

**Community Foundation**  
NORTHERN IRELAND

# Grantmaking Report April to September 2018



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From **April to September 2018** we  
received

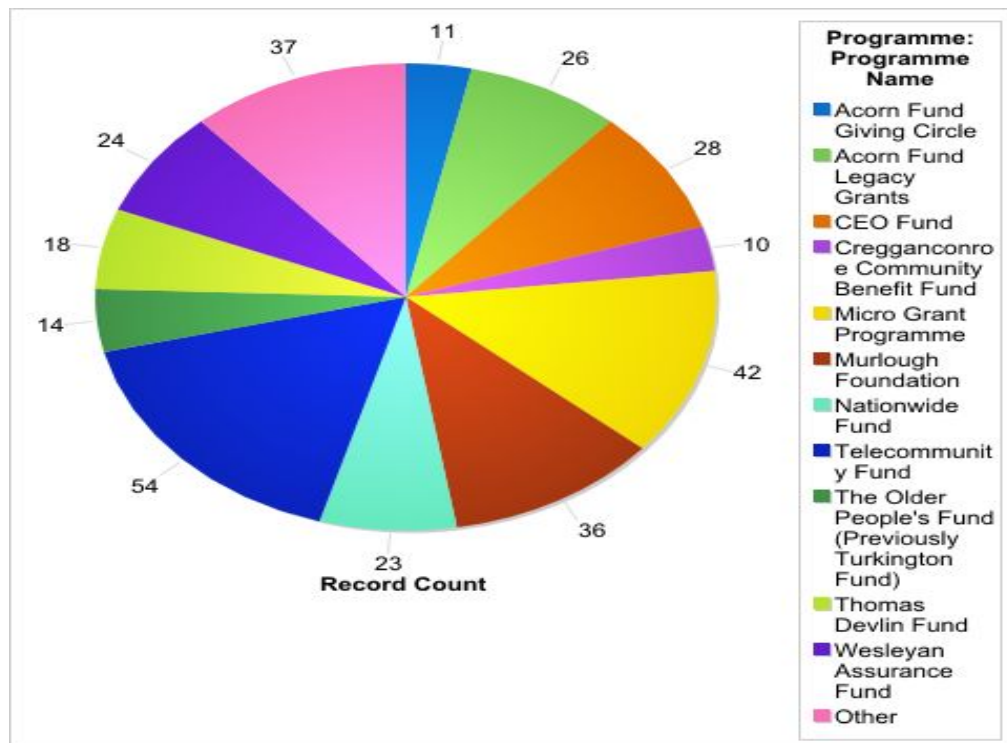
**323 grant applications**  
(130 fewer than FY 17-18)

Total amount requested  
**£1,424,495.60**  
(£1,744,230 requested in FY 17-18)

**174 grants awarded**  
(100 fewer than FY 17-18)

Total amount awarded  
**£568,518.50**  
(£695,811 awarded in FY 17-18)

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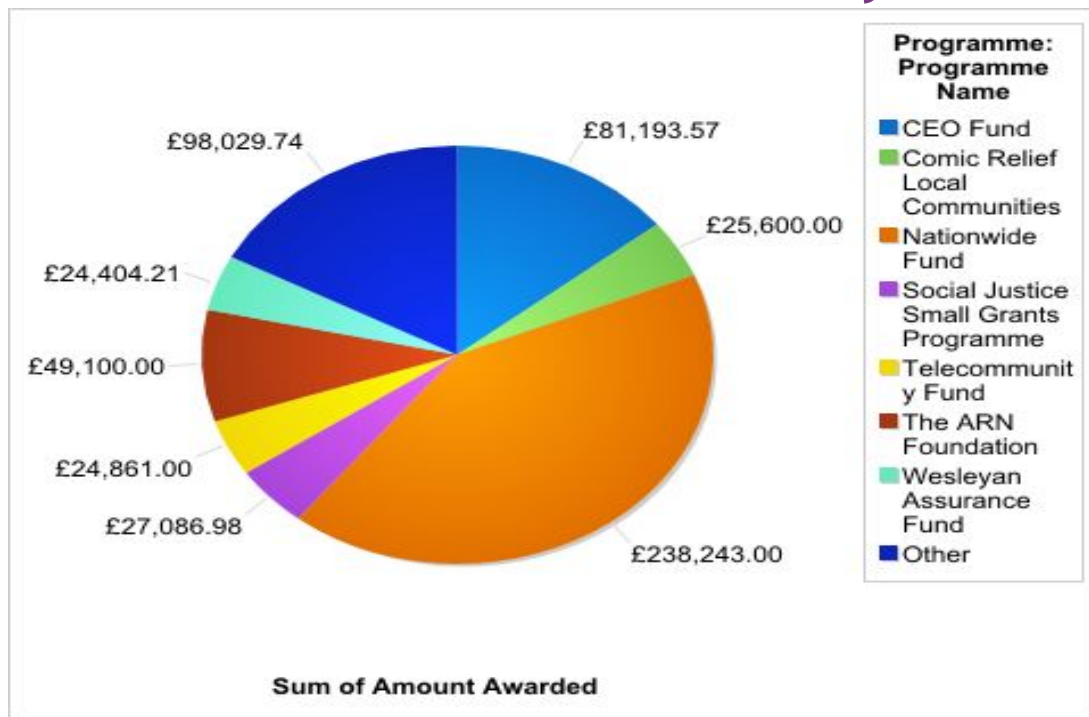


**43% success rate**

**220 communities supported**



# Grants Awarded Broken down by Fund



Total number of grants awarded

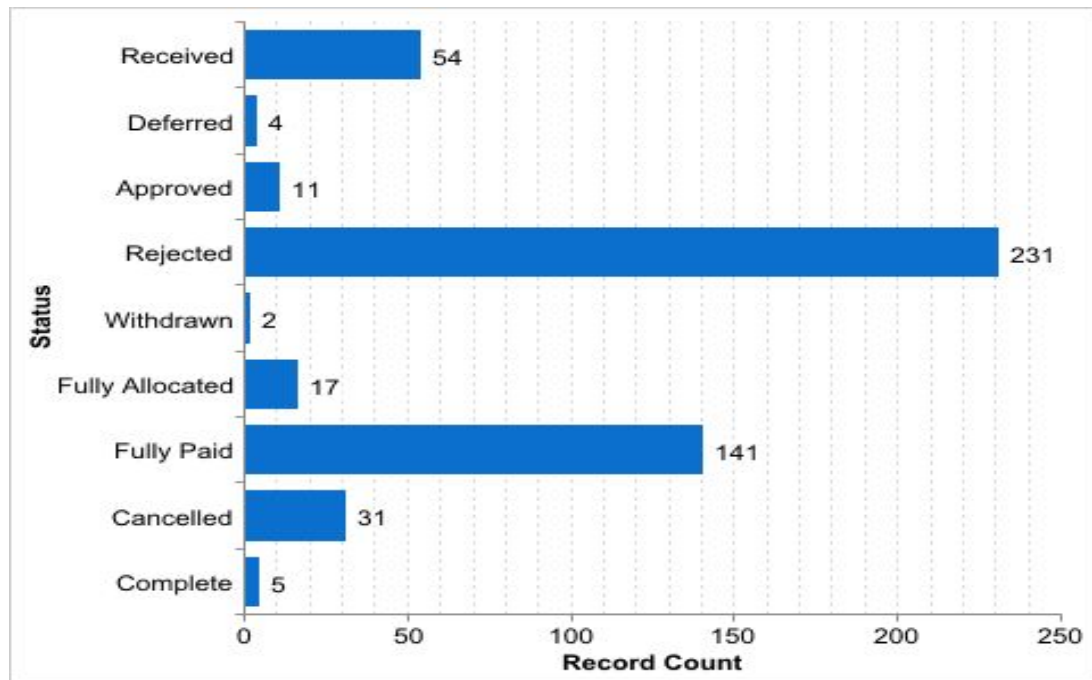
**174**

43%  
success  
rate

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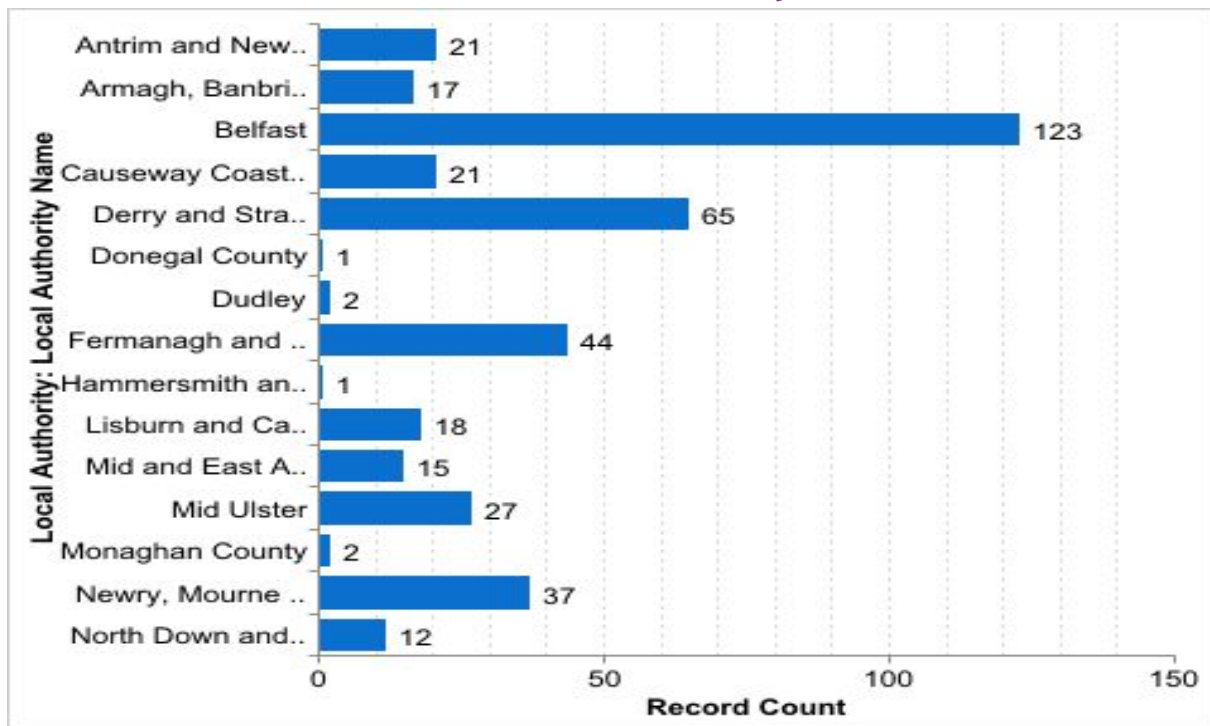
# Application status for April to September 2018



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# Breakdown of decisions by Council Area



Highest success rate  
**Derry and Strabane**

Lowest success rate  
**Armagh, Banbridge and  
Craigavon**

Highest number of applications  
**Belfast**

Lowest number of applications  
**North Down and Ards**

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# Breakdown by Vital Signs Themes



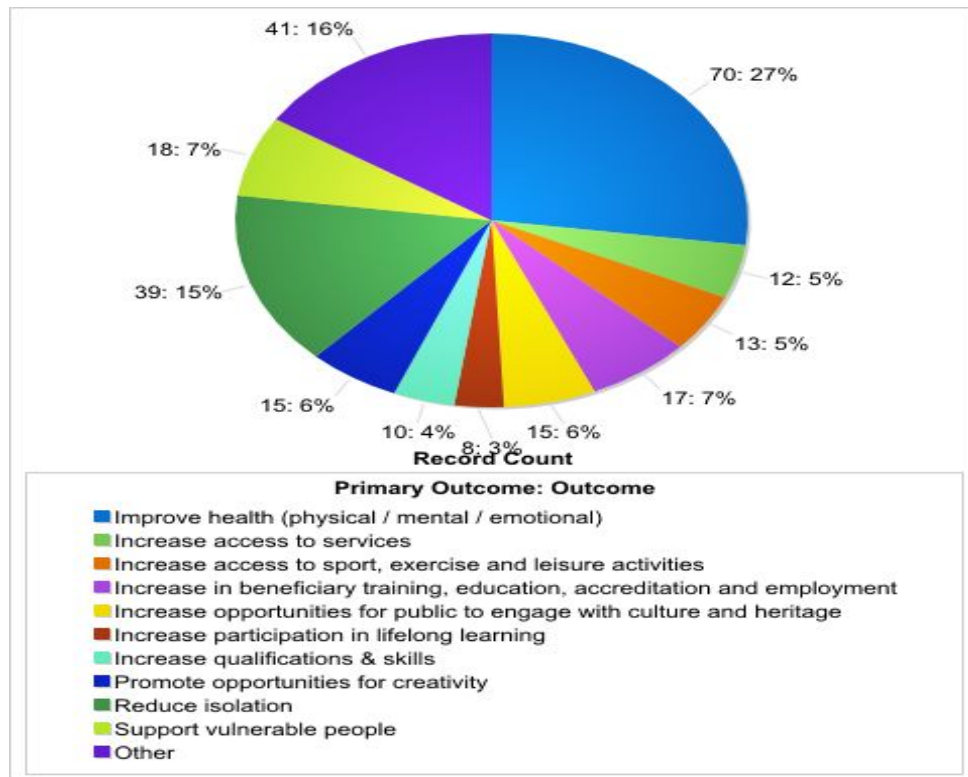
**Highest amount awarded under the category of Housing and Homelessness**

**Lowest amount awarded under the category of Work**

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# Impact Outcomes



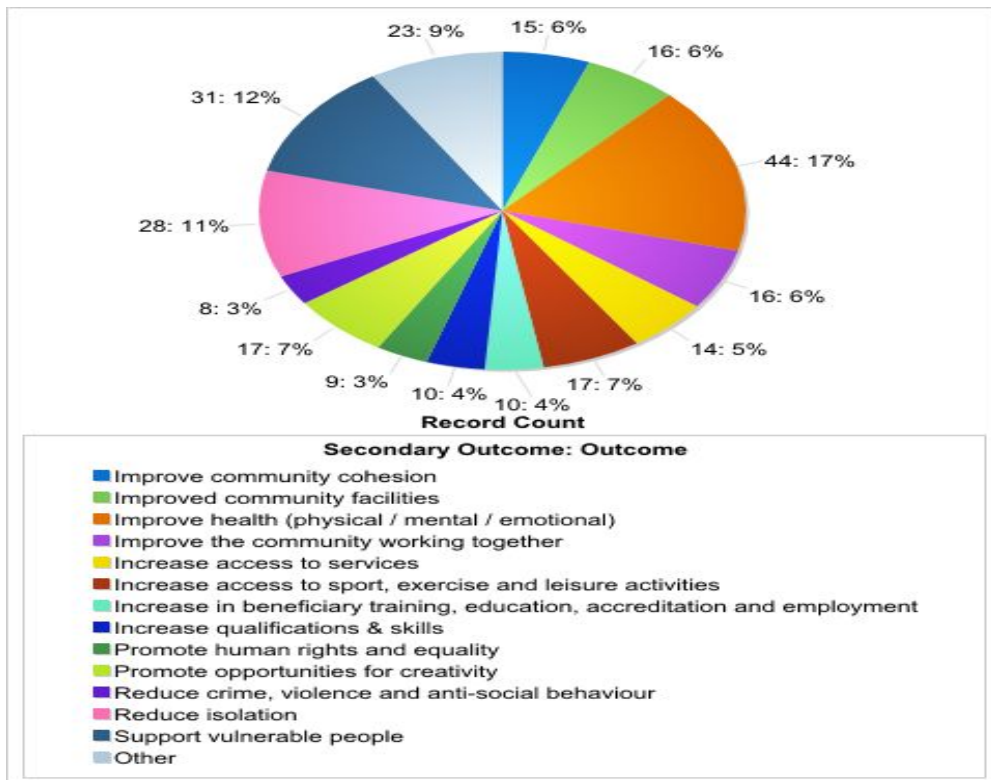
**Primary outcomes of our grantmaking Q1 and Q2 include:**

- Improved physical, mental and emotional wellbeing
- Improved access to services and facilities, including access to sport and leisure activities
- Provision of training and education and increased qualification and skills
- Reduction of isolation and support for vulnerable people

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# Impact Outcomes



## Secondary outcomes of our grantmaking include:

- Improved community cohesion
- Opportunities for the public to engage with culture and heritage
- Promotion of human rights and equality
- Supporting vulnerable people

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# Housing and Homelessness Case Study



Poverty

**Simon Community NI, Nationwide, amount awarded £49,974.56  
Towards tenancy sustainment.**

Having identified a lack of savings as a significant barrier to clients who are 'tenancy-ready', the Simon Community has committed to working with landlords to provide deposits or appropriate bonds. This project will fund a Tenancy Sustainment Officer post to increase the private rented sector options available to our clients:

- ensure clients are prepared for their tenancy,
- identify and supporting landlords in working with their new tenants,
- market the benefits of working with homeless people,

Simon Community will work with partner agencies in the sector to put a support in place to sustain clients in their tenancies.

The project will aim to recoup expenditure on deposits, re-investing this in further deposits.

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# Beneficiaries and amount awarded per impact category

Our funding will support 123,445 beneficiaries

£407,283 has been awarded to promote reduction of isolation and disadvantage

£145,518 has been awarded towards advancing people's physical and mental wellbeing

£28,278 has been awarded towards connecting people with the arts, culture and heritage

£76,459 has been awarded to improve life skills, education, employability and enterprise

Average cost per beneficiary = £5.55

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# Arts, Culture and Heritage Case Study



## **Comedia of Errors Theatre Company, Comic Relief Core Strength, amount awarded £3,600 Towards salaries and running costs for a Touring Theatre**

This project will take actors into care homes around Northern Ireland, bringing music, plays and poetry into homes to engage with and stimulate vulnerable and isolated older people who are no longer able to attend the theatre. This project has a particular focus on those living in disadvantaged and / or marginalised rural and urban areas.

This grant will be spent to pay for the Artistic Director to spend one day a week focused solely on this project. This time will be spent on organisational aspects of the project, including: fundraising, developing performance materials, marketing and PR, liaising with care homes and carrying out the necessary logistics of touring a production, including contracting performers, scheduling, budgeting, costume, performance materials and organising rehearsals.

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# Health and well being Case Study



Health and Wellbeing

**Tackling Awareness and Mental Health Initiative, Wesleyan Fund, amount awarded £8200  
Towards the delivery of Schools in the Community Resilience Programme delivered to P6, P7 and 1st  
year pupils in North Belfast.**

Funding will be invested to deliver Schools in the Community Resilience Programme - delivered to P6; P7 and 1st year pupils from St Patrick's/Seaview PS & Trinity.

The project will train and develop 20 young leaders and 5 mentors from St Malachy's College, BRA & Trinity College - over 2 ten week blocks (each term). The programme will link messages aimed at empowering young people to overcome challenges of living in areas ranked in the top 5% most deprived communities in NI, of which have contributed to North Belfast ranking number 1 for poor mental health and suicide in NI.

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# Civic Engagement Case Study



## **Garvagh Development Trust, Social Innovation Seed Fund, amount awarded £5,000 Towards a Social Innovators Seed Fund project.**

This pilot consists of three phases: **June – September '18** Development of pilot delivery methodology including ensuring: A range of activities and programmes in place to be delivered initially in Garvagh Forest, Drumnaph Community Woodland, Cornfield Project, and Ballylough Estate with Millburn Complementary Therapy Centre; Referral processes agreed with a range of methods including self-referral; community groups; pharmacists; GPs; Communication and marketing plan developed; Delivery of Level 1 Green Care Intervention Training; Evaluation methodology agreed.

**October – March '18** Delivery of pilot: Service users participating in a wide range of activities and programmes that improve their wellbeing. These will include walking groups; horticulture; wood craft; walk therapy; gentle movement; crochet; arts; reflexology; Couch-5k; cooking; mindfulness.

**April – May '18** Evaluation of pilot: Evaluation of approach, methodology and outcomes.

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# Vital Thinking

- The approval rate remains below the target of 55%, currently sitting at 43%. This is as a result of being oversubscribed for many funds and receiving more applications in the first two quarters of the financial year, in comparison to previous financial years.
- There continues to be higher levels of success with applications in urban areas, particularly Belfast, and Derry and Strabane, and less success in more rurally isolated Local Government areas.

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# Vital Thinking

- The highest amount awarded in terms of Vital Signs themes is Housing and Homelessness. This theme has consistently been a theme where we have not had many funds particularly targeting. The increase in funding awarded in this category is a direct result of delivery of the Nationwide Programme, which specifically targets support for this issue, on a regional scale. It is a new territory for the Foundation, and there will be learning for us, when we start to see some progress in the projects awarded support.
- The level of interest has shown that the issue is important in NI, particularly in more urban areas such as Belfast and Derry, and that the priorities are broad, addressing obvious homelessness, as well as hidden homelessness, and support to prevent homelessness, as a result of issues such as alcohol and drug abuse.

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# Vital Action

- Review of targets as part of the Foundation's new strategy should take place, to accommodate likely reduction in funds, particularly CFNI unrestricted resources, which will therefore lead to less applications, as well as potential for oversubscription of remaining funds. The approval rate and target for the number of applications may need to be reduced in the next FY.
- The Foundation should focus promotion on rural areas through attending local funding fairs and liaison with Rural Support Networks. Targeted areas for promotion and outreach should include Lisburn and Castlereagh, Ards and North Down, and Mid and East Antrim.

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