

Community and Economic Development Grants Scheme * new application

Name of Organisation	:	Haywards Heath Youth CIC
Purpose for which Grant is Sought	:	Young people's gardening project
Total Project Cost	:	£1,146
Amount of Grant Sought	:	£606
Previous Grants	:	2015 - £3,000 Young Carers Project (TFN)

Background information:

Haywards Heath Youth Community Interest Company (HHYC) was established in 2013 to motivate, inspire and encourage young people aged 11-18 years by providing fun, exciting and interesting informal learning opportunities and new experiences facilitated by positive role models (youth workers and volunteers).

HHYC is planning a project for approximately fifteen young people aged 12-14 years to get them involved in planning, preparing and working on an allotment plot. The project is aimed at young people in low income households who do not get the opportunity to try out these activities at home. The grant will fund the purchase of some equipment to get the project up and running and weekly supervised drop-in sessions over a sixteen week period during Spring/Summer 2017.

The total cost of the project includes £680 for a qualified youth worker and £120 toward volunteer expenses. The equipment costs include tools, gloves, compost and manure, seeds, plug plants, tool storage, a wheelbarrow, folding table, bucket, micro fencing, shade, workbooks and certificates. The applicant has secured donations for the tool storage and manure and will contribute £540 in total toward the fees and other costs.

The young people will be encouraged to reflect on their activities and record their work and observations in a diary and through photographs. They will be asked to complete an evaluation form toward the end of the project and if their involvement and learning evidence is sufficient they will be encouraged to complete an 'Asdan Short Course Activity Award' to accredit their learning. The group will also enjoy a shared meal using produce they have grown at the end of the project.

Head of Finance Comments

Unaudited abbreviated accounts have been submitted for the year ending 31st July 2015 in accordance with companies subject to the Small Companies regime. Therefore, no Statement of Income and Expenditure has been provided. Balances held at the end of the period showed Net Assets of £27,198, comprising of Stock £86, Cash £36,412 and Creditors (£9,300).

Corporate Grant Assessment Group's evaluation of the project

This applicant has explained how the project meets the Council's priorities and has provided a detailed budget which seems reasonable value and includes 44% match funding from their own resources. HHYC has shown how the project will be evaluated and how it will benefit the young people involved and the Corporate Grant Assessment Group recommends this start-up project for an award.

Overall Score: 9

The project meets the following corporate objectives

Better Lives – encouraging young people to grow vegetables and fruit will get them outdoors and involved in physical activity, particularly in preparing the plot. The project will enable the young people to take part in a positive activity with visible and edible results! Seeing a range of vegetables growing may encourage them to eat more vegetables, more regularly.

Better Environment – the project will encourage the participants to take responsibility for their environment and learn skills that will enable them to appreciate and protect the natural world. Through planning, preparation and the ongoing work of growing vegetables in an allotment they will learn about soil management, plant care, weed and pest identification and control, companion planting, pollinators and collecting seeds.

Recommendation

That the sum of £616 from the Community and Economic Development Fund be agreed as a contribution toward a young people's gardening project in Haywards Heath.

Community and Economic Development Grants Scheme * new application

Name of Organisation	:	Summerhaven
Purpose for which Grant is Sought	:	Mental health drop-in
Total Project Cost	:	£4,800
Amount of Grant Sought	:	£1,000
Previous Grants	:	2015 - £1,000

Background information:

Summerhaven provides a drop-in facility for four hours each Sunday afternoon in Burgess Hill at the Old Post Office. The facility helps people from South Mid Sussex who have mental health problems to have a safe space and avoid social isolation. A range of activities including art sessions, pool table, TV, computers and kitchen for refreshments is available for members to improve their well-being.

The organisation was set up in 2015 following a meeting of local residents with mental health problems, their families Councillors which identified a need for a local drop-in. Services were previously provided by Summerfold House and Millhaven in Burgess Hill but both closed and were greatly missed. The group was supported by the Burgess Hill Town Council Community Development Officer and Mid Sussex South CVS to set up an incorporated association and take the project forward.

The drop-in is open to people aged 18+ years and has approximately 40 regular service users predominantly from Burgess Hill and Haywards Heath. The sessions are free of charge and are run by volunteers.

A grant would part fund hire of premises, insurances, art materials, leaflets, CVS subscription, refreshments (provided at reasonable charge), volunteer admin and travel costs, DBS checks and training.

The applicant has secured match funding secured from the Burgess Hill Lions (£250), Sussex Community Foundation (£1,365) and Burgess Hill Town Council (£500). They have also submitted an application to West Sussex County Council for £900 and raised some earned income through the sale of refreshments.

Head of Finance Comments

Independently examined accounts have been submitted for the year ending 31st March 2016 which show a surplus of £2,330.

Total income was £5,744; mainly generated from Grants (£5,065), Other income (£569) and Donations (£110).

Total expenditure was £3,414; consisting of Supplies and Services (£1,126) and Premises related (£2,288).

Balances held at the end of the period showed Net assets of £2,330, comprising of Cash £2,330.

Corporate Grant Assessment Group's evaluation of the project

Although the costs are for general running costs, the project meets a need in the local community and is provided free of charge, solely by volunteers. These volunteers will be trained and DBS checked so there is an element of development which enables them to sustain the ongoing project. There are limited opportunities for people with mental health problems to socialise locally and this project will help to reduce isolation in a safe and supportive environment. The project meets the assessment criteria and is recommended for funding.

Overall Score: 7

The project meets the following corporate objectives

Better Lives – the project aims to enable residents of South Mid Sussex with mental health problems to have equal opportunity to participate fully in their community and provide opportunities to engage in society and lead full, rewarding lives. The project aims to reduce the anxiety of members and help to improve their personal wellbeing.

Recommendation

That the sum of £1,000 from the Community and Economic Development Fund be agreed as a contribution toward mental health drop-in sessions in Burgess Hill.

Community and Economic Development Grants Scheme * new application

Name of Organisation	:	Revitalise Respite Holidays
Purpose for which Grant is Sought	:	Respite carers break
Total Project Cost	:	£18,130
Amount of Grant Sought	:	£3,540
Previous Grants	:	2015 - £500 2014 - £200 2013 - £660 2012 - £1,000 2011 - £1,060

Background information:

Revitalise is a national charity set up in 1963, 'to restore hope and happiness in the lives of disabled people and their carers through the provision of high quality breaks with care, and to provide inspirational volunteering opportunities'.

Respite breaks are delivered at three centres in Southport, Southampton and Essex for disabled people with complex needs. The provide over 4,500 weeks of breaks for guests every year, supported by over 1,500 residential volunteers who each give up at least a week of their time. The charity caters for people with a range of conditions including arthritis, cerebral palsy, dementia, multiple sclerosis, muscular dystrophy, paralysis, spina bifida, stroke Huntington's, Parkinson's and motor neurone disease.

Guests pay a fee of £759-£1,799 pw for 4* rated, all-inclusive accommodation with en-suite wet rooms and tracking hoists, which includes 24 hour on-call nursing and personal care and a programme of accessible daily excursions and evening entertainments. A grant would provide a subsidy of £354 per person for ten guests and their carers from Mid Sussex.

In 2013, Revitalise commissioned research which identified 539,000 people in the UK who would directly benefit from a respite break including 29,919 people in Sussex who receive over 50 hours of unpaid car each week.

Respite care is vital for carers and disabled people to reduce social isolation, improve quality of life and reduce the changes of caring relationships breaking down.

Head of Finance Comments

Independently audited accounts have been submitted for the year ending 31st January 2016 which show a surplus of £868k.

Total income was £8,634k: mainly generated from Incoming Resources from charitable activities (£5,465k), Donations and Legacies (£1,625k), Income from generated funds (£775k), Capital Campaign Donations (£732k), Rent (£27k) and Interest (£10k).

Total expenditure was £7,766k: consisting of Staff Related (£4,242k) and Supplies and Services (£3,524k).

Balances held at the end of the period showed Net Assets of £6,552k, comprising of Tangible Assets £4,054k, Investments £45k, Cash £3,371k, Debtors £507k, Stock £30k, Creditors due in less than 1 year (£1,103k) and Creditors due after more than 1 year (£352k).

Corporate Grant Assessment Group's evaluation of the project

The Council has previously awarded grants of up to £1,060 toward the cost of 10 weeks accommodation so this is a significant uplift in funding but this contribution would ensure that 10 Mid Sussex residents on low incomes and in need of a break would be able to apply for financial assistance. Respite care is essential for disabled people and their carers and Revitalise offers a quality experience which provides all the necessary support and a choice of interesting activities. Although the organisation has substantial reserves they relate to the national organisation which has an infrastructure and capital assets to maintain. The grant will be ring-fenced and will directly benefit Mid Sussex residents.

Overall Score: 9

The project meets the following corporate objectives

Better Lives – Revitalise respite breaks provide an inclusive holiday environment with accessible excursions, activities and entertainment which provide freedom of choice and stimulating experiences. They provide a lifeline for guests living with a disability and their carers by providing time out from daily struggles and an opportunity to recharge physically, emotionally and mentally.

Recommendation

That the sum of £3,540 from the Community and Economic Development Fund be agreed as a contribution toward 10 respite care breaks for Mid Sussex residents.

Community and Economic Development Grants Scheme * new application

Name of Organisation	:	Kangaroos
Purpose for which Grant is Sought	:	Saturday and holiday club for young people with learning disabilities
Total Project Cost	:	£70,650
Amount of Grant Sought	:	£5,000
Previous Grants	:	2016 - £500 PALS – Overnights 2015 - £4,000 PALS 2014 - £3,443 PALS 2013 - £2,000 PALS 2013 - £1,076 PALS

Background information:

Kangaroos is a registered charity based in Mid Sussex since 1994, that provides a range of fun, inclusive social and leisure activities for children and young adults with learning disabilities. As well as having learning disabilities, many of the members have additional behavioural, physical or sensory difficulties as well as an increasing number with severe autism, complex visual and hearing impairments, limited mobility and profound communication difficulties.

The charity provides Saturday, holiday youth and sports clubs for children and young people aged 6-18 years together with a youth and social club and a full social and recreational programme for young adults from 18- 35 years. They currently provide support for over 180 participants who would be unable to access other activities due to their specific needs.

Kangaroos relies on volunteers from local schools and colleges and provides training. Staff are trained and experienced in safeguarding, dealing with challenging behaviour, epilepsy awareness, emergency medication, manual handling and first aid.

Disabled young people have fewer opportunities to socialise outside of school or college than their peers and spend more time with the parents or carers. A Community and Economic Development Grant would help fund the BreakAway Saturday and Holiday Club for young people with learning disabilities aged 12-18 years. The club currently has 48 members with a range of disabilities and provides opportunities to meet and make friends.

Kangaroos offers a range of in-house activities such as cookery, crafts, music and games at the Yews Community Centre in Haywards Heath. In addition, they provide trips out to venues such as Wakehurst Place, Howletts Zoo Park, Hever Castle and Lodge Hill Outdoor Centre. The young people benefit hugely from

these experiences which help them grow in independence, self esteem and confidence.

The applicant has secured over £50,000 of funding from West Sussex County Council (£40,000), Burgess Hill Town Council (£700) and parental contributions (£12,000) and is seeking to make up the shortfall through a grant from the Sussex Community Foundation (£5,000) and fundraising events.

Head of Finance Comments

Independently examined accounts have been submitted for the year ending 31st March 2015 which show a surplus of £5,135.

Total income was £282,646: mainly generated from Grants (£196,583), Activities & Membership (£62,497), Donations (£23,559) and Interest (£7).

Total expenditure was £277,511: consisting of Staff Related (£174,044), Supplies and Services (£101,367) and Governance (£2,100).

Balances held at the end of the period showed Net Assets of £14,400, comprising of Tangible Assets £12,608, Cash £15,829 and Creditors (£14,037).

Corporate Grant Assessment Group's evaluation of the project

Kangaroos provides an invaluable service for children and young people with disabilities. Staff and volunteers are well trained and the BreakAway club provides a safe and supportive environment for children and young people to take part in activities and trips which is good for their personal development and wellbeing. This grant represents a 20% increase on funding in 2015-16 but the applicant has submitted an excellent application which fully meets the Council's criteria and the organisation provides an invaluable service.

Overall Score: 12

The project meets the following corporate objectives

Better Lives – Kangaroos enables children and young adults with disabilities to have a social life with their peers, giving them opportunities to enjoy a wide range of activities supported by experienced staff and volunteers. The BreakAway club allows young people to make new friends and take part in activities that other children take for granted. It also provides time for families and carers to take a short break.

Recommendation

That the sum of £5,000 from the Community and Economic Development Fund be agreed as a contribution toward a Saturday and holiday club for young people with learning disabilities.

Community and Economic Development Grants Scheme * new application

Name of Organisation	:	Mill Hill Residents Association
Purpose for which Grant is Sought	:	Defibrillator
Total Project Cost	:	£1,370
Amount of Grant Sought	:	£1,370
Previous Grants	:	None

Background information:

The application has been submitted by the Mill Hill Residents Association which was set up in 2012 to promote the interests of the residents of 34-61 Mill Hill Close, Haywards Heath which is retirement / sheltered housing available for rent, managed by Hanover Housing Association.

The residents association also promotes social activities to the residents of Mill Hill Close, including those owned by the Benevolent Fund of the Institution of Civil Engineers which are available to rent for eligible ICE members faced with difficult circumstances. Activities are also open to residents of the neighboring Barnard Gate Estate which is also retirement / social housing for those aged 60+ years.

Full membership of the residents association is open to residents of 34-61 Mill Hill Close; residents from Barnard Gate and the Civil Engineers living in Mill Hill Close may become associate members. The residents association organises events in the Mill House communal room which was opened in 2014 following a local fundraising campaign.

The residents association wants to purchase a defibrillator for the benefit of residents of Mill Hill Close and the Barnard Gate estate. A defibrillator is a device that gives a high energy electric shock to the heart through the chest wall to someone who is in cardiac arrest. The residents association would seek training to learn how to use the equipment and letters would be sent to all residents, porters and the estate manager to let them know where it is fitted.

The total cost of the defibrillator including fitting is £1369.60 and the residents association is seeking a grant to fund 50% of the cost.

Head of Finance Comments

Unaudited accounts have been submitted for the year ending 31st March 2016 which show a deficit of £690.

Total income was £172: mainly generated from Fundraising (£119) and Rental Income (£53).

Total expenditure was £862: consisting of Supplies and Services (£862).
No Balance Sheet was provided.

Corporate Grant Assessment Group's evaluation of the project

The applicant has supplied limited information regarding evidence of demand to support the need for a defibrillator but given the nature of the housing it is understandable that it would benefit local the residents. The grant will be of limited wider public benefit but there are over 100 residents living in retirement / sheltered housing in the vicinity.

Overall Score: 5

The project meets the following corporate objectives

Better Lives – many of the elderly residents of Mill Hill Close and the Barnard Gate Estate have serious health problems. They would be reassured and feel safer knowing that there is a defibrillator within easy reach.

Recommendation

As the applicant has a turnover of under £10,000 they are eligible for a Spotlight Grant which is suitable for one-off items of expenditure. It is therefore recommended that they receive an award of £500, which is the maximum grant available through this scheme.