Accessing Philanthropic Funding

April 2022

The Community Foundation for Ireland

Agenda

- The Community Foundation for Ireland - Who we are & what we do

- Opportunities for funding

- Understanding criteria

- Writing an application

- Top tips for applying for philanthropic funding

- Q and A

Please email any questions to
info@foundation.ie
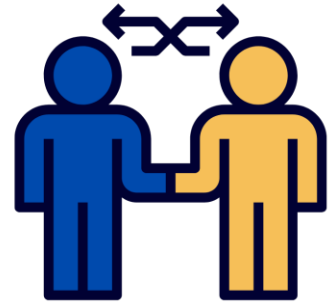
The Community Foundation for Ireland

- A Registered Charity (CHY 13967)

- Est. in 2000 in order to support the non-profit sector in Ireland and encourage the growth of philanthropy in Ireland

- Part of a global movement of Community Foundations

- CFI awards grants to non-profit organisations via:

  - An Endowed Fund
  - Donor Advised Funds

- CFI run a number of open grant rounds throughout the year. For more see www.foundation.ie/grants

Our Values

- **Integrity -** we see trust, transparency and accountability as the cornerstone of our work.

- **Collaboration** – we listen and learn, building relationships and encouraging others to do the same across the sector.

- **Diversity & Inclusion** – we embrace diverse perspectives, voices and experiences, aiming to support those most vulnerable within our society.

- **Leadership** – we aim to provide and support leadership across the non-profit sector.

"We believe in a fair, caring and a vibrant Ireland for now and the future"

The Community Foundation for Ireland – 2021 In Numbers

- **Grants Awarded in 2021:**

  - 800 individual grants

  - €18m in total

  - Average grant of €24k

- **Over €86 million of grant aid distributed since 2000**

- CFI run a number of 'open grant rounds' throughout the year. For more information see: www.communityfoundation.ie/grants

How philanthropy can make a difference

Philanthropy can make a strategic impact in the following ways:

- Direct large amounts of funding towards tackling a social issue

- Encourage good-willed donors to support strategic and impactful projects

- Bring like-minded donors together to tackled social issues collaboratively

- Provide sustained funding to organisations through strong partnerships

- Provide seed-funding for organisations or pilots

- Direct funding towards lesser known and unpopular issue areas

The Community
Foundation for Ireland

Opportunities for funding

- **Grant round applications**
  - Occur periodically throughout the year
  - Usually around key issues or beneficiary groups
  - Usually highly competitive

- **Unsolicited applications**
  - If and when funding is required
  - Builds a relationship with the funder
  - May not be funding available

Staying aware of opportunities

- **Chat with CFI**
  - Monthly opportunity to present your work to CFI staff, especially if there is a key project or need at hand

- **Website open round information**
  - In 2022, we will be running open rounds for the following types of projects:
    - Community green spaces
    - Older Person's Fund
    - Biodiversity grants
    - Merger fund
    - Stay tuned for info about Ukraine response

Understanding Criteria

Understanding the criteria to key to applying for funding. The better a project fits the criteria, the more likely a project is to be funded.

Each grant round will have explicit criteria set out this will explain:

- What kind of projects a funder is looking for
- Some examples of eligible projects
- What types of projects or organisations might be prioritised
- How much an organisation can apply for
- What kind of projects won't be funded
- Timelines

Writing an application

Application forms tend to follow a similar structure:

1. Organisation
2. Project
3. Need
4. Budget
5. Outcomes and Impact
6. Governing documents
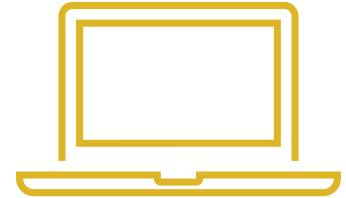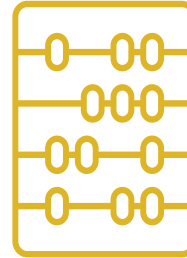
Top tips for writing an application

- Answer each part of the question, keep an eye out for information notes
- Include lots of detail- especially in the project description and in the budget
- Show how your project specifically fits the criteria
- Use statistics, research and other evidence for why the project is needed
- Explain outputs, outcomes and impacts
- Submit well ahead of the deadline
- If your application is unsuccessful in an open grant round, request feedback and incorporate into next attempt

Summary

- Be aware of upcoming grant rounds and key dates

- Make yourself known to funders

- Make your organisations challenges known to funders

- When applying, stick closely to the criteria

- Make sure your organisation and your project are eligible

- Include detail and evidence in your application

- Show the need and the impact

Q and A

Application Form

Example 1

Please describe the overall aims and objectives of your organisation as seen on your governing document.

Test charity is an organisation that works with children with disabilities that provides therapy and personal development through art, dance and play. Our mission is that children with disabilities don't face barriers to the arts and can fully enjoy the benefits of creativity.

43 words of 300

Are you part of a larger regional or national organisation?

No

Please provide the name and address of the larger organisation

Organisation's annual income for 2019

300,000

Application Form

Example 2

Please describe the overall aims and objectives of your organisation as seen on your governing document.

Test charity is an LGBT+ organisation focused on supporting and empowering LGBT+ people in rural Ireland. We support adults and young people through peer support groups and online resources and we advocate for more services for LGBT+ people in rural Ireland.

41 words of 300

Are you part of a larger regional or national organisation?

No

Please provide the name and address of the larger organisation

Organisation's annual income for 2019

650,000

Application Form

Project Details

Is this a new project or to continue existing work?

New work

Project name

Research into the effects of feeling isolated on young people and coming out

Please describe your project and how it meets the objectives of this strand of the fund

This is a research project to understand the effects of isolation on young people (up to age 18) and their mental health. Test charity believes that the isolation felt by young people living in rural Ireland, coupled by the isolation felt during the Covid-19 pandemic has detrimental effects on the mental health young people who are LGBT+. By completing this research, we will gain a better understanding about how rural isolation and the Covid-19 pandemic has effected mental health of LGBT+ young people and their confidence to come out to friends and family.

This research project meets the objectives of this strand as, in the long term, it will allow for better supports for LGBT+ young people in rural Ireland provided by ourselves and other organisations.

126 words of 350

Application Form

What is the need for this project and how was it identified?

There are mental health benefits for LGBT+ young people who are able to find support, acceptance and have shared experiences with other LGBT+ young people. This might be through friends, colleagues or peer support groups. Isolation through living in rural Ireland, exacerbated by the pandemic is having an adverse effect on LGBT+ mental health. Additionally, quarantining with an unaccepting family and restricted access to online supports means that LGBT+ young people are delaying coming out, putting further pressure on their mental health. The evidence collected through this research will be used to amplify the voices and needs of LGBT+ young people in rural Ireland to organisations and statutory bodies to make more supports available for this cohort.

ℹ

117 words of 200

Why is your organisation best placed to lead this project?

Test charity is the best organisation to lead this project as we have commissioned research in the past around older LGBT+ people in rural Ireland and we have been able to use this research to develop an organisational strategy to provide peer support groups and counselling options for LGBT+ older people. We are well placed within LGBT+ networks so when this research is published it will be circulated throughout the network for change to be made on a wider scale.

Application Form

Project Budget
Please provide a breakdown of costs under the following headings (inclusive of VAT)

What is the total cost of the project?

26,000 ℹ

How much if any has been raised so far?

0 ℹ

Details of funding raised so far

N/A

How much money are you applying to us for?

26,000 ℹ

Breakdown of total costs for this project ℹ
N.B. Enter total costs of the project, not just the costs being covered by this grant request.

Cost Item	Description/Breakdown	Yr1	Yr2	Yr3	Total
Researcher fees	€200 per day for 65 days	13,000	€	€	13,000.00
Workshop costs	eg rent, sustenance and thank yous	4,000	€	€	4,000.00
Management costs	€300 per day for 21 days	6,300	€	€	6,300.00
Launch	Comms and marketing and event	2,700	€	€	2,700.00

Application Form

What will be the impact of the project on the intended beneficiaries?

Test charity will use this research to develop a strategy around supporting and empowering young people in rural Ireland and will encourage other LGBT+ organisations to develop their own work in light of the research. Young people in rural Ireland will have new ways of engaging with us and we hope to see an improvement in mental health of LGBT+ young people in rural Ireland in the long term. Feedback will be used to measure this over the next few years.

81 words of 200

What is the expected impact of the project on the wider community or sector?

We will circulate this research to other organisations in our network- currently 18 different organisations. We hope that other organisations will use this research to develop their own work and that the sector will focus more on the needs of LGBT+ young people in rural areas.

46 words of 200

How will you monitor and measure project activity and report on the benefits & outcomes?

Feedback events and surveys over a number of years to plot long term impacts

What happens after funding ends?

The project will be complete and we will move on to developing our strategy