The Henry Smith Charity

The charity was founded in 1628 by Henry Smith, a businessman working in the City of London. Since then, we have honoured the spirit of Henry Smith’s will, working to combat disadvantage and meet the challenges and opportunities facing people in need throughout the UK. Today, The Henry Smith Charity is amongst the largest independent grant makers in the UK, distributing £28 million in 2016.

Our grantees are at the core of our mission and work. For us, achieving results depends on their work and, as a grant making trust, we can only be as effective as the organisations that we fund.
Grants Programmes

- Improving Lives
- Strengthening Communities

- County Grants
- Christian Projects
- Kindred
- Holiday Grants for Children
Improving Lives

Key grant details

Grant size: £20k – £60k per year
Length: 1-3 years
Decision timescale: 6 Months
Deadlines: None

Qualifying criteria

Please only apply for this grant if you meet the following criteria:

Organisation size: £50k – £2m (in exceptional circumstances up to £5m)
Location: UK Wide
Funding covers: Running costs, salaries and projects
Organisation type: Charities and not-for-profit organisations, including social enterprises
Improving Lives

**Help at a Critical Moment**
Helping people to rebuild their lives following a crisis, critical moment, trauma or abuse.

**Positive Choices**
Helping people, whose actions or behaviours have led to negative consequences for themselves and others, to make positive choices.

**Accommodation / Housing Support**
Enabling people to work towards or maintain accommodation.

**Employment and Training**
Supporting people to move towards or gain employment.

**Financial Inclusion, Rights & Entitlements**
Supporting people to overcome their financial problems and ensure that they are able to claim their rights and entitlements.

**Support Networks & Family**
Working with people to develop improved support networks and family relationships.
Strengthening Communities

The Strengthening Communities grant programme is designed to support small charitable organisations working at grassroots level. Through this grant programme we want to make sure that our funding reaches the most disadvantaged areas of the UK.

We want to fund work that enables:

- People from across the community to participate in activities which improve connectedness, opportunities and wellbeing

- People who are excluded, vulnerable or facing other forms of hardship to have access to community-based services that support positive lasting change

- A stronger, active, more engaged community.
Strengthening Communities

Key grant details

Grant size: £20k – £60k per year
Length: 1-3 years
Decision timescale: 6 months
Deadlines: none

Qualifying criteria

Please only apply for this grant if you meet the following criteria:

Organisation size: £20k – £500k
Location: UK-wide, must be within the 10% most deprived areas
Funding covers: Running costs which may include salaries, project costs, and small capital costs needed to support the work
Organisation type: Community-led charities and not for profit organisations
Summary of reject reasons

- We rejected 935 of the 1160 applications we have received since the start of the new grants strategy.
- For each rejected application we assign at least one reject reason (many applications are rejected for a number of reasons).

Headline reject reasons

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reason</th>
<th>Number of applications rejected for this reason</th>
<th>% of applications rejected for this reason</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lack of outcomes information</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of information on activities</td>
<td>157</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of evidence of effectiveness</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work does not fit IL/SC Priorities</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not clear how activities lead to outcomes</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poor fundraising strategy</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of user voice</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Light touch intervention</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inadequate evidence of need</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Henry Smith Charity
Contact details

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