ABOUT THIS GUIDE

This weekly guide provides information on the funding options for private individuals who wish to donate funds to organisations tackling the COVID-19 pandemic in the UK.

The information will be updated and augmented weekly during the acute phase of the crisis.

HOW TO FUND

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DIARY OF ONLINE EVENTS

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OTHER RESOURCES

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FOR PROFESSIONALLY STAFFED FAMILY FOUNDATIONS

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WEEKLY HEADLINE: London Community Response Fund reaches £8 million with 16 funders, includes five family foundations

FOR PHILANTHROPISTS AND THEMATIC FUNDERS

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WEEKLY HEADLINE: NPC publishes How Philanthropists Should Respond To Coronavirus, includes 14 thematic areas of need

FOR DONORS SUPPORTING THE GENERAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE

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WEEKLY HEADLINE: National Emergency Trust reaches £15 million, £7 million already distributed by UK Community Foundations
LONDON COMMUNITY RESPONSE FUND

The London Community Response Fund was launched by London Funders with backing from City Bridge Trust and the Mayor of London to provide coordinated funding to support groups responding to the needs of London communities affected by the CV19 pandemic.

A total of 16 funders have now supported the fund taking total funds to £8 million.

The fund also has a growing pool of aligned funders who can focus on particular funding areas – consistent with their missions and constitutions.

There is an open-access portal for community organisations to apply for funding.

Grant applications are assessed by the grant assessors of the aligned partners. Once approved the aligned funders have 48 hours to fund a project before it is sent to the unrestricted funders for consideration.

The fund is anticipating three waves: first wave (urgent needs, up to £5k), second wave (service transformation), third wave (sector sustainability)

Pooling their information means the grant assessors can determine if organisations have already passed due diligence screening by any aligned funder, enabling swift processing of applications.

The London Community Response Fund is currently hosting expert groups covering the following themes:

1. Advice
2. Arts and culture
3. Children
4. Domestic violence
5. Food
6. Homelessness
7. Infrastructure
8. Vulnerable people

Intersecting with these themes, the LCRF also considers:

1. Digital needs
2. Mental health
3. Marginalised groups

Publishing *How Philanthropists Should Respond To Coronavirus*, New Philanthropy Capital has provided insight on how different sectors will be affected across:

1. Elderly care
2. Financial security
3. Young people
4. Education
5. Mental health
6. Disability
7. Prison and rehab
8. Sexual harassment and domestic violence
9. Housing and homelessness
10. Children in care
11. Discrimination
12. Refugees
13. Arts and culture
14. Medical funding

These themes highlight the breadth and depth of the crisis and provide a useful framework for those considering thematic funding.


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**PRISM THE GIFT FUND**

Prism the Gift Fund has so far set up three collective donor advised funds supporting COVID-19 efforts. These are:

1. Compassion London – delivering free meals to those in need, including NHS staff, elderly and vulnerable groups
2. Polly for Women – a free, confidential helpline for women and girls
3. Help Refugees – supporting refugees living in crowded and unsanitary camps

https://donate.helprefugees.org/campaigns/coronavirus-appeal/

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**THE FORE – RAFT FUND**

The Fore, which provides seed funding and business support to start-ups in the non-profit sector, has launched Rapid Action by The Fore and Trusts (RAFT) Emergency Fund to support its grantees. The fund will offer grants of up to £5,000.

THE FORE – SKILLED VOLUNTEERS DIRECTORY

The Fore has launched a Rapid Action Directory for Skilled Volunteer Requests to connect small charities and social enterprises with skilled professionals keen to help with challenges thrown up by the COVID-19 crisis.

Organisations are looking for skilled volunteers to help a variety of needs including:

- New Cashflow forecasts
- Approaching lenders about loans
- Legal advice around delivery of contracts
- Claiming government support
- Converting to new delivery models


MAANCH RESPONSE FUND

Maanch has launched a technology platform that connects funders with projects supporting the COVID-19 effort on a thematic basis.

The platform is free to join and members can select their funding preferences. The platform also offers a layer of due diligence and impact reporting on the projects shown on the platform.

https://maanch.com/outreach/covid-19/donate
NATIONAL EMERGENCIES TRUST

National Emergencies Trust (NET) was set up to provide a single point of contact for those wishing to support front-line grantmaking nationally.

The Red Cross acts as the administrator of funds, transferring money raised to NET, which is then passed to the UK network of Community Foundations for distribution.

The appeal has raised £15 million, including £3 million from the Sainsbury family via The Indigo Trust, The Three Guineas Trust and the Gatsby Charitable Foundation.

So far, £7 million has been distributed with a further £6.5 million due to be distributed within the next week.

https://nationalemergenciestrust.org.uk/coronavirus/

THE BIG GIVE AND NET

In support of NET’s online appeal on the Big Give platform, philanthropists including James Reed, the Reed Foundation and the Julia & Hans Rausing Trust have offered matched funding of over £600,000 on the platform.

https://donate.thebiggive.org.uk/covid-19

COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS

A number of UK Community Foundations have launched local appeals for COVID-19 including:

1. Community Foundation Northern Ireland
2. Community Foundation Tyne and Wear and Northumberland
3. Bedford & Luton Community Foundation
4. Berkshire Community Foundation
5. Devon Community Foundation
6. Heart of England Community Foundation
7. Heart of Bucks Community Foundation
8. Quartet Community Foundation (West of England)
9. Sussex Community Foundation
10. Somerset Community Foundation

UKCF is collating information from across the UK on unidentified need considering the anticipated three waves of the crisis: response, stabilisation, rebuild.

The list of Community Foundations that have COVID-19 appeals was sourced from the 100+ Funders List (see Other Resources on page 8)
CAF CORONAVIRUS EMERGENCY RESPONSE FUND

Charities Aid Foundation has set up the CAF Coronavirus Emergency Response Fund to help smaller charities affected by COVID-19. It is intended as a rapid response fund and will make grants up to £10,000 within 14 days of application.


BIG SOCIETY CAPITAL EMERGENCY LIQUIDITY FUND

Big Society Capital is seeking investors to support an Emergency Liquidity Facility to support social sector organisations with cash flow problems or in need of working capital.

While, in principle, charities can access the government’s Coronavirus Business Interruption Loan Scheme (CBILS), in practice, only charities that receive half their income from trading activities can apply.

The fund will provide access to capital for the wider charitable sector.

In parallel, Big Society Capital, The Social Investment Forum and a group including 20 leading social lenders have written to the government to make an urgent request to make CBILS available to all charities and social enterprises that need finance through the crisis.

The following information summarises advice from London Funders and New Philanthropy Capital.

ADAPT ACTIVITIES

Grantees may experience difficulties achieving some of the outputs or outcomes originally agreed. Seek to maintain grant payments at originally-agreed levels and encourage a conversation if an organisation you are supporting are affected in this way.

DISCUSS DATES

Grantees may struggle to meet reporting deadlines. Encourage them to get in touch to agree more realistic timetables.

FINANCIAL FLEXIBILITY

Grantees may need to use funding to help cover sickness, purchase equipment, or deliver services differently. Consider supporting organisations that need to move money between budget headings to ensure their work can continue.

LISTEN

Grantees may just need to talk about the situation they are facing. Wait until they call you so that these conversations happen at the right time.

BE PROACTIVE

All the usual fundraising channels are severely limited so, if you are a funder, don’t wait to be asked.

BE IMAGINATIVE

Look beyond the media headlines and identify newly vulnerable groups, and work with communities to coordinate with other philanthropists.

CONSIDER WHICH CHARITIES WE CAN’T AFFORD TO LOSE

Ask yourself which charities do brilliant work but you never got around to supporting, take the lead in keeping them going.

ENCOURAGE TRANSPARENCY

Be flexible with grantees, but don’t suspend reporting. Instead work with them to identify new challenges.

BE TIMELY

Bring forward any planned giving. Charities need it now.

RECOGNISE THE RISKS

Facing up to reality, many great charities will not survive through the coming months. Do all you can, but be prepared for the risks.
PHILANTHROPY IMPACT

Monday 6th April, 4.00 – 5.00pm

Digital transformation in response to COVID-19

Regular “Walk in my Shoes” series for Philanthropy Impact members

NPC

Tuesday 7th April, 2.00 - 3.30pm

How to evaluate digital services

Paid event

MAANCH

Monday – Friday, 12.00 – 1.00pm

Monday: Charities
Tuesday: Volunteering
Wednesday: Wealth advisers
Thursday: Foundations and philanthropists
Friday: Reflections
CAF COVID-19 RESOURCE HUB

https://www.cafonline.org/about-us/covid-19

Charities Aid Foundation COVID-19 Resource Hub offers information on:

1. Initiatives around the UK providing funding for charities
2. Insight from CAF including the campaign #CharityUnitesUs
3. Guidance and advice from the sector and government
4. Social investors respond to COVID-19
5. Funding and investment guidance
6. A guide for navigating funding possibilities through COVID-19
7. Voluntary, community and social enterprise sector guidance
8. Operational guidance and support
9. Webinars and pro-bono support
10. Connectivity and remote working resources
11. News and opinions
12. Get in touch

BIG SOCIETY CAPITAL


Big Society Capital Launched a COVID-19 Resource Hub on Good Finance website covering:

1. Social investors respond to COVID-19
2. Funding and investment guidance
3. A guide for navigating funding possibilities through COVID-19
4. Voluntary, community and social enterprise sector guidance
5. Operational guidance and support
6. Webinars and pro-bono support
7. Connectivity and remote working resources
8. News and opinions
9. Get in touch

100+ FUNDERS LIST

https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/coronavirus-charity-funding-announcements-ian-mclintock/

This LinkedIn list is designed for organisations seeking funding, but includes a number of organisations that have launched appeals. The list includes the following sections:

1. UK-wide funders
2. Scotland
3. Northern Ireland
4. Wales
5. Regional funders
6. Local funders
7. Global funders