



## Funding for COVID-19 Community Response Initiatives

### **The COVID-19 Community Support Grant Fund – Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council**

The Department of Communities has made available funding to local Councils through our existing Community Support Programme to provide additional assistance to vulnerable communities in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. **The COVID-19 Community Support Grant Fund** is to provide small grants to local community and voluntary organisations to deal with emerging issues in local communities as a result of the continuing threat of Corona-virus.

Our online hub will be accepting applications from 3 pm today, 8th April 2020. Applications should be submitted online via Council's Online Funding Hub. You can access the hub through Council's homepage <https://www.causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk/grantsandfunding/covid-19-community-support-fund> and click on Funding or go straight to the online hub at <http://causeway.eformz.info>

### **Clothworkers' Emergency Capital Programme Responds to Covid-1**

The Clothworkers' Emergency Capital Programme (CECP) will award small capital grants of up to £5,000 for essential capital items to adapt or increase services in response to the novel coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic. Priority will be given to organisations supporting vulnerable and 'at risk' groups within our programme areas during this period.

Please note that this programme is not open to charities whose beneficiaries are based in London. We will be announcing separate initiatives for London charities over the coming days.

We recognise the immediate need for capital items and aim to make quick decisions on applications. However, if we receive a large volume of applications it may take up to two weeks for a decision to reach you.

We expect the criteria for this programme to evolve as our understanding of the needs of organisations supporting beneficiaries in our programme areas develops.

Key features of the fund:

- Applications are only open to charities whose beneficiaries are not based in London
- We will award capital grants of up to £5,000 (but we will not award grants equal to more than 50% of your annual income)
- We aim to communicate a decision within one week (but it may take up to two weeks)
- Capital projects that are planned as part of your organisation's ordinary course of business are not eligible; for these you may wish to review the What We Fund page for our Open Grants Programmes

Key organisational eligibility:

- Income of less than £2 million per annum
- Work of the applicant organisation must fall within our nine programme areas
- We do not support organisations that promote a particular religion or that only provide services to people of a particular religion
- You must demonstrate your not-for-profit status in the application form and your accounts.

We fund the following types of charitable and not-for-profit organisations:

- Charities registered with the Charity Commission including Community Interest Organisations (CIO)
- Community Interest Companies (limited by guarantee without share capital)
- 'Exempt Charities' (in which case we require details of your principal regulator and/or evidence of HMRC exemption)
- Special Schools
- Please note that a 'Constitution' document alone is not a sufficient demonstration of eligibility.

To Apply Complete Eligibility Test: <https://clothworkersfdn1.typeform.com/to/lc3HER>

## No Child Goes Hungry – Community Support Programme

Applications must be made by Constituted Community/Voluntary Organisation – Please note that, if any of the group's objectives includes advancement of religion, then the group is not eligible for a grant award and should not apply.

Applicants will be asked to provide details of the programme being proposed, and how it will support families with children under the age of 10 who may face food poverty as a result of the order to close schools and/or loss of household income as a result of the COVID-19 virus. As the closure order may run into the summer holiday period the fund is keen to support community-based programmes that can provide support across this entire period.

Applicants will be asked to provide details as to how the proposal will support families in a way that safeguards their privacy and their dignity. Applicants will be asked to provide details as to how any grant awarded will be used in a way that supports local businesses in this time of crisis.

### Who Can Apply?

You must be a locally led and based organisation. This means you are based within the area you are carrying out activities and have local people involved in the running of the organisation. As such we accept applications from the voluntary and community sector including:

- constituted voluntary and community groups
- charities
- social enterprises
- co-operatives
- community interest companies
- organisations with income levels of £250,000 or below

### Priorities Include:

Priority will be given to small, locally based and local run groups or organisations in areas of disadvantage that have a clear understanding of the needs of their community and are undertaking actions as a means of addressing these needs. Depending on the quality and volume of applications received priority will be given to:

- Those that are new to Comic Relief and/or Community Foundation funding

- Those in geographically underfunded areas
- Those with lived experience, where people directly affected by the issues are involved in all.

If applications are received from a number of groups operating in the same geographical area, the Community Foundation reserves the right to contact these groups asking them to develop a more coordinated approach thus enhancing the potential of the fund to reach out to as many communities as possible.

#### Who Can Not Apply?

- Individuals
- Statutory organisations, including schools, universities or hospitals
- Private limited companies
- Unconstituted organisations
- National organisations, unless the application is submitted by a local office with a separate management committee, bank account and governing documents
- Organisations whose purpose is to promote party politics or religion. Your organisation must be inclusive to all at every level of the organisation (from trustees to staff to volunteers and beneficiaries) and this must be reflected in your governance and in practice.

The grant awarded will not be used for the excluded activities set out below:

- Activities which evangelise (the practice or spreading of religious beliefs) or proselytise (the practice of trying to convert people to own belief or religious views);
- Adopting a partisan political stance or activities which are party political. Community Foundation and Comic Relief will not support organisations that advocate violence to campaign or influence public opinion;
- One off conferences or workshops as it is difficult to demonstrate what impact such events are likely to achieve. Community Foundation and Comic Relief can fund conferences and workshops as part of longer-term projects or work;
- General appeals, individual and group sponsorship, market appeals, proposals for bursaries from individuals or the proposal from individuals for the funding of study or the attainment of qualifications;
- Work where the long-term institutional care of children or young people is a preferred way of working over the longer-term (e.g. setting up or running orphanages). Where short-term temporary institutional care is used as part of an intervention to support children and young people,

applicants will need to demonstrate how the work that they propose seeks to develop and implement community-based alternatives;

- The provision of services that are the primary and legal responsibility of the state. We recognise that this is a grey area, and in some exceptional circumstances may fund the provision of some services internationally. However this will only be a result of proactive approaches.”

In addition we won't fund:

- Vehicles, land, property, large scale building works
- Salary costs and general core running costs, unless specific to delivery of a particular project
- Capital equipment
- Retrospective costs/debts
- Solicitor fees
- Medical expenses and medicines
- Holidays and overseas trips or shopping trips

#### \_What You Will Need To Apply?

We will ask for the following supporting documents to be uploaded with your application:

- A copy of your governing document (e.g. constitution, memorandum & articles or set of rules).
- A copy of your most recent annual accounts or management accounts if these are unavailable.
- Copies of your safeguarding and equal opportunities policies, if you need support with safeguarding we suggest seeking guidance from the NSPCC. <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/services-and-resources/research-and-resources/2017/safe-network-standards/>

You need a minimum of three unrelated management committee members to be eligible for the grant.

#### The Community Foundation NI - Coronavirus Community Fund

This fund is continually evolving. Originally available for constituted community organisations throughout NI supporting isolated older people over 50, it has now widened to also support activities for people at increased risk, particularly in relation to poor mental health and wellbeing and also vulnerable isolated people and families, particularly those living in rural areas. Grants

range from £1000 to £2500 for small scale emergency support up to £10,000 for longer term support or for those significantly enhancing their services at this time.

NB. Safeguarding guidelines for this fund also changed on 27 March 2020 to reflect the fact that groups want to respond to immediate COVID-19 issues and may not yet have full adult safeguarding policies and procedures in place.

For more details please check the website – [The Community Foundation for NI](#)

### **Tesco Bags of Life – Community Fund**

Funding is available for groups in NI from Tesco Bags of Help - COVID 19 Community Fund. There is a quick application form to complete to enable funding to be released quickly. A single payment of £500 will be given to organisations who are supporting vulnerable people. They will fund supplies for food banks, holiday hunger clubs, services for older people. Tesco would welcome applications from:

Food Banks

Hospices

Charities

Older people's groups

Children's services

For queries please email [tescocv@groundwork.org.uk](mailto:tescocv@groundwork.org.uk) or check the website - [www.tescobagsofhelp.org.uk](http://www.tescobagsofhelp.org.uk)

### **Halifax Foundation NI**

The Halifax Foundation NI board have decided to focus on their small and medium grants over the coming months in direct response to COVID-19.

Their Large and Special Initiatives grants will be put on hold for now due to the activity based nature of these programmes, to be awarded at a later date. They are inviting applications from charities and constituted groups that focus on supporting the community at this time.

They hope to get grants out quickly to where funds are needed most – rather than quarterly grant making, they will process applications monthly, even weekly where needed.

They want to ensure that they can support you in any way that they can which will include flexibility around funding and reporting. If your charity is affected by the Coronavirus outbreak and you receive grant funding from Halifax Foundation they have advised that:

- **We will be reasonable if you need to request budget changes to ensure your projects can continue.**
- **We will consider any project extension requests sympathetically.**
- **If you think you will struggle to meet your end of project evaluation deadline please get in touch to request an extension.**

From 19 March 2020 they will be closing their Belfast Office and will be working remotely until further notice – if you need to get in touch with them please email us [admin@halifaxfoundationni.org](mailto:admin@halifaxfoundationni.org) and we they endeavour to answer all queries and requests as quickly as possible.

**The Small and Medium Grants Programmes will remain open, please visit their website should you wish to apply at <http://www.halifaxfoundationni.org>**

### **Neighbourly.com: Covid-19 Community Fund**

With support from M&S Family (including M&S Bank and M&S Energy), Lidl, Aldi, Danone UK & Ireland and Coca-Cola European Partners, Neighbourly are launching a series of micro-grants of up to £400, for existing members of Neighbourly in UK and Ireland whose work involves supporting members of the community suffering economically, socially or from ill health as a result of the outbreak. This may include, but not be limited to, elderly people, those on low incomes and people at risk of food insecurity. Grant are unrestricted and can go towards food provision, emergency supplies, practical support, running costs, transport and other essentials.

For more details please check the website [Neighbourly](#)

### **The National Lottery – Community Fund**

The latest statement from NLCF is as follows:

“All the funding decisions we make for the next six months (up to £300m of National Lottery funding) will be devoted to addressing the current crisis. In addition, we will accelerate the cash part of this funding as much as we can, so

that we can get money to where it needs to be. This is not new money, but it will be faster money and we know that we must act quickly and with confidence.”

For continually updated news on how National Lottery Community fund is helping grant holders please see website –

<http://www.tnlcommunityfund.org.uk>

### **Charities Aid Foundation - CAF**

CAF has launched its rapid response fund to help smaller charities affected by COVID19, grants of up to £10,000 will help them to continue to deliver much needed support to our communities. Payments will aim to be made within 14 days. Groups can apply for: core costs, staffing, volunteer costs, supplies, equipment.

Groups who can apply – organisations with a charitable purpose and charitable activities which had an income of less than £1 million in the last financial year.

Uk registered charities registered with NI Charities Commission and Scottish Charity Regulator

Groups must be able to describe how an emergency grant will improve the situation if their group and community

Please check the website to apply and for more information –

[www.cafonline.org](http://www.cafonline.org)

### **DfC Community Contingency Fund**

Department for Communities is going to make available funding to local Councils to provide additional assistance to vulnerable communities in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The COVID-19 Community Contingency Fund will provide small grants to local community and voluntary organisations to deal with emerging issues in local communities as a result of the continuing threat of coronavirus. Council is awaiting further details of this funding and when

received will make it immediately available for groups in Causeway Coast and Glens.

### **Heritage Emergency Fund**

The National Lottery Heritage Fund has put together £50 million to support the heritage sector as an immediate response to the coronavirus outbreak. The £50 million fund will be available for grants of between £3,000-£50,000. It is available to organisations across the full breadth of heritage, including historic sites, industrial and maritime heritage, museums, libraries and archives, parks and gardens, landscapes and nature. To find out more, please check the website – [www.heritagefund.org.uk](http://www.heritagefund.org.uk)