



1. INTRODUCTION TO THE GRANTS PROGRAMME

Our aim is to fund work that challenges the causes of health inequalities for the Black, Asian and minority ethnic (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 who are not from these communities. These decision makers are not from the BAME community therefore are not able to fully understand the complex root problems that need 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 NHS and local authorities and encourage them to work with us to rethink the power dynamic between funders and the BAME community sector especially on how funds are distributed and decisions made.

4. WHO WE FUND

- Not for profit organisations/groups that are based in the London Borough of Southwark e.g., CIO'S, unincorporated groups /groups this includes those that are not registered with the charity commission or Companies house.
- 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 (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.
- 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 and the negative outcomes it has 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 on 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 BAME communities

- Looking for projects and initiatives that will explore ways to support the uptake of cancer screening and early prevention to GPs, unpacking the differences 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
- Projects that don't 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 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 sector in Southwark and 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 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 can only use either the application form or a video to submit their proposal, not both)
- Videos should be no longer than 5 minutes and a link to the video submitted on the application form
- Applicants submitting videos must present answers to the questions on the application form during the video

- Question and Answer workshops will be held for potential applicants to ask questions about the application form and process.
- Workshop dates will be announced when the programme is launched.
- Simple eligibility checks will be carried out by the Grants Panel to assess if groups fall within the funding criteria.
- The Grants Panel members assess and score each application and make decisions.
- The panel aims to make the decisions on who to fund within one month of the closing date for applications – Wednesday 20 March 2024
- To apply for a grant, applicants will need to provide the following bank details on the application form:
 - Bank account name (of the organisation applying)
 - Name of bank
 - Bank account number
 - Sort Code
- A grant agreement will need to be signed to commit the organisation to the programme
- The organisation /group will need to attend a monitoring and evaluation workshop

TIMELINE

APPLICATIONS OPEN – 8 WEEKS TO APPLY	Wednesday 10 January 2024
APPLICATION SUPPORT WORKSHOP – ZOOM	Wednesday 24 January 2024
APPLICATION SUPPORT WORKSHOP – IN-PERSON AT PECKHAM LIBRARY	Thursday 25 January 2024
APPLICATIONS CLOSE	Wednesday 28 February 2024
PANEL APPLICATION ASSESSMENT SESSION	Wednesday 20 March 2024
APPLICANTS INFORMED OF WHETHER THEY HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFUL OR NOT	Wednesday 3 April 2024
APPLICANTS RECEIVE GRANT MONEY	Week beginning 22 April 2024

9. HOW MUCH MONEY CAN BE APPLIED FOR?

Grant will be awarded to projects.

- A maximum of £3,000 for a project delivered by one organisation/group
- A maximum of £8,000 for two organisations /groups working together
- A maximum of £15,000 for three or more organisations/groups 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 must be completed by 30 April 2025.

11. MONITORING AND EVALUATION:

Successful applicants to the fund will be invited to a monitoring and evaluation workshop two weeks after being informed of their grant award. Here grantees will co – design with members of the grants panel a monitoring and evaluation framework to be used to demonstrate the impact of their work.

12. 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.*