

Church Urban Fund Refugee Support Small Grants Programme 2023

Funded by



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Introduction

Inspired by our Christian faith, CUF work with and through local partners to address complex needs and help build connected, hopeful and confident communities. Every year, we help enable thousands of people to live more flourishing lives. Our faith is inclusive and welcomes diverse voices to contribute, shape and motivate our actions.

Our vision is to see communities of hope acting together to serve and strengthen society. Our mission is to become a national social action mobiliser on behalf of the Church of England. Our purpose is to empower people of all ages, backgrounds and beliefs to serve, lead and speak. We do this by building and mobilising faith-based partners seeking to serve their communities, equipping people to make a bigger difference in their community and amplifying grassroots voices.

The Church Urban Fund is a registered charity, no. 297483, and a company limited by guarantee, no. 2138994.

Small Grants Criteria and Guidance

The details contained in this document will be reviewed and reissued annually, or sooner should it be required: the latest version of this document will be available for download from the Church Urban Fund website.

For additional information, please contact us using the details below.

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The Grant Programme

This small grants programme, funded by The Benefact Trust, aims to support the outreach work of churches and registered Christian charities in their work with Ukrainian (primarily) and Afghan refugees, by providing grant opportunities for between £500 and £5,000.

We aim to make a decision on all grant applications within one month *of receiving all the necessary information*, and applications are accepted on a rolling basis. **The final deadline for applications is Friday 31st March 2023**; however, we reserve the right to close earlier, should funds be fully expended.

Eligibility

In accordance with the criteria set by the funder, grants will be awarded to Christian churches and registered Christian charities only. In the latter case, charities must be able to satisfactorily evidence their Christian ethos and foundation e.g. on their website and/or governing document. Churches should be in good ecumenical harmony and in co-operation with, and well-regarded by, other Christian churches in their locality. In cases of uncertainty, letters of reference will be sought from other local churches.

We are unable to support organisations already in receipt of a grant from Church Urban Fund, Love Your Neighbour, the Church Revitalisation Trust, or Baby Basics UK as we are all distributing funds on behalf of the same funder, and the funder wishes to maximise the reach of projects supported.

Grants will not be provided directly to individuals.

Whilst this grant is primarily being awarded to support Ukrainian refugees, we will also support work that includes refugees from Afghanistan.

Criteria

A grant must be for specific projects or activities including, but not limited to, the following:

- personal items
such as clothing, mobile phones, bicycles, food/refreshments, baby items - clothing/equipment/cots/buggies
- expenses for volunteers or facilities
such as rental costs of church halls/buildings, refreshments for volunteers, equipment, training and DBS Checks
- integration and settling
such as UK life courses, befriending, women's groups/sessions, mother and toddler groups, welcome parties and drop-in sessions
- language support
such as English classes, translation services
- home items
such as accommodation and furniture

The grants should also be for immediate activities: grants should be claimed within 6 weeks of approval, and projects must finish **before the end of June 2023**.

Priorities

In addition to our criteria, applications showing the following qualities will be prioritised for funding:

- Where it is clear what difference the activity will make for those being supported.
- Proposals that are run by volunteers or have a strong volunteer base.
- Projects that source goods and services from businesses in the local community or use ethically sourced goods and services, such as Fairtrade refreshments.
- Proposals that pay staff the Living Wage, as set by the Living Wage Foundation.
- Where a proposal shows value for money.
- Projects that collaborate with other local Churches or Christian organisations.
- Projects that support refugee integration through employment support, access to welfare support (e.g. housing, GP services).
- Projects that help bring refugees together with the local community and provide activities that support their physical health, reduce stress and improve their overall wellbeing.

What We Will Not Fund

We will not fund:

- Faith leaders' salaries.
- Individuals.
- Existing salary costs, except where there is a significant increase in hours in order to begin new work or expand an existing project to new people.
- Organisational costs not associated with the funded project.
- Major capital costs (though small items of equipment will be considered i.e. the cost of a kettle but not the cost of a kitchen).
- Activities where the main purpose is evangelism or promotion of a specific faith.
- Unspecified or excessive volunteer expenses or high staff costs/expenses.
- Work that has already been completed or started (retrospective funding).
- Deficits or loans.
- Campaigning and fundraising activity.
- Revenue and capital funding for national voluntary/community organisations and public and private sector organisations.
- General repairs and refurbishment of buildings, or internal re-ordering of places of worship, maintenance or DDA (Disability Discrimination Act) compliance.
- General appeals

Safeguarding

Church Urban Fund takes the safety and wellbeing of people of all ages seriously and expects grant applicants to do likewise. For this reason, we expect any projects working with children and young people or vulnerable adults to have the appropriate safeguarding policies in place, and we will ask to see them during the application process.

The Church of England provides guidance on setting up and following safeguarding policies and procedures for working with asylum seekers and refugees. To access it, please visit:

<https://www.churchofengland.org/safeguarding/safeguarding-e-manual/ukrainian-refugees>

Resources and Toolkits

To help guide you through the project planning process, our partner charity Near Neighbours has various resources and toolkits on our website to help you with planning your project, working with volunteers, and promoting your activities to local people.

You can find the resources and toolkits here: <https://www.near-neighbours.org.uk/resources>. Our grants team is also able to provide you with advice throughout the application process and support you in developing your project.

For resources specifically for helping to support refugees, we suggest the following:

- Church of England: <https://www.churchofengland.org/resources/community-action/war-ukraine-responding>
- Sanctuary Foundation: <https://www.sanctuaryfoundation.org.uk/>

Small Grant Application Procedure

If you wish to apply for our funding, please follow the following procedure:

Read through our eligibility, criteria and guidance in detail and ensure you are eligible.

Draft your application and send it, along with the additional required documents, to the Church Urban Fund Grants Team via the online application form.

They will assess your application against the criteria and, if necessary, they will contact you for additional details. Once they have all the necessary information, they will work to make a decision on your application within 1 month.

Small Grant Terms and Conditions

If you are awarded a grant, we will outline several conditions that you must agree to in order to receive payment, which is a legally binding agreement. This will include using your grant only for the purposes laid out in your application. Additionally, we include details about transferring funds, our grant evaluation process and publicity. You will be required to maintain accurate financial records as to how the grant is spent, including records of receipt and expenditure. Please be aware that additional conditions may be attached as required. These will always be stated at the time a funding offer is made.

Contact Details

If you have any questions about the application process, please contact the Church Urban Fund Grants Team:

Email: grants@cuf.org.uk

Telephone: 0330 053 1954