

London Catalyst

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)

WHAT DO YOU FUND?

PROJECTS: We fund all reasonable and relevant project costs, including salaries, training, volunteer expenses, management, supervision and evaluation. The trustees prefer time-limited 'catalytic' projects.

SAMARITAN GRANT: This is a hardship fund – a 'pot' of money – which frontline advice and support agencies use to assist people in immediate need through the provision of one-off emergency hardship grants.

HOW MUCH ARE THE GRANTS?

PROJECT GRANTS: £1,000 - 5,000+ depending on the purpose, outcomes and size of the budget. A larger grant can sometimes be made if there is a likelihood of significant impact and it matches a current priority.

'PARTNERS FOR HEALTH': This is our collaborative programme normally launched in February each year. Grants can be up to £10,000 to fund a new approach or a thoughtful development of service for people experiencing significant barriers to health, in partnership with an expert health agency/provider. More details will be on our website in the New Year.

SAMARITAN GRANTS: £100 - £2,000 Grants can be repeated annually subject to available resources, evidence of need and satisfactory reporting.

WHO DO YOU FUND?

We prioritise small and medium sized organisations; those with an annual income of c£500,000. This does not exclude groups with a larger income if the organisation has the resources and expertise that make it best placed to deliver a service or it is in partnership with local groups. We fund charitable groups and not-for-profit social action projects. The trustees will consider requests from CIOs and CICs subject to a review of the purpose, expertise and governance; an executive board must have at least three unrelated directors.

WHAT DON'T YOU FUND?

We do not have an exhaustive list of exclusions and prefer to direct people to our priorities. However, we do not fund individuals, or make grants in response to general appeals. We rarely fund school holiday programmes or medical research.

DO THE TRUSTEES PROVIDE CONTINUATION FUNDING FOR A PROJECT?

Requests for continuation funding are considered on a case-by-case basis. The charity may extend funding if the additional grant serves as a 'bridge', to funding agreed but not yet available, or will result in a significant development of service or intervention.

HOW DO WE APPLY?

Applications are made online via our website <https://www.londoncatalyst.org.uk/grants/>

WHEN DO YOU NEED A COMPLETED APPLICATION?

The trustees meet regularly and the dates of these meetings can be found on the 'Grants' page of our website. Please submit your application at least **four weeks** before a meeting.

WE HAVE HAD A GRANT PREVIOUSLY. CAN WE APPLY AGAIN?

The trustees will consider one application in a 12-month period. Grants are normally for one year. You will be expected to wait at least 12 months before re-applying unless you are applying under the continuation funding criteria above.

CAN WE HAVE A PROJECT GRANT AND A SAMARITAN GRANT AT THE SAME TIME?

Yes, you can.

WE WERE TURNED DOWN FOR A GRANT IN THE PAST. CAN WE RE-APPLY?

Yes, but remember we are a small grant maker with limited funds and you should look again at our published criteria and priorities.

IS THERE ANY FURTHER ADVICE YOU CAN GIVE?

The best advice we can give is to think clearly about what you want to do. Look at our website, which has various case studies and links to reports. The following are some of what we look for applicants to demonstrate:

- **Target group:** know who you want to reach and that they are fully involved in the plan
- **Expertise:** you have the knowledge and experience of the client group and expertise to deliver
- **Active partners:** with links to any relevant agencies and sector networks
- **Activity and learning:** a project should provide activities, opportunities and involvement
- **Outcomes and performance:** explain what you expect to achieve and how you will know

MORE INFORMATION AND SUPPORT FOR CHARITIES:

<https://knowhow.ncvo.org.uk> - Knowledge and e-learning for charities and community groups

www.smallcharities.org.uk - Where small charities can belong, share and support one another

www.instituteofhealthequity.org - For the social determinants of health

www.whatworkswellbeing.org - Toolkit for wellbeing evaluation, for small and medium sized charities

www.mediatrust.org - For communication resources

<https://diytoolkit.org/tools/theory-of-change/> - Setting up a 'Theory of Change' is like making a roadmap that outlines the steps by which you plan to achieve your goal.