis.point)

board includes well known investment industry figures such as Declan O'Sullivan, Partner Dechert, Mike

Hartwell, Partner, Deloitte, Colm Clifford, Partner, KPMG, and Independent Directors Denise Kinsella, Paul McNaughton, Fiona Mulcahy and Adrian Waters.

The board is supported by a dynamic Disbursements Committee led by Aidan Tiernan, Partner EY which evaluates, selects and monitors the grantee charities. basis.point's Administrator Louise Egan and volunteers Geraldine Gleeson of KPMG and Sonya Mooney of Northern Trust together with the wider pool of dedicated volunteers have all worked together to enable the 2018 achievements.

Events

Even March's Storm Emma didn't dampen the 4th Annual Spring Lunch event which was rescheduled to 4 May and saw a bigger and better occasion for basis.point with nearly 500 funds industry professionals filling Dublin's Mansion House. The 5th Annual Spring Lunch takes place on Friday 3rd May 2019 again in the Mansion House so take note for your diaries.



The 6th Annual Corporate Golf Challenge was held in Milltown Golf Club on Friday 7 September 2018. With nearly 200 golfers partaking, Milltown Golf Course was a busy spot and competition was strong for the much sought after Cathal Lavelle Trophy. The Caceis team, captained by Gordon Gibson, won the Trophy with Artisan Partners of Milwaukee once again winning the Promoter Prize.

"The Early Learning Initiative's ("ELI") Coding Club is back and bigger than before, and thanks to the funding and support that will be provided until May 2020, even more children will learn programming, electronics and robotics in a fun and challenging way. Clive Bellows, Chairman of basis.point said "basis.point is delighted to have worked with RBC through our Partner Programme to facilitate the expansion of this great initiative."

basis.point is holding a Grantee Showcase Event on 15 January 2018 at National College of Ireland ("NCI") where Patrons and Supporters will have an opportunity to meet with the grantees and find out how they have benefitted from the support of basis.point over the last number of years.

Corporate Partner Programmes

basis.point also runs a Partner Programme which welcomes large donors to co-fund specific projects with basis.point. To date Northern Trust, BNP and most recently RBC have collaborated with basis.point on such programmes.

The recent basis.point RBC Partner Programme is good news for children



Coders Harlow Wilson, Reece Kelly, Shannalee Curtis and Mark Hynes with president of National College of Ireland, Gina Quin; Dr Josephine Bleach and Shivonne Heery from NCI's Early Learning Initiative (ELI); Eimear Cowhey and Tom Coghlan, basis.point; Padraig Kenny and Karen Craig, RBC Investor & Treasury Services, Ireland

aged 7-12 living near the National College of Ireland.

The Early Learning Initiative's ("ELI") Coding Club is back and bigger than before, and thanks to the funding and support that will be provided until May 2020, even more children will learn programming, electronics and robotics in a fun and challenging way.

Clive Bellows, Chairman of basis.point said "basis.point is delighted to have worked with RBC through our Partner Programme to facilitate the expansion of

this great initiative. Our collaborative 'joinedupgiving' approach enables the ongoing support and development of this and other exciting educational initiatives for young people in Ireland".

Get behind us, support us, our industry will make a difference.

For more information, or details of how to get involved with basis.point please visit: www.basispoint.ie, @basispointIRE, #joinedupgiving