

Investing in Young People

Making grants to support disadvantaged young people living at the margins of society; with the aim of improving their skills, building their confidence and resilience and breaking down the barriers to their employment

This programme will build on the success of the Trust's recent 'Young People with Poverty of Opportunity' grants programme by investing in organisations that put the needs of disadvantaged young people at the heart of what they do.

The Trustees believe that every young person should have the opportunity to meet his or her full potential. Too many face huge barriers to meaningful employment and although they may have the same aspirations as their peers, many are deprived of opportunity. The reasons can be numerous and complex including: insecure housing; mental and physical ill health; caring responsibilities; substance misuse; homelessness; criminal convictions and being a care leaver.

The Trust is interested to hear from organisations in Kent working with:

- unemployed young people - aged 16-25, not in education, training or employment (NEETS)
- young offenders and those at risk of offending aged 14-25
- young people in or leaving care aged 14-25
- other groups of disengaged, disaffected and vulnerable young people aged 14-25

The Trust will make grants to organisations working to meet the needs of these young people by improving their academic performance or vocational skills or by helping to break down the barriers that prevent them from participating in education, employment or training.

Eligibility criteria

- Organisations must be a registered charity, CIC, social enterprise or other properly constituted not-for-profit organisation¹ with a management committee with at least three unrelated members
- Organisations must be working to benefit young people living in Kent
- Funding **will not** be allocated for **core costs of an existing service** unless this will unlock new opportunities or extend the service in some way.
- Organisations **must** be able to provide at least two years of published financial accounts
- Grants can be paid only into a UK bank account in the organisation's name.

¹ You will be expected to demonstrate your not-for-profit tax status in your application.

Level of funding available

Organisations can apply for either:

- a one-off grant of between £20,000 and £50,000

OR

- a grant of between £10,000 and £25,000 per annum, for a maximum of three years (in certain circumstances this *may* be extended to five years.)

Please note - the total annual grant cannot be greater than 50% of your most recent annual turnover.

Extra priority

We are **particularly interested** to hear from organisations that we have funded recently and that can demonstrate that our funds have had a significant impact. Extra priority will be given to groups that:

- work in a particularly disadvantaged or deprived area
- have limited access to other sources of income
- clearly define the need they are addressing
- clearly demonstrate the benefit to young people
- demonstrate a commitment to service user involvement
- can demonstrate partnership working
- offer matched funding opportunities.

Exclusions

We regret that we are not able to fund:

- Individuals - unless they are made as part of our 'Hardship Awards' Programme
- National charities receiving widespread support
- Statutory bodies and anything deemed to be the responsibility of the State
- Nurseries, schools and colleges
- Hospitals and health authorities
- Medical care, medical equipment or medical research
- Academic research, scholarships or bursaries
- Animal charities
- The promotion of religion
- The restoration or conservation of buildings
- Annual or one-off events and festivals
- Work outside of Kent
- Endowment appeals
- Work that has already taken place i.e. retrospective funding
- Round-robin, widely circulated appeals

How to Apply

All applications **must be submitted** using the Trust's online application form. Applications by email will not be accepted. There are no deadlines and decisions are made on a rolling basis. Organisations are advised to download a copy of the application questions and prepare their answers in advance in Word, as they will be able to cut and paste these into the online form.

Please note that you will be asked to provide:

- your published accounts for the two most recent financial years
- a budget in Excel or as a Word table, showing specifically what the grant would pay for
- your organisation's safe guarding policy.
- If you are not a registered charity, evidence of your not-for-profit tax status *e.g. a copy of your constitution and asset lock if applicable*

Decisions

We aim to inform applicants as soon as possible about the outcome of their application, but this usually takes between four and six months.

Unfortunately, the Trust receives many more applications than it can fund and therefore many good proposals have to be turned down. The trustees and their staff regret that they are not able to enter into correspondence about the reasons for Trustees' decisions.

If you have a question that is not answered in this guidance, please email David Williams

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