

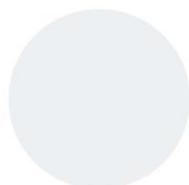


U K COMMUNITY
FOUNDATIONS

GIVING FOR LOCAL GOOD

#WILL

GOOD PRACTICE IN APPLYING FOR AND
UTILISING GRANT FUNDING



GOOD PRACTICE IN APPLYING FOR AND UTILISING GRANT FUNDING

The following guide is designed to support your application to the #iwill Fund; our advice has been gathered from learning and feedback provided by previous applicants and grantees of the #iwill Fund.

We've groups the types of project in to eight types below and have simply laid out what we believe to be the 'keys to success', 'the things to take in to consideration' and in every case we've provided an example of what good looks like:

EIGHT TYPES OF PROJECT

- Volunteering Projects
- Education and Learning Projects
- Arts and Culture Projects
- Disability Support Projects
- Environmental Projects
- Sports and Fitness Projects
- Healthy Eating Projects
- Crime Reduction Projects

SOME GENERAL ADVICE THAT IS GOOD TO BEAR IN MIND FOR ALL PROJECTS IS:

- If you require external support (consultants, instructors, tutors) approach providers before the start of the project to avoid any delays.
- If you have previously struggled with attendance, establish attendance rules, for example if you miss two or three sessions you will be removed from the project.
- Co-design projects with young people who can bring their lived experience of issues to the projects.

VOLUNTEERING PROJECTS

KEY TO SUCCESS:

Ensure that the young people you currently work with feel valued and the programmes increase their future opportunities, incentives can be a useful tool. For example, certification, training courses, references or even free food.

We suggest planning the time and resources needed for bespoke volunteer training. Training could be developed into a toolkit or webinars, which could be used as a low-cost method to train younger volunteers.

If you would like to gain a better understanding of different approaches and methods to effectively engage young people in volunteering roles, one suggestion is to reach out to local youth clubs or youth-led organisations.

THINGS TO TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION:

- Have you worked with young volunteers before? Do you understand their training needs?
- Have you thought about incentives for volunteering?
- Do you have the resources and capacity to provide the appropriate training?

PROJECT EXAMPLE:

The Mustard Tree Foundation was awarded £2,110 from Berkshire Community Foundation.

This organisation delivered the project Starting Point. This project helped 13 young people engage in volunteering opportunities, for example, working in charity shops, food banks or community cafes. As a result of the grant, 4 have entered employment, 3 have entered education and 6 still volunteering.

EDUCATION AND LEARNING PROJECTS

KEY TO SUCCESS:

If your project is working with a school or using school facilities, then perhaps draw up a signed agreement or contract regarding the project activities and schedule with the head teacher or senior members of staff. A signed agreement can be used as a reference point, which will help to manage the expectations of staff, the charity and young people.

If you are planning to work with young people who are not in mainstream education or have additional social and behavioural needs, we suggest increasing your staff support to ensure everyone's individual needs are supported.

If you are planning to build the skills of young people through certification and qualifications, we recommend budgeting for these before the start of your project.

THINGS TO TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION:

- Have you started to build relationships with local schools in your area?
- Have you considered the school's timetables in relation to your project schedule?
- Have you considered additional costs in relation to training and qualifications?
- Do you have the expertise and resources to support young people with additional social and behavioural needs?

PROJECT EXAMPLE:

Buckinghamshire Mind was awarded £4460 from Heart of Bucks Community Foundation

This organisation supports and represents people with mental health problems and delivers a range of services to support service users to live safe and purposeful lives. The grant was used deliver a project that trained 21 young volunteers as peer mentors to help bring mental health awareness into their schools. This project has improved the young mentor's self confidence in their presentation skills and to openly talk about mental health.

ARTS AND CULTURE PROJECTS

KEYS TO SUCCESS:

If you are planning to use external venues, we suggest researching (including site visits) and booking venues before the start of the projects. To help ensure projects stay in budget, you should try to use other charities or other lower cost venues.

We recommend choosing a venue with flexible spaces if you are planning for performances or exhibitions.

THINGS TO TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION:

- Are there suitable venues available in your local area?

PROJECT EXAMPLE:

Spinning Wheel Theatre was awarded £5000 from Suffolk Community Foundation. This organisation delivers education and engagement projects with young people and community groups, collaborating with actors, creatives and industry mentors to deliver engagement projects for young people. They delivered a range of activities related to theatre, such as sewing costumes, constructing the set, developing software skills, writing funding applications and press releases. As a result of the grant 66% of participants who are of university age have gained places at Drama schools or on University courses in creative arts.

DISABILITY SUPPORT PROJECTS

KEYS TO SUCCESS:

If your project plans to work with young people with varied abilities, it is important your organisation understands different disabilities and if possible, consults with local disability organisations before the beginning of the project. For example, a young person with a physical disability will have different support needs to a young person with Down Syndrome.

Whilst it is important that your projects should be inclusive of young people with a variety of needs; it would be suggested that disability-based projects are designed with specific support needs in mind. For example, when you are advertising your project be specific on what your expertise, support and resources you are offering so that it is clear to the person or carer registering.

Also, if your project is planning to work with young people with various abilities, we suggest splitting the group into smaller groups based on abilities and personal goals for the project activities.

THINGS TO TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION:

- Do you have the expertise and skills to support young people with various abilities?
- Have you thought about your project's approaches to effectively engage young people with disabilities?

PROJECT EXAMPLE:

Leonard Cheshire Disability was awarded £5000 from Community Foundation for Calderdale

This organisation supports people with disabilities across the UK through their employment, education, enterprise, health, volunteering and digital inclusion projects. The grant delivered the project Can Do, which is a volunteering programme for 77 young people aged between 10 to 25, which delivered community-based volunteering opportunities that help build life skills and enhance future opportunities of volunteering, training and employment.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS

KEYS TO SUCCESS:

If your project is going to be outdoors, if possible, plan for an alternative indoor activity or select an activity that can be delivered both indoors and outdoors. Also, we suggest when advertising your project highlight that there may be schedule changes due to the weather.

If your project is redeveloping an outdoor space, we recommend going on site visits to the proposed project areas. This will help to build accurate timelines and manage expectations. If your project is only for a short amount of time, choose gardens or outdoor spaces which have smaller tasks needed for renovation.

If you are concerned regarding the sustainability of your project, we suggest [where possible] partnering with a local environmental or conservation organisation who can either help continue the work after funding or provide future opportunities for young people to get involved.

THINGS TO TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION:

- Is your planned project weather dependent? If so, do you have alternative indoor venues?
- Are your project timelines realistic?
- Do you have the staff capacity and resources to deliver your project?

PROJECT EXAMPLE:

Hype Merseyside was awarded a grant from Community Foundation for Lancashire.

Hype is an organisation who provides youth services for children and young people from disadvantaged backgrounds. The grant delivered a project which addressed youth apathy and unemployment in the Wirral. The project provided volunteering opportunities for young people aged 15 to 24 years old to redevelop and preserve urban parks. As a result of the grant, 61% progressed into further education or training and 27% progressed into employment, including paid apprenticeships.

SPORTS AND FITNESS PROJECTS

KEYS TO SUCCESS:

If your project is gender specific or would like to engage female volunteers, we suggest contacting both mixed-gender and female sports clubs or groups in your local area as channels to advertise and engage with their networks to engage potential female volunteers.

If you require external qualified coaches, we suggest hiring before the start of your project. If there are difficulties hiring multiple qualified coaches, one could be hired to then upskill other coaches to deliver specialist coaching.

THINGS TO TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION:

- How will you attract female volunteers?
- Are there female sport groups in your area?
- Are there the qualified people with the required skills and expertise in your local area?
- In case of bad weather, do you have the resources to provide alternative activities or venues?

PROJECT EXAMPLE:

Cambridge United Youth and Community Trust was awarded £2,250 from Cambridgeshire Community Foundation.

This organisation uses sport as a tool to engage marginalised groups of people who deliver projects across three themes; education, inclusion and health. The grant trained 10 young people aged 16 to 20-year olds who have none or little paid work or volunteering experience to become FA level 1 coaches. The young volunteers gained experience in primary school, disability sport and assisting coaches. The project helped the volunteers with their professional development, and they saw the impact of their volunteering in the local community.

HEALTHY EATING PROJECTS

KEYS TO SUCCESS:

If your project is focused on nutrition that requires external specialist support, recruit the nutritionists prior to the start of your project to prevent any delays.

If you are engaging young people in cooking skills and you are concerned about food waste, we suggest finding ways to repurpose short-dated food, for example, bake sales or donating to food banks.

If your project aims to improve young people's cooking skills, diet and food budget we suggest taking a hands-on approach, for example, cooking workshops.

THINGS TO TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION:

- Are there qualified nutritionists in your area?
- How will deal with food waste?
- Does your project help young people build practical skills regarding healthy eating?

PROJECT EXAMPLE:

Warren Park Café Church was awarded £5000 from Hampshire and Isle of Wight Community Foundation.

This organisation supports disadvantaged people in Havant, they address issues such as mental health illness, loneliness and poverty. The grant trained young people as volunteers to work as peer

community advocates promoting healthy eating and lifestyles. This was a youth-led project, which is delivered through informal education techniques that tackle issues of food and social poverty, also build young people's skills in cooking, public speaking and facilitation.

CRIME REDUCTION PROJECTS

KEYS TO SUCCESS:

If you are planning to engage with hard to reach young people, for example young offenders, it is important to be creative and develop different approaches to youth social action in a way this group can actively engage. One suggestion is for the young people you are working with have a mentor with lived experience of the issues they are experiencing who can provide 1:1 support and encouragement to continue with their project.

If you are working with external stakeholders to engage young people who are at risk from offending or have been in contact with the criminal justice system make clear the type of young people you want to work with on the project, for example, having a very clear brief on the group of young people you want to engage.

THINGS TO TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION:

- If you are planning to work with young people with drug and alcohol issues, have you considered at what stage you want to engage young people in their recovery from drug use?
- Do you have the network and resources to engage with young people involved in the criminal justice system?
- Have you clearly identified the type of young people you want to work with?

PROJECT EXAMPLE:

Newcastle Upon Tyne YMCA was awarded £4,500 Community Foundation Tyne & Wear and Northumberland.

This organisation provides support to young people through a range of programmes and activities in Newcastle. The grant was used to help launch a social media campaign through their SPACE2 project which is called the 'Drop the Knife; Save a Life'. The 35 young people created the short film 'Shanked' and underwent training in presentation and digital skills, to deliver 6 presentations to youth groups and a social media campaign on Instagram and Facebook.



**UK COMMUNITY
FOUNDATIONS**
GIVING FOR LOCAL GOOD

UK Community Foundations Unit 1.04 Piano House 9 Brighton Terrace London SW9 8DJ
020 7713 9326 info@ukcommunityfoundations.org www.ukcommunityfoundations.org
[@UKCF_tweets](https://twitter.com/UKCF_tweets)

Company registration number 2651777, registered in England and Wales. Registered charity number 1004630