

A call for project proposals by Islington Giving's Young Grant-Makers

Application Guidelines

We are a group of 16 local young people aged 16–25 who became Islington Giving's second group of Young Grant-Makers in March 2019. We have joined Islington Giving to make grant decisions that will benefit Islington's young people.

We are now inviting applications for inclusive projects that equip young people for their future, help them overcome barriers to participation and provide them with the opportunity to shine.

In addition to these guidelines we are holding an information evening on **Tuesday 25th June from 6.30–8pm**, for those who may be interested in applying for funding. This will be an opportunity for you to meet us and ask questions. The information evening will be held at **Cripplegate Foundation, 13 Elliott's Place, N1 8HX**. Please register your interest in attending by emailing Maria Sahin: maria.sahin@cripplegate.org.uk

About Islington Giving

Islington is a borough of stark contrasts – a place where great wealth sits alongside hidden poverty. Islington Giving was set up in 2010 to address these issues and create opportunities for people in Islington. It is a partnership that brings together residents, businesses, community organisations and funders to make a real difference in the Borough.

Islington Giving currently supports over 40 local projects across 3 core themes:

- Investing in Young People
- Supporting Families
- Reaching Isolated People

Please visit www.islingtongiving.org.uk for further details of our work.

Background to Islington Giving's Young Grant-Makers programme

In the summer of 2015 Islington Giving commissioned a consultation with Islington's young people to inform our strategy for investing in young people: *[Making the Most of Free Time](#)*. The aim was to find out more about what young people in Islington are interested in, how they spend their time, and what opportunities they would like to be on offer for them. 77% of the young people interviewed said they wanted to do more with their free time. They said they would like more sport, more creative activities and more opportunities to develop their skills. You can read both the full report from the consultation on *[Making the Most of Free Time](#)*, as well as the summary which includes how Islington Giving is taking action [here](#).

One of the other findings from the consultation was that young people said they would like to be included in decisions about how funding is allocated for projects aimed at benefiting them. Islington Giving was serious about acting on this and giving power to young people through grant-making.

The first group of young grant-makers came together between May and December 2018 and distributed £80,000 of Islington Giving's grants budget to 7 local projects working with young people. Joining Islington Giving in March 2019 as the second group of young grant-makers, we are now pleased to issue this call for applications.

Call for applications

We invite applications for inclusive projects that equip young people for their future, help them overcome barriers to participation and provide them with the opportunity to shine.

We would like proposals from organisations or partnerships of organisations working with and/or providing activities for young people. This document provides guidance for interested organisations. It is intended to help you (1) decide whether this call is right for you, and (2) frame your proposal and the content of your application if you would like to proceed.

The overall budget for this call is between £80,000 and £100,000. The maximum for an individual grant will be up to £25,000 for a 2 or 3-year activity; however, we hope to be able to fund projects of different scope and scale and welcome applications for smaller projects too.

In developing this call we have considered our own knowledge and experiences of growing up and living in Islington. We have also researched our local area and taken account of what young people said in *Making the Most of Free Time*.

What we are looking for – our criteria

We are open to a range of project ideas and suggestions. Our criteria are that projects:

- Must clearly address a barrier or barriers that young people face such as poverty, mental health and stress, stigma around their identity, disability
- Must be free including providing any required resources
- Will primarily engage with children and young people aged 13–25. Your project may target particular age groups within that range
- Must be non-discriminatory and accessible to young people of different circumstances
- Must be cleverly and thoughtfully advertised to young people who may not otherwise know about it
- Must provide regular sessions rather than one-off events.

It is desirable that projects could provide ways for young people to be involved or progress after the project is over. It is also desirable that food and drinks will be provided for the children and young people attending the activity.

We will be interested in knowing how young people's needs and preferences have fed into the project design and delivery.

Please note that proposals do not have to be for new or innovative projects. We will give equal consideration to tried and tested activities or approaches that can be further embedded or extended to different times or venues; for example, you may be running summer activities which you would like to offer at different times of the year, or on a more regular basis.

Your outcomes

By funding projects through this call, we are aiming to make a positive difference to the lives of young people in Islington. We are interested to hear from you about what outcomes your project aims to help achieve.

Who can apply?

To be eligible to apply:

- Charities/constituted community groups must have a management committee of at least 3 unpaid and unrelated people who have ultimate responsibility for the organisation and its finances
- Charitable Incorporated Organisations, Community Interest Companies or Social Enterprises must have a management committee of at least 3 unrelated directors who have ultimate responsibility for the organisation and its finances
- Your organisation must have a governing document or constitution
- Your organisation must have a bank account

Islington Giving prioritises supporting voluntary and community sector groups based in Islington. However, we are also interested in hearing from groups based out of the borough which are able to provide high-quality activities for Islington's young people. If you are based out of the borough you will need to demonstrate that you have local knowledge and local links. All decisions will be made on a case-by-case basis.

Please note that the programme will not fund:

- Statutory services
- Services that are not free at the point of access
- Advancement of religion and religious groups, unless they offer non-religious activities and support to the local community
- Commercial or for-profit activities
- Work that has already taken place.

How to apply

In the first instance if you are interested in applying we strongly encourage you to attend the information evening on **Tuesday 25th June 2019** between **6.30 and 8pm** at **Cripplegate Foundation, 13 Elliott's Place, London N1 8HX**. This will be a chance for you to meet us, ask questions and discuss your ideas. Please let us know if you would like to attend the event by emailing Maria Sahin: maria.sahin@cripplegate.org.uk.

There is a two-stage application process.

Stage 1: Expressions of Interest

All applicants should first provide a brief description of the proposed project (maximum of 2 pages of A4, 12pt font). A draft budget should be included on a separate sheet.

The Expression of Interest should consider the criteria outlined above and include the following:

1. A clear outline of your proposed activity or project including timeline: we are looking for an idea with a clear purpose that meets our criteria and demonstrates the level of funding requested is appropriate and justified for what you are proposing.
2. A summary of the priority group(s) and ages you intend to target and how, along with an estimate of beneficiary numbers.
3. Evidence that the project is based on needs or priorities identified by young people themselves or that there are plans for involving young people in the co-design and delivery of the project.
4. A description of the difference the project is intended to make for young people: to include main outcomes you aim to achieve and why these are meaningful for the young people you intend to work with, especially those who are disadvantaged.
5. Evidence that your organisation (and partners if you are working collaboratively) will have the expertise, capacity and resources to deliver the project.

Expressions of Interest will be assessed on your responses to points 1-5 above and your ability to meet our project criteria.

Please note, the intention behind submitting an Expressions of Interest is to save organisations time at the first stage of application. The Expression of Interest should be a concise but well thought through concept note that will be used to select the most appropriate ideas to progress to a full application at which stage more detail will be required.

Stage 2: Full application

If you are successful in being short-listed at Stage 1 you will be invited to make a full online application. This will ask more specific questions, for example about how you aim to deliver the project including your approach, how you have identified the need, and how you will evidence its progress and success.

As part of our assessment process, we will aim to meet you, along with an Islington Giving programme staff member, to discuss your project in more detail, follow up on any points of clarification, and ensure we have a full understanding of all the elements of your proposal. As Islington Giving's Young Grant-Makers we make all the final decisions on which grants to award.

Decision making timeline

- Expressions of Interest should be submitted by **23.59 pm on 8th July 2019**, preferably by email to mail@islingtongiving.org.uk but can also be sent by post to the address below.
- Expressions of Interest will be assessed and those that are successful will be invited to submit an online application. Not all Expressions of Interest will be selected to proceed to an online application.
- Applicants will be informed of decisions to proceed to a full application by **5pm on 24th July 2019** at the latest.
- Full applications should be completed by **23.59 pm on 16th September 2019**.
- Assessment meetings with Young Grant-Makers and Islington Giving grants officers will take place between **7th – 25th October 2019**.
- Applicants will be informed of decisions to award grants by **5th November 2019**.

If your application is successful

Once you have been notified of the Young Grant-Makers' decision to fund your project you will be sent Islington Giving's terms and conditions – which you will be required to read and sign.

Full details of our requirements for feedback from your project will be agreed following confirmation of a successful application. Funded organisations will be required to keep financial records of how the grant is spent and to provide feedback on progress and learning every 12 months and when the project comes to an end.

Successful organisations will also be asked to provide publicly accessible examples of their work (e.g. case studies, photographs, blog posts) and **must** be willing to act as ambassadors and supporters of Islington Giving, with imaginative ideas for how this can be achieved.

Next steps

In the first instance please join us for the information evening.

You can also contact Helen Kersley (Programme Director at Islington Giving) on our behalf to ask questions about the call:

T: 020 7288 6947

E: helen.kersley@cripplegate.org.uk

Your completed Expression of Interest should be sent by email to: mail@islingtongiving.org.uk. If you are unable to submit attachments electronically then these can be sent to:

Islington Giving
13 Elliott's Place
London
N1 8HZ

The deadline for Expressions of Interest is **23.59 pm on 8th July**