

Community Foundations reaching new heights

A recent article published by Third Sector Review shows that the money available to community foundations has doubled over the past four years.

Third Sector reported that at the beginning of December the Community Foundation Network (CFN) revealed that its members now hold endowments, pledges and legacies worth more than £200m. This is more than double the figure less than four years ago. The network attributed the increase largely to record endowments. A major part of the growth has been credited to an increase in families and individuals setting up endowment funds.

This increase in endowments is one of the reasons community foundations across the UK were able to make around 17,000 grants to local community groups and projects last year, totally nearly £75 million. This is a £5m increase on the previous year, a record for the network.

As a member of Community Foundation Network, County Durham Foundation has also experienced this growth. Our endowment is currently at £5.5 million, with an increase of £2 million in the last two years. We also have pledges of up to £8.5m and a number of substantial legacies.

[Read here to read the full article featured in Third Sector Review.](#)