

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)

### WHAT DO YOU FUND?

**PROJECTS:** all relevant project costs. This can include salaries, training, volunteer expenses, management, supervision, and evaluation. We prioritise 'catalytic' projects that are improving a service or responding to emerging needs.

**SAMARITAN GRANT:** This is a hardship fund which frontline advice and welfare agencies can use to assist people in immediate need by providing of one-off emergency hardship grants.

### HOW MUCH ARE THE GRANTS?

**PROJECT GRANTS:** £1,000 - 5,000+ depending on purpose, outcomes and budget.

**PARTNERS FOR HEALTH:** A collaborative programme normally launched in March. Grants can be up to £10,000 to fund a new approach or a thoughtful development. The aim is to encourage partnership between charities and expert health agencies (including NHS and specialist services).

**SAMARITAN GRANTS:** £100 - £2,000 Grants repeated annually subject to available resources, and satisfactory reporting.

### WHO DO YOU FUND?

We prioritise small and medium sized charities with an annual income of <£500,000. This does not exclude those with a larger income if the charity has the expertise that make it best placed to deliver a service or it is in partnership.

We fund charities and not-for-profits. This can include Community Interest Companies (CICs) if the organization can demonstrate expertise and capacity. A minimum of three unrelated directors with equal control is required. (An exception may be made if there are two directors, unrelated with equal control, and a steering/advisory group including service users is in place or there is an imminent recruitment of a third director.)

### WHAT DON'T YOU FUND?

We try to avoid an exhaustive list of exclusions and prefer to emphasize our priorities. We do not fund individuals, general appeals, or large medical research programmes.

Funding **food banks and food delivery services** are not a current priority unless the request is to add or improve the provision of advice, promote health activities or support new co-produced initiatives. Requests for **school, after school and holiday activities** for young people are not a priority and rarely funded.

### DO YOU PROVIDE CONTINUATION FUNDING FOR A PROJECT?

Continuation funding is considered on a case-by-case basis. We may extend funding if the additional grant acts as a 'bridge', to funding agreed but not yet available, or will result in a significant development of service or intervention. Any such request must be submitted as a new application.

## 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 project grant application in a 12-month period. Project grants are normally for one year and at least 12 months further should pass before re-applying unless you are applying under the continuation funding criteria above. Samaritan grants can be reapplied for annually once 90% of the previous grant has been spent.

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

Yes.

## 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 criteria and priorities. Please be aware that if your project grant application is unsuccessful you will need to wait 12 months to reapply.

## IS THERE ANY FURTHER ADVICE YOU CAN GIVE?

The best advice we can give is to think clearly about what you want to do and if it fits our priorities. 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:

- **Expertise:** knowledge and experience of the client group and/or health condition and the expertise to deliver the project
- **Active partnerships:** with and to relevant agencies and sector networks
- **Activity and learning:** co-produced and creative
- **Outcomes and performance:** what you expect to achieve and how

## RESOURCES:

<https://knowhow.ncvo.org.uk> - Knowledge and e-learning for charities and community groups. Look at setting up a 'Theory of Change' which creates a roadmap that outlines the steps by which you plan to achieve your goal.

[www.instituteofhealthequity.org](http://www.instituteofhealthequity.org) - For the social determinants of health

[www.whatworkswellbeing.org](http://www.whatworkswellbeing.org) - Toolkit for wellbeing evaluation, for charities

[www.mediatrust.org](http://www.mediatrust.org) - For communication resources

THE FOLLOWING EXAMPLE SHOWS THE MAIN SECTIONS TO COMPLETE ON OUR ON-LINE **PROJECT FORM**.

This should help you plan your application. There are also monitoring (tick box) and budget sections which will also require completion and are not shown below.

**ORGANISATION NAME:** Motherkind  
**PROJECT NAME/CAPTION:** Baby Bank Expansion  
**PROGRAMME:** Project  
**ORGANISATION ADDRESS:** 5 Well Road, London SE9 6YD  
**CHARITY COMMISSION:** Registered  
**WEBSITE:** [www.motherkind.org.uk](http://www.motherkind.org.uk)

**ORGANISATION ACTIVITIES:**

A volunteer-led baby bank based in the LB Greenwich, which collects pre-loved and new donations of clothing, toiletries and equipment, as well as baby food, for babies up to two years old living in poverty. Austerity, combined with the Covid-19 pandemic, means more mothers than ever cannot afford basic supplies. Since March we have provided these items to 600 people. Our vision is to create a community of mothers supporting each other in their time of need in person and by donating pre-loved essential items for babies, thereby helping to relieve poverty, support maternal mental health and promote sustainable living through the re-use of baby clothes. Clients include single mothers, unemployed or low-income households, refugees and asylum seekers, women experiencing violence, those with disabilities or physical and/or mental health conditions.

**MAIN CONTACT:** Karen High

**REFEREE:** Add Details

**PROJECT DETAIL**

To help us to continue our much-needed work supporting mothers and their babies. The grant would be used to develop the organisation, assist our expansion into a new site, support the training of volunteers and help buy bundles of essential items – such as toiletries, nappies, baby food, and baby equipment – as well as items such as crates and shelving to help organise and ensure the smooth-running of our warehouse. Our ambition is to reach 600 families over the next year facing disadvantage including poverty, poor living conditions, abuse, low income and poor mental health. We work with a range of partners who refer marginalised mothers and families to our services, including: NHS health professionals, MothersAid, Mindful Mums, and Brighter Beginnings. We also have a close partnership with Greenwich Foodbank.

**HOW NEEDS IDENTIFIED**

Having a baby is all-consuming, even without major financial worries. Take away financial security and there is no space to think about anything else. We've supported women who couldn't send their children to nursery as they had no nappies to send them with. We've seen babies who have just started crawling living in accommodation with concrete floors and no carpets.

Feedback received highlights that many mothers are facing hardship due to Covid-19, whether due to loss of income, health concerns, isolation or mental health impacts. In March, baby food was requested by 10-15% of our clients. In November 2020 this had increased to 80-90%. Our experience aligns with wider research, which shows that women (Women's Budget Group, October 2020) and single parents (Learning and Work Institute and Gingerbread, December 2020) are more likely to lose jobs, be furloughed or have working hours reduced, whilst also taking on additional childcare responsibilities

**EXPECTED OUTCOMES**

Distribute essential items to families facing disadvantage including poverty, poor living conditions, abuse, low income and poor mental health over the next year. Increase capacity and resources, recruit new volunteers, improve warehouse capacity to enable our volunteers to easily store and locate these essential items ahead of distribution.

**PRIORITY 1**

Distribute 280 bundles of essential items for mother and baby

**HOPE TO ACHIEVE 1**

Provide support for mothers and their babies in their time of need, relieving stress and allowing mothers to focus their time on their baby.

Improve service quality, create more efficient store, access supplies

Provide a more efficient service for our trained clients and a better experience for our volunteers and users

**MONITORING & REPORTING**

We will distribute the essential items to the recipients, who will have been identified as in need and referred to us by health professionals, children's centres and other charitable organisations. Working with these partners, we will calculate how many families we have supported and how many items we have provided over the next year. Feedback from volunteers.

**BUDGET SUMMARY**

Item of Expenditure	£xxx
Item of Expenditure	£xxx
Item of Expenditure	£xxx
Total	£xxxx

**FUNDING FROM OTHER SOURCES**

We have raised £500 from a crowd funding campaign; £1,500 from the Tobruk Trust; £500 from XT Charity