

Investing in Young People with Poverty of Opportunity

The Trustees believe that every young person should have the opportunity to meet his or her full potential. Too many young people remain outside of education, employment or training (NEET) and although they may have the same aspirations as their peers, many are deprived of opportunity. The reasons for this are numerous and often mutually reinforcing; for example parental unemployment, family breakdown, drug and alcohol abuse, discrimination and poor physical and mental health. Colyer-Fergusson's latest grant programmes seek to support projects which tackle young people's 'poverty of opportunity' in innovative and effective ways.

The Trust is interested to hear about potential ***new*** projects that could make a demonstrable difference to the lives of young people with poverty of opportunity. Project proposals should be aimed at meeting the needs of young people in one or more of the following categories:

- educational underachievers aged 14-16 and not expecting to achieve five GCSEs (or equivalent) grades A-C
- unemployed - aged 16-25 and not in education, training or employment
- offenders and ex-offenders – aged 14-25
- in or leaving care
- other groups of disengaged, disaffected and vulnerable young people

Projects may focus on meeting their needs in a range of ways, for example (but not exclusively):

- Improving academic achievement, particularly literacy and numeracy skills
- Building self-confidence and supporting young people into education or employment, for example through mentoring programmes
- Reducing offending and anti-social behaviour
- Improving mental health

How to apply

Applicants must submit an expression of interest form online explaining their proposed project. The form is designed to be easy to complete and succinct, capturing essential details about the organisation and the project. Applicants may wish to visit the form and take a note of the questions so that they can prepare their longer answers in Word and copy and paste them into their submission.

All expressions of interest will be acknowledged and applicants submitting projects of interest will be contacted and invited to provide more detailed information. Please contact us if you have any problems with the online form or if you do not receive an acknowledgement email.

Eligibility criteria

- Organisations must be a registered charity, CIC, social enterprise, parish church or other properly constituted not-for-profit organisation
- Organisations must be based in Kent and the proposed project must benefit young people with poverty of opportunity living in the County
- Organisations must operate with sound governance and robust financial management
- Organisations must offer value for money
- The proposed project must be well-planned with defined, measurable outcomes.
- The proposed project must be a sustainable service.
- Funding **will not be allocated to an existing service** unless it unlocks new opportunities or extends the service in an innovative way.

Extra priority

Extra priority will be given to organisations:

- operating with low overheads
- using innovative approaches to tackling difficult issues
- involving and consulting young people
- collaborating with other local voluntary organisations
- offering matched funding opportunities (we are particularly interested in working with other funders to deliver solutions.)

Scale of grants

The minimum grant offered will be £15,000 and the maximum £75,000, but the majority of grants are likely to be between £20,000 and £50,000.

Exclusions

We regret that we are not able to fund:

- Individuals - unless they are made via one of our referral partners as part of our 'Hardship Awards' Programme
- National charities receiving widespread support
- Statutory bodies
- 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
- Work outside of Kent
- Endowment appeals
- Work that has already taken place i.e. retrospective funding
- Round-robin, widely circulated appeals

Please note: if your project involves delivering vocational training or apprenticeship, please submit an expression of interest for our '*Funding for Apprenticeships and Vocational Learning Programme*'

Decisions

Unfortunately we receive many more applications than we are able to fund and therefore many good proposals, even though they fit our priorities, have to be turned down. The trustees and their staff regret that they are not able to enter into correspondence about the reasons for their decisions.

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

grantadmin@cfct.org.uk

Contact details:

David Williams - Administrator

The Colyer-Fergusson Charitable Trust, Marcar House, Parkshot, London TW9 2RG

Email: grantadmin@cfct.org.uk Telephone 020 8948 3388