



County Durham Foundation

Grassroots Grants 2008 – 2011

Information for Grassroots applicants

- Maximum grant £5,000
- Minimum grant £250
- Organisations can apply for either a one-off payment or a grant spread over the three year period (2008 – 2011), but with no portion of that spread being less than the minimum grant amount.
- Funding can be used for either capital or revenue purposes.
- An application for Grassroots Grants could be entirely for capital purchases (e.g.computers, photocopiers, digital projectors etc), or equally all for operational costs (e.g. rent, stationery, telephone costs, activities etc)
- Capital costs are defined as being for any single asset that costs more than
- £1,000 (net of VAT), and that has a life of more than one year.

Examples of what can be funded include:

- Purchase of equipment, like a computer, oven, furniture
- Costs of putting on a local event or workshop
- Staff costs to enable the employment of individuals
- Contribution to rent costs (related to activities/service delivery)
- The cost of attending a conference or event
- Training for volunteers
- Additional activities to expand an existing funded project
- Activities that support community activity
- Activities that meet an identified need in the local community
- Funding to support an organisation to achieve a quality or other standard relevant to their activities.

Please note that if your application is successful you will need to provide evidence that the funding has been spent in the financial year in which the grant was awarded

Grassroots Grants from County Durham Foundation

The purpose of this programme is to support small informal voluntary and community groups and organisations. Groups must:

- Be a not-for-profit, third sector voluntary or community group, active in their local community for not less than 12 months prior to 31 December 2007.
- Have an evidenced income of less than £20,000 per annum, taken as an average turnover for the last three financial years (or over the life of the group if it is less than three years old), and net of any grants received through the Grassroots Grants programme
- Be volunteer led (i.e. with largely volunteer based input)
- Be connected with and/or meeting the needs of the local community
- Have a governing document that has as a minimum the name, aim/purpose, objects, a dissolution clause for the organisation, a list of Trustees/Committee members, and Trustees/Committee member signatures.
- Groups and organisations do not have to be registered charities.

The following cannot be funded:

- Statutory organisations, such as Local Authorities, schools and the Police Force
- Regional or local offices of a national organisation
- Arms length public sector organisations that are controlled wholly or in part by, for example, a Local Authority, a Primary Care Trust or agencies of these
- Any party political activity
- Commercial ventures
- Organisations that are for the sole benefit or relief of animals or plants.

Grassroots Grants are for the direct benefit of communities of people only. This does not preclude City Farms or other groups and organisations that work with animals and/or the environment to benefit people.

There are some restrictions on the types of activities that can be supported for Asylum Seeker groups. This funding cannot be used for the provision of services to asylum seekers when those services are inconsistent with immigration laws or Home Office policy. For the purposes of this fund, an 'asylum seeker' means a person who has brought an asylum or human rights claim in the UK which has not yet been determined by either the Secretary of State or, as applicable, any relevant appellate authorities. It also includes a person who is a dependant on such a claim. Further information can be found at: www.ind.homeoffice.gov.uk

The outcomes expected for the programme are:

- Improved access to funding for grass roots organisations
- More funding invested in the organisations
- Greater capacity to respond to local issues
- Stronger organisational capacities
- Stronger communities through increased local impact.

grassroots
grants

Managed by the Community Development Foundation
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County Durham Foundation

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