

NEW grants programme to tackle health inequalities in Black and minority ethnic communities in Southwark

1. INTRODUCTION TO THE GRANTS PROGRAMME

Our aim is to fund work that challenges the causes of health inequalities for the BAME* community in Southwark and provides real solutions to people affected by these inequalities and to bring an end to systems and processes that causes inequalities.

We recognise that this grant programme will only fund short term projects therefore limiting what can be achieved, so we will be looking for initial solutions that can be built on to provide longer-term outcome

2. OUR DEFINITION OF HEALTH INEQUALITIES

“Health, care, and wellbeing inequalities are the unfair and avoidable differences in health between groups. The differences mainly occur due to the difficulties people experience in getting the care and support they need. This can be because of discrimination and disadvantage and other factors which become barriers to good health. We can work to reverse these inequalities, listen and find systemic solutions by working with new and existing partners, people experiencing health inequalities and bringing their voice along with new voices into service design and delivery across all partners”.

3. OUR VALUES

- **LIVED EXPERIENCES IS VITAL.**

Grant panel members assessing applications are from the BAME community with lived experience of health inequalities. The panel works with a variety of community organisations and bring this insight to the design of the funding programme.

- **CHALLENGE TRADITIONAL FUNDING PRACTICES**

Traditional funding is often dependant on people making decisions for people from BAME communities on issues who are not from these communities. These decision makers are not from the BAME community so therefore are not able to fully understand the complex root problems that needs to change because they have no lived experience of the issues. This needs to change.

- **POSITIVE EXPERIENCE WHEN APPLYING FOR GRANTS**

We want to make applying for the fund as simple as possible and to make the experience of this process from beginning to end welcoming, accessible, easily understood and without unnecessary steps.

- **BUILDING TRUST AND RELATIONSHIPS**

We want to build relationships with local authorities and encourage them to work with us to rethink the power dynamic between funders and the BAME community sector especially how funds are distributed, and decisions made.

4. WHO WE FUND

- Not for profit organisations/groups that are based the London Borough of Southwark
- Projects based in the London Borough of Southwark
- We especially welcome projects run in the following 5 wards: St Giles, Faraday, Peckham Rye, Borough and Bankside Chaucer and St Georges. These wards have been identified as areas that have the greatest health deprivation in Southwark.
- Organisations/ groups that are Black Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) Led** community organisations/groups who run projects that directly benefit people who describe themselves as from the BAME community **and live in the London Borough of Southwark.
- Organisations/Groups that struggle to get funding elsewhere e.g., local authority funding, first-time applications for funding are welcomed.
- All types of not-for-profit organisations e.g., CIO'S, unincorporated groups /groups including those that are not registered with the charity commission or Companies house.
- Organisations registered as a Community Interest Company (CIC's)
- Newly formed organisations/ groups. Don't worry if you do not have a bank account, we can help you with this so just let us know.
- Groups with an annual income £150,000 and under.

5. WHAT WE FUND

Work with the primary objective of creating long term change by addressing the causes of health inequalities causing negative outcomes for the BAME community who live in Southwark.

Work that addresses the following 5 key themes:

1. Improving experiences for BAME communities in primary care eg. GPs, community clinics, pharmacists, dentists

- We are looking for projects with creative ideas looking into what the barriers may be for BAME communities in accessing and progressing through health care and wellbeing services. What could be done to improve services to make sure their needs are met?

- How to improve cultural competencies in the way services are run, how health and care staff interact with and support BAME communities.
- How to improve referral rates for BAME community members from GPs to specialist services and how to encourage people to seek out health, care and wellbeing support.
- Particularly looking for projects wishing to carry out research into how the health care system can adapt better to reduce health inequalities.

2 – Improving rates of cancer screening in black and minority communities

- Looking for projects and initiatives that will explore ways to support the uptake of cancer screening and early prevention to GPs, unpacking the nuances and insights that exist away from the mainstream.

3 – Food poverty – tackling inequalities and looking at affordability, access and awareness of good nutrition

- Looking for projects on how to promote healthy culturally diverse meals that are affordable and support wellbeing.

4 – Supporting good mental health, wellbeing and resilience in the BAME community

- Projects addressing mental health inequalities for people from BAME communities; particularly those projects targeted at African and Caribbean men who are over-represented in mental health services.
- Projects to combat isolation and loneliness.
- Projects to support improving mental health for young people.

5 – Climate justice – what are the health inequalities around how climate change affects different communities?

- Looking for projects that investigate how climate change affects the daily lives of BAME communities.

6. WHAT WE DO NOT FUND

- Groups that are not BAME led community organisations based in the London Borough of Southwark and or run projects that do not directly benefit people who describe themselves as from the BAME community and live in the London Borough of Southwark.
- Organisations that are set up solely for the purposes of making a profit as a commercial business.
- Groups with an annual income over £150,000
- International issues or groups
- Political parties
- Groups whose aim is to promote religious ideas.
- Individuals

7. HOW WE MAKE DECISIONS

Funding decisions are agreed by the Health Inequalities Grant Panel which is made up of individuals who are from the BAME community in Southwark who have lived experience of health inequalities. The Grants Panel will review applications against the grant criteria set for the Health Inequalities Grants Programme and use a simple scoring system to score each funding proposal against the programme criteria and priority themes as set out by the funding programme.

Where there is insufficient funding to make grants to all eligible applications, those applications achieving the highest scores will be given priority.

The panel will make the final decisions on which project proposals are to be funded. Successful applicants will be informed in writing by the panel and asked to sign a grant acceptance agreement.

All unsuccessful grant proposals will be notified in writing and a brief explanation provided on the reasons why their proposal was unsuccessful. Unsuccessful grant seekers will be directed to other funding sources.

8. HOW TO APPLY FOR A GRANT: THE PROCESS

- By a simple application form completed or video submitted.
(Please note applicants should only use either the application form or a video to submit their proposal, not both)
- Videos should be no longer than 5 minutes and uploaded to a suitable platform such as YouTube and a link submitted
- Applicants submitting videos must present answers to the questions on the application form during the video.
- There will be support available from Community Southwark for groups wishing to make video submission.
- Simple eligibility checks will be carried out by the Grants Panel to assess if groups fall within the funding criteria and themes.
- The Grants Panel members score each application and make decisions.
- Grants will be distributed to a number of projects selected and contacted to receive a grant award.

TIMELINE

APPLICATIONS OPEN – 6 WEEKS TO APPLY	Wednesday 6 September
APPLICATION SUPPORT WORKSHOP – ZOOM	Wednesday 21 September: 5-7pm
APPLICATION SUPPORT WORKSHOP – IN-PERSON AT PECKHAM LIBRARY	Thursday 28 September: 11am-1pm or 2-4pm (tbc)
APPLICATIONS CLOSE	Sunday 22 October - midnight

9. HOW MUCH MONEY CAN BE APPLIED FOR?

Grant will be awarded to projects.

- £3,000 for applications from a single project application from a group.
- Up to £8,000 for two groups working together.
- A maximum of £15,000 for three or more working together.

Priority will be given to joint applications between two or more groups working in partnership. Groups working in partnership must nominate a lead group for the partnership. This group would be the accountable lead for the grant application.

10. WHAT PERIOD DOES THE GRANT COVER?

A grant will be awarded for projects that will be completed within 12 - 14 months of the grant being awarded.

11. MONITORING AND EVALUATION:

Successful applicants to the fund will be invited to a monitoring workshop two weeks after being informed of their grand award. Here grantees will discuss with the Grants Panel how best to put monitoring and evaluation in place to demonstrate the impact of their work.

11. NOTES:

**We recognise the diversity of individual identities and lived experiences and understand that BAME is an imperfect term that does not fully capture the racial, cultural and ethnic identities of people that experience structural and systematic inequality.*

***The panel defines an organisation as being BAME led by the following criteria "The most senior leader (CEO or Chair of Trustee Board) & the senior staff self-identifies themselves as being from the BAME community and 75% or more of the Board of Trustees/ Management Committee self - identifies themselves as being from the BAME community.*

That at least 75% or more of the users/ beneficiaries of the projects should self-identify themselves as being from the BAME Community.

